

de la Guerra, Sheila

Public Comment-Community Services

From: Lauren Trujillo <director@sblibraryfoundation.org>
Sent: Friday, April 1, 2022 1:23 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment for April 5th Board of Supervisors meeting
Attachments: county letter- Alan Brumberger-03_26_22.pdf

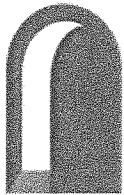
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Dear County of Santa Barbara,

Please see attached a letter for the Public Comment portion of the upcoming Board of Supervisors Meeting.

Thank you,

Lauren Trujillo
Foundation Director
director@SBLibraryFoundation.org
805-689-2448



Santa Barbara
Public Library
FOUNDATION

E. Alan Brumberger
 189 East Mountain Drive
 Montecito, CA 93108

March 26, 2022

Dear County Board of Supervisors,

My name is Alan Brumberger and I live in Montecito. I am a member of the Board of the Santa Barbara Library Foundation. I am writing to express my support for the Santa Barbara Public Library and to urge you to fully fund our Library.

The Santa Barbara Public Library provides our entire county not only books and on-line educational resources but also a breadth of critical public services NOT provided by any other agency in Santa Barbara. These services include, but are not limited to, Early and Adult Literacy programs to employment assistance and Veterans' resources. (For a more inclusive listing of these services please see exhibit 1). In addition, the Library provides numerous outreach public services shown on Exhibit 2.

The County's funding of the Library is critical. While the City of Santa Barbara provides significant funding to the Library, the net amount, after deducting allocated costs, does not even cover the salary and benefit costs. The table below shows some of the metrics which define the need in the City:

Source- SBPL

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT			
	Santa Barbara city, CA	Goleta city, CA	Montecito CDP, CA
No High School Diploma	14.1%	10.0%	2.3%
LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME			
Non-fluent in English	12,841	3,946	132
% of Households Speaking Limited English	6.6%	6.3%	0.2%
POVERTY			
% of Population Below Poverty Line	12.5%	7.9%	6.5%

The Santa Barbara Public Library serves 68,000 Zone 1 cardholders with per capita based upon an estimated population of 99,000. The Goleta Public Library serves only 22,000 Zone 4 cardholders with per capita funding based upon an estimated population of 92,000. The Santa Barbara Public Library receives \$800,000 to serve 68,000 cardholders in Zone 1 and Goleta Public Library receives \$700,000 to serve 22,000 cardholders in Zone 4. The inequity is obvious with Zone 1 receiving less funds to serve more users.

In conclusion, The Santa Barbara Public Library shoulders the burden for a number of important public services unmet by any other Agency but does not receive the financial support necessary to meet this burden. As the result of the forgoing, I believe the Library's allocation should be increased, but I am urging you to at least protect these vital county services by fully funding the Santa Barbara Public Library's budget and not reducing it.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan Brumberger". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

E. Alan Brumberger

Exhibit 1)

- Adult Education
 - Career online high school for High School Diplomas
 - Adult literacy - English
 - Adult literacy -Spanish (SBPL is the only library offering Spanish instruction)
 - English as a Second Language
 - Computer Coaching
 - Digital literacy for all ages with computer access and training
- Veterans resource center
- Youth Education
 - Stay & Play- interactive learning for parents and caregivers
 - Early literacy and pre-literacy classes for the youngest children
 - Student success cards - we support over 10,000 SB Unified students
 - OG Readers- Orton-Gillingham instructional approach for children and adults with dyslexia
 - STEAM school nights at SBUSD – introduce elementary school students to robotics, coding and more
 - Coding classes
 - Film making classes
 - Stop motion animation classes
- Business education classes
 - WEV (Women’s Economic Ventures) partnership to offer caregiver classes for Spanish speakers providing upward economic mobility, financial education classes
 - One Million Cups
 - Financial literacy
 - Workforce development services with job skills training
 - Spanish and English caregiver classes
 - Servsafe
- Partnership Support
 - A to Z cooking
 - Pacific pride
 - What is Love
 - Eastside Society
 - Leon
 - Raza teachers
 - Girls Rock
 - Moxi – teaching staff how to provide early literacy education to moxi patrons
 - Family Service Agency

Exhibit 2)

- Voting centers
- Mask distribution during Thomas Fires
- Cooling centers and water in heat emergencies
- Spanish translation of all emergency messaging
- Warming center and safe space during winter weather
- De facto day center for over 1,000 people experiencing homelessness in the county – the Central library sees 100-150 people experiencing homelessness each day.
- Covid-Test distribution centers
- Working with our houseless neighbors to collect counts and data on needs
- SBACT- Active partner at Neighborhood Navigation Centers, Steering Committee, Regional Action Plan support, and working group participation.
- Harding Community Resource Center- provides Library services and materials
 - Stay & Play
 - English conversation group
 - Library services and LOTG stops
- Adelante Library services – class visits, collection support and professional librarian support