

Public Comment

Group 1

de la Guerra, Sheila

Library Services

From: Carol Gregor <cgregor@sbceo.org>
Sent: Saturday, April 11, 2020 10:18 PM
To: sbcob
Cc: Lavagnino, Steve; Nelson, Bob; Mary Housel; Betty Gunn; Adam, Peter
Subject: Re: Comments for Co. Budget Workshop

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

That is, a deficit of \$100,000. Not \$100.00! A typo. Sorry I didn't catch that. Carol

Sent from my iPhone

> On Apr 11, 2020, at 8:27 PM, Carol Gregor <cgregor@sbceo.org> wrote:

>

> The following is a message I would like to have read at the SB Co. Supervisors' Budget Workshop on Monday, April 13:

>

>

> Let me introduce myself. My name is Carol Gregor and I was appointed, by Steve Lavagnino, to the S.B. County Library Advisory Committee for the current year. I also served as President and currently Vice President of the Friends of Orcutt Library working diligently to fundraise and write grants to supplement purchases of books and media materials for the Orcutt Library.

>

> To all members of the S.B. County Board of Supervisors, I would like to thank you for the support you have demonstrated on behalf of the many libraries and branches in Santa Barbara County. We appreciate the difficult decisions that must be made for so many areas of the county. However, through it all you were able to help so many libraries last year in reducing budgetary deficits.

>

> As you know, the Orcutt Library does not have a city to contribute funding and we pay a very high rent each month. The Friends group has doubled its funds for supplementing materials to the library. Because of the help you gave us in the last budget year, we have been able to continue services to the Orcutt community. Would you believe that in 2018 we had 38,316 patron visits to the Orcutt Library. In 2019 there were 48,354. That's an increase in library visitors by 10,038 in one year. The library has become a community center that continues to grow.

>

> As you engage in the difficult conversations and decisions in the budget workshop, please consider the need for the Orcutt Branch Library located in an unincorporated area. Without a funding increase, the Orcutt Branch Library is facing a significant budget deficit of just over \$100,000. Based on the standards and benchmarks for our county libraries, developed by the LAC Ad Hoc Committee, the Orcutt Branch Library has the greatest need for personnel, collections, and hours. We would be grateful to be able to serve our local community by meeting, at least, the minimum standards in these areas.

>

> Please take time to review the S.B. County Library Standards and Benchmarks and it will be clear where the need is for all main libraries and branches in the county.

- >
- > Thank you, once more, for your leadership and support for our S.B. County main libraries and branches.
- >
- > Respectfully submitted,
- >
- > Carol Gregor

de la Guerra, Sheila

From: BETTY GUNN <bgunn01@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, April 12, 2020 11:45 AM
To: sbcob; Williams, Das; Hart, Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; Adam, Peter; Lavagnino, Steve; Nelson, Bob
Subject: Santa Maria Library Funding

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Please read online.

Dear Supervisors,

I am Betty Rose Gunn, the Santa Maria representative for the Library Advisory Board. I am here to advocate for increased spending for Santa Maria and its branches.

Santa Maria Public Library has more branches and covers a larger geographical area than any other library system in our county. It contributes more tax dollars than any other library/branches communities.

The libraries are the heart of the communities and provides programs for all ages. There is story time for the younger children, homework assistance for the older children, books clubs and coloring clubs for adults, and the computers are used by all age groups.

I am asking for equity so the branches receive a larger and more appropriate portion of our tax dollars. Even during the coronavirus crisis, this is the time to step up and support more rather than less for services used and needed by the cross-section of our communities.

Thank you,

Betty Rose Gunn