

Library Director's Report – May 2026

The Library Director continued holding regular meetings with Library Managers to address library-related matters and ensure clear communication between departments.

On Tuesday, April 7, Director Vinke participated in the interview panel for the position of City Librarian for the City of Torrance.

Director Vinke, Chair Maroko, and Commissioner Galassi attended the City Council meeting on Tuesday, April 14. They were joined by Library staff and Friends of the Library members for the Mayor's proclamation of April 19–25, 2026, as National Library Week in the City of Redondo Beach.

On Thursday, April 16, Director Vinke, Youth Services Librarian, Winter, and Librarian Martinez attended the Farmers Market Set Up Coordination meeting.

On Monday, April 20, Director Vinke spoke at the Woman's Club of Redondo Beach on Library services.

On Saturday, April 25, Director Vinke, Librarian Thompson, and Librarian Martinez staffed a booth at the City of Redondo Beach 134th Birthday Celebration at the City of Redondo Beach Museum.

On Wednesday, May 6, Director Vinke attended the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the New North Redondo Beach Farmer's Market.

On Thursday, May 7, Director Vinke and Youth Services Librarian, Winter, presented to Redondo Beach Youth Commission on Library operations and teen services, collections, programs, and volunteer opportunities.

Library App update

The mandatory update for the RBPL Mobile App has been successfully deployed. This release features significant improvements to the user interface, catalog navigation, and core system performance.

Facilities Maintenance

Library staff continued to address routine maintenance and minor facility issues as they arose.

Public Works recently completed maintenance on the Main Library's original motorized room divider. By restoring this feature, the Library can now split the meeting room into two smaller, acoustically private spaces—effectively doubling the potential for simultaneous programming and facility rentals.

On May 6 and 7, due to unforeseen circumstances, AP exams for Redondo Union High School were relocated to the Library's Large Meeting Room and Conference Room for all-day testing. The Public Works and IT Departments facilitated the setup, and there was minimal impact on Library operations.

Displays

Library staff curated the following themed book displays: One Book, One Coast (OBOC), Earth Day, Spring, and National Poetry Month.

Programs

National Library Week Celebration - April 20-25, 2026

The 2026 theme is "Find Your Joy". National Library Week Opportunity Drawing received 239 tickets (149 at Main Library; 90 at North Branch Library). Staff participated in a Social Media post in recognition of NLW.

One Book, One Coast (OBOC) – April 1 through May 31, 2026

The Library is partnering with OBOC. This year's featured selection is George Takei's moving graphic memoir, *They Called Us Enemy*. The Library's local OBOC programming is listed on this month's calendar of events.

Local Author - Alex Moreno Areyan

On Saturday, May 2, the Library hosted Alex Moreno Areyan, author of "*Images of America*" series books and also a memoir titled "*Beach Mexican: Assimilation and Identity in Redondo Beach*".

Friends of the Library Book Sale

On Saturday, May 9, from 10am to 2pm, the Friends of the Library will host a Book Sale.

Local Historian, Artist Poet and Author - Don Hata

On Saturday, May 9, at 1:30pm, Don Hata, Historian, Artist Poet and Author will speak in recognition of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month and as part of the One Book, One Coast series.

Friends of the Redondo Beach Public Library Fundraiser Event

On Saturday, May 30, at 2:00pm, the Friends of the Redondo Beach Library will host a fundraiser event at the Main Library celebrating America's 250th Anniversary with patriotic songs performed by the Pennyroyal Players.

Summer Reading 2026

Summer Reading is almost here! Youth Services continues to coordinate and schedule this year's programs, incentives, and reading logs. The Summer Reading Kick Off/Juneteenth celebration is scheduled for Saturday, June 13, from 12pm-3pm.

Open+

The Library continues to offer and promote Express Hours with regular signups. A usage report has been added to the Directors report. We now have over 100 registered users.