

DATE SUBMITTED 6/13//2023
 SUBMITTED BY DU
 DATE ACTION REQUIRED 6/13//2023

COUNCIL ACTION (X)
 PUBLIC HEARING REQUIRED ()
 RESOLUTION (X)
 ORDINANCE 1ST READING ()
 ORDINANCE 2ND READING ()
 CITY CLERK'S INITIALS ()

**IMPERIAL CITY COUNCIL
 AGENDA ITEM**

SUBJECT: Library Fines
DISCUSSION/ACTION: To eliminate the current overdue fee policy for library materials and implement a new fine-free policy that insures socio-economic equity for all library patrons.

DEPARTMENT INVOLVED: All Department's Involved/Library

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:

Overdue library fines are an outdated and punitive way to try to get library materials returned. The nationwide trend is to pause a patron's ability to check out until they bring the item back. Only if they lose a book, will they be asked to pay for it. Additionally, nickel and diming taxpayers in a low income community creates a socio-economic barrier to information access. It also creates negative public relations and causes undue stress to both patrons and staff.

According to the FY 2022/23 budget, the library collected \$2000 last year or \$167 a month.

The amount of staff time dealing with fines is also a pertinent issue. Alerting patrons and taking payment for a fine slows down the flow of service when people check out. Time spent discussing fines can be used for reference, readers advisory and to promote our many educational and cultural programs.

FISCAL IMPACT: Loss of \$2000 a year or less. Off set by the staff time recouped from handling these frequent, small amount transactions.

ADMIN SERV
 INITIALS _____

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: To implement a new, more equitable, overdue materials policy.

DEPT. INITIALS _____

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

CITY
 MANAGER's
 INITIALS _____

MOTION:

SECONDED:
AYES:
NAYES:
ABSENT:

APPROVED ()
DISAPPROVED ()
REFERRED TO:

REJECTED ()
DEFERRED ()