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### **Newport Beach Welcomes New Library Services Director**

NEWPORT BEACH, Ca. – Cynthia Pirtle will be the new Library Services Director for the Newport Beach Public Library (Library) and fill the vacancy created when Linda Katsouleas retired earlier this month. Pirtle's first day of work in Newport Beach will be on June 16.

Pirtle has 24 years of public library experience and most recently served for 10 years as the Director of Library Services for the city of Moreno Valley. She has also held managerial and executive positions for several library systems in Texas and for public libraries in Ohio and Oklahoma. An avid art fan, Pirtle once co-owned and operated a gallery that specialized in antiques and American Impressionistic paintings. She earned a Masters of Library Science degree from Texas Woman's University and Bachelors of Science degree in Secondary Education from North Texas University.

"With one of the most respected library systems in California, Newport Beach needs a high-caliber professional in the top leadership position," said City Manager Homer Bludau. "In Cynthia, we found the leadership, administrative and human relations skills needed to continue the great progress of our library system and to continue to meet the high expectations of our community."

The Newport Beach Public Library system includes the Central Library and three branch libraries. Pirtle will direct a budget of \$5.97 million and a staff of 85 employees in library services and cultural arts. The Library has two non-profit support groups, the Friends of the Newport Beach Public Library and the Newport Beach Public Library Foundation.

"All of us on the Board of Library Trustees are very much looking forward to working with Cynthia," explained Board President Theresa Chase. "Everyone involved in the selection process were very impressed with her and we are excited about having her join us."

