



**Agenda
City of Vernon
Special Board of Library Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, October 06, 2020, 09:00 AM
City Hall, Council Chamber
4305 Santa Fe Avenue
Vernon, California**

**Leticia Lopez, President
Melissa Ybarra, President Pro Tem
William J. Davis, Trustee
Carol R. Menke, Trustee
Diana Gonzales, Trustee**

THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO GOVERNOR NEWSOM'S EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20.

The public is encouraged to view the meeting at <http://www.cityofvernon.org/webinar-cc> or by calling (408) 638-0968, Meeting ID 935-5285-2001#.

You may submit comments to PublicComment@ci.vernon.ca.us with the subject line "October 6, 2020 Special Board of Library Trustees Meeting Public Comment Item #__." Comments received prior to 8 a.m., Tuesday, October 6, 2020, will be read into the record.

CALL TO ORDER

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

PUBLIC COMMENT

At this time the public is encouraged to address the Board of Library Trustees on any matter that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board of Library Trustees. The public will also be given a chance to comment on matters which are on the posted agenda during Board of Library Trustees deliberation on those specific matters.

NEW BUSINESS

1. City Clerk

[Update from the Board of Library Trustees Library Ad Hoc Committee \(President Lopez and Trustee Menke\)](#)

Recommendation:

Receive update from the Library Ad Hoc Committee and approve the proposed Little Free Library project, recommending the City Council approve the associated funding.

[1. About Little Free Library](#)

[2. Little Free Library Proposed Locations](#)


ORAL REPORTS

Brief reports, other brief announcements, and/or directives to staff.

ADJOURNMENT

I hereby certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California, that the foregoing agenda was posted on the bulletin board at the main entrance of the City of Vernon City Hall, located at 4305 Santa Fe Avenue, Vernon, California, and on the City's website, not less than 24 hours prior to the meeting date set forth on this agenda.

Dated this 1st day of October, 2020.

By: 
Sandra Dolson, Administrative Secretary

Board of Library Trustees Agenda Item Report

Agenda Item No. COV-372-2020

Submitted by: Sandra Dolson

Submitting Department: City Clerk

Meeting Date: October 6, 2020

SUBJECT

Update from the Board of Library Trustees Library Ad Hoc Committee (President Lopez and Trustee Menke)

Recommendation:

Receive update from the Library Ad Hoc Committee and approve the proposed Little Free Library project, recommending the City Council approve the associated funding.

Background:

At its June 2, 2020 meeting, the Board of Library Trustees established the Library Ad Hoc Committee (President Lopez and Trustee Menke) to work with staff to determine a plan to reestablish the Vernon Public Library.

The ad hoc committee met on July 7, 2020 and September 15, 2020, and discussed the following:

- 1) Goals for the Vernon Library including functional and virtual presence and containing Vernon history;
- 2) Locate prior library contents – staff located four pallets of boxes in the OE Clark Building;
- 3) Potential location for a physical library - staff contacted the Los Angeles County Library and was informed of options for establishing a library including: a) Establishing the City's own library and becoming an independent library jurisdiction; b) Contracting with a system such as the City of Los Angeles Public Library or County for library operation. This requires operational, legal and financial review as it involves a property tax assessment/transfers or other revenue transfers and an established agreement for provision of services; or c) Having a private firm run the library.
- 4) Investigate potential use of mobile classroom – bus is stored at OE Clark but is not owned by the City;
- 5) Investigate Vernon Branch – Leon H. Washington Jr. Memorial Branch Library, 4504 S. Central Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90011 – currently closed due to COVID-19; and
- 6) In the interim, establish Little Free Libraries at Vernon Village Apartments and near the school.

The ad hoc committee decided to proceed with the easiest, least expensive means of providing reading materials to the Vernon community - Little Free Library (Attachment 1). The Little Free Library is a nonprofit organization with the mission of inspiring a love of reading, building community and providing book access for all through "take a book, share a book" book exchanges. Little Free Library was first started in 2009 and there are now over 100,000 registered Little Free Libraries in the United States and 108 other countries. In order to be officially called a Little Free Library, a free book exchange must be registered with an official charter sign and charter number.

The ad hoc committee members contacted Vernon City School and Vernon Village Apartments and obtained positive feedback on the idea of installing Little Libraries at their locations. Additionally, in order to serve other portions of the City, two additional locations are proposed. The public locations were selected based on heavy pedestrian activity and existing newspaper racks, indicating a higher probability of readership.

The ad hoc committee recommends the installation of a Little Free Library at the following four locations (Attachment 2):

1. Vernon City School - 2360 E. Vernon Avenue
2. Whole Foods Market Distribution Center, 5000 E. Pacific Boulevard
3. Arco on Soto Street near newspaper racks/bus stop
4. Vernon Village Park Apartments - 4675 E. 52nd Drive

The Chamber of Commerce agrees with the proposed locations and will work with local businesses to serve as stewards of the Little Free Library near their location. The Free Little Library project is one step towards reestablishing the Vernon Public Library. The Ad Hoc Committee will continue with its charge to come up with a plan.

The cost to purchase the finished libraries and books is estimated at \$4,000. Public Works staff will complete the installation in the City's right-of-way. There are adequate funds in Community Development Account No. 011.1070.797000 for the project and the ad hoc committee suggests the Board of Library Trustees recommend the City Council allocate said funds.

Fiscal Impact:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

Attachments:

1. [About Little Free Library](#)
2. [Little Free Library Proposed Locations](#)



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About Us



Who We Are

Little Free Library is a nonprofit organization that inspires a love of reading, builds community, and sparks creativity by fostering neighborhood book exchanges around the world.

Through Little Free Library book exchanges, millions of books are exchanged each year, profoundly increasing access to books for readers of all ages and

backgrounds.

Why Does Book Access Matter?

Academically, children growing up in homes without books are on average *three years behind* children in homes with lots of books, even when controlled for other key factors. One of the most successful ways to improve the reading achievement of children is to increase their access to books, especially at home. But two out of three children living in poverty *have no books to call their own*.

Little Free Library book-sharing boxes play an essential role by providing 24/7 access to books (and encouraging a love of reading!) in areas where books are scarce. At the Little Free Library nonprofit, we're working to fill book deserts and place libraries where they can make a big impact through our [Impact Library Program](#). We've donated more than 1,000 libraries through this program to-date.



Our Impact



100,000+ Libraries



100+ Countries



Millions of Books Exchanged Annually



Our staff is dedicated to increasing book access and forging community connections. We help people around the world start and maintain Little Free Library book exchanges. Watch the adjacent video to get a 30-second introduction to how Little Free Libraries work, and how you can start one, too!

We provide ongoing support to Little Free Library volunteer stewards, offering [free library-building instructions](#), an [online store](#) with pre-built library models and kits, access to free or discounted books, and an [e-newsletter](#) full of ideas and advice. Our [Action Book Club](#), which combines reading with community service, is open to all.

We also maintain a [world map of registered Little Free Library boxes](#) to help people find and share books wherever they are, and we have donated more than 1,000 Little Free Library book exchanges (and counting!) to communities where books are scarce through our [Impact Library Program](#).

Little Free Library Stats



3 out of 4 people report they've read a book they normally would not have read because of a Little Free Library



73% of people say they've met more neighbors because of a Little Free Library



92% of people say their neighborhood feels like a friendlier place because of a Little Free Library

Statistics are based on an informal survey of over 3,000 Little Free Library stewards and fans conducted by Little Free Library staff in October 2017.

Milestones and More Information

Learn about our impact last year! Read [Little Free Library's 2019 Annual Report](#) or our [2018 Annual Report](#).

We were recently named a [Top-Rated Nonprofit](#) by the Great Nonprofits Organization! Discover more of our [milestones and awards](#).

Little Free Library is also the recipient of the National Book Foundation's Innovations in Reading Prize, *Library Journal's* Movers and Shakers Award, the Women's National Book Association's Second Century Prize, the Force for Positive Change Award, and the Library of Congress Literacy Award.

Looking to learn more? Meet the [Little Free Library staff](#), learn [how Little Free Library got started](#), or check out our recent [media stories](#).

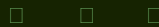
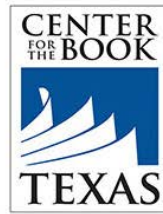
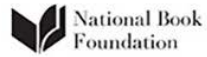
If you're a member of the press, please review our [press resources](#).





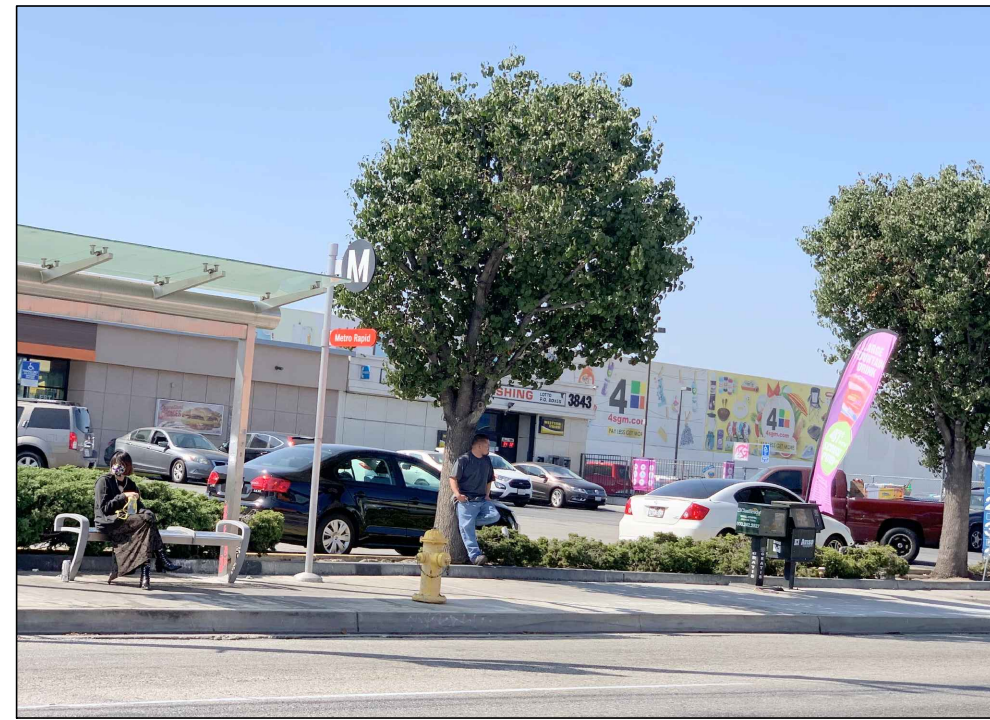
Partners and Friends





CITY OF VERNON

LITTLE FREE LIBRARY PROPOSED LOCATIONS



3031 E. VERNON AVE.

- ON SOTO STREET
- NEAR THE NEWSPAPER RACKS



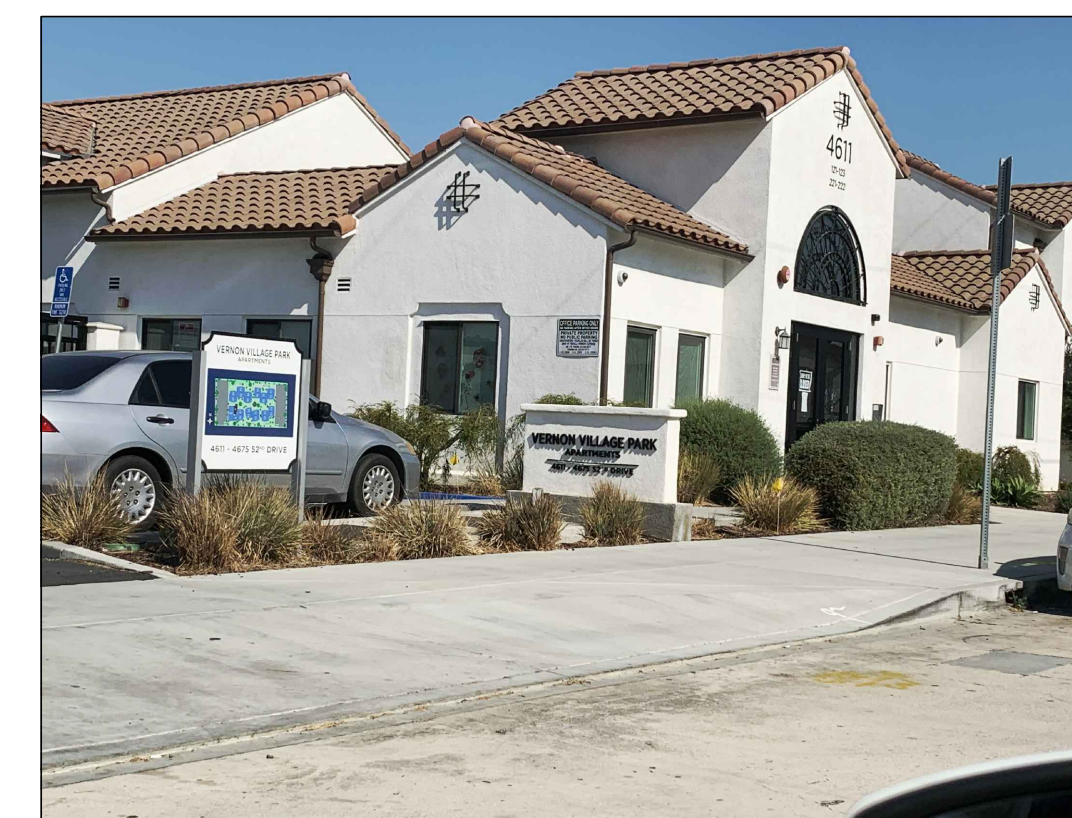
2360 E. VERNON AVE.

- VERNON CITY SCHOOL
- BY THE UTILITY PEDESTAL



5000 E. PACIFIC BLVD.

- WHOLE FOODS MARKET DISTRIBUTION CENTER
- NEAR FOOD TRUCK PARKING



4675 E. 52ND DRIVE

- VERNON VILLAGE PARK APARTMENTS
- BY MAIN ENTRANCE, WEST SIDE OF DRIVEWAY

