



## **LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES STAFF REPORT**

**ITEM NO. 4.3**

**DATE:** August 28, 2025  
**TO:** Chairperson and Members of the Library Board of Trustees  
**FROM:** Anwan Baker, Library Director  
**SUBJECT:** Presentation on the Addition of an Adult International Languages Collection

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Staff recommends the Library Board of Trustees receive the report.

### **DECISION TYPE**

### **SUMMARY**

Collections in languages other than English are very common, even expected in Libraries. Languages in a Library's collection are often representative of that particular community's demographic data, so ratios in one City can be completely different than another City's. A few years ago, with languages spoken in the home data from Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District, Livermore Public Library began building out its International Language collection in the youth section of the Library. Now, with updated data, staff are looking to do the same in the adult section of the Library.

### **DISCUSSION**

Livermore Public Library has already established its Spanish language collection in youth and adult, starting in 2002. New data provided through Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District show a need for additional languages. The following are the top ten languages spoken in the home according to LVJUSD's list of English Language Learners:

1. Spanish: 961 students, 77.19%
2. Persian: 53 students, 4.26%
3. Telugu: 27 students, 2.17%
4. Hindi: 25 students, 2.01%
5. Philippine languages: 23 students, 1.83%
6. Mandarin: 18 students, 1.45%
7. Korean: 13 students, 1.04%
8. Vietnamese: 13 students, 1.04%

9. Tamil: 11 students, 0.88%
10. Panjabi: 10 students, 0.80%

While some of these numbers are smaller, staff are using this data to inform language collection decisions. This is not inclusive of the number of adults in the City, but it does tell staff that there are families in the community who primarily speak these languages. Staff extrapolate the potential level of interest in the larger community with this information and are using this data, rather than Census data, because this is more current and has greater specificity.

To make collection happen, allocating collection development funding for this specific purpose, checking in with those on staff at Livermore Public Library and those at other Libraries with expertise, setting up new vendors in the purchasing system, and physically preparing for this collection needs to take place.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

### [1. International Adult Collection Presentation](#)

Prepared by: Nathan Brumley  
Assistant Library Services Director