SFPL OPEN HOURS ASSESSMENT 2017-18

OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER
CSA - CITY PERFORMANCE
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2016

CHARTER REQUIREMENT

Charter of the City and County of San Francisco, Section 16.109. LIBRARY PRESERVATION FUND.

Requires that the Library Commission:

- Maintain a minimum of 1,211 system-wide service hours per week.
- Conduct a comprehensive assessment of needs to modify service hours as appropriate at least once every five years.
- Establish a community input process to provide feedback for determining service hours, including a mandated public hearing in each supervisorial district.
- To be completed by: June 30, 2018

FINDINGS OF 2012-13 ASSESSMENT

Usage:

- Nearly three-quarters (73%) of respondents felt that current hours met their needs well or very well.
- Patrons in District 11 were the most satisfied with the current hours; patrons in District 8 were the least satisfied.

Expanded hours:

 Nearly two-thirds of patrons (64%) reported they were more likely to use the library if it were open more.

Non-users:

• The most cited reasons for not using the library were the respondent's feelings that they just didn't need to use it (24%), too busy (23%), or access to computer or Internet (23%).

CURRENT OPEN HOURS

- Charter requirement: 1,211 hours per week.
- Currently: 1,375 hours per week
 - approximately 14% above charter mandate.
- Total open hours: 68,380 per year
- Planned Additions for FY17:
 - All branches open 7 days per week.
 - 15 branches adding hours.
 - Floor of 50 open hours per week at every facility.

ASSESSMENT GOALS

- A. Data-driven approach to gather information on Library users and non-users for purpose of determining open hours.
- B. Position open hours to best serve the needs of the public and their respective communities.
- C. Determine the budgetary and staffing impacts of open hour revisions through different models.

PROPOSED SCOPE OF WORK

- I. Evaluation of current system-wide open hours.
- II. Benchmarking with peer systems.
- III. Community and patron surveys using an expert consultant to assess needs and inform recommendations.
- IV. Analysis of assessment findings.
- V. Outreach and discussion at public hearings in each supervisorial district.
- VI. Final report with proposed open hour recommendations to Library Commission.

PROPOSED TIMELINE

- Negotiate Contract with Expert Consultant
 - Fall/Winter 2016-17
- Consultant Survey Work
 - Spring 2017
- Analysis of Findings
 - Late Spring/Early Summer 2017
- Hold Public Hearings in 11 Supervisorial Districts
 - Summer 2017
- Delivery of Final Report
 - Late Summer/Fall 2017

FEEDBACK

Questions or other feedback?