

From: [Planning Public Comment](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [Patty Wong](#); [Cynthia Bojorquez](#); [REDACTED] [Justin Wasterlain](#); [Andrew Crabtree](#); [Reena Brilliot](#); [Alexander Abbe](#); [John Davidson](#)
Subject: FW: 01/10/2022 - Planning Commission Item: 2. 22-1718 Patrick Henry Drive - Public Comment from Board of Library Trustees
Date: Monday, January 10, 2022 10:10:00 AM
Attachments: [BOLT - Patrick Henry Drive Letter.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Good Morning Mr. Evans,

This is to confirm your email and letter has been received in the Planning Division – please note, it was also sent to us from City Librarian Patty Wong.

Your comment letter will be shared with the Planning Commissioners and will be part of the public record on this item.

Thank you for taking the time to share your comments with us.

Regards,

Elizabeth Elliott

Community Development Department | Planning Division
1500 Warburton Avenue | Santa Clara, CA 95050
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From: Jonathon Evans [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, January 9, 2022 9:57 PM
To: Planning Public Comment <PlanningPublicComment@santaclaraca.gov>; PlanningCommission <PLANNINGCOMMISSION@santaclaraca.gov>
Cc: Patty Wong [REDACTED] Jan Hintermeister [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: 01/10/2022 - Planning Commission Item: 2. 22-1718 Patrick Henry Drive - Public Comment from Board of Library Trustees

Hello,

There was a minor error with a date in the letter and I wish to submit this updated letter instead to the public record.

Thank you for your time.

-Jonathon

On Sun, Jan 9, 2022 at 7:14 PM Jonathon Evans [REDACTED] wrote:

Hello,

I am writing on behalf of the Santa Clara Board of Library Trustees. The board would like to submit the attached letter "BOLT - Patrick Henry Drive Letter.pdf" into the public record for item 2. 22-1718 - Patrick Henry Drive Specific Plan Study Session.

The Board of Library Trustees asks that our letter be read into the public record at the planning commission meeting on Monday 01/10/2022 for the item in question.

Thank You,

Jonathon Evans

Vice-Chair Santa Clara Board of Library Trustees

To: City of Santa Clara Planning Commission
From: City of Santa Clara Board of Library Trustees
Re: Patrick Henry Drive Specific Plan and Potential On-Site Library
Date: 10 January 2022

This letter is to express our support for including a City administered Library Facility as a component of the Patrick Henry Drive Specific Plan.

The City of Santa Clara has a heavily used library system that is a source of pride for all residents. Our population continues to grow through development and along with that so will our need for library services. In 2019, the Board of Library Trustees prepared a study showing that planned development would increase our city's population by over 53,000 residents over the next 10 years. We must consider the impacts on our library system as part of the planning process.

A modern City Library such as we have in Santa Clara provides many services beyond just physical and electronic books to residents. Our libraries provide literacy and educational resources and programs for all ages.

Some examples of services our multi-branch library system offers:

- Early learning programs for youths, their families and caregivers.
- Support and tutoring for adult learners in basic reading, writing and/or math skills, including English as a Second Language (ESL)
- Parenting programs and resources
- Career and workforce development programs and resources such as resume and interview workshops, a small business reference center, and online access to a high-school diploma program
- College Prep resources
- Digital equity through on-site access to computers, low-cost printing, scanning, fax, and copier service, technology support, and classes
- Workforce development
- In-person tax preparation assistance via the IRS's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program
- A tool library
- Food security through the summer meal service program, partnerships with community supported agriculture and fisheries, the Santa Clara Seed share, and workshops on growing food and nutrition

The library also provides the much needed third place for the community, a place outside the home and work where people can relax, meet new people and engage with other members of the community. Library facilities offer community rooms and provide opportunities for civic events and engagement. Our existing Santa Clara library

facilities provide anchors for the neighborhood, and the parks in which they are built. These services have also evolved over time, and a branch at Patrick Henry Drive will serve the needs of the residents at the time it is constructed.

At the December 7th City Council study session on the Patrick Henry Drive Specific Plan, City Council members asked about collaborating with Mission College to provide direct library services to residents. While collaboration with other libraries can provide additional programming for our residents, such collaborations are not a substitute for our City library facilities. These other systems have a different mission and focus, for their customers.

Mission College's library is there to serve the needs of their students. They do not have resources for children and youth, or space for community events. The college has limited access for the wider community and has declined more direct connectivity to the Patrick Henry Specific Plan area. Additionally, past collaboration work with Mission College has not been successful. Even if a collaboration with Mission College were to work, the needs of the college and community will evolve independently. The collaboration may not work long term and the City can meet its needs best with its own facility.

To date, planning within this City has not typically included the impacts to our Library system within our development review process. The Patrick Henry Specific Plan has an opportunity to change that and include Library facilities as part of the planning process. We can provide a library to address the needs of the growing Northside population.

The Board of Library Trustees strongly believes including a library within the proposed park will help the City meet the needs of current, and future Santa Clara residents. It's critical that we plan now for the future. We must create a space for a library branch while we have the opportunity, even if we don't have funds to immediately construct the facility. It has been demonstrated that the collaboration between the Parks and Recreation Department and the City Library has been effective in creating efficient, successful library facilities within/adjacent to City Parks.

We additionally request library service needs be included as part of all future planning processes. Finally, we request the City work on a Library Strategic plan to perform further analysis on the future and current library needs of the city as a whole.

Sincerely,

Santa Clara Board of Library Trustees

Chair Stephen Ricossa

Vice-Chair Jonathon Evans

Trustee Debbie Tryforos

Trustee Lee Broughman

Trustee Jan Hintermeister