



Council Report

Date: April 17, 2014

To: City Council

Through: Alex Deshuk, Manager of Technology & Innovation

From: Heather Wolf, Library Director

Subject: Proposed changes to Library Fines & Fees
Citywide Project

Strategic Initiatives



Purpose and Recommendation

The purpose of this report is to provide the City Council with a recommendation regarding adding new and revising current fees and fines at the Mesa Public Library to be more consistent with area libraries and generate revenue to help offset some of the cost of the service. After researching and comparing the Mesa Public Library with other area libraries the following are recommended:

Background

- **Library Hold Not Picked Up (after 7 days):** As a new fee instituted in 2005, the library currently charges \$0.50 for holds not picked up after seven days. The library is proposing an increase to \$1.00 for this fee based on comparisons with other libraries.
- **Earbuds:** As a new fee instituted in 2009, the Library currently charges \$5.00 to purchase a set of earbuds. The library is proposing a decrease for this fee to \$2.00 based on comparisons with other libraries.
- **Library Daily Overdue Fines - Other Materials - \$1.00 per day:** As a proposed new fee other materials include but are not limited to engravers, SRP energy meters, Nooks and book discussion kits. The library is proposing a fee of \$1.00 per day for other materials although currently no comparison data with other libraries is available.

- **Reusable Shopping Bags:** As a proposed new fee, the sale of reusable shopping bags would benefit the libraries customers and serve as a marketing tool for the library. The library is proposing a fee of \$2.00 per bag based on comparisons with other libraries.
- **Interlibrary Loan Not Picked Up:** As a proposed new fee, Interlibrary Loan is a service whereby customers may borrow an item from another library system. The library is proposing a fee of \$2.00 per item based on comparisons with other libraries.
- **3D Printing:** As a proposed new fee, 3D printing is a service available at THINKspot at the Red Mountain Library. The library is proposing a fee of \$0.05 per gram based on comparisons with other libraries.

Discussion

It is important that we not penalize people unfairly for not returning items but it is also imperative that we remain fiscally responsible to the taxpayers of Mesa. As part of the budgeting process, Library Administration surveyed area libraries for their fees and fines schedules and the proposed changes were developed. The recommendations, if approved, will bring the Mesa Public Library fees and fines schedule in line with other area libraries, and generate some additional revenue to cover the cost of the service. (See attachment A)

Alternatives

The fees and fines schedule could remain the same as it is now. No additional revenue to help cover costs of providing library services would be realized.

Fiscal Impact

It is projected that the increases recommended would result in additional revenue of \$14,940. The staff time for processing these added service transactions would be negligible. (See Attachment A)

ATTACHMENT "A"

CITY OF MESA – PROPOSED FY 14/15 FEES AND CHARGES

FY 13/14 RATES AND COMPARISONS WITH ARIZONA LIBRARIES

PROPOSED **INCREASED** FEES

Fines & Fees	Mesa Proposed	Mesa Current	County	Chandler	Scottsdale	Tempe	Glendale	Apache Jct.	Phoenix	Anticipated Increased Revenue
Holds not picked up after 7 days	\$1.00	\$0.50	\$2.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	N/C	\$1.00	N/C	N/C	\$11,700

PROPOSED **REDUCED** FEES

Fines & Fees	Mesa Proposed	Mesa Current	County	Chandler	Scottsdale	Tempe	Glendale	Apache Jct.	Phoenix	Anticipated Decreased Revenue
Earbuds	\$2.00	\$5.00	\$2.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$1.10	\$1.00	\$10.00	\$360

N/A: Not Available

N/C: Available at No Charge

ATTACHMENT "A"

CITY OF MESA – PROPOSED FY 14/15 FEES AND CHARGES

FY 13/14 RATES AND COMPARISONS WITH ARIZONA LIBRARIES

PROPOSED **NEW** FEES

Fines & Fees	Mesa Proposed	Mesa Current	County	Chandler	Scottsdale	Tempe	Glendale	Apache Jct.	Phoenix	Anticipated Increased Revenue
Daily Overdue Fines: Other Materials	\$1.00 per day	\$0.00								\$500
Reusable Bags	\$2.00	\$0.00	N/A	\$2.00 reusable \$10.00 heavy cotton	\$2.00 reusable \$15.00 two-sided canvas	N/A	\$0.25 plastic bag \$1.00 reusable	\$2.00 reusable	\$2.00 \$ \$3.00 reusable \$5.00 canvas \$10.00 other material	\$2,000
Interlibrary Loan Not Picked Up	\$2.00	\$0.00	N/C	\$1.00	N/C	\$5.00	\$2.00	\$1.00	N/C	\$500

Daily Overdue Fines: Other Materials: No Comparison Data Available

PROPOSED **NEW** FEES

Fines & Fees	Mesa Proposed	Mesa Current	Warwick Public Library, Warwick, RI	DC Public Library, Washington, DC	Fayetteville Free Library, Fayetteville, NY	Anticipated Increased Revenue
3D Printing	\$0.05 per gram	\$0.00	\$0.05 per gram	\$0.05 per gram	\$0.05 per gram	\$600

N/A: Not Available

N/C: Available at No Charge