CLA LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES 2019
Presented by the Advocacy & Legislative Committee to further the mission of California libraries

The Committee works with the CLA Executive Board, CLA lobbyists and association members to make a difference for California libraries and the communities they serve.

These broadly-outlined priorities focus on California legislative and policy activities that support California libraries at the state level; they may also be used for local and national advocacy.

Infrastructure Needs:

- Seek a measure supporting the infrastructure needs of California’s public library facilities to benefit Californians in communities throughout the state (building upon the efforts in the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 sessions with SCA-3); work with the Legislature, the Governor’s office and other partners to secure a place on the election ballot and a plan for approval.

Broadband Equity and Net Neutrality:

- Work with the California State Library (CSL) and the Corporation for Education Network Initiatives in California (CENIC) to support implementation of Phases 3 and 4, which expand important broadband access to libraries throughout the state, and advocate for funding for assessment of Phases 1 and 2; advocate for net neutrality, the Federal E-Rate program and the California Teleconnect Fund.

After-School and Summer Programs:

- Seek funding to support California’s youth through library after-school and summer programming, such as Lunch at the Library.

Libraries as Centers:

- Seek funding for libraries to serve as centers for early education, literacy, career support, services for vulnerable populations and other educational programs that benefit a wide range of community members.

California State Library:

- Advocate for funding for the California State Library and its staff, initiatives and programs that critically support the vitality of all libraries throughout the state in meeting the library needs of their jurisdictions.

Census 2020:

- Secure adequate funding for libraries to assist with the collection and submission of Census information; work with other library groups (e.g. ALA) to promote libraries as critical partners for a complete count at the local and regional level.

Legislation Monitoring:

- Continue to monitor all legislation that may have a bearing on libraries in
California, and continue to work with other library-related groups and stakeholders on promoting libraries and beneficial legislation.

Adopted by the CLA Advocacy & Legislative Committee and the CLA Executive Board, November 2018