

CITY COUNCIL

Darryl Moore Councilmember District 2

RECEIVED AT COUNCIL MEETING OF:

FEB **0 5** 2013

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK CITY OF BERKELEY

SUPPLEMENTAL or REVISED **AGENDA MATERIAL**

Meeting Date:

February 5, 2013

Item Number:

Item Description: Support SCA 7, Local Library Funding

Supplemental/Revision Submitted By: Councilmember Darryl Moore

"Good of the City" Analysis:

Revised version asks the City Clerk to send copies of the City Council's action and resolution to State legislators so that they are aware of the City's support.

Revised version asks the City Clerk to send copies of the City Council's action and resolution to State legislators so that they are aware of the City's support so they may act accordingly.

Consideration of supplemental or revised agenda material is subject to approval by a two-thirds vote of the City Council. (BMC 2.06.070)

A minimum of 42 copies must be submitted to the City Clerk for distribution at the Council meeting. This completed cover page must accompany every copy.

Copies of the supplemental/revised agenda material may be delivered to the City Clerk Department by 12:00 p.m. the day of the meeting. Copies that are ready after 12:00 p.m. must be delivered directly to the City Clerk at Council Chambers prior to the start of the meeting.

Supplements or Revisions submitted pursuant to BMC § 2.06.070 may only be revisions of the original report included in the Agenda Packet.



CITY COUNCIL

Darryi Moore Councilmember District 2

> CONSENT CALENDAR February 5, 2013

To:

Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From:

Councilmember Darryl Moore, District 2

Subject:

Support SCA 7, Local Library Funding

RECOMMENDATION

That the City Council adopt a resolution supporting Support SCA 7 for local library funding, which enables local governments to pass special taxes and bonds to support the operations of their public libraries by lowering the voter threshold for these measures from two-thirds to 55 percent. That the City Clerk sends a copy of the Council action with the resolution to Senators Lois Wolk, Mark Leno, Darrell Steinberg and Loni Hancock and Assemblymembers Das Williams, John Pérez and Nancy Skinner.

BACKGROUND

The passage of Proposition 13 in 1978 has stifled California's investment in its future (education, libraries and many other essential local services) since Prop 13 has heavily restricted property tax revenues. Additionally, Prop 13's requirement for a two-thirds voter approval for all non-ad valorem taxes has made it exceedingly more difficult to fund these services through alternative means. SCA7 is aimed at making it easier for local jurisdictions to raise money for their public library systems. The measure would do so in a number of different ways:

- 1. The measure would create an additional exception to the 1% limit for a rate imposed by a city, county, city and county, or special district to service bonded indebtedness incurred to fund public library facilities, that is approved by 55% of the voters of the city, county, city and county, or special district, as applicable.
- 2. The measure would authorize the imposition, extension, or increase of a special tax by a city, county, city and county, or special district for the purpose of funding public libraries, upon the approval of 55% of its voters voting on the proposition, and would also make conforming changes to related provisions.
- 3. The measure would similarly lower to 55% the voter-approval threshold for a city, county, or city and county to incur bonded indebtedness, exceeding in any year the income and revenue provided in that year, that is in the form of general obligation bonds issued to fund public libraries.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION Unknown

CONTACT PERSON
Councilmember Darryl Moore, District 2

981-7120

Attachments:

1) Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

IN SUPPORT OF SCA 7, LOCAL LIBRARY FUNDING

WHEREAS, our nation's school, academic, public and special libraries play a vital role in supporting the quality of life in their communities; and

WHEREAS, libraries often serve as community gathering places and as a place to receive personal service and assistance; and

WHEREAS, libraries are a key player in the national discourse on intellectual freedom, equity of access, and narrowing the "digital divide"; and

WHEREAS, despite the fact that libraries play such a vital role in our society, funding for public libraries has been dwindling due to limitations put on one of the most reliable sources of income for local governments, property taxes; and

WHEREAS, while Prop 13 still limits the amount of property taxes that local governments can collect, SCA 7 would make it easier for local jurisdictions to pass special assessments to fund public library services and facility improvements by reducing voter approval requirements from 2/3rd to 55%.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the Council supports our public library system and SCA 7 for making it easier for our citizenry to demonstrate their support of our local libraries by taxes themselves to improve this critical service.