



***Keep our libraries open, our children safe, provide literacy and job placement help for the unemployed, programs for seniors, resources to help students succeed with no new taxes and strict fiscal accountability***

*We cannot afford to wait any longer to provide emergency funding to our local libraries. Due to severe State and City budget cuts, Los Angeles neighborhood libraries have been forced to close their doors two days and two nights a week, cut vital services and resources and reduce the number of qualified librarians. Measure L provides emergency funding, without raising taxes, to restore and maintain library hours, purchase books and support library services. That is why Measure L is supported by parents, librarians and teachers as well as public safety, business, spiritual, elected and civic leaders.*

### **NEIGHBORHOOD LIBRARIES HELP SCHOOLS EDUCATE OUR KIDS**

- Severe budget cuts to school libraries and afterschool programs have elevated the importance of neighborhood libraries in our children's education. Without Measure L, students will be left without access to necessary library resources like computers, books, tutoring and after-school programs to help these students succeed.
- In addition to operating the city's largest after-school program, Los Angeles City libraries also help students succeed in school with a number of additional programs including Student Smart to help kids pass the PSAT/SAT tests and apply for college; Live Homework Help which pairs students one-on-one with tutors online; Teen Councils work with the library to develop specific programs at each library that meet the needs of teens; and We Read Together builds early literacy skills in infants and toddlers - helping to develop a life-long love of reading.

### **MEASURE L REQUIRES STRICT FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY WITH NO NEW TAXES**

- Measure L includes strict fiscal accountability and taxpayer protections including independent financial audits, requires that every dollar must be spent on our local libraries and all budget expenditures are available on-line for public review.
- City and State government are prohibited from raiding neighborhood library funding.

### **LIBRARIES KEEP KIDS SAFE**

- Los Angeles City libraries operate the City's largest after-school program. Measure L will help our local libraries stay open more days and nights so that they can continue to provide a safe, adult-supervised place for students to do their homework and participate in after school programs. By keeping kids off the street and protecting them from gangs and drugs this measure is an important crime prevention and gang intervention tool for Los Angeles.

### **LIBRARIES HELP RESIDENTS FIND WORK**

- The economic downturn has led to an increase in almost three-quarters of a million visitors to Los Angeles Public Libraries. Many of these users are job-seekers using the library computers and other online resources to apply for jobs as well as participate in key programs such as basic computer instruction, adult literacy, resume writing and to improve their English-language skills.
- Measure L protects these job and career services and expands opportunities at this critical time.

### **LIBRARIES ARE COMMUNITY CENTERS**

- Public libraries are one of the few important community centers left that benefit children, families, seniors and the blind. Libraries offer summer youth programs, literacy efforts and services for the blind and seniors that need protection from budget cuts. Measure L will help make sure that we all continue to have access to this valuable resource.



## FACT SHEET

Measure L, the Public Library Funding Charter Amendment, on the March 8, 2011 ballot will increase the Los Angeles Public Library's share of existing city funds and increase the Library's responsibility for its direct and indirect costs. Measure L is not a new tax and its funds are subject to audits.

### Measure L will provide additional funds to:

- Restore 6-day-a-week service, and eventually 7-day-a-week service.
- Increase access to the Library's collections, computers and programs including after-school/summer youth, student homework help, adult literacy and job search programs.
- Purchase books. Los Angeles currently ranks last in per capita spending on library materials among the eight largest U.S. libraries.

### **Public Library Funding, Charter Amendment, Measure L**

Shall the Charter be amended to incrementally increase the amount the City is required to dedicate annually from its General Fund to the Library Department to an amount equal to .0300% of the assessed value of all property in the City, and incrementally increase the Library Department's responsibility for its direct costs until it pays for all of its direct and indirect costs, in order to provide Los Angeles neighborhood public libraries with additional funding to help restore library service hours, purchase books and support library programs, subject to audits, using existing funds with no new taxes?

### Measure L Facts

- **Measure L will not require residents or property owners to pay more taxes or fees:** While the amount of funds the Library receives from the city is based on a percent of property values, Measure L will only increase the Library's share of existing city funds. Measure L funds are subject to audits.
- **Measure L will progressively increase the Library's share of existing funds:** Within 4 years, Measure L will increase the Library's Charter-required funding from the current .0175% up to a maximum of .0300% of each \$100 of assessed tax value on property within the city and provide the funds needed to restore 6-day and 7-day a week library service citywide.
- **Measure L will increase the Library's responsibility for the cost of its operations:** It will increase the Library's responsibility to pay for all of its direct and indirect costs, until the Library pays for all of these costs, which include utilities, building maintenance and other operation costs.
- **Measure L will respond to recent reductions in library services that have resulted in:** Library hours cut 3 times in the past 12 months; library service cut from 7 days a week to 5 days a week for the first time in the Library's 139-year history; and Library staff cut by 28%

### Los Angeles Public Library Facts

- Includes the Central Library, 72 neighborhood branch libraries and a Website with on-line resources.
- The Library budget (\$150.7 million) is 2% of the total city budget (\$6.7 billion).
- In FY 2008-09, a record number of people visited the 73 libraries 17 million times; borrowed 18 million books and other items; used the Library online 155 million times
- Library programs and services include (A complete list is available at [www.lapl.org](http://www.lapl.org))::
  - 6.4 million books and other items
  - 2300 public computers
  - Adult Literacy Centers in 21 libraries
  - Online homework help
  - Online job search guide and resources
  - Programs for children teens and adults



[WWW.YESONLIBRARIES.COM](http://WWW.YESONLIBRARIES.COM)

## **Endorsement List (updated 2/3/11 partial listing)**

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### **ELECTED OFFICIALS**

LA City Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa  
LA City Controller Wendy Greuel  
LA City Council President Eric Garcetti  
LA City Council President Pro Tempore Jan Perry  
LA City Councilmember Ed P. Reyes, CD 1  
LA City Councilmember Paul Krekorian, CD 2  
LA City Councilmember Dennis P. Zine, CD 3  
LA City Councilmember Tom Labonge, CD 4  
LA City Councilmember Paul Koretz, CD 5  
LA City Councilmember Bernard Parks, CD 8  
LA City Councilmember Herb J. Wesson, JR., CD 10  
LA City Councilmember Bill Rosendahl, CD 11  
LA City Councilmember Greig Smith, CD 12  
LA City Councilmember Jose Huizar, CD 14  
LA City Councilmember Janice Hahn, CD 15  
LACCD Board of Trustees Kelly Candaele  
LACCD Board of Trustees Mona Field  
LACCD Board of Trustees Georgia Mercer  
LACCD Board of Trustees Tina Park  
LACCD Board of Trustees Nancy Pearlman  
LACCD Board of Trustees Miguel Santiago

### **CIVIC LEADERS & ORGANIZATIONS**

Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO  
Valley Industry and Commerce Association (VICA)  
Los Angeles Business Council (LABC)  
SEIU Local 721  
Librarians' Guild AFSCME Local 2626  
AFSCME District Council 36  
AFSCME Local 3090, Los Angeles City Clerical and Support Services Employees  
UA Plumbers Local 78  
Library Foundation of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles NAACP  
Inner City Struggle  
PEN Center USA  
Richard Riordan, Former Mayor of Los Angeles  
Charlie Beck, Chief of Police, Los Angeles Police Department \*  
David Abel, Chair, New Schools Better Neighborhoods\*  
Patrick Isidoro Butler, Firefighter \*  
Leslie Van Keuren Campbell, Owner, Sustain LA\*  
Maria Casillas, President, Families in Schools\*  
Alice Goff, President, AFSCME Local 3090  
Cheryl Parisi, Executive Director, AFSCME District Council 36  
Thomas Flintoft, Kindel Gagan\*

Ann Reiss Lane, Chair Emeritus, Women Against Gun Violence\*  
Mary Leslie, President, Los Angeles Business Council  
Tim Leiweke, President & CEO, AEG\*  
Lucy McCoy, Chair, Yes on Measure L and Former President, LAPL Board of Library Commissioners  
Thomas McClain, Chairman, Asia Society Southern California\*  
Gary Ross, Writer/Director, Larger Than Life Productions and Former President, LAPL Board of Library Commissioners  
Allison Thomas, Producer, Larger Than Life Productions and Former Member, LAPL Board of Library Commissioners  
David A. Lehrer, Former President LAPL Board of Library Commissioners  
Jeff Brown, Chairman, Library Foundation of Los Angeles  
Leah Herzberg, Valley Democrats United, LACDP 41<sup>st</sup> AD Committee  
Joe R. Hicks, Political Commentator  
Ayahlushim Getachew, Thomas Properties Group\*  
Rabbi John Rosove, Temple Israel, Hollywood\*  
Madeline Puzo, Dean School of Theatre, University of Southern California  
Sarah Shaw, JMB Realty\*  
Renata Simril, Public Institutions Group, Jones Day LaSalle  
Cindy Starrett, Partner, Latham and Watkins\*  
Adam Somers, Executive Director, Pen Center USA  
Faye Washington, CEO, YWCA of Greater Los Angeles\*  
Sheri Wolf, President, Sadler Strategic Media\*

## **NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS**

Greater Echo Park Elysian Neighborhood Council  
Pat Jones, Chair, Empowerment Congress Southwest Area Neighborhood Council\*  
Jose Sigala, Board President, Greater Echo Park Elysian Neighborhood Council\*  
Patricia Berman, President, Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council\*  
Andrew Lachman, Past President, MidCity West Neighborhood Council\*  
Belen Board, Member, Greater Cypress Park Neighborhood Council\*

## **LIBRARIANS & EDUCATORS**

Martin Gomez, Los Angeles City Librarian \*  
Fontayne Holmes, City Librarian 2004-2008  
Susan Kent, City Librarian 1995-2004  
Tyree Wieder, President Emeritus, Los Angeles Valley College\*  
Lupe Canales, Senior Librarian, Sun Valley Branch and former NY Times Librarian of the Year  
Victoria Magaw, Senior Librarian, Mid-Valley Regional Branch  
Alicia Moguel, Senior Librarian, Benjamin Franklin Branch  
Roy Stone, Senior Librarian, Fairfax Branch  
Barbara Y. Leff, President, Friends of Encino-Tarzana Branch Library, LAPL  
Friends of Encino-Tarzana Branch Library, LAPL  
Kathy Owens, Board Member, Friends of the Venice Library\*  
Karen Margolis, LAPL Docents \*  
Kim Cooper, Creator, Save LAPL  
Valley Plaza Branch Friends  
Friends of Woodland Hills Library  
Friends of the Woodland Hills Library  
Friends of the Venice Library  
Friends of Little Tokyo Branch Library  
Friends of Angeles Mesa Public Library  
Friends of Memorial Library

\*For identification purposes only



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## **Broad Business, Labor, Public Safety Coalition Unites Behind Library Measure**

*Save Our Neighborhood Libraries Yes on Measure L announces major endorsements from LA County Federation of Labor, Los Angeles Business Council, LAPD Chief Charlie Beck, Mayor Richard Riordan and other Business, Labor and Civic leaders*

Los Angeles, Ca. – The Save Our Neighborhood Libraries Yes on Measure L campaign announced today the support of a broad coalition of Business, Labor, Education, Public Safety and Civic leaders in support of Measure L, the “Public Library Funding Act” on the March 8<sup>th</sup> Los Angeles city ballot. Endorsers include the LA County Federation of Labor, Los Angeles Business Council, Librarians Guild AFSCME Local 2626, AFSCME Local 3090, The Los Angeles NAACP, LAPD Chief of Police Charlie Beck, Former Mayor Richard Riordan, LA Valley College President Emeritus Tyree Wieder, YWCA of Greater Los Angeles CEO Faye Washington, Families in Schools President Maria Casillas and neighborhood librarians from across the city.

Without raising taxes or fees and with strict fiscal accountability, Measure L will guarantee that L.A. neighborhood public libraries receive a dedicated and consistent percentage of the city budget. Measure L will provide these neighborhood libraries with the additional funding they need to help restore library service hours to at least 6 days a week, purchase books and support library programs including literacy and afterschool programs.

“Measure L brings a diverse collection of civic, business, labor and community leaders together to actively support one of our City’s most valuable assets - our public libraries.” said Maria Elena Durazo, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Los Angeles County Federation of Labor. She continued, “The members of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor know that we cannot wait to provide funding to our local libraries. We rely on neighborhood libraries for after-school, literacy and job-search programs. As an important community asset, the doors of our public libraries must remain open.”

“In these tough economic times, job-seekers are heading to their neighborhood libraries in greater numbers to use library computers and other online resources to apply for jobs as well as participate in key programs such as basic computer instruction, adult literacy, resume writing and to improve their English-language skills,” said Mary Leslie, President of the Los Angeles Business Council. She continued, “Measure L provides the fiscal accountability voters demand while providing the resources our libraries need to keep their doors open and remain a vital resource freely available to all Angelenos.”

In addition to operating the city's largest after-school program, Los Angeles City libraries provide "Student Smart" to help kids pass the PSAT/SAT tests and apply for college; "Live Homework Help" which pairs students one-on-one with tutors online; Teen Councils that work with librarians to develop specific programs at each library to meet the needs of teens; and "We Read Together," which builds early literacy skills in infants and toddlers - helping them develop a life-long love of reading.

"As an educator with over 35 years working in our community colleges and schools, I know of no other single institution in our society that provides so much for such a minimal financial investment. From education to public safety to literacy we must protect our neighborhood libraries in these tough economic times." said Tyree Wieder, President Emeritus of LA Valley College.

Measure L, the Public Library Funding Charter Amendment, on the March 8th municipal ballot, will increase the Los Angeles Public Library's share of existing city funds to reverse recent reductions in library services that have resulted in: Library hours cut 3 times in the past 12 months; library service cut from 7 days a week to 5 days a week for the first time in the Library's 139-year history; Library staff cut by 28%; and reductions in the Library's services and book purchasing budget. For over 100 years the Library has had a Charter guaranteed funding stream; however, the funding has not been adjusted in decades as the demand for library services has skyrocketed. Measure L will not require residents or property owners to pay any new taxes or fees and all funds are subject to strict fiscal accountability and audits.

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## **Endorsement Form**

\_\_\_\_ Please add my name to the Yes on Measure L endorsement list.

\_\_\_\_ Please add my organization's name to the Yes on Measure L endorsement list.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Individual (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title (for identification purposes)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Organization

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Please fax this signed endorsement form to 213-346-0410, send via pdf to [DavidJKoenig@gmail.com](mailto:DavidJKoenig@gmail.com) or mail to Sage Advisors, 221 S Figueroa St, Suite 240, LA, CA 90012.**

### **For more information please contact:**

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