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PRESS RELEASE

Downey City Library Eliminates Library Fines

Downey, CA, June 28, 2024: The City of Downey and Downey City Library are proud to announce the elimination of Library fines. Effective July 01, 2024, the library has eliminated fines for overdue books and materials. From this date forward, overdue fines for all materials—past, present, and future—will no longer be applied. Overdue fines are daily charges applied to items not returned by their specified due date. These are the fines that will no longer be charged to the public. Fees represent charges applied for lost or damaged materials and still remain in effect.

This decision comes as part of the library's effort to increase accessibility and remove barriers that may prevent patrons from utilizing library resources to their fullest potential.

"Our mission at the Downey City Library has always been to provide free and equal access to knowledge, resources, and opportunities for personal growth," said Benjamin Dickow, Director of the Downey City Library. "By eliminating fines, we are removing barriers that can disproportionately affect individuals and families who may face financial challenges."

Eliminating fines is expected to encourage more residents to take advantage of the library's resources, like its collection of books, digital resources, and educational programs.

"We want every member of our community to feel welcome and supported at the library," added City of Downey Mayor Mario Trujillo. "This decision reflects our commitment to creating an inclusive environment where everyone can benefit from the wide range of resources available to them."

The Downey City Library joins a growing number of libraries across the country that have chosen to eliminate fines in recent years. For more information about the elimination of library fines or to learn about the wide range of services offered by the Downey City Library, please visit www.downeylibrary.org or contact (562) 904-7360.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

About Downey City Library:

The Downey City Library, located at 11121 Brookshire Avenue, Downey, California 90241, serves as a resource for residents of Downey, CA, offering a diverse collection of books, multimedia materials, digital resources, and educational programs for all ages. Committed to fostering a love of reading and lifelong learning, the library provides a welcoming environment where community members can connect, discover, and grow.

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