

Ramirez, Angelica

Public Comment - Community Services

From: Joni Kelly <jonikellycomm@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 6:20 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Santa Barbara Public Library (and any others) Funding



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Dear County Professionals:

I am reaching out to let you know of my ardent displeasure at the prospect of the County reducing or eliminating the funding for Santa Barbara Public Library and any other public libraries on the budgetary chopping block.

Libraries are not merely a repository for books, they are a living, breathing, vibrant Community Centers. Ever changing and evolving to serve an incredibly diverse population, from toddlers to seniors, redlining an already pathetic budget for these vital institutions would have a significant negative impact on library operations, including POETRY and other arts and culture programming for all ages, storytime, adult literacy, STEAM classes, and so much more.

I implore the County Board of Supervisors to not cut off your noses to spite your faces...there may be a miniscule short term benefit to your bottomline, but there will be a widespread, much larger long term detriment to the people of our community, whose interests you are elected to serve.

Our family has been involved with both the Santa Barbara and Goleta Libraries for many years. When our twins were younger we attended readings, magic shows, science demonstrations, and other events and participated in the Summer Reading Program year after year. And during the pandemic, even though the Libraries were closed to the public, they still found a way to get my now-teenage kids the books and reading materials they needed to stay on track academically.

I strenuously implore you to NOT reduce or eliminate funding for Santa Barbara County's public library system, and in fact, think you should INCREASE their budget.

Thank you for your consideration.

Most sincerely,
The Kelly Family (Joni, Rod, Maddie & Ethan)
Santa Barbara, CA
805-886-1869