



May 1, 2017

Sent Via Email

cao@co.santa-barbara.ca.us

CITY COUNCIL

Paula Perotte
Mayor

Stuart Kasdin
Mayor Pro Tempore

Roger S. Aceves
Councilmember

Michael T. Bennett
Councilmember

Kyle Richards
Councilmember

CITY MANAGER
Michelle Greene

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara 93101

**RE: Santa Barbara County Library Per Capita Funding
Redistribution, as Proposed by City of Santa Barbara**

Dear Santa Barbara County Board Members:

The Goleta Library has been operating with a budget deficit for some time, as are many libraries throughout Santa Barbara County. At a recent Library Advisory Committee meeting on April 12th, the City of Santa Barbara proposed changes to the distribution of the County's annual library per capita funding allocation to the branch libraries within Zone 1. While the proposed funding reallocation would result in budget increases to the various branch libraries within Zone 1, the Goleta Library would lose \$189,498 in revenues resulting from a decrease of more than 24,000 residents included within this library's service area.

The Goleta Library service area includes County Service Area (CSA) 3, within which special library tax revenues (Measure L) are collected specifically for the Goleta Library. The Eastern Goleta Valley Community Plan Environmental Impact Report confirms that the service area of the Goleta Library consists of CSA3 with a service population of about 86,000 residents. Thus, it is unclear why the City of Santa Barbara is proposing to reallocate the distribution of the County's per capita funding within Zone 1. This loss in revenue to the Goleta Library would be substantial and does not appear to take into consideration the large service population that this library actually serves.

We are very appreciative of the continued General Fund contribution provided by Santa Barbara County to the libraries within each zone, but we do not agree with the per capita reallocation as proposed by the City of Santa Barbara. Therefore, we would like to ask that this Board weigh in on the methodology in which your library per capita funds are allocated and respectfully request that the existing allocation method be maintained for the upcoming 2017-18 Fiscal Year.

Sincerely,



Paula Perotte
Mayor

cc: Goleta City Councilmembers
Michelle Greene, City Manager
Mike Jenkins, Interim City Attorney