



News Release
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Berkeley Public Library Thanks Board of Library Trustee
Laura Anderson
For Her Eight Years of Dedication and Commitment

Laura Anderson, who has served as a Board of Library Trustee for the **Berkeley Public Library** for eight years, will be stepping down after the September 19, 2007, Board of Library Trustees Meeting. Ms. Anderson has served the maximum two terms of four years each.

While Ms. Anderson served on the Board, the Central Library was renovated, the largest single project in the history of the Berkeley Public Library since Central Library was built in the early 1930s. Laura's personal commitment to literacy and her lifelong love of reading inspired her to encourage and support the adult new reader program, Berkeley Reads, and services to promote reading, especially among school-age children. "The growth and success of these programs and services, coupled with the renovated Central Public Library, serve as enduring testaments to Laura's tenure as a member of the Berkeley Public Library Board of Library Trustees," stated Director of Library Services Donna Corbeil. "Her strong connections to the Berkeley community and her passion for the library and its programs and services has made it a true pleasure to work for her and with her."

Ms. Anderson worked for the City of Berkeley beginning in the 1960s for over 30 years. She was the Family Planning Coordinator of the Comprehensive Family Planning Program

beginning in the 1970s. She also oversaw daily operations of the City of Berkeley's public health clinic that included a number of programs serving the community, including the Maternal, Infant, and Childcare Program (MIC) and Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). Her former supervisor, Verdie Thompson, Director of Nurses for the City of Berkeley, remembers her as a kind and warm person and a tireless advocate for services for people who most needed them, especially during difficult budget times. She was also an advocate for the City's health workers, including her instrumental role in a program that hired community members and supported them in receiving education to become community health workers and nurse practitioners. Ms. Anderson was also a great support to the City's Black Infant Health Program, on whose Board she currently serves.

Teen Librarian Vi Dyas, who worked for the City's Health and Human Services Department before becoming a librarian with the Berkeley Public Library, worked alongside Ms. Anderson and remembers fondly how "she and her husband welcomed us City workers with great affection to her home during the holidays."

Laura Anderson will be missed from the Board of Library Trustees, and the Berkeley Public Library wishes her well in her next activities. "I'm certain we will see her in a library branch soon," said Library Director Corbeil.

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