



Update Regarding MCLD Sun City Libraries from the RCSC Board of Directors

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 17, 2024

The RCSC Board would like to report that we are making progress defining the terms of a five-year lease agreement with Maricopa County Library District (MCLD), which would replace the current five-year lease (2019-2024) that expires on June 30.

In a meeting including MCLD administrative leaders and members of the RCSC Board and management team held on Tuesday (4/16), MCLD Library Director Jeremy Reeder opened the discussion by emphasizing that MCLD tailors its operations in each of its libraries to the particular community it serves, eschewing a one-size-fits-all approach to its varied locations.

In an open, wide-ranging, and constructive conversation, RCSC representatives were able to address some of the particular issues of

concern, ranging from the county and RCSC resources available to ensure safe social spaces; to the details surrounding the designation by the Heat Relief Network of libraries as cooling centers; to communication regarding incident reporting; to questions of liability; to extending (or, in our case, not extending) Wi-Fi connectivity into the parking lots around the leased library space; to conditions for renting additional RCSC space for special programming.

MCLD was most responsive to the concerns raised and will work closely with RCSC to fine-tune a lease contract that balances the needs of our residents with the requirement as a taxpayer-funded entity to remain open to the general public.

The RCSC Board is confident that a mutually agreeable contract will be drawn up that provides our residents with the very best of library services for years to come.