

2016 JUN 30 PM 5:08


Oakland City Attorney's Office

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Ordinance No. 18890 C.M.S.

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR AND DIRECTOR OF LIBRARY SERVICES, AS PART OF A ONE YEAR PILOT PROJECT, TO MODIFY THE OAKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY FINES AND FEES AFFECTING YOUTH (18 YEARS-OLD AND UNDER) IN ORDER TO REDUCE A SUBSTANTIAL BARRIER TO LIBRARY USE BY OAKLAND YOUTH

WHEREAS, the Oakland Public Library ("OPL") collection is acquired for the purpose of creating a shared resource that is informative, educational, culturally relevant, and accessible to all residents; and

WHEREAS, approval of the recommended actions will allow the Department of Library Services to reduce one of the substantial barriers to library usage by young people and improve access to Oakland students by providing options for reducing and resolving outstanding debt due to the accrual of fines for overdue and lost or damaged library materials; and

WHEREAS, as part of its New Models of Service, the Oakland Public Library began to look at its policies and procedures and developed a "people over things" philosophy, meaning that its operations should not get in the way of how we serve our patrons; and

WHEREAS, Library fines for overdue materials and fees for replacement costs represent significant and often overwhelming costs for lower-income people and as a result, patrons with fines or fees over \$12.50 (the point at which OPL restricts checkouts) who cannot pay are excluded from accessing library resources; and

WHEREAS, for our OUSD teens, fines and fees keep them out of the OPL, yet they need the OPL the most and omitting fines and fees for Oakland youth will encourage ongoing library use throughout their teenage years and will promote a habit of library use that will be carried into adulthood; and

WHEREAS, the OPL will evaluate the pilot project impact to Oakland youth who use the library over the course of a year and in consultation with the Finance Department and the City Administrator will make a determination regarding recommendations for future amendments to library fines and fees set out in the Master Fee Schedule; and

WHEREAS, OPL overdue fines and replacement fees will be reviewed annually by City Council as part of the budget process; and

WHEREAS, by recognizing that many families in Oakland cannot pay fines and replacement fees, OPL seeks to break the barrier that keeps many young people from using the library on a regular basis and breaking this barrier promotes sustainable relationships between the Oakland Public Library and its young people in Oakland;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OAKLAND DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That the City Administrator and the Director of Library Services are authorized, as part of a one year pilot project, to modify the OPL fine and fee parameters affecting youth (18 year-old and under) in order to reduce a substantial barrier to library use by Oakland students.

SECTION 2. Severability. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the Chapter. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed this Ordinance and each section, subsection, clause or phrase thereof irrespective of the fact that one or more other sections, subsections, clauses or phrases may be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 3. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective immediately on final adoption if it receives six or more affirmative votes; otherwise it shall become effective upon the seventh day after final adoption.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, JUL 26 2016

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

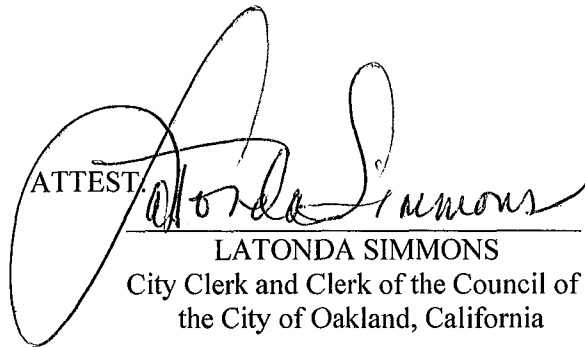
AYES - BROOKS, CAMPBELL WASHINGTON, GALLO, GUILLEN, KALB, KAPLAN, REID,
AND PRESIDENT GIBSON MCELHANEY - 8

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

Introduction Date
JUL 19 2016

ATTEST 
LATONDA SIMMONS
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of
the City of Oakland, California

Date of Attestation July 27, 2016

NOTICE AND DIGEST

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR AND DIRECTOR OF LIBRARY SERVICES, AS PART OF A ONE YEAR PILOT PROJECT, TO MODIFY THE OAKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY FINES AND FEES AFFECTING YOUTH (18 YEARS-OLD AND UNDER) IN ORDER TO REDUCE A SUBSTANTIAL BARRIER TO LIBRARY USE BY OAKLAND STUDENTS

This Ordinance will authorize the City Administrator and Director of Library Services to modify Oakland Public Library fines and fees set out in the City of Oakland Master Fee Schedule in order to reduce substantial barriers to library use by Oakland Youth.