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## Fullerton installs \$35,000 book vending machine

Installed near the transit center, the hope is commuters will read during their journeys

By KEVIN REYNOLDS / THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

FULLERTON – Commuters looking for a mental escape on their train rides will be able to choose from hundreds of best-selling books at a new vending machine stocked by the Fullerton Public Library.

The vending machine, dubbed the FPL Station, is believed to be the first of its kind in Orange County. The machine will be available to the public at the SOCO West Parking Structure across Harbor Boulevard from the Fullerton train station, which is at Santa Fe Avenue.



Andrea Taylor, Technical Services Division Manager with the Fullerton Public Library, stocks books into the library's new book vending machine located at the SOCO West Parking Structure near the Fullerton Train Station Tuesday. It is believed to be the first of its kind in the county. The machine will have the capacity to dispense 500-books.

The library is using a \$35,000 federal grant to install the machine, which will include a drop box for returns and a selection of about 500 books for checking out.

"It's like a Redbox for books," said Maureen Gebelein, Fullerton's library director.

The vending machine, at no cost to the user, went into operation this week and offers hard-cover and paperback books in a variety of genres.

Most with an active Fullerton Public Library card will be able to use the vending machine; if you owe \$5 or more on your library card, you will not be able to check out books from the machine.

The books in the machine this week are all best sellers. The plan is to monitor what books in the machine are most popular and to stock those types.

"Right now, it's kind of an experiment for us," Gebelein said. "It stems from the idea of trying to reach people where they are."

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