

**LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD REPORT**

December 9, 2021

TO: Board of Library Commissioners

FROM: John F. Szabo, City Librarian

SUBJECT: **RECOMMENDATION TO ADOPT INTERNET USE POLICY**

A. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Board of Library Commissioners:

1. Adopt the revised Los Angeles Public Library (Library) Internet Use Policy included as Attachment A of this report; which includes, but is not limited to, the following changes:
 - a. The addition of internet filtering software to public facing computers and Wi-Fi in order to become compliant with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA).
2. Authorize the City Librarian, or designee, to make technical corrections to the Internet Use Policy as necessary.
3. Adopt the attached Resolution regarding the revised Library Internet Use Policy.

B. FINDINGS

1. The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) is a federal law enacted by Congress in 2000 to address concerns about access to offensive content over the Internet on school and library computers.
2. Libraries must comply with CIPA if they would like to receive federal funding such as E-rate which provides discounts on internet access or eligible equipment, and Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grants associated with computer and internet access.

3. In order to be CIPA compliant, libraries must have an Internet safety policy that includes technology protection measures. The protection measures must block or filter Internet access to images that are: (a) obscene; (b) child pornography; or (c) harmful to minors.
4. All internet access on computers owned by the Library must be filtered, including wireless access.
5. Filters can be lifted or sites unblocked by anyone 18 or older.
6. The Library researched multiple internet filtering solutions and chose Cisco Umbrella based on ease of deployment, web filter availability, cloud services, and customer reviews.
7. Internet filtering has limitations that can result in over-filtering or under-filtering. Due to this, a policy has been set in place to allow users the ability to report sites that have been incorrectly labeled.
8. Different filtering configurations have been established for the Library based on the point of access to the internet with stronger protections implemented on computers in children's areas.
9. Library Users will have the ability to obtain access to websites via on-screen unblocking instructions or by reporting sites to filtering@lapl.org.
10. The revised Internet Use Policy has been reviewed by the City Attorney.

Attachments

Reviewed by: Susan Broman, Assistant City Librarian

RESOLUTION

LIBRARY RESOLUTION NO. 2021-XX (C-XX)

WHEREAS, The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) is a federal law enacted by Congress in 2000 to address concerns about access to offensive content over the Internet on school and library computers; and

WHEREAS, Libraries must comply with CIPA if they would like to receive federal funding such as E-rate which provides discounts on internet access or eligible equipment, and Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grants associated with computer and internet access; and

WHEREAS, In order to be CIPA compliant, libraries must have an Internet safety policy that includes technology protection measures. The protection measures must block or filter Internet access to images that are: (a) obscene; (b) child pornography; or (c) harmful to minors; and

WHEREAS, The Los Angeles Public Library (LAPL) desires to be CIPA compliant to receive federal funding and grants; and

WHEREAS, LAPL users will have the ability to obtain access to websites via on-screen unblocking instructions or by reporting sites to filtering@lapl.org; and

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, That the Board of Library Commissioners (Board) hereby approves and adopts the revised Los Angeles Public Library (LAPL) Internet Use Policy; and

THEREFORE, FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board authorizes the City Librarian, or designee, to make technical corrections to the Internet Use Policy as necessary.

This is a true copy:

Raquel M. Borden
Board Executive Assistant

Adopted by the following votes:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT: