

The County of Yuba



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Community Development & Services Director – Mike Lee

SUBJECT: Adopt Ordinance Repealing Chapter 2.123 of Title II of the Yuba County Ordinance Code relating to the establishment of the Yuba County Library Advisory Commission.

DATE: April 22, 2025

NUMBER: 198/2025

Recommendation

That the Board of Supervisors approve the attached ordinance repealing the Library Advisory Commission (LAC) by repealing Chapter 2.123 of Title II of the Yuba County Ordinance Code.

Background

The Library Advisory Commission was established by the Board of Supervisors on May 1st, 1979, shortly after the Yuba County Library opened in 1976. The purpose of the Commission was to serve as a voice of the community, providing advice and feedback to the County Librarian and Board of Supervisors on programming and library services. The commission consists of seven (7) voting members, five (5) of which are public members, selected by the Yuba County Board of Supervisors. The other two members consist of the BOS Chair or designee Board member, and the Mayor of the City of Marysville or Councilmember designee. Currently, there are three (3) public members on the commission, with two (2) vacancies.

Discussion

Since the creation of the Commission, the library has evolved. With the rise of digital resources and online communities, the library is accessible more than ever to the community. The library team has become more accessible to the community, not only through outreach, but through modern communication platforms. The community is reaching out directly to the library team and bypassing their district Commissioners for answers or information about the library.

Modern tools and platforms have allowed the library team to gather feedback directly from the community. Information about library services as well as programming can be obtained in real time

through various social media platforms. Questions and concerns from community members are also addressed in real time through modern communication platforms.

As the County addresses its priorities outlined in the strategic plan, one of the priorities is to repeal commissions that are no longer needed. Over the last several years, there have been at least two vacancies out of the five public members at any given time. Filling vacancies for the commission has become a challenge as the role requires knowledge of library services and most importantly, commitment of time. The meetings no longer serve an advisory function and primarily act as updates from the library team. Maintaining an advisory commission requires resources, including time from the library team. Redirecting the time and energy devoted to the commission, can be better spent enhancing library services, programs, and digital resources. By modernizing community engagement efforts, the library team can continue to foster participation and feedback while streamlining its processes. With the rise of digital resources and online communities, there is no longer a need for the continuation of the Commission. The current members of the LAC and the Finance & Administration Committee agree on this assessment.

Committee Action:

The Finance & Administration Committee heard this item and recommends approval.

Fiscal Impact:

There is no notable fiscal impact, although it will free up staff time to work on other pertinent issues.

Attachment

Ordinance Repealing the Library Advisory Commission.