



Agenda Date: 1/31/2006
Agenda Placement: 6D

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Janet McCoy - Director
Library
REPORT BY: Janet McCoy, Library Director, 253-4208
SUBJECT: Amnesty Week for Library Overdue Fines

RECOMMENDATION

Library Director requests authorization to waive fines for overdue library materials from February 6 - 12, 2006.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Napa City-County Library proposes to have a fine-free week from February 6-12, 2006, in honor of the library's 90th birthday on February 9.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	Yes
Where is it budgeted?	Library
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary?	Discretionary
Discretionary Justification:	Charging of overdue fines is at the discretion of the local jurisdiction.
Is the general fund affected?	No
Future fiscal impact:	Unknown. Materials may be returned during the amnesty week that would otherwise have remained missing and would have to be purchased.
Consequences if not approved:	Overdue fines would be charged as usual. Missing materials might remain missing and have to be replaced, if replacements are available.
Additional Information:	

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

There is no Environmental Impact for this item.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

Public Libraries find it worthwhile to periodically offer amnesty for overdue materials for a number of reasons: (1) The library gets back long-missing items which often are out of print, and therefore are irreplaceable, (2) Library customers have an opportunity to clear their record, thus returning their card to active status, and (3) It creates good public relations.

The proposed waivers would only apply to overdue fines on materials returned during the specified week. Charges for lost or damaged materials would not be waived. It would be limited to the week of February 6-12, 2006 and would occur at all Napa City-County Libraries, including the Napa Main Library, the American Canyon Library, the Calistoga Library and the Yountville Library. The St. Helena Library is not part of the Napa City-County Library system.

This fine amnesty period is proposed to help celebrate the Library's 90th birthday. On February 9, 1916, the Napa County Free Library was established under the California County Free Library Law. The project was delayed by World War I, but in September of 1919, Mrs. Estelle de Ford was appointed Napa County Librarian to start the new library on January 1, 1920. The Napa City-County Library's last amnesty period was in January 2005, during which approximately 900 items were returned fine-free.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Maiko Klieman