

**From:** [Aaron Ray](#)  
**To:** [Gomez, Charlene](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed library plaque  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 11, 2025 3:11:32 PM

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You don't often get email from nikonikousa@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Ms. Gomez,

I am writing to voice my concern and disapproval of the creation and installation of a city council proposed library plaque.

The library should be a safe space for learning and enrichment that serves the entire community and NOT be used as a political tool to promote a specific ideology. In addition, I don't want my precious tax dollars to be responsible for further fueling disharmony in our precious community.

Honestly, I can't think of a justifiable or compelling reason why the Central Library has any need for another plaque and strongly suggest that this proposed plan be immediately retracted.

Thanks very much for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Aaron Ray  
18878 Coolwater Lane  
Huntington Beach, CA 92648  
Email: [nikonikousa@yahoo.com](mailto:nikonikousa@yahoo.com)

**From:** [Anne Culpepper](#)  
**To:** [Gomez, Charlene](#)  
**Subject:** Library plaque  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 11, 2025 5:30:52 PM

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I dislike the design very much.

It's amateurish and ugly.

The devious placing of the letters MAGA is silly and will not stand the test of time.

**From:** [Audrey Prosser](#)  
**To:** [Gomez, Charlene](#)  
**Subject:** Plaque for 50th Anniversary - Agenda tonight  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 11, 2025 4:21:56 PM

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The proposed gold and black plaque is morbid. This proposed plaque does not resemble a vibrant learning place. This is a 50 year anniversary and if one City Council Member's name is on the plaque, then every person that has served on the Council for 50 years should be on it too. Remove all politicians names from the plaque and replace them with lids.

There are so many artist in this town and I hope that you will reach out to them to design something more representative of our Library which is a learning Center and gathering place especially for the Children.

Respectfully,

Audrey Prosser  
Huntington Beach Resident

**From:** [beverly pearson](#)  
**To:** [Gomez, Charlene](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: 50th anniversary plaque comments  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 11, 2025 1:33:33 PM

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You don't often get email from [slemarac1@gmail.com](mailto:slemarac1@gmail.com). [Learn why this is important](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **beverly pearson** <[slemarac1@gmail.com](mailto:slemarac1@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Tue, Feb 11, 2025 at 12:59 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: 50th anniversary plaque comments  
**To:** <[cgomez@surfcity-hb.or](mailto:cgomez@surfcity-hb.or)>

sorry error in email address

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **beverly pearson** <[slemarac1@gmail.com](mailto:slemarac1@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Tue, Feb 11, 2025 at 12:57 PM  
**Subject:** 50th anniversary plaque comments  
**To:** <[cjgomez@surfcity-hb.org](mailto:cjgomez@surfcity-hb.org)>

I am a resident and patron of the HB library system since moving here in 1969 with my four children - all of whom used the library extensively. The Central Park library is our favorite.

I do not support/approve of the current plaque design. I've been a republican my whole life and take GREAT exception the moniker of MAGA being on this plaque. MAGA had nothing to do with the past 50 years of wonderful service at the library.

Please eliminate all those names too- who cares who these people are? The city seal should suffice. This is about our LIBRARY! Get some great artwork with kids reading and ditch the eagle/in god we trust. Again - why is that on there?

I look forward to seeing an updated design before commissioning.

Thank you - Beverly Pearson

**From:** [Christina Hower](#)  
**To:** [Gomez, Charlene](#)  
**Subject:** MAGA plaque honoring the library's 50th year  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 11, 2025 8:20:41 PM

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You don't often get email from howerchristina@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

Please help me clarify, is the MAGA plaque, honoring the library, a serious proposal or is this a silly joke?

I was at the library's opening, 50 years ago. Pulling into the library parking lot gave me and my brother the same feeling, as the first sight of the Matterhorn, when driving to Disneyland. We loved going to the library. I loved the smell of the library when you first entered. It smells the same today, as I remember it from 50 years ago. It is nostalgic and comforting. My family went twice a month. I did summer reading programs here. My artwork hung in this library. I won several awards in this library. I felt safe in this library. My kids had the same experience in this library. We enjoyed shows in the theater, read alouds in the children's section, rainy day escapes, and study dates with my kids friends here. This library offered the world, it offered understanding, it offered knowledge, it offered learning, it offered a space to study with friends. It offered all of these things to EVERYONE! It felt limitless.

It has been my dream to volunteer in this library and offer to read books aloud in the children's section when I retire.

In 50 years of library visits, never, never, ever did the library feel political. MAGA is political. Please do not try to convince anyone otherwise. It is insulting to the community and embarrassing for the city council.

I think you could find better ways to capture the wonderful feelings our ENTIRE community has towards the library.

If this is not a joke, please reconsider this silly, narrow minded, and selfagrandizing plaque. Huntington Beach can do better than this!

A HB library lover of 50 years,

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[Christina Hower](#)

**From:** [ziggy.gray](#)  
**To:** [Gomez, Charlene](#)  
**Subject:** Library 50 Years Plaque  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 11, 2025 3:07:07 PM  
**Importance:** High

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You don't often get email from [christynagray@yahoo.com](mailto:christynagray@yahoo.com). [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello Community and Library Services Commission,

I would like to comment on the 50 years Central Library commemorating plaque. I disapprove of the current proposed plaque. The cost alone is too much. The plaque itself is not worthy of the importance of our Central Library. I have lived in HB for 55 years and have been going to the Library for 50 years. It is one of the most beautiful libraries I have ever been to. I have brought my children there for story time and to read books. Our Library is a place where memories are made. It is a peaceful place.

I would like to see the plaque design opened to the public and have a public vote on the plaque. Our Central Library should be recognize as a beautiful sanctuary full of hard-working civil servants that bring joy and education to the public.

Please consider this email when making your decision.

Best regards,  
Christyna Gray  
Huntington Beach

**From:** [Dina Chavez](#)  
**To:** [Gomez, Charlene](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Central Library 50th Anniversary Plaque  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 11, 2025 3:01:09 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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You don't often get email from president@fotlhb.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi Charlene,

Thank you!

Dina

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**From:** Gomez, Charlene <cgomez@surfcity-hb.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2025 12:51 PM  
**To:** Dina Chavez <president@fotlhb.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Central Library 50th Anniversary Plaque

Hi Dina,

I'll print/upload your pdf and include it with supplemental communications.

Take care.

Charlene

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**From:** Dina Chavez <president@fotlhb.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2025 12:46 PM  
**To:** Gomez, Charlene <cgomez@surfcity-hb.org>; supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org  
**Subject:** Central Library 50th Anniversary Plaque

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [president@fotlhb.com](#). [Learn why this is important](#)

Dina Chavez  
Friends of the Huntington Beach Library  
[President@fotlhb.com](mailto:President@fotlhb.com)  
714-414-8712  
fotlhb.com





From: [Heather Soodak](#)  
To: [Gomez, Charles](#)  
Cc: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)  
Subject: NO on plaque for library  
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 4:18:48 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [hsoodak@gmail.com](mailto:hsoodak@gmail.com). [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

I am a Huntington Beach resident, business owner, home owner, and teacher.

I DISAGREE with using our tax dollars for the

current plaque to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Central Park Library. I believe that our library is a wonderful resource for our community and if there was a commemoration for the library since the library is a public space we should come up with some more affordable, creative, and inclusive message. The words that make up MAGA infer a partisan view that does not represent our entire community. And also "in God we trust" is not inclusive either. One idea is to reword it to represent the entire community and possibly hire an artist from the community center to design and create a sculpture for it. Thank you for your time reading this, do the right thing in representing ALL of the people of this beautiful city.

Sincerely,

A large, handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Heather". The script is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Heather Soodak  
HB resident, business owner, homeowner, and educator.  
E-mail: [HSoodak@gmail.com](mailto:HSoodak@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.HeatherSoodak.com](http://www.HeatherSoodak.com)

**From:** [Jean Bogen](#)  
**To:** [Gomez, Charlene](#)  
**Subject:** Library  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 11, 2025 3:38:25 PM

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You don't often get email from jeanbogen72@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I have just seen the picture of the plaque commemorating 50 years of the library. How inappropriate it is to use the controversial acronym for the library. There must be other words to describe the place that has given so many of us such enjoyment and education.

How about a committee made up of librarians and teachers who know how important the library has been for the last 50 years? Let's get the politics out of our city business and start listening to what the citizens want!

Resident since 1965,  
Jean Bogen

**From:** [Jill Wicke](#)  
**To:** [Gomez, Charlene](#)  
**Subject:** Oppose Library Sign  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 11, 2025 6:13:35 PM

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[You don't often get email from [jillwicke@hotmail.com](mailto:jillwicke@hotmail.com). Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

I am writing to strongly oppose the City Council's plan to commemorate the HB Central Library's 50th anniversary with a sign that spells out MAGA. It is inappropriate and does not reflect the opinion of all HB citizens. In addition, alluring is a synonym for seductive—not a descriptor that should be used for a public library.

Jill Wicke

**From:** [Kim Bennett](#)  
**To:** [Gomez, Charlene](#)  
**Subject:** Library gravestone plaque vote  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 11, 2025 1:06:08 PM

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You don't often get email from kbennett371@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I heard the council will be voting on or discussing a plaque to commemorate the 50th anniversary of our library? I believe it is important to acknowledge and celebrate this anniversary.

Does our city council plan on celebrating this anniversary with the plaque/gravestone shown on the news and social media??? The one that looks like a gravestone? With city council members names where something library related would go? With the acronym MAGA on it? I can't understand how anyone can look at that and see how it celebrates the library? Try hiring a real graphic designer, work with the library on design and history and try again. Good grief... so embarrassing

Kim

Resident of Huntington Beach of more than 40 years

**From:** [Kirstyn Kesler](#)  
**To:** [Gomez, Charlene](#)  
**Subject:** Hb library plaque  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 11, 2025 1:57:51 PM

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You don't often get email from kirstyn.jeanne@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To whom it may concern:

As a long time HB resident, this plaque design and cost is deplorable. I grew up enjoying the central library and this plaque does not represent the past 50 years nor acknowledge the support of the library to the local community. It's hugely undermining the value of the central library and I strongly oppose the design.

Sincerely, Kirstyn Kesler  
Business owner and resident

**From:** [Laura Ehrlich](#)  
**To:** [Gomez, Charlene](#)  
**Cc:** [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)  
**Subject:** A HB citizen's opinion on plaque for library.  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 11, 2025 1:20:44 PM

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[Some people who received this message don't often get email from ehrlichx4@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Thank you for looking at this email. I appreciate all that is done for our city, but I do not appreciate the message and look of this plaque commemorating our beloved library. I've been at Huntington Beach citizen for over 40 years, and have raised my family with all the attributes the library has to offer.

I clearly do not see where a plaque with a MAGA message is appropriate to commemorate our public library. Please think about the future message this gives, and please let's not make our library political.

Thank you in advance for reading this message

Laura Ehrlich

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Marcela McLaren](#)  
**To:** [Gomez, Charlene](#)  
**Subject:** Extremely disappointed.  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 12, 2025 10:21:10 AM

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You don't often get email from marcela.mclaren@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I am 100%opposed to the MAGA sign being proposed for the Huntington Beach Central Library! This taxpayers \$7000 only highlights the MAGA city council members in Huntington Beach and their plan to take away control of the library.

Why would you even reference a MAGA sign? Not to mention why would the council members' names be on the sign? I signed petitions to save local control of the library and now being contacted by a firm to question my signing of petitions to save control of the library? As if I'm not intelligent to vote and express my concern.

The 50th anniversary of the library sign looks like a proud boy gang style instead of an acknowledgement of our wonderful library.

It's clear that The City Council members do not intend on representing the whole Huntington Beach population. Our local libraries bring together our residents not divide.

As a resident of HB for 51 years, I am so disappointed that the MAGA city council members would make this political move with the proposed signage!

Marcela McLaren

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Margaret Muller](#)  
**To:** [Gomez, Charlene](#)  
**Subject:** MAGA Maniacs  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 11, 2025 2:09:47 PM

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[You don't often get email from mamuller@socal.rr.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Hi Ms Gomez,

The proposed library plaque appears to honor the majority MAGA city council in Huntington Beach. The city council members will likely promote themselves with this misappropriation of tax payer funds. It has been reported that the \$7000.00 for the plaque is coming out of the library maintenance fund. The acronym MAGA does not represent the views of ALL the residents/tax payers of the city.

Margaret Muller

**From:** [Mari Reynolds](#)  
**To:** [Gomez, Charlene](#)  
**Subject:** Library Plaque  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 12, 2025 9:15:27 AM

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You don't often get email from mari.reynolds.mr@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I have lived in Huntington Beach for more than 30 years. The proposed plaque for the HB Library's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary is an embarrassment to our city. The library has long been a source of pride to our community and should not be made a political weapon. I am disgusted this plaque would be installed in a place parents take their children for storytime and people of all ages go for research, entertainment and as a refuge from the political joke our town has become.

Come up with a non-political design. This could be a great thing if done correctly and with the spirit of community, unity and joy Huntington Beach used to have.

Mari Reynolds  
HB, 92647

**From:** [Megan Jones](#)  
**To:** [Gomez, Charlene](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment - HBPL Library Plaque  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 11, 2025 1:33:22 PM

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You don't often get email from megankjones1221@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

I am a resident of Huntington Beach and am upset at the proposed library plaque. My family has worked at the Huntington Beach Public Library for my entire life and this library is a staple to our community.

In a city where there is very little to do without spending money, the library offers a community gathering space that does not turn folks away for lack of funds.

The library is not a religious place and should not be. The library is not a politicized place and should not be.

Bringing religion and politics into our public spaces that are funded by taxpayer dollars is unethical and frankly a gross use of citizen's funds and against everything the Founding Fathers fought for.

The citizens of Huntington Beach deserve better use of their funds. This is gross and it perverts a public space.

Our city council should be more concerned with providing care and community than trying to garner favor with a cult leader. City council members' own views should not impact public spaces. Their salaries and these spaces are funded by Huntington Beach residents and we deserve better representation and better use of our tax dollars.

**From:** [Michelle Edwards](#)  
**To:** [Gomez, Charlene](#)  
**Subject:** Library Eyesore  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 11, 2025 6:54:01 PM

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You don't often get email from imconundrum@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I realize this comment is too late for tonight's CC meeting.

As a 40 year citizen of Huntington Beach, I was once proud of my hometown. As much as I still love the beach, the flock of maga protesters is a personal embarrassment for HB.

The wasteful and distasteful shenanigans our council is trying to get away with is an embarrassment as well.

I am so sick of so-called Christian bullies. I've lived too many years to go out with the hatred, dishonesty, lack of true patriotism and integrity, and the stupidity of our local government and the felon.

What a waste of money for the pending plaque, poorly worded, undeserved recognition for the new council and the subtle mention of maga. God forbid.  
Stop the embarrassment. Show some class, integrity, style and fairness.

Sincerely,  
Michelle Edwards

**From:** [Morgen Ehrlich](#)  
**To:** [Gomez, Charlene](#)  
**Cc:** [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)  
**Subject:** A HB citizen's opinion on plaque for library  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 11, 2025 1:59:14 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from mehrlich912@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Thank you for looking at this email. I appreciate all that is done for our city, but I am opposed to the addition of the political message on the plaque. I grew up going to the library, and it has always been a place of learning and community free from politics. I do not think a plaque with a clearly political message is appropriate to commemorate our public library. Please think about the future message this gives, and please let's not make our library political.

Thank you in advance for reading this message.

Morgen Ehrlich

**From:** [Paula Christensen](#)  
**To:** [Gomez, Charlene](#)  
**Subject:** Plaque meeting  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 11, 2025 2:41:14 PM

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You don't often get email from pchristensen@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

**The \$7,000 library plaque will do nothing to unite this city.**

**Your MAGA references have no place in the celebration of our library's 50th anniversary.**

**This isn't about community or history; it's yet another blatant attempt to deepen the divisions in our city.**

**It seems like the people behind this are just trying to pick a fight.**  
**Paula Christensen**

-

**From:** [Priscilla Taylor](#)  
**To:** [Gomez, Charlene](#)  
**Cc:** [Citycouncil@surfcity-hb.org](mailto:Citycouncil@surfcity-hb.org)  
**Subject:** Plaque  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 11, 2025 1:38:58 PM

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[You don't often get email from devandwill@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

I strongly object to such a wasteful use of taxpayer dollars as this ridiculous plaque. You are all the most stupid and wasteful group that has been in Huntington Beach's government in my 60 years residency.

Shame on you,  
Priscilla Taylor

**From:** [Shannon D.](#)  
**To:** [Gomez, Charlene](#)  
**Subject:** Tonight's City Council meeting  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 11, 2025 1:58:25 PM

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You don't often get email from shannond@ratehighway.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Although I cannot attend tonight's City Council meeting, I want to register my passionate objection to the monstrosity they want to place in front of our library.

It violates all implicit and explicit ethical standards geared to Huntington Beach's City Council functioning as a non-political body serving all people in the Huntington Beach community.

Thank you,  
Shannon Davis

*Any book worth banning is a book worth reading...*  
*- Isaac Asimov*

**From:** [Suzanne Boesing](#)  
**To:** [Gomez, Charlene](#); [Suzanne Boesing](#)  
**Subject:** Maintenance fund.  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 11, 2025 3:40:14 PM

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You don't often get email from [suzanneboesing@gmail.com](mailto:suzanneboesing@gmail.com). [Learn why this is important](#)

Could you tell me what all the fund is used for? People are playing it down saying it's just toilet paper and cleaning supplies, so it's no big deal. I'd like to have the facts if I may. Thank you for your time. Kind regards, Suzanne

**From:** [Tamara Berardi](#)  
**To:** [Gomez, Charlene](#)  
**Subject:** Library plaque  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 11, 2025 4:39:32 PM

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You don't often get email from tberardi92646@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I am a long time Huntington Beach Resident (45 years) and I just saw the plan for the City Council's 50 year HB library "commemorative" plaque. I have to say I am adamantly opposed to this plaque for a multitude of reasons but the very first one being the obvious partisan spin on what should be an honor to our beautiful libraries history that represents all of it's residents, not the right leaning politics of this current council. The design is self serving and it should be targeted on the library, patrons and our residents. The cost has been reported to be around \$7,000.00 which is definitely excessive when we are facing a sizable budget deficit.

I respectfully ask that this idea be studied more and an alternate option that is more within our budget and better represents our library can be agreed upon.

Thank you,

Tamara Berardi

19641 Lexington Lane

HB

[tberardi92646@gmail.com](mailto:tberardi92646@gmail.com)

**From:** [Tiffany Ng](#)  
**To:** [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); Gomez, Charlene](#)  
**Subject:** Library plaque  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 11, 2025 2:01:00 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from [hellotiffanyng@gmail.com](mailto:hellotiffanyng@gmail.com). [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear HB city council members,

I am a resident of Huntington Beach and I wholeheartedly oppose the proposed HB public library plaque. The library should be a safe and welcoming place to learn and grow for all. Why are you wasting thousands of dollars to create a plaque containing words which causes division and animosity? The words on the plaque does not even come close to represent what HB libraries provide to the public. I strongly urge you to please reconsider the plaque proposal.

Thanks,  
Tiffany

**From:** [Trish Van Gorder](#)  
**To:** [Gomez, Charlene](#)  
**Subject:** Library plaque  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 11, 2025 1:56:00 PM

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You don't often get email from trishvg2000@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear HB,

I do NOT want a commemorative plaque on our library with the MAGA letters on it. I believe in all forms of free speech, however having them on a fixed plaque is not okay.

I choose not to fly a TRUMP flag nor wear a red MAGA hat, but I can't avoid seeing the MAGA letters on a permanent sign.

Please don't waste \$7000 dollars on this sign!

Trish VanGorder