



COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

Gerardo Pinedo
County Administrative Officer

625 Court Street, Room 202 • Woodland, CA 95695
www.YoloCounty.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 26, 2024

Contact: Dwight Coddington

Email: PIO@YoloCounty.org

Phone: (530) 908-0186

Yolo County Board of Supervisors Unanimously Approves Measure for November Election to Support Library Services and Facilities

(Woodland, CA) – The Yolo County Board of Supervisors has unanimously approved a ballot measure for proposed changes, including a special tax increase for the Davis Library Community Facilities District (CFD) 1989-1. This measure will appear on the ballot for the upcoming general election on November 5, 2024, for those eligible voters within the CFD, which encompasses the City of Davis and the Davis Joint Unified School District within Yolo County. If approved by voters, the measure will increase the current tax by \$49 per single family parcel and \$24.50 per multifamily parcel with an inflator of up to 2% per year. If approved by voters, the measure will provide important funding for the sustainable operation and maintenance of both the Mary L. Stephens Davis Branch Library and the new Walnut Park Library in South Davis, including hours of operation, maintenance, collections, and community programs and services. The measure requires approval by a two-thirds vote to pass.

“When I visit Yolo County library branches in the City of Winters, Yolo, Clarksburg, and elsewhere in the county, it’s clear they serve as hubs for the community,” remarked Lucas Frerichs, Chair of the Yolo County Board of Supervisors. “The effort to reduce capacity issues at the Mary L. Stephens Library and expand services to a growing Davis community has been a team effort with federal, state, county, and city partners. We now have an opportunity for the broader community to support our libraries.”

Located at 2700 Lillard Drive, the new Walnut Park Library is designed to address longstanding capacity challenges at the Mary L. Stephens Davis Branch Library while significantly enhancing library services for all Yolo County residents. It is expected to break ground later this year and open to the public in 2026. The new library will be located in an area of Davis with a substantial English as a Second Language population, as well as the highest concentration of free and reduced-price lunch recipients. Many of these residents do not have a reliable way to cross Interstate 80 to receive services at the Mary L Stephens Davis Branch Library and will benefit from a library that is closer to their homes.

Unlike many other public capital projects, the Walnut Park Library project has secured full funding for construction thanks to a California State Library grant, funding from Congressman Mike Thompson, as well as contributions from the City of Davis and county funds.

When constructed, the library will feature a spacious community room, comprehensive collections for all age groups, study areas, indoor and outdoor programming spaces tailored for children, a dedicated teen area, computers, WiFi, self-checkout stations, ample parking, and much more. These amenities collectively position

Disponible en español usando la función Traducir en la parte superior de nuestro sitio web
Доступно на русском языке с помощью функции «Перевести» в верхней части нашего сайта
使用我们网站顶部的翻译功能可以获取中文版本

the Walnut Park Library as a hub for educational resources, community engagement, and cultural enrichment across Yolo County.

Jim Provenza, Yolo County District 4 Supervisor, emphasized, “The initial annual tax increase of \$49 per year would result in an increase to monthly property tax bills of only around \$4 per month for a single-family home. This small increase will provide ongoing funding for the operating costs of the new Walnut Park Library in South Davis as well as contribute to a reduction of overcrowding and enhanced services at the Mary L. Stephens Library.”

The current library tax was established in 1989 and adjusted in 2007. As of fiscal year 2024/25, the current tax rate stands at \$120.80 for single-family residential parcels and \$60.39 per residential unit for multi-family residential parcels, with a maximum cost of living adjustment of 2% per year.

This current special tax rate is insufficient to cover the increasing costs of operating and maintaining both libraries. The proposed measure seeks to increase the special tax by \$49 per parcel for single-family residences and \$24.50 per unit for multifamily parcels, while continuing the annual adjustment of up to 2%. This measure is intended to assure that both libraries can meet the community's growing needs and continue to deliver high-quality services and programs.

The measure, which requires a two-thirds approval by voters within the CFD, will be included on the general election ballot on November 5, 2024. For additional information about the Walnut Park Library project, please visit www.YoloCountyLibrary.org/WalnutParkLibrary.

For more information about the proposed changes to the CFD and special tax, please see the Board of Supervisor’s agenda items from May 21, 2024 (Item #16) and June 25, 2024 (Item #49) available at: www.YoloCounty.org/BOSAgendas

###