



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

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Agenda Date: February 26, 2024

In Control: Community Health Committee

DEPARTMENT: Library

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Ramiro Salazar

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Digital Library at the San Antonio Public Library

SUMMARY:

The San Antonio Public Library will provide a briefing on the resources available through the digital library as part of the San Antonio Public Library's service.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Since 2007, the San Antonio Public Library (SAPL) has offered a digital collection that includes ebooks, databases, and streaming media, such as movies. Customers can access the digital collection through the Library's app, the Library's website, and proprietary apps available through the Apple Store and Google Play. The SAPL digital library also offers a variety of services to the community including sign-up for a library card, chat with a librarian, and access to a customer's account. SAPL is utilized by the community both in person and through the digital library. During the pandemic, particularly during the brief shutdown of library locations, the digital library was a

critical resource to the community.

ISSUE:

SAPL continues to develop and improve its digital library with the addition of new resources and the refinement of existing resources. User experience is the key focus. The SAPL team includes a web presence taskforce whose purpose is continual improvement of the website and other digital offerings with respect to the customer experience, accessibility, and inclusiveness. The digital library is a dynamic platform that evolves to meet the changing needs of our community, depending on personal preference and choice. While the digital library is a key resource for San Antonians, it is important to acknowledge and address the digital divide. This means that SAPL provides a balance of resources for those with their own devices, broadband access, and digital skill set, as well as resources for those who do not have access. This briefing provides an overview of the SAPL digital library and the strategies and plans for the future.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Briefing item only, no action.

ALTERNATIVES:

Briefing item only, no action.

RECOMMENDATION:

Briefing item only, no action.