

LOWER UMPQUA LIBRARY DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

The Library News

DATE: October 20, 2018

Issue Number 3

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Citizens have raised the following questions and here are some answers:

1. What is an IGA?

Answer: An Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) is any agreement that involves or is made between two or more government organizations to cooperate in some specific way. LULD legal counsel reviewed and submitted a draft to the Board which was approved by the Board of Directors on 10/2/18 and now the Reedsport City Council must respond regarding changes.

2. Who owns the building?

Answer: The City continues to own the building but has offered to transfer ownership at some time in the future if and when the Library District feels they want to assume ownership. Under the IGA, the Library District will be responsible for routine maintenance and upkeep as well as utilities and other building costs.

3. What happens to the grant funding for the Library services received in May for the transition?

Answer: The “Bridge” funding of \$45,000 received in May is held in a separate account administered by the City at the request of the granting agency. The City uses those funds for Library needs approved by the LAB and/or LULD Board. It will help pay for extra staffing, some insurance, and some other transition expenses.

4. Why doesn't the City continue to pay for the maintenance of the building as they did before?

Answer: The City will lose a significant amount of revenue with the Library District's creation—more than the cost of services to the Library as a whole. This lost revenue will have to be absorbed in the City budget leaving them with reduced resources. While the City's budget is larger than that of LULD, their financial obligations are larger and broader.

5. When will you hire a Library Director?

Answer: The Library District is hoping to hire a Library Director/District Manager when the agreement with the City is approved by both the LULD Board and the City Council. There is money in the “Bridge” grant to cover salaries and the Library District revenue from Property taxes will start coming in after Property Tax payments are made in November. Everything needs to be in place to adequately fund and support the staff hired. Even the manner in which we hire, employ, and operate the District has to be written out in advance of hiring. Lee Bridge has diligently been working on the policy to allow us to hire a Manager.

6. What will happen next?

Answer: The Legal Counsel (Stebbins & Coffey) we have just hired is reviewing our policies to assist us in meeting the legal requirements of a successful transition. He has recommended we implement some other legal language on which the Board will work with him. We have chosen an internet host for our email and a website on which we will post minutes and notices.