Statement from City Librarian John F. Szabo on the FY 2013-14 Proposed Budget for the Los Angeles Public Library:

“Thanks to Mayor Villaraigosa’s proposed budget, the Los Angeles Public Library will restore Sunday service hours at nine libraries—one year ahead of the schedule set by Measure L. I’m proud that with the Mayor’s support, the library will deliver early on the promise made by Measure L, the 2011 ballot initiative passed by voters to restore library services and hours over four years. The budget also funds additional materials for the library’s popular print and digital collections.”

“With voters’ overwhelming support for Measure L and nearly 14 million people visiting our 73 libraries in a year, it’s clear that Angelenos love their libraries. Beginning January 2014, children, teens and adults will once again have seven-day-a-week access to resources they need to improve literacy, succeed in school, find employment, learn about good health, become a citizen and much more.”

Measure L Background:

Following cuts to the library budget in 2010, which resulted in a 30% reduction in staff and service hours, voters passed Measure L in March 2011. Over a four year period, Measure L restores library’s services and hours.

Measure L funding for FY 2013-14 enables the Library to re-open the Central Library and eight Regional Libraries on Sundays and provides funds for additional books and materials.

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