

Help the Library extend its reach

In 1947, the Bay Area's first bookmobile began service in Richmond. It carried more than 1,500 books to schools and community centers throughout our sprawling city. That first bookmobile has been replaced and upgraded several times since those early days, but the need for mobile library services only seems to increase.

Today, even with a main library open 6 days a week, two branch libraries, and a bookmobile that visits 20 schools and community centers weekly, thousands of residents—particularly children, and disabled and senior citizens—remain under-served.



More places. More often.

The solution: a 22-foot book van. Smaller, more agile. Able to manage the steep, winding streets the bookmobile can't. Able to help reduce the long waiting list of schools and agencies now requesting bookmobile visits.

The book van can even deliver specialized collections on book carts and offer wireless computer services.

The new vehicle will directly benefit many residents. Less obvious is this: that enhancing children's learning experiences, expanding literacy among our residents, enriching the lives of those unable to make the trip to the main or a branch library—these things benefit the region's *entire* population. Even those who rarely use the Library benefit when their fellow residents are better educated and enjoy greater economic opportunities.



Pitching in

The **Richmond Public Library Foundation (RPLF)** has set a goal of raising \$100,000 for the book van and associated costs. We welcome donations of all sizes from Richmond residents, businesses, foundations and civic organizations. Please see the reverse side for the book van's specifications.

Engaging the community

While the purchase of a single vehicle may not seem like a momentous goal, it's an important step on a path that ultimately leads to the construction of a new main library to replace the current building, severely undersized for a city of 102,000. By taking the lead on the book van campaign, the RPLF extends its own reach into the community. We demonstrate that by working together, we can reach our destination.

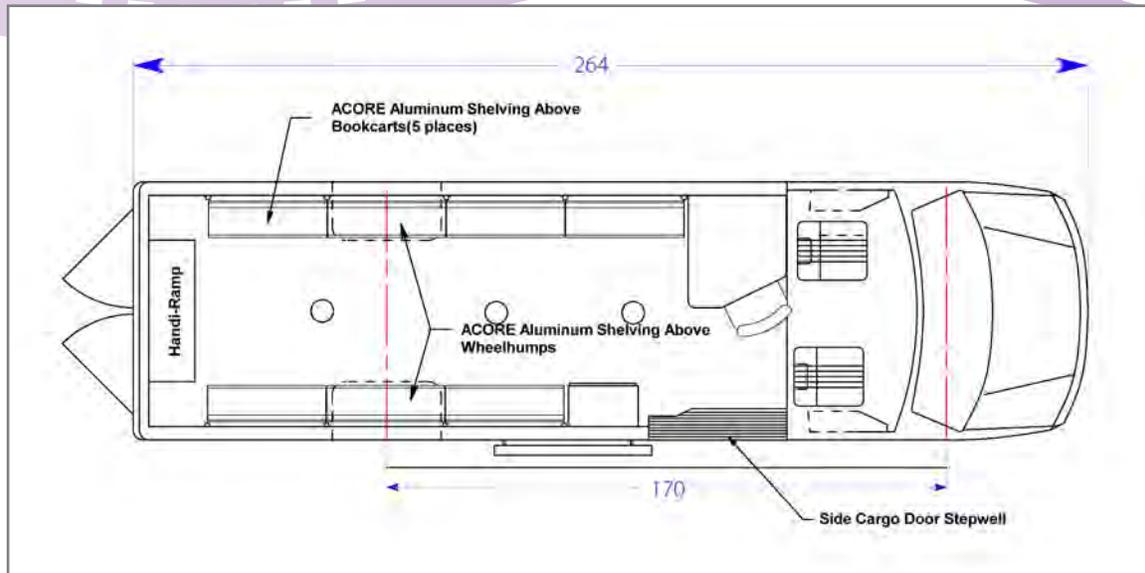
The Foundation's all-volunteer board of directors is comprised of business and community leaders who understand that libraries play a vital role in a livable, economically vibrant community. As a 501(c)3 corporation, established in 2004, all donations are tax-deductible.

Visit us at www.rplf.org

The
**RICHMOND
PUBLIC LIBRARY
FOUNDATION**



Book van specifications



The *Sprinter* book van is manufactured in Germany by Daimler. The vehicle is 22 feet long (extended version), with a 14 foot wheelbase.

Warranty Information

Basic and power train: 3 years/36,000 miles

Corrosion protection: 60 months/100,000 miles

Diesel engine: 60 months/100,000 miles

The *Sprinter* book van will be upgraded with a deep-cycle battery to power additional lighting, a computer, printer and camera. A check-out counter will be custom-built and fitted behind the driver's seat. In its extended 22-foot version, the van will hold about 1,600 books on shelves, allowing for carts to be rolled into the center aisle when necessary. The van will also be upgraded with stabilizer bars and shocks, air-conditioning, and a ramp for rear gate access.

The basic price of the vehicle, with these upgrades and exterior graphics, is \$85,000-\$90,000 (depending on exact specifications). Yearly maintenance costs will be much lower than maintenance costs for the large bookmobile.