

Lenzi, Chelsea

Subject: FW: Library LAC proposal

Begin forwarded message:

From: Friends of the Goleta Valley Library <friendsofthegvlibrary@gmail.com>
Date: June 4, 2018 at 4:53:06 PM PDT
To: Janet Wolf <jwolf@countyofsb.org>, "Mary O'Gorman" <mogorman@sbcbos2.org>
Subject: Library LAC proposal

Dear Supervisor Wolf,

The Friends of the Goleta Valley Library strongly support the County staff recommendations for status quo for the County libraries that remain under the management of the Santa Barbara Public Library System: restoring the 5% that were allocated to an emergency library fund to individual library budgets, and keeping the SBPL management fees at the present level.

We are deeply concerned by the proposal by the Library Advisory Committee to appropriate some of the Goleta Valley Library reserves to compensate for the deficits in the library branches. If the Goleta Valley Library relied only on County funds for support, it would not have any reserves. First of all, these reserves were built out of CSA3 parcel tax monies, Friends of the Goleta Valley Library donations, developers' fees, and City of Goleta contributions. All these funds are restricted and must be used exclusively to the benefit of the Goleta Valley Library. CSA3 patrons will strongly object to the idea that their tax monies could be taken by County to benefit other libraries.

Such a proposal sends voters the message that the tax they voted for to benefit their local library can mean diminished funding from County. It is particularly unfortunate timing when Carpinteria is considering a tax that would benefit its own library.

It also sends a message to city governments: do not step in and fill in your library's deficit. If, as Goleta did last year at the urging of Supervisor Williams, a City Council greatly increases its contribution to its library so it can keep reserves (a fiscally-responsible move), County could come back and take away funding.

The LAC proposal would create a precedent that would be very detrimental not only to libraries but to any organization, that receives County funding. All our libraries need to build reserves. They need to trust that these reserves will remain for their benefit only.

Best regards,

Corinne Horowitz
President, the Friends of the Goleta Valley Library

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Join the Friends in supporting the Goleta Valley Library!
Membership forms on our web site www.friendsofthegoletavalleylibrary.org

If you shop on Amazon, please access the web site through our account
<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7006256>

Lenzi, Chelsea

From: Dana Grossi <dgrossi@cityofgoleta.org>
Sent: Monday, June 4, 2018 6:21 PM
To: sbcob
Cc: Greene, M; Chapjian, George; Carmen Nichols; Allison Gray; Garduno, Natasha; Perotte, P; Michael Bennett
Subject: Letter from City of Goleta re: Board Agenda Item 18-00389
Attachments: Letter to County BOS_City of Goleta 6-4-18.pdf
Importance: High

Good evening,

Attached is a letter from the City of Goleta regarding Item 18-00389 on tomorrow's (6/5) Board of Supervisors agenda. We hope that this letter can be distributed to the Board members. Thank you for your help, and please let me know if there any questions.

Thank you!

Dana Grossi
Management Analyst
City Manager's Office
(805) 562-5507





June 4, 2018

CITY COUNCIL

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County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors
Attn: Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

RE: Board Agenda Item Scheduled for June 5, 2018: Library Contract and Funding Guidance for the FY 2018-2019 Agreement for Operation of a County-wide Library

Dear Chair Williams and Members of the Board,

We are writing as the two City Councilmembers who serve on Goleta's Ad Hoc Library Committee (Committee) concerning the Fiscal Year 2018-19 library funding you will be considering on Tuesday, June 5, 2018. The Committee supports Recommended Actions A1 and A2 in the Board Agenda Letter that would retain the per capita funding allocation formula from prior years' funding agreements without earmarking 5% of that total allocation for distribution by the Library Advisory Committee; and would maintain the status quo from prior years' funding agreements with respect to administration charges. We are writing on behalf of the Committee because we have not had a chance to discuss the issues presented in the Board Agenda Letter with the full City Council in a public meeting.

We also concur with the statement in the letter submitted by City of Santa Barbara Mayor Cathy Murillo in Attachment 2 to the Board Agenda Letter, that there are unintended consequences as a result of actions taken by the Board at its April 3, 2018 meeting. We are concerned about the impacts to all library zones that the 5% reduction in per capita funding would cause next fiscal year.


Furthermore, we are concerned about the Library Advisory Committee's recommendation that the projected \$150,000 in additional costs experienced by the City of Santa Barbara for the administration of the four remaining branch libraries as a result of the cap on administration fees be covered by use of Goleta Library reserve funds. It is our belief that neither the City of Santa Barbara nor the County has the authority

to take money from the Goleta Library's reserve account and use it to reduce deficits or provide services at other branch libraries. The Goleta Library is funded from several sources, some of which are restricted by statute to be used only for the Goleta Library. If the Board of Supervisors supports County staff's recommendations A1 and A2 in the Board Agenda Letter to maintain the status quo, and if City of Santa Barbara keeps its administration fee at 13.5% as Mayor Murillo has suggested, then there would be no need to seek additional funding to cover Santa Barbara's costs.

Also regarding Action B2 taken by the Board at its April 3, 2018 meeting, we thank the Board of Supervisors for your approval of the new Zone 4, and are very excited about taking over management of the Goleta Library on July 1, 2018. We would like to share that the City of Goleta has been in communication with the cities of Buellton and Solvang on the feasibility of incorporating their libraries into Zone 4, and are making progress with that analysis.

In closing, thank you for your guidance and for the funding you provide to the libraries in Santa Barbara County. Your ongoing commitment to libraries is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Paula Perotte
Mayor



Michael T. Bennett
City Councilmember

Lenzi, Chelsea

From: Dalina M <dalina@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 4, 2018 6:28 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Item 18-0389: Libraries

Dear Das and Fellow County Supervisors,

I am writing this letter to share how important our Montecito library is to me and to our small community.

As a Santa Barbara native who went thru the Montecito Library as a child, I now feel so lucky and enjoy bringing my two small children there.

Some of my fondest childhood memories include visiting Mrs. Young (our long time librarian!) and going to the library for school field trips, picking out books for research projects, creating bookmarks for "reading campaign contests", participating in the summer reading program, watching the balloon artists, the bubble people, the magicians, musicians, puppeteers, and all those who would come in and dazzle us for a summer afternoon. We truly plan our summer days around those special events and look forward to wondering who will be on the schedule each summer!

The Montecito library is a vital part of our community. Besides the summer reading program (which is always so much fun), we find we go to the library on a weekly basis- whether it is to check out books, DVD's, or just a space to hang out for a few minutes where the kids can look at books, color, or play with those amazing magna-tiles (a huge hit in the children's section!).

If there are funding cuts that are to be made, I hope we can find another solution as the Montecito library is truly the only "free indoor space" for parents in Montecito! On a rainy or cold day.. when you just need to get out of the house for a hour (or even 15 minutes)- what a treat to come into our cozy little library for a chance to hear storytime or build with legos, or some other community group activity. And while we love the SB and Goleta libraries- there is something to be said about having a library just a few minutes or a walk from your house- that you can call your own.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Dalina B. Klan

Lenzi, Chelsea

From: Noelle <nmcs4s@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, June 4, 2018 9:20 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Item 19-0389

Hello,
As a mother of three young children and resident of Montecito for 22 years, I simply cannot imagine a Montecito without a Montecito Library. My family and friends and I have spent so much time in the library. It is truly a special part of this extraordinary community. The community has suffered too much loss this year and just cannot sustain another. Thank you. I am in full support of the LAC.

Sincerely,
Noelle Strogoff

Sent from my iPhone

Lenzi, Chelsea

From: carolina starin <carolina.starin@me.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 5, 2018 7:18 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Item 18-0389 (Libraries)

Dear County Board of Supervisors:

I have been a member of Montecito Library's The New Yorker reading club for several years now. It is one of the few events that I am able to attend as a full-time mother of three with a part-time job out of the house - mostly because of the convenient location. The club and library also keep me up-to-date on current issues and give me a space to meet like minded readers. I often walk up to read the New York Times Sunday edition, which is virtually unavailable in the print version in all of Santa Barbara.

I also have taught two of my kids to read using Hooked on Phonics and the Montecito library. This is an important asset to our little community and a summer oasis for my children's learning and love of books.

A little story: My grandfather graduated with high honors from Harvard Law School and went on to a decorated career. His family and peers often revered him for his education, but he would only say, "You can get a world class education in any town across America with a library card and a little motivation."

Please continue to value one of the last bastions of free access to quality education.

Thank you.

Carolina Starin