

AKS
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RESOLUTION NO. _____ - 2021

RECOGNIZING and JOINING the Library's senior leadership, staff, and local officials in commemorating the South Building of the Downtown Main Library in preparation for its closing as it undergoes improvements and renovations as part of its *Building the Next Generation Library* initiative.

WHEREAS, the Downtown Main Library South Building opened its doors at the corner of Eighth and Vine Streets in 1955; and

WHEREAS, in 1995 work began on an addition to expand the Downtown Main Library across Ninth Street, with a four-story bridge linking the South Building to what is now known as the North Building, and in 2007 and beyond, the Main Library underwent a service model redesign that created many innovative and successful services; and

WHEREAS, the 540,000 square foot Downtown Main Library serves as the hub of the Library system as well as the neighborhood library for thousands of downtown workers and residents, and with one of the finest collections of materials among U.S. public libraries, the Downtown Main Library attracts more than one million users annually; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, the Downtown Main Library circulated 14.7 million items; held 3,501 events and classes which 102,618 residents attended; assisted 15,600 small businesses, schools, and non-profits through its MakerSpace; and fielded nearly 9,000 customer questions concerning job application and resume assistance through its TechCenter; and

WHEREAS, as part of the Cincinnati & Hamilton County Public Library's *Building the Next Generation Library* initiative, the Downtown Main Library will see major improvements, which is an investment of approximately \$24 million in the downtown community; and

WHEREAS, during this 18-month period of construction, improvements will include replacement of the South Building elevators and skylight; revitalization of the South Building atrium including a new stair extending from the second floor upwards and improved wayfinding; as well as improvements to the Vine Street plazas in front of both the North and South Buildings and a complete transformation of the Vine Street Entrance of the South Building; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That the Mayor and this Council hereby recognize and join the Library's senior leadership, staff, and local officials in commemorating the South Building of the Downtown Main

Library in preparation for its closing as it undergoes improvements and renovations as part of its *Building the Next Generation Library* initiative.

Section 2. That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council.

Passed: _____, 2021

John Cranley, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk

Submitted by Councilmember Keating