



LIBRARY BOARD

AGENDA SECTION	NEW BUSINESS
MEETING DATE	AUGUST 4, 2021

ITEM:	Proposed Change to Library Service Hours	
DEPARTMENT:	Library	BY/DATE: Renee Dougherty/July 20, 2021

BACKGROUND:

At the onset of the Coronavirus-19 Pandemic in March of 2020, the Library building was closed to the public from March 17 through June 13, 2020; all programs and services were delivered virtually or at curbside. The building was reopened for the public to use computers by appointment from June 15 – July 2, 2020. From July 6, 2020 – January 31, 2021, the building was open with capacity limits, enforced distancing, required masking for patrons and staff, and periodic surface de-sanitizing. During this period, the library was open six days a week for a total of 32 hours. On February 1, 2021, weekly service hours were increased to 40 over six days.

As of July 12, 2021, the city has repealed the emergency pandemic declaration and other metropolitan libraries are reopening facilities and restarting in-person programming. It is time to increase library service hours to pre-pandemic levels.

The attached document provides an overview of service hours for libraries within MELSA, the Metropolitan Library Service Area. Please review it and the proposed plans for a change of hours at CHPL and come prepared to discuss and vote on a change of hours to take effect after Labor Day.

Staff recommends the adoption of Plan C or D.

RECOMMENDED MOTION(S): To approve a change in service hours for the Columbia Heights Public Library effective September 7, 2021.

MOTION: To adopt service hours for the Columbia Heights Public Library effective September 7, 2021 Plan

ATTACHMENT(S):

Comparison of Service Hours for Metropolitan Libraries – July 2021,
CHPL Daily Visit Average - 2019