



BREVARD COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICES  
308 Forrest Avenue  
Cocoa, FL 32922  
(321) 633-1801

**TO:** Frank B. Abbate, County Manager

**THRU:** Jim Liesenfelt, Assistant County Manager

**FROM:** Wendi Bost, Library Services Department Director 

**SUBJ:** Citizen Efficiency and Effectiveness Recommendation (CEER) #2024002

**DATE:** 04/01/2024

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CEER #2024002 was received by the County from Kevin Shropshire on 12/13/2023.

**Citizen Statement:**

I'm not sure if this is county-wide, but our Port St. John public library has very limited hours. Working parents have very limited ability to use library services for their children, or themselves with the current limited hours of operation. Here are the current hours of operation of our library. As a working parent, with 2 children in elementary school, please tell me how I/we can utilize our library more than a few hours per week, when these are the operational hours?

Sunday Closed  
Monday 9 AM–5 PM  
Tuesday 9 AM–5 PM  
Wednesday 12–8 PM  
Thursday 9 AM–5 PM  
Friday 9 AM–5 PM  
Saturday 10 AM–2 PM

**Citizen Recommendation:**

I know we all have "staff shortages" and "budget cutbacks". But now we're affecting the knowledge base and learning sector. Our public libraries should remain open into the evening, every evening. If we have county funding to keep handing out as incentives to new developers and businesses, we have money to support learning. We need to increase funds to our local libraries, or find sources (possibly tourist dollars). I would recommend changing the operational hours to the following, at the least:

Sunday 12PM-5 PM  
Monday 11 AM– 7 PM  
Tuesday 11 AM– 7 PM

Wednesday 12–8 PM  
Thursday 11 AM– 7 PM  
Friday 11 AM– 7 PM  
Saturday 10 AM–6 PM

The only increase in hours would be extending Saturday, and adding Sunday.

**Staff Analysis:**

The Library System has five larger regional libraries open seven days a week. When evaluating operations, the libraries closer in proximity to those regional libraries will have different hours to offer library patrons, allowing access to morning and evening hours.

When determining operating hours for the Port St John Library, we evaluated several factors.

The **Catherine Schweinsberg Rood Library** in Cocoa is open seven days a week. It is 9.7 miles south of the Port St John Library, has more meeting rooms and computers, and has a larger capacity for collections and programming. The Catherine Schweinsberg Rood Library is open on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

The **Titusville Library** is also open seven days a week and is 9.5 miles north of the Port St John Library. It, too, is open seven days a week and has more meeting rooms, computers, and a larger capacity for collections and programming. The Titusville Library is open Monday and Tuesday evenings.

Within the approximate 10-mile range of the Port St John Library are two libraries open seven days a week. Between the three libraries, evenings are available until 8 pm, four nights a week.

If Saturday and Sunday hours were added to the Port St John Library, as the CEER recommends, the action would add 9 additional weekend hours. The Port St. John Library plans for at least four staff members in the building to cover the work and breaks. We also need additional staffing to help cover vacations, illness, etc. In preparation for operating the library, we have staff in the building before we open to the public, which brings the hours to 12 additional hours of full staffing a week, which is 48 staff service hours.

The total increase required to the Library Services Department budget would be at minimum \$96,310 a year, which requires an approximate .0016 increase to the Library District millage rate.

Staff will continue to evaluate operational hours for each library.

**Staff Recommended Action:**

It is recommended that CEER # 2024002 be rejected by the Board of County Commissioners.

## Recommendation Details

### Contact Information

Full Name: Kevin Shropshire Email Address: kshrop2000@hotmail.com  
Mailing Address: 4975 Carter ST.  
Cocoa fl 32927 Alt Email Address:  
Phone Number 321-626-2507

Group/Organization

N/A

### Recommendation Information

Recommendation Title: Library Hours limited  
Areas Affected: Port St. John

Department:

LIBRARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

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Problem  
Description:

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Recommendation  
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### Attachments

There are no attachments for this recommendation.

## Administrative Action

## Evaluation

### Recommendation Timeline

User	Status	Date	Remarks
CEER WebUser	Citizen Submitted	Dec 13, 2023	
Karen Conde	Department Assigned	Dec 20, 2023	LIBRARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT Assigned

Awaiting action from department director