

**MEETING DATE:** January 27, 2022

**TO:** Library Board of Trustees

**FROM:** Bethany Weinberg, Senior Librarian

**SUBJECT:** CALIFORNIA STATE LIBRARY HOME CONNECTIVITY KIT PROJECT –  
HOTSPOTS, CHROMEBOOKS, AND DIGITAL ACCESSORY KITS

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## SUMMARY

Southern California Library Cooperative (SCLC) and the California State Library partnered to provide Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) compliant California libraries funding to help bridge the digital divide in the form of hotspots, Chromebooks, and digital accessory kits.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) Approve the receipt of the California State Library grant funding of 20 hotspots, 12 Chromebooks, and 18 digital accessory kits.
- 2) Approve one-time spending of up to \$800 for a charging locker from the Foundation Restricted Account.
- 3) Approve annual spending of up to \$2,400 per year from the Foundation Restricted Account for Microsoft Office Licenses.

## FISCAL IMPACT

Each license is \$150 annually currently. Charging lockers vary in cost, averaging about \$700.

## DISCUSSION

Through a state grant funded by the Southern California Library Cooperative (SCLC) and the California State Library, the Fullerton Public Library, as a CIPA-compliant library, will be receiving twenty hotspots, twelve Chromebooks, and eighteen digital accessory kits for circulation to patrons for one week at a time to help bridge our community's digital divide. Twelve of the hotspots will each be packaged with a Chromebook and a digital accessory kit to ensure that patrons can use all of the features of the Chromebooks. To enhance the value of using these Chromebooks, staff proposes purchasing annual Microsoft Office licenses for each Chromebook. While there will only be twelve Chromebooks initially, we foresee this being a popular item and want to be prepared to purchase additional units. The recommended funding will allow for four additional licenses if we choose to purchase additional Chromebooks.

Staff additionally proposes purchasing a charging locker to store the Chromebooks in a secure, locked container. A charging locker will also charge the devices, allowing the Chromebooks to be ready to use at the time of circulation. Currently, there are insufficient electrical outlets in the Circulation area to keep the Chromebooks charged. A charging locker allows for use of only one of the limited electrical outlets. We propose purchasing a charging locker that will house at least twenty-four devices to allow for this program to expand.