



COMMUNITY NEWS RELEASE:

April 1, 2025

[www.cityofsanmateo.org](http://www.cityofsanmateo.org)

## City of San Mateo Appoints Rukshana Singh as City Librarian

San Mateo, CA (April 1, 2025)— The City of San Mateo has appointed Rukshana Singh as City Librarian, following her selection by City Manager Alex Khojikian and approval by the Library Board of Trustees. Singh has served in a leadership capacity within the [San Mateo Public Library](http://www.cityofsanmateo.org) since 2012 and will now oversee the department's operations and long-term strategy.



In her new role, Singh will manage a team of more than 60 staff members known for their strong collaboration, low turnover, and shared commitment to inclusive, community-oriented service. The San Mateo Public Library system is recognized for its participatory workplace culture and programs that engage residents across all ages and backgrounds.

"Rukshana's promotion is a testament to her vision, compassion, and deep commitment to the San Mateo community," said City Manager Alex Khojikian. "Her leadership has been instrumental in enhancing community engagement and developing programs that bring people together. She has helped shape a forward-thinking strategic plan that positions our libraries as inclusive, vibrant hubs for connection and growth. She's also earned the deep trust of staff, city leaders, and community members alike, making her a natural choice for this role."

As Deputy City Librarian, she played a central role in developing the 2025–2028 Strategic Plan and collaborated with managers to expand in-person programming, welcoming residents back into library spaces. She successfully led the Library through the

challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, establishing curbside service and overseeing a safe return to full operations. She also spearheaded key innovations, implementing new technologies to enhance workflow and strengthen patron engagement. Throughout her tenure, she has fostered partnerships across City departments and with regional stakeholders to support innovation, community outreach, and professional development, empowering staff to lead successful projects.

"I'm honored to lead a library system that has meant so much to me personally and professionally,

and I aim to make it the best library on the Peninsula,” Singh said. “One of the most meaningful aspects of this role is overseeing the renovation of the Marina Branch Library—the same branch where I discovered my love of reading and learning as a child. I look forward to building on what makes San Mateo’s libraries unique—such as our seed library and California history and genealogy collections—and inspiring imagination in the next generation.”

Prior to her appointment, Singh served as Deputy City Librarian, managing an \$8 million budget and overseeing daily operations across all library branches. She also previously led the Information Services Division as Supervising Librarian, guiding digital services, outreach, and marketing initiatives. Before joining the City of San Mateo, she worked at the Torrance Public Library, and held archival and preservation roles at Visual Communications and the Southern California Library for Social Studies and Research in Los Angeles.

Singh holds a Master of Library and Information Science and a Master of Arts in Asian American Studies from UCLA, and a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Global Studies from UC Santa Barbara. She lives on the Peninsula with her husband and two sons. In her free time, she enjoys traveling, weightlifting, dancing, spending time with family and friends, and reading multiple books at once—often with a coffee or tea in hand.

To learn more about the San Mateo Public Library, visit the [Department webpage](#).

###

Media Contact:

Jeanne Sullivan Billeci

Communications Contractor

City of San Mateo

[jsullivan@cityofsanmateo.org](mailto:jsullivan@cityofsanmateo.org)

(415) 735-0511