Proposed Talking Points

- Libraries continue to be a key community asset that support education, public safety, and our economic recovery.

- 2023 was a big year for the Oakland Public Library (add a few of your favorite accomplishments here)

- Libraries continue to be a safe space for young people to do homework and hang out with their friends, a resource for connecting jobseekers with opportunities, and a partner for public school teachers across Oakland.

- As Council works on the mid-cycle revise, it is crucial that the library's Maintenance of Effort be protected. There is no natural disaster, recession or catastrophic change in government funding that would justify a fiscal emergency declaration and any attempt to reduce the Maintenance of Effort would betray the Council's promise to the voters when adopting Measure C.

- The library is also working on a variety of exciting capital projects - like upgrades to the main library this summer will enable it to serve as a cooling in future - as well as feasibility studies for the future of the Main Library, Piedmont Ave branch, and Hoover Durant.

These points were drafted by Commissioner Caleb Smith for review and discussion by commission.