

## Library Board Agenda Memo

**From:** Ashia Gustafson, Director of Library Services

**Library Board Meeting:** August 17, 2023

**Subject:** Library Fine Free Discussion

**Summary:** Kathy Miller brought forward the discussion of the Library going fine free. Questions to be answered and discussed were: Monthly fines amount, average monthly accumulated fines and average length of fines.

Monthly fine amounts were able to be pulled and presented: see attached document

A comparison of yearly fines was compiled: see attached document

A compiled resource list of articles discussing the merits of going fine free: see attached document

**Background:**

**Discussion:**

**Options moving forward:**

1. Leave it as is.
2. Lower the likelihood of fines for patrons by turning on automatic renewals in TLC and allowing renewals on DVDs. Ashia has discussed allowing renewals for DVDs with Nancy Swenson, Technology Services Librarian. She is in favor of allowing renewals on DVDs.
  - a. We could offer a bi-annual fine forgiveness month with food shelf/school supply donations. We have done this a few times in the past and goes over very well, but then some patrons also leave fines until these periods which restricts their access to the Library in the meantime.
3. Go Fine Free.

**Recommendation:** Library staff is overall favorable to going fine free, but have some concerns. City Administration staff have concerns about the financial ramifications of going fine free.