

From: [Elaine Parker](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 4:01:34 PM

City Council Members,

Would you please make public the companies you are sending the RFP to.

Sincerely,

Elaine MacLeod Parker

**SUPPLEMENTAL
COMMUNICATION**

Meeting Date: 3/19/2024

Agenda Item No.: 22 (24-197)

From: [qw](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Public Comment Item 22, Tuesday, March 19, 2024
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 4:21:16 PM

I'm in opposition to Item 22. This item is another falsity to dump others & education on the side of the road forever. They will use a company to censor everything.

- Ben

From: [Mary](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 5:18:29 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

I absolutely oppose privatization of the Library. Our Librarians are excellent. Stop pushing your agenda down our throats.

From: [Mary K Dana](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 5:18:55 PM

I Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

From: [Chrissy Rabitoy](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 5:18:59 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

I love the Huntington Beach Central Library. The library is a cornerstone of Central Park and is a great asset to the City. Please do not privatize the library.

Books are so important, and keeping the library under the City control is essential to maintaining the great resource that it is. I oppose Agenda Item 24-197.

Christina Rabitoy
Friend of HBL
19425 Castlewood Circle
Huntington Beach, CA 92648
626-327-4991

From: [Kathy Seaberg](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 5:20:09 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

Sincerely,
Kathleen Seaberg
8766 Tulare Dr, 405C
Huntington Beach CA 92646

From: [Ralph Eastman](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 5:21:02 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

Ralph & Paula Eastman
Residents for 45 years

From: [Mary K Dana](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 5:21:02 PM

I Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

From: [Eric Bies](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 5:25:21 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

From: [Mustafa AKIN](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 5:25:35 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

From: [Regina](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 5:32:03 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

From: [Jerry](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 5:39:42 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

Our city library is top notch. Why would you want to privatize it? The dedicated and highly trained individuals who work there should be lauded for their excellence instead of threaten with a for profit privatization.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Larry Utsler](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 5:40:13 PM

I strongly oppose any idea of privatizing the operation of the HB Public Library - the crown jewel and cultural center of our great community. I have been a volunteer in the FOTL Used Books operation since 2012, working with fellow seniors mostly doing the initial sorting of incoming donations at the receiving dock. Knowing that the work we did there has enabled our FOTL organization to contribute between \$200,000 to \$250,000 a year to the HBPL budget for books, e-media, and other items for the public use has been all the incentive we've needed.

I doubt I would be similarly motivated to continue volunteering for a private company enjoying the fruits of my voluntary effort.

This is ANOTHER bad idea for our terrific community.

Sincerely,
Larry Utsler

From: [Carolee Focht](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 5:42:01 PM

I Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library re:

22. 24-197 Request authorization to issue a Request for Proposals for Managed Library Services for the Huntington Beach Public Library system A) Authorize staff to issue a Request for Proposals for Managed Library Services for the Huntington Beach Public Library system and return to City Council with an agreement for consideration; and B) Direct staff to begin a meet and confer process with affected labor associations to discuss this potential opportunity.

We, as taxpayers, expect our city staff to provide public services including libraries. If you cannot perform, then go back to Orange County Library services as we already pay for library management with the county.

Respectfully,
Carolee Focht
resident, retired teacher

From: [Anita](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 5:54:57 PM

This is not the time to privatize our libraries. Our city has plenty of money to support, especially if funds are allocated properly which doesn't appear to be the case. Our community overwhelmingly supports our PUBLIC library.

From: [Dana H.](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 5:55:50 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

Why are you people destroying what is already working for us regular library patrons? Your people don't even read or go to the library.

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: [Susan Matthewson](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 5:56:48 PM

This is an ideological poorly thought through brazen political proposal. Those proposing this are completely misguided, convinced that they and only they are in possession of the truth. It is authoritarian and ridiculous and shows their intellectual immaturity, rigidity and unAmerican values.

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Barbara Shapiro](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 5:58:04 PM

I Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library
Sent from my iPad

From: [Linda Clark](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 6:02:28 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

Sent from my iPad

From: [Donna Springer](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 6:13:26 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

From: [Laura Janssen](mailto:Laura.Janssen@surfcity-hb.org)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 6:14:42 PM

Council members,

I strongly oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library.

It doesn't seem appropriate for a private company to make money off a municipal entity. Privatization will continue to water down the integrity of our fine library. This is a bad precedent to set, in the name of cost savings, and total council control over our library, that has been running smoothly without controversy up to now.

I also strongly oppose Agenda Item 29-209 and the introduction of Ordinance No. 4318. I can only hope when the council swings back to a more moderate majority, the Ordinance will backfire and will allow for more liberal minded members to the review board and welcome back books that will so blindly be banned in the name of decency under the current council. A child's own parent or guardian should hold the sole responsibility for what books that child is exposed to, not some ginned-up review board. And, by the way, the internet is full of unsavory and sexual content, do you really think the library is the only place a child can find that content? My brother and his friends managed to get their hands on Playboy magazines in the 1960s, long before the internet. The curiosity of a child is much stronger than the restrictions placed on them by adults. I'm honestly not sure sure who you are actually protecting, not the children, they will find a way. Or, is it just the lure of power that propels these shortsighted actions.

Laura Janssen

From: [LOY MARGIE](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 6:19:09 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

From: [James Davis](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 6:26:33 PM

I oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library. I can not believe that anyone would jeopardize our libraries with such a plan. Please do not do it.

James Davis

From: [Charlotte Emmons](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 6:29:23 PM

I Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library.

Charlotte Emmons
7201 bouquet drive
Huntington Beach, ca. 92647

Sent from my iPhone

From: janet_hermer
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 6:33:28 PM

To Whom this concerns,

The Huntington Beach Library has been well managed over the years and for many years and no changes need to be made in how it is managed. Our HB Council seems to believe they need to involve themselves in affairs that are not their business. They have managed to cost our city millions more than expected such as in negotiating the Air Show each October.

They're costing us a rise in our energy bills because they've managed to spend more than has come in. They are inept!

Leave our library alone!

Do not charge us more for our energy!

Start listening to your constituents and stop ignoring us.

Your #B is going to cost us a lawsuit fight with the State and Arab will lose that fight. The four of you should pay the legal costs of that suit.

We have fine librarians, get out of their way and let them do their job. Your group of 20 doesn't know what they're doing.

Homeowner Janet L HERMER
Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

Sent from my iPad

From: [Jordan Hall](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Opposition of Item(s) 22 and 24
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 7:12:39 PM

As a longtime homeowner and resident of Huntington Beach, I strongly oppose Item 22 and Item 24. Please, please stop trying to alter our wonderful libraries and let our librarians do their jobs.

Sincerely,
Jordan Hall

From: [Nancy Saks](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 7:16:14 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

Sent from my iPhone

Do not change my library. I firmly oppose any planned changes.

From: [Joni Howard](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Item #24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 7:42:45 PM

Please accept this email letting you know that I oppose this action. As a Huntington Beach community member I am disgusted with this.

Joni Howard

From: [Marty Smith](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 7:50:53 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Shirley](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 8:01:01 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

A BIG NO!!! I use the library every week and count on the librarians to point me in the right direction.

Please don't bring in a company that will restrict books and cut out events.

Shirley Knopf
9622 Bay Meadow Drive
HB

From: [Chris Hall](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 8:11:23 PM

Please don't privatize the library. So many things that are offered now will be gone, or will be monetized. I Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library
Christine Hall
Sent from my iPad

From: jakewilky@aol.com
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 8:13:22 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

From: [Caroline Brandenburger](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Supplemental Communication for March 19th, 2024 Council Meeting
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 8:15:44 PM

Dear HB City Council Members,

I'm writing to express my opposition to the proposed privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library. One of the best things about living in Huntington Beach is having access to our beautiful Central Library. As a lifelong HB resident, I grew up going to the HBPL. I frequently went to the library as a small child, into my teenage years and as a college student. As a mother, I have taken my children to the library countless times for story time and for them to explore and check out books. As an adult, I regularly go to the library to read, check out books, use the computer services and also occasionally enjoy a coffee from the coffee cart. The HBPL has always been a place where I feel peaceful, relaxed and comfortable. The sounds of the tranquil fountains makes it extra special. The views from inside the library are amazing as you can see Central Park. I am very passionate about our library and that is why I don't understand why you would consider privatizing this beautiful facility. There is absolutely nothing wrong with the way that the city is running the library and I struggle to understand why you want to fix something that isn't broken. Our HBPL librarians are very skilled, knowledgeable, and are experts in library science. I highly respect all of the library staff for maintaining such a beautiful place for so many years. My heart is breaking that the council majority would even consider privatizing this beautiful gem. Leave our library alone! Please do not privatize our beloved library!

Caroline Brandenburger
HB resident of 44 years
Registered Nurse
Mother
Community volunteer

From: [Caroline Brandenburger](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Supplemental Communication for March 19th, 2024 Council Meeting
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 8:18:34 PM

Dear HB City Council Members,

I'm writing to express my opposition to the proposed privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library. One of the best things about living in Huntington Beach is having access to our beautiful Central Library. As a lifelong HB resident, I grew up going to the HBPL. I frequently went to the library as a small child, into my teenage years and as a college student. As a mother, I have taken my children to the library countless times for story time and for them to explore and check out books. As an adult, I regularly go to the library to read, check out books, use the computer services and also occasionally enjoy a coffee from the coffee cart. The HBPL has always been a place where I feel peaceful, relaxed and comfortable. The sounds of the tranquil fountains makes it extra special. The views from inside the library are amazing as you can see Central Park. I am very passionate about our library and that is why I don't understand why you would consider privatizing this beautiful facility. There is absolutely nothing wrong with the way that the city is running the library and I struggle to understand why you want to fix something that isn't broken. Our HBPL librarians are very skilled, knowledgeable, and are experts in library science. I highly respect all of the library staff for maintaining such a beautiful place for so many years. My heart is breaking that the council majority would even consider privatizing this beautiful gem. Leave our library alone! Please do not privatize our beloved library!

Caroline Brandenburger
HB resident of 44 years
Registered Nurse
Mother
Community volunteer

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Steven Park](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Agenda Item 24-197 opinion from former library senior staff
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 8:33:53 PM

To honorable Huntington Beach City Councilmembers,

My name is Steven Park, and I was fortunate enough to work for the City of Huntington Beach at the Huntington Beach Central Library from 2015 to 2022, in the capacity of Senior Librarian and Principal Librarian. Currently, I am the Administrative Administrator for LA County Library system, a role I was able to promote into because of the extensive work experience I gained at Huntington Beach.

Huntington Beach Public Library is a special library, and among the library industry, it is known not only for its architecturally significant building and beautiful park, but also as a significant training grounds for librarians across southern california. I personally known dozens of librarians who started their careers as pages and clerks at Huntington Beach Public Library, and it was the rich legacy and strength of the management, staff, and community that inspired many of us to continue in our librarian careers.

Fiscally, Huntington Beach Public Library has always operated in a very lean and efficient manner. Former Library Director Ron Hayden prided himself on running a successful public library with community support at a very low per capita cost. During my time at Huntington Beach, I was responsible for helping manage our budget, and it was documented that our budget at the time was the second lowest in Orange County for comparable and smaller cities. Currently, it operates with the lowest budget per capita for a library system in Orange County. Other cities of comparable size have twice or more than twice the staff state and nation-wide, with significantly larger budgets.

This is all possible because of the very efficient and dedicated library staff who truly love their jobs and community, and the very generous and engaged Huntington Beach community whose annual donations of 250,000 dollars every year makes many of the award winning programs and operations possible.

I state all this because in my professional opinion, it will be very difficult for a private 3rd party business to operate Huntington Beach Public Library at a lower cost, because the library is already running so lean. Any proposal to do so would only be possible at significant loss of library services and programming capacity.

Thank you again for supporting the community of HB and your wisdom and guidance in considering these matters for the greater good of the beautiful and wonderful city of Huntington Beach. God bless you all.

Sincerely,
Steven Park
saejinpark@gmail.com

From: [Thomas Meisenhelder](mailto:supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 9:05:15 PM

I strongly oppose the privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library. Our public library is a jewel of our city and we all love it, it's programs, and it's staff. As the saying goes: "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

The corporation that you are considering contracting with is notorious for taking over public libraries and reducing programs, abusing staff, and reducing programs and services to the public .

Please don't play political theatre with one the best parts of our city!

Thomas Meisenhelder
20271 Sealpoint Lane

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: [Gabriela Peschiera](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Agenda item 24-197 - Do not privatize HBPL
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 9:38:01 PM

Mayor of HB, Mayor Pro Tem, & HB City Council Members,

I urge you to STOP the idea of privatizing our great Huntington Beach Public Library System. It is one of the best organizations in our city! Please help me as well as the many HB residents to continue being PROUD of our Central Library and its four library branches!

How will a private company maintain or increase the level of service to the community and still make a profit? Who will make the final decision about the addition, reduction, or elimination of services and programs? Private companies have a primary interest in making profit, which can create incentives to let quality slip by cutting corners on programming and services.

I OPPOSED to item #22 on the Agenda for City Council meeting on March 19th, 2024 in regards to "Request for Proposals for Managed Library Services for the Huntington Beach Public Library system and return to City Council with an agreement for consideration".

I appreciate your consideration of my request.

Sincerely,

Gabriela Peschiera
HB Resident

From: [Kimberly BANOVIKZ](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 9:44:30 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Sharon Petersen](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 9:59:30 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

I totally oppose even the consideration of privatization of our precious public library!

Ben Franklin established the first library back in 1733. It was based on his belief that Everyman, rich or poor, needed access to books. That is the basis of a free, democratic society. Franklin knew that books were too expensive, for the average person, so this was his initial solution to make books available to everyone.

What is next, a private police force, private fire department, ALL Private Schools?

What kind of power grab is this?

Whose idea is this? Has anyone ever taken a U.S. HISTORY class?

Surely they should know that control of knowledge and information gives rise to dictators!

If that is what our HB City Council is trying to do, they will find strong opposition from citizens who believe in freedom and democracy.

Sharon Petersen

18601 Newland St.

Huntington Beach, CA 92646

Sent from my iPad

From: [Michelle Dunn-McDermaid](mailto:Michelle.Dunn-McDermaid@surfcity-hb.org)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 11:20:23 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

This is ABSOLUTELY wrong & is a threat to our democracy. Each community deserves the opportunity to hire and supervise those who we believe will best represent the diversity of our multicultural nation with the richness each group brings. Public libraries need to remain that. Institutionalized run libraries will not be a reflection of this wonderful diversity. It will only reflect those who have the majority vote in a city council, state legislation or US Congress, Senate or Presidency. All groups must be heard & public librarians with no agenda other than presenting “truth & honest” information are the ones best equipped to do this.

NO to this endeavor!

Michelle Dunn-McDermaid
Huntington Beach

Sent from my iPad

From: ritarisk@aol.com
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 12:19:48 AM

Oppose Item 24-197. If it is not broken, don't fix it. First step to far right authoritarian dictatorship. Rita and Bill Collins.

Sent from [AOL Desktop](#)

From: [srolman](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Changes to Library
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 5:36:24 AM

Why try to fix something that works well and isn't broken. Our library is fantastic with qualified staff to run and advise the patrons. LEAVE IT ALONE. Sheila Prolman, 8312 Manifesto Cir. HB

Sent from my Galaxy

From: [Gail Altimari-Brown](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Libraries
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 7:57:55 AM

PLEASE keep our libraries controlled by US and not a for profit driven business,

From: [Dick Moore](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 8:10:09 AM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library. The central library is vital and has a wide variety of patrons. I strongly oppose privatization of any library. Kathryn Moore

From: [lindaklaw \(null\)](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: No on Item 22 on the Agenda for March 19, 2024
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 8:13:26 AM

I strongly object to even a study of the privatization of the HB Public Library. Equity firms have done terrible damage to this country. From buying up housing stock and raising prices and rents to buying up public services and stripping them of their value and raising prices. A for-profit corporation has no business running a public library. Vote No on Item 22.
Thank you for your time.
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Leslie A.](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 8:20:53 AM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

To the HB City Council,

The majority of you seem intent on destroying our public libraries. I have lived here for 50 years and, as a child, the HB PUBLIC library was a safe haven and a wonderful place where I was free to explore all the books I wanted to and I read widely and deeply. As an adult I frequent the library for the same reasons and I appreciate the staff, many of whom have spent years at the library. Their knowledge of our libraries and expertise are important for all of us who enjoy reading and learning.

The city council positions are not supposed to be political positions, instead they are supposed to be people who are elected to represent ALL residents of HB and, as such, should be considering how to best serve us. Privatization of the library does not serve to enhance our city, instead it would be another way of destroying what we residents cherish.

Sincerely,

Leslie Marcinko

From: [Christina Skoski](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: NO to privatization
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 8:55:34 AM

I strongly object to our library being outsourced.

I don't want a private, for profit company deciding what books will be allowed in our public library. As a long term volunteer with FOTL I stand in solidarity with our professional librarians and staff.

NO!!! to privatization.

Christina Skoski MD

From: [Scott Brewsaugh](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: The library
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 9:01:21 AM

Hello esteemed city council members,

I'm writing to say that I oppose any sort of privation of the library, and any sort of book ban.

From: [Anne Franklin](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 9:07:22 AM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

From: [G. B.](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Do NOT Privatize HB Public Libraries
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 9:36:09 AM

I am vehemently opposed to privatizing the HB Public Libraries.

I'm a registered Republican, and I vote...every time.

Gregory Brewsaugh
HB, California

From: [Joe & Cerise](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 9:41:55 AM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library.

From: [Ann Martone](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 10:02:00 AM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

From: [maureen movius](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 10:14:24 AM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

From: [Mary Camarillo](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF)
Subject: Board Meeting Agenda Items 22 and 24
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 10:21:57 AM

Dear City Council Members

I'm a local author, a thirty-year Huntington Beach resident and homeowner, and a former library volunteer. Please do not approve agenda items 22 and 24 on Tuesday, March 19, 2024.

The public library is by definition for the public and should not be privatized or outsourced to the East Coast hedge fund under your consideration or to any private entity. As a community service, the mission of the library should not be based on cost. One of our founding fathers, Benjamin Franklin, opened the first public library and was proud of his free lending library concept, saying "these Libraries have improved the general Conversation of Americans."

The city council has already tampered enough with our library. Setting up this 21-member Community-Parent Guardian Review Board to approve children's books as defined in agenda item 24 is ludicrous.

- What is the source for the definitions in this ordinance of "community standards," "sexual content," and "sexual reference?"
- How can a 21-member committee that meets "at least twice each year" possibly review the 9,000 books purchased annually for the children's section of the library?
- To give this review board the power of making "all decisions final and non-appealable" is ridiculous and illegal (despite City Attorney Gates' apparent approval) especially since no qualifications other than being selected by a council member are required.

Equally hypocritical is the art of the plan that states "After review, all efforts will be made to sell or donate non-approved Childrens' Books to libraries outside of the City of Huntington Beach."

- If the review board truly deems certain books unapprovable, why would they pass them on to another library?
- Why would these books not simply be added to the adult section in our library?

Please do not approve agenda items 22 and 24 on Tuesday, March 19, 2024.

Thank you for taking the time to read this email. I would appreciate a response.

Mary Camarillo



Visit [Mary's website](#) and sign up for her newsletter "Life With Riley"

From: [JANIS LISS](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 10:39:23 AM

I am writing to oppose agenda item 24–1 97. I have lived in Huntington Beach since 1972. I love our libraries and the people that work there, many of whom are volunteers. I can't believe that our community would entertain the idea of having private for-profit company run our libraries.

Janis Liss

Retired teacher and book lover.

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Becky Weintal](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Privatization of our Libraries
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 10:48:13 AM

Why don't you stick to things residents really care about? This is just a political ploy to get attention. It's vile and low. How about keeping our city clean, safe, inclusive and debt free! Not supporting our libraries? Sounds like a Nazi move to me.

From: [Phyllis Steinberg](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 10:55:44 AM

I oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library.
Phyllis Steinberg

From: [Suzanne Hart](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Privatization of public libraries
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 11:01:24 AM

Our public libraries must remain in the public domain. We currently have an award winning library system with the necessary infrastructure already in place. What could possibly be your motivation to change an operation that is brilliantly successful? One has to wonder!

Suzanne Hart

Sent from my iPhone

From: lkemper698@aol.com
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 11:02:45 AM

privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

As a 45 year residents of Huntington Beach, we have grown concerned with Council actions. My family is proud of many things in our city, particularly the Library. It would appear that it is becoming a target of some of our leaders which would be a sad mistake, both culturally and politically. We urge you to put aside the intentions of Agenda item 24-197. A corporate library only moves accountability away from our citizens.

Lawrence and Gail Kemper
9882 Saline Dr.

From: berreprincess@aol.com
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Leave Our Libraries Alone!
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 11:18:00 AM

Enough with messing with our public libraries! They need to stay public and never be privatized. There is not a single reason to do this and ruin the libraries here. We have many services the library is used for besides general reading. There is the seed library that has been great for so many residents. There are many that use it for genealogy purposes and generally has a free offering of being able to use certain genealogy websites for researching. If libraries are privatized what happens to these things? What about those that use the library to study and for help in researching for school papers? It seems they will have to go to another city instead if this happens.

Toss in the fact that you will spend money on books for your committee to review and if they don't like it then off the books go to another city's library? How in the world does that make sense to spend money on 21 books like that and then say the books are not good for us but they are ok for another city? This is hypocritical of you 4 (Burns, Strickland, Van Der Mark, and McKeon).

Its sad that those of you that don't even use a library are the ones trashing them, lying about what is in them and wanting to ruin them. Shame on you 4 as many of us residents know you will vote for this in the end.

Anna Plewa

From: [TERESA GHIONE](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 11:46:30 AM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

I oppose privatization of the HBPL.

Since when does a committee know what is best for my child to read.

That is the responsibility of the parents to decide.

Thank you

Teresa Ghione

From: [Karla Tucker](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Comments on agenda items for March 19,2024 HB City Council Meeting
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 11:56:40 AM

Council Members,

Agenda Item 24-197

Who requested this agenda item? Why was this agenda item requested? I have been utilizing our city library services for almost 35 years. I have found all of their programs and services to be excellent. I brought both my children to the Central Park library as toddlers for early reader programs, as elementary-aged children for summer reading programs, and as young adults for research and study programs. Staff were always kind, helpful and enthusiastic. I love reading and often check-out books in person or request books on-line for pick-up. Staff are always efficient and friendly. Why do we need a change? I would be afraid services would only decline when run by non-community staff.

Agenda Item 24-209

As a concerned parent and former elementary school teacher, I am firmly opposed to this ordinance. Parents should be making reading decisions for their own children only. Our library staff do an excellent job of providing age-appropriate materials for the children's and young-adult library sections. Parents and community members should not be allowed to place their personal opinions on the book choices of others. All council members should be required to view the academy award-nominated short documentary titled The ABCs of Book Banning. The children's voices in this film should speak to us all.

Agenda Item 24-208

Why is this being requested? We should be working together with other cities, not isolating ourselves. Isolation breeds divisiveness and fear of others. We need to pursue community alliances and work together for all Huntington Beach residents.

Respectfully,

Karla Tucker

From: [Lizzie](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Protect our Library
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 12:01:07 PM

To whom it may concern,

Our public libraries are treasured institutions that serve all members of our community regardless of their background, income, or social status. They are the heart of our neighborhoods, where we gather, interact and connect.

Where strangers become Friends. They preserve our collective memory. They are not commodities; they are essential pillars of civic life.

Privatization of our public libraries threatens the very core of what makes our precious libraries valuable.

FOTL continues to stand in solidarity with our librarians and staff. We fully and unequivocally support our professional librarians to manage the collection of materials available in our public libraries just as they have for more than 100 years.

We invite you to join us to protect our beloved public libraries. They are more than just buildings; they are the heart of our community. Let's invest in their growth, and celebrate their impact. Say no to privatization and yes to a thriving, inclusive, and publicly owned Huntington Beach Public Library.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Berberet

Huntington Beach Resident and Educator

From: [Jennie Austin](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 12:04:02 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

Please listen to the majority of people Huntington Beach!!

We DO NOT want our PUBLIC library privatized!!

Jennie Austin

Retired teacher

Volunteer for FOTL

Parent and grandparent

Voting citizen of Huntington Beach

From: [Kim Larey](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 12:13:07 PM

When my child was younger I took her to the central library many times a month. Never do I have an issue of any kind about the books she checked out or looked at there my friends never had an issue. Why are you trying to change the public library have you or your children had an issue? This is America and the library has always been public. Please keep it public we do not need to spend the cities money on private.

Kim Larey

From: [Nancy Bigda](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 12:15:38 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library - NO, NO, NO to privatization of OUR library. The library is a vibrant, wonderful place the way it is run right now. DON'T change that. NO on 24-197

From: [Jo Andrews](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197 STOP trying to change our city!
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 12:34:50 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [Anne Culpepper](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Library
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 12:36:33 PM

Do not privatize our library!

From: mtfbwy@socal.rr.com
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Our Public Library
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 1:02:23 PM

Dear City Council Members,

You were voted into office to serve the people of our city -- not to take away our rights. Our Public Library is PUBLIC. We do not want it to be PRIVATIZED. It is my right as a parent to decide what my child can or cannot read -- not the government's. You are taking a huge step against Democracy. Don't do this!

Respectfully,

Norma Mazure

From: [Martha Elliott](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Private Management of OUR Library.
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 1:06:58 PM

I moved to Huntington Beach in 1991 from the East Coast. One of the top 3 reasons was the quality of our library.

I know some of you think public-private alliances are a way to cut costs. However they have ended up costing the public more as in the privatization of our electricity and natural gas services. In the case of the library the quality will also be lost. I don't want a Walmart-like company running my library. Can you please stop and focus on the basics such as roads, parks and safety?

Martha Elliott
Huntington Beach Resident

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Judy Morris](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 1:27:35 PM

I am vehemently opposed to the privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library (HBPL).

It is my understanding that the public library is a public good funded by our tax dollars, and available to the entire population. If the purpose of privatization of the HBPL is to save tax dollars, the proposal should clearly state how much will be saved and what will be done with the savings that would be more beneficial to the entire population than the current HBPL. The citizens of Huntington Beach are entitled to full transparency with regard to why privatization is being proposed.

Sincerely,

Judy Morris

Sent from my iPad

From: [Beverly Thomas](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: RE: Huntington Beach Library Privatization
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 1:28:28 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

"You Belong at the Library" - Mychal Threats, via Ms Rachel.

My name is Bev Thomas, I am the mother of a wonderful one-year-old who is discovering the magic of libraries. While I am not a resident of Huntington Beach, I am in a community where several nearby libraries have been acquired by LS&S. I have always and will continue to avoid these acquired libraries because I am a firm believer that the privatization of libraries is not only a mistake socially, but fiscally as well.

I encourage the decision makers to do their research before they make a decision based on LS&S's marketing points that are just that - marketing. This switch will save no one money and will allow the private opinions of the new ownership to inject their censorship and meddling into the content our libraries are allowed to shelve and host.

If your concerns lay in the fiscal realm, I encourage you to look at one of my local communities, Calabasas, who had a contract with LS&S initially. Upon cancellation, they saved \$68,000 in their first year back with public library service. LS&S's website claims "the data speaks for itself."

and indeed it does.

LS&S is full of promises that are simply the company marketing at work. They claim cost savings, but the opposite has proven true on several occasions. They claim local control "by community leaders and key stakeholders", but who are they? Why are they allowed to inject their personal feelings into our community resources? Do they truly represent the *whole* of your community, or just those who can afford to allow privatization? I encourage you to explore the "Who We Are" page of LS&S and ask yourself if those faces represent the whole of our beautifully diverse community. Will these leaders make *all* of your community feel like "they belong at the library" per the above quote, or just their children and those who look and think like them? Why does a program for toddlers understand this, while our educated, experienced adults cannot? The library is for everyone. Privatization is the antithesis of this sentiment.

To our decision makers, I implore you to reject this attempt at privatization.

Thank you,
Bev Thomas

Sources ([Capital & Main](#), [Fullerton Observer](#))

From: Ekybabehb
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Opposition to Items 22 and 24 on 3/19 CC agenda
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 1:54:37 PM

I am a resident and citizen residing in Huntington Beach, since moving to California in 1992.
I am a mother to three children, 2 teens and a tween.
I strongly oppose both Items, 22 and 24, on the agenda for 3/19 meeting.

I am confident that trained librarians are much more qualified to review children's literature than random and politically skewed individuals and corporations. It has been stated time and time again by particular politically inclined group of parents that we do not co-parent with the government and I agree! My children, and ALL CHILDREN, should have access to materials reviewed by trained professionals, not government NOR private entities whose views are horrinly misguided at best and dangerous at worst. If the concern or fear that YOUR children may look at materials YOU deem undesirable, then that is a private conversation between YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN. YOU attend the library with YOUR child and YOU REVIEW their selections. You do not get to parent mine!

Secondly, Huntington Beach Public Library should remain as it is stated in its name - PUBLIC. NOT PRIVATELY OWNED BY A CORPORATION that is selected by restrictive and misguided city council.

Again, I STRONGLY OPPOSE ITEM 22 AND ITEM 24 ON 3/19 CITY COUNCIL AGENDA.

ENOUGH ALREADY!

[Sent from AOL on Android](#)

From: [Frances Spencer](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 2:10:39 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library. To give any religious or political group the power to control what we read is a very slippery slope. Please leave the running of libraries and schools to the professionals and to parents.

From: [vmoll98](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Why????? Life liberty and the pursuit of happiness.....ever hear of it?????? How embarrassing to now reside in a MAGA city....I have very been a citizen in HB for 20+ years.....I did not sign up to live in your version of 1930s Nazi Germany.
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 2:34:04 PM

Sent from my Galaxy

From: [Aaron Cheng](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Cc: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Protecting HB Library
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 3:03:17 PM

Hello,

My name is Aaron, and I am a resident of Westminster in Orange County. I first moved here to California in September 2022 and have since been discovering the amenities and wondrous experiences California has to offer. Of the top of my list would be the Huntington Beach Public Library, which is a beautiful center that has been defined as a haven for relaxation, de-stressing, and calm for me. I am saddened to hear that there is an action for the privatization of the library on the city council agenda. I am afraid of what this could bring to the health of the workers, library, and community as a whole, as a result of this action. I strongly oppose managed library services, administrative item 22, and item 24-197, as I believe a move to privatize this library would greatly devalue its power of liberating information to its community. I was honestly really surprised how easy and straightforward it is to check out many books at this library, with very few punitive measures for its users. And with these values in place, it makes it feel like a very safe and strong hold in the community where people can go to access information without being taken advantaged of which is already all too common. Please reconsider privatizing this library, and keep this safe space as safe as possible, for all old and new residents of Orange County. Thank you.

Best,
Aaron Cheng

From: [Moriah Sanford](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: No to privatization of libraries in HB
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 3:35:53 PM

This is unacceptable. Libraries are a function of our city and should not be ran by private companies who are not fair and equal. Libraries are meant to give access to everyone and all content.

Moriah Sanford
9261 Candlewood Dr
HB 92646
Sent from my iPhone

From: gail_susskind
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Libraries
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 4:39:54 PM

I am opposed to the privatization of the libraries. Thank you, Gail Susskind
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kevin Sanford](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Privatization of Libraries
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 3:36:40 PM

I do not agree that privatization of the libraries is a good idea for any city and especially my own city. If you do this, please understand that I will vote against any member that supports this going forward.

Warmest regards,

Kevin Sanford
9261 Candlewood Dr. HB, CA 92646

From: [Carolyn Grandy](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Please vote this way
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 4:03:46 PM

Dear City Commissioner:

I strongly oppose item 22-managed Library services.

I strongly oppose item 24-parent review board for children's library.

I absolutely love our library and appreciate books and information offered for ALL citizens. For a small group of citizens to decide what is best for me to read or information to share is not acceptable. These decisions to privatize will change the life we have appreciated living here in Huntington Beach.

I appreciate your taking my opinion seriously.

Regards,
Carolyn Grandy

From: pricegrandy@gmail.com
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Library Privatization & Control
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 4:53:18 PM

Dear City Commissioner:

“I strongly oppose”

item 22 – Managed Library Services

Item 24 – Parent Review Board for Childrens Library

Our Huntington Beach Library system is by far and away the best Library that my Family has ever been associated. For close to 40 years

we have enjoyed all of it’s many services. Our city has done a great job

in maintaining all of the libraries and all of the many things that it does for our communities. To privatize and control the library takes away

the ability and control of the average HB citizen to keep our library the way it is today.

As a parent, I choose what my children are allowed to read and enjoy.

I do not wish a small group of people to make these decisions.

Thanks,

Price Grandy

pricegrandy@gmail.com

From: [Linda](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: HB libraries
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 5:27:35 PM

Sent from my iPhone- I am a 8 yr volunteer at Oak View Library in the Homework Club Program. The entire library and its programs are wonderful community assets and very necessary for the folks who live there. Please allow the city to continue to fund & manage the HB libraries to avoid any private companies cutting/eliminating opportunities to save money or promote an agenda that isn't in the public's interest. Thank you, Linda Ragsdale

From: [Margie Decker](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Re: Huntington Beach Libraries
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 5:31:14 PM

To the Huntington Beach Council

I don't see your rationale for turning the library into a private entity. Libraries are to be public for people of the city to check out books of their choice, to do research on various topics and to be able to have a quiet place to work on various projects. The libraries also offer reading support, ESL support, homework support and story time for young children.

The library belongs to all the residents not to select residents. To go private is an insult to the many people of Huntington Beach. Many people check out items in person or on line. Libraries are well used by the many residents of Huntington Beach.

I would like you to set your priorities straight and make Huntington Beach a city where each of the residents have the privilege of using what is public!

Margie Johnson
Jddid@socal.rr.com
714-801-5989
Sent from my iPhone

From: E Di Mario
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: RFP Huntington Beach Public Library System - 100% Against This Action
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 5:52:57 PM

Dear Huntington Beach City Council & City Council Leaders,

I am disappointed to hear about the RFP regarding the privatization of the city's library services & operations and strongly against such privatization of the Huntington Beach Library Operations! The Huntington Beach Library System, including the city's Central Library, are true assets to this community and services that I utilize regularly with my family and kids to learn & expand my knowledge. Changing over the operations to a private firm will diminish the level of services and operations that are currently outstanding in my opinion & will result in the loss of many experienced & highly educated librarians! The HB Library System is a great city asset funded by taxpayers, like you and myself, that should be invested in with the highest level of services and operations. Privatizing the operations will not enhance the level or services, nor maintain the current level of services offered by our great librarians and staff.

As a business operations expert, with 20+ years of experience in business operations, the promises or savings that will be provided in the RFP will not come without severe ramifications to the level of service currently in place. You do not outsource activities or assets that are the core of your business or city and what you represent, and I believe the HB Library System qualifies as the core business of a city such as Huntington Beach, as evidenced by our founders investing heavily in the construction of all the libraries, including Central Park library. We, the citizens of Huntington Beach, have a "5-star restaurant with award winning chefs" within the HB Library System, and you do not change the business to a fast-food style operations with minimum wage laborers & expect the same 5-star service. Operations is about maximizing the core value proposition of your business or city, and ensuring an efficient process 24/7 to your customers or citizens. You do not take shortcuts in business when it comes to operations (Apple and Nike are prime examples in business of this who manage their own operations with a high level of direct investment) - rather you continue to invest in the operations to maximize their value. Privatizing the operations of HB Library System is counter-intuitive to this business philosophy, and will only harm the city of Huntington Beach and its citizens.

Finally, I understand my voice and my vote are the only power I have in this discussion as a current citizen. Therefore, I will certainly be interested in how current city council members, and potentially future city council members, vote on this matter as a representative of citizens of HB. This will also be the basis of my voting decisions in future elections, including the upcoming November election. Therefore, if you want to "win my vote" and the vote of my fellow neighbors that I will work to keep informed, I urge you to consider the voice of the people of Huntington Beach, truly listen to the citizens of Huntington Beach, including during council meetings, and put aside any political agendas or personal bias on this matter!

Let's work together to get back to focusing on bringing more business to the great city of Huntington Beach and improving city services for the citizens of Huntington Beach!

Thank you,
E DiMario

From: [Gary Wilkinson](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 6:32:50 PM

I oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

'First they come for the books'.....

Oh well, from the classic playbook, lets look at the bright side, at least we'll get council members some face time on Fox & cohorts. Yeah!

Huntington Beach is the greatest place to live. People, business, our services and varied interests all work together to make our city safe, prosperous and beautiful.

Our distinguished council majority was fairly elected (without Voter ID - imagine that!) and they have chosen what they have chosen. We can't blame them for doing what they are doing, its not personal, just business as they say.

As a veteran of the US military and former employee of McDonnell-Douglas, I cherish each day here with the parks, the Central library, wonderful neighbors and the many volunteers that keep our city beautiful and vibrant. I wish each member or the council to work together as good neighbors do.

Blessings,
Gary Wilkinson

From: megumi_royer
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 6:59:29 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

To Whom It May Concern,

I oppose the privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library.

I prefer to invest in their growth, and celebrate their impact. I say no to privatization and yes to a thriving, inclusive, and publicly owned Huntington Beach Public Library.

Thank you,

Meg Royer

From: [Barbara Richardson](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: [SUSPICIOUS MESSAGE] Opposition to Item 24-197 Privatizing our library
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 7:44:32 PM

This Message contains suspicious characteristics and has originated outside your organization.

Honorable Mayor and Council Members

I want to be on record as being opposed to the privatization of our public library system. LS&S is the only company I know that privatizes public libraries throughout the United States. LS&S is known for its lack of transparency in how it spends the money given to them, and for its extremely high staff turnover. The LS&S salaries for its employees are very low.

Our city library staff would suffer substantial pay cuts from being laid off by the City and rehired by LS&S. Most, if not all, will seek jobs elsewhere if you privatize the library. They will no longer be paid the salary promised to them when they signed on to work for the city. When they leave, all that institutional information will be lost. Privatizing our public library is the ultimate betrayal to the city residents and is a terrible way to treat your employees who put their trust in you.

The LS&S library associate, what our city calls "library services assistant", make between \$16.00 to \$16.75 an hour. This is far less than what they are making with our city. Starting in April, CA fast food workers will be making \$20 an hour. Fast Food workers will be earning more than our library services assistants if the library is privatized. Our library storytellers who have been awarded as giving the best storytimes in Orange County for two years in a row, are library services assistants. How do you expect them to support themselves and their families on \$16.00 an hour?

I have spoken to the library volunteer groups. The majority have said they will quit if the library is privatized. They refuse to volunteer for a For Profit company. Can the city really afford to lose the library volunteers' support; this includes the used book sale volunteers and FOTL gift shop?

I worked as a city employee for 32 years and feel I retired just in time. It is horrible for me to see the hard-working library employees, many who I hired, face the uncertainty of not knowing how much of a budget cut they will face. You are going to lose so many of these dedicated staff members if you go ahead with your plan and hire LS&S to run the library.

The saddest thing for me was when I spoke to one of our used book sale volunteers who recently turned 86. She has been volunteering at the library for 20 years, almost every day. She had hoped to volunteer there until the end of her life. Now she says she can't because she refuses to volunteer for a For Profit company. She views her fellow volunteers and library staff members as family. She told me she bitterly regrets having voted for the four who are pushing this. She never thought it would come to this.

If you vote to privatize our public library, the residents who love the library will remember. They will vote accordingly when it is time for your re-election. They will also remember this November when the three candidates you endorse are running.

Just because you can do something, doesn't mean you should.

Barbara Richardson

51 year HB resident

1988-2010 HB Children's Librarian

2010-2020 HB Senior Children's Librarian

From: [Joseph Shapiro](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 8:09:30 PM

The library has been a bastion of learning. Please don't change what works well already. I Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

Sent from my iPhone

From: laurenlibas
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Do Not Privatize the Huntington Beach Public Library System
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 9:36:44 PM

Good evening,

I am not a Huntington Beach resident. But I have heard from a loved one on what is intended for the future of the Huntington Beach public library system. Privatization of a library system is not for the good of your city, it's to gain a profit. Your city's residents will fight tooth and nail to keep the library system public.

A public library is not just a home for books. That is not why people repeatedly go. They go for summer reading programs, chess clubs, a place to study, a place to increase their knowledge, homework help, and the ability to read any story for free. Once a library is privatized, I doubt the same services provided by dedicated and loyal public library employees will be provided by whoever the private company deems acceptable to run the library. I also am fairly confident that the number of people who make use of your public libraries will decrease to a small amount. Thus making the decision of privatization all for naught.

I've been to two libraries in your city before the ludicrous changes occurred to the library calendar and the restriction of access to books. They were wonderful as they were. I can guarantee if you ask 100 of your city's residents on if they're happy with the changes made, they will greatly disapprove of what has been done.

I challenge all of you to do this, spend a day in one of your public libraries. Observe each individual making use of these institutions and realize how much your citizens rely on these public libraries. Do not take their public libraries away.

-Lauren Libas

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

From: [Sydney George](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Item #24-197
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 9:48:12 PM

Dear City Council members,

I am a current resident of Huntington Beach and I am writing in reference to Item #24-197. I am a mom of two and we go to the library at least once a week. We love our library and our library staff. I oppose any efforts to privatize our library and make cuts to staff and programs. This is not where our city should try to cut corners. The librarians we currently have are amazing at what they do and we should show them how much we love and value them - not try to find the lowest cost option. The library is such a shining light in our community and the continued efforts to control it and change it are really disheartening.

Sydney Cook

From: [Reginald Chun](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197 oppose privatization of Library
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 9:50:02 PM

I Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library for three reasons:

1. Basic Public services are by definition not for profit, and libraries services which are “profitable” should be returning its savings back into library operations
2. the \$250,000 in volunteer hours and book donations wil evaporate and no one wants to contribute their money or time to a private for profit entity
3. Librarians are accredited and professional and they should be able to earn a livable wage and their experience should be compensated as they provide valuable community services to the young & old— therefore a for profit company who wants to make money will not adequately pay its workers if it affects its profit margin

No one in the community that uses the library will want any changes made to the library budget

You risk being voted out of office if you privatize a public function which is functioning well and has the support of everyone

Sincerely
R Chun
Lexington Ln
27 year HB voter

From: susan_hodge
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Proposed Library Privitation
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 9:58:31 PM
Attachments: [ALA privitation of libraries.docx](#)

Greetings to all concerned,

As past Literacy Volunteers HBPL Board President, and employee of Literacy Volunteers for 13 years, I vehemently oppose the idea of library privatization. It would be devastating to patrons, employees and programs, inflicting a negative and detrimental effect on those who have enjoyed the privilege of a free library for generations.

I have attached the ALA document regarding the privatization of public libraries and urge all to read it carefully if they haven't already done so.

Vote NO on the privatization of our library.

Susan Moehnke (formerly Hodge)

II. Major Issues in Library Privatization

Quality of library services: How will a private company maintain or increase the level of service to the community and still make a profit? Who will make the final decision about the addition, reduction, or elimination of services?

Loss of local community control: Community control of the library, its services, and expenditure of tax dollars is at risk. Decisions about library service, operations, and budget are transferred from the public sector to a private, for-profit company. Will a private company be receptive to community feedback about the library?

Governance: Will policy remain under local control? What is the role of the board of trustees? Will existing trustees continue to have whatever authority is given them in state law?

Loss of control of tax dollars: Public money will go to a business with little or no transparency and accountability. What is the company's profit margin, and how does this impact library service?

Intellectual freedom: Will the company adhere to local policies such as protection of user privacy, requiring a court order prior to reveal user information, a collection development policy, intellectual freedom, and the Library Bill of Rights? (See the Library Bill of Rights: <http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/intfreedom/librarybill/index.cfm>.)

Collection development: Library staff buys materials that reflect the needs of its local communities. In many privatized libraries, off-site staff at the company's headquarters selects materials. Will a provision for local input be part of the contract to ensure that local needs are being met?

Loss of community involvement with foundations, nonprofits, Friends groups: Will the library have difficulty receiving grants from private foundations or soliciting donations from private individuals because the library is now managed by a for-profit company and thus the contributions help a private company make a profit? Will Friends, foundations, and other bodies continue to raise funds for the local library if it is privatized? Will any percentage of funds raised go to the for-profit company? Is donated money under the control of the governing board or the for-profit company? If it is under the control of the for-profit company or management, is a Friends group's 501(c)3 status in jeopardy?

From: [Hotmail](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Fwd: Opposing to Privatization of HB Libraries
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 10:19:00 PM

Corrected email, my apologies!
Abby

Begin forwarded message:

From: Hotmail <abby_tapia@hotmail.com>
Date: March 16, 2024 at 10:06:02 PM PDT
To: SupplementalComm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: **Opposing to Privatization of HB Libraries**

To the Mayor and City Council Members:

I have been a resident of Huntington Beach for 34 years and I have enjoyed the library every stage of my life, being a kid, a teen and now an adult.

The libraries in HB are not just buildings, they are places of fun, opportunity, refuge and creativity!

The libraries are a place a fun, not only for kids but for teens and adults as well. It's a a fun place where a parent can bond with their child/children through story time, scavenger hunt, craft, event or even a walk through the library. The libraries are a space of opportunity. It offers the opportunity for people to learn English, get help for Citizenship classes, get their GED and continue their education. It gives parents the opportunity to help struggling kids get assistance with their homework. It gives our Veterans a resource center that allows them to receive the help they need. It gives people the chance to give back to their community by giving their time to help someone else in need!

The libraries are also a place of refuge! A refuge for people that have a roof over their heads, even if that only means for a few hours. Refuge to those that need a quiet place to study, prep for a test or simply get things done.

A safe place for kids or teens that prefer it rather than being out in the streets. HB Libraries are also a space for creativity! They have a Makerspace room that allows people to use their equipment and have endless ideas to create. They create fun events for the whole family, name the age, they got it!

The HB Libraries are more than just a place that offers books, it's a world of many possibilities!

These and many other programs offered will vanish if Privatization happened to our Libraries:

Preschool Storytime
Bilingual Storyime
Baby and Me Storytime
Toddler Storytime

Family Storytime
Rock and Roll Storytime
Veteran Resource Center
Toddler Craft Time
Big Kids Craft Time
Wise Owl Tween Book Club
Family Coloring Time
Fun with Friends
Crafters Corner
Creativity Corner
Craft Club
Read to a Dog
Literacy
Genealogy
English Classes
Citizenship Classes
Chess Club
Yarn and Conversation
Adult Book Clubs English/Spanish
Lego Kids Club
Dungeons and Dragons
Lotería Night
Homework Help
Seed Library
CA State Park Passes
Digital Resources

Our libraries are an accomplishment made possible by all people in HB.
I oppose to Privatization of our libraries.

Thank you!
Abby Tapia

From: [Carol Daus](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#); [Walker, Renee](#); [Parra, Eric \(CM\)](#)
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 10:33:54 PM

Dear City Council Members and Chief Parra,

As a long-time HBPL patron and volunteer, I am strongly opposed to privatization/outsourcing/private-public partnership--whatever you choose to call it--because our *lean* library is fully funded, is not in need of a financial overhaul, and is widely respected by HB residents and many other library lovers throughout Orange County.

LS&S, as a private, for-profit corporation, does not have to disclose profits, salaries of its executives, or financials. Yet we HB residents will be sending *our* taxpayer dollars to them! And any savings will not be returned to the local community, they'll be distributed among wealthy investors of the east-coast private equity firm that owns LS&S.

I'm sure Mike Posey provides slick sales presentations, but I've been in LS&S libraries and they're nothing like what we have at HBPL--one of the county's largest collections of library books, spanning a wide range of topics; a 950-volunteer Friends group that funds the library generously; a dedicated and hard-working staff of professional librarians who develop programs tailored to the needs of our community; and a wide range of programs, including the award-winning StoryTime for young children.

It would be a tragedy to turn our public library into a corporate-style library that resembles an underperforming Barnes & Noble store at best. Huntington Beach Public Library is admired throughout the county for its long & rich legacy and is truly the heart of the community. If you privatize, those of you who vote for this debacle will be known as the destroyers of our city's cultural crown jewel.

Sincerely,

Carol Daus
HB resident, 28 years

From: [Tony Daus](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#); renee.walker@surfcity-hb.org; [Parra, Eric \(CM\)](#)
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 8:33:43 AM

Dear City Council Members and Chief Parra,

I am very strongly opposed to privatization/outsourcing/private-public partnership. Our library is a treasured resource that provides a valuable resource to the community and should not be run by a for-profit organization.

People volunteer their time to help the library because of the non-profit status. There is a sense of pride and ownership. Who will want to volunteer for a private equity firm run by millionaires? Their goal is to maximize profits, not provide the best possible resource to the broadest group of users.

Let's not add one more divisive issue to a community that is already polarized. The library is valuable beyond the minor savings that would be realized by outsourcing this Huntington Beach treasure.

Sincerely,

Tony Daus
HB resident, 28 years

From: [Bob Banzett](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Opposed to Item 22 - library privatization - March 19 CC meeting
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 8:50:19 AM

I write to voice my strong objection to Item 22, privatization of the library.

Huntington Beach Public Library is nearly as old as the city itself. It was formed *by* citizens *for* citizens. Because of the wonderful building that our town built, the dedicated and expert staff, and the great corps of volunteers, HBPL has become a ‘magnet library’, attracting mainly citizens of Huntington Beach and their kids, but also people from surrounding towns and cities, and even visitors from afar. (I know, I’ve spoken with a lot of them.) Citizens of this town are proud of their library (again, I talk with them, and I’m one of them).

Now you want to privatize it. A bad idea. And please don’t respond to me that privatization is not privatization. When you put the operations of the library in the hands of a private corporation, the motive is profit. Sure, maybe you will save the City a little money by cutting staff salaries, reducing staff, and reducing book and media purchases. You want the city to pay less for library operations, and LS&S want their private equity investors to make money. That means the library gets squeezed.

Please abandon this bad idea.

Robert B Banzett PhD
HB Citizen

From: [Sharon Cohoon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 9:16:04 AM

The City of Huntington Beach is blessed with the most beautiful public library in the County. But that beauty goes beyond the handsome building and its fortunate location. Our library also has a beautiful staff. They are educated and trained specifically for their jobs and are dedicated to reading and readers. I visit the library weekly and see how well used it is. Our current library set up is serving its clients, us, admirably. Why would we even consider changing it? Has the Council even investigated whether the citizens of the cities of Simi Valley, Escondido and Palmdale think their libraries have improved since they have become privatized. I suspect you haven't, and I suspect they don't think so. Not everything is about cost savings. I don't hear anyone suggesting we privatize our police or fire department services. I believe our public library is an equally important service and deserves the same treatment. PLEASE DON'T MESS WITH OUR LIBRARY.

From: [Nancy Curtis](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: Items 22 & 24
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 9:45:07 AM

City Council Members,

I oppose agenda items 22 and 24.

On 3/19/2023 you will be addressing two agenda items regarding privatizing the HB Library system. I understand that the Council states it is not privatizing the Library it is just privatizing the management. To approve these items I would like the council to respond to a few questions.

Do you agree this would be a privatized library within the shell of our Public Library building?
Do the Friends of HB Public Library with their 900 members and hundreds of thousands of dollars of donations and thousands of hours of volunteer hours carry any weight in your decision to privatize our Library services?
Does the Council believe that it represents the diversity of the citizens of HB?

A private company could end up controlled by a very few people depending on how the contract is put together by the city council.
How will the citizens of HB be able to continue to influence the services provided by their library once the management is privatized?

Nancy Curtis
HB resident

From: [Mark Dixon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Privatization of the City's Library
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 10:36:03 AM

Dear members of the Huntington Beach City Council,

This is to register my strong objection to the privatization of our library. It has functioned very well, and continues to function very well as a city-owned facility since it was first formed in 1910.

Privatization, turning the operation of the library into a for-profit enterprise, is against everything our culture stands for.

Serve the citizens, not the businesspeople.

Sincerely,

Mark Dixon
SEHB resident

From: [Sue Welfringer](mailto:Sue.Welfringer@surfcity-hb.org)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: STRONGLY OPPOSE ITEM 24-197
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 10:39:06 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

March 17, 2024

Attn: Mayor Van Der Mark, Mayor Pro Tem Pat Burns, and HB Council Members:

RE: STRONGLY OBJECT TO ITEM 24-197

I do not believe for a minute that a for-profit corporation can save us a million dollars, while earning its desired profit without cutting the high quality of services and programs our current staff (and dedicated support volunteer groups) provides. If you were ever a library patron or volunteer, you would understand our objections better. Gracey straight up told me she never brought her kids to the library because she had all the books she needed at home. Nice. You neither use nor support the library but you think you know what's best for those of us who do.

When the agenda was posted, I visited the campaign websites of four council members to see how I could have voted so badly. I looked closely at your platforms. **NEVER in your campaigns were you transparent in your intention to:**

- Privatize our award-winning library.
- Upend the professional library system by creating a political committee designed to Remove / Restrict / Relocate books according to personal choices.
- Tell our community we will not celebrate pride month (and others like Black American History and Women's History, until you back-pedaled, again.)
- Replace the longstanding, respected statement of human dignity.
- Rather than protect our charter, put forth items to change our city charter, regarding elections, 2-year budget, and flags on public property.

Had you been transparent, I (and many others) would have voted differently. I suggest you revisit your campaign messages and make a choice: Either be true to your campaign promises or update your websites to reflect the truth of your intentions to follow your own **political agendas** instead of taking care of the priorities that were once important to you – so you say- and remain important to the citizens and businesses in Huntington Beach.

- Such as:
 - Gracey's promise to "Solve the Homelessness Crisis."
 - When was a homelessness solution item last on a meeting agenda?
 - Pat's priority of council integrity and transparency?
 - Where does privatizing the library (let alone the changing the human dignity statement) reflect integrity and transparency?
 - Tony's simple statement that homelessness, crime, overdevelopment were issues that threaten to forever change Huntington Beach.
 - Have you changed your priorities today, Tony, and now believe that our public library is a threat?

- Casey's promise to ensure residents have a seat at the table so their **voices are heard**.
 - This council eliminated long-standing citizen boards and barely includes the other three council members to participate with existing advisory groups. And worst of all, the council majority continually disregards hundreds of pleas from actual library patrons and supporters to PLEASE LEAVE OUR LIBRARY AND LIBRARIANS ALONE. Our voices are clearly NOT heard. Casey, I expected more from you. I don't see "fixing our award-winning public library" on your campaign list of critical concerns.

I implore you to HEAR the voices of our community. Do not approve this action to privatize the library. The idea has WRONG written all over it. And it's not a good look -for you politically, or for our city, in general.

Sincerely,

Sue Welfringer

27 year resident and volunteer

Current: Teacher / Mentor Fusion Academy HB

Current Member Friends of the Library & 20+ year member volunteer with the Friends of the Children's Library / Former Taste of HB Chair / Writing & Illustrating Contest for Kids Pre-T/High School

Current Member – Golden West College Patrons

Former: Sales Manager Waterfront Beach Resort, a Hilton Hotel

Former: Manager, HB Downtown Business Improvement District

Additional HB volunteerism included board member of Promotion Resources in Drug Education (Every 15 Minutes) HB Chamber of Commerce, Sand Dollars/Miss HB, PTA/PTOs, Girl Scouts, PCH CleanUp with Visit HB - to name a few.

PS: For your reference, in case you haven't looked at your campaign platforms in a while here is what I found on your websites:

Gracey VanDerMark Campaign Priorities

My city council priorities will be:

- Protect the City Charter
- Small Business Advocate
- Public Safety
- Solve the Homelessness Crisis
- Control the Budget with No New Taxes

- Stop High Density Development

PAT BURNS CAMPAIGN PRIORITIES COUNCIL INTEGRITY & TRANSPARENCY

The residents and businesses of Huntington Beach need an open and transparent city council that works for the people and businesses of Huntington Beach, NOT Sacramento.

The current city council majority has eroded transparency with "secret" ad hoc committees and meetings to:

- Purchase a "homeless hotel" without proper open and public input.
- City council votes automatically enrolled every residence and business into a so-called "green" power company (OCPA) that provides the same service as Southern California Edison but at a higher cost to rate payers.
- Joint Powers Agreements and Bonds were passed to purchase low income housing and circumventing the voters for approval.
- An unjustifiable attempt was made to acquire the Bolsa Chica Wetlands for what? perhaps more high density development???
- City owned oil pumps were turned off and reduced much needed city income.
- The council majority is seeking to dismantle the City Charter (our Constitution) as a back-door to removing or diminishing the effectiveness of our Elected City Attorney.

I will fight to return control to the citizens and businesses of Huntington Beach.

I am running for City Council today because for too long the answers from City Hall have been too small.

Homelessness. Crime. Overdevelopment. Issues like these threaten to forever change Huntington Beach. And they're happening because the City hasn't been getting the job done.

Huntington Beach is better than this. What we need are leaders who will actually find answers for Surf City.

If you agree, I hope you'll join me.

C a s e y M c K e o n ' s W e b s i t e

C R I T I C A L I S S U E S

Local Control

Let's fight to preserve HB's Local Control as a Charter City which grants us Constitutional rights that protect us from Sacramento's overreach and forced High Density Housing mandates. We know what's right for our City, what issues we face. It is up to us to decide how we fix our problems, not a one size fits all directive from Sacramento. Let's maintain that the City is locally run by H.B. residents that are invested in the well being of the

community, not outside special interest groups. I will fight to protect Huntington Beach from irresponsible development to ensure our City remains a suburban beach community that protects our open spaces. I am uniquely qualified to tackle and defend this issue as a retail shopping center renovator.

Local Economy

Our City took a major revenue hit from the pandemic with businesses being shut down, so I will focus on reviving our economy, bringing back tourism dollars, hotel reservation fees and giving our small businesses the resources they need to thrive. I strongly support small business, as evidenced by my family's butcher shop, The Beef Palace, which has been an iconic business of Huntington Beach since 1970. Alongside several small business owners, we have created the Small Business Alliance of Huntington Beach that focuses on ensuring our small business owners are united and have the support they need from the City to allow them to be successful.

Public Safety-Transparency

Being a resident of Southeast Huntington, I know we have a lot of big issues: Ascon, AES Power Plant, Tank Farms, Poseidon and homelessness. It has been awhile since someone from Southeast Huntington has had a seat on the City Council. It is important that we have a voice to ensure these issues remain in focus. Let's also coordinate to have the City, Community and our Churches work together to tackle the root problem of our Homelessness Crisis instead of just throwing money at the problem.

The current level of Transparency between our Local Government and the residents is unacceptable. Now is the time to involve the residents in their local government to ensure they have a seat at the table so their voices are heard and their solutions to solving our problems are taken into account. All government activities need to be out in the open and not done in Closed Session through Ad Hoc Committees. Local government works for the

residents and tax payers so our Elected officials need to listen to their constituent's concerns.

I pledge to be accessible to all of our residents. Anything less is unacceptable. Please support me with your vote so that I can be your conduit and voice on the Huntington Beach City Council.

When I look at these campaign platforms, it looks to me that you misrepresented your true intentions. And I feel duped.

From: [Francine Karuntzos](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Huntington Beach Library
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 10:45:00 AM

City Council:

Keep your hands off of "our" library! Every time a hedge fund gets involved we know that they are the ones who are going to strip the resource and make money off of it and "our" library will suffer for it! "Our" library is the crown jewel of Huntington Beach and our children should always have a place to go to get books, especially children who may not have the funds to buy them on their own. This is also a great resource for the seniors of our city who have paid into the taxes of this city over the years and deserve to keep the wonderful staff who take time to answer questions and maybe socialize for that person's only contact for the day. Huntington Beach library is one of our best assets in Huntington Beach.

Francine Karuntzos

From: [Kristina Mahan](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Council meeting
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 11:10:52 AM

Dear city council,

I am a long time HB resident. Leave our libraries alone! I do not support the proposed changes just as I did not support the unnecessary parent review board.

I can offer an agenda item that will actually help our community. How about you address the horrible and dangerous traffic conditions in front of HBHS (and I'm assuming our other schools as well) at the morning drop-off time? Get rid of the huge grass median and add a protected lane for cyclists and a lane for parents dropping off. All the e-bikes and bicycles navigating between parents pulling over and pulling out is so dangerous! Also time the signals better so people turning left from Yorktown on to Main don't get stuck for 20 minutes because there's never a break in the cars. We can seriously do better.

Thank you,
Kristina Mahan

From: [Holly Luevano](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Cc: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: No On Library Privatization
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 11:42:53 AM

Dear City Council Members:

I am a 16-year resident of Huntington Beach. Though raised in Fountain Valley, I was also born in Huntington Beach. I have two young children and we love the Huntington Beach Public Library, and are appreciative of the services provided by our librarians, library staff and volunteers. I am appalled by the recent actions of the city council to remove books from the children's section and am deeply concerned about the potential privatization of our invaluable library system. Any modest amount of savings would be in no way worth the harmful repercussions of privatizing a great library system.

Please DO NOT ruin our wonderful libraries. NO ON PRIVATIZATION.

Holly Luevano
92647

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Katie Estes](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: OPPOSE privatization of PUBLIC library
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 12:01:44 PM

Dear HB city council members,

I vehemently OPPOSE the privatization of our PUBLIC libraries. It is one of the first public institutions in our nation founded by Benjamin Franklin. There is absolutely no reason to privatize, and it is opposed by every organization involved in library science and institution of higher learning in our country. Keep your conservative politics out of PUBLIC institutions in our city.

I also continue to oppose the completely unscientific, biased, racist, and homophobic censoring of books in our library by a 'committee' that has not been identified, that does not have a publicly available rule book by which to choose 'inappropriate' books. I should be able to decide what is appropriate for myself and my children, not some random person chosen in a way that hasn't been disclosed, using criteria that are not publicly available.

I can't wait to vote out certain members of this city council as soon as possible and can only hope we can restore a shred of decency to this city.

Kathleen Estes, PhD
HB resident

From: [Kim Cruz](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Library services
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 12:15:38 PM

I am HB resident . I do not want library privatization and I do not want a parent review board .
Kim Cruz
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Allison Sweetland](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Opposition to Managed Library Services
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 12:33:41 PM

I strongly oppose managed library services, administrative item 22, and item 22-197.

Our community relies so heavily on this library as it is. It's one of the most important draws to Huntington Beach as a city as well.

Not only is it important to have access to the variety of books HBPL has, but the Huntington Beach Citizens the city employs are all so necessary. They build the community more so than anyone else.

Please consider abandoning these items and keep the library the vibrant community beacon it has been for decades.

Thanks,
-Allison Sweetland
allisonmsweetland@gmail.com

From: ddsorge@cs.com
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 12:52:24 PM

Honorable Ciy Council,

Lets not forget the fundamental nature of this marvelous asset, it is a 'public' library, created for the enjoyment of all. It is not a slanted facility managed by entitled privateers. Will the next gambit sell this public treasure? Our precious library aligns with the time honored 1731 tradition of sage Benjamin Franklin, and the uniquely unbiased norms held by libraries nation wide & globally. Do not bastardize this precious jewel of the people. And i highly praise the excellent work of our librarians & their commitment to fine public service. Vote no, categorically no.

David Sorge

From: [Marilyn Konowal](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 1:39:05 PM

As a fifty year Huntington Beach resident and property owner and lifelong user of public libraries, I strongly oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library.

Marilyn Konowal
Masters in Library Science and Informational Services
17752 Carranza Lane Huntington Beach, CA 92647

From: [cathy werblin](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: Public Comment-library
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 1:44:14 PM

To Huntington Beach City Council members, city attorney and acting city manager,

As a resident of Huntington Beach for more than 31 years, I am writing to vehemently oppose privatization of the of the Huntington Beach Public Library as outlined in agenda item 24-197 for the March 19 meeting. My husband and I raised our two children in HB and one of the factors that made us decide to move to the city was its magnificent public library. We have used the facility countless times over the years; we have used reference books, checked out books for pleasure, attended productions in the theater and participated in many other programs. We have always felt proud of our library and were always happy to know that our tax dollars were going to support such a wonderful institution.

Now, the council is for some reason considering privatizing a vibrant and well run and managed institution for no discernable reason. I have to assume the attempt to move the library out of the hands of professional librarians is somehow connected to your attempts to limit books available to the public. As with the efforts to restrict books available in the library, your attempts to re-imagine library cards, and your bid to establish an enormous panel of non-professional over-seers of library books, the attempt to privatize the library is another way for the council to influence and curb what every member of the Huntington Beach public can read. It is not your job as an elected official to monitor my reading, it is your job to run the city and keep it safe.

We can debate our philosophies on public libraries at some other time, but for now I object to any governmental overreach into the operation of our tax-supported system and urge you to abandon this approach.

Cathy Werblin

From: [Suzanne Lawrence](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Possible Privatization of our Library Meeting 3/19/2024
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 2:01:10 PM

I am against privatizing our library. I have been living in HB and using this library for decades. I borrow lots of fiction, mysteries, thrillers and action hardbacks. We are fortunate that we can borrow at no cost to us. The library is kept in good condition with friendly staff, activities and book sales. We all will eventually be reading from tablets so let's enjoy what we have as long as we can before that hammer falls. If a fee from us can help, I can support that. My only complaint is the water feature outside. If it is too expensive to fix, fill it with dirt and plant lots of flowers, bushes and small trees. Maybe put some benches out on artificial grass. Thank you for your attention.

Suzanne Lawrence, Library Patron and Against Privatization of our Library

From: [MARILYN Boehm](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: OPPOSITION to 24-197
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 2:14:56 PM

I cannot more strongly oppose this proposal to contract out our libraries to private entities. What are these four right wing City Council members up to? It is clear that there's a closely hidden agenda which will most likely damage, if not destroy, our award-winning libraries. First, Mayor Van Der Mark voiced her outrage about allegedly inappropriate books in the Children's Library section that might have included sexualized material. Seriously? Animated characters wearing swimsuits and jumping into swimming pools? Potty training toddlers?

All of these measures began during Pride Month, when the library displayed several books that might be helpful to the LGBTQ community. She read aloud from some of these books, which, in actuality, were in the TEEN section of the library. This also led to the CC removing the Pride flag for ONE MONTH outside City Hall.

A move to privatize our libraries has gone too far. I will NOT stand by while this out-of-control Council wrecks our library system. Vote NO on 24-197.

Marilyn Boehm, HB

resident for 25 years.

From: [Theresa Rylski](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 7:51:36 AM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

Terry Rylski
Coldwell Banker Campbell Realtors
714 343-6371
terryrylski@gmail.com
Trhb1@outlook.com

From: [Marcus Ayala](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Opposition to Managed Library Services
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 2:25:32 PM

My name is Marcus Ayala. I am a resident of Huntington Beach. I strongly opposed managed library services, admin item 22, and Item 24-197.

From: [Darrel Cohoon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Don't privatize the Library!
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 3:01:28 PM

Huntington Beach and Palmdale as sister cities? Please.

From: adapter05.coevals@icloud.com
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Privatization of the Huntington Central Library
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 3:25:11 PM

To All City Council Members,

I strongly oppose the notion of the privatization of the Huntington Beach Central Library and any others in the city. Doing so would be disastrous on several levels including your seat on the board.

If any of you vote in favor of this nonsense, I and numerous other citizens of the area will make sure you will never get re-elected to the city council again.

Shame on all of you for even considering this.

I know you will make the right decision this Tuesday and vote against this proposal.

Thank you for your time and have a good week.

Sincerely,
A Huntington Beach Central Library Patron

From: [Lou Ann Hobbs](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Request for Proposal to outsource the Huntington Beach Public Library (Agenda Item 24-197)
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 3:25:23 PM

Dear members of the Huntington Beach City Council,
This is to register my strong objection to the privatization of our library.

The focus is on serving the citizens with excellent Reference service, well-selected materials which reflect the interests of citizens, and a wide range of programs.

To turn a thriving City tax-payer paid for institution which is running quite well into a for-profit enterprise is certainly NOT in the best interests of those you represent.

Sincerely yours, Lou Ann Hobbs. HB Resident since 1979

From: [Cathy Thomson](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 3:34:17 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

Sent from my iPad

From: [Erin Anderson](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Library
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 3:34:40 PM

To City Council,

I oppose the privatization of the library for innumerable reasons, ranging from private equity has no business in civic service to ensuring Huntington Beach's award winning library is preserved.

I oppose the creation of a board to vet library books. The librarians are trained and educated on collecting books for years. Imposing "community standards" in place of constitutional rights, not to mention the Right to Read in our own city code, is ludicrous and insulting.

I have no doubt the majority will steam forward with their plans despite public opposition. Their actions are bankrupting our city, as well as further dividing our citizens. They shame city hall with their culture war antics instead of doing the real work of governing.

Sincerely,
Erin Spivey
Huntington Beach resident
Sent from my iphone, please excuse any typos

From: [psyberbee](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 3:45:14 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

From: [Lisa Burford](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Re: privatization of HB library
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 4:30:07 PM

Please keep our library publicly run. I'm a resident since 1966. It saddens me to see the negative changes happening to our library and our community.
No privatization. Lisa Burford
Sent from Lisa's iPhone

From: [Sean Stowell](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Library Privatization
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 4:53:18 PM

City Council,

I will keep this short. Do not privatize our library.

Please focus on things that matter, like fixing the upcoming budget deficit (I'm sure you'll use privatization as something that will help that), making sure our streets are free from pot holes and dealing with the homeless situation. Wait, wasn't that supposed to have been taken care of in the first 90 days of the new majority's time in office?

Sean Stowell
40-plus year HB resident

From: [Cecily Gates](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: DO NOT PRIVATIZE OUT PUBLIC LIBRARY
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 4:56:27 PM

Council members,

Again I find it necessary to email the council on agenda items that will hurt our city's future to save a buck. Our public library is our city's jewel. On my walk this morning I commented what a beautiful building it is. Too bad the fountains have not been a priority to fix or even address.

Regardless. Do not put our library in the hands of a private firm that's only reason to exist is to make money and cut corners. DO NOT PRIVATIZE THE CITY LIBRARY.

The council majority is making lasting changes that ultimately will hurt our city. Shame.

And stop the runaway on the sand, what a horrible look HB. We should have more respect for our environment and beach surroundings. We need to take care of it.

Please stop.

Recall recall recall.

Thank you.

Cecily Gates

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Linda Mott](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Huntington Beach Library
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 5:01:04 PM

I am writing to voice my adamant opposition to the proposal for the privatization of the Huntington Beach Library.

I moved to Huntington Beach with my parents in 1964. I attended both Huntington Beach and Marina high schools. I met my husband at Golden West College. The Huntington Beach Library was a resource I used throughout my educational journey. My daughter and son used the library as a resource while attending and graduating from Marina High School.

Jack and Marty Green were the parents of our dear friends.. Jack Green was elected to the HB City Council in 1966 and served for eight years including Mayor in 1969. His wife, Marty, became Assistant Director and Technical Manager of the HB Central Library in the mid 70's. Both Jack and Marty were champions of the HB Central Library and Central Park.

The Huntington Beach public library has been a source of pride to the citizens of this city since 1909, The library is a safe place for all Huntington Beach citizens to visit and explore without judgment or restriction. Privatization will limit access to the community by restricting public access and give power and oversight to a private group with conservative ideologies and political agendas.

Please do not move forward on this proposal.

From: edward_murphy
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Please
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 5:06:20 PM

Please keep our libraries public. As 50 year residents and homeowners in HB we are solidly against making our libraries a private money making operation. Nobody on our 10 house street wants the proposed library change

Ed & Betty Murphy

Sent from my iPad

From: [Pam B](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Agenda item 24-197
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 5:15:50 PM

Honorable City Council,

I write in opposition to agenda item 24-197, Request authorization to issue a Request for Proposals for Managed Library Services for the Huntington Beach Public Library system.

Since 1909, the Huntington Beach Public Library System has been our crown jewel. Libraries are not just about the books. We could easily replace the transactional part of libraries with corporations, but we'd be left with a place where you come in, get your books, pay, and leave. You'd lose the opportunity to get help with homework, trade quilt patterns, check out seeds, or meet people who are eager to recommend their favorite reads. And that's just the surface of what libraries do, especially in a time when most other social services have been slashed. In many regards, libraries have become "second responders."

Public libraries instill a sense of community pride; corporate libraries do not. Our Librarians are highly educated and extremely dedicated to their profession; corporate employees might not have these attributes, showing fealty only to their for-profit employer. Additionally, studies show that privatizing libraries costs more money, strips away local control, and denies the extensive selection of books and reference materials to which we have become accustomed and deserve.

Please do not turn these essential services over to Wall Street. Please keep our public library PUBLIC.

Pamela Beard, resident since 1960
8447 Leeward Dr
Huntington Beach, CA 92646
714.536.5181

From: [Debbi Campana](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: HBPL Retain Public Management
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 5:19:40 PM

Dear HB City Council:

I am against the RFP for privatization of our Huntington Beach Public Library system. I do not want a corporate interest managing this important public resource. Currently our library enjoys the benefits of many volunteers giving huge time and financial support. The HB Friends of the Library and HB Friends of the Children's Library are critical to library operations. Many will withdraw their support if library operations are privatized: I know I will.

A few questions need to be addressed:

1. How will library operations be impacted? Some areas of concern: staffing levels, library hours, library services, and branch libraries (closures or restricted hours)..
2. How will the library cover the potential loss of volunteers funding and hours?
These areas all depend on volunteers: Literacy center, Makerspace, English language tutoring, homework club, family literacy program, genealogy center, Veterans center, children story hours, circulation, shelving, etc.
3. How will new books be acquired and reviewed?
4. Will librarians be on site or regional?
5. How much will actually be saved without reducing locations, hours, and services?

Please keep our libraries public.

Thank you,

Deborah Campana

HB Resident and library patron since 1997

From: [Lorraine Gayer](mailto:Lorraine.Gayer@surfcity-hb.org)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](mailto:CITY.COUNCIL@surfcity-hb.org); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; AshleyWysocki@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Objection to Agenda Item #24-197 (March 19, 2024 Huntington Beach City Council Meeting)
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 5:30:37 PM

To: Members of The Huntington Beach City Council
city.council@surfcity-hb.org
SupplementalComm@surfcity-hb.org
Director of Community Library Services AshleyWysocki@surfcity-hb.org

From: Lorraine Gayer
16682 Lovell Lane
Huntington Beach, CA 92647
714.846.3963
lgayer@msn.com

March 14, 2024

RE: Agenda Item #24-197 Administrative Agenda, March 19, 2024
Council Meeting.

I have lived in and voted in and cared about Huntington Beach since 1970.

A constant in my life here has been access to the city's world-class public library system.

I am alarmed to learn that the Huntington Beach City Council is considering the privatization of our library and urge you to reject proposals toward that end.

Our library system works as it is currently structured. It is trusted and beloved by the community. The operation of our library system should not be shifted from local control to management by a faceless for-profit corporation nor should it be exposed to possible cost-cutting measures (to ensure a corporation's profit) that threaten to diminish the library services we have long enjoyed in Huntington Beach.

As you must know, our library is the crown jewel in the city's infrastructure—more valued and trusted than any other city institution including the City Council. Our city librarians are valued and respected members of the extended Huntington Beach “family”—a term that characterizes the strong bond this community has with its city government and its employees. Library services here are far more than the sum of the book collection. From the variety of enrichment services provided for children and adolescents to the adult services like the literacy program, the e-book programs, and the veterans resource center programs, the offerings at our library are rich and extensive and important.

Our library should be controlled locally. Decisions about our library's collection should be made locally by professionals trained to meet the needs and interests of our community and trained to honor the free expression guarantees we enjoy under the Constitution and Bill of Rights. To this end, staffing decisions also should be made locally, not by a faceless corporation, which, in the case of the corporation Library Services and Systems, is on record for denigrating librarians and hallowing out the ranks of experienced staff in libraries they manage. The residents of Huntington Beach deserve better.

The members of the Huntington Beach City Council were, to a person, elected on promises to protect the interests of our city and its residents and to enhance the local control of our city. Tampering with the operation of a beloved and important institution like the Huntington Beach Public Library betrays that pledge.

From: [James Taylor](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Library Outsourcing
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 5:39:25 PM

Agenda item 22 on your March 19 meeting agenda would “authorize staff to issue a Request for Proposals for Managed Library Services for the Huntington Beach Public Library system and return to City Council with an agreement for consideration.”

We have been very happy with the HB library and use it every week. We find the staff to be very courteous and helpful, and believe the library to be one of Huntington Beach’s finest services. Allowing a private, profit-oriented organization to upset this situation would be very concerning to us.

I believe that the company being considered for this outsourcing is Library Systems and Services (LS&S), which (at least as of 2021) is owned by Islington Capital Partners, a private equity firm, whose stated goal is to “...invest in lower middle-market companies that can become significantly more valuable during their ownership.” This is to be expected of private equity companies like Islington, whose purpose is to buy companies, cut costs, and sell them at a profit to benefit their high-income investors. As privately-held companies, they do not publicly disclose their profits. Based on what has happened in Escondido, they achieve their objectives by cutting staff benefits, replacing some staff and focusing on best selling books only, thereby narrowing the focus of the library collection. Savings then accrue mostly to the benefit of the private equity owners, not the City.

I hope that any dealings, if any, with this company be totally transparent with the citizens of HB (unlike the recent very suspicious air show settlement), and that no one on the City Council, the City Attorney, or any of their friends and supporters benefit from any deal that is made.

Given the satisfaction that we, and (I believe) most HB citizens have with the current library operations, I strongly recommend that we don’t “fix” something that isn’t broken, and let the library continue its excellent operation.

Jim and Pam Taylor

From: [Jill Bauer](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Administrative Item 22 Item 24-197
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 5:51:23 PM

Dear City Council,

I have been a resident of the City of Huntington Beach since moving to California in 2015. Throughout that time one of the aspects of the community that I most enjoy is the Huntington Beach Public Library. I use the library regularly and think it is a well run and effective public library.

I strongly oppose managed library services for the Huntington Beach Public Library system (Administrative Item 22, Item 24-197). Public libraries are a quintessential American value. Please do not take this away from our community.

Thank you,
Jill Bauer

From: [Kathy Dowling](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 5:53:01 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library !

Another Power Grab that has not been sufficiently researched. I believe you get up on a daily basis and ask, how can we irritate the Residents today?

Any project affiliated with Mr. Posey is a hard no!

Keep doing these inane projects and you will be recalled.

It really is one farce after another.

Why not address:

1. Having a Full Time City Manager with experience (You need this input)
2. Listening to your Citizens not just the MAGA crowd
3. Addressing your loss on Charter Amendment C
4. Refurbish our Beach Restrooms
5. Stop trying to climb the Republican Ladder and focus on our issues

Katherine Dowling

From: [Tamia Paulino](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: HB Library Patron - Opposing Administrative Item 22 and Item 24-197
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 5:58:45 PM

Greetings to whoever it may concern,

My name is Tamia Paulino, and I am an involved patron of the Huntington Beach Public Library system's Central branch. I have been volunteering with the branch for three years and counting, and with the recent news of the next HB City Council meeting's agenda, I am emailing to express my strong opposition to administrative item 22, item 24-197, and managed library services.

The HB library has provided priceless and immeasurably important services to the public, and two of which I was involved in were the library's Summer Reading Program, and the Makerspace. Both programs provided creative outlets and community engagement opportunities for both younger and older patrons, alongside being exclusively managed by the irreplaceable library staff. With the approval of admin item 22 and item 24-197, it would permanently alter the management and continuation of such resources by cutting numbers of staff able to manage and work within these spaces, and also prevent the opportunity for collaboration that only helps these programs thrive.

This past summer, the 2023 Summer Reading Program collaborated with drink franchise 7Leaves and restaurant Wingstop to provide greater incentive for participation through vouchers earned by participation. This undoubtedly brought much more excitement towards the program, and increased patronage during the summer months, thanks to the opportunity of collaboration and companies working together with the branch to promote reading, as well as the library itself, and its brand.

Alongside this, the Makerspace is a vibrant and glowing space where patrons and employees alike gather to connect through the art of creation, and the ways in which the Makerspace promotes just this. The main way in which the Makerspace operates is through connecting to patrons, and outside businesses who donate materials and machinery to the space to continue the free-to-use space. Without this opportunity for outside collaboration, the Makerspace will essentially die out as patrons who may not want to invest greatly in a new skillset will be turned away from using the space, as they will be forced to bring their own materials, which can become very costly depending on the machine. The Makerspace is an environment like no other, that has promoted creativity and formed a sense of belonging for the patrons involved, and to take this away from the HB library community would be cruel.

Once again, I would like to reiterate my strong opposition to administrative item 22, item 24-197, and managed library services. Keeping a public library public and free for all is the cornerstone for strong, healthy, and educated communities who are able to access key informational resources and educate themselves through the libraries.

Thank you,
Tamia Paulino

From: [Sandra Scott](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: HB Library
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 6:04:32 PM

To the HB City Council,

As long time citizens of Huntington Beach, our family is opposed to privatizing the HB public library. Private businesses are generally focused on one thing; making money. That should not be the main objective for our city library. It concerns us that a private business that does not have our interests in mind could easily take away our choice as to what we read. In addition, a private business may choose to only offer books and other materials that support their beliefs and views; not those of all HB citizens. Please do not consider eliminating the rights and beliefs of all HB residents.

Thank you.
The Scotts

From: [Wally Medal](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 6:15:59 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library!
Michelle Medal

Sent from my iPad

From: [Nancy Garafalo](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 6:42:57 PM

I am a resident of Huntington Beach who opposes the privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library. The library as it currently runs and is staffed is a gem that provides needed resources for reading, especially for children. It is also an important cultural center and an icon for Huntington Beach.

I would be unhappy to see a private company eliminating the services we have now so that they can provide income to their investors from our taxes.

The Library accounts for only 2% of the general fund budget so if the council needs to cut costs, it should be in other areas.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Michele Burgess](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Comment for March 19, 2024, City Council Meeting
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 6:48:29 PM

To the City Council and City Attorney:

Here we go again. In the wake of Measures A and B passing, the Council majority and City Attorney are once more claiming to have a definitive mandate, and in the process are making local, national, and international news for all the wrong reasons.

Do the math. YOU DO NOT HAVE A MANDATE. A total of 132,435 ballots were mailed to HB voters. As of March 15, Yes on A received 32,477, or 24.5% of the registered voters in this city. Yes on B received 34,775, or 26.25%. The real winner is voter apathy. If you had not wasted nearly half a million taxpayer dollars putting these controversial measures on the primary ballot, turnout would have been much higher in November and the vote could very well have been much different.

Now you're attacking the library again. Not enough that you're wasting librarians' time and taxpayer dollars removing children's and teens' books from the shelves, but you're considering issuing a RFP to have the library run by a private company "to save money." Where was that concern when you spent so much on ABC? Our award-winning library has been very well run for decades, we don't need ultra-conservative politicians messing it up. Stop looking for solutions to problems that don't exist.

Then we have the hand-picked parental review committee, with no appeals for rejected books. What is this obsession with other people's personal sex lives and body parts? A photo of industrious Gracey shows her at a large desk, surrounded by piles of children's books, their pages marked with numerous Post-Its indicating words, pictures, and subject matter that offend her delicate sensibilities. However, she has no qualms about enlarging those pages to poster size and displaying them in the City Council lobby for any and all to see, or showing them on the CC meeting public video. Might that be offensive to people of any age who don't want to see them and wouldn't be checking out those books at the library?

Moser calls for transparency on censoring and moving library books, Strickland and Van Der Mark say transparency will be implemented as the policies are implemented. Left unsaid: In the meantime, opaque is the way to go. When questioned about

the use of the wikipedia definition of obscenity, Burns asks, "Can't we just rely on the expertise of librarians?" well yes, we can, and that's what we've been doing since before you all were born. Gates emphatically declares the process legal, even though it appears not to be, according to what Moser read from the City Code. Perhaps we need a second opinion from an unbiased attorney. Or perhaps the ACLU would like to weigh in on this matter.

The platform you were elected on has been completely ignored as you cater to a narrow group of MAGA and evangelical voters. Basically, you lied about what you intended to do. Gracey whines to reporters, "we're living in a state that's not welcoming to us; conservative values are not really welcomed. We just want a safe space for people who share our values." Unfortunately, that is intended to always be at the expense of others. If you want to ban books, move to Florida, you'll be ok there. If you want to hate on immigrants, move to Texas. If you're a homophobe, move to Saudi Arabia where someone can be stoned to death for being gay. Just leave the rest of us alone to enjoy our lives in what used to be a beautiful, peaceful beach city. Good luck attracting tourists or conventions with all the hate, lunacy, and performative nonsense being widely publicized. I smell recall in the air. Hopefully, the toxic clown show will be canceled and the circus will leave town - the sooner the better.

Michele Burgess
HB resident since 1961
(when only the Main Street library existed)

From: [Steven Nadolny](mailto:Steven.Nadolny@surfcity-hb.org)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Please don't privatize our libraries!
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 7:13:58 PM

Dear City Council,

I have 19 years of experience as cataloger and library technician. The company you're considering has a horrible reputation for preserving access and libraries. Democracy only survives with a literate public. People will also remember how you vote.

Thank you for listening,

Steven

Steven Nadolny
720 April Dr., HB, CA 92648
714-536-5172

From: [Anna Martirosyan](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: No Privatization at Huntington Beach Public Library
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 7:44:25 PM

Dear Huntington Beach City Council:

I STRONGLY oppose:

Item 22-Managed Library Services

Item 24- Parent Review Board for Children's Library

Please do not attempt to change the Huntington Beach Public Library.

Sincerely,

Anna

From: +17145533795@tmomail.net
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 7:48:32 PM
Attachments: [text_0.txt](#)

I oppose to the privatization of our very dear library Rebeca indyk. Huntington Beach



This message was sent to you by a T-Mobile wireless phone.

From: [Cecily Gates](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: Re: DO NOT PRIVATIZE OUT PUBLIC LIBRARY
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 7:55:01 PM

Yes I understand that the library will always be free of change.
But cuts to services will be first when the private company is not seeing the revenues it wants from OUR public library.

Sent from my iPhone

> On Mar 17, 2024, at 4:56 PM, Cecily Gates <cecilygates@gmail.com> wrote:

>

> Council members,

> Again I find it necessary to email the council on agenda items that will hurt our city's future to save a buck. Our public library is our city's jewel. On my walk this morning I commented what a beautiful building it is. Too bad the fountains have not been a priority to fix or even address.

> Regardless. Do not put our library in the hands of a private firm that's only reason to exist is to make money and cut corners. DO NOT PRIVATIZE THE CITY LIBRARY.

> The council majority is making lasting changes that ultimately will hurt our city. Shame.

> And stop the runway on the sand, what a horrible look HB. We should have more respect for our environment and beach surroundings. We need to take care of it.

> Please stop.

> Recall recall recall.

> Thank you.

> Cecily Gates

> Sent from my iPhone

From: [HBResister](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: HBCC Agenda Item #22- 24-197
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 7:56:49 PM

Hello City Council members,

I am writing to you in regards to March 19, 2024 Agenda item 24-197 on the request for proposals for "Managed Library Services" for the HB Public Library system. I understand the need to be fiscally responsible, but PRIVATIZING our library is not the step that the council should make. If the City is looking at a budget constriction, then perhaps we can look at the time and money that it takes the City to pursue lawsuits and settlements that are not benefiting the community, but instead, individuals for financial gain or publicity.

I will be referencing (I have attached the article) as to why PRIVATIZING our Public libraries is not in the interest of the public good.

"Frank Pezzanite, co-founder of Library Systems and Services (LS&S), a company that runs privatized libraries. In his view, "a lot of libraries are atrocious." For this, he blames not underfunding, but the librarians themselves. "Their policies are all about job security," he told a reporter. "You can go to a library for 35 years and never have to do anything and then have your retirement."

As a 50 year resident that grew up attending the HB libraries and raised my two children, now adults, at the libraries, I can attest that our librarians are anything but lazy as he implies. One just needs to step up to the circulation desk, ask a librarian for help, and you will understand the breadth of knowledge that they possess. Librarians are professionals and I have always trusted them, and will continue to trust them, to work for the betterment of our library and community. I also do not begrudge a civil servant a pension after dedicating themselves to our community. Since at least one City Council member receives a pension, I would hope that they at least, would agree. A librarian is an important and trusted member in our community, even if the majority council disagrees.

"...[B]acking of the private venture firm Argosy Capital Group, it has become the nation's fifth-largest library system. When LS&S takes over, it receives a set fee from a local government. The corporation gets control over the collection, services, and programs. Most importantly, it takes over staffing." We most certainly do not want a Private Equity firm coming to our city and running our PUBLIC libraries. A private equity firm is only about making money for itself, they are not in the interest of "public good". I can see why the majority council would like to have a company come in that would take over the selection of books that would be in the library collection. I think your views on the library have been made more than clear to those of us that support, use, and defend the library and librarians.

"LS&S has met with little competition; its CEO likes to brag that it boldly goes "where angels fear to tread," namely, into local fights with committed activists who love their libraries and librarians." Well, I guess that means people like me. I am a committed activist that believes in supporting our PUBLIC libraries, the amazing librarians, and volunteers that are part of the crown jewel in Huntington Beach, our library system. From past experiences, I know that it matters not what I write or what I say to you in an email or at the podium of a city council

meeting.

I would love for you to prove me wrong that you have not already made up your minds about privatizing our libraries. The only way to do that would be to VOTE NO on extending the opportunity to submit proposals for privationg our library system to companies like LS&S with former Mayor Michael Posey as an employee.

Sincerely,

Wendy Rincon
714-501-9499

From: [Wysocki, Ashley](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Huntington Beach Library
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 8:28:15 PM

Hi Team,

Please see Linda's request below to have her original email included in supplemental communication.

Make today your masterpiece!

Ashley Wysocki

Director of Community & Library Services
City of Huntington Beach

Parks Make Life Better!

From: Linda Mott <mommymott1950@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 7:59 PM
To: Wysocki, Ashley <ashley.wysocki@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Re: Huntington Beach Library

Yes, please include my email in supplement communication. Thank you

On Sun, Mar 17, 2024 at 7:38 PM Wysocki, Ashley <ashley.wysocki@surfcity-hb.org> wrote:

Good evening Linda,

Thank you for your email. If you are interested in having your email be included as supplemental communication for the Tuesday, March 19, 2024 Council meeting, please review the information below, which is included on the [City Council agenda](#).

SUPPLEMENTAL COMMUNICATION: Members of the public unable to personally participate in the meeting but interested in communicating with the City Council on agenda-related items are encouraged to submit a written (supplemental) communication to the Council via email at SupplementalComm@Surfcity-hb.org. Supplemental Communications are public record, and if received by 9:00 AM on the day of the meeting, will be distributed to the City Council prior to consideration of agenda-related items, posted to the City website, and announced, but not read, at the meeting. Communications received after the 9:00 AM deadline will be incorporated into the administrative record. Members of the public are also welcome to communicate with the City Council (and staff supporting Council) at City.Council@surfcity-hb.org.

Make today your masterpiece!

Ashley Wysocki

Director of Community & Library Services

City of Huntington Beach

Parks Make Life Better!

From: Linda Mott <mommymott1950@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 4:53 PM

To: Wysocki, Ashley <ashley.wysocki@surfcity-hb.org>

Subject: Huntington Beach Library

I am writing to voice my adamant opposition to the proposal for the privatization of the Huntington Beach Library.

I moved to Huntington Beach with my parents in 1964. I attended both Huntington Beach and Marina high schools. I met my husband at Golden West College. The Huntington Beach Library was a resource I used throughout my educational journey. My daughter and son used the library as a resource while attending and graduating from Marina High School.

Jack and Marty Green were the parents of our dear friends.. Jack Green was elected to the HB City Council in 1966 and served for eight years including Mayor in 1969. His wife, Marty, became Assistant Director and Technical Manager of the HB Central Library in the mid 70's. Both Jack and Marty were champions of the HB Central Library and Central Park.

The Huntington Beach public library has been a source of pride to the citizens of this city since 1909, The library is a safe place for all Huntington Beach citizens to visit and explore without judgment or restriction. Privatization will limit access to the community by restricting public access and give power and oversight to a private group with conservative ideologies and political agendas.

Please do not move forward on this proposal.

From: [Lynn Horton](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 8:37:50 PM

Please do not privatize the Huntington Beach library.
Lynn Horton.
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Paula Shawa](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: NO on Agenda Item 22 - Library privatization:
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 8:46:13 PM

The Huntington Beach public library, especially the Central Library in Central Park, is as much a part of our civic infrastructure as City Hall. It belongs to the residents and should be managed for the residents. It makes no sense whatsoever to consider privatizing the library's operation, this would be a blow against the heart and soul of the city.

The extremist members of the council continue to find new ways to chip away at all the things that make Huntington Beach great, while digging us deeper and deeper into debt. What a travesty.

NO on this lame-brained measure.

Paula Shawa, HB resident of 20+ years

From: [midge hill](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Agenda 19-March
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 8:48:11 PM

Dear City Council Members,

I am not able to attend the council meeting of Tuesday, 19-March. However, as a resident of Huntington Beach for more than 30 years, having children who attended HBCSD & graduated HBUHSD, I can attest to the wonderful opportunities that were afforded my children by our city library system. While living within walking distance of the Banning branch, my children were frequent visitors. In later years, they spent a good deal of time at HB Central Library both for pleasure reading, homework and community resources. As adults, we recently attended a film festival and the raptor talk and bird walk organized through the library. This is wholly unique to our HB community.

I strongly oppose 2 items on the agenda for 19-March as unnecessary actions against the fabric that makes Huntington Beach an exceptional and distinct place to raise a family.

I oppose item 24-197 Request Authorization to issue a Request for Proposals for Managed Library Services for the Huntington Beach Public Library system.

I oppose item 24-209 Approval for Introduction Ordinance No. 4318 adding Chapter 2.66 to the Huntington Beach Municipal Code Relating to the Community-Parent Guardian Review Board for the Review of Procurement of Children's Library Material.

I find no redeeming purpose to support either of these 2 agenda items.
I urge a vote of NO for both items.

Respectfully,
Midge A. Hill
19872 Carmania Lane
Est. 1992



Virus-free www.avg.com

From: [Paula Shawa](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: No on Agenda Item 24 / City Council Mtg. March 19
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 8:58:55 PM

No on empowering a non-professional, extremely large group of private citizens to decide what books the library can order. And to make the director of the library subservient to this committee? How humiliating.

Checking reading material from a library is optional. No one is forcing anyone to read anything and it's a parent's business – and no one else's – to guide what their children read.

The proposed formation of this committee represents censorship by the city council and is a violation of free speech.

Paula Shawa, HB resident 20+ years

From: [Patricia Larkin](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Input on Agenda Items 22 and 24 for 3/19/2024 City Council Meeting
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 9:52:56 PM

This is Patricia Larkin and I am a long-time resident of Huntington Beach. I want to give input on agenda Items 22 and 24 for the March 19th meeting.

Agenda Item 22: I am strongly opposed to any request or proposal to outsource our exemplary Huntington Beach Public Library to an East Coast Hedge Fund. PLEASE DO NOT TAKE THIS ACTION.

Agenda Item 24: I am strongly opposed to any ordinance that would implement rules for a "Community-Parent Guardian Review Board" for selecting books for the Children's Library. Our librarians are educated for this purpose and are making excellent choices regarding the books in our children's library. Our librarians are the best-informed personnel for this task. PLEASE DO NOT TAKE THIS ACTION.

Patricia Larkin
Concerned Huntington Beach Resident

From: [Jessica Bensberg](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 10:17:47 PM

Hello

I am writing to express my strong opposition to privatization of our public libraries. My family and I are regular library users, visiting about once a week. My children always have a stack of books checked out and love the events the library hosts. The summer reading challenge kickoff is a particular favorite, we have done the challenge the last several years and it keeps them engaged while out of school. I grew up in HB and one of the first things I did when I moved back home was renew my library card. I am sharing all this to let you know that I really understand the services our libraries provide. We use them regularly and would be devastated to lose any of them. Privatization of libraries has proven to not be an effective cost savings over time and has led to a massive loss of services. Why does the council keep meddling with things that are currently working.

I have a few questions for council members McKeon, Burns, Strickland and Van Der Mark. Have you even been to our public libraries, any branch? Do you know what services they provide and how those will be affected by privatization? Have you been to any other libraries that have privatized, Escondido or Riverside? How do they compare to what we already have?

I'll see you Tuesday

Jessica Bensberg

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Richard Low](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Outsourcing of Library Services
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 10:18:46 PM

Dear HBCC,

Quick note to voice my displeasure at the idea of outsourcing HB Library services. This idea is short-sighted and will deepen the us versus them mentality you have created over the last two years.

I would imagine any cost savings would be a small win when measured against the enormous benefits our current library system provides the residents of HB. Many people young and old use the library daily and it's an important part of our community. Do your job and find better ways to plug budget deficits. This is not the way.

Richard Low

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Laura Ehrlich](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: I am a concerned, citizen regarding library changes
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 10:44:12 PM

Dear City Commissioner,

I am a 55 year old Huntington Beach resident that loves the library. For 18 years, I have taken my children to the library, monthly, allowing them to pick out dozens of books to bring home each month. Both of my children absolutely love reading, and I wouldn't have been able to accomplish this without our library.

I more than strongly oppose item 22-managed Library services.
I also adamantly oppose item 24-parent review board for children's library.

Please allow our library to operate as it is now. Children need to be able to pick out their own books, and librarians need to be allowed to do their jobs. Politics, have nothing to do with the library.

Please do not set our city back in time. We love Huntington Beach and want to continue living here. This type of decision-making does not make us want to stay.

Laura Ehrlich
HB resident

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Davida Hedley](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose managed library services
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 10:46:18 PM

Dear City Council Members,

I am a life long resident of Huntington Beach for almost 50 years now. I attended Eader, Ketler, Gisler's last year open, Sowers and Edison. I grew up going to the Banning and Central libraries.

I would like to be heard, that I oppose the privatization of our library and see no logical reason for this step. We have wonderful, qualified librarians and volunteers who manage the library without issue. There's no telling what a private company would do with our beautiful libraries, why step in to alter a system that is working and getting assistance from the community in the form of friends of the library? Are you vetting prospective companies to ensure our librarians keep their jobs, that the position would still require a masters degree, would any current volunteers give their time freely to a for profit entity?

How can this look like anything other than shady politics? My neighbors and I assume there's already someone waiting for in the wings to step in and strip our wonderful community resources and further diminish our respect for the council's actions.

In addition, the formation of the parent guardian committee sounds like an attempt to ban books and goes against our civil liberties and freedom of speech. Looking at some of the current books that have been moved out of the children's area has given me a glimpse into what would be coming and I'm appalled. "Everybody Poops" and the American Girl Doll's "The Care and Keeping of You" these are books about hygiene and bodily functions. It's ridiculous.

Let's get some worthwhile issues addressed instead of this fascist agenda. Our time and resources could be spent following through on the ebike program for our kids, bully prevention, even mental health support for our children who lived through pandemic school closures.

My kids ended a school year at Eader without a goodbye to their teachers, went virtual, returned wearing masks and have never been given time to process as a group how this has effected them. The rise in bullying, the lag in education, my daughter is at Sowers with kids who read and write at a 4th-5th grade level.

Socially our kids are suffering, living through active shooter drills and the council wants to protect them from books? Even my 5th grader laughs at this obsurdity.

I'm a local business owner and have 3 properties in Huntington Beach, haven't we given the rest of the world enough reasons to laugh at or avoid our city? The issues the council chooses to address make our city a laughing stock, a punchline for late night TV and amateur comics. It's too easy to point and laugh at what issues we focus on. It's time to put some integrity back in our community, you're in the position to do that now.

Thank you,

A concerned citizen

From: [Suzanna Byrne](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 11:01:18 PM

DO NOT TURN OUR LIBRARY OVER TO THIS PRIVATE ORGANIZATION. YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO DO THIS. SOME OF US WHO LIVE IN HUNTINGTON BEACH ALREADY PAID FOR OUR PRECIOUS LIBRARY AND YOU ARE VIRTUALLY STEALING IT AWAY FROM US. DO NOT, I REPEAT, DO NOT DO THIS!
SUZANNA BYRNE.

From: [NATASHA ELISHA](#)
To: CityCouncil@Surfcity-hb.org
Cc: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Please do not let a for profit company take over our library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 12:24:43 AM

Dear City Council ,

Please do not allow a for profit company to take over our library . I understand every city has budget concerns but contracting out the library services to a for profit private equity company is not the answer. Libraries are a public service, not something to be gutted to make a profit for a company outside our community. We have one of the most wonderful & beautiful libraries in the country, please don't outsource it !!! From what I understand The Friends of the Libray organization already makes up for many of the extras the library needs and can't provide within their normal operating budget. Firing employees and cutting services does not help the community . What would they cut ?... the summer reading program, new books , story time , the used book store ,community events , the seed library ?? My kids have so many wonderful memories of the HB library, like the summer reading festival , toddler reading/story program, the used book section of friends of the library and the fun store. I want future generations to be able to create those same memories at the library.

Maybe the city could put this to city ballot vote for a small tax / bond to fund the library . Like we did for the senior center . Maybe we could repair the fountains as well, since they are now not working from years of neglect on maintaince issues. Everyone supports our wonderful library. It is the pride of the community. Please don't give this jewel to a private company who will cut it down to a shell of its former glory!!

Another idea is maybe we have fundraiser with the help of Friends of the Library to help fix the fountains and shore up the budget more. Nobody wants a private outside company messing with our library, cutting valuable staff, books or services.

Please vote no on considering a private company to "run" our library it should be left to the current dedicated staff and the community who loves it !!!

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Natasha Elisha - 26 year resident.

From: [Y.Morri](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Council Actions
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 12:47:16 AM

Huntington Beach City Council,

I am writing to communicate my opposition to the proposed privatization of the Huntington Beach library. Privatizing the library system would redirect the operational focus to creating profit regardless of the impact the steps taken to do so would impact our community. Huntington Beach's library system should remain dedicated and accountable to the citizens of Huntington Beach. There should be transparency in the policies, practices and decision making involved in its operation. Library privatization should not be the City Council's method of reducing city costs. There are many other less vital and important areas of spending that should be compromised before our public libraries. I urge you to discontinue efforts to privatize our library system.

I also implore you to redirect your attention to other areas of concern in our city. What can you do during this week's city council meeting to reduce crime in our community? What are you doing this week to improve services for the mentally ill in HB? To reduce homelessness? To eliminate pot holes? Reduce traffic in our overly congested areas so people can access businesses. Instead of looking at ways to reduce library services, what are you doing right now to reduce the access to illegal drugs our youth have? What programs are you creating to give our youth improved access to programs that direct them away from activity that reduces their potential for successful futures?

Huntington Beach is a beautiful community. I would really like to see the City Council focus on the true issues in our community instead of prioritizing the library system.

Yelena Morri

From: Levin, Shannon
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Do Not Privatize HBPL
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:35:08 AM

From: Jill Senecal <jill.senecal@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2024 1:41 PM
To: Walker, Renee <Renee.Walker@surfcity-hb.org>; Wysocki, Ashley <ashley.wysocki@surfcity-hb.org>; Hopkins, Travis <thopkins@surfcity-hb.org>; CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Do Not Privatize HBPL

Dear Sirs and Madams,

I am writing to request your support to “not privatize” the running of the Huntington Beach Public Libraries. A private company could end up ceding more control of the library to the city council, depending on how the contract is put together. This is wrong, and would potential place new limits on the library’s collection.

Thank you,

Jill Senecal
5471 Overland Drive
Huntington Beach, CA 92649
CELL: 562.547.0689
Jill.Senecal@gmail.com

From: [Nina Guzman](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Agenda Item 22, CC meeting March 19, 2024
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:41:41 AM
Attachments: [CityCouncil03182024.docx](#)

Please see the attached letter before the meeting on March 19, 2024. Thank you.

Nina Guzman

17912 Bluegate Lane

Huntington Beach, CA 92647

March 18, 2024

Dear City Council Members, City Attorney and City Manager,

My name is Nina Guzman, a Huntington Beach resident of 36 years. I am a tutor and on the Board of Directors with the Literacy Volunteers of America -Huntington Valley. We are a group of volunteers that offers free one-on-one tutoring of English, Citizenship classes, book clubs, conversation classes, digital literacy and more. We operate out of the Central and Oak View Libraries. I am writing because I am opposed to agenda item 22 – the privatization of our Library system.

We need our library to remain a city managed entity to apply for and receive grant money that supports our operating budget. We do receive some monies from the City but we also fund raise and apply for grants. We run a lean program and can not receive grant money if our library is privatized due to no matching support dollars from the City. Being managed by an outside company does not allow us to apply for grant money. I am also afraid that a privately managed library would have profitability goals that would negatively affect our program. We help many people within our community through this program. Privatization could be the ruin of us.

Why is this item being considered? Do you think that the library a big-ticket item on the city budget? Will you really be saving that much money to pay an outside vendor to manage it without them cutting hours or programs or staff? Our award-winning library with its four branches and all its programs offered to the citizens of Huntington Beach is a treasure within our city. Please think again about this proposal.

Thank you,

Nina Guzman

From: annetteberman@twc.com
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Huntington Beach Public Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:47:17 AM

Dear City Council Members,

The point of public libraries is "public." They are for all of us. Public libraries are one of humanity's best ideas. They are paid for with our taxes. They serve all of us. Do not privatize the libraries.

Sincerely,

Annette Berman

From: [Diane Pavesic](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:52:27 AM

City Council Members of Huntington Beach,

I adamantly oppose the privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library.

Diane Pavesic

Sent from my iPad

From: [Julie Ford](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Stop this insanity
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:57:07 AM

Council members

Please stop this insane idea of privatization of our library

We value our library and want nothing to do with a for profit company running our library

Julie Ford DDS
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jessica Bensberg](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:02:43 AM

Hello

I am writing to express my strong opposition to privatization of our public libraries. My family and I are regular library users, visiting about once a week. My children always have a stack of books checked out and love the events the library hosts. The summer reading challenge kickoff is a particular favorite, we have done the challenge the last several years and it keeps them engaged while out of school. I grew up in HB and one of the first things I did when I moved back home was renew my library card. I am sharing all this to let you know that I really understand the services our libraries provide. We use them regularly and would be devastated to lose any of them. Privatization of libraries has proven to not be an effective cost savings over time and has led to a massive loss of services. Why does the council keep meddling with things that are currently working.

I have a few questions for council members McKeon, Burns, Strickland and Van Der Mark. Have you even been to our public libraries, any branch? Do you know what services they provide and how those will be affected by privatization? Have you been to any other libraries that have privatized, Escondido or Riverside? How do they compare to what we already have?

I'll see you Tuesday

Jessica Bensberg

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Sheila Thomas](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Cc: [Sheila Thomas](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 22. 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:10:17 AM

Dear Huntington Beach City Council Members,

Being able to read changes people's lives.

My name is Dr. Sheila Thomas, and I am President of the HBPL-Literacy Volunteers Board of Directors. What if you could not read this email, understand your doctor's orders, or apply for a driver's license? You would be among many fellow residents who cannot comfortably perform these tasks. That's why I write to express concern over *Agenda Item 22. 24-197* and the prospect of outsourcing the city Library services. The Literacy Board is an all-volunteer non-profit that supports the Adult Literacy program working closely with volunteer tutors and professional Library Literacy staff. Last year, 5,200 hours of Literacy services were provided to over 235 adult learners and 50 families at Huntington Central Library and Oak View Branch Library. Learners can encounter issues with reliable transportation, finances, and skill level, and that is why accessing Library Literacy services in community-based settings is so important. Our learners tell us that their tutors help them get better jobs, be better parents and take part in our community. To me, that is the "public" in "public good." It is alarming to think that Literacy services could be dramatically altered or disappear altogether under a third party, along with the ability to compete for state and other grants, which are often based on overall funding sources. I ask you to reexamine what problem you are trying to solve and consider alternative innovative and creative avenues to resolution.

Thank you,

Dr. Sheila A. Thomas
President
HBPL-Literacy Volunteers Board of Directors

From: [Mary Hiber](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: HUNTINGTON BEACH PUBLIC LIBRARY
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:32:57 AM

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I have lived here for 50 years and watched our library in Central Park being built and filled with wonderful books for all to read. PLEASE DO NOT put this library into the hands of any private company. I am against the direction our City Council is taking in this matter.

Sincerely,
Mary Hiber
6402 Vatcher Drive
Huntington Beach, CA
Sent from my iPad

From: [Eliz Murphy](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Our Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:47:11 AM

I strongly oppose your current attempt to privatize our public library. Having lived in Huntington Beach for over 50 years, our family has greatly valued the impact of our outstanding public library system on the community. We have all embraced this wonderful place...the Central Library and all of the excellent branches..." enabling citizens to have access to the books and all of the other resources provided by a staff of librarians, technical personnel and all who work there and who care about the work they do to perpetuate an atmosphere of learning and enrichment in people's lives. What you are proposing to do is insulting and an assault on the wishes of the taxpayers of our city.

Betty Murphy
Huntington Beach resident for 51 years

From: [Judi Scott](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Cc: [Judi Scott](#)
Subject: Keep our HB Public Library Intact - NO CONTRACTORS
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:48:52 AM

To The City Council Members,
Please do not hire a contract business to run our HB Library and Branches. This would eliminate our trusted volunteers and valued librarians and staff. If a system is not broken, no need to fix it.

Andrew Carnegie set up the United States Library systems to be "free" and "accessible" to ALL. You as elected officials may or may not OWN a Library Card, but if you we're to visit out Central Library or a Branch Office, you would see the VALUE daily our Libraries offer to our city of Huntington Beach and it's Citizens. Unprofessional contractors will not provide the same "VALUE" professionals and volunteers provide daily to our HB Library and Branches.

I question you the City Council members, if you are being pursued by a "for hire CONTRACT Business"; they have your ear and are offering compensation to each of you in return for hiring them? That would be illegal and immoral.

"IF IT ISN'T BROKEN DON'T FIX IT"

PLEASE DO NOT CONTRACT OUT OUR LIBRARY SERVICES.

A Concerned HB Resident,
Judi Scott
8932 Modesto Circle, Unit 1209B
Huntington Beach, CA 92646

From: [Judi Scott](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Cc: [Judi Scott](#)
Subject: KEEP HB LIBRARIES INTACT - PLEASE No MANAGED LIBRARY SERVICE CONTRACTORS
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:02:15 AM

To The City Council Members,
Please do not hire a contract Management Service business to run our HB Library and Branches. This would eliminate our trusted volunteers and valued librarians and staff. **If a system is not broken, no need to fix it.**

Andrew Carnegie set up the United States Library systems to be "free" and "accessible" to ALL. You as elected officials may or may not OWN a Library Card, but if you we're to visit out Central Library or a Branch Office, you would see the VALUE daily our Libraries offer to our city of Huntington Beach and it's Citizens. Unprofessional contractors will not provide the same "VALUE" professionals and volunteers provide daily to our HB Library and Branches.

I question you the City Council members, if you are being pursued by a "for hire Management CONTRACT Business"; they have your ear and are offering compensation to each of you in return for hiring them? That would be illegal and immoral.

"IF IT ISN'T BROKEN DON'T FIX IT"

PLEASE DO NOT CONTRACT OUT OUR LIBRARY SERVICES.

A Concerned HB Resident,
Judi Scott
8932 Modesto Circle, Unit 1209B
Huntington Beach, CA 92646

From: [Judi Scott](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Cc: [Judi Scott](#)
Subject: KEEP HB LIBRARIES INTACT – PLEASE No MANAGED LIBRARY SERVICE CONTRACTORS
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:10:36 AM

To The City Council Members,

Please do not hire a contract Management Service business to run our HB Library and Branches. This would eliminate our trusted volunteers and valued librarians and staff. **If a system is not broken, no need to fix it.**

Andrew Carnegie set up the United States Library systems to be "free" and "accessible" to ALL. You as elected officials may or may not OWN a Library Card, but if you we're to visit out Central Library or a Branch Office, you would see the VALUE daily our Libraries offer to our city of Huntington Beach and it's Citizens. Unprofessional contractors will not provide the same "VALUE" professionals and volunteers provide daily to our HB Library and Branches.

I question you the City Council members, if you are being pursued by a "for hire Management CONTRACT Business"; they have your ear and are offering compensation to each of you in return for hiring them? That would be illegal and immoral.

"IF IT ISN'T BROKEN DON'T FIX IT"

PLEASE DO NOT CONTRACT OUT OUR LIBRARY SERVICES.

A Concerned HB Resident,

Judi Scott

8932 Modesto Circle, Unit 1209B

Huntington Beach, CA 92646

From: [Danielle Kap](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Privatization of HB Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:21:30 AM

I strongly oppose managed library services, administrative item 22, and Item 24-197.

Please do not ruin our beautiful library by having LS&S privatize it.

From: [Ryan B](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: RFP Managed Library Services
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:33:53 AM

Good Morning,

I respectfully request that this City Council reconsider and vote against Administrative Items 24-197 ,24-209 and, 24-208. This is a pathetic waste of time by Van Der Mark, Burns, Strickland, and McKeon. There more important issues that this Council needs to address including but not limited to: noise pollution, trash, traffic, and public safety. Yet the Republicans on this council continue to embarrass the City while trying to polish their MAGA laurels.

We are supposed to be a forward thinking, jewel city of Orange County. Yet Van Der Mark, Burns, Strickland, and McKeon continue the race to the bottom.

Reconsider and vote against Administrative Items 24-197 ,24-209 and, 24-208.

Respectfully,

Ryan Berlino
4701 Warner Ave

From: [Jessica Bensberg](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:40:54 AM

Hello

I am writing to express my strong opposition to privatization of our public libraries. My family and I are regular library users, visiting about once a week. My children always have a stack of books checked out and love the events the library hosts. The summer reading challenge kickoff is a particular favorite, we have done the challenge the last several years and it keeps them engaged while out of school. I grew up in HB and one of the first things I did when I moved back home was renew my library card. I am sharing all this to let you know that I really understand the services our libraries provide. We use them regularly and would be devastated to lose any of them. Privatization of libraries has proven to not be an effective cost savings over time and has led to a massive loss of services. Why does the council keep meddling with things that are currently working.

I have a few questions for council members McKeon, Burns, Strickland and Van Der Mark. Have you even been to our public libraries, any branch? Do you know what services they provide and how those will be affected by privatization? Have you been to any other libraries that have privatized, Escondido or Riverside? How do they compare to what we already have?

I'll see you Tuesday

Jessica Bensberg

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jessica Bensberg](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:42:40 AM

Hello

I am writing to express my strong opposition to privatization of our public libraries. My family and I are regular library users, visiting about once a week. My children always have a stack of books checked out and love the events the library hosts. The summer reading challenge kickoff is a particular favorite, we have done the challenge the last several years and it keeps them engaged while out of school. I grew up in HB and one of the first things I did when I moved back home was renew my library card. I am sharing all this to let you know that I really understand the services our libraries provide. We use them regularly and would be devastated to lose any of them. Privatization of libraries has proven to not be an effective cost savings over time and has led to a massive loss of services. Why does the council keep meddling with things that are currently working.

I have a few questions for council members McKeon, Burns, Strickland and Van Der Mark. Have you even been to our public libraries, any branch? Do you know what services they provide and how those will be affected by privatization? Have you been to any other libraries that have privatized, Escondido or Riverside? How do they compare to what we already have?

I'll see you Tuesday

Jessica Bensberg

Sent from my iPhone

From: [John McCoy](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [Van Der Mark, Gracey](#); [Burns, Pat](#); [McKeon, Casey](#); [Strickland, Tony](#)
Subject: Proposed Library Privatization
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:00:21 AM

As a volunteer who has worked with the library staff for over a decade, I have to protest the proposed privatization of the library operations. Our world-class library is a lot more than a venue for lending books to the public. The value to our city is a direct result of a staff that interacts with and cares about the community that they serve. For over ten years, I have been involved with the library at the Main and Oakview branches by helping students in elementary through high school understand and complete their homework. Currently this program at the Oakview branch is being headed by **Abby Tapia** where she makes it possible for 16-21 volunteers to help up to 45 elementary and middle school students each day for four days a week. Without her leadership, there would be no program like this. When libraries were closed during the pandemic, she continued the homework help by managing Zoom interactions. The program has recovered from the pandemic restrictions and is constantly growing. We need staff that are part of the communities that they serve. I doubt that you would find many employees willing to go so far above their "library" duties to take on the responsibility for these and the many other staff-led and volunteer-supported programs.

Sincerely,
John McCoy

From: kvogel1@socal.rr.com
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: City Council Meeting 3/19/2024 Agenda Items 24-197 and 24-209
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:04:30 AM

City Council

My name is Faith Vogel, a longtime resident of Huntington Beach. I served on the Library Board and the Community and Library Services from 2007 to 2023. If there is one thing, I learned in my years of service is that the citizens of Huntington Beach love and support their library.

I am writing to urge a no vote on items 24-197 and 24-209 to be presented at the March 19, 2024, meeting. Our Libraries are special place to the citizens of Huntington Beach. They are doing an excellent job. Libraries are a small part of the city budget. There is no need to consider contracting out their services which would make them less available to our citizens.

The City Council should reflect the feelings of the people of Huntington Beach and continue to support not obstruct the Library Mission

In view of the major impact on library users proposed by the resolutions it is necessary for the City Council to let this agenda item fail

Thank you, for your consideration.

Faith Vogel

From: [Lindsay DuFresne](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: Huntington Beach Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:21:48 AM

Mayor and City Council members,

I would like to give my voice to the recent interest in outsourcing of our public library. As you move forward with the research, I would like you to consider the following:

-Is this a necessary move? I know the city is looking to make cuts in many areas. Historically, cuts have been temporary and the city "rights" itself in time.

-Are there other library outsourcing companies? Are we giving this a deep look or simply giving a former councilman the inside track?

-What is the success record of outsourcing? How have other cities fared with these systems in time? Are the cities outsourcing their libraries doing so because of dire financial straits; that they might otherwise need to close their libraries? Huntington Beach is far from that.

-How will outsourcing change the way the library functions? Will it be a "Pay for Play" where people with greater means get greater access?

-What happens to the great number of volunteers at the Central Library? Fine work is done with: profits from used book sales, literacy volunteers, Friends of the Library? I believe those folks volunteer to make the library and city stronger. I wonder if outsourcing has the best interests of the city in mind.

-Will there be any protections for current library employees or will they be offered their jobs at lower salaries? We talk a lot about the lack of affordable housing in Huntington Beach. Will we be pushing more people out if salaries are cut?

I would ask that, as representatives of our city, you would first, do a thorough investigation into the pros and cons of outsourcing the library. Second, that you share your research. It will benefit us all if you are transparent in your research and decision making. We are more likely to support a plan if we know the reasons.

I believe that people are drawn to live in Huntington Beach due to the many services and life-enriching programs it provides. Huntington Beach Library is a large contributor to that appeal. Please protect it.

Sincerely,

Lindsay DuFresne

From: [Susan Girard](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: No privatizing our HB Public Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:32:03 AM

I am a resident of Huntington Beach. I have lived in the city since 2001. I just learned that there is a vote to privatize our library.
My vote on this is NO. Please do not allow a private company to run our library.

THANK YOU

--

Susan Manzo, Fire Inspector I
Los Angeles *City* Fire Department
Fire Prevention Bureau
Harbor Industrial Unit
638 S. Beacon Street, Room 328
San Pedro, CA 90731
(310) 732-4580
fax (310) 732-4579

From: onewildart
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Privatizing OUR Libraries
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:35:05 AM

Dear Council Members,

Here we are back at it again...you trying to ban books in the guise of making thingswhat? More controlled, less available, lining the pockets of corporations, and requiring the city of HB to maintain it. How does this serve our city? I am so incensed that this is what you feel our wonderful community deserves.

We love our libraries...the feeling that it is OURS and we are welcome and it belongs to everyone. It functions beautifully. This is another instance of fixing something that isn't broke. Please have the decency to answer this question out loud in a council meeting with the public present. And LISTEN to all the reasons it isn't needed.

A 48 year resident,
Trudy Roe

Sent from my iPad

From: [Susan Guarnera](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: Changes to Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:43:54 AM

I very strongly oppose item 22 to change the library and services I love and depend on to managed services. Managed services means privatization with profit guiding our services. There will be cuts! Who, then, would decide where to make cuts? As a longtime citizen, mother and grandmother, I am saddened and disappointed in the decisions made by the current City Council.

I am also upset and angry that the Council would consider forming a group with certain biased opinions to review children's library procurement decisions. Library staff is more than capable of stocking our library!

Susan Guarnera

From: [Darcy Alsop](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:44:00 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

City Council Members, et al,

As a home and business owner in the City of Huntington Beach, I vehemently oppose the sale/privatization of our Public Libraries.

I have spent countless hours at the main library off Goldenwest. I've studied for college exams, taken my children for story time, and checked out many books, thoughtfully selected by our well-educated and skilled librarians.

I wrote a letter to HBCC and included this quote from an article written by Donald Cohen about the LS & S corporation, one of the organizations whom CC requested proposals to outsource library services.

“When LS&S [private company] takes over, it receives a set fee from a local government. The corporation gets control over the collection, services, and programs. Most important, it takes over staffing. Librarians at these facilities are no longer public servants; they serve at the pleasure of LS&S. Although it has been building its portfolio since the late 1990s, LS&S has met with little competition; its CEO likes to brag that it boldly goes “where angels fear to tread,” namely, into local fights with committed activists who love their libraries and librarians. The LS&S proposal to privatize the Prince William County, Maryland, library would have achieved its promised savings by laying off 20 percent of the staff, trimming benefits, and cutting pensions. The library trustees said the proposal was “unfair to employees” and rejected it.”

Source: <https://inthepublicinterest.org/when-public-libraries-become-private-who-will-support-them/>

When I wrote that letter to all regarding my concerns, Pat Burns sent me, a constituent, this condescending and patronizing email:

"We're looking into being more prudent and efficient with public funds...especially when the State is imposing city damaging mandates that cost the cities very much at the expense of infrastructure, libraries, services...these State mandates take from our citizens and city funds! We should be able to govern ourselves.
I've been in HB longer than you. Get your facts straight about everything we have done and are trying to get done. You should be ashamed...ASHAMED! But regardless of your crazed email, have a wonderful day!"

Pat Burns

Council Member / Mayor Pro Tempore

City of Huntington Beach

Office: (714) 536 - 5594

Cell: (714) 598 - 9595

Pat.burns@surfcity-hb.or

3000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648



Again, I have lived in Huntington Beach since 1994, purchased my first home in 1998. I have never seen a City Council so divisive and out of control.

I am stating my opposition to this proposal, however I am well aware that Burns, Van Der Mark, McKeon and Strickland will vote together regardless of what the citizens of Huntington Beach want.

Regards,

Darcy Alsop

From: [M'Liss Jaso](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:45:22 AM

I'm putting in my 2 cents for NOT letting LS&S take over our Library services. M'Liss Jaso resident since 1970
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Barbara Van Dine](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Outsourcing of the Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:50:35 AM

I am a resident of 26 years, raised two children in Huntington Beach and the Library was a central focus of learning and growth for our entire family. It is hardly a porn haven.

The privatization of the library is not about what is good for the community nor is it about saving money for the City. It is based on right-wing ideology that is part of a national movement to control cities (our city Council), libraries and eventually school boards.

This mania must stop. Gracie, you and your allies should be ashamed of yourselves. This is NOT how you presented yourselves when you were up for election. It is time to get back to running the city not your personal agendas.

From: [Courtney Favazza](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Do not sell
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:52:36 AM

So not sell our libraries to the rich. Are you insane?
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Judy Standerford](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Outsourcing of library systems
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:57:05 AM

Please do not even consider outsourcing any library services. You have already done enough to tarnish the reputation of the library and of Huntington Beach. We are becoming the laughing stock not just of Orange County but recently of the entire US. We live in a democracy and are governed by the US Constitution. That Constitution does not allow you to censor or ban ANY reading materials. “Community standards” are just that – standards agreed upon by the entire community – not just a narrow minded few. The books and materials in the library are for everybody – not just for those who agree with your very radical fundamentalist views. Your “community standards” are extremely hurtful of many of our citizens and should not be allowed to govern the books and other materials in a free, public library.

Outsourcing would not save the city any money – it would just allow the four majority council members, the city attorney and a former council member to funnel money to themselves and their friends. I do not want my tax money being used to enrich any council members or city staff.

Judy Standerford
Huntington Beach Resident

From: [Irma Loper](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Opposition to Agenda Item 22
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:00:00 AM

I am a long-time resident of Huntington Beach. I have volunteered at the schools, sport teams and the library. For the past 30-years I raised funds for the book collection at the Children's Library of the Huntington Beach **Public** Library.

I oppose the City Council's efforts to privatize the library. It is a gem of the city and is beloved by all the patrons. Please concentrate your efforts on more pressing issues that the city faces.

Irma Loper

From: [John Heeren](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Privatizing the library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:04:44 AM

Hello

I could not be more opposed to this proposal. Our library, like most other libraries in the US, does wonderful things for its visitors. It is a social institution, free for all to use. That will have to change because private enterprise always looks for opportunities for profit. Programs will be cut for not serving enough users, online services (e.g., Palace, Libby, and Hoopla) will be trimmed since they seem to those who don't use them to overlap. The very word "public" will have to be removed from the enterprise as that word cannot be sold to a private company. I assume it will be rebranded, maybe by a local business that wants its name widely broadcast. So, then what: The Hyatt Private Library? And when service gets bad enough, with slimmer resources and an untrained staff, there are likely to be competing libraries.

I can't even imagine the financial side of the privatization scheme. The city sells the building and resources to a private company. They lay off or fire our current, well-trained civil service employees and replace them with volunteers and untrained staff.

It boggles the mind!

John

From: [Scott Wilson](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Privatization of Huntington Bch Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:12:45 AM

The mere suggestion of privatization of our libraries is a cash grab.

Lack of transparency as to your missions is causing the people to roil, you're not a good example for the public & future of Huntington Bch.

No on privization of the Huntington Beach libraries.

We do not need 24 people reading children's books deciding what they can & cannot put on the shelves of our libraries, you are the monsters under the bed, shame on you!

Regards,

Scott M. Wilson

Sent from my iPhone.

From: [Patricia Frangente](mailto:Patricia.Frangente@surfcity-hb.org)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Public libraries p
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:29:24 AM

PLEASE DO NOT PRIVATIZE OUR CITY LIBRARY SYSTEM! COMPANIES ARE OUT FOR PROFIT AND SERVICES WILL DEFINITELY BE CUT! OUR PUBLIC LIBRARY OFFERS SO MANY WONDERFUL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES.
PLEASE DON'T CHANGE IT! IT'S PART OF WHAT MAKES HUNTINGTON BEACH GREAT!!
THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION!

PATRICIA FRANGENTE
16522 Trudy Lane
Huntington Beach
92647
714-904-0003

Sent from my iPhone
Patricia Frangente

From: tjengland41@yahoo.com
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: City council meeting 3-19-24
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:32:05 AM

I can not believe that the 4 majority members plan on destroying our wonderful Public Library and turning it over to a private company who will only be responsible to their stockholders to make money not our citizens. I'd like to know how the owner or owners of this company have connections with our Four members to destroy our wonderful HB Public Library! Please do not do this!!! THELMA England, 55 year old resident and voter who of HB. Also I protest the 3 MAGA males who are cheating by running 7 or more months for out Nov city election. How Christian is this?

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Juana Mueller](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Cc: [Juana Mueller](#)
Subject: 3/19/24 Council Agenda
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:34:58 AM

Dear Huntington Beach City Council,

Item 22:

WHOA! HOLD the horses!! Outsource the management of our Library System? **WHY? TO WHOM?**

This is outrageous. What are you trying to do to our City? Our Library System is not broken. It is a basic pillar of our community. It has a committed base of volunteers to help manage and run the many programs that are offered through our library. It is a beloved place for gaining knowledge, for coming together, for joy of learning, for being introduced to life's possibilities, and so much more.

WHY GUT THIS and give it to some OUTSIDE ENTITY that has no knowledge OR commitment to OUR CITY??

STOP! This is a bridge too far!!

Item 24:

Do not approve ordinance NO. 4318 - (my comments above apply)

Item 25:

Why are we considering isolating our City from the League of CA Cities? Isolation from what goes on in other CA cities is not healthy for our City. Do not approve.

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Outsourcing Library Services
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:17:52 AM

From: Ronning, Melissa <Melissa.Ronning@surfcity-hb.org>
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2024 2:25 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Outsourcing Library Services

City Council Members,

Imagine that the salary you earn working for the City of Huntington Beach will most likely be drastically reduced when working for a “For Profit Company”, but you will still be doing the same job? How do you take care of your family?

Imagine that the coworkers that you know, love and count as family start to disappear as they find employment at other libraries that appreciate the experience, knowledge, and skills that they bring with them. Imagine that the institutional knowledge of the staff members who have worked for the library for 25 years or more just disappears because you have outsourced library services to a for profit company. We don't have to use our imagination-this is the reality for those of us working at the library. Outsourcing library services to a “For Profit Company” is not the budget saving tactic that City Council should be entertaining. This will destroy the heart of the Huntington Beach community.

Melissa Ronning

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: HB City Council agenda item 24-197 RFP for library services
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:23:50 AM

From: Norma Gutierrez <norma.gutierrez400@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2024 5:36 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: HB City Council agenda item 24-197 RFP for library services

HB City council members:

I am opposed to issuing a Request for Proposal for library services. The City of Huntington Beach has an excellent library system: it is PUBLIC and paid for by our tax dollars. The library system does not need to be privatized.

Norma Gutierrez

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Keep our Libraries Public
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:25:21 AM

From: Quinn Ewing <quinnewing1@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2024 6:41 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Keep our Libraries Public

To whom it may concern:

My name is Quinn Ewing and I have been a Huntington Beach resident my whole life. My zip code is 92648. I am writing this letter to express that I want to keep the Huntington Beach Public Library public.

I attended Huntington Beach Public schools, including Smith Elementary, Dwyer Middle School, and Huntington Beach High School. I love this city and it's beauty and opportunities. I have fond memories of growing up in Huntington Beach, having bonfires at the City Beach, attending the Tuesday night street market and concerts, and of course, studying at the Huntington Beach Central Public Library.

The HB Central Public Library is a community staple to all of us who live here. I still remember the first time my dad took me to the Library to get my own library card. I went from listening to story times in the children's reading room to studying for high school exams and applying to University all in that library. Being in my 20s, I plan to continue to use this library as a resource of information for a long time.

It is extremely important to me that we MUST keep Huntington Beach Central Public Library PUBLIC. If the library stays public, we can protect people like me who grew up here in Huntington. We must keep information free and accessible. The United States is by the people for the people, and it is in Democracy's best interest to keep our libraries public and for the people. I demand you do not allow our library to be privatized.

Thank you for time,

Quinn Ewing
Huntington Beach Resident
Zip Code: 92648
quinnewing1@gmail.com

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Libraries
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:26:08 AM

From: Gail Altimari-Brown <gailk.bro@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 16, 2024 7:57 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Libraries

Do not open the door for Posey!

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: The Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:26:33 AM

From: Scott Brewsaugh <scottbrewsaugh@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 16, 2024 9:01 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: The Library

Hello esteemed city council members,

I'm writing to say that I oppose any sort of privation of the library, and any sort of book ban.

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Do NOT Privatize the Library!
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:27:02 AM

From: G. B. <gregbrew@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 16, 2024 9:35 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Do NOT Privatize the Library!

HB City Council Members,

I am vehemently opposed to privatizing the HB Public Libraries.

I'm a registered Republican, and I vote...every time.

Gregory Brewsaugh
HB, California

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Next meeting
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:27:21 AM

From: Nancy Bramet <nevonwb@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 16, 2024 9:59 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Next meeting

City Council...

PLEASE, stop trying to fix what isn't broken. I believe the library runs just fine as is... no need to change that. If you must have a "Community Parent Guardian Review Board". Then you MUST include some members of the LGBTQ community on that board as well, it needs to be well rounded not just white, christian parents that are afraid of everything that they don't understand and don't want to understand. Otherwise it is NOT representative of ALL parents in our community. Let's be clear I am not for this community, I believe it to be a complete waste of resources but if it goes thru then it MUST have a group that represents everyone. Not understanding why you want to put together a board when you said we didn't have the resources for them anymore and gutted several boards that were in fact useful. We disagree on that as well but then council you really don't seem to listen to it appears to me most of the citizens in HB.

AND BIG NOOOOOO to leaving the League of California Cities. You all complain about homelessness then when a bill come thru that directly helps with that you don't like it. UNBELIEVABLE!! Also for the Gas Tax... OK... people this is for our roads, WHICH WE NEED!!! I don't like taxes either but I am smart enough to know that taxes pay for things we ACTUALLY need, like police, fire department, roads, bridges etc. I would far rather my tax dollars go to that than the city always suing the state for not doing low income housing, which we actually need. I still don't understand your argument on that. I have asked and your response if you truly believe your reason doesn't hold water. If you can build all this new housing that isn't low income, then you could have built low income housing.

Our library is fine, LEAVE IT ALONE!!! There is no reason to privatize it... even if the "great attorney" has lost all the law suits which he said he would win (I am not an attorney and I realized that was a major long shot even if it was a good attorney) our taxes paid major \$\$\$ on that. We are throwing good money at bad on these law suits... the council seems to think they are above it. YOU ARE NOT! If you don't like living in the state of California or Huntington Beach then leave it like your friend Tito did. I am not being nice here but I find most of you just exhausting. You honestly don't seem to have an idea here what you are doing or you have your own personal agenda which is even worse. You are to work for ALL the people of HB... make it better, safe. All you are doing is trying to change our city and what has made it great. STOP IT!!!

Here is something to do, work on our homeless and helping them. That is not an easy problem but well worth finding a solution for.

And do a better job of balancing the budget... although I know that is hard with all the lawsuits we have lost. But learn when to fight and when to just do what is actually right. Not putting in low income housing was wrong!!!! Giving in to the AirShow people was wrong.. and then hiring them on a 10 year contract are you kidding me. They are using our beach, they should be paying us for that privilege.

I hope you all have read this completely because I know it isn't nice. But you know, you have made the last few years not great for me, because you seem to what to change everything that HB is. I am begging you please STOP IT!!

Regards,
Nancy Bramet

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Privatizing OUR PUBLIC LIBRARY
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:28:14 AM

From: Darcy Alsop <darcyalsop@icloud.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 16, 2024 10:40 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Privatizing OUR PUBLIC LIBRARY

Huntington Beach City Council Members,

Once again, your GRABS for power far exceed your pay grade. The four of you who are driving this train into a ditch at 1000 MPH are causing such a tremendous amount of division among the Community; you should be ASHAMED.

Mr. Burns, Ms. Van Der Mark, Mr. McKeon, and Mr. Strickland...all of whom are transplants in HB except Mr. McKeon,

I have LIVED in HB for 31 years. I own two businesses here, and a home as well~my third in HB since 1998.

I have never seen the likes of you in previous council members. The way in which you all have commandeered this council to vote in ways to remove inclusivity and diversity, and set forth an agenda where the minority of citizens agree with your policies is absolutely disgusting.

YOU have done NOTHING to help businesses or clean up the town. Our homeless problem is worse than ever. WORSE THAN EVER.

You have changed our Charter, creating unnecessary spending with regard to voting and other policies. You have CUT funding to amazing programs to compensate for the \$7,000,000.00 air show disaster. You have excluded and removed flags like the PRIDE flag (a sign of of inclusivity and acceptance for ALL HUMANS).

Now, you plan to privatize our PUBLIC LIBRARIES TO CONTROL MATERIALS, STAFFING, AND ACCESS. It's disgusting and disgraceful on every level. Our city is an embarrassment. YOU are all an embarrassment.

We see right through you.

In Donald Cohen's article found here:

<https://inthepublicinterest.org/when-public-libraries-become-private-who-will-support-them/>

He writes:

“When LS&S [private company] takes over, it receives a set fee from a local government. The corporation gets control over the collection, services, and programs. Most important, it takes over staffing. Librarians at these facilities are no longer public servants; they serve at the pleasure of LS&S. Although it has been building its portfolio since the late 1990s, LS&S has met with little competition; its CEO likes to brag that it boldly goes “where angels fear to tread,” namely, into local fights with committed activists who love their libraries and librarians. The LS&S proposal to privatize the Prince William County, Maryland, library would have achieved its promised savings by laying off 20 percent of the staff, trimming benefits, and cutting pensions. The library trustees said the proposal was “unfair to employees” and rejected it.”

We see and know exactly what you’re doing and I cannot stress this enough, it’s not the WILL OF THE CITIZENS OF Huntington Beach.

I VEHEMENTLY OPPOSE THE PRIVATIZATION OF OUR PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

Regards,

Darcy Alsop

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Privatization of public libraries
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:28:37 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Suzanne Hart <hb.diva@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 16, 2024 10:40 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Privatization of public libraries

Our public libraries must remain in the public domain. We currently have an award winning library system with the necessary infrastructure already in place. What could possibly be your motivation to change an operation that is brilliantly successful? One has to wonder!

Suzanne Hart
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Privatization of our Libraries
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:28:41 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Becky Weinthal <beckyweinthal@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 16, 2024 10:52 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Privatization of our Libraries

Why don't you stick to things residents really care about? This is just a political ploy to get attention. It's vile and low. How about keeping our city clean, safe, inclusive and debt free! Not supporting our libraries? Sounds like a Nazi move to me.

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW:
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:30:14 AM

From: Anne Culpepper <teacherfromhell1@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 16, 2024 12:36 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject:

Do not privatize our library!

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Library privatization - item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:30:32 AM

From: Charles King <charlesking@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 16, 2024 12:44 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Library privatization - item 24-197

Hello,

I'm a concerned resident just wanting to voice my opposition to privatizing our library system. The system is an incredible resource as it is and its management should not be handed over to a for profit company.

Thank you for your consideration,
Charles King

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:33:10 AM

From: Taylor Jennings <hbcityconsultant@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 16, 2024 1:55 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Library

I support outsourcing library services to save the city millions of dollars over the years. If the same services are maintained, it is a win win. Don't listen to the noise on the other side.

Thank you for all the work the city council has done, parents appreciate it.

Taylor

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: PUBLIC LIBRARY
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:33:25 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: dylan csicsai <dfcsicsai@icloud.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 16, 2024 1:56 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: PUBLIC LIBRARY

DO NOT PRIVATIZE THE HB PUBLIC LIBRARY

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Preserving Our Library's Community Value
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:33:47 AM

From: Jeffrey <jeffreylha@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 16, 2024 3:03 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Preserving Our Library's Community Value

Dear City Council Members,

The Dutch may have Keukenhof Gardens, Hawaiians may have Mauna Loa, the Navajo may have Monument Valley, but for a small-timer like myself, the place that I hold sacred is the Huntington Beach Public Library. It's a sanctuary of knowledge, a beacon of community unity, and a testament to our shared values. There are a lot of things I'm proud of about our city, but our library is at the top of the list. It has been a constant positive influence in my life, from fulfilling my imagination as a child, to giving me the skills to pull my family out of poverty as an adult.

I hope this message finds you in good spirits. As a concerned citizen deeply invested in the future of our beloved city, I feel compelled to express my apprehensions regarding the potential privatization of our public library.

The thought of transitioning the place I hold in such high esteem into the hands of a private, profit-driven entity is deeply troubling for several reasons:

Erosion of Community Trust: Our library is a cornerstone of public trust, built on the principles of free access to knowledge and community service. Privatization could erode this trust, replacing community stewardship with a business model that inherently prioritizes profit over people. As stewards of our community's well-being, we must preserve this trust at all costs.

Potential Conflict of Interest: The involvement of former Mayor Mike Posey with LS&S raises serious questions about the fairness and transparency of the privatization process. I know that the company hasn't been selected yet, but in a community that values integrity, such connections could cast a shadow over the proceedings, undermining public confidence in the decision-making process.

Impact on Library Services and Staff: Libraries are vibrant community hubs staffed by dedicated professionals who understand our community's unique needs. A private entity, driven by profit margins, will not uphold the same standards of service and commitment to our residents, leading to a decline in the quality and diversity of services offered.

Cultural and Educational Implications: Our library plays a pivotal role in shaping the cultural and educational landscape of Huntington Beach. It is a place where minds grow, ideas flourish, and community bonds strengthen, no matter your privilege or lack thereof. The risk of a privatized model

prioritizing efficiency over these essential functions could jeopardize the library's role as an inclusive cultural and educational center.

Fiscal Responsibility and Community Investment: While the allure of cost savings is understandable, we must consider the long-term implications of privatization on our community's social and cultural capital. The true value of our library extends far beyond its operating costs, encompassing its role in fostering literacy, education, and community cohesion. These are investments in our city's future, embodying the conservative principle of nurturing strong, self-reliant communities. Why try to fix something that isn't broken?

I urge you to stand with the citizens of Huntington Beach in safeguarding our library from privatization. Let us uphold the values that benefit our community by maintaining our library as a public institution, reflective of our collective commitment to the greater good.

Thank you for your time and for your continued service to our community. It's of extreme importance to approach this decision with the wisdom and foresight that our community deserves.

- Jeffrey

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Privatization of Libraries
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:34:01 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Kevin Sanford <nivekpunk@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 16, 2024 3:36 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Privatization of Libraries

I do not agree that privatization of the libraries is a good idea for any city and especially my own city. If you do this, please understand that I will vote against any member that supports this going forward.

Warmest regards,

Kevin Sanford
9261 Candlewood Dr. HB, CA 92646

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Outsourcing Library Services
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:34:18 AM

From: Laurie McCulloch <laurie91903@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 16, 2024 5:19 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Outsourcing Library Services

Dear Huntington Beach Mayor Van Der Mark, Mayor Pro Tem Burns, and Council members McKeon, Kalmick, Moser, Bolton and Strickland;

My name is Laurie McCulloch, and I'm a longtime homeowner and resident of Huntington Beach and like you, want the best for my city.

However, I became greatly concerned the city council would be involved in contract negotiations with Posey over Library Services.

I'm sure you share my concern.

Sincerely,
Laurie McCulloch
1808 Park St
92648

Laurie McCulloch
Laurie91903@gmail.com

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Vote NO on items #22 and #24 at the March 19, 2024 city council meeting.
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:34:38 AM

From: Dan Jamieson <danjamieson4@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 16, 2024 5:37 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Vote NO on items #22 and #24 at the March 19, 2024 city council meeting.

Dear HB City Council:

Please leave our library alone.

Vote NO on items #22 and #24 at the March 19, 2024 city council meeting.

Item 22, "Request authorization to issue a Request for Proposals for Managed Library Services for the Huntington Beach Public Library system," would put control of our beloved library into the hands of a private equity group. The PE group will squeeze library staff and cut services in order to turn a profit and show "cost savings" from their contract with the city. This would be a false economy. Library patrons and volunteers will be negatively impacted, and the city will lose control of our library. If you truly want local control, vote NO on Item 22.

Item 24, to approve " Ordinance No. 4318 adding Chapter 2.66 to the Huntington Beach Municipal Code Relating to the Community-Parent Guardian Review Board for Review of Procurement of Children's Library Material" is the ordinance to ban books in our library. Residents clearly do not want a review board telling the library what books and other materials it cannot purchase. Vote NO on Item 24.

Dan Jamieson

Roxanne McMillen

Huntington Beach

###

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Library privatization - item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:35:32 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

From: Charles King <charlesking@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 16, 2024 6:17 PM
To: Burns, Pat <Pat.Burns@surfcity-hb.org>
Cc: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Re: Library privatization - item 24-197

Hello Pat,

If this is just misinformation then why is there is there an agenda item to explore having a third party contractor operate the library system?

<https://huntingtonbeach.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=6573568&GUID=81C2F949-827A-4C4B-9F06-7B6D56F0D025>

Your concerned and apparently sad misinformed resident,
Charles King

On Sat, Mar 16, 2024 at 4:08 PM Burns, Pat <Pat.Burns@surfcity-hb.org> wrote:

No one is talking about the "privatization" of our libraries....except some malicious individuals that are putting out misinformation...and those that believe the misinformation....sad.

Pat Burns

Council Member / Mayor Pro Tempore

City of Huntington Beach

Office: (714) 536 - 5594

Cell: (714) 598 - 9595

Pat.burns@surfcity-hb.org

[2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648](https://www.cityofhuntingtonbeach.com/2000>Main-Street,-Huntington-Beach,-CA-92648)



From: Charles King <charlesking@gmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, March 16, 2024 12:44 PM

To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>

Subject: Library privatization - item 24-197

Hello,

I'm a concerned resident just wanting to voice my m opposition to privatizing our library system. The system is an incredible resource as it is and its management should not be handed over to a for profit company.

Thank you for your consideration,
Charles King

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: HB Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:37:51 AM

From: Dawn O Braithwaite <dbraithwaite1@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 16, 2024 11:06 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: HB Library

To: The Huntington Beach City Council
From: Dawn O. Braithwaite
RE: Privatizing the HB Library

Dear City Council Members,

I am a recently retired faculty member from the University of Nebraska who has moved back to Huntington Beach within the last year. I am writing to express my strong opposition to the City Council exploring privatizing city library operations. The Huntington Beach City Library is a jewel of our community. The library is an important public resource that needs to be celebrated, especially with the 50th anniversary coming up.

Our library has so many important and outstanding services that benefit the breadth of our community-- for citizens young and old and across the political spectrum. The library has a breadth of services from books to digital resources. One piece of evidence of the strong commitment to our library is the extraordinarily robust cadre of volunteers who donate countless hours to our city. This would certainly diminish under an out-of-state privatized business model. Certainly, there are lessons to be learned from the experiences of other California cities, such as Escondido.

Yesterday I was visiting a 97 year-old WWII veteran and his 96 year-old wife. They brought up the importance of reading and were passionately talking about the importance of children reading. My dear friend remembers so clearly going to the city library in Long Beach as a child. As he recounted the importance of the city library in his life, he started to cry. As I read about the possibility of privatizing the library to an out-of-state entity, I just cannot get

this conversation with this dear man out of my mind.

Libraries are the heart and soul of a community. I respectfully implore this city council to stand strongly for our public library and source of community pride. I ask you to reject consideration of privatizing our great community resource to an out-of-state entity.

Dawn O. Braithwaite
16532 Los Verdes Lane
Huntington Beach, CA 92649
dbraithwaite1@yahoo.com

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Privatization of the Libraries
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:38:15 AM

From: Yvonne <yredford@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 9:00 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Privatization of the Libraries

To Whom it May Concern:

I feel privatizing our PUBLIC libraries is a bad idea. The proposed company, LS&S, is a for-profit company which means that they will cut corners where ever they want to increase their bottom line and make more money. They do NOT have the public's best interest in mind.

I do understand that it will save the City one million dollars in the budget but at what real cost to the citizens. You as a council have been elected to have the citizen's best interests in mind when making this type of decision. By approving this transfer/sale of the City's library services you are not doing what you were elected to do.

Also, I know I can't believe everything I read, but is it true that Posey has a hand in this and in LS&S?

Please do NOT approve the measure to privatize.

Yvonne Redford
HB resident for 37 years

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Library proposal agenda item and more
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:38:48 AM

From: Dale Martinez <daleneuls@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 10:10 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Library proposal agenda item and more

Dear City Council,

I am writing to you to express my opposition to your proposal to privatize the management of the Huntington Beach Library management.

I appreciate your recent library month celebration and information. And for those of you who actually grew up or raise children in our city, you know how important they are to our local culture and services. Unlike those who are carpetbaggers with a personal political and financial agenda.

There are a few things that particularly concern me about this move.

- This feels particularly like the well worn "cancel culture" that the conservative majority is obviously trying to do, no matter what you want to call it. (Have you actually read the books that you are trying to ban (under any other name), and the diswisdom of forming a 21 member "citizens group" while disbanding the Human Relations Committee and canceling the participation of the Interfaith Council in the City Council meetings?)

- Couching the move to privatize the library management in an attempt to save money when you are clearly costing the taxpayers for your favorite things (giving raise to and increasing the attorney's office and law suits and favoring outside big business interests such as in the resort area) while driving off local librarians, committed city employees and volunteers.

- This feels like a move of spreading the bad news of the council's poor governance, such as having the Police Chief serve as the City Manager. If we had a better City Council and other resident friendly things going on in our city (like a commitment to affordable housing) we could attract and retain high quality workers and volunteers to help our City thrive. Are there any Code Four volunteers in our libraries or community services not specifically tied to their own financial interests in the expanding Air Show, with another law suit likely for beach access and use?

So, please. Do not privatize this vital part of our City and Culture. Resist your urges to pressure changes to our City that are clearly pushed and urged by people and organizations that do not reflect the values of the residents (Ladies for Liberty, John Birch Society, christian nationalism, etc.) of Huntington Beach or even Orange County.

Sincerely

Dale Neuls Martinez

714 717 7235

Third generation HB resident, who would love to have my children and grandchildren stay here and feel welcome, no matter what color, viewpoint, or job they have, affordably and without fear.

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Huntington Beach Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:39:03 AM

From: Francine Karuntzos <francine_karuntzos@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 10:43 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Huntington Beach Library

City Council:

Keep your hands off of "our" library! Every time a hedge fund gets involved we know that they are the ones who are going to strip the resource and make money off of it and "our" library will suffer for it! "Our" library is the crown jewel of Huntington Beach and our children should always have a place to go to get books, especially children who may not have the funds to buy them on their own. This is also a great resource for the seniors of our city who have paid into the taxes of this city over the years and deserve to keep the wonderful staff who take time to answer questions and maybe socialize for that person's only contact for the day. Huntington Beach library is one of our best assets in Huntington Beach.

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Regarding our Libraries
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:39:18 AM

From: Tim Geddes <timgeddes3@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 11:08 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Regarding our Libraries

Dear Mayor and City Council,

In my forty years of living in Huntington Beach, there has been one cultural constant. It is our public library system. As an avid reader, I enjoy visiting our libraries like a kid visiting a toy store. There are always new and wonderful things there and genuinely interested staff members to help find and explain its resources. My two children grew up visiting and cherishing their experiences at both the Central Library and the Banning branch near our house.

My son's Eagle Scout project was to organize a landscaping project inside the Central Library (by the back stairs) and beautify it with new plants from grateful donors like Armstrong Nursery. He directed fellow Boy Scouts from his troop who were also eager to give back to a core learning institution in our community. There was a plaque set up commemorating this effort. He is horrified at what might happen to a library system he has known and used his entire life.

My daughter, also an avid reader, moved up to the Seattle area a few years ago and now works for the King County Library System (the busiest library system in the United States as of 2010). She is also horrified at what might happen to our library system. She says H.B.P.L. should not stand for Huntington Beach Profit-Making Library. I agree with her.

My children and all young people are the beneficiaries of this social and cultural jewel of our city. It should not be replaced by the artificial cubic zirconia of indifferent private enterprise. Already, we have seen changes to library operations that both outrage and terrify long-time residents and their families. I have seen no public groundswell of support for this move and much opposition, especially those who see both the quality and charm of our current system being coldly cast aside for more base considerations. Many young people would echo the sentiments of

the boy who approached baseball star "Shoeless" Joe Jackson in the wake of the 1919 Chicago White Sox World Series Scandal and cried "Say it ain't so, Joe!" Jackson's reply was "I'm afraid it is, kid".

It is not too late to back away from this cold-blooded and mercenary affront to our residents. Pursuing it further will long be seen as both heartless and anti-community. I urge you to not go down the path of privatization for our public libraries.

Sincerely,

Tim Geddes

21802 Windsong Circle
Huntington Beach, CA 92646
(714) 478-0168

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Opposition to Managed Library Services
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:39:48 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Allison Sweetland <allisonmsweetland@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 12:39 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Opposition to Managed Library Services

I strongly oppose managed library services, administrative item 22, and item 22-197.

Our community relies so heavily on this library as it is. It's one of the most important draws to Huntington Beach as a city as well.

Not only is it important to have access to the variety of books HBPL has, but the Huntington Beach Citizens the city employs are all so necessary. They build the community more so than anyone else.

Please consider abandoning these items and keep the library the vibrant community beacon it has been for decades.

Thanks,
-Allison Sweetland
allisonmsweetland@gmail.com

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: City Council Meeting 3/19/2024
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:40:09 AM

From: K Carroll <kcrissie7@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 12:46 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: City Council Meeting 3/19/2024

Greetings Mayor Van Der Mark, Pro Tem Pat Burns, Councilmen McKeon and Strickland:

Congratulations on the very successful results of the A & B Charter Amendments in the most recent elections! Thrilled to see the results! Thank you so much for bringing these items forward. You truly mean it when you say you speak for the majority. And, Congratulations on being the popular vote on County Central Committee 72nd Assembly District. The results represented all but two of my votes. Most importantly, what my vote for Pat Burns for the County Central Committee. Disappointed; but, darn close! You have to feel proud though Pat, especially as you said when you first ran for council people were saying 'who is Pat Burns'. You have made a huge impact in such a short period of time.

I would like to briefly relay my thoughts on the following for the upcoming meeting agenda items:

24-204: **Council Liaison** - SUPPORT.

24-180: **AB1999** SUPPORT for all reasons outlined in communications shared.

24-197: **Request for Proposals for managed Library Services.** SUPPORT. However, strongly oppose Michael Posey being anything close to involved in this. He was the one that initially proposed CCE and ultimately deceived the residents. Along with many other detrimental outcomes of the council's actions during his term. He never supported the majority of residents as well as continuously attacked and clearly had a vendetta against Michael Gates.

24-209: **Ordinance 4318** - Parent Guardian Review Board. SUPPORT. Very comprehensive. I think we all need to reflect on what got us here in the first place. Graphic sexual books (blow jobs, sexual positions, cartoonish graphic sexual books being available to children and minors. These are grooming tools. There was no oversight. We need parent involvement because the system in the library did not work.

24-208: **Withdrawal from League of California Cities.** SUPPORT for all the reasons outlined in Casey McKeon's Memo.

And, finally I would like to ask that the City Council maintain decorum in the Chambers. Each person has an opportunity to talk. No one should be heckled or bullied. I know, first hand from attending

the meetings. What you see on You Tube or the City Channel does not show the intensity of what you experience when attending the meeting in person. In person is much more amplified. It has gotten out of hand and frankly, I do not feel safe attending these meetings in person because of the mob hateful behavior and actions. I have seen others being verbally attacked while the meeting is going on. Please, institute a no tolerance policy for this type of behavior and have anyone who cannot adhere to the no tolerance policy or decorum policy removed.

As always, best regards and thank you for all you do. You truly are making HB better for all of the majority.

Best regards,

Kris Carroll

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Possible Privatization of our Library Meeting 3/19/2024
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:40:37 AM

From: Suzanne Lawrence <zam92647@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 2:01 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Possible Privatization of our Library Meeting 3/19/2024

I am against privatizing our library. I have been living in HB and using this library for decades. I borrow lots of fiction, mysteries, thrillers and action hardbacks. We are fortunate that we can borrow at no cost to us. The library is kept in good condition with friendly staff, activities and book sales. We all will eventually be reading from tablets so let's enjoy what we have as long as we can before that hammer falls. If a fee from us can help, I can support that. My only complaint is the water feature outside. If it is too expensive to fix, fill it with dirt and plant lots of flowers, bushes and small trees. Maybe put some benches out on artificial grass. Thank you for your attention.

Suzanne Lawrence, Library Patron and Against Privatization of our Library

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Item 22, 24-197 Managed Library Services, Item 24, 24-209 Community Parent Guardian Review Board
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:40:57 AM

From: Lena Marie Kamae <lakamae@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 2:48 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Item 22, 24-197 Managed Library Services, Item 24, 24-209 Community Parent Guardian Review Board

Hello,

Item 22, 24-197 Managed Library Services:

We strongly oppose privatizing the Huntington Beach Public Library. We believe it is not in the best interest of the residents of Huntington Beach to outsource these services. What happens to the wonderful library staff? What about the Friends of the Library Bookstore and the amazing volunteers. We visit the Huntington Beach library once to twice a week. It is the best library we've ever seen. The services offered there encompass all ages.

Item 24, 24-209 Community Parent Guardian Review Board

We strongly oppose the Community Parent Guardian Review Board for the Procurement of library books. A public library is for everyone, not for someone to pick and choose what you are allowed to enjoy.

Lena Kamae

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Maintain the library as is
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:41:07 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Darrel Cohoon <consultdca@me.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 3:08 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Maintain the library as is

Please don't put us in the same category as Palmdale. People here can and do read. And we need full, informed, competent, and dedicated services by library professionals.

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Privatization of HB Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:41:47 AM

From: Terms Of Mail Service <jcarey1950@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 3:19 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Privatization of HB Library

Council Members,

I was so disgusted to read the news that the council is considering getting proposals for the privatization of the Huntington Beach Library. I have been a resident of Huntington Beach for over 45 years and have never felt this bad about what's happening in our city. The council should solve issues of the city and not waste its resources and money supporting other states and do unnecessary stuff that the citizens do not want. Parents should be the ones deciding what books their children should read, not the council or any committee, for that matter. In the age of the internet, kids can find whatever they are looking for on the web, so it is very disappointing to see this is being pushed at the council. I strongly oppose any such actions by the members.

Jackie Carey
19552 Vasile Circle
Huntington Beach, CA 92646

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Agenda item to privatize the Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:42:05 AM

From: Lou Ann Hobbs <lhobbsflorence@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 3:28 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Agenda item to privatize the Library

Dear members of the Huntington Beach City Council,
This is to register my strong objection to the privatization of our library.

The focus is on serving the citizens with excellent Reference service, well-selected materials which reflect the interests of citizens, and a wide range of programs.

To turn a thriving City tax-payer paid for institution into a for-profit enterprise is certainly NOT in the best interests of those you represent.

Sincerely yours, Lou Ann Hobbs HB Resident and frequent Library user since 1979

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Library - do not change how managed
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:42:24 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Karen Jackle <karen@pjackle.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 4:14 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Library - do not change how managed

Yes the library needs new roof but that is part of planning needed. The \$15000 per month raised by volunteers will disappear if you hire outside company to manage library.

Karen Jackle
Resident since 1973

Please focus on our city infrastructure.
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Agenda Item: Huntington Beach Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:43:16 AM

From: Linda Mott <mommymott1950@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 4:51 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Fwd: Agenda Item: Huntington Beach Library

I am writing to voice my adamant opposition to the proposal for the privatization of the Huntington Beach Library.

I moved to Huntington Beach with my parents in 1964. I attended both Huntington Beach and Marina high schools. I met my husband at Golden West College. The Huntington Beach Library was a resource I used throughout my educational journey. My daughter and son used the library as a resource while attending and graduating from Marina High School.

Jack and Marty Green were the parents of our dear friends.. Jack Green was elected to the HB City Council in 1966 and served for eight years including Mayor in 1969. His wife, Marty, became Assistant Director and Technical Manager of the HB Central Library in the mid 70's. Both Jack and Marty were champions of the HB Central Library and Central Park.

The Huntington Beach public library has been a source of pride to the citizens of this city since 1909, The library is a safe place for all Huntington Beach citizens to visit and explore without judgment or restriction. Privatization will limit access to the community by restricting public access and give power and oversight to a private group with conservative ideologies and political agendas.

Please do not move forward on this proposal.

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Vote against privatizing the library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:43:40 AM

From: Lauryn Alexander <loalexander18@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 4:52 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Vote against privatizing the library

Hello,

I'm an HB resident and wanted to express that I don't want the HB library to be privatized. The HB library has offered a lot to the community and should REMAIN PUBLIC.

Focus on solving actual problems in our community and stop trying to mess up already good things.
Thanks.

Lauryn

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Public library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:43:57 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: edward murphy <emurphy626@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 5:12 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Public library

Please keep the operation of the library out of the hands of a private operation.

Ed & Betty Murphy
Sent from my iPad

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: HBPL Keep it Publicly Managed
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:44:20 AM

From: Debbi Campana <debbi.campana@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 5:19 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: HBPL Keep it Publicly Managed

Dear HB City Council:

I am against the RFP for privatization of our Huntington Beach Public Library system. I do not want a corporate interest managing this important public resource. Currently our library enjoys the benefits of many volunteers giving huge time and financial support. The HB Friends of the Library and HB Friends of the Children's Library are critical to library operations. Many will withdraw their support if library operations are privatized: I know I will.

A few questions need to be addressed:

1. How will library operations be impacted? Some areas of concern: staffing levels, library hours, library services, and branch libraries (closures or restricted hours)..
2. How will the library cover the potential loss of volunteers funding and hours?
These areas all depend on volunteers: Literacy center, Makerspace, English language tutoring, homework club, family literacy program, genealogy center, Veterans center, children story hours, circulation, shelving, etc.
3. How will new books be acquired and reviewed?
4. Will librarians be on site or regional?
5. How much will actually be saved without reducing locations, hours, and services?

Please keep our libraries public.

Thank you,

Deborah Campana

HB Resident and library patron since 1997

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Privatization of HB Libraries
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:45:04 AM

From: Kimberley Hansler <kghansler@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 5:59 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Privatization of HB Libraries

Dear City Council members,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed privatization of our beloved public libraries. As a member of this community who has cherished the services and resources provided by our library system, I believe privatization would have detrimental effects on accessibility, equity, and the overall well-being of our community.

Public libraries are essential pillars of democracy, providing free and equal access to information, education, and cultural enrichment for all members of society, regardless of their socioeconomic status. By privatizing the library, we risk sacrificing these fundamental principles in favor of profit-driven motives. It is troubling that former Huntington Beach Mayor Mike Posey serves as the company's regional sales executive (since 2021) and is the one who brought this to your attention.

One of the most concerning aspects of privatization is the potential for restricted access. Privatized libraries may prioritize profit over public service, leading to increased user fees, limited operating hours, and restricted access to certain materials or services. This would disproportionately impact low-income individuals and marginalized communities, further exacerbating existing inequalities. It is also a great concern there will be cost-cutting measures to ensure the company makes a profit.

Furthermore, privatization could compromise the integrity of library collections and programming. Private entities may prioritize commercial interests over intellectual freedom and diversity of thought, censoring or limiting access to materials that do not align with their agendas. This goes against the core values of intellectual freedom and open access that public libraries uphold.

Additionally, privatization may result in the loss of professional expertise and community engagement that public libraries provide. Librarians play a crucial role in curating collections, providing reference services, and developing educational programs tailored to the needs of our diverse community. Privatization could lead to staff layoffs, reduced professional standards, and diminished community involvement. Therefore I am also strongly opposed to the introduction of an ordinance to create a "community-parent guardian review board for review of procurement of children's library material."

Our public libraries are a vital resource that enriches the lives of countless individuals in our

community. It is imperative that we protect and preserve this invaluable institution for current and future generations to enjoy.

Thank you for considering my concerns. I strongly urge you to reject the privatization of Huntington Beach's public libraries and to uphold the principles of accessibility, equity, and intellectual freedom that our library represents.

Best,
Kimberley Hansler
523 18th Street

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: No on Privatizing Public Resources
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:45:51 AM

From: Kyra <kikispoon02@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 8:03 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: No on Privatizing Public Resources

Kyra Spoon
Fountain Valley, CA 92708
3/17/24

City Council of Huntington Beach
2000 Main St #5
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

Dear Huntington Beach City Council:

As a frequent member of the Huntington Beach Central Library, I am writing to express my disapproval about the privatization of library's management services, which will only serve to cause the loss of jobs for library union workers and reduce the community's connection to one of its most treasured resources.

I am a local member of the library, and while I am not a Huntington Beach city resident, I am a resident of Orange County, and can say with certainty that I am among hundreds of other Orange County residents who support the HB Central Library and take pride in its wealth of educational resources. Huntington Beach Central Library is a public resource, and should continue to be run by the public, for the public. The predominant library management service that is vying for control of the library, Library Systems & Services, might advertise more local events to add to the library's calendar, but in the long run it will cause a detriment to the community as jobs are taken away from local workers.

It is clear that Library Systems & Services is connected to the council through private interests, and it doesn't take more than a minute's Google search to find out that the former Mayor and City Council Member Mike Posey is now LS&S's Regional Sales Executive. This political trade off is clearly not for the betterment of the city's community, but is a financial score for someone who is no longer an active member of the city's council. This is not a matter of saving money to be put back into the community; it is clear that this will only serve to financially benefit this for-profit company and businessmen like Mike Posey.

The issue of privatization will not go unnoticed and will see immediate drawbacks, starting with the loss of essential services that directly impact the members of the library. Please listen to your community in keeping the Huntington Beach Central Library a resource that serves its people.

Sincerely,
Kyra Spoon

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Agenda 19-March
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:46:35 AM

From: midge hill <undertheson35@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 8:49 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Agenda 19-March

Dear City Council Members,

I am not able to attend the council meeting of Tuesday, 19-March. However, as a resident of Huntington Beach for more than 30 years, having children who attended HBCSD & graduated HBUHSD, I can attest to the wonderful opportunities that were afforded my children by our city library system. While living within walking distance of the Banning branch, my children were frequent visitors. In later years, they spent a good deal of time at HB Central Library both for pleasure reading, homework and community resources. As adults, we recently attended a film festival and the raptor talk and bird walk organized through the library. This is wholly unique to our HB community.

I strongly oppose 2 items on the agenda for 19-March as unnecessary actions against the fabric that makes Huntington Beach an exceptional and distinct place to raise a family.

I oppose item 24-197 Request Authorization to issue a Request for Proposals for Managed Library Services for the Huntington Beach Public Library system.

I oppose item 24-209 Approval for Introduction Ordinance No. 4318 adding Chapter 2.66 to the Huntington Beach Municipal Code Relating to the Community-Parent Guardian Review Board for the Review of Procurement of Children's Library Material.

I find no redeeming purpose to support either of these 2 agenda items.
I urge a vote of NO for both items.

Respectfully,
Midge A. Hill
19872 Carmania Lane
Est. 1992

 Virus-free. www.avg.com

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Input regarding Agenda Items 22 and 24 for the 3/19/2024 City Council meeting
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:46:49 AM

From: Patricia Larkin <patglarkin@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 10:02 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Input regarding Agenda Items 22 and 24 for the 3/19/2024 City Council meeting

City Council Members,

This is Patricia Larkin and I am a long-time resident of Huntington Beach. I want to give input on two agenda items for the March 19th City Council meeting.

Agenda Item 22: I am strongly opposed to any request or proposal to outsource our exemplary Huntington Beach Public Library to an East Coast Hedge Fund. PLEASE DO NOT TAKE THIS ACTION.

Agenda Item 24: I am also strongly opposed to any ordinance that would implement rules for a "Community-Parent Guardian Review Board" for selecting books for the Children's Library. Our librarians are educated for this purpose and are making excellent choices regarding the books in our children's library. They are the best-informed personnel for this task. PLEASE DO NOT TAKE THIS PROPOSED ACTION.

Patricia Larkin
Concerned Huntington Beach Citizen.

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Please do not have a private company run our libraries for a profit !!!
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:47:10 AM

From: NATASHA ELISHA <tashelisha@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 12:41 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Please do not have a private company run our libraries for a profit !!!

Dear City Council ,

Please do not allow a for profit company to take over our library . I understand every city has budget concerns but contracting out the library services to a for profit private equity company is not the answer. Libraries are a public service, not something to be gutted to make a profit for a company outside our community. We have one of the most wonderful & beautiful libraries in the country, please don't outsource it !!! From what I understand The Friends of the Libray organization already makes up for many of the extras the library needs and can't provide within their normal operating budget. Firing employees and cutting services does not help the community . What would they cut ?... the summer reading program, new books , story time , the used book store ,community events , the seed library ?? My kids have so many wonderful memories of the HB library, like the summer reading festival , toddler reading/story program, the used book section of friends of the library and the fun store. I want future generations to be able to create those same memories at the library.

Maybe the city could put this to city ballot vote for a small tax / bond to fund the library . Like we did for the senior center . Maybe we could repair the fountains as well, since they are now not working from years of neglect on maintaince issues. Everyone supports our wonderful library. It is the pride of the community. Please don't give this jewel to a private company who will cut it down to a shell of its former glory!!

Another idea is maybe we have fundraiser with the help of Friends of the Library to help fix the fountains and shore up the budget more. Nobody wants a private outside company messing with our library, cutting valuable staff, books or services.

Please vote no on considering a private company to "run" our library, it should be left to the current dedicated and knowledgeable staff and the community who love it !!!

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Natasha Elisha- 26-year resident

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Council Actions
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:57:04 AM

From: Y Morri <ymorri02@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 12:44 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Council Actions

Huntington Beach City Council,

I am writing to communicate my opposition to the proposed privatization of the Huntington Beach library. Privatizing the library system would redirect the operational focus to creating profit regardless of the impact the steps taken to do so would impact our community. Huntington Beach's library system should remain dedicated and accountable to the citizens of Huntington Beach. There should be transparency in the policies, practices and decision making involved in its operation. Library privatization should not be the City Council's method of reducing city costs. There are many other less vital and important areas of spending that should be compromised before our public libraries. I urge you to discontinue efforts to privatize our library system.

I also implore you to redirect your attention to other areas of concern in our city. What can you do during this week's city council meeting to reduce crime in our community? What are you doing this week to improve services for the mentally ill in HB? To reduce homelessness? To eliminate pot holes? Reduce traffic in our overly congested areas so people can access businesses. Instead of looking at ways to reduce library services, what are you doing right now to reduce the access to illegal drugs our youth have? What programs are you creating to give our youth improved access to programs that direct them away from activity that reduces their potential for successful futures?

Huntington Beach is a beautiful community. I would really like to see the City Council focus on the true issues in our community instead of prioritizing the library system.

Yelena Morri

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Privatization of our library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:33:16 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Julie Ford <fordsjtt@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:55 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Privatization of our library

Stop!!

You four council members have gone to far

Our city library is a treasure to our city. The library structure needs much structural repairs. Stop trying to ruin it by privatizing

We value our Library

Julie Ford, DDS
Huntington Beach resident 50 years
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: HUNTINGTON BEACH PUBLIC LIBRARY
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:33:29 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Mary Hiber <beachldy53@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:34 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: HUNTINGTON BEACH PUBLIC LIBRARY

Dear City Council,

I have lived here for 50 years and watched our library in Central Park being built and filled with wonderful books for all to read. PLEASE DO NOT put this library into the hands of any private company. I am against the direction our City Council is taking in this matter.

Sincerely,
Mary Hiber
6402 Vatcher Drive
Huntington Beach, CA
Sent from my iPad

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Outsourcing Library Services
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:33:53 AM

From: Laurie McCulloch <laurie91903@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:44 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Outsourcing Library Services

Good morning City Council,
Thank you for your responses from my initial email.

It's comforting to know that Library System and Services will not be considered for contract because of conflict of interest and the perception of favoritism.

Thank you, for once again, restoring my faith in our local government to do the right thing.

Sincerely,
Laurie McCulloch

Laurie McCulloch
Laurie91903@gmail.com

On Sat, Mar 16, 2024 at 5:18 PM Laurie McCulloch <laurie91903@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Huntington Beach Mayor Van Der Mark, Mayor Pro Tem Burns, and Council members McKeon, Kalmick, Moser, Bolton and Strickland;

My name is Laurie McCulloch, and I'm a longtime homeowner and resident of Huntington Beach and like you, want the best for my city.

However, I became greatly concerned the city council would be involved in contract negotiations with Posey over Library Services.

I'm sure you share my concern.

Sincerely,
Laurie McCulloch
1808 Park St
92648

Laurie McCulloch

Laurie91903@gmail.com

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Oppose RFP for Managed Services for HBPL
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:34:25 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Lora Gumbrecht <loragumby@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:00 AM
To: Wysocki, Ashley <ashley.wysocki@surfcity-hb.org>; CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>; Hopkins, Travis <thopkins@surfcity-hb.org>; Walker, Renee <Renee.Walker@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Oppose RFP for Managed Services for HBPL

HB City Council and other officials proposing this RFP:

I strongly oppose this suggestion and would like to keep the library services maintained as they have always been. We have been residents and homeowners in HB for 33 years. We found the library essential when raising our child here and we have taken advantage of many services over the years ourselves. Please do not decide to move forward with this proposal.

Thank you,

Lora L. Gumbrecht

HB resident

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:35:25 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: kathy Shuler <surgal69@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:29 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Library

Sent from my iPhone. Please do not privatize please

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:35:41 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: LEE NASH <otak1@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:39 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Library

Do not privatize the library
Lee nash
16202 culpepper circle
Huntington Beach 92647

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Privatization of the library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:36:04 AM

From: Barbara Van Dine <barb8980@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:51 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Privatization of the library

I am a resident of 26 years, raised two children in Huntington Beach and the Library was a central focus of learning and growth for our entire family. It is hardly a porn haven. The privatization of the library is not about what is good for the community nor is it about saving money for the City. It is based on right-wing ideology that is part of a national movement to control cities (our city Council), libraries and eventually school boards. This mania must stop. Gracie, you and your allies should be ashamed of yourselves. This is NOT how you presented yourselves when you were up for election. It is time to get back to running the city not your personal agendas.

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Huntington Beach Public Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:36:23 AM

From: Judy Standerford <judystanderford@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:55 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Huntington Beach Public Library

This email is directed to the four majority council member, the city attorney and former council member, Mike Posey.

Please do not even consider outsourcing any library services. You have already done enough to tarnish the reputation of the library and of Huntington Beach. We are becoming the laughing stock not just of Orange County but recently of the entire US. We live in a democracy and are governed by the US Constitution. That Constitution does not allow you to censor or ban ANY reading materials. "Community standards" are just that – standards agreed upon by the entire community – not just a narrow minded few. The books and materials in the library are very everybody – not just for those who agree with your very radical fundamentalist views. Your "community standards" are extremely hurtful of many of our citizens and should not be allowed to govern the books and other materials in a free, public library.

Outsourcing would not save the city any money – it would just allow the four majority council members, the city attorney and a former council member to funnel money to themselves and their friends. I do not want my tax money being used to enrich any council members or city staff.

Judy Standerford
Huntington Beach Resident

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: No to library changes
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:36:39 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: taford3@gmail.com <taford3@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:57 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: No to library changes

To whom it may concern,

I have been a resident of hb for 37 years. Do not change the library system. These librarians are amazing . I have been to libraries in Escondido that are privitized and the services are awful. The librarians are not knowledgeable and the experience was frustrating. Please reconsider your vote. Everyone deserves a great experience at the library.

Tiffany truitt
High school teacher
Elementary school parent of ovsd
Hb resident
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Opposition to Agenda Item 22
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:36:53 AM

From: Irma Loper <loperfamily@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:00 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Opposition to Agenda Item 22

I am a long-time resident of Huntington Beach. I have volunteered at the schools, sport teams and the library. For the past 30-years I raised funds for the book collection at the Children's Library of the Huntington Beach **Public** Library.

I oppose the City Council's efforts to privatize the library. It is a gem of the city and is beloved by all the patrons. Please concentrate your efforts on more pressing issues that the city faces.

Irma Loper

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: City Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:38:17 AM

From: Jan Newcomb <jasnet714@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:32 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: City Library

Please do not privatize our library.

We need to maintain control over the things that make Huntington Beach such a special place to live! Our library is definitely one of those things! It's a gem, something we are proud of, and a great asset to our community.

Thank you, Jan

JANET L. NEWCOMB
www.focusedcoach.com
Phone/Fax 714-847-8933

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: No Privatization of HB Libraries
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 12:27:57 PM

From: Kaycee Poppe <my2kidshb@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 12:05 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: No Privatization of HB Libraries

Hello,

My name is KayCee Poppe and I have lived in Huntington Beach for over 10 years with my husband and 2 children. We attend the Ocean View School district.

We have used the library in Huntington Beach more times than I can count. We have used it's many services for kids and have greatly enjoyed them all. The librarians and volunteers are always so helpful.

I often tell people about how amazing our library is. We donate our books we no longer need to the library and also purchase things from the used bookstore and gift shop.

My family loves all the things that Huntington Beach libraries offer. One of the best things about the Central Library, it is the one we frequent the most, is that we have lived here since my son was 3. He is going to be 14 later this year and my daughter will be 9. We have checked out books monthly for our nightly readings and we have never had a problem finding books that we had never read before. So, in over 10 years we have checked out hundreds of books if not over a 1000.

We love that the library has so much to offer and to privatize it, would be to take the soul out of it. You all live here, the people that live here want to support local. We would not be getting that with privatization.

Please do not consider the proposal from LS&S Corp, there is always another way.

Thank you,
KayCee Poppe

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Public library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 12:28:13 PM

From: Laura Bebault <lbebault@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 12:15 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Public library

Shame on you for trying to privatize our public library! What are you thinking? Most of this city council has been making horrible decisions and need to be recalled. This is exactly the kind of thing that makes us want to get rid of you!

Sincerely,
Laura Bebault
Huntington Beach home owner since 1996

Sent from my Galaxy

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: HB City Council Meeting 3/19/24
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 12:28:35 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Leslie Selder <rlsld5862@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 12:18 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: HB City Council Meeting 3/19/24

Agenda Item 22:

Where is the logic in the idea of outsourcing HB City Library Services to a private company owned by a hedge fund? This will result in subpar services when we are used to quite the opposite. Our city librarians & other staff are superlative; they provide information & guidance that are invaluable to patrons. Do not replace them with some "library services company" that has no clue about our stellar Huntington Beach libraries.

Agenda Item 24:

I strongly object to the proposed ordinance that would establish a "Community-Parent Review Board" for Children's Library books. This is no less than an attempt to wrest control from educated, experienced librarians & hand it to an inexperienced board made up of community members who are not impartial. It is censorship, and we are better than that.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Privatization of library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 12:47:27 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Lin Gangemi <itsling@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 12:35 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Privatization of library

After review of the operation of this for profit company, I am adamantly OPPOSED to this change in operation of our library!! I believe this will seriously affect the costs of library services and reduce the number of volunteers who would want to participate with a for profit company.

Linda Gangemi
Huntington Beach resident
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Library privatization
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 12:55:07 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: CYNDI BLINDT <cyndizoo@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 12:49 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Library privatization

To the Huntington Beach city Council
I strongly oppose managed library services for our library in Huntington Beach
Cyndi Blindt
8300 Anzio Cir
Huntington Bch Ca

Sent from my iPhone

From: drnanjo
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Do NOT Privatize our LIBRARY!!!
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:57:31 AM

This is a scam.

I strongly object as a taxpayer and a resident.

They will RUIN our libraries.

Libraries are NOT for-profit institutions.

They are one of the few places citizens can spend time without the expectation of spending money.

I promise I will do everything I can to convince my neighbors to vote this version of the city council out if this happens. They will PROVE that they care only about making themselves rich. They don't give a rat's ass about the city.

Nancy J. Melucci
Programming Student
drnanjo17@gmail.com

From: [Laura Ruetz](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 12:02:20 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

I have been going to the Huntington Beach Library since I was a little kid. It has always been a place of joy and wonderful memories, both as a child and as an adult.

I oppose the privatization of the Library. The librarians are a wonderful resource of information for all things related to books, and for the resources available to the patrons. We should not move out of the public library system. Libraries are where people of all ages find resources and comfort, as well as access to books, and digital library resources.

Library offerings should not be limited, and ultimately, parents should be reviewing what their children are checking out, not a group of strangers or some panel or committee that makes wide sweeping choices for an entire community. Our librarians are necessary and our libraries, and all branches deserve the support of the community, not trying to have a for-profit business try to run our beloved library as a business.

Laura Ruetz

From: Kaycee Poppe
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: No Privatization of the HB Libraries
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 12:03:41 PM

Hello,

My name is KayCee Poppe and I have lived in Huntington Beach for over 10 years with my husband and 2 children. We attend the Ocean View School district.

We have used the library in Huntington Beach more times than I can count. We have used it's many services for kids and have greatly enjoyed them all. The librarians and volunteers are always so helpful.

I often tell people about how amazing our library is. We donate our books we no longer need to the library and also purchase things from the used bookstore and gift shop.

My family loves all the things that Huntington Beach libraries offer. One of the best things about the Central Library, it is the one we frequent the most, is that we have lived here since my son was 3. He is going to be 14 later this year and my daughter will be 9. We have checked out books monthly for our nightly readings and we have never had a problem finding books that we had never read before. So, in over 10 years we have checked out hundreds of books if not over a 1000.

We love that the library has so much to offer and to privatize it, would be to take the soul out of it. You all live here, the people that live here want to support local. We would not be getting that with privatization.

Please do not consider the proposal from LS&S Corp, there is always another way.

Thank you,
KayCee Poppe

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

From: [Leslie Selder](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: City Council Meeting 3/19/24
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 12:08:41 PM

Agenda Item 22:

Where is the logic in the idea of outsourcing HB city library services to a private company owned by a hedge fund? This will result in subpar services when we are used to quite the opposite. Our city librarians & other staff are superlative; they provide information & guidance that are invaluable to patrons. Do not replace them with some "library services" company with no clue about our stellar Huntington Beach libraries.

Agenda Item 24:

I strongly object to the proposed ordinance that would establish a "Community-Parent Review Board" for Children's library books. This is no less than an attempt to wrest control from educated, experienced librarians & hand it to an inexperienced board made up of community members who are not impartial. It is censorship, and we are better than that.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Julie Brashears](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: HB Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 12:13:25 PM

I love our library and all the extra things they offer that keep it like a small town. The classes, speakers and programs are the best of any libraries I have seen in other cities. No where else has a "seed library" or classes on cricut/wood carving. The reading programs for the summer always encourage the kids to keep reading. The rewards are from local businesses and are important. I fear that we will lose so much by privatizing our library. I hope you listen to the people of our community as this is definitely coming from both sides.

Julie Brashears
6061 Medford Drive
HB CA 92647

From: [Laura Bebault](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Public library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 12:15:51 PM

Shame on you for trying to privatize our public library! What are you thinking? Most of this city council has been making horrible decisions and need to be recalled. This is exactly the kind of thing that makes us want to get rid of you!

Sincerely,
Laura Bebault
Huntington Beach home owner since 1996

Sent from my Galaxy

From: [Teresita Diaz](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Cc: [Teresita Diaz](#)
Subject: Fw: Proposal to Privatize the Huntington Beach Public Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 12:18:30 PM

I strongly oppose the proposal to privatize the public library.

Becoming a librarian is a calling much like that of becoming a nurse. They dedicate their lives to teaching children of all ages to appreciate our culture.

The library is a focal point in the community for people of all ages to discover the world. There is the toddler, the school age child, the senior citizen. There is the person who wants to open a business and who comes to study what is required. There are patrons of all ages that feel part of a community when doing research, studying, reading, rather than feeling alone at home.

Libraries play a social role by organizing activities such as book clubs, offering free technological assistance, teaching patrons to play chess, finish their crafts, etc. They makes us a stronger society offering literacy classes, and most important, teaching people the history of the United States and their civic responsibilities so that they become American citizens.

The privatization of the public library would be a blow to the morale of the many volunteers who have spent many hours selling used books to children and adults for a very low price, teaching literacy and citizenship classes, aiding patrons with their craft projects, etc. The worst impact would be having the librarians look for better jobs elsewhere.

To summarize, the library would cease to be a place to raise your kids safely, to provide a feeling of community, to equip a person as a better member of society by learning literacy skills and/or preparing to become a citizen and VOTE. It would be a tremendous blow to the morale of all the volunteers who contribute many hours to make it successful. The move has the potential that the dedicated librarians, who felt a calling, would leave for greener pastures. The patrons would suffer while the new players learn what it takes to run the library and how to cut services to save money.

Outsourcing library services to a for profit firm whose primary goal would be to show savings would destroy a very important service which the libraries have offered during the past 100 years. Not everything in this life can be measured in money.

Thank you for your time and consideration

Teresita Diaz

From: [Bonnie Ross](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 12:28:01 PM

I strongly, unequivocally Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library
Bonnie Ross, PhD.
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Lin Gangemi](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Privatization of library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 12:32:45 PM

After review of the particulars of this for profit company, I am adamantly OPPOSED to this change in operation of our library!!

Linda Gangemi
Huntington Beach resident
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Deanna Nadalin](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Opposition to Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 12:46:03 PM

To the Mayor, City Council, and City Staff:

I am writing to express my distress and concern over Agenda Item 24-197 regarding potential privatization of our City Library services.

Privatizing our library services is an unnecessary move and ultimately will cost the City more in the losses of qualified and dedicated library professionals, programs, volunteers, access, and diversity of the library's collections.

The Friends of the Huntington Beach Public Library (FOTL), of which I am a member and volunteer, has donated more than \$2million to the Library over the past 10 years through its fundraising efforts, most recently in the amount of \$250,000 last fall. Those donations come from proceeds from the Used Book Store, Gift Shop, library events, and other FOTL efforts. Will a private company keep those streams of income for funding of services and programs, without turning them into avenues for their profit?

Additionally, according to FOTL's Fall 2023 newsletter, the hours of service given by FOTL volunteers are equivalent to approximately 30 full-time employees, generating \$1million in annual savings to the City. I fear the FOTL will find a large number of their volunteers do not wish donate their time to a for-profit company (assuming it would keep any volunteers on at all), leading to deeper cuts in services.

What will happen to the many programs and services utilized by our citizens for their education and life enrichment – the literacy programs, genealogical research, computer access, Veterans Resources, Makerspace, Seed Bank, and our award-winning children's Storytime? Will they also be turned into profit-making revenue streams?

How would the privatization of library services affect the City's availability to apply for grants in support of the Library, which received over \$200,000 in grants funding in FY2022-23?

What transparency of policies and decision making, if any, will we have with a private company in charge of library services and programs?

There are too many questions and concerns to support making such a massive change to our City library services. Our valuable and vital City libraries need to remain the welcoming public places we are so proud of, serving the public good, and do not need to be run by an outside, for-profit entity.

I respectfully request you deny approval of Agenda Item 24-197.

Deanna Nadalin

Huntington Beach resident, taxpayer, library patron, and FOTL member/volunteer

From: [Tammy Gottschalk](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#); [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Comments against the outsourcing of the HB Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 12:50:48 PM

Dear HB City Council,

I would like to reach out to you to voice my concerns about the possibility of bringing in the outside company, LS&S, to operate the Huntington Beach Libraries. **I am emphatically, against this decision and believe that this will take the control and oversight of the library away for the people, and tax payers of Huntington Beach.**

Of note:

1. In 2011 there was a law, CA AB438, [signed into law in 2011](#) that prevents cities from privatizing library operations that would cause library employees to lose their job, wages, benefits or hours. So with this law in place, the only areas for cost saving would be in reducing the library collection itself or cutting library services to the people of Huntington Beach. This company has the additional burden of making a profit, so something has to go. The city of Huntington Beach should be able to run the library without giving up the control to an outside organization that has no ties or interest in our community.
2. It is oddly suspicious that former Mayor and former HB council member, Michael Posey, is currently the Regional Sales Executive for LS&S, the very company that the city council is considering for this contract. I would argue that Mr. Posey has undue influence and familiarity with our city policies and procedures due to his former positions and will benefit financially from that association. This information needs to be made public and needs to be vetted very carefully.
3. I would like to see statistics on the libraries that LS&S has taken over at the 5 year and 10 year mark, to see how they are faring. And not just from a cost reduction standpoint but the library's presence in the community and the services that continue to be offered.

The Huntington Beach library is a jewel in our community. My family loves the library; my kids grew up going there a of couple times a week. Something that important to the community should not be privatized for profit. **To reiterate, outsourcing the library management to a private company is not a good, long term decision for our community.**

--Tammy Gottschalk

Reference:

<https://www.oregister.com/2024/03/15/huntington-beach-considering-privatizing-library-operations/>

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/michael-posey-6b058a18_strong-libraries-strong-

[communities-activity-6807746128457564161-VuvH](#)

From: [Tammy Gottschalk](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: FW: Comments against the outsourcing of the HB Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 12:52:51 PM

Dear HB City Council,

I would like to reach out to you to voice my concerns about the possibility of bringing in the outside company, LS&S, to operate the Huntington Beach Libraries. **I am emphatically, against this decision and believe that this will take the control and oversight of the library away for the people, and tax payers of Huntington Beach.**

Of note:

1. In 2011 there was a law, CA AB438, [signed into law in 2011](#) that prevents cities from privatizing library operations that would cause library employees to lose their job, wages, benefits or hours. So with this law in place, the only areas for cost saving would be in reducing the library collection itself or cutting library services to the people of Huntington Beach. This company has the additional burden of making a profit, so something has to go. The city of Huntington Beach should be able to run the library without giving up the control to an outside organization that has no ties or interest in our community.
2. It is oddly suspicious that former Mayor and former HB council member, Michael Posey, is currently the Regional Sales Executive for LS&S, the very company that the city council is considering for this contract. I would argue that Mr. Posey has undue influence and familiarity with our city policies and procedures due to his former positions and will benefit financially from that association. This information needs to be made public and needs to be vetted very carefully.
3. I would like to see statistics on the libraries that LS&S has taken over at the 5 year and 10 year mark, to see how they are faring. And not just from a cost reduction standpoint but the library's presence in the community and the services that continue to be offered.

The Huntington Beach library is a jewel in our community. My family loves the library; my kids grew up going there a of couple times a week. Something that important to the community should not be privatized for profit. **To reiterate, outsourcing the library management to a private company is not a good, long term decision for our community.**

--Tammy Gottschalk

Reference:

<https://www.ocregister.com/2024/03/15/huntington-beach-considering-privatizing-library-operations/>

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/michael-posey-6b058a18_strong-libraries-strong-

[communities-activity-6807746128457564161-VuvH](#)

From: [Pat Goodman](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Please oppose Agenda Items 22 and 24
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 12:53:28 PM

Agenda Item 22 Please table/strike/oppose

I'm sure that the staff will prepare an excellent RFP for Managed Library Services for the Huntington Beach Public Library system. They will also be able to rate each submission and provide a cost benefit analysis for your final decision. It would be very helpful to state the reason for pursuing this issue, and what precipitated this action. Please offer the public reasons why you are requesting this use of staff time, and how this benefits the public.

I believe such an exercise is unnecessary and does not serve the public interest. Huntington Beach offers excellent library services to the community, and has great support from volunteers and the community

Agenda Item 24:

Please table this item and rethink how best to communicate age appropriate, and topical reading lists to parents. The document presented raises many questions.

2.66.030 Purpose

The board shall review children's books (below age 18) new purchases and may request review of books already in circulation for compliance with community standards and sexual content.

What are the criteria to review a children's book? A board member requesting a review is not criteria.

The board is not required to read every recommended new book for alignment with community standards and sexual content? Board members will suggest items for review. This is very troubling. How are board members to determine which books come under review? Is it a personal opinion about an author? Do they do a search for certain words and phrases in a text? You must come up with specific criteria to determine what book qualifies for a review.

Par. 1 How does the review board access the books to be reviewed prior to the city purchasing it? I found the troubling answer in section 2.660.100. The city will purchase these books under review and either try to sell or donate them (maybe to the Friends of HBPL) or to less discerning libraries. Does this make sense that the city would purchase a potentially banned book? Why not borrow it from another library system?

2.660.080 Will the city attorney provide a briefing on the law related to the

duties and criteria of this board including the Supreme Court definition of pornography prior to them initiating their review?

2.660.100 A. Any children's book may be nominated to be reviewed again after one year has passed since the prior review. How does this policy align with paragraph G. that all decisions of the board are final and non-appealable?

There appears to be some typos/grammatical errors. Please run the document through spell/grammar check.

Conclusions:

There is a level of trust that each board member will read the book under review. The risk is that a board member will not act independently and in the best interest of the community it serves. A board member ought not rely on the reviews of outside groups of a publication to base their vote but be able to form their opinion based on the clear guidelines offered by the city in order to achieve consistency, impartiality, and avoid lawsuits.

From the time of a book's submittal to the time of purchase (for those not reviewed or rejected) is one year. This board adds to the bureaucracy and diminishes efficiency of city library operations.

With this new board that exempts the one board rule for citizens to serve on only one board, it seems that the city is painting itself into a corner. The only way out is to table this item and think about how best the city might advise parents/guardians about questionable children's reading materials that may appear on the shelves of HBPL. (Is this a role the city wants to take on?) Perhaps trusted organizations like faith communities, medical providers, service organizations and nonprofits, could circulate recommended reading lists for children and parents. I'm sure there are better ways to get this information out to parents than setting up a bureaucratic board that arbitrarily selects books for review that may run afoul of the law.

Thank you for your consideration.

Pat Goodman
Huntington Beach, CA

From: jkatayama@socal.rr.com
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose privatization of library and book banning committee
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 1:05:59 PM

The city of Huntington Beach has wonderful libraries that my family has enjoyed for years. We do not need it to be privatized nor do we need any committee to choose appropriate books. (You do realize kids can google pretty much anything) Please stop wasting city resources on things that don't need fixed. We have plenty of opportunities to improve our beautiful city.

Thank you for your consideration.
Julie Katayama
7115 Ashley Dr.
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

From: leopardlady555@gmail.com
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: #22 Proposal to Privatize library services
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 1:10:37 PM

Dear Mayor Van der Mark and Council Members,

I could start off this communication by going into detail about the many years I have been a volunteer for the City of Huntington Beach, mostly for HB Public Library, and by relating how vital to the Oak View community is the Homework Help program in which I am currently engaged, but somehow I doubt that any of that would hold much sway with those of you who control the city council as you appear to view this as solely a cost-cutting issue.

When you came to office, you saw much that you deemed needed fixing in the running of Huntington Beach, and you had the people's majority mandate to do it!

I have to admire the speed at which, by voting as a block, you have cut a swath through years of what you and many Huntington Beach citizens perceive to have been the mishandling or misappropriation of funds, and by the contribution successive corrupt and /or neglectful city councils have made to the general moral decline of the citizenry, especially our kids.

Desperate situations call for desperate measures, and collectively you chose to put aside whatever minor policy disagreements the four of you had and focus on getting control of city government and getting it closer to what you, and it appears the majority of voters, demand as fiscally and morally on track. To do so in such short order, for a period of time you had to be blind and deaf to any objections to your plans.

I get it!

OK, you have it! You achieved your objective!

Now is the time to prove to the substantial number of Huntington Beach citizens who did not vote for you (and some who did and are regretful!) that you are not the ruthlessly self-righteous power-grabbers that you are sometimes portrayed. If even one of you would risk the wrath of the other three by cautioning that this might be an unpopular overreach and would listen to another point of view, it would help.

The Public Library Service is "low-hanging fruit" when cities look to departments in which to cut costs. That is precisely because those who gravitate towards working in that field are usually more altruistically motivated, more concerned with helping the local community than making a killing financially, so they are less likely to threaten strike, and even if they do, at least in the case of the more affluent Huntington Beach citizens who were the bulk of your voters, and who probably have never set foot in one of our city's great libraries, it would be a big, "Who cares?"

However, for those residents who depend on the library, not only for the access to books and computers, but also for the social enrichment and educational programs – which would be the first ones to get the chop! - then privatization would hit them severely hard.

The Homework Help program at Oak View Branch in which I volunteer has only one part-time paid employee, who gets no health care benefits with her job, and the rest of the 10+ workers are volunteers.

In conclusion, if you are concerned purely with the financial costs, then I'm sure there is ample evidence that you will win, hands down, by privatizing the library service. However, if, by any chance, you are prepared to figure in the human costs in terms of quality of life of the people of the city, and their contentment with the job you have done when it comes to your re-election, (you DO want to be re-elected, I presume!) you might find that the current HBPL gives you a better bang for your buck!

Sincerely,
Anne Cain

From: [Amelia Spence](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 1:11:19 PM

To whom it may concern,

I strongly oppose

Amelia Spence

From: [Barbara Voelkel](mailto:Barbara.Voelkel@surfcity-hb.org)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 1:14:58 PM

I am writing today to strongly oppose Agenda Item 24-197 requesting the authority to release a Request for Proposals for Managed Library services.

The Huntington Beach Public Library System is exceptional and an essential pillar of our community. It is not just a collection of books that can be monetized for a private company's profit. It is a gathering place for HB residents, a safe place for our children to spend their time, a resource for all – regardless of age, ethnicity, gender, income, social status, or any other characteristic that can divide us. Our Library staff are the cream of the crop – professional, knowledgeable, caring, and dedicated. They deserve better than to be callously discarded to save a few dollars. Yes, the City is facing budget deficits. But bringing in a private company that knows nothing of our City and our values, to manage the Library is a grave disservice to every resident of Huntington Beach. The money you may save will be significantly offset by the loss of many volunteers (me being one) who will not want to spend their valuable hours helping a private company pad their profits. You will likely lose all of the characteristics that make our Libraries unique and beloved by City residents.

Please stop this now! I suppose I should be grateful that you are going to pretend to go through a competitive process instead of contracting immediately with your buddy Mike Posey's company Library Systems and Services (such a breach of ethical behavior from our former Councilman and Mayor). But we all know how this will end up unless you come to your senses and think about the residents of the City and what we want for a change. No one has asked you to do this, and I can't think that anyone who wants you to destroy our Library System with this reckless action. Vote no on this item.

From: [Jenny Gardelle](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Plans to privatize Huntington Beach libraries
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 1:18:56 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

As a long-time Huntington Beach resident, I'm reaching out to implore that you discontinue talks to privatize our city's libraries. This is an appalling move that can only result in less access to books and other resources the library offers and the community relies on. Additionally, I understand that the city will still be responsible for maintenance, which makes no sense at all. If LS&S Corp will turn a profit, they should keep up on the maintenance.

Further, I'm very concerned that they'll end up closing some or all of the branches, which would leave them with very lucrative land to then sell and turn a huge profit. This will surely lead to building more unsightly and very *unaffordable* high-density housing, further complicating our current traffic and parking trouble.

Again, I implore you to discontinue any talks of privatizing the Huntington Beach Library system.

Thank you,

Jennifer Gardelle

From: [Kelli Kelly](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 1:23:37 PM

I vehemently oppose the privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library. Privatization will threaten the very core of what makes our wonderful libraries special. Privatization is a reckless abuse of city funds when libraries are run and staffed by college educated professionals.

Kelli Kelly

--

Kelli Kelly
kelli@kelly.ws

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Oppose library privatization and and book banning
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 1:13:35 PM

From: jkatayama@socal.rr.com <jkatayama@socal.rr.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 1:03 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Oppose library privatization and and book banning

The city of Huntington Beach has wonderful libraries that my family has enjoyed for years. We do not need it to be privatized nor do we need any committee to choose appropriate books. (You do realize kids can google pretty much anything) Please stop wasting city resources on things that don't need fixed. We have plenty of opportunities to improve our beautiful city.

Thank you for your consideration.
Julie Katayama
7115 Ashley Dr.
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Library privatization
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 1:13:47 PM

From: M Abbott <mabbott7437@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 1:04 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Library privatization

I am fully against having an outside company run the HB Libraries. Maybe bring in a consultant to help our fully capable, dedicated staff run a leaner operation. We will loose control of the content, the enrichment, the extras we all love.

The fact that Michael Posey is affiliated with LSS make my hair stand on end. He is an opportunist and we will all suffer.

This feels like a back door done deal. I am sorry that the 3+1 (you know who you are) are virtually running this city into the ground. We have become the laughing stock. The beach vibe is ruined. You should be ashamed of where your personal agendas have taken the city.

Michele

From: [Linda Moore](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Privatizing HB Public Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 1:32:01 PM

Please do not continue to consider this amendment. Privatizing our public library is just the beginning of removing public opinion from making decisions about Library. We have a great Library that services our community.

A private company owned by a hedge fund located on the East Coast does not represent our city.

The City Council was elected to take care of city business, not turn it over to a company to make a profit for that company.

Linda Moore
19291 Champion Lane
HB 92648

From: [Cindy Miller](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Library Privatization of Operations
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 1:52:35 PM

City Council Members

I am writing to oppose the proposal to outsource the HB library operations. As a long time HB community resident, I do not want an agency running the library. The library represent our community residents and we would lose our input and representation by moving forward with this proposal.

Cynthia Miller
Resident of HB

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Tracy Luth](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: Privatizing our city libraries
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 1:53:52 PM

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to express my disagreement with privatizing our libraries here in Huntington Beach. Our libraries are well run and benefit from hundreds of hours of volunteer participation each year.

The company that has been suggested to take over is interested in profits. While city taxpayers continue to pay for maintenance of the library we can expect, from L.S. & S.'s previous work, reduced hours, culled context, removal of trained librarians, attempts to sell the library land and closed branches. I would not expect volunteers to help them meet their profit goals. I don't see how privatization would improve our access to books and programming in any way. I really don't understand why the City Council has been spending so much effort to disrupt and control our libraries. It is an insult to those of us who both pay taxes and read.

Sincerely,
Tracy Luth

From: [Cindy Miller](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Item 24 Parent Review Board
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 1:56:05 PM

City Council Members

I strongly oppose the creation of a parent review board. HB librarians are trained to select material that represents the needs of our community.

Cynthia Miller
Resident

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jim Staunton](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Huntington Beach Public Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 2:02:05 PM

I am sending this email to vehemently protest any move to privatize our library. Literacy sits as a cornerstone of our democracy. We need resources for research, books to read for pleasure and they need to be freely available to our community.

Where did this come from? Did our community give the four conservatives a mandate to interfere with our library resources? It is certainly not anything I have asked for. Do not move forward with this agenda.

From: [Betty Flynn](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [Moser, Natalie](#); [Bolton, Rhonda](#); [Kalmick, Dan](#); [Casey McKeon](#)
Subject: Item 22 -Privatization of Library Services Proposal
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 2:11:10 PM

Dear City Council Members and Mayor,

I am writing in opposition of Item 22-RPF The staff report for this item says the city received a proposal to provide library services and are asking staff to develop a request for proposals for this service. There is nothing in the report that shows “full transparency“ of what privatizing our beloved libraries would look like and include. Would our library still have Story Time, the seed library, would they keep the current library staff, would they be the ones ordering our books, would hours of operations be cut, there are so many unanswered question's that I would like the answers to.

Privatization of our libraries would jeopardize the ability to raise money for donations and gifts, grants and more. A “for profit” library would not be eligible to participate in the same resource sharing programs that public libraries offer.

Libraries are public institutions, they should run for the BETTERMENT of the public NOT for the profit of a corporation!

Please reconsider and keep our libraries public, maintaining a transparent and public governed library is essential for the current and future residents of Huntington Beach.

Sincerely,
Betty Flynn

Sent from my iPad

From: [Claire Grozinger](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 2:13:22 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library:

I strongly oppose the privatization of the Huntington Beach PUBLIC Library. Our libraries have been the pride of our city since 1907. They are run well and efficiently funded by the city and supplemented by hundreds of loyal, hardworking volunteers who assist the paid staff. The Friends of the Library's Used Book Shop and Gift Shop donate 100% of their proceeds directly back to into the operation of the library. I highly doubt that these volunteers would be willing to work as volunteers for a for profit private business.

Please consider this proposal carefully and vote no for the privatization of our PUBLIC library.

Sincerely,

Claire Grozinger
27 year resident of HB

From: [Ginny Bean](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Please vote NO to outsource the Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 2:13:29 PM

Dear City Council members:

Please do not outsource our library.

Our library is used not only by our local community, but it also brings others for many different areas. Our library is a source for students, adults and families that come for story time.

I noticed that four of our council members recently came to the HB Reads event; this is only one of the volunteer organizations that use our resource and support the local community. If you came then the Library means something to you also. I am sure that the outsourcing was a concern because I noticed many individuals in discussion with you.

I also noticed the division between the two groups which is alarming since you all should be working together for our city, but that does not seem to be the case recently. Plus to consider the company that a recent Council member is promoting surprises me since you all feel that the last members did not have the city's best interests.

Please listen closely to the people with an open mind that will be speaking at the next City Council meeting, and vote to say **NO** to outsource. I would hate to think that certain council members have already made up their minds. Each and every one of you should be working for the citizens that voted for you.

Best regards

Ginny Bean

714-325-5240

From: nora.pedersen
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Save our Huntington Beach Public Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 2:33:12 PM

Our city public library system opened in Huntington Beach in 1910. It is the defining jewel of our city. It has functioned very well as a city owned facility since first formation. Huntington Beach residents love our libraries and our librarians. Turning our libraries, at the expense of our librarians, into a for-profit enterprise, is everything our culture stands against.

Serve the city, not a shady East Coast hedge fund.

Sincerely

Nora Pedersen

37 year resident of Huntington Beach and library patron

From: mhardy60
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 2:38:50 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library.
Don't do it! Keep it public!

Michelle Hardy

From: janlcsw@aol.com
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: The Huntington Beach Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 2:39:13 PM

Dear City Council: I am writing with deep concerns about your stated plan to pursue privatization of our Huntington Beach Library. I have been a resident of Huntington Beach for more than 40 years and over the years I have utilized the library in many ways: checking out books for myself, my children and my grandchildren, using the space for study and research, volunteering as a tutor in the Oakview Library Adult Literacy Program. What I know for sure is that our library reaches and serves everybody. All age groups, all socioeconomic levels, all ethnicities benefit from the library as it now stands. When I go to the various libraries, I see children benefiting from homework club tutoring and reading assistance programs. I see future citizens attending the citizenship classes. I see children learning to use a computer. I see adults learning and socializing through attending a book discussion group. I see preschool children becoming inspired to learn to read through storytime sessions. I see people depending on the expertise of librarians who are our guides, teachers, and research helpers.

I have to ask, why is there talk of privatizing our library? Why are we attempting to change something that does not need to be fixed? If it is an issue with budget, surely the leaders of this community must have the creativity and knowledge base to come up with another solution.

Huntington Beach is a wonderful city. We are a growing city. We have great schools and we have great resources. We need a library that is not dumbed down, but is growing along with our populace. We need to continue to grow and add programs, not diminish in services. The library is community and as our city grows, we need more community, not fewer services. The library as it now exists provides opportunities for seniors to volunteer; loneliness is a chronic issue in our society. We have an excellent library staff that can anticipate community needs and work creatively together to bring together even more services and programs.

The library has always been a beacon of light in our community. We need to keep the library as it now exists, take good care of it, and ensure it will continue to shine brightly.

Thank you for your consideration of my thoughts.

Sincerely,
Jan Murphy
714-458-3904

From: Bobnet1.com
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: HB Library Privatization proposal
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 2:42:42 PM

Dear Sirs:

I am writing this email to HB city council members to express my negative concern over the idea/discussion of privatizing the HB city Library. I & my family feel this is a extremely bad idea moving forward, changing the concept of a city Library from a public serving institution that offers information services & support to our community based on non profit ideals & what is needed by the best interests of community rather than making a profit based business. I also feel that having a HB city council member that is also an employee of the corporation that is proposing this privatization plan is wrong & inappropriately biased.

Please vote NO on entertaining this Library privatization plan & also have the HB city council member that is an employee of the private Library corp reclude himself from voting on this CC measure!

Respectfully,

Robert Thunell
4052 Figaro Circle
HB

From: [Paula Schaefer](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: 3/19/2024 VOTE NO Item # 24-197 RFP for Managed Library Services
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 2:45:22 PM

Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem, and Council Members:

It is increasingly apparent that the conservative majority does not know what it was elected to do as City Council members. Every agenda has another item that smacks of its narrow-minded focus on culture war issues to the detriment of the City's management, its reputation, and the morale of the City's employees and its many volunteers.

Do you hate the basic idea of libraries? Are you afraid of what people may learn at a library? Or are you contemplating turning management of the library because you just do not know what to do with the mess that you have created?

At the February 20, 2024 Council Meeting, there was a free-wheeling discussion attempting to determine which children's books contained "sexual content" thus requiring "recataloging."

What constitutes "sexual content" was not defined, the "recataloging" process was started without an implementation plan, and the content of the book that met the undefined phrase was never identified.

Mayor Pro Tem Burns asked, "why can't the expertise of librarians be relied on?" If I had not watched the video myself, I would have assumed that he was being sarcastic, but no, he seemed sincere in asking this question.

Yes, this was another example of the majority's fire, aim, ready approach to governing.

Stop yourselves from digging a bigger hole than you are already in regarding the library and do NOT authorize city staff to obtain a request for proposal for managed library services.

Rely on professional librarians, just as Mayor Pro Tem Burns suggested.

Paula Schaefer, Huntington Beach resident

From: [Frank Mott](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Fwd: Huntington Beach Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 2:52:32 PM

I am writing to voice my adamant opposition to privatize the Huntington Beach Library. The Huntington Beach Library has been a cherished entity since opening to public access on July 27, 1909. The proposal does not provide any new benefits to justify considering this idea. In fact this proposal will constrain open access by placing the power under private rather than public oversight and control.

Private management of the library carries the potential risk of fostering private agendas and ideologies rather than those of the public at large. Please do not let this happen. This proposal is not in the best interest of all the residents of Huntington Beach.

Thank You.

From: [Natalie Dassian](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Cc: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Do Not Privatize Our Libraries
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 3:03:09 PM

Dear Council,

I am exhausted that our libraries continue to be a topic of debate. They are fine as is and do not need extra policing or "book reviewing." Our libraries should NOT be privatized, especially considering these are taxpayer funded and have been for decades. I don't understand why our libraries are a constant topic of debate when we should be caring about other things, like housing affordability, homelessness, and community service. I beg of you to not follow in the footsteps of places like Florida where they have banned hundreds of important books. In addition, it does not seem like a wise decision to leave CALCities, especially considering the embarrassing budget issues that the airshow has left the city with.

I sincerely hope that the council listens to its citizens. Do not create even more of a headache for your constituents - we want our libraries to remain as they are.

Best,

Natalie Dassian, MPH, CPH
(818) 438-3351 | nataliedassian@gmail.com
Let's connect on [LinkedIn](#)

From: [Tish Johnson](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 3:04:55 PM
Importance: High

I am a HBPL library patron and i am opposed to privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library.

Letitia M Johnson

From: [NATASHA ELISHA](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Fw: Please do not have a private company run our libraries for a profit !!!
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 3:05:03 PM

Hi City Council,

It sounds like some of you have already made up your minds without getting proper community input or information how it will affect our libraries . This is the response I got from Casey McKeon.(see below) I don't appreciate being gaslit with your semantics. Whether you call it "managing", "outsourcing" or "privatization" it means HB Taxpayer dollars will be used to pay the investors of a private for-profit corporation owned by an equity fund. Of course it will be free of charge to the public , but they will cut qualified staff, services and the collection!

Public libraries services should not be a profit-making enterprise for any private equity company !!! This is not ok!! Hands off our libraries !! Thank you

From: McKeon, Casey <Casey.McKeon@surfcity-hb.org>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:18 AM
To: NATASHA ELISHA <tashelisha@msn.com>
Subject: Re: Please do not have a private company run our libraries for a profit !!!

Thank you for your email Natasha.

Unfortunately you have received incorrect information.

The library will remain a Public Library free of charge to visitors except for the tax dollars that pay for the Library budget.

Thank you.

Casey McKeon
City Council Member
City of Huntington Beach
714-536-5553

On Mar 18, 2024, at 12:41 AM, NATASHA ELISHA <tashelisha@msn.com> wrote:

Dear City Council ,

Please do not allow a for profit company to take over our library . I understand every city has budget concerns but contracting out the library services to a for profit private equity company is not the answer. Libraries are a public service, not something to be gutted to make a profit for a company outside our community. We have one of the most wonderful & beautiful libraries in the country, please don't outsource it !!! From what I understand The Friends of the Libray organization already makes up for many of the extras the library needs and can't provide within their normal operating budget. Firing employees and cutting services does not help the community . What would they cut ?... the summer reading program, new books , story time , the used book store ,community events , the seed library ?? My kids have so many wonderful memories of the HB library, like the summer reading festival , toddler reading/story program, the used book section of friends of the library and the fun store. I want future generations to be able to create those same memories at the library.

Maybe the city could put this to city ballot vote for a small tax / bond to fund the library . Like we did for the senior center . Maybe we could repair the fountains as well, since they are now not working from years of neglect on maintaince issues. Everyone supports our wonderful library. It is the pride of the community. Please don't give this jewel to a private company who will cut it down to a shell of its former glory!!

Another idea is maybe we have fundraiser with the help of Friends of the Library to help fix the fountains and shore up the budget more. Nobody wants a private outside company messing with our library, cutting valuable staff, books or services.

Please vote no on considering a private company to "run" our library, it should be left to the current dedicated and knowledgeable staff and the community who love it !!!

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Natasha Elisha- 26-year resident

From: [Lisa Swanson](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Cc: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: NO in Item 22, 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 3:12:08 PM

Dear Council Members, I urge you to please reconsider the proposal to change our public libraries to private managed services. I am an avid library patron and member of the Friends of the Huntington Library. I am also a member of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) and our local chapter was instrumental to the founding of our library system.

Our library system is a jewel of our community that deserves city support and recognition. It would be such a shame to turn this valuable asset over to a private corporation. What's next? Are we going to sell off the city beach and pier?

Please support our public libraries!

Thanks and Regards,

Lisa Swanson

14 yr resident SE Huntington

From: [Maggie](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Leave Our Libraries Alone
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 3:19:44 PM

Anyone who has stepped into the Jewel of Huntington Beach - the Huntington Beach Library - not just the building and the books, but the employee's a wealth of knowledge and expertise - will recognize that the privatization of the Huntington Beach Library would be detrimental to our community.

The reason the library is so valuable is because the city does have control over the collection and trains employees to be excellent caregivers to the public. Outsourcing staff will mean LESS control.

Stop attacking the librarians.

Maggie Ratanapratum
Huntingtin Beach Resident and Parent since 1999.

From: [Siomara Ponce](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: ITEM 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 3:22:31 PM

City Council Members,

Although I am unable to attend the city council meeting tomorrow, I am sending this email to show support to the Huntington Beach Public Library as it stands and would like my city council members to be aware that I STRONGLY OPPOSE administrative item 22. I expect my council members to be my representatives as they were appointed.

From: [Cheryl](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 3:25:01 PM

I oppose the privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library. It serves our community well just as it is -- please leave it alone!

Cheryl Johnson
cherylj2018@gmail.com
714-209-8836

From: [Fred Schloessinger](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 3:28:37 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library, please keep it in the public interest! Fred

From: Levin, Shannon
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Oppose Agenda Item 22 (24-197), March 19, 2024 council meeting
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 3:33:01 PM

From: shirleynixon@olympus.net <shirleynixon@olympus.net>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 3:30 PM
To: City.Council@surfcity-hb.org.
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 22 (24-197), March 19, 2024 council meeting

Seemingly out of nowhere, and unaccompanied by a staff report or background information, came agenda item #22 (24-197) for March 19, 2024:

- A) Authorize staff to issue a Request for Proposals for Managed Library Services for the Huntington Beach Public Library system and return to City Council with an agreement for consideration; and*
- B) Direct staff to begin a meet and confer process with affected labor associations to discuss this potential opportunity*

The idea of privatizing the management of HB Libraries is a radical one. Jumping to implement such an idea without publicly discussing and fully reviewing its implications violates not only the public interest but also quite possibly the Brown Act. In the absence of any public policy discussion or public input about potentially privatizing the city library system, it is premature for the Council to direct "staff" (who, exactly?) to issue a Request for Proposals, let alone develop an agreement with a potential vendor.

Please reject agenda item 22.

Shirley Nixon
Huntington Beach, CA 92646

From: [Tricia Larson](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 3:33:17 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

Sent from my iPhone

From: [lisa_radvansky](mailto:lisa_radvansky@surfcity-hb.org)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose privatization of library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 3:40:43 PM

I am totally against selling out our Library. What on earth is this council thinking lately? Our library is a jewel in HB Crown and I don't want anything changed. Thank you, Lisa RadvanskyMosley 18152 Lisa Ln, HB CA. 92646 (949)337-3000.

From: [Barbara Marrs](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Agenda Items #24-209 and 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 3:41:42 PM

Dear Mayor and City Council Members:

Before Huntington Beach incorporated in 1909, the local citizens lobbied for a public library. Their efforts paid off in the establishment of a city owned public library that we have enjoyed for 115 years! Our Central Library is, in my opinion, the crown jewel of Huntington Beach (not counting the beach, of course.) As a resident of Huntington Beach since 1980, I have availed myself of the library services and programs for my own children and grandchildren. In 2002, I was honored to be appointed as Trustee for the Library, a position that allowed me to serve our library system and to learn more about it. As a retiree, I brought my triplet grandchildren to story hours and to the children's section to check out books. And for the last few years, I have volunteered in the Friends Gift Shop where I enjoy being one of the buyers. I have seen our profits increase month by month, and we made our biggest donation to The Friends of the Library in our 40+ years of doing business. The hours worked by our enthusiastic volunteers have contributed, along with the volunteers in Used Books, to the \$250,000 donation made by The Friends of the Library to the city for the library and its programs. The thousands of volunteer hours have also saved the city money. We are a dedicated group of citizens who love our library and our community. We implore you to keep our library local and to not put it in the hands of a for-profit entity that in all likely hood will not be sensitive to the needs and wants of our community.

The libraries are more than places that house books and resource materials. They are hubs for community involvement and they are critical to the public good. They provide:

- Access to all ages, race, and socioeconomic groups
- Resources for learning
- A place to gather and share ideas
- Study environments
- Literacy Tutoring

Veterans services

- Genealogy Resource Center
- Space Makers for crafters
- Childrens' Story Hours
- Special events (authors luncheons and teas, lecturers,)
- An art gallery
- Research assistance
- Knowledgeable library staff
- Gift shop (one of the few in libraries throughout the state of California.)

I am sure that I haven't mentioned all of the benefits of our libraries, but I wanted to remind you of the reasons why FOTL has provided active support since 1971. My concern is that outsourcing or privatizing the library will create a loss of community involvement with foundations, donations, non-profits and Friends. Will a private for-profit company be sensitive and interested in community feedback or input? Who will select materials-- staff at an off-site facility who know little to nothing about our community? If this company focuses on profits only, will they cut corners on staff? Maintenance? Services? Why risk a library system that is beloved by our community that gives so much to us? DEMOCRACY depends on having a well-educated, well-informed public. Why do something that will diminish our opportunities for learning and growth?

I urge you to not overstep your authority by doing irreparable harm to our renowned library system. That includes having a group of citizens selected to determine what books our children will have access to in our libraries. Who knows what the special interests of your appointees will be? How can you be assured that they have the education and good judgement to make selections? This committee is a slap in the face to our professional librarians, especially since there has long been in place a system for dealing with materials that a parent or guardian deems inappropriate. Instead, please use your authority and platform to address real city problems, like the condition of our streets, the Seapoint beach access, and the homelessness in our city. All of these issues blemish our reputation and appearance, while our library

,which is in your crosshairs, adds to the quality of life for our residents.

Please do your PATRIOTIC duty by respecting DEMOCRACY, and leave our libraries alone!

Sincerely,
Barbara L. Marrs

From: [DAB](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 3:42:48 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library.

Please keep the HB Library public.

From: [J Shim](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Opposition to ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM #22. 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 3:42:49 PM
Attachments: [HBCC Agenda 3-19-24 at 6pm.pdf](#)

Re: ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM 24-197 Request authorization to issue a Request for Proposals for Managed Library Services for the Huntington Beach Public Library system.

To: Huntington Beach City Council

I oppose the privatization of Huntington Beach Public Library.

Signed: Jennifer Shim, Huntington Beach



AGENDA

City Council/Public Financing Authority

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

3:30 PM Study/Closed Session

6:00 PM Regular Meeting

Council Chambers

2000 Main Street

Huntington Beach, CA 92648

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

GRACEY VAN DER MARK, Mayor

PAT BURNS, Mayor Pro Tem

RHONDA BOLTON, Councilmember

DAN KALMICK, Councilmember

CASEY McKEON, Councilmember

NATALIE MOSER, Councilmember

TONY STRICKLAND, Councilmember

STAFF

ERIC G. PARRA, Interim City Manager

MICHAEL E. GATES, City Attorney

ROBIN ESTANISLAU, City Clerk

ALISA BACKSTROM, City Treasurer

IN-PERSON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Members of the public are welcome to attend City Council meetings in person. Alternate ways to view meetings live or on-demand include: livestreamed on HBTV Channel 3 (replayed on Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. and Thursday at 6:00 p.m.); live and archived meetings for on-demand viewing accessed from <https://huntingtonbeach.legistar.com/calendar>, <https://bit.ly/SurfCityTV>, or the City's YouTube Channel at <https://www.youtube.com/cityofhb>, or from any Roku, Fire TV or Apple device by downloading the Cablecast Screenweave App and searching for the City of Huntington Beach channel.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Individuals wishing to provide a comment on agenda items including Study Session, Closed Session, and Public Hearing, may do so in person in the City Council Chambers by completing a **Request to Speak** form delivered to the City Clerk. Sign-ups to Request to Speak will begin in person 30 minutes prior to the start of Study Session, Closed Session, or Regular City Council Meeting, whichever comes first. Sign-ups will be accepted until the commencement of the public comment period.

SUPPLEMENTAL COMMUNICATION: Members of the public unable to personally participate in the meeting but interested in communicating with the City Council on agenda-related items are encouraged to submit a written (supplemental) communication to the Council via email at SupplementalComm@Surfcity-hb.org. Supplemental Communications are public record, and if received by 9:00 AM on the day of the meeting, will be distributed to the City Council prior to consideration of agenda-related items, posted to the City website, and announced, but not read, at the meeting. Communications received after the 9:00 AM deadline will be incorporated into the administrative record. Members of the public are also welcome to communicate with the City Council (and staff supporting Council) at City.Council@surfcity-hb.org.

MEETING ASSISTANCE NOTICE: In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, services are available to members of our community who require special assistance to participate in public meetings. If you require special assistance, 48-hour prior notification will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements for an assisted listening device (ALD) for the hearing impaired, American Sign Language interpreters, a reader during the meeting and/or large print agendas. Please contact the City Clerk's Office at (714) 536-5227 for more information.

3:30 PM - COUNCIL CHAMBERS

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Moser, Bolton, Burns, Van Der Mark, Strickland, McKeon, Kalmick

CITY COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS (3-Minute Time Limit)

The Mayor will facilitate a voluntary opportunity for members of the Huntington Beach City Council to individually make brief comments to the public. Please note that the Brown Act does not allow for lengthy comments, discussion, or action on topics that are not on the agenda.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUPPLEMENTAL COMMUNICATIONS PERTAINING TO STUDY AND/OR CLOSED SESSION ITEMS (Received After Agenda Distribution)

PUBLIC COMMENTS PERTAINING TO STUDY AND/OR CLOSED SESSION ITEMS (Received After Agenda Distribution)(3-Minute Time Limit)

At this time, the City Council will receive comments from members of the public regarding any topic, including items on the Study Session and/or Closed Session agendas. Individuals wishing to provide a comment on item(s) may do so in person by filling out a Request to Speak form delivered to the City Clerk. All speakers are encouraged, but not required to identify themselves by name. Each speaker may have up to 3 minutes unless the volume of speakers warrants reducing the time allowance.

Please note that the Brown Act does not allow discussion or action on topics that are not on the agenda. Members of the public who would like to speak directly with a Councilmember on an item not on the agenda may consider scheduling an appointment by contacting the City Council's Administrative Assistant at (714) 536-5553 or emailing the entire City Council at city.council@surfcity-hb.org.

STUDY SESSION

1. [24-141](#) **Joint Study Session of the Citizen Participation Advisory Board (CPAB) and City Council to review funding recommendations for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) programs for 2024-25**

CPAB Roll Call: Chair Jackson, Vice Chair Paris, Secretary Hammel; Board Members Hoskinson, Inouye, and Lachman

2. [24-185](#) **Short-Term Rental (STR) Program Update**

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

CLOSED SESSION

3. [24-199](#) **CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS**
Property: 21 & 22 Main Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648.
City Negotiators: Eric Parra, Acting City Manager; Travis Hopkins, Assistant City Manager; Kriss Casanova, Economic Development Manager; Steve Holtz, Deputy Director of Community Development; Jennifer Villasenor, Director of Community Development.
Negotiating parties: Persons to be negotiated with: (Not Present) Surf City Partners, LLC.
Under negotiation: Price and terms of payment.

4. [24-179](#) **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-EXISTING LITIGATION.**
(Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9). People of the State of California/Bonta v. City of Huntington Beach/Zelinka; Case No. 30-2023-01312235-CU-WM-CJC.

5. [24-200](#) **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-EXISTING LITIGATION.**
(Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9). Pacific Airshow, LLC v. City of Huntington Beach and Kim Carr; OCSC Case No. 30-2022-01287749.

6. [24-201](#) **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-EXISTING LITIGATION.**
(Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9). Clayton-Tarvin (Gina) v. City of Huntington Beach, Michael Gates, et al.; OCSC Case No.: 30-2023-01329927

7. [24-207](#) **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-EXISTING LITIGATION.**
(Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9). Timothy Emanuel v. City of Huntington; Worker's Compensation No. COHB-22-0241.

6:00 PM – COUNCIL CHAMBERS

RECONVENE CITY COUNCIL/PUBLIC FINANCING AUTHORITY MEETING

ROLL CALL

Moser, Bolton, Burns, Van Der Mark, Strickland, McKeon, Kalmick

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

In permitting a nonsectarian invocation, the City does not intend to proselytize or advance any faith or belief. Neither the City nor the City Council endorses any particular religious belief or form of invocation.

8. [24-196](#) **Huntington Beach Police Chaplain James Pike**

CLOSED SESSION REPORT BY CITY ATTORNEY

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

9. [24-191](#) **Automobile Club of Southern California (AAA) and California Highway Patrol (CHP) to present Auto Theft Recovery Award to Huntington Beach Police Officer K. Ladjimi**

ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUPPLEMENTAL COMMUNICATIONS (Received After Agenda Distribution)

PUBLIC COMMENTS (3-Minute Time Limit)

At this time, the City Council will receive comments from members of the public regarding any topic, including items on the open session agenda. Individuals wishing to provide a comment may do so in person by filling out a Request to Speak form delivered to the City Clerk. All speakers are encouraged, but not required to identify themselves by name. Each speaker may have up to 3 minutes unless the volume of speakers warrants reducing the time allowance.

Please note that the Brown Act does not allow discussion or action on topics that are not on the agenda. Members of the public who would like to speak directly with a Councilmember on an item not on the agenda may consider scheduling an appointment by contacting the City Council's Administrative Assistant at (714) 536-5553 or emailing the entire City Council at city.council@surfcity-hb.org.

While the City Council welcomes public involvement and supports and defends free speech, the City Council rejects comments from anyone that are discriminatory, defamatory or otherwise not protected free speech. Those comments will not inform nor be considered by the City Council and may be cause for the Mayor to interrupt the public speaker. Such public comments will not be consented to or otherwise adopted by the City Council in its discussions and findings for any matter tonight.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmembers may make brief announcements on any appointments made to a board, committee, or commission. Councilmembers may not discuss or take any action on these announcements. Announcements are limited to 1 minute.

10. [24-204](#) **Approve amendment to Mayor Van Der Mark's 2024 Council Liaison**

List - March 2024

Recommended Action:

As recommended by the City Council, Public Financing Authority, Housing Authority, Parking Authority, and Successor Agency: approve amendment to the 2024 Council Liaison List that includes appointments to citizen boards, commissions, committees, and task forces as presented by Mayor Van Der Mark.

AB 1234 REPORTING

Per AB 1234 (Government Code Section 53232.3(d)) Councilmembers who attend a meeting, conference, or similar event at the expense of the City must provide a brief report of the meeting, conference, or similar event during the next regular City Council meeting. Reports are limited to 1 minute.

OPENNESS IN NEGOTIATION DISCLOSURES

Councilmembers must publicly disclose any meetings or communications with City employee associations, related to the negotiations of labor agreements. Disclosures are limited to 1 minute and must be made by the next regular City Council Meeting.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

CONSENT CALENDAR (Items 11 - 21)

City Clerk

11. [24-182](#) Approve and Adopt Minutes

Recommended Action:

Approve and adopt the City Council/Public Financing Authority regular meeting minutes of February 20, 2024.

12. [24-183](#) Monthly Update of Activities for Citizen Boards, Commissions, Committees (BCCs) and Regional Agencies - February 2024

Recommended Action:

Receive and File.

City Manager

13. [24-180](#) Consider position on legislation pending before the State Legislature, as recommended by the Intergovernmental Relations Committee (IRC)

Recommended Action:

A) SUPPORT AB 1999 (Irwin) *Electricity: fixed charges*, and send a letter of support.

B) Receive and file letters of support for AB 1773 (Dixon) *e-bikes* and AB 1174 (Dixon) *e-bikes*.

Community and Library Services

14. [24-188](#) **Approve and execute a three-year Professional Services Contract between the City of Huntington Beach and PSQ Productions for production and management service of the annual Independence Day Celebration**

Recommended Action:

Approve and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute “Professional Services Contract Between the City of Huntington Beach and PSQ Productions for Production and Management Service of the Annual Independence Day Parade.”

15. [24-194](#) **Adopt Resolution No. 2024-08 revising and restating Resolution No. 2016-01 related to implementing Charter Section 805 and Municipal Code Chapter 5.90 regarding the number of permits issued for Safe and Sane Fireworks from fifteen (15) to sixteen (16)**

Recommended Action:

Adopt Resolution No. 2024-08, “A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Huntington Beach revising and restating Resolution No. 2016-01 related to implementing Charter Section 805 and Municipal Code Chapter 5.90 regarding safe and sane fireworks.”

Human Resources

16. [24-160](#) **Approve a Professional Services Contract with Carl Warren & Company for Liability Claims Administration Services**

Recommended Action:

Approve and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the agreement, “Professional Services Contract between the City of Huntington Beach and Carl Warren & Company Liability Claim Investigation and Processing” in the amount of \$750,000 for three (3) years, and delegate authority to the City Manager to execute any extensions thereto.

Police

17. [24-192](#) **Approve Amendment No. 2 authorizing a one-year contract extension with Universal Protection Services, LP, DBA Allied Universal Security Services (UASS) for street sweeping parking enforcement services**

Recommended Action:

Approve and authorize “Amendment No. 2 to Service Agreement between the City of Huntington Beach and Universal Protection Services, LP DBA Allied Universal Security

Services (UASS) for Street Sweeping Enforcement Services” not to exceed \$411,269.45 for the next calendar year; and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the attached contract.

Public Works

18. **24-111** **Approve and authorize execution of a Cooperative Agreement with Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) for Alternative Signal Communication Demonstration Project**

Recommended Action:

Approve and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute “Cooperative Agreement No. C-3-3058 Between Orange County Transportation Authority and Cities of Huntington Beach, La Habra, Lake Forest, Newport Beach, Rancho Santa Margarita, Seal Beach, and Yorba Linda for Alternative Signal Communication Demonstration Project”.

19. **24-129** **Approve and Accept the Public Improvements, Release the Securities for, and Accept a Guarantee and Warranty Bond for Tract 18105**

Recommended Action:

A) Accept the improvements constructed and dedicated for public use with Tract 18105, and instruct the City Clerk to record the Notice of Acceptance of Public Improvements (Attachment 2) with the Orange County Recorder; and,

B) Accept Guarantee and Warranty Bond No. 30190069 (Attachment 3); the security furnished for guarantee and warranty of public improvements, and instruct the City Clerk to file the bond with the City Treasurer; and,

C) Instruct the City Clerk to notify the developer, Meritage Homes of California, of this action, and the City Treasurer to notify the Surety, Arch Insurance Company (Faithful Performance, Labor & Materials, Monument) and The Continental Insurance Company (Guarantee & Warranty), of this action.

20. **24-134** **Approve and Accept the Public Improvements, Release the Securities for, and Accept a Guarantee and Warranty Bond for Tract 18106**

Recommended Action:

A) Accept the improvements constructed and dedicated for public use with Tract 18106, and instruct the City Clerk to record the Notice of Acceptance of Public Improvements (Attachment 2) with the Orange County Recorder; and,

B) Accept Guarantee and Warranty Bond No. 30190068 (Attachment 3); the security furnished for guarantee and warranty of public improvements, and instruct the City Clerk to file the bond with the City Treasurer; and,

C) Instruct the City Clerk to notify the developer, Meritage Homes of California, of this action, and the City Treasurer to notify the Surety, Arch Insurance Company (Faithful Performance, Labor & Materials, Monument) and The Continental Insurance Company (Guarantee & Warranty), of this action.

21. [24-136](#) **Approve the West Orange County Water Board (WOCWB) FY 2024-25 Budget in the amount of \$5,365,300**

Recommended Action:

Approve the WOCWB proposed FY 2024-25 Budget and the City of Huntington Beach proportional share of \$1,047,465.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

22. [24-197](#) **Request authorization to issue a Request for Proposals for Managed Library Services for the Huntington Beach Public Library system**

Recommended Action:

A) Authorize staff to issue a Request for Proposals for Managed Library Services for the Huntington Beach Public Library system and return to City Council with an agreement for consideration; and

B) Direct staff to begin a meet and confer process with affected labor associations to discuss this potential opportunity.

23. [24-195](#) **Year-End Audit Results for the FY 2022/23 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR), Fiscal Year 2023/24 Budget Update, and Fiscal Year 2023/24 Mid-Year Budget Adjustments**

Recommended Action:

A) Receive and File the FY 2022/23 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and other auditor-issued reports; and,

B) Approve mid-year budget adjustments to the FY 2023/24 Revised Budget in the funds and by the amounts contained in Attachment 3.

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION

24. [24-209](#) **Approve for introduction Ordinance No. 4318 adding Chapter 2.66 to the Huntington Beach Municipal Code Relating to the Community-Parent Guardian Review Board for Review of Procurement of Children’s Library Material**

Recommended Action:

Approve for introduction Ordinance No. 4318, “An Ordinance of the City Council of the City

of Huntington Beach amending the Huntington Beach Municipal Code by adding new chapter 2.66 Entitled "Community Parent-Guardian Review Board for Procurement of Children's Library Materials."

COUNCIL MEMBER ITEMS

25. [24-208](#) Item Submitted by Council Member McKeon - Withdrawal from the League of California Cities

Recommended Action:

Request the City Manager to direct staff to negotiate with the League of California Cities for the reimbursement of 2024 dues and withdraw membership for 2024.

ADJOURNMENT

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Huntington Beach City Council/Public Financing Authority is Tuesday, April 2, 2024, in the Civic Center Council Chambers, 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, California.

INTERNET ACCESS TO CITY COUNCIL/PUBLIC FINANCING AUTHORITY AGENDA AND STAFF REPORT MATERIAL IS AVAILABLE PRIOR TO CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS AT

<http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov>

From: [Selene Lawrence](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Cc: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: In Opposition to 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 3:48:52 PM

Huntington Beach City Council,

I am a resident of Huntington Beach. I am OPPOSED to privatizing our fantastic, efficient and community-centered public library. Turning this over to a non-transparent, out of state, for-profit entity is not only a terrible idea but is outrageous. The community you represent has not asked for this.

Our library and its robust programming are exceptional and both the staff and volunteers reflect our community.

Regards,
Selene Lawrence
Huntington Beach Resident

From: [Tricia Larson](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 3:51:06 PM

I strongly oppose the privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library system. Parents and not a private entity should decide which books their children read. As my children grew up in Huntington Beach and used the public library as a means of obtaining literature for both enjoyment and research, I never considered that they would ever be told what books they could read or not read by anyone else than their father and me. Please keep our libraries public and let our public librarians choose the books that are available to all in our community.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Julie T Face](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 3:52:44 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library.

Julie Face
Huntington Beach Resident for 47 years
Hot Springs Drive

From: [Linda Moon](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: 3-19-24 City Council Agenda Item 22 (24-197)
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 3:59:53 PM

It is apparent that the City Council majority has decided to pay for its misguided legal challenges and costly attempts to impose authoritarian government in Huntington Beach by destroying the valued institutions and services that have made the city a desirable place to live for many decades.

It is sad that the council majority did not have the benefit of our renowned library during their own youthful years or even as adults. Perhaps that has caused their disrespect for professional well-run public library services. Public libraries are publicly run because they cannot provide the enhanced services that best serve residents with educational and supportive services if the goal is the profit margin. Professional librarians with advanced degrees in library science have made our library a place where students can resource material to pave their way to top ranked colleges, English language assistance can help our residents become citizens, the public can access not just best-selling novels but little-known periodicals providing invaluable information, and yes, where children and teens can learn and study unlimited subjects in a safe and supportive environment. L&LS library services has made it clear that they have no respect for library professional employees or the resources they provide and that they have no interest in maintaining unprofitable services.

The City Council members are public servants charged with acting in the best interests of the residents. Outsourcing our library services to fund their personal culture wars violates that duty.

Linda Sapiro Moon

Huntington Beach (50 Year resident, homeowner and business owner)

From: kyle.gurwell
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Cc: [McKeon, Casey](#); [Burns, Pat](#)
Subject: Concerns Regarding the Privatization of Huntington Beach Public Library System
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:04:42 PM

Dear Huntington Beach City Council Members,

I hope this email finds you well. My name is Kyle Gurwell, and I am a concerned citizen of Huntington Beach. First, I thank Council Members McKeon and Burns for responding to my previous communication with the City regarding my concern over senior housing at Bolsa Chica/Warner.

Now, I am writing to express my deep concerns regarding the potential privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library System.

As a resident of this beautiful city, I have always taken great pride in our Central Library and the entire library system. These institutions have been pillars of our community, cherished and respected by generations of residents and visitors alike. The love, respect, and pride with which they have been treated over the years have made them invaluable assets to our city.

I have a personal connection to the library system that runs deep. I spent countless hours at the library throughout my grade school years (at Smith Elementary, Dwyer Intermediate, and Huntington Beach High School) and even while studying for the Bar exam. I credit a portion of my success as a practicing attorney in the State of California to the resources and support I found within those walls. And I know I am not alone. The library has undoubtedly played a vital role in shaping the careers of many professionals, including attorneys, doctors, and individuals with specialized licenses, who contribute significantly to our community.

Moreover, the library has been an indispensable resource for my children. They have enjoyed everything from children's books to story time, from the seed library to the Friends of the Library sale and shop. They have used the Makers Space to create crafts such as name plates for their membership in Huntington Beach Boy Scouts Troop 1. These programs and amenities not only enrich their lives but also foster a love for learning and community engagement.

I understand the City may be considering privatizing the library system, but I urge you to consider the long-term implications of such a decision. Privatization could jeopardize the accessibility, quality, and sense of community that our public library system currently provides. It could also limit access to vital resources for those who rely on the library as a lifeline, particularly during challenging times. I understand the volunteers who make the Library great - the Friends of the Library - would cease to exist if privatization were to be approved. Further, I am very concerned about the misappropriation of money. The Library is an excellent benefit to the Community and the Community should continue to pay for its public operation. Privatization is not an appropriate course of action for this special institution.

Instead of privatization, I urge the city council to explore alternative solutions that preserve the integrity and accessibility of our public library system. This may include increased funding, community partnerships, or innovative programming to ensure the sustainability and continued success of our libraries for generations to come.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my concerns. I trust that you will make decisions that prioritize the best interests of our community and safeguard the legacy of our beloved Huntington Beach Public Library System.

Sincerely,
Kyle Gurwell

--
Kyle Gurwell

From: [Rick DUFRESNE](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Agenda Item 24-197 for 3/19/24 Meeting Out-sourcing Library Operations
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:08:52 PM

Dear City Council,

I am writing regarding agenda item 24-197. While, I believe it is good to consistently look to improve our city operations. I am really concerned about outsourcing one of our community's "Crown Jewels", the HB Library System, to a for-profit company. The library has been a fantastic resource during my thirty-three years as a HB citizen. I have no complaints. My concern is that the RFP process will not be transparent. Here are some questions I would like answered before we move to out-source Library Services: (I am sure there are many more)

- What is the current cost to operate the HB Library system?
- What will be the actual savings to the community if we out-source library?
- Will Library Systems & Services be the only proposal?
- What happens to the current city staff if it is out-source?
- Historically what has occurred when Library Systems & Services, a for profit company, has taken over other libraries? Specifically, volunteers' organizations such as literacy volunteers and "Friends of the Library". Has volunteer support been maintained? Volunteers are an important component to HB's strong quality of life.
- I am regular user of the library. I also utilize our city's golf course, Meadowlark. If Meadowlark is an example of what we can expect when we out-source the library, it will be shame.
 - The conditions at Meadowlark have deteriorated. (take a look at the driving range and men's bathroom in the club house as examples)
 - My experience has been the helpfulness and friendliness at the library far exceeds the ARCIS staff.
 - Policies and processes at the golf course are absolutely not user friendly. I can join the ARCIS Players Club-Prime for \$1,308 dollars/year or ARCIS Players club for \$900 dollars/year to secure user-friendly benefits.
- If we out-source the HB Library what steps will be taken to ensure Library Systems & Services maximize their return? Will citizens need to join a club or pay for a membership fee to be able to check out books, use a computer or secure assistance to locate information? Will our local Librarians salaries and/or benefits be reduced? Or will the library staffing be reduced?

Please move thoughtfully forward as you make this decision. I am a huge HB Library supporter and would hate to see the operation out-sourced to save a few city dollars.

Respectfully,

Rick DuFresne
17452 Valeworth Circle
Huntington Beach CA 92649

Cell (310) 480-3713

From: [Robert Nigro](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:11:37 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library. This will only lead to less services provided by the library since the company being considered to run the library is a for-profit company. There are a great number of volunteers serving the library which does not cost the city. We've had enough interference in our library system.

Maryann Nigro

From: [Janet Russell](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:12:31 PM

Keep the library public. No private companies that are for profit! It is an amazing library for all ages
Janet and Dean russell
9132 Brabham drive
HB
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Beth](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:14:17 PM

I Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

The Public Library System should remain in the hands of the Public!!!

Privatization will increase costs to the community not reduce them.

Sent from my iPhone

From: kaychilds@aol.com
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:19:47 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library kay childs

From: [msakioka](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: #24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:20:51 PM

I am OPPOSED to #24-197. I have lived in Huntington Beach for over 30 years. I have always found our library to be filled with extraordinary books that help expand the minds of young and old alike.

Do NOT try to "fix" something that is not broken. The librarians and staff have always been informed and helpful. I do not believe that you should look into and/or use a private vendor to do your bidding. Stop politicizing books and education.

Thank you,
Melinda Sakioka

From: [Chasity Nieto](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Concern Regarding the Privatization of Huntington Beach Public Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:21:52 PM

Dear Members of the Huntington Beach City Council,

I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to express my deep concern regarding recent discussions about the potential privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library. As a resident and avid user of our library, I strongly believe that maintaining it as a public institution is essential for the well-being and cultural enrichment of our community.

Public libraries play a crucial role in promoting literacy, education, and access to information for people of all ages and backgrounds. They serve as inclusive spaces where community members can gather, learn, and engage in intellectual pursuits free from commercial interests.

Privatizing the library may jeopardize these fundamental principles by limiting access to resources, implementing user fees, or prioritizing profit over the public good. Furthermore, it could diminish the sense of community ownership and democratic control that characterizes our public library system.

Instead of privatization, I urge the city council to explore alternative solutions for addressing any budgetary challenges faced by the library. This could include seeking additional funding sources, streamlining operations, or collaborating with local organizations to enhance services while maintaining public ownership and accountability.

In conclusion, I respectfully request that the city council prioritize the preservation of the Huntington Beach Public Library as a publicly-owned and operated institution. Our library is a cornerstone of our community, and its continued accessibility and affordability are vital to ensuring a thriving and equitable society for all residents.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,
Chasity Nieto
Huntington Beach Resident 92649
714-292-8696
Hbcha@yahoo.com

Sent from my iPhone

From: [John Scott](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: Opposing Library Privatization
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:24:25 PM

Hello,

I am writing today in opposition to the proposed privatization of the Huntington Beach Library system. Similar privatization by cities has been disastrous and significantly reduced the available resources in those communities. I trust the current Librarians are performing their duties satisfactorily and serving the community justly. We are seeing knee jerk reactions to culture war issues come with consequences. I believe the city's resources could be better spent focusing on real solutions and not something made up in the media fainting outrage to get clicks.

John Scott

From: [Bobbi](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:26:54 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

From: [Karen Walton](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: HB Library - NO to privatization!
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:27:16 PM

HB City Council,

As a 25 year resident of Huntington Beach, I am expressing my extreme opposition to privatizing our Library. It is absolutely unnecessary and clearly a political stunt.

We have a great library and there is zero reason to privatize it. Let's leave politics out of our libraries and focus on real issues that our city is facing.

Thank you,
Karen Walton
HB resident since February 1999.

From: [Main Email](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:30:47 PM

I am writing to make known my family strongly opposes privatizing our public library. How can you celebrate library month and then sell it so an out state company can profit on hb residents. It is a lending library with the intention of sharing information and making the community more knowledgeable as well as creating an altruistic community space.

We have heard the minority state the cons of many proposed actions by the council majority but never have I heard facts to explain why your decisions are indeed the best decisions. For the sake of much needed transparency and accountability, I hope at the meeting Burns, Strickland, VDM, and Mc Keon will make it public why now, what changes will occur, and how this will benefit HB residents.

Denise Wada

From: [Belinda Aber](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:31:15 PM

Dear Huntington Beach City Council,

Please add our family's voice to the chorus who love HB libraries just the way they are. The librarians do excellent work, the volunteers are amazing, and we have decades of lovely memories at multiple branches. Putting essential public services into the hands of for-profit private operators causes problems - conflicting goals and emphasis on the bottom line. Books and knowledge are for everyone. City services should stay public services.

Thank you,
Aber family

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Elizabeth SanFilippo](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: Managed Library Services for Huntington Beach Public Library – Oppose
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:36:28 PM

I am a Huntington Beach resident for over forty years and a homeowner. I am opposed to having Managed Library Services through LSS or a similar for-profit entity managing our public library.

My family has used the HB library for decades and appreciates it.

We have an amazing library with talented, knowledgeable librarians, a comprehensive collection of books, and great services including Story Time for children, the seed library and the Genealogical Society services. All of this would be at risk if the City contracted with a private for-profit company. Other cities have contracted with LSS and have found that they have experienced a significant decline in services and number of books available.

There are certain essential services that city employees should provide including police, fire, and library services. These employees serve the city residents and visitors rather than a for-profit company. Other services such as trash collection may be outsourced.

Thank you for your consideration.

Elizabeth San Filippo

From: [Elizabeth](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:42:57 PM

To Whom it May Concern,

My parents both lived in Huntington Beach when they met. They raised kids in Orange, but they were so proud of the HB Central Library they took my brother and I there as kids. I remember thinking that it could not possibly be a library since it didn't look like any of the libraries I had visited in Orange. I bought my home in Huntington Beach in 2014 because of all the wonderful childhood memories I have here.

Libraries serve as vital community resources, providing free access to information, education, and culture for everyone regardless of their socioeconomic status. Privatizing libraries risks restricting access to knowledge and services, exacerbating inequality and undermining the fundamental principle of equitable access to information.

It's shameful that our city council would even consider engaging a private company in one of the last remaining examples of a sharing economy our society has. It's a slippery slope.

Please stand with me in opposing agenda item 24-197.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Pianalto
Huntington Beach resident

From: [David Rynerson](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: Public Comment for 3/19 Meeting
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:44:58 PM

City Council majority –

I have a question. Why is it that the four of you, who ran on a platform of greater public engagement and input, keep taking actions that do just the opposite? For example, you cancelled that ability to comment at city council meetings by Zoom, you have repeatedly and arbitrarily reduced speaking time from three minutes to two or even one minute, and now you've chosen to prevent citizens from entering their intention to speak in advance, either by email or in person. All actions that reduce public input and engagement.

Similarly, you spent an additional \$300,000 of our tax dollars to ensure that your charter amendments wound up on the primary ballot, rather than the general election ballot. This, despite well-documented evidence that primary elections have lower and less representative turnout than general elections.

You also ignored massive, expressed opposition to said amendments delivered both in person and by email. You essentially eliminated the boards and commissions where public citizens actually gave input. You took the minority council members off almost all liaison positions despite the fact that they too were elected by the citizens of Huntington Beach.

In short, you've done almost everything in your power to suppress public input and to stifle any voices that don't agree with you.

Just as you are now doing again with your directive to have the staff draft an RFP to outsource our library services to a for-profit organization.

Just as you are now doing again with a proposal to withdraw from the California League of Cities.

Nothing you have done so far in your tenure has increased public engagement and input – rather, it has demonstrated that you really don't want to hear or consider what any constituent who doesn't agree with you has to say.

In short, you have demonstrated that you really don't believe in democracy, you only care about getting your way, and are willing to say or do almost anything to get it. That you care more about sucking up to Donald Trump than you do about serving Huntington Beach and that you are willing to spend our tax dollars to do it, rather than using them for city services as your duty requires.

Huntington Beach used to be a welcoming city where people of all stripes could enjoy the beach and the weather in peace. Now it is an international pariah.

I can only hope that the damage you are constantly inflicting on our city is not permanent.

David Rynerson
6272 Newbury Drive
Huntington Beach, CA

From: LMHersh
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Oppose Privatization of Library Services March 19, 2024
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:48:11 PM

I am sending this email to strongly oppose the proposed privatization of our Huntington Beach library system.

First let's be clear: Like all measures before, this is a done deal. Whatever back-room agreement you have with Mike Posey, it is clear that tomorrow's agenda item will be to hide it from the public. Yes, the agenda item says that the city will get RFP's and does not constitute action, but we all know better. There will be unproven statements that this will solve the budget problem for the city. It will not, and it is not about money. It's about control.

The city council (all of you) lack any sense of credibility. The Futile Four continue to play the game as if the citizens don't see through the ploy. We know that the agenda item is simply a necessary step for the "futile four" to get what they want.

And what do Van Der Mark, Strickland, Burns and McKeon want? Control. A library is 3 things.

1. Content: The books that are being "restricted" (a fancy word that really means a book ban)
2. Programming: The changes to the city calendar to remove cultural heritage is simply a way to control what programs are pursued.
3. Staffing: Privatization allows the "fearsome foursome" to have direct control of the staff and to purge staff and benefits at will.

As a 10+ year volunteer for our libraries, I directly see the effects of these actions. Hispanic Heritage month was to be educational for children from Latin America. Instead, you shamed the kids at Oakview by removing the flags of their heritage. To what purpose? I watched the library services commission member Ceason Baker opposed fixing Oakview Library, arguing that the kids could walk 1.6 miles to Central library. What's next?

Our library staff has been working in fear for 1 ½ years, scared of retaliation. That's a shame – they are talented professional librarians that built the libraries that you are destroying. Shame on our "faux four" for the brutal way you are impacting their lives and our libraries.

The election in 2022 was about having "local control". That was a lie – the citizens of Huntington Beach have loudly opposed such measures and have been ignored. We no longer have control – you do. You are not representing the vast majority of our citizens. It's a shame.

I call on the citizens of Huntington Beach to come together and remove the futile four's from pursuing these types of policies.

Lawrence Hersh

From: [Patti Clasen](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:48:53 PM

People who obviously have no understanding of the history of fascism should definitely not have any say about what books are in a library. History shows where your egregious actions lead. Is it your intent to take that ugly path?

Patti Clasen
40 year resident of Huntington Beach

From: [Laura Cole](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:54:42 PM

I am writing to strongly oppose the outsourcing or privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library. We are so fortunate in our city to have a beautiful and thriving public library that is the pride of our community, and the envy of other OC cities. A library is not a business, and ours is part of what makes our city worth living in.

Sincerely,
Laura Finley Cole

From: rochester.michael@gmail.com
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:54:55 PM

I Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library.

Do not do this to the residents of Huntington Beach!

What is wrong with you people?!

Shame on you!

From: [Cindi Galey](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Privatizing the library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:59:33 PM

This is a horrible idea!! Everyone in this household is against this idea! This city is making some very bad decisions from the current elected officials. We will rise up and vote you out! This is not Florida!

From: [April LeMense](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 5:00:42 PM

To the HB City Council,

As an HB homeowner, taxpayer, and patron of our amazing library system, I OPPOSE privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library AND the ridiculously unnecessary book screening process. I believe if you truly cared about the city you were elected to serve, you would NEVER consider such an option. The fact that you are even considering it, speaks volumes to your where your priorities lie. I'm so disappointed and embarrassed to live in a community now dubbed "Angrytown, USA," all because of a city council that cares more about political ideology than the residents they represent.

April LeMense

From: [Judith Lewis](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Privatization of Library, (Item 24-197) Resignation from League of California Cities (Item 24-208)
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 5:04:12 PM

Privatization. A favorite word of the right wing political ideology. They'd privatize all government functions because their belief is that government and anything not for profit is bad. Unfortunately while capitalism is a good system, it has many failings and must be regulated to work. Likewise, sometimes government functions need revisions or improvements to work. But the government is not for profit—and libraries are not for profit.

Privatizing these functions to save money inevitably leads to reduced services and benefits. You offer nothing in your proposal explaining just how a private service is going to both do a better job and reduce costs. It won't happen. STOP with the right wing ideological agenda that wastes time and taxpayer money.

League Membership You give no justification for your proposal to cancel your membership in the League of California Cities. Historically the League has helped develop legislation supporting local control and provided education and advice to local city councils. I think this city council could use that advice instead of going berserk with unneeded and inadvisable policies and actions.

Judith Lewis
37 year Resident Huntington Beach
Retired Captain, L. A. County Sheriff
Masters Degree Public Administration USC

-

From: sgschumann@aol.com
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: Library Privatization
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 5:06:01 PM

I am strongly opposed to the privatization of our library system (Administrative item 22; item 24-197). Please leave our library services as they are. They are doing a great job. Local libraries must be administered locally.

I am a mother of three and grandmother of seven. My children and grandchildren have attended UCLA, University of Chicago, Perdue, Carnegie Mellon, and Harvard. They are all products of local schools and locally-run libraries.

DO NOT privatize our libraries.

Thank you,
Susan Schumann
8933 Modesto Circle Unit 1214D
Huntington Beach, CA 92646

From: [A Martinez](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Cc: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: HB Public Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 5:07:21 PM

Dear HB City Council,

As a long time resident of Huntington Beach, I am writing to urge you to vote against the use of LS&S Corp for our public library system.

I love so much about our public library system. It's one of the main reasons we chose to call Huntington Beach home. My kids and I visited the library weekly when they were little. I've bought many cookbooks from the used book area and have donated many books over the years.

Our library is a gift that keeps giving to the community. Please do not privatize any part of it.

Sincerely,
Angela Miu

From: [Nancy Curtis](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Fulerton Observer: Privatization of Library services
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 5:10:57 PM

This link is an article pertaining to agenda items 22.

<https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-1-e&q=fulerton+Observer%2C+privatization+of+library+services>

Nancy Curtis
nan.sea@earthlink.net

From: [Janet Michels](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: letter in support of current library services- item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 5:11:21 PM

Dear City Council,

With something as significant as the libraries are to so many in the community, it seems that a listening tour might be in order to help determine whether outsourcing is even viable, and to measure the capabilities of an organization's ability to meet the community's needs. This topic is already so raw and divisive, and I'm disappointed to see this item appear without making some effort to understand just why so many citizens are reacting.

Our libraries are so much more than books, and given that you just celebrated "we love our libraries"; this should come as no surprise to those of you who have been in our libraries. From storytime to adult literacy to cultural learning and performances, to computer and internet access to those without, to the many volunteers who partner with the professional staff.

In addition, the current library staff are accountable to the community, which would not be the case for an outsourcer, whose primary objective will be profit, not serving the community.

For example, in researching positions that LSS has open (who seems to be the only outsourcer in this space), they have a job with an MLS requirement which pays \$62,400; while a similar position with similar requirements in the same area at a local college pays double the amount. (Redding, CA) I have to wonder what qualified candidates will they find?

In addition, it's publicly available information what libraries in communities similar to Huntington Beach have outsourced their library services. Conducting an evaluation to review pros, cons, savings to the city (presumably this is the goal) etc. should be conducted.

I am against an RFP without evidence that the full range of services are well documented, and that the community has a voice. Please pull this item or vote no.

thank you.
Janet Michels

--

Janet Michels
714.448.3095

From: [Marge Nielsen](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: NO! NO! NO! on Item 22 and Item 24
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 5:16:05 PM

I am vehemently against:

- Item 22 - Managed Library Services
- Item 24 - Parent Review Board For Children's Library

There is nothing wrong with HB libraries. Focus on our real problems, such as homelessness.

Margaret Nielsen
Huntington Landmark
20 year resident HB

From: [Margaret Wiemann](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Public Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 5:18:38 PM

Please Do Not publicize our Public Library!

Peggy Wiemann
Huntington Beach

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Opposing Private management for HB Libraries
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 2:06:03 PM

From: Bryce Al <brycebulkmail@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 1:18 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Opposing Private management for HB Libraries

Dear City Council,

Privatizing the city library management would be a detrimental decision that jeopardizes the accessibility, autonomy, and integrity of this essential public institution. Libraries are pillars of democracy, offering free access to information, education, and community resources for all residents. Management from a private entity introduces profit motives that could compromise the library's core mission, leading to restricted access, reduced services, and biased information dissemination. Moreover, privatization could result in increased costs for residents, as private companies prioritize financial gains over public service. The library must remain under public stewardship to ensure equitable access, democratic principles, and the preservation of community interests. Therefore, I urge the city council to reject any proposals for the private management of our city libraries and instead focus on strengthening public funding and support for this vital community resource.

Sincerely,

Bryce Boucher
HB Resident

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: 3/19/24 City Council Comments
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 2:06:22 PM

From: Chris Varga <christopher.j.varga@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 1:29 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: 3/19/24 City Council Comments

Agenda Item 22 (24—197) – I do not support this request for proposals for outside companies running our libraries. I support keeping the city run library system as is. Don't waste time and money with this proposal.

Agenda Item 24 (24-209) – I do not support the proposed community review board for books. Let our city librarians do their job!

Agenda Item 25 (24-208) – I do not support pulling out of the League of Cities. We need to work together and not isolate.

Chris Varga
Huntington Beach

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: No to privatization of public library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 2:06:28 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Clay Stamson <claystamson@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 1:30 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: No to privatization of public library

Dear City Council,

Privatizing the city's public library management would be a detrimental decision that jeopardizes the accessibility, autonomy, and integrity of this essential public institution. Libraries are pillars of democracy, offering free access to information, education, and community resources for all residents. Management from a private entity introduces profit motives that could compromise the library's core mission, leading to restricted access, reduced services, and biased information dissemination. Moreover, privatization could result in increased costs for residents, as private companies prioritize financial gains over public service. The library must remain under public stewardship to ensure equitable access, democratic principles, and the preservation of community interests. Therefore, I urge the city council to reject any proposals for the private management of our city libraries and instead focus on strengthening public funding and support for this vital community resource.

Sincerely,

Thank you,

Clay Stamson
214-755-4411

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 2:06:40 PM

From: shakes-09-dame@icloud.com <shakes-09-dame@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 1:32 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Library

I urge you not to consider privatizing our library! We have a wonderful library system, with infrastructure and institutional knowledge! Why would you consider giving over our library to a private company? This does not make any sense!

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Privatizing Our City Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 2:06:52 PM

From: Linda Moore <mooreorless722@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 1:37 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Privatizing Our City Library

Please do not consider inviting a private equity hedge fund to manage our HB City Library. Hedge funds purpose is to make money for their investors--not serve the public. Our Library does a great job of serving all our community.

Linda Moore
19291 Champion Lane
HB 92648

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Public library meeting
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 2:07:07 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Brett Boucher <bboucher85@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 1:59 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Public library meeting

Dear City Council,

Privatizing the city library management would be a detrimental decision that jeopardizes the accessibility, autonomy, and integrity of this essential public institution. Libraries are pillars of democracy, offering free access to information, education, and community resources for all residents. Management from a private entity introduces profit motives that could compromise the library's core mission, leading to restricted access, reduced services, and biased information dissemination. Moreover, privatization could result in increased costs for residents, as private companies prioritize financial gains over public service. The library must remain under public stewardship to ensure equitable access, democratic principles, and the preservation of community interests. Therefore, I urge the city council to reject any proposals for the private management of our city libraries and instead focus on strengthening public funding and support for this vital community resource.

Sincerely,

Brett Boucher 38 year resident

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Our PUBLIC library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 2:44:58 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Linda Rose <lrindarose3@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 2:15 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Our PUBLIC library

Council members, why are you constantly trying to fix problems that do not exist? Our libraries serve HB beautifully. Please do not replace us, the public, with privatization it! We ARE the PUBLIC! Linda Rose, homeowner in HB 40 years 714-717-1566 Sent from my iPad

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Please vote NO to outsource the Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 2:47:02 PM

From: Ginny Bean <ginnybean1969@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 2:20 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Please vote NO to outsource the Library

Dear City Council members:

Please do not outsource our library.

Our library is used not only by our local community, but it also brings others for many different areas. Our library is a source for students, adults and families that come for story time.

I noticed that four of our council members recently came to the HB Reads event; this is only one of the volunteer organizations that use our resource and support the local community. If you came then the Library means something to you also. I am sure that the outsourcing was a concern because I noticed many individuals in discussion with you.

I also noticed the division between the two groups which is alarming since you all should be working together for our city, but that does not seem to be the case recently. Plus to consider the company that a recent Council member is promoting surprises me since you all feel that the last members did not have the city's best interests.

Please listen closely to the people that our speaking at the next City Council meeting and vote to say **NO** to outsource. I would hate to think that certain council members have already made up their minds. Each and every one of you should be working for the citizens that voted for you.

Best regards

Ginny Bean

714-325-5240

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 2:47:45 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.emz](#)
[image003.png](#)

From: bbenton955@aol.com <bbenton955@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 2:27 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Re: Item 24-197

Hello all City Council Members,

My name is Bonnie Benton and I have been a resident of Huntington Beach since 2016. I have grandchildren that frequent Huntington Beach Library and have participated with them in many activities there including several ballet performances, the FOTL Tea Party, and last summer's Tiny Art Show. I have also participated with them in learning computer skills and book selection.

I am writing today to address, specifically Item #24-197, the authorization for proposals for library administration.

I urge all of you to table this proposal for the time being as there are many related that you may not have researched as yet.

1. https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Document/I4D96D3934C6911EC93A8000D3A7C4BC3?listSource=Search&list=REGULATION_PUBLICVIEW&rank=28&contextData=%28sc.Default%29&transitionType=Default

I am assuming our fine Library participates in the state wide program defined above,. That means it utilizes State funding and must follow their requirements.

2. [California AB1078 | 2023-2024 | Regular Session](#)



California AB1078 | 2023-2024 | Regular Session

Bill Text (2023-09-25) Instructional materials and curriculum: diversity.
[Chaptered by Secretary of State - Cha...

This legislation was passed and signed in Sept 2023 and has direct bearing on the current divisive state of affairs of our library.

Many residents, myself included have been researching your target company, LSS, and their background/track record with other Public Libraries. A record that is shabby, at best. Libraries report they found many books no longer available, shelves empty, untrained staff, not enough staff and other items of very poor business practices.

Just as we residents are facing large increases in Water Rates in part because utilities are run by corporations, the executive officers are paid first, the shareholders next, and cost and maintenance last. Already, the beautiful fountains at the library are no longer functional due to budget constraints. The residents of Huntington Beach deserve better.

This City Council has been particularly deaf to the voices of the many residents who attend public meetings to inform you of their concerns only to be ignored. The negative impact of that is out of 132,000+ registered voters in our recent Primary election, only 62,000 votes were recorded. The margins of the Charter Amendments was a pitiful 3% of the total registered. Charter Amendments should be treated the same as Amendments to the United States Constitution. That should have been the only Amendment to our City Charter allowed.

The Library is no different than any other City function relative to California State Law(s). We live in California. Huntington Beach is a City, but not a State.

714-916-0423
6942 Tucana Drive
Huntington Beach, CA

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: 3/19/2024 VOTE NO Item # 24-197 RFP for Managed Library Services
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 2:48:13 PM

From: Paula Schaefer <pas92649@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 2:45 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>; supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: 3/19/2024 VOTE NO Item # 24-197 RFP for Managed Library Services

Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem, and Council Members:

It is increasingly apparent that the conservative majority does not know what it was elected to do as City Council members. Every agenda has another item that smacks of its narrow-minded focus on culture war issues to the detriment of the City's management, its reputation, and the morale of the City's employees and its many volunteers.

Do you hate the basic idea of libraries? Are you afraid of what people may learn at a library? Or are you contemplating turning management of the library because you just do not know what to do with the mess that you have created?

At the February 20, 2024 Council Meeting, there was a free-wheeling discussion attempting to determine which children's books contained "sexual content" thus requiring "recataloging."

What constitutes "sexual content" was not defined, the "recataloging" process was started without an implementation plan, and the content of the book that met the undefined phrase was never identified.

Mayor Pro Tem Burns asked, "why can't the expertise of librarians be relied on?" If I had not watched the video myself, I would have assumed that he was being sarcastic, but no, he seemed sincere in asking this question.

Yes, this was another example of the majority's fire, aim, ready approach to governing.

Stop yourselves from digging a bigger hole than you are already in regarding the library and do NOT authorize city staff to obtain a request for proposal for managed library services.

Rely on professional librarians, just as Mayor Pro Tem Burns suggested.

Paula Schaefer, Huntington Beach resident

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Huntington Beach Library Privatization
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 3:35:44 PM

From: Colin Bill <colinbill1@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 3:18 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Huntington Beach Library Privatization

To the Governing Council of Huntington Beach,

I become aware of your decision to move forward with voting on essentially privatizing the Huntington Beach Public Library with LS&S or similar for profit company. After researching these types of companies and what they'll offer our community and those who patronage the library, I've found that they will not service the current and future patrons anywhere near what the current library staff is providing the community.

From what I understand, the library hours will be cut or infrequent, collections will be significantly cut and tailored to a privatized agenda (breach of the first amendment, restricting freedom of speech and press), and limitations of library run programs which provide our children with a safe space that provides programing based on community feedback and request.

The company, whichever HB City decides to contract, will cut corners to save on costs to maximize their profits while the community and more importantly our children suffer from limited and heavily controlled collection of books.

I've also been aware of the council's crusade to tarnish and damage the library's functionality and creditability. Apparently the Council believes they and their attorney are more suitable and educated to couriate the library's collection rather than the librarians who have a degree in library management and book selection. The council needs to back off and let the professionals run library. The Council should focus more on balancing their financial spending and not try and clean up their unruly spending by cutting community service funds. Or maybe the librarian's should start doing that since the Council rather oversee the library.

Get your act together, leave the library alone and keep the filthy companies out of it.

Respectfully,
Colin Bill
Huntington Beach Library Patron

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 3:49:05 PM

From: Trudy J. Le Clair, Ed.D. <tjleclair@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 3:41 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Library

Attention City Council:

I am NOT in favor of a private entity taking over our libraries. The current system is not broken. It does NOT need to be fixed.

I am NOT in favor of banning books. The librarians are doing a good job reviewing and recommending books for our population. Besides our tech savvy population (younger citizens) that you seem to be targeting can find much more questionable information online than in the books of our library.

I am wondering why you are fixated on these issues when YOU SHOULD be concerned with the homeless crisis in our city.

Trudy J. Le Clair, Ed.D.

Le Clair and Bradley Enterprises
7171 Warner Avenue #B-307
Huntington Beach, CA 92647

**Be mindful of what you toss away.
Be careful what you push away,
and think hard before you walk away.**

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Our library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 3:49:27 PM

From: Kathleen Kilgallen <kilgallen.kp@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 3:45 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Our library

Council members:

Please do not allow a private company to take over our library. We Huntington loose all say in our library system. I remember back when the council wanted to sell our downtown library with its beautiful mid- century modern building. We citizens got together to stop that.

If you contract with them, they could close our satellite branches like Murray and Banning used by many families and children. We citizens would not have a say. All to save money not to take care of our citizens families and children.

Kathleen Kilgallen

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Oppose Agenda Item 22 (24-197), March 19, 2024 council meeting
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 3:50:05 PM

From: shirleynixon@olympus.net <shirleynixon@olympus.net>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 3:30 PM
To: City.Council@surfcity-hb.org.
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 22 (24-197), March 19, 2024 council meeting

Seemingly out of nowhere, and unaccompanied by a staff report or background information, came agenda item #22 (24-197) for March 19, 2024:

- A) Authorize staff to issue a Request for Proposals for Managed Library Services for the Huntington Beach Public Library system and return to City Council with an agreement for consideration; and*
- B) Direct staff to begin a meet and confer process with affected labor associations to discuss this potential opportunity*

The idea of privatizing the management of HB Libraries is a radical one. Jumping to implement such an idea without publicly discussing and fully reviewing its implications violates not only the public interest but also quite possibly the Brown Act. In the absence of any public policy discussion or public input about potentially privatizing the city library system, it is premature for the Council to direct "staff" (who, exactly?) to issue a Request for Proposals, let alone develop an agreement with a potential vendor.

Please reject agenda item 22.

Shirley Nixon
Huntington Beach, CA 92646

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: NO for Privatization of Libraries
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:33:02 PM

From: Debbie P <debbie.parrett@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:04 PM
To: Wysocki, Ashley <ashley.wysocki@surfcity-hb.org>; CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: NO for Privatization of Libraries

Hello,

I am not in support of privatizing our libraries. Our library system is the gem of Huntington Beach. Knowledgeable, well-qualified library personnel excellently respond to the needs of the Huntington Beach community. Robbing Peter to pay Paul is not a sustainable business model, short or long term. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Debbie Parrett

debbie.parrett@gmail.com

714-488-4754

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Managed Library Services
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:33:21 PM

From: Ella M <ellaladybugmarbut@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:05 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Managed Library Services

Dear City Council,

My name is Ella Marbut and I'm a high school student and a frequent patron of the Huntington Beach Public Library. I have been going to the library for almost my entire life, and I love it. They have a wonderful selection of books, a lovely used book store, awesome staff, and lots of fun and interesting teen events and programs. I strongly oppose the privatization of the library and all of the things I love about it that would be gone. The teen events and programs are especially important to me, and the librarian who runs them is wonderful, and always welcoming and helpful. If the library was privatized, those things would most likely come to an end, and I would not go to the library very often. Please, keep the library with the city and away from managed library services that would make it no longer the place I love.

Thank you,
Ella Marbut

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Agenda Item 24-197 Out-Sourcing HB Library Operations
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:34:48 PM

From: Rick DUFRESNE <rick_dufresne@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:13 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Agenda Item 24-197 Out-Sourcing HB Library Operations

Dear City Council,

I am writing regarding agenda item 24-197. While, I believe it is good to consistently look to improve our city's operations. I am really concerned about outsourcing one of our community's "Crown Jewels", the HB Library System, to a for-profit company. The library has been a fantastic operation during my thirty-three years as a HB citizen. I have no complaints. My concern is that the RFP process will not be transparent. Here are some questions I would like answered before we move to out-source Library Services: (I am sure there are many more)

- What is the current cost to operate the HB Library system?
- What will be the actual savings to the community if we out-source library?
- Will Library Systems & Services be the only proposal?
- What happens to the current city staff if it is out-source?
- Historically what has occurred when Library Systems & Services, a for profit company, has taken over other libraries in the past? Specifically, volunteers' organizations such as literacy volunteers and "Friends of the Library". Has volunteer support been maintained? Volunteers are important component to HB's strong quality of life.
- I am regular user of the library. I also utilize our city's golf course, Meadowlark. If Meadowlark is an example of what we can expect when we out-source the library, it will be shame.
 - The conditions at Meadowlark have deteriorated. (take a look at the driving range and men's bathroom in the club house as examples)
 - My experience has been the helpfulness and friendliness at the library far exceeds the ARCIS staff.
 - Policies and processes at the golf course are absolutely not user friendly. I can join the Arcis Players Club-Prime for \$1,308 dollars/year or Arcis Players club for \$900 dollars/year to secure user-friendly benefits.
- When we out-source the HB Library what steps will be taken to ensure Library Systems & Services maximize their return? Will citizens need to join a club or pay for a membership fee to be able to check out books, use a computer or secure assistance to locate information? Will our local Librarians salaries and/or benefits be reduced? Or will the library staffing be reduced?

Please move thoughtfully forward as you make this decision. I am a huge HB Library supporter and would hate to see the operation out-sourced to save a few city dollars.

Respectfully,

Rick DuFresne
17452 Valeworth Circle
Huntington Beach CA 92649
Cell (310) 480-3713

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:34:49 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Janet Russell <janetdeanrussell@mac.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:13 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Library

Keep library public. No private for profit companies. It is an amazing library enjoyed by all ages Janet Russell
9142 Brabham Drive
HB 92646
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Library service outsourcing
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:34:49 PM

From: Pat Dawson <padawson@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:10 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Library service outsourcing

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to you today to voice my opposition to privatizing public library operations. In reading about this agenda item to authorize RFPs to do so, I was saddened. I believe this to be harmful to the future of our library and a short-sighted decision.

The Huntington Beach Library is a gem in our community, a valuable asset that enhances our community. Not only the great selection of books (both digital and in hard copy), but also the wide variety of programs offered, the upgrades in technology, and the library staff, make our library a treasure. Just visit the library and you will see the multitude of services they provide.

This library and its staff hung on through the "down" times during COVID with the support of our community. Remember our public library is supported by a large number of our population and an amazing group of volunteers who raise about \$250,000 for the library. Talk about commitment! Now it is being to be threatened a possible public operation.

A national, private, for-profit company running the library will not care about and provide for our community in the same manner. They will have their program and their bottom line. It is a one-size fits all, and there will be very little input from our community. Saving a few bucks in the short term will come at an irreplaceable cost. The private company will not garner the kind of volunteer support the current volunteers give.

I have been a resident of Huntington Beach since the mid 80's, and I have raised my children here. I urge you to not support outsourcing library operations. I am now retired and was looking forward to enjoying these years in Huntington Beach. I hope that we have a City Council that listens to its citizens.

Thank you for taking time to read my email.

Sincerely,

Pat Dawson
7131 Bluesails Drive
Huntington Beach, CA 92647

Library volunteers may feel differently about volunteering for a for-profit company.

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:34:49 PM

From: Claudette Varanko <claudettern@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:16 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Library

As a resident of HB, I am shocked that the city council, in a thinly veiled attempt, is trying to take away my freedom to read what I want.

What a terribly bad idea to give control of the library to a for profit entity who will then decide what we can or can not read and eventually force our wonderful librarians out of a job. One that they love and educate for.

STOP this action. We will not let this happen.

Claudette Varanko

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 5:12:32 PM

From: jnagytree@aol.com <jnagytree@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:42 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Library

Greetings,
My husband and I are not in favor of privatizing our HB library operations.

Jean and Ron Nagy

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 5:12:49 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Elizabeth <elizabethpianalto@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:44 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197

To Whom it May Concern,

My parents both lived in Huntington Beach when they met. They raised kids in Orange, but they were so proud of the HB Central Library they took my brother and me there as kids. I remember thinking that it could not possibly be a library since it didn't look like any of the libraries I had visited in Orange. I bought my home in Huntington Beach in 2014 because of all the wonderful childhood memories I have here.

Libraries serve as vital community resources, providing free access to information, education, and culture for everyone regardless of their socioeconomic status. Privatizing libraries risks restricting access to knowledge and services, exacerbating inequality and undermining the fundamental principle of equitable access to information.

It's shameful that our city council would even consider engaging a private company in one of the last remaining examples of a sharing economy our society has. It's a slippery slope.

Please stand with me in opposing agenda item 24-197.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Pianalto
Huntington Beach resident

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Agenda item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 5:13:19 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Julie Killeen <jkilleen1950@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 4:51 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Agenda item 24-197

I am writing in opposition to Agenda Item 24-197 or more succinctly the privatization or outsourcing of our library services.

Libraries and businesses don't drive in the same lane. Libraries are not an industry. Tax supported libraries are a public sector institution designed to furnish essential services to the communities they serve. Our wonderful HB Central Public Library's stakeholders are the whole community not a group of shareholders or investors. Libraries exist for the public good not to make a profit. They are a lot like our roads we as taxpayers support the upkeep and construction regardless of who drives on them. I have been a Friend of the Children's Library and a current member of the Friends of the Library. I am a former school librarian, HB resident and homeowner since 1979. Please keep our wonderful library public. I am firmly opposed to this idea of replacing our library with any for profit business.

Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Privatizing the library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 5:13:30 PM

From: Cindi Galey <cjgaley@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 5:02 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Privatizing the library

Making the liberty a private business is a very bad idea. You elected officials are making some very bad decisions and your constituents will not tolerate it! We will vote you out! This is not Florida!

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: NO! NO! NO! on Item 22 and Item 24
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 5:16:52 PM

From: Marge Nielsen <sendmarge@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 5:15 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: NO! NO! NO! on Item 22 and Item 24

I am vehemently against:

- Item 22 - Managed Library Services
- Item 24 - Parent Review Board For Children's Library

There is nothing wrong with HB libraries. Focus on our real problems, such as homelessness.

Margaret Nielsen
Huntington Landmark
20 year resident HB

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Item #24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 6:05:27 PM

From: Kelly palfreyman troutman <kptman@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 5:42 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Item #24-197

Dear HB City Council,

I oppose these actions. The library is a public good and should NOT be privatized.

I have frequented the HB library for 15 years and taken all 4 of my children to it because it offers such amazing resources. I have volunteered my time and money to support this amazing library. The librarians have always done a wonderful job and do not need anyone else doing it for them. I can barely walk in the library and not get choked up now that the teen section has been eliminated. Please stop this nonsense and keep the library for EVERYONE, especially the most vulnerable members of our community. No one is making anyone check out inappropriate material. Materials are already sorted into sections where they belong based on guidelines set forth by the ALA. Unshelving a book designed to help children learn potty training because it may be considered to be "sexual" is absurd. Stop sexualizing biology and taking jobs away from those trained to do them and giving them to your friends. It's absolutely disgusting what is going on. I've been to multiple City Council meetings where this matter is addressed and you 4 are NOT even listening to the majority of voices in your constituency. Please stop harming the library and the HB community at large. I spent time last month with legislators in Sacramento and HB is becoming a joke. It's not too late to do the right thing. It's not too late to listen. It's not too late to change course and do what is best for the community.

Thank you!

From: [Fikes, Cathy](#)
To: [Agenda Alerts](#)
Subject: FW: Outsourcing the City Libraries
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 6:05:49 PM

From: Mary Spafford <stixspa@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 5:51 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Outsourcing the City Libraries

To the City Council Members:

I would like to add my opposition to the idea of outsourcing the management of our libraries to a private, for profit, company. Leave the libraries as they are, which is wonderful to the people of Huntington Beach.

Mary Spafford
5931 M

From: [Kelly palfreyman troutman](mailto:kelly.palfreyman.troutman@surfcity-hb.org)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Item #24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 5:29:11 PM

I oppose this action. The library is public good and should NOT be privatized.

I have frequented the HB library for 15 years and taken all 4 of my children to it because it offers such amazing resources. I have volunteered my time and even my money to support this amazing library. The librarians have always done a wonderful job and do not need anyone else doing it for them. I can barely walk in the library and not get choked up now that the Teen section has been eliminated. Please stop this nonsense and keep the library for EVERYONE.

Thank you!

From: [Mary Berry](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 5:33:55 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

Libraries are essential Educators, especially for poor children unable to afford to buy books.

Libraries are essential for old people who need help in understanding and completing documents.

Libraries are essential symbols ofThey must be a City's democratic principles of free exchange of ideas and beliefs. They must be supported at all costs.
The agenda item MUST be opposed by all Citizens!

From: [Mary Spafford](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Outsourcing the Huntington Beach Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 5:44:41 PM

To the City Council members:

I am adamantly opposed to having a private, for profit, company operating the libraries of Huntington Beach. Our libraries are wonderful. Leave them as they are.

Mary Spafford
5931 Midiron Circle
92649

From: [Matt Ehrlich](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Managed library service
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 5:54:29 PM

Dear city council

As a resident of Huntington Beach for over 20 years, I very strongly oppose any changes to our current Library operation or oversight.

Specifically, I strongly oppose item 22 managed library services, and item 24, the parent review board for children's library.

Privatizing our beloved Huntington Beach library system is a threat to freedom, freedom of choice, and the wonderful education available to our residence through the library. I am concerned that the city would pay more only to receive fewer services for residence.

I do not wish our cities Library to be privatized.

Matt Ehrlich

From: [Josh Conner](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 6:01:27 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

As a former employee of the Huntington Beach Central Library with ten years of experience, I was shocked and horrified to learn that this local landmark, this institution, this sanctuary, was in danger of being commodified and sold to the highest bidder, no doubt to serve the greed of the city council. Public libraries have been public for hundreds of years. Their purpose has been to serve the public, to provide a place of learning, a place to work, and a place to seek shelter. If the library is sold, and what was once free and pure becomes an asset to be exploited by some corporation, then this city council will choose to begin the slow death of this community. I will do everything in my power to fight that outcome, and I am not alone.

Sincerely,
Joshua Conner

From: [Melody Tokunaga](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Agenda #24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 6:03:10 PM

Dear City Council Members,

As a former Ocean View School District teacher and resident of Huntington Beach for over 53 years, I am alarmed at the idea of privatizing our public library. Our library and staff has provided countless hours of support to my children and school children throughout Huntington Beach. I strongly oppose the City Council's agenda item #24-197 on March 19, 2024.

Sincerely,
Melody Tokunaga

From: [Chris McAlister](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 6:17:50 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library. This is a terrible idea. I do not support your agenda.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Tammy Kist](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 6:20:27 PM

I HIGHLY Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library, and my vote for the next city council will show my unhappiness with how things are being run currently. I will be loud and clear about who I support and who I don't! I will let everyone know how I feel. Votes speak louder than you think.

Tammy Kist
HB resident of 35 + years, home and business owner in Huntington Beach

From: lorak@aol.com
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: Library Privatization
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 6:24:56 PM

Dear City Council members,

I am opposed to Huntington Beach privatizing our library system. Turning our award winning libraries into a business defeats the main purpose of a library-- to provide books and services to everyone in the community.

Libraries provide more than a transactional place for people to access books. They offer reading programs, story time, homework space which help our children learn new things and become excited about books and reading in a time when screen use dominates our lives. The affect of libraries on a community can not be quantified and is not suitable for a business-like setting.

Our public libraries are worth the money needed to keep them public. Do not privatize our city's library system.

Carol Keane
9432 Leilani Dr.
Huntington Beach

From: [Margot Gonzalez](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Item 22 - library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 6:26:03 PM

Our library is the best in all of Orange County. I've been taking my children there for over 15 years for everything from story-times and crafts, ballet performances, teen yoga, STEM groups, large book hauls, and general study sessions. The library is amazing as is, and provides such a wonderful resource. DO NOT MAKE MORE UNNECESSARY CHANGES TO OUR LIBRARY!

From: [Ada Hand](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 6:31:37 PM

I am against privatizing the Huntington Beach library system. Here is a short history of public libraries in this country:

Many Americans' fondest memories are of a library card. Libraries are a quintessential part of how Americans learn and engage with their local communities. Since this country's founding, public libraries have received broad and consistent popular support for their democratic missions and services. The ability to access free information has become a core ideal of what it means to be an American citizen, despite periods of historic inequality. Libraries help make this access possible by placing public benefit at the center of their work and continually adapting their strategies to meet changing public needs over time.

(from Digital Public Library of America website and its "A History of US Public Libraries")

In 1731 Benjamin Franklin and others began a library of donated books. Library members could access these books as they pleased. Franklin also in 1790 donated books to a Massachusetts town, thus creating the nation's first public library.

The Darby Free Library in Pennsylvania has been in continuous service since 1793. The first totally tax-supported library was established in Peterborough, New Hampshire, in 1833.

Public libraries spread after the Civil War. These lending libraries were open to all, didn't charge for their services, and focused on serving the needs of the general public.

Librarians were viewed like missionaries, bringing civilization and reform to the masses through educational opportunity. The American Library Association (ALA) was formed in 1876, the first and largest library professional organization in the world. Its purpose was "to enable librarians to do their present work more easily and at less expense."

Librarians quickly developed educational standards for professionalization which

were taught at Librarian Schools. As libraries arrived in new towns, librarians found communities rarely used the outdated or unappealing materials they offered and provided limited or no financial resources to revise their collections and programming. It took an enterprising Scot to change things.

Between 1883 and 1929 Andrew Carnegie built 2509 free public libraries. He required each town to contribute ten percent of the annual funding to its library, supply its own building site, and provide free service to the public. Carnegie also helped fund university library spaces, as well as separate public libraries for African American patrons in places throughout the United States where segregation laws barred them from using other public library spaces.

Communities established branch libraries so patrons could access library collections and services without using public transportation, thus removing barriers to access like time and cost. Moreover, they brought programming and accessible meeting places to new parts of their growing urban constituency. The expansion of the branch libraries boomed again in 1962 with the Library Services and Construction Act, which helped fund new library spaces for underserved communities.

Early in the history of public libraries, however, providing access was at odds with some libraries' complicity in censoring books in their collections. Although school libraries were the most active in promoting "morally acceptable" reading through book censorship, some public libraries played a role, too. For example, the Kern County Free Library in California complied with a county-wide ban against *The Grapes of Wrath* that lasted from 1939 to 1941.

By the 1950s, the ALA began taking an anti-censorship stance. The "Freedom to Read" statement, supported by the ALA and other booksellers' and publishers' associations, was adopted in 1953. Now, public libraries play an active role in collecting and supporting the reading of banned books.

Beginning in the early 1900s, public libraries began transitioning from closed to open stacks. Patrons were given direct access to collections. Thus, the role of the reference librarian changed from gatekeeper of materials to research supporter and facilitator.

A reference librarian's work includes helping answer research questions and finding materials that match their interests. They help patrons connect with books, periodicals, scholarly journals and special collections material. They are also valuable

to the research process as it progresses, helping patrons narrow or specify their topics and creating proper citations.

Reference librarians are also responsible for creating pathfinders, or research guides, to help get a search started on commonly sought-for topics. Rather than a deeper search that librarians can help patrons with one-on-one, these guides give an overview of helpful sources that can be the jumping-off point for a user's independent research.

A cornerstone of the American Library Association's "Core Values of Librarianship" is its emphasis on social responsibility and libraries' critical role of serving the public. Public libraries' attention to programming, in the form of classes, discussion groups, and community events, helps put those goals into practice.

With renewed focus in the 1950s, US public libraries began extending their core services to include community programming. Typically, these include educational programs, like summer reading groups for children and discussion groups for adults, as well as spaces to host external clubs and groups from the community. The twenty-first century saw programming include computer and other STEM skills-building activities, hosting of concerts, art exhibitions, and gaming, the development of maker spaces, and extensions of their lending services to tool, seed, and even prom dress libraries.

Public libraries amassed foreign-language collections that reflected the particular needs of ethnic and national groups represented in their communities. Beginning in 1918, the American Library Association's Committee on Work with the Foreign Born published a series of guidebooks for adapting collections to meet the needs of immigrants. Public libraries help immigrants learn to speak, read, and write English as well as pass their citizenship tests. The Adult Education Movement spread to public libraries.

Previous robust local funding for public libraries has been challenged over the past few decades, particularly in times of recession. Cuts leave institutions struggling to operate without necessary resources despite a consistent climate of public support.

Free public libraries are the cornerstone of our democracy. The goal of a profit-making library will be to offer fewer services at a lower cost. Put in the hands of

profit-making groups will result in non-accredited staff, book selections narrowed from its current broader scope, reductions in programs that serve the needs of the whole community, lessening of literacy skills, a reduction in adult education as well as what has been in place – support for the American culture while embracing the worldwide desire to improve ourselves.

Please vote NO to privatize Huntington Beach's shining star of library services.

--

Ada J. Hand
714-717-1294 (cell)
adajhand@gmail.com

From: [Ada Hand](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Comments of Ada Hand at City Council Meeting on 3/19/24 for Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 6:37:06 PM

I am against the privatization of Huntington Beach's gem of a library system. Here are my comments:

Libraries are a critical part of how Americans learn and engage with their local communities. Since the 1700s, public libraries have received consistent support for their democratic missions and services. Accessing free information is a core ideal of being an American citizen, despite periods of historic inequality. Libraries make access possible by placing public benefit at the center of their work and continually adapting their strategies to meet changing public needs.

Free public libraries are the cornerstone of our democracy. A profit-making library will offer fewer services at a lower cost. A privatized library will have:

- non-accredited staff without knowledge to serve the public
- reduced book selections and genres
- reductions in programs that serve the whole community
- lessening of literacy skills and technology literacy
- a reduction in adult education and
- severing us from the American culture and preventing us from improving ourselves.

--

Ada J. Hand
714-717-1294 (cell)
adajhand@gmail.com

From: [Jo Ann Arvizu](mailto:JoAnnArvizu@surfcity-hb.org)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF)
Subject: 3/19/24 Agenda Items
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 6:45:58 PM

To All City Council Members,

Agenda item 24-197

Why is the city proposing a library management System to run our Public Libraries? We are 50 year residents of this fine city. We are very proud of our public libraries. We did not appreciate the council majority move to take away the selection of books process from our educated and trained librarians and turn it over to rank amateurs. The attempt to privatize our library system reeks of more possible corruption.

We are against privatizing our library system.

Agenda 24-194

Increasing the number of permits for selling safe and sane fireworks from 15 to 16. Now that is all fine and dandy! How about getting the HB Police and Fire Department to enforce the law prohibiting the discharge of highly unsafe fireworks into the skies of our city every 4th of July? It is a battle zone every year and its a simple matter of citing the perpetrators that set them off with a very expensive citation. There has to be a city ordinance against these actions in place now. Are you waiting for some homes and businesses to burn down before responding?

Agenda 24-160

A three year contract costing the city \$750,000 for liability claims and processing. That sounds like it should be the job of our city attorney and his team. Didn't he get a healthy pay increase above what his predecessor earned. I understand he also increased his staff as well. Three quarters of a million dollars is to much for our taxpayers to pay for something they already pay for.

We are against the approval of this contract.

Agenda 24-188

A three year professional services contract for production and management of the 4th of July Parade. Our parade, the Largest 4th of July west of the Mississippi, has been outstanding in all the years we have attended. There is no reason to turn it over to a private company. Our parade is well managed, well attended and enjoyed by all! Do not turn it over to another entity.

It is NOT broken, so no need to fix it! Again spending more of our tax dollars!

Al and Jo Ann Arvizu
50 year HB residents
jarvizu@socal.rr.com

From: [Sharon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 6:46:39 PM

I have been a resident of HB for 27 years. I have volunteered at the Central Library for the same amount of time. I urge you to remove this item from the agenda at the March 19 council meeting.

The idea of transitioning our public library system, which offers a multitude of cultural events, inviting all residents to participate while maintaining a rich history to the community, to a for profit operation is to diminish and negate the value of 1000s of hours that volunteers bring to the public libraries in Huntington Beach.

Having retired from an outstanding corporation, I know that by asking for RFPs now, means the decision has been made to move forward. Why would you put any company through the process of returning an RFP if there was not a return for them? Requesting RFPs is the first step in deciding who to go with, after moving forward has been decided.

If you want to research the results of the library systems that are now privatized, that information is available in a variety of reports and analysis. This is clearly a step to move LSS forward based on the presentation they made, represented by a former councilman.

Reviewing the text of this request, I don't know how the financial impact is not applicable. This seems to be the pattern, moving forward on programs without knowing how it affects the city budget, or taxpayers' funds.

This action is not applicable to the strategic plan goals updated last year. Why is time being spent on creating a solution where there is no problem....again.

Please vote no on this agenda item; better yet, please remove from the agenda all together.

Sharon Hathaway

From: [Karin Easter](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: Regarding the Privatization of Huntington Beach Public Library System
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 6:51:44 PM

Our library is a real gem. Please do not privatize it and turn it over a profiteering private company. I greatly admire the current management and staff.

Don't even waste any money on any study.

Thank you.

Karin Easter Gurwell
18672 Maplewood Circle
Huntington Beach CA 92647-1818

From: [Richard Morris](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: Library privatization
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 6:51:52 PM

To the Huntington Beach City Council,

I write to you today to ask you to vote NO on privatizing our Huntington Beach Libraries. Public libraries are one of the most cherished institutions in our country. Privatization can mean that the available books and services our libraries offer will be pared down. I worry that the Friends of the Library will also be pared down and the donations (over \$2 million in the last 10 years) and volunteers will dry up as the library becomes run as a business. The fact that the regional sales executive bringing this proposal to our city is former city councilman Mike Posey smacks of cronyism and does not provide a fair and equal representation for our community at large.

Please vote NO on privatizing our libraries in Huntington Beach!

Richard Morris
Huntington Beach 92646

From: [May Hong HaDuong](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Library privatization
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 6:56:50 PM

Dear Huntington Beach City Council Members,

My name is May Hong HaDuong, and I am a librarian and archivist. I grew up in Huntington Beach, near the corner of Beach and Heil, from the age of five months until I graduated from college at the age of 21. My father passed away in our family home, and my mother and brother still live in the city.

The Huntington Beach Library was my second home for most of my childhood. My parents spoke little English and relied on the school system and the Library to enhance my understanding of history, America, and the values and communities at the center of the city. The Library was a place of connection, of learning, and provided a broad understanding of human knowledge and experience.

Privatizing the Library will take away the power of the citizens of Huntington Beach to have transparency around the operations of a jewel of the city. Reports from other libraries privatized across the country point to a focus on revenue over services and to the censorship of materials. I learned at the Huntington Beach Library, roaming the stacks, that access to information is a core American value. Leave the Library in the hands of its citizens and ensure transparency for the great city of Huntington Beach.

Thank you for your service and time.

Best,
May Hong HaDuong

From: laura.sire
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:01:40 PM

Dear City Council Members and City Manager,

This is a Laura Sire, an over 60 year resident of Huntington Beach and a very long time Patron of our wonderful Huntington Beach Libraries. I'm writing to vehemently object to privatizing our libraries Besides being a free and open resource to all HB residents and folks in Orange County since 1909, they are also community havens where young and old can gather, study, and explore all that literature and public information has to offer. Our public libraries are sacred as they are part and parcel of the right to free speech.

Vote no on this unnecessary and undemocratic item or withdraw it from the agenda. There is no need for a financial overhaul and we have a respected, well-supplied, and varied library system that HB residents are proud of.

Please leave it as it is. I so loved taking my grandkids to the HB Library story hours. plays and other programs. I'm sure I speak for many when I say, Do Not send my taxpayer dollars to a private for-profit corporation. We do LOVE our Libraries and you say you do also. So please leave them and our excellent, professional librarians alone.

Sincerely,
Laura Sire

From: stephanie.stichka
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](mailto:CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org)
Subject: Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:06:17 PM

Dear City Council Members,

I don't need to tell you that the citizens of Huntington Beach are upset about the council majority's recent attacks and proposed changes to our libraries. The library is one of the few cherished landmarks left in our city - it is not broken nor does it need to be fixed.

No mention of "relocating" books were discussed during your campaigns, no mention of privatizing (sorry, "outsourcing") was ever brought up. You were not elected because of these issues and I don't believe you would have been elected had your constituents known of your intentions. If the intent of outsourcing the library is to save money, the first thing you should do is abolish the planned book committee - it is a colossal waste of time, energy and money we apparently do not have. Who is going to pay for the thousands of books that will need to be purchased? Not to mention the process is extremely flawed and makes no sense whatsoever.

The library uses very little city funds yet services the entire city - the proposal to outsource is short-sighted and will destroy the library making it more costly in the long run. Look at any other city that outsources and you will see their libraries are in disarray. You are punishing the entire city because this city council majority made egregious fiscal errors, including a hush-hush airshow settlement and a city attorney suing anybody and everybody. Should you move forward with this proposal, the current city council majority will be responsible for its destruction and that will be your legacy.

Regards,
The Stichka family

From: [Cathi Hall](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Privatization of Library Services
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:06:42 PM

I am 100% against privatization of library services. Especially to a for profit corporation tied to a former council member.

I am disgusted with this proposal not only as a long term resident, but an active library participant.

Huntington Beach has a gold standard library system. It requires no supervision by a corporation.

From: [Y Rochester](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:06:54 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library.
Please heave well enough alone.

Sent from my iPhone

From: glaserdj@aol.com
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: The Public Library is
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:13:02 PM

Our Huntington Beach Public Library is a private library owned by the City of Huntington Beach.

My husband and I are strongly against the privatization of our public assets.

You should not sell off our assets to cover for the mismanagement of the council's majority irresponsible spending.

Janice and Donald Glaser

From: nancy_wise
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: HB library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:16:08 PM

Dear Council,

Please do not consider privatizing the HB libraries. I am a senior citizen who takes out books at least once a week. The selections of books, spacious facility and convenient hours make our HB library top notch. Privatizing would make for a mediocre or worse situation.

Nancy Wise
16809 Snapper Dr.
HB, Ca 92649
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Pamela Edwards](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: March 19, 2024 HB City Council Meeting, Agenda Items 22 and 24
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:18:17 PM

HB City Council,

Do you even realize what an amazing library system you have in HB? As a non-resident, who has been a library patron for over 30 years, I ask you to not destroy this "jewel" HB is fortunate to have. These sweeping changes you plan on making to the HB Library will have a catastrophic effect on HB and surrounding communities. You are gutting a beloved library system in Orange County. Please stop!

From: [Peggy Huang](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Comment on item 22 and 23
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:25:34 PM

Hello,

I am a 15 year resident of Huntington Beach and I am saddened by changes and proposed changes to the city's Public Library system. I was annoyed by the reallocation of children's material but at least it was not a ban.

With having a group to assess what books actually come into the library rather than our own librarians, who are well versed with not only the community but on the world of books around us, this is basically a form of a ban. I completely oppose this. As a mom of two young kids, we go to the children's area every 4 to 6 weeks. I should be the decider of what books my kids will pick out from the library, not some kind of board that will have OBVIOUS BIASES based on the current city council appointments. It is a waste of time and money. Are we doing this because majority of residents complained?? Where was the vote on this? Aside from a few people on the city council, what and why prompted this change?

Same issue with privatizing library operations. What will happen to our library staff? Why fix something if it's not broken? Are we really saving money here? I would really love to see documentation on the reasons of why this is a good idea and why it is even being proposed. It's really sad to see money wasted on measure like A, B, and C if it ends up requiring us to save money or save costs on public libraries.

I had always thought that city positions should be non partisan. Even if you hold opinions leaning one way or the other, that's fine, but the decisions and proposals made by city council should be non-partisan and provide benefit to the community as a whole. For example, fix the roads, make the parks better, invest in community events, and LIBRARIES. But the recent measures and changes to the library are CLEARLY NOT non-partisan. So disappointing.

Thanks

From: [Lisa Angela Gibilie](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: Re- City Council Meeting, Outsourcing Library Services
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:26:41 PM

I am asking that you reconsider outsourcing the management services of our wonderful Central Library. This is a sad situation which has not always realize the gains and benefits of saving money, at it's worst it can ruin our wonderful award winning Library.

Libraries are a central resource to the Community. Children have wide access to books, videos and story hours. This library has author luncheons, a theater for plays and in summer Concerts in the Park. We have a unique Seed library, special Geneology resources, community programs, local art and photography showings and much more. Many people use this library with it's wonderful resources to home school children. If our library looks like Escondido, where will those people go?

These outside companies typically hire low wage, part time workers who are not invested in their work. I saw pay of \$16+ an hour.. In Orange County the higher range of low income is \$80,000 per year. AMI for Orange County is \$100,000 per year.

Mayor Van Der Mark, you said you were once a part-time worker in your library. How invested in your job and the library books were you?

How will book reviews to be handled? Will several people read books to evaluate? Where will rejected books go? How much have you determined that cost to be?

Look at the library shelves at an Escondido library. Will you strip our wonderful library like this? [Escondido library's shelves, once brimming with titles, now lie bare](#)



Escondido library's shelves, once brimming with titles, now lie bare

Former volunteer says there has been a 'relentless purging' of books

When Library privatization comes in, donations frequently leave as well. Our Friends of the Library has raised about \$2 million in 10 years to help make our library as wonderful as it is. That well may leave.

Upon closing, Mayor Van Der Mark's intent was to "recategorize" inappropriate books, yet books about mermaids, art books and anatomy reference books are also banished to the netherlands. Better that book choices be made by trained professionals than part time, underpaid personnel,

Thank you for your consideration of this request to leave our wonderful libraries as is.

Sincerely,

Lisa Gibilie

When I started counting my blessings, my whole life turned around.
Willie Nelson

When the power of love overcomes the love of power the world will know peace.
Jimi Hendrix

From: [Kathy McGuire](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Agenda item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:28:04 PM

Hello,

Please record my opposition to any change in the administration of our library system.
I am opposed to agenda item #24-197.

Thank you,
Kathy McGuire

From: [judy.gaglione](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:28:09 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

From: [Henry Pham](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: Opposition re 22. 24-197 Re Managed Library Services
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:29:46 PM

I strongly oppose Managed Library Services, Administrative Item 22, Item 24-197. Why are we wasting valuable resources seeking to privatize the management of the library when there are so many other needs of the city, such as homelessness, housing, etc. This is a waste of precious city resources that should go to other things. The library services are already a well functioning and valuable part of the city.

Thank you for your consideration,
Hoang "Henry" Pham
6161 Winslow Dr, Huntington Beach, CA 92647

From: [judy.gaglione](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:31:25 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library , the Library belongs to the people, ALL the people, keep your hands and politicians off!!!!

From: [Dave Courdy](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Managed Library Services
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:36:37 PM

I strongly oppose turning over management of the library to a private company. A library serves the public good and should be managed by government employees looking out for the good of the community. I donate funds to the library and work once a week as a volunteer. If management is turned over to a private company, I see no reason to continue to do either as I will essentially just be giving money to this company. And I imagine most others will feel the same way.

If this comes to fruition, I will urge ProtectHB and other organizations to initiate a recall of any council member who votes for the change as they clearly are not working for the good of the community.

Dave & Lori Courdy
Huntington Beach

From: [Lisa Shook](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: Item 22 - Managed Library Services Item 24 - Parent review board for children's library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:50:56 PM

As I write this, I wonder why I am wasting my time. For myself and others who oppose both items, our arguments are falling on deaf ears. City council, you have already decided your vote, regardless of what your constituents feel. Many of us will remember in November and vote accordingly.

When my daughter was 13 or 14 she came home with a bible and an interest to attend a church youth event. As we are agnostic, at first I was not thrilled that she was deviating from how we raised her but instead of forbidding it or shrugging it off, I encouraged her to attend and had several conversations about what this meant to her. Would you do the same if your similar aged child came home with a book that featured a transgender or gay character? Would you welcome it as a chance to have a frank and honest discussion or would you default to accusing librarians of sexualizing your child?

This is the real world. There are people that live different lives and love in different ways. We all want to protect our children but ignorance is not protection. Parents already know how to supervise our children. We don't need your parent review board to help us.

Lisa Shook
Huntington Beach CA

From: ron.i
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Do not privatize library!
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:52:13 PM

I have lived in Huntington Beach since 1978, and downtown since 1982. I have been a frequent user of the library over those decades.

It is not exaggeration to say that books I found browsing in the New Releases section have changed my life. I came into money in 1992 and did a deep dive into investing. What I learned ended in full financial freedom. I got worried about my health around 2009 and did a deep dive into food and diets. As a result, my health is strong even as I age. These are just 2 examples. There are many more but I won't bore you.

A library is a public service like a museum, like a fire or police department. It elevates a community. A private company will have one goal, which is to make money. I was in business for decades and I understand business. I understand that costs will be cut, and I am sure it will involve getting cheap mass market best sellers and cheap ebooks. The library in Huntington Beach is a showpiece, I know from experience that few towns of its size have such a nice facility with a large and well-curated collection. Privatization will certainly ruin it, I have no doubt of that.

Please do not do this drastic step to cheapen the culture of our community. Thank you for reading my opinion.

Ron Indin
310 15rh Street Apt. 3
Huntington Beach, CA

From: [Carol](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:55:12 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

~Carol (sent from my iPhone, sorry for any errors!)

From: [Charlene Stevens](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Huntington Beach Central Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:04:04 PM

Hi,

I use the library several times a month. It is a great asset to our community.

From what I have read, having a private, for profit company run our library will reduce services and raise costs.

Please keep our library as it is.

Sincerely

Charlene Stevens

From: [Scott Malabarba](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: in opposition to agenda items 24-197, 24-209, and 24-208
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:08:15 PM

Dear City Council,

Thank you as always to Councilmembers Kalmick, Moser, and Bolton for your unfailing integrity and dedication.

I **oppose 24-197**, request to issue an RFP for managed library services.

Outsourcing library management does not solve any problem Huntington Beach has. Our public library system has been run for decades by professionals who know what they are doing and are deeply committed to our community, and this request certainly did not come from them.

The contractor stated they would provide the same level of services that exists today and at a substantial annual cost savings for the City.

Nothing is free. There are no magic efficiencies to be gained by turning the library over to a private enterprise -- if there were, library staff would have already identified them last year when they were asked to come up with a plan for budget cuts. Any cost savings to the city can only be achieved by reducing the service level. What's more, a private library services company exists only to make a profit. So what we'll lose isn't just the the difference between HBPL's current cost and the contractor's bid -- it's that *plus* every cent they can extract to make their shareholders even richer.

On paper, the company will no doubt claim to demonstrate the same level of service. However, they'll cut costs with actions like replacing the entire library staff with lower-paid and less-qualified contract workers, canceling programs, and increasing fees.

It's clear from the majority's actions since taking office that this request is not sincere. It's being done to wrest away more control over the library and, most likely, to somehow funnel more city money to the majority's friends and family.

HBPL has been an excellent institution and source of pride to HB residents for *over one hundred years*. Handing control of it to profit-driven outsiders will do nothing but harm.

I **oppose 24-209**, children's library material review board ordinance.

Here it is! The book ban.

Some passages of note:

"Community Standards" means the Board's determinations regarding whether books are acceptable for Children's access, including books that may contain Sexual Content or Sexual References.

Under this vague and ungrammatical definition, "Community Standards" does not apply only to the determination of sexual content. This board can reject books for whatever reason they want.

If a Children's Book is nominated for review, it shall not be purchased by the City for Library circulation unless first approved by the Board.

This section doesn't say "shall not be filed in the Children's section" -- these books will not be purchased *at all*. They are *banned*.

The community of Huntington Beach has, with a consistent and solid majority, shown up and written to the council to oppose this action. Of the minority in support, many were tricked into believing that librarians actually hand out pornography to children. This board does not represent our community. And this effort was never sincere or in good faith -- it has always been self-serving, deceptive, and indifferent to the harm it will cause.

I oppose 24-208, withdrawal from the League of California Cities.

I wasn't familiar with the League of California Cities before seeing this item on the agenda, but the tone of the proposal was enough to alert me. Proposition 1 was a complex piece of legislation that generated many opinions from many points of view -- the League is not trying to "knowingly harm our cities" just because someone there doesn't agree with you about the best ways to handle homelessness, mental illness, and substance abuse. If HB leaves then not only do we lose any benefits the League provides, but we lose our voice there.

I'm sure you'll vote this through anyway, but before now I hadn't heard of the Taxpayer Protection and Government Accountability Act. It is indeed deceptive as well as undemocratic -- now I'll be sure to vote against it, so thanks for that.

Sincerely,

Scott Malabarba

HB resident

From: [Michael Keane](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: I strongly oppose Item 22 & Item 24
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:12:37 PM

To whom it may concern,

My name is Michael Keane. I have been a resident of Huntington Beach my entire life and a library patron as long as I can recall. I'm emailing to voice my disapproval for Item 22 – "Managed Library Services" and Item 24 - "Parent Review Board For Children's Library," for reasons I hope are already evident through the emails of other residents.

Item 22 - "Managed Library Services"

I understand, as many do, the preliminary nature of Item 22 in seeking a Request for Proposals, however, the dominance of Library Systems and Services LLC as a national player in this field, with its demonstrable investment in Southern California, combined with the presence of former Huntington Beach mayor Michael Posey as regional sales executive for the company makes it difficult to imagine a conclusion to this process that does not eventually place Library Systems and Services in operational control of our public library.

In my opinion, such a conclusion would be ill-advised and detrimental.

Of great interest to our city council, what I presume to be financial savings for the city, privatization under LS&S has in the past proven less valuable for other cities than initially expected. An article published in the Fullerton Observer, March 8th 2022, by retired Children's Services librarian Janine Jacobs consolidated several examples where other cities encountered problems justifying their contracts with LS&S. Santa Clarita and Calabasas public libraries in particular found that leaving their contracts would, in the first year at least, actually save money. Also noted were the decisions of San Juan City Library in Texas and the Oregon State Library to leave their contracts with LS&S due to the company's lack of financial transparency, something I imagine is paramount for determining how much of the city's budget is spent on the city versus how much profits a Maryland-based private equity company and its investors.

Further deleterious effects are more obvious on the front-end. LS&S standardizes library catalogues across all its branches in order to save money, ignoring the individuality of each community and, as reported in Escondido's case, decimates existing collections in the process.

LS&S seems to accomplish most of its ostensible savings through how it treats library staff, especially new-hires, cutting pay and lowering qualifications for employment. These two factors result in higher turnover and could disincentive the retention of long-term staff,

threatening to expunge the institutional knowledge and experience that would otherwise benefit our library into the future.

Any one of these privatization byproducts would degrade the quality of our magnificent library, and in my opinion, contradict the city's goal of providing exceptional service. At the very least, I would hope that you carefully consider the American Library Association's "Checklist for Considering Privatization," but it is my belief that any private company looking to manage our library would improve neither the library nor our city, and warrants no further investment of the city staff's time and resources to entertain proposals.

Item 24 - "Parent Review Board For Children's Library"

As far as I can tell, the intent to curate a catalogue of books deemed acceptable to children and teenagers seems to originate with a specific moral and communalistic imperative, of making the content in our library further reflect the values of the community. From a certain perspective, I understand the intent, but the closer I look at the item in question, the more that intent seems to break down, namely because the item focuses not on allowing patrons and parents to self-determine their selections, but on limiting the selections they can make based on the determination of a twenty-one-person board appointed by city council. To place such authority in the hands of this review board, whose qualifications are as yet unclear to me, sounds like a bureaucratizing move at best, and at worst, like an attempt to empower the few over the many.

It is my understanding this review board would not simply choose which books would be accessible to patrons under the age of eighteen, but would determine which future books make it into our library at all. How is this board supposed to be a better arbiter for the community than each individual community member? As for the merit of a librarian's role in determining library content in comparison to this review board, I think the truth is obvious. Disregarding the fact that a librarian has a Masters degree in their field, which is a pretty big disregard, the call for establishing this review board isn't to benefit an underserved portion of library patrons. It's to limit library offerings as determined by twenty-one adults who, despite the title of this item, are not the parents of every single youth that makes use of the library.

And of course, this doesn't even begin to explore the qualifications of a book for acceptance or rejection. This is something that shouldn't be left vague, as last year's resolution demonstrated when, in the attempt to remove sexual content from the Children's Library, a procession of vague definitions for "sexual content" resulted in a confused sorting process with such embarrassing results as the transfer of a potty-training book from the Children's Library to the Adult section. Albeit, that particular case was momentary, but the situation speaks for itself and, in my opinion, only cements that attempting to further micro-manage

what our librarians and day-to-day library patrons can already manage for themselves is unnecessary and shouldn't be pursued.

Thank you for your time.

- Michael Keane

From: [Aaron Soto](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: NO to HBPL Privatization & New Parental Oversight
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:15:17 PM

I strongly oppose all efforts to privatize our wonderful library, including via managed services. I also strongly oppose the proposed parental review board.

In summary, I strongly oppose Item 22 and Item 24 put forth to the Council Agenda.

Best,

-Aaron Soto

Long-time HB resident, homeowner, and business owner

From: [Ameelia Ghareeb](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Library Privatization
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:25:23 PM

Good evening, I am a voter and resident in Huntington Beach. I want my elected officials to oppose privatizing the Library operations.

That library is the jewel of our city. It brings tourists in summer, hosts students year round, brings our families together, and provides unquantifiable benefit to our community. Privatizing this resource is a sure way to ruin all of this, as these goals no longer become the priority, making money is instead.

There is no reason. There is no need. It's the City's job to provide public services.

Please oppose privatization of our Library System.

- Ameelia Ghareeb
Resident 92649

From: [lynn davis](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: HuntingtonLibrary
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:27:20 PM

"I STRONGLY OPPOSE"

Item 22- Managed Library Services and
Item 24-Parent Review Board for Children's Library

The library is run in a very professional and efficient manner. Many people use the services provided and the staff very knowledgeable and helpful.

We need to keep the library and the people the way it is now.

Thank you.

Lynn Davis

From: [Nathan Olsen](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: DO NOT PRIVATIZE THE LIBRARY
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:27:24 PM

I am a resident of Huntington Beach and I visit Central library every week. It's an amazing place and Huntington Beach should take special care of it and not leave it to a private company to manage.

I oppose privatizing the library system. It's bad for the city.

Sincerely,
Nathan Olsen

From: marjadawn@gmail.com
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Cc: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Library Privatization
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:30:41 PM

Members of the City Council:

Please reconsider your idea to put control of our library in the hands of a private company which will not serve the needs of our populace like our trusted librarians do. We have used our wonderful Huntington Beach libraries for 50+ years and have seen them developed into world class facilities! Our children have used them to get through their studies in HB schools and have gone on to attend fine universities. They have chosen to return to and rear their children in Huntington Beach because of the excellent schools and facilities available to them in this great city, but they are questioning some of the decisions being made and considering taking their property tax dollars elsewhere. I am a lifelong educator; my husband is a civil engineer and we are more than satisfied with the way our libraries are currently managed by competent librarians. We would not like to see further expenditures for services that are not needed! We all know the expression, *If it ain't broke don't fix it!*

This is a perfect example of that truism. There are a few streets and parks that need improvement if you're just looking for a way to spend "excess" (?) funds. Please do not go against the will of the majority of the citizens of HB by making the poor decision of privatization.

Respectfully,
Marja & Michael Selna
March 18, 2024

From: [Ashley Hawkins](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: Privatization of our libraries
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:31:37 PM

Do not privatize our libraries, please.

We like how it is run now.

From: [Nancy Bates](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:32:06 PM

I am a frequent user and used book donor. I've done considerable research at the HB Library, used it many times for quiet study, and enjoy many exhibits, art shows, etc. My observation is that it runs smoothly with professional, courteous staff. Are there some inefficiencies or other problems that need correcting? Is that why privatization is being considered? What are the reasons? This seems to be a solution in search of a problem! Please carefully consider all aspects of this move before disrupting this valuable community asset, its supporters, staff, students and friends.

Thank you for your consideration,
Nancy Bates

From: [Cathy](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Item 22. 24-197 Privatization of Huntington Beach Public Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:32:17 PM

Honorable Council Members,

If the beach is the heart of Huntington Beach, the library is its soul. The activities and resources at the library build community. The volunteers and Friends of the Library help build relationships and skills in our neighborhoods. It supports literacy, veterans, seniors and career building. This will be dissolved under a corporation led library. A corporation serves its stockholders, not the citizens.

Huntington Beach Public Library, and its branches, is a source of pride for our city. Let us not denigrate a jewel in the crown of HB .

Huntington Beach resident of 44 years,
Cathy McCabe

From: [Arline Kaplan](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; CityCouncil@surfcity-hb.org
Cc: ContactUs@fotlhb.com
Subject: Praise of HB Library and opposition to privatization
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:37:30 PM

Dear City Council members, city manager, city attorney and HB library staff,

Since the early 1970s, the Huntington Beach Central Library and its branches have provided vital services to our community through the efforts of trained, professional librarians and thousands of volunteers. I wish to voice my support for the library remaining directly accountable to the public it serves and vehemently oppose the shifting of policymaking and management oversight of library services from the public to the private for-profit sector.

I have lived in HB for more than 40 years. I relied on the library's database systems and reference books to obtain information for articles I wrote for local newspapers and publications; my children relied on it as they prepared for presentations in Model United Nations and for other classes. But the library and its branches are more than sites for obtaining books, searching databases and using computers. They are places for literacy training and citizenship classes; community exhibits and gatherings; story time and Lego time for kids; low-cost purchase of books, etc. for home libraries; veterans services; genealogy resources; makerspace; and online opportunities for adults to earn an accredited high school diploma and career certificates. Bottomline, the libraries are the heart-beat of our city and diverse communities. They need to be safeguarded as public treasures.

I am particularly concerned about the proposed reliance on Library Systems and Services (LS&S), a company that runs privatized libraries, and ask you to read the article, "Why the Hell Would You Want to Privatize Libraries?" by Donald Cohen and Allen Mikaelian at <https://lithub.com/author/donaldcohenandallenmikaelia/> According to the article, LS&S started out as a software company and become one of the nation's largest library systems. "When LS&S takes over, it receives a set fee from a local government. The corporation gets control over the collection, services, and programs. Most important, it takes over staffing. Librarians at these facilities are no longer public servants; they serve at the pleasure of LS&S...LS&S has developed a pitch that promises innovation, economies of scale, and cost savings. In reality, it hollows out everything that makes a local library a public good."

According to the article, an audit of one of LS&S library systems puzzled over the glaring absence of subscription databases and ebook providers, especially given that LS&S, being the fifth-largest library system in America, should be able to get deep volume discounts. The same audit noted, "The absence of a written service plan, staffing plan, technology plan, a contemporary collection development and management plan, and the existence of many dated operational policies, is concerning. Why is this when LS&S has been operating the Library for 10 years?"

Huntington Beach has a large Spanish-speaking population. According to the article, an independent investigation of the LS&S-run Jackson County, Oregon, library system found that while the county's Latino population had tripled over a period of 24 years, the Spanish-language collection had grown hardly at all. There were no story times in Spanish, the book giveaway for kids included no Spanish titles, and the website was only in English. All this gave the investigators "the overall impression that Spanish speakers are not considered part of the community nor welcome at the Library."

I am angered by the constant attacks on our venerable library system by those with an agenda. I urge the advocates of privatization to consider the advice of two former presidents:

"I have an unshaken conviction that democracy can never be undermined if we maintain our library resources and a national intelligence capable of utilizing them." - Franklin D. Roosevelt, in a letter to publisher Herbert Putnam

"The libraries of America are and must ever remain the home of free and inquiring minds. To them, our citizens - of all ages and races, of all creeds and persuasions - must be able to turn with clear confidence that there they can freely seek the whole truth, unvarnished by fashion and *uncompromised by expediency*." - Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Sincerely,

Arline Kaplan,

An old but very concerned resident of Huntington Beach

From: [Kristy List](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:37:42 PM

To the Huntington Beach City Council,

I am writing to oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library.

Our public libraries have been an essential part of civic life for generations, available to every citizen regardless of income. Please do not take this resource from the citizens of Huntington Beach and turn it over to a private company that does not have ALL of our citizens' best interests in mind.

I am confident that most citizens of Huntington Beach would agree that our public libraries are one of the best uses of our taxpayer dollars.

Voters will remember how this issue was handled (or mishandled) when the time comes to vote again for those who will best represent the city of Huntington Beach on City Council.

Kristy List
HB resident, voter, and homeowner

From: [alexys](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: do not limit books - do not privatize
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:37:46 PM

The actions of the city council make me ashamed to call myself a Huntington beach resident. please do the right thing and do not establish any committee dedicated to limiting the books in the library and keep it public for all

From: [Bev Sansone](mailto:Bev.Sansone@surfcity-hb.org)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: March 10 City Council Agenda Item #22
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:39:34 PM

I have lived in Huntington Beach since 1996 and have enjoyed using the HBPL since moving here.

I do not support Agenda item #22 regarding a request for proposals for Managed library Services for the Huntington Beach Public Library system which is to be discussed at the March 19, 2024 City Council meeting.

I have been researching Library Systems and Services and I have concerns regarding this business taking over our library system. In addition to the ongoing lawsuit in Escondido over the privatization of their public library system there, I have also read about other cities that have had problems with LS&S. I found a good summary in the Fullerton Observer March 8, 2022 as included here:

Over the years many communities have rejected contracting with LS&S or ended their contracts with them. The bullet-pointed items below are some of the more compelling issues that have been recorded by those libraries that have left LS&S or rejected the company's offer to manage their library.

- **Savings not as expected.** Escondido's contract has the city paying for all technology, software, and maintenance costs as well as being billed for the cost plus 5% handling fee for materials. Santa Clarita Public Library in California found the net cost to operate the library in-house at the same staffing level as LS&S would save the city approximately \$400,000 the first year after leaving LS&S. Calabasas Library saved \$68,000 the first year after leaving LS&S.
- **Reductions of service.** Some libraries have less service and more reduction of hours due to staff cutbacks resulting from the loss of professional staff.
- **Loss of local connection to the community.** LS&S has been reported to substitute a remote reference service for local reference librarians. Also, with their standardized high volume buying there is a minimal collection of Spanish language materials.
- **Library Programming is controlled by LS&S.** It is no longer up to staff to determine what best serves the local population's needs and interests.
- **Negative Effect on library staffing.** LS&S Staff serves at the pleasure of LS&S. They replace unionized workers with nonunion employees and often cut wages. This can cause the loss of experienced staff and result in a high turnover rate.
- **Negative effects on the library collection.** When LS&S takes over, they get control of the library collection and they do the ordering. LS&S saves money by narrowing the library collection and focusing on best sellers. This can result in the loss of ability to adapt to the needs and interests of local patrons.
- **Lack of transparency of finances.** San Juan City Library in Texas left LS&S stating that LS&S would not divulge its profit margin. The Oregon State Library reported LS&S spent 28% of money from Jackson County on "other" but would not identify what constituted "other."
- **Lack of willingness to talk in a public setting** was given as one reason Prince William County, Maryland rejected LS&S.

Privatization of the library would take control of managing the library out of the hands of local staff and place it in the grasp of a for-profit company whose previously stated goal has been to generate outstanding returns and grow revenues and profits for their investors.

Our projected budgets are starting to show negative cash flow. I believe this can be turned around easily by avoiding future lawsuits we are sure to encounter with some of the provisions this city council has recommended, as well as reviewing the \$5 million we gave the the airshow to settle that lawsuit - I feel Huntington Beach was taken to the bank and that we should have gone to court rather than settling.

I don't believe we should be privatizing our libraries in order to find "savings", of which other cities have found elusive when dealing with LS&S.

Thank you,
Beverly Sansone, MD

From: [Cheryl Ekstedt](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:42:03 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

Again, the four people on the HB City Council need to STOP their assault on our public library. STOP.

The majority of taxpayers DO NOT WANT you to change our library system.

From: [Julie Meneghini](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: HB Public Libraries
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:45:11 PM

This message is to condemn the City Council's attempt to privatize our public library system. The majority of city residents and I love and support our librarians and the fantastic job they do for the community. I fail to understand why our current Board majority keeps attacking this beloved institution; once again, a solution in search of a problem.

NO to privatization of our libraries!

Julie Meneghini

From: [Mathieu Royer](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:46:34 PM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Roger Ford](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Remove Admin item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:47:56 PM

City Council,

As a 30 year HB resident, I vehemently oppose privatizing the HB Library. Our PUBLIC library is a huge asset to the community, innovative and well run to support the community. Privatizing this community treasure will only enrich the company and those associated with the company.

The City Council has already sullied itself with its book banning and culture war tactics. Do not add destroying our Library to the list.

Roger Ford

From: [Lora Gumbrecht](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose RFP for Managed Services for HBPL
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:48:27 PM

HB City Council and other officials proposing this RFP:

I strongly oppose this suggestion and would like to keep the library services maintained as they have always been. We have been residents and homeowners in HB for 33 years. We found the library essential when raising our child here and we have taken advantage of many services over the years ourselves. Please do not decide to move forward with this proposal.

Thank you,

Lora L. Gumbrecht

HB resident

From: [Lisa Mills](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: HB Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:52:19 PM

City Council members

As a 20+ year resident of Huntington Beach I do not want you to outsource any library services. Huntington Beach has other issues requiring your attention. Please focus on these real issues.

Lisa Mills
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Nancy Nielsen-Mirza](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: No! To Item 22 and Item 24!!!!
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:55:00 PM

What's wrong with you people? Our library and librarians are great. Please focus on real city problems like EVERYONE agrees - homelessness. Geez.

NO on Item 22 and Item 24.

Nancy
12 year HB/SB resident
2 kids in the school system

From: [Brandon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Concerns Regarding the City Council Agenda on March 19th, 2024
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:01:49 PM

Huntington Beach City Council
2000 Main Street
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

Dear Huntington Beach council members,

I'm writing today to express a degree of concern in regard to items on the agenda for this city council meeting.

Privatization of our library

I oppose the privatization of our current library system, as our current infrastructure and experienced personnel are adequate for our needs. The time, expense, and complexity of gutting an existing library system would be much better spent fixing the current broken fountain at the entrance to Central Library.

Community Parent Guardian Review Board for Procurement of Children's Library Materials

This is nothing short of a book banning committee and an attempt to grab national headlines. This political grandstanding does nothing for our city but divide and infuriate. I am a father to two elementary school age children who attend public school in our city, and it is my place as a parent to censor the materials my children access. I trust the work of our established librarians and as a parent, I explore the library with my children. I have yet to see anything I consider inappropriate in the children's section, and I actively monitor the media that they consume. This committee is unnecessary censorship for political points.

We all wish to improve our great city and I thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Brandon Ribota
Huntington Beach, CA

From: [Kathleen Lueck](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: HB Public Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:02:37 PM

For over 50 years I have proudly been a resident of Huntington Beach. No longer, due to your radical self-serving decisions, do I take pride in being part of that community. In the past were blessed with councils of individuals, who have put our community above their politics. One of their grandest legacies is our magnificent library system, revered by residents of the entire county as well as our own residents. HOW DARE YOU put this magnificent system on the chopping block!! HOW DARE YOU even consider putting it in the hands of a COMPANY? This is OUR PUBLIC LIBRARY, open to the public and run by LIBRARIANS —YES, WELL-EDUCATED LIBRARIANS, no less. Your desire for control appears insatiable. GET REAL. LEAVE OUR LIBRARY ALONE!

Kathleen Lueck
17411 Mayor Lane, HB

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad](#)

From: [Christine T](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Keep Our Libraries Public!
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:05:09 PM

Dear Huntington Beach City Council Members,

I'm writing to you with serious concern about the proposal to privatize our library system.

Let's be clear: privatizing our libraries sends a clear message that our city council doesn't prioritize equal access to essential services for all residents.

Our public libraries are lifelines for many in our community, providing access to education, resources, and opportunities regardless of background or income. Privatizing them puts these services at risk, favoring profit over the needs of our citizens.

As elected representatives, your duty is clear: protect the interests of all residents and ensure that essential services like our library remain public and accessible to everyone. Rejecting privatization is the only responsible choice.

Furthermore, I want to make it unequivocally clear: if you choose to vote in favor of privatization, I will not support your candidacy in the next election. The people of Huntington Beach deserve representatives who prioritize their needs over corporate interests.

Sincerely,
Christine Taylor

From: [Lee Marie Sanchez](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: HB CITY COUNCIL ~ OUR LIBRARIES
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:08:32 PM

Dear Members of the HB City Council ~

We have an incredible Huntington Beach Library. Our librarians and our support staff are all top notch. Let them do their jobs. You have made unwise financial decisions and, continuing to do so, you now need to find other revenue, such as looking at for-profit managers of our system.

We do not need to tell our librarians how to select books. This is what they spent years in graduate school learning and have more experience than any majority of the Council's hand-picked people could do. Again, a waste of time and the public's money because of your bungling city finances.

My family has lived in Huntington Beach now for over 52 years participating in a myriad of community events and activities, always trusting our libraries to provide us with truly wonderful service. We now find ourselves embarrassed by recent decisions of our Council.

With hope for better governance, Rev. Lee Marie Sanchez (retired)

From: [Molly Fitzgerald](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Concerns Regarding Local Library Management and Policy Changes
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:12:23 PM

Dear Members of the City Council,

As a concerned parent and dedicated library patron, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed consideration of transferring the management and staffing of our local library system to a private company. Additionally, I wish to address recent policy changes that have caused inconvenience and dissatisfaction among many community members, including myself.

First and foremost, our local library is not just a repository of books and resources; it is a vital community institution that serves as a cornerstone of education, literacy, and intellectual freedom. The current highly-qualified personnel who work tirelessly to maintain and improve our library system are dedicated public servants who understand the unique needs and preferences of our diverse community. Handing over the management to a private company driven by profit motives risks undermining the core values and principles that our library stands for.

Privatization often leads to reduced access, diminished quality of service, and loss of accountability to the public. We cannot afford to compromise on the quality and accessibility of our library services, especially when it comes to essential resources for education, research, and community engagement. Our local library should remain a public trust, accountable to the residents it serves, rather than being subject to the profit-driven interests of a private entity.

Furthermore, I am deeply disappointed by the recent implementation of policies that have resulted in the relocation of certain human anatomy books out of the children's section. While I understand the importance of age-appropriate content, such decisions should be made with careful consideration and consultation with parents and educators. Restricting access to educational materials based on arbitrary or religious criteria not only undermines the principle of intellectual freedom but also hampers the ability of children to learn and explore subjects essential to their understanding of themselves and world around them.

As parents, it is our responsibility to guide and supervise our children's reading choices. However, we should not support policies that censor or restrict access to information based on subjective interpretations or misplaced concerns. Instead, we should promote open dialogue, critical thinking, and a respect for diverse perspectives within our community.

In conclusion, I urge you to reject any proposals to privatize our local library system and to reconsider recent policy changes that undermine its mission and values. Our library belongs to the people, and it is our collective responsibility to safeguard its integrity and ensure that it remains a beacon of knowledge, learning, and inclusivity for generations to come.

Thank you for your attention to these important matters.

Sincerely,

Molly Fitzgerald

18734 Elmwood Ln
Huntington Beach
(747) 333-6166

From: [April Downs](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: Opposition to Privatization of Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:14:28 PM

Huntington Beach City Council Members,

As a long-time resident of Huntington Beach, I am vehemently opposed to the proposed privatization of our public libraries.

Libraries are treasured institutions that offer much-needed public space. They offer all our citizens a welcoming place to learn, study, socialize, and just be included. I have taken both my sons there since they were born. We enjoyed story time, the extensive book collections, the classes offered, and the community atmosphere.

Privatization will change the very foundation of the library. This treasured institution will no longer focus on being a community space for learning; when run by a private, for-profit company, it will be focused on making LSS money. The library will become another consumer entity where profit is the point instead of community.

I have watched in dismay as the City Council ignores what our citizens want. For hours, our citizens attended the city council meeting to oppose the institution of a "citizen" council to decide what books the library would purchase. The emails and the people at the meeting overwhelmingly opposed the changes to our library, but the majority ignored our wishes and voted to start censoring our library books. I do not anticipate this email will do much or change what I know to be minds that are closed to our voices, but it provides a record of the opposition.

Thus, once again, I state my opposition to the proposed privatization of our library.

Do your job and represent Huntington Beach Citizens' wishes.

April Downs

From: [Nancy](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:18:02 PM

I Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library.

I have lived in HB for 50 years and have taken my 3 children, now adults and 5 grandchildren to the library. We have so many special memories. We have a book 'spine' in the children's library.

The library is a central part of our HB community and I do not want to see it become impersonal and run by strangers!

Nancy Nimmons

From: [Michelle Hall](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Cc: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Voice against Privatization of Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:18:48 PM

Good evening,

I wish to voice my opinion against the privatization of the library management. As it stands, I am already very concerned with the direction the council has taken the library in removing harmless and educational books from the children's section of the library and fear that any private management company, particularly Library Systems & Services will continue in this downward spiral towards lunacy. As a doctor, I became interested in the human body at a young age and depended on the library to find books that would educate me on biological functions, including reproductive health. Now as the mother to two young children, I encourage them to speak openly about people and their bodies, to use proper anatomical words and to be curious. I would wish for my children to continue to have access to books that spark their interest and imagination, no matter what the subject and not to be limited by a group of conservative hysterics that are offended by textbooks.

To this day, I have trusted and appreciated the Huntington Beach Library and its variety of books for children and young adults. The selection currently available touches on subjects of health, diversity and equality. If the council moves towards hiring a private management company I would fear for the current staff at the library and the limitations the new management company will impose. The library should continue to be an access to everyone to a world of education and to subjects of all interests. I do not support the privatization of the library management.

Thank you for your time.

Dr Michelle Hall, MD.

From: [Brynn Noble](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Comment in Opposition to City Council Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:20:14 PM

Members of the Huntington Beach City Council,

I am writing in regards to the March 19, 2024 City Council Meeting Agenda Item #24-197. I oppose the outsourcing of library management services to any outside entity. I was raised my whole life in Huntington Beach and have a lifetime of wonderful memories of the Huntington Beach Library system. I am now raising a child here, and we typically visit an HB library branch weekly. We are so grateful for our library and for the dedicated staff that make it such an important part of the HB community.

I am always in favor of looking at budgets and seeing where we can trim the fat. But handing the management of our library to an outside corporation is not the way. The library is a public good. It belongs to us - the citizens of this community that we all love. It should stay ours - existing for the benefit of the public and not to enrich some corporation.

Our library would not be what it is without the efforts of the dedicated professionals employed there. We know how for-profit corporations will "save money" in managing our library. It is certain that the salaries and benefits of our library employees will be cut, which inevitably will mean the loss of important library staff and the high level of education, experience and professionalism that they bring to work every day to make our libraries great. Our library staff are public servants and valuable members of our community - neither they nor our library deserve to be sacrificed for whatever benefit a library management corporation may allege they can provide.

Thank you,
Brynn Noble

From: [Michelle Edwards](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: OUR PUBLIC Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:20:34 PM

City Council Members

For those of you who feel it is in your best interest to privatize our PUBLIC libraries, as per your usual misguided restructuring and destruction of our beloved City, I vehemently oppose this action.

As a citizen of Huntington Beach for 45 years, myself, the mother of 3 children and grandmother of 2 have benefited and continue to benefit from the use of our libraries as they are. The main library in Central Park is one of our City's most important landmarks, something to enjoy and be proud of.

Privatizing takes away the personalization and community spirit in the safe environment that our library provides.

Be smart, why fix something that is not broken? Those who support you are probably the least interested in even visiting our libraries and are only interested in your "success", spite and division, much like your former president who is destroying our world. Your actions are doing the same to our City. I fear for my grandchildren living amongst such senseless hate. Huntington Beach is losing its soul.

Leave our PUBLIC libraries, PUBLIC for God's sake. Make Huntington Beach proud and beloved again.

From: [Kaitlin Mendoza](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Against Privatization of our Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:25:14 PM

Hello,

As a long term resident of Huntington Beach, I am thoroughly against privatizing our library. Please MOVE ON and pass some measures that will actually benefit the residents of Huntington Beach. There have to be better issues that you can focus your efforts on rather than this needless posturing.

Thank you,
Kaitlin Mendoza

From: [Buffie Channel](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: AGAINST -- Agenda Item #22 / 24-197, Item # 24 / 24-209 and Item 25 / 24-208
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:27:40 PM

To City Council Members:

Regarding Item 22 / 24-197: **NO**

Here are some quotes about libraries. I hope you read them and ponder why you are making it your mission to decimate our libraries and attack our librarians.

The profiteering of library services is a solution for weak leaders and weak readers.
-- Buffie Channel, HB Taxpayer

The only thing that you absolutely have to know,
is the location of the library.
—Albert Einstein

Good friends, good books and a sleepy conscience:
this is the ideal life.
—Mark Twain

If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need.
—Marcus Tullius Cicero

Yo, que me figuraba el Paraíso / Bajo la especie de una biblioteca.
I have always imagined Paradise as a kind of library.
—Jorge Luis Borges, from Dreamtigers

You see, I don't believe that libraries should be drab places where people sit in silence, that has been the main reason for our policy of employing wild animals as librarians.
—Graham Chapman

The very existence of libraries affords the best evidence that we may yet have hope for the future of man.
—T.S. Eliot

I ransack public libraries, and find them full of sunk treasure.
—Virginia Woolf

Whatever the cost of our libraries, the price is cheap compared to that of an ignorant nation.
—Walter Cronkite

Libraries store the energy that fuels the imagination. They open up windows to the world and inspire us to explore and achieve, and contribute to improving our quality of life. Libraries change lives for the better.
—Sidney Sheldon

A library is not a luxury but one of the necessities of life.

—Henry Ward Beecher

A library outranks any other one thing a community can do to benefit its people. It is a never failing spring in the desert.

—Andrew Carnegie

Google can bring you back 100,000 answers. A librarian can bring you back the right one.

—Neil Gaiman

When in doubt, go to the library.

—J.K. Rowling, from Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets

Without libraries what have we? We have no past and no future. Just ask Ray Bradbury.

—Kami Garcia & Margaret Stohl, from Beautiful Creatures

A library is a miracle. A place where you can learn just about anything, for free. A place where your mind can come alive.

—Josh Hanagarne, from *The World's Strongest Librarian: A Memoir of Tourette's, Faith, Strength, and the Power of Family*

One can never have too many librarian friends.

—Jennifer Chiaverini, from *The Wedding Quilt*

Good librarians are natural intelligence operatives. They possess all of the skills and characteristics required for that work: curiosity, wide-ranging knowledge, good memories, organization and analytical aptitude, and discretion.

—Marilyn Johnson, from *This Book Is Overdue!: How Librarians and Cybrarians Can Save Us All*

When the going gets tough, the tough get a librarian.

—Joan Bauer, from *Best Foot Forward*

I don't think I'll be able to help you find that.

—No librarian, ever.

Perhaps you should listen to scholars, scientists, teachers, authors, and respected intellectuals - *if you won't listen to the citizens who you claim to represent and who are your bosses.*

My tax dollars for the past 35 years have paid for the books, the contents, the upkeep, the programs and the stellar reputations of the libraries in the city of Huntington Beach. The fact that you want to privatize library services is a slap in the face of the taxpayers, the children of this city, and all patrons of our renowned libraries!

Here is what we know (and you can save your unhinged and unprofessional replies - telling me how you have lived in HB longer than me or how the building will still belong to the city because we know the truth)

- Yes, the building and the books will still be the property of the city.

HOWEVER, YOU WILL FIRE THE LIBRARIANS OR ONLY ALLOW THEM TO KEEP THEIR JOBS WITHOUT THEIR PENSIONS or BENEFITS, FOR A MUCH REDUCED PAY, WITHOUT THEIR AUTHORITY TO MANAGE BOOKS AND SERVICES. So save us your lies. Your semantics and mumbo jumbo about what is really happening may work on your low information supporters, but it won't work on US!

- The company Library Systems and Services is the ONLY company that is privatizing library services across the country - AND WE KNOW THAT MIKE POSEY IS ON THE BOARD! So your lies about putting this out for a study or a "bid" is smoke and mirrors since you are being lobbied by Posey. LSS is known to decimate library programs, push out experienced librarians and staff, and reduce book choices to best sellers and mainstream mediocre vanilla content.

- Most of the cities that have opted for this takeover have regretted it or are suing their city councils for blatant negligent profiteering.

- Library services and programs will be eliminated with a FOR-PROFIT corporate model.

- Say goodbye to the beloved Seed Library
- Say goodbye to the Gift Shop
- Say goodbye to Storytime (award winning in the county)
- Say goodbye to historical tours
- Say goodbye to the Friends of the Library and their donations
- Say goodbye to the 1000 citizen volunteers because who wants to volunteer when a corporation has fired everyone and decimated the programs
- Say goodbye to the Art displays upstairs and future expanded art installations
- Say goodbye to the Fountains
- Say goodbye to the coffee cafe
- Say goodbye to the Teen Center (well that's already gone)
- Say goodbye to the Libby e-books
- Say goodbye to the kids summer reading programs
- Say goodbye to Beanstack (do you even know what that is? I doubt it)
- Say goodbye to Lego KidsClub
- Say goodbye to Toddler and Big Kids Craft Storytime
- Say goodbye to Crafter's Corner because that will definitely be chopped because that might cut into their profits
- Say goodbye to the Tween STEAM Team (that's definitely on the chopping block)
- Say goodbye to the program called Life Skills for Teens (because why do teens need life skills, or puberty books, or a place to hang out at the library?)

If you are looking to LIBRARIANS and their salaries and pensions to make up for your short falls and poor governing and giveaways to your rich Air Show buddies and inevitable losses in court - you are simply ineffective representatives and you underestimate the value that the community places on our libraries, access to books, and our esteemed librarians and the services that ONLY they can provide because they are educated and trained far beyond the incredibly insulting offer that LSS will make to them to retain their jobs..

Regarding agenda item 24 (24-209): **NO**

Rarely have I seen such a sophomoric and immature proposal riddled with unworkable

procedures and a flagrant disregard for the First Amendment, parents and their judgement, and a total lack of understanding of how anything works in a library! It's alarming and ignorant and ripe for a lawsuit.

Regarding Agenda Item 25: (24-208): **NO**

And regarding the proposal to leave the League of Cities organization - no surprise there. Any organization that may scrutinize this council and is against privatizing library services is naturally on this Council Majority's chopping block. (Casey - save your canned and insulting "Bless your Heart" response, mmm kay?)

This City Council majority continues to show a complete lack of care for the concerns of the tax paying residents of this city.

Hands off our libraries and our librarians!

I'll leave you with one last quote. One that exposes your plans of underestimating our citizenry.

**Libraries are full of ideas—perhaps the most dangerous and powerful of all weapons.
—Sarah J. Maas, from Throne of Glass**

Sincerely,
Buffie Channel
35 year resident and homeowner

From: [Harry McLachlan](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: RFP for Library Services
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:41:01 PM

Huntington Beach Special City Council Meeting March 19, 2024
Agenda Item 22, No. 24-197

My name is Harry McLachlan. I am a resident of Huntington Beach.

I am writing in opposition to agenda item 22 (24-197), an unnecessary and uncalled for attempt to start the ball rolling toward privatization of our outstanding PUBLIC library.

Undoubtedly, the usual suspects will attempt to camouflage their intent with Orwellian-speak (“We’re merely OUTSOURCING. It’s not privatization!”), just as they sold their hateful Charter Flag Amendment as the “Patriotic Flag Amendment”.

LS&S is a for profit corporation beholden to their shareholders. The citizens of Huntington Beach are the least of their concerns. They intend to come in and lay off our excellent librarians and library support staff and hire unqualified candidates who will work for a much lower wage.

If passed, this agenda item opens the door for Mismanagement of Library Services in a major way, while eschewing years of institutional knowledge and experience.

Please vote no on staff authorization agenda item 22 (24-197).

From: tran@hushmail.com
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Opposition re 22. 24-197 Re Managed Library Services
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:42:06 PM

To whom it concerns,

I strongly oppose Managed Library Services, Administrative Item 22, Item 24-197. Our current library system is a jewel for the city. No other library system compares to it in Orange County. It is a well run organization and no city resources should be use to change our beloved library. Please address an actually problem that we have in the city, such as the closing of schools.

Cam Tran of 6161 Winslow Drive

From: [mike sloan](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Privatization of our library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:42:27 PM

I strongly oppose managed library services (administrative item 22).

Michael D Sloan
8746 Placer Circle, Unit 612e
Huntington Beach 92646
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kyle Garcia](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Privatization of our Public Libraries
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:43:08 PM

Hello City Council,

I am writing in as I cannot attend in person due to an in office job like many citizens of our city.

As someone who grew up in this city and left to study economics, I am vehemently against privatizing the libraries. Our libraries are beautiful locations used by many for a variety of reasons. These are assets not liabilities, getting rid of them makes no sense and this idea should be scrapped immediately.

Thank you,
Kyle Garcia

From: [Ellie Johnson](mailto:Ellie.Johnson@surfcity-hb.org)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:43:18 PM

To the members of the City Council:

I am opposed to Agenda Item 24-197.

A few weeks ago I emailed about my concern that consideration was being given to contract with a for-profit library management company. I received a response from Casey McKeon who stated that the Council received lots of proposals to consider. So had the Council already received proposals? But now the Council is asking for there to be a vote on requesting proposals for Managed Library Services which leaves me wondering where exactly the Council is heading and why this would even be considered. We have an excellent, well managed, successful public library system. We have infrastructure and institutional knowledge. Why look to outsource an exceptional library system with 5 branches? I say "YES" to maintain our thriving, inclusive publicly owned Hunting Beach Public Library. It is a treasure in our community.

Respectfully submitted,

Eleanor Johnson
Eaglecrest Drive
Huntington Beach

From: [Ariana Marquez](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Regarding Privatization of Huntington Beach Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:44:05 PM

To Whom it May Concern,

As a resident of Huntington Beach, I wish to make known that I strongly oppose Item 22 Managed Library Services and Item 24 Parent Review Board.

The beauty and necessity of the public library system is that it provides an accessible and inclusive environment for all populations. Moving forward with the proposed changes would minimize the effectiveness of these pillars in the community.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Best,
Ariana Marquez
Resident

From: [Akira Blades Royer](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:48:40 PM

Dear City Management and Counsel Members,

The Huntington Beach Public Library is a staple of our city. It has countless services for the city's citizens to use. Most importantly, it's a place for us to enjoy, relax, and learn. I remember going to the public library when I was six with my mom and grandma, watching storytime. I enjoyed it so much, singing and dancing along. I can't forget attending several Scratch coding classes and a FINCH Robotics class. I loved checking out books and reading them to fill out my Summer Reading Log. The Huntington Beach Public Library was a fun and important aspect of my childhood. It would be a shame to lose the services it gave me and countless others. Furthermore, it would be so sad for the children who want to have these services and may never have that opportunity. I currently use the Huntington Beach Public Library as a place to do schoolwork, find books, and meet new people. I love the Huntington Beach Public Library as it is now. I oppose the privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library.

Thank You,
Akira Aspas Royer

From: 7146147124@vzwpix.com
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:51:48 PM
Attachments: [text_0.txt](#)

Attn: HB PUBLIC Library future

As a resident of the community for over 40 years, my family has enjoyed and appreciated our fabulous library system. As a teacher in the community, I see and understand the value of a PUBLIC library for students and families.

Please, please keep our library PUBLIC.....

No, no, no to privatization of our library.

Thank you

From: [Linda Moon](#)
To: [Judith Lewis](#)
Cc: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Re: Privatization of Library, (Item 24-197) Resignation from League of California Cities (Item 24-208)
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:54:43 PM

Very well said.
Linda

On Mon, Mar 18, 2024, 5:04 PM Judith Lewis <judilew22@gmail.com> wrote:

Privatization. A favorite word of the right wing political ideology. They'd privatize all government functions because their belief is that government and anything not for profit is bad. Unfortunately while capitalism is a good system, it has many failings and must be regulated to work. Likewise, sometimes government functions need revisions or improvements to work. But the government is not for profit—and libraries are not for profit.

Privatizing these functions to save money inevitably leads to reduced services and benefits. You offer nothing in your proposal explaining just how a private service is going to both do a better job and reduce costs. It won't happen. STOP with the right wing ideological agenda that wastes time and taxpayer money.

League Membership You give no justification for your proposal to cancel your membership in the League of California Cities. Historically the League has helped develop legislation supporting local control and provided education and advice to local city councils. I think this city council could use that advice instead of going berserk with unneeded and inadvisable policies and actions.

Judith Lewis
37 year Resident Huntington Beach
Retired Captain, L. A. County Sheriff
Masters Degree Public Administration USC

-

From: [Scott](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: Item 22, Item 24
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:09:53 PM

Dear City Council,

I strongly oppose items 22 and 24 for the March 19th, 2024 agenda. As a long time resident of Huntington Beach, the public library has been an invaluable resource that has been extremely well run. These changes are completely unnecessary and are a disservice to the residents of Huntington Beach. The patrons of the public library should have the freedom and choice to decide for themselves and their families what is appropriate, not notoriety seeking politicians. Freedom and choice are fundamental to this country, I expect my city council to represent these values.

Scott Bauer

From: [Jason Hall](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Voice against Privatization of Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:14:55 PM

To whom it may concern,

Having grown up in Huntington Beach, the HB library system was vital to cultivating my love of reading and exposing me to thoughts and concepts that were vital to my becoming a responsible adult. It is the access to books that allow kids to go on an adventure, develop compassion for others, understand other cultures and families, and grow empathy towards others.

And today, I bring my daughter and son to the library to experience the activities of the Children's Library and check out books on a variety of topics including learning about other cultures, caring for the environment, introduction to LGBTQ+ families and a variety of other topics. My children will become more understanding, inquisitive, compassionate, and empathetic for reading these books (which is not a negative thing).

By privatizing the Huntington Beach library staff and book selection, I fear that Orange County kids will not be allowed to experience the world around them through these books, keeping them cocooned from the real outside world. Restricting books, not ordering new books on relevant global topics or limiting their access will stunt the growth of children and young adults to the real world, and without this exposure, they will get a rude awakening and likely struggle to accept that there are those that practice different religions, hold different beliefs or understand global events.

I also fear with privatization of the library that service could be cut to help the private entities' bottom line. Will the best children's story time in Orange County be on the chopping block to save a buck? Will my daughter no longer participate in craft time because the private company doesn't want to shell out for more glue or colored paper?

As someone who spent a large chunk of his formative years in Huntington Beach and has a large part of my heart still there, I urge you to keep the library as it is with no restrictions to what children can have access to or check out (return to the system prior to the "relocation" of certain books related to the human body) and not privatize the HB library staff. People come from all over Orange County to participate with the HB library system and if the system changes out of fear of knowledge or to save money on a line in the city's budget, it will not be a loss just for Huntington Beach, but for Orange County as a whole.

Jason Hall
Resident from 1982-2018 and biggest fan of the library staff

From: [Lindsay K](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Agenda Item 22. 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:16:04 PM

Dear City Council,

My name is Lindsay Klick. I am the mother of two school aged children, have been an HB resident for 20 years, and have worked as a professional Children's Librarian in Orange County for the past 13 years. I am writing to flatly oppose item 22. 24-197 "Request authorization to issue a Request for Proposals for Managed Library Services for the Huntington Beach Public Library system" by Police Chief/Interim City Manager Eric Parra.

The request for RFP for former Huntington Beach Mayor Mike Posey's employer, Library Services & Solutions (LS&S), to present their proposal to take over staffing, procurement of materials and programming for the Huntington Beach Public Library is an outrageous display of cronyism and smacks of retaliation against the library staff and the Friends of the Library for opposing the City Council majorities recent moves to censor library materials.

A public library is simply a book storage facility without trained librarians and dedicated staff. Outsourcing library staffing to LS & S or a similar company means the library staff is employed by that for profit company. Huntington Beach Public Library staff employed by the city serve the entire community.

The Huntington Beach Public Library is an award-winning library with award-winning staff ("Best Storytime") but a relatively small budget. Programs and materials budgets are largely supported by the hard work of the community itself in the form of the Friends of Huntington Beach Public Library and Friends of the Children's Library of Huntington Beach. The entire budget for the library is 3% of the city's budget - about \$5 million per year. The Interim City Manager/Police Chief has launched the request to explore outsourcing staffing of the library against the express wishes of these civic organizations whose members' hard work makes the library so successful.

The Maryland-based company Library Solutions & Services (LS&S) makes a profit by promising cities savings through cutting costs while claiming to maintain the same level of service. They do this by cutting full-time positions and paying library workers less per hour with fewer benefits. Currently, HBPL has 27.25 full-time employees and 75 part-time employees at its central and five branch libraries. Only 12 full-time employees are Librarians and the use of part-time employees at HBPL is already much higher than with other systems. Part-time employees do not receive benefits other than sick leave. How can an already lean library make cuts without compromising service or hours?

There is no "fat" in the Huntington Beach Public Library system and yet this company is promising to save the city money while also making a substantial profit for their venture capital owners in Maryland? Santa Clarita Library recently returned to public staffing after they found LS&S "savings" to be overblown and services had declined. (Link: <https://makinggovernmentwork.org/story/santaclarita/>) This council has already all but declared war on the Friends of the Huntington Beach Library group for opposing their censorship efforts. It is likely the \$\$\$ that group brings in will decline in the future if outsourcing and censorship efforts come to fruition. So will there really be savings when all is said and done?

If this council has any civic pride I urge them to vote "No" on the RFP. The Huntington Beach Public Library is a gem. Stop trying to tarnish it and let our community enjoy its beautiful library in peace.

Lindsay Klick
Mother, HB Resident, Librarian

From: [Summer Blake](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: [SUSPICIOUS MESSAGE] Agenda Item 22
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:22:33 PM

This Message contains suspicious characteristics and has originated outside your organization.

To City Council:

My name is Summer Blake and I am a City of Huntington Beach employee and have worked for the city as a librarian for the past 6 years. Prior to that, I worked as a Library Services Clerk for the city for 3 years. The city helped pay for my Master's Degree. I am a mother of 2 elementary aged children and have raised my children coming to this library. I have loved working here and serving this community. I am known and appreciated and valued by patrons of this library. I have been told by parents that my storytimes help their children learn to count, that they ask for me at home, that they sing the songs that I teach them in storytime all the time in the car. I have been told by one mom that her 2 year old daughter knows 2 things in English: "mama" and "Miss Summer." And my story is not unique. I am not some outside exemplary employee. I am only one of a team of dedicated, talented, passionate employees, each of whom have their own stories about the connections they have made with patrons of the library and ways in which they have positively affected the community.

My point in talking about these things is to show you what would be lost if you were to make the decision to outsource management of the library to a private company. I have seen the wages that LS&S pays their employees. Library Assistants make barely above minimum wage. Librarians make \$22 an hour. None of us can afford to work at those wages. We have families. We have responsibilities. We do our jobs with pride and we do them well.

While I understand and appreciate the need for fiscal responsibility, the library is not where cuts should be made. Not of this magnitude. Not at the expense of what has been described as the jewel of the city. Do not take this resource away from the community. Do not replace us with low paid unskilled workers. Do not take away specialized library programming that is unique to this community. Do not sever the relationships that families have built with library staff.

To make the decision to outsource would be a mistake. It would be the death of this amazing resource, this focal point for gathering in this community. I implore you to rethink this decision. It is the wrong choice.

Thank you,
Summer Blake

From: [Cher Elle](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: 03/19 Agenda Item #22
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:26:01 PM

I oppose the privatization of Huntington Beach PUBLIC Library.

-C. Elle

From: [Megan Ehrlich](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Concern over our public library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:30:06 PM

Dear City Commissioner:

I strongly oppose item 22-managed Library services.
I strongly oppose item 24-parent review board for children's library.

I absolutely love our library and appreciate books and information offered for ALL citizens.
For a small group of citizens to decide what is best for me to read or information to share is not acceptable. These decisions to privatize will change the life we have appreciated living here in Huntington Beach.

I appreciate your taking my opinion seriously.
Regards,
Megan Ehrlich

From: [Chris Kluwe](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: March 19 Council Meeting - Stop going after the library you fascist pricks
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:32:26 PM

Dear right-wing scrotes on the HB City Council,

I am writing this email because once again you are attempting to diminish a vital public institution under the guise of "just getting input" and "budgetary concerns" - in this case, the agenda item looking to subcontract control of the HB Library to a hedge fund backed for-profit (Library Systems and Services) that has already decimated other libraries in the Southern California region.

Let's be clear - I understand exactly why the four goosestepping wouldbe surfnazis that are currently infesting our city government want to do this. The rise of fascism depends on an uneducated population that can be swayed by fear and plays to emotion (as seen by the recent A, B, and C ballot measures that promoted the lie of election integrity despite there being no recorded cases of voter fraud by the county registrar in decades; the 'think of our children' messaging surrounding the book and flag bans that is thinly disguised homophobia, at best; and the blatant power grab to attempt to modify the city charter itself) because the historically acknowledged first step in any fledgling fascist playbook is to destroy institutions of public learning and education.

Whether it be Hitler's Germany, Stalin's USSR, Mao's revolution, Pol Pot's killing fields, or any of the countless other examples littering the previous centuries, the loss of democracy is ALWAYS preceded by attacks on perceived educated elites (in our current case, those people who actually bothered to pay attention in 8th grade history and/or are capable of stringing together sentences composed of multisyllable words).

There is no reason to even consider giving control of the HB Library (an acknowledged bright spot of this community for decades) to a private, for-profit service, especially not one that has drawn widespread condemnation from librarians who were forced to work under it and chronicled the devastation to their collections in public interviews. Public education is not a "for-profit" in the shallow late-stage capitalism "number must go up" sense, it is a vital necessity in that an educated population produces more and better ideas, which correlates to more taxes paid back to the city (as well as less conflict and overt racism, which unfortunately this current council seems to enjoy spurring on).

But fine. Let's say that the four blithering vacuities masquerading as public officials really do have the city's budgetary concerns at the forefront of what little capabilities their minds possess. Let's give them the benefit of the doubt and ascribe an intelligence slightly higher than a whelk to those looking to ban books; those maundering blivets looking to ignore white nationalism; those reprehensible philistines that think their ephemeral words do anything to disguise their concrete actions of intolerant bigotry.

If money is such a concern, then WHY THE F*#\$ ARE YOU WASTING SO MANY TAXPAYER DOLLARS ON UNWINNABLE NUISANCE LAWSUITS, you absolute donkeys?! If you want to privatize something, maybe you should look at privatizing your culture war nonsense with your own funds - you can tilt at all the affordable housing and established voting norm windmills you want with whatever you can scrape together from your own pockets, instead of looting those of the people who live here, because even the stupidest civics student can follow the argument of "hrmmm, rest of state do thing that provides concrete public benefit, that means we must do thing as well" without paying millions of dollars in attorney's fees for the privilege.

Oh wait, I know why wasting money on the latest manufactured right wing outrage controversy is your priority. It's because you aren't actually public servants. You are selfish, greedy, hands begging for handouts wastes of time and space that have shown no inclination nor aptitude for actual governance, and frankly, embarrass the hell out of every rational person living in this city when your antics are inevitably covered by the local and national news. You are, to put it frankly, less than worthless, because you're actively draining not just the goodwill and coffers of this place for your misguided crusades, you're actively making the world a worse place.

In conclusion, stop fucking with the library, assholes.

Sincerely,
Chris Kluwe, HB resident

P.S. If you need help figuring out any of the words or phrases utilized in this message, feel free to pop on over to the reference section. There are plenty of hardworking librarians who would love to educate you.

From: [Claudia Locke](mailto:supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Agenda item 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:33:36 PM

Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem, & City Council Members of the City of Huntington Beach,

As a 30 year resident of Huntington Beach, I am writing to request you to *consider not* proceeding with the agenda item 24-197 "Request authorization to issue a Request for Proposals for Managed Library Services for the Huntington Beach Public Library system".

I have worked for the Oak View Branch Library since 1995. This Branch Library was built, and three years later, expanded with Community Development Block Grants' funding. Financial support of several of the Oak View Branch Library's programs started and continued thanks to government grants, private donations, and local business support. The Homework Help Program, various summer children's programs, and literacy services, are among the programs that receive funding from grants and/or donations. Oak View Branch Library was able to operate only on grants and donations during the first 2-3 years of its existence. Many programs of the Huntington Beach Public Library rely heavily on the financial support from grants and donations to offer and continue all the programs that are offered to the residents of our City.

Turning the operation of our library system into a for-profit enterprise would cancel any opportunity to receive/seek funding from grants and donations. Will the library have difficulty receiving grants from private foundations or soliciting donations from private individuals because the library is now managed by a for-profit company and thus the contributions help a private company make a profit? Will Friends of the Library, foundations, and other bodies continue to raise funds for the local library if it is privatized? Support from grants and donations help tremendously the library budget to add programs and resources to better serve our community.

In my almost 29 years of work with the City of HB, there have been many occasions when our City of HB was experiencing financial issues. However, we all worked together to resolve those tight budgetary constraints. City officials, City staff, library employees, library support organizations, library volunteers, and even the library patrons came together with alternative solutions. We all worked hard and made some concessions (reduced hours of operation of the branches, for example). *Why can we not do this again?* Outsourcing the library system to a private firm would not only eliminate/reduce many of the well needed library programs, but also would not allow the library to continue seeking/receiving grants/donations to better serve the residents of Huntington Beach. How much money will the contract with a private firm save? Has the library staff been asked if they can produce an equal amount of savings?

I do not support the privatization of the public libraries in the City of Huntington Beach.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Claudia M. Locke
8271 Reilly Drive,
Huntington Beach, CA 92646

From: [Melanie Tioleco-Cheng](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: DO NOT PRIVATIZE OUR LIBRARIES
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:34:19 PM

Hello City Council Members,

I'll keep this brief because I've had a long day at work.

Please DO NOT PRIVATIZE LIBRARIES. HBPL has a rich tradition--it is a great place where people can read, check out books, use library resources for FREE. I have lived in HB for over twenty years, I have brought my children to storytimes at many of HB libraries when they were little. We are avid readers and library patrons. And, as a pediatrician, I have recommended HB library story times to my patient families for years.

Making our public library PRIVATE would tear apart our current library system. I **oppose 24-197.**

And, as many HB citizens and I have stated over and over and over again, I oppose book bans in our library. We do not need a citizen group of 21 people who have not been trained in library sciences to choose what I allow my own children to read. I **oppose 24-209.**

These two agenda items are nothing more that a power grab to control our library and library systems.

Please don't talk about saving HB citizens money when you sent \$7million to your friends at the Air show. It's just not sincere or truthful.

--Melanie Tioleco-Cheng

From: [James Downs](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: Library Privatization Concerns
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:38:32 PM

Hello,

As a lifelong HB resident and voter, I'm concerned about the Council's recent consideration of privatizing our city's library. The HBPL system has provided essential services to HB residents for years and is an essential component to the city's community. Outsourcing the operational duties to a private firm that has financial incentive to cut services undermines the purpose of the library and the city government as a whole which is to act in the best interests of the community and support all residents through efforts like continuing the exemplary library experience HB is known for. Therefore, I'm urging the Council to not move forward with this idea.

Sincerely,
James Downs

From: [Cherish Bossom](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Please do not privatize our public libraries
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:42:37 PM

Huntington Beach,

You have been my home for nearly 50 years, and the Huntington Beach Public Library has been my haven through thick and thin.

I just learned that you are looking into the privatization of this public sanctuary of knowledge, community, and beauty. I have a lot of emotions around this, but the largest one is fear. Mostly, I am afraid of losing the library and all the resources it offers to our community.

I grew up not far from Central Library, in the poorest section of Huntington Beach, where today, my old elementary school, Oak View, is blessed with an annex of the library on site. It is almost certain that this annex will be one of the first necessary “budget cuts” made once our library is made private and for profit. When I was a child, I walked the length of three long city blocks from Beach Blvd. and Slater Ave. to get to the library where I could learn about other places by looking at maps that were stored there or reading fairytales kept on the shelves to help see beyond the life that I feared I was trapped in.

I felt safe there, I learned there, I hid there, and I grew there. “Slater Slums” still exists and there are still children being raised there who deserve to explore all the resources that our public library has to offer them, as do their families.

Please do not vote to have that taken away by giving it to a corporation. I ask this from my heart and soul as a flourished CSULB graduate, mother of three exceptional humans, and a believer that our public library had a hand in my successes in life. I know it can continue contributing to our city in ways that an LLC would never have the heart to maintain.

Please do not take away our public library and its invaluable resources.

Cherish Bossom
714-421-9657

From: [T.N](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Vote NO to privatization please. It is the conservative thing to do. NO to 24-197
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:43:46 PM

First time ever writing City Council in 15 years, but **that's how much I want the Central Library to stay publicly funded.**

I voted for a mix of people on the City Council to stay conservative, but **I will vote against anybody voting for privatization.**

I need to see **old experienced well-paid people** running the library, **they give more** than we could ever pay them. Anybody in management knows that **loyalty is a bargain**. If you want to have a committee fine, but **please do not privatize**. We visit every single weekend and **I make sure to buy something to support the city and library every single weekend.**

Privatization is a race to the bottom that ends up costing more in the long run, always does, it has my entire life in everything. Our "privatized libraries" are Amazon and Barnes and Noble and they aren't good libraries.

You really don't want to lose my reasonable, conservative vote going forward. Please vote NO to privatization.

Thank you for listening, I will be following up,

Tim Noble
Director of Technology and Product Development
HB Homeowner/Tax Payer SINCE 2009

From: [Jason S](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Do NOT sell out our city library system
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:56:13 PM

You owe it to us taxpaying residents to NOT allow a private, for-profit company take over our library system. Our libraries are fantastic resources that I grew up using and proudly take my children to enjoy and learn at. PLEASE DO NOT sell out our libraries to LS&S, let us maintain control of our libraries!

Thank you,

Jason Sanford, Real Estate Broker
9671 Kensington Dr, Huntington Beach, CA 92646
949-482-7000

From: [Travis Bledsoe](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: Library Privatization
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:05:30 PM

Hello,

I've been a resident of Huntington Beach for 15 years; more than half of my life. The library has been a huge part of my life that entire time, and is by far my favorite public institution in Huntington Beach. By pursuing privatization, you will drive away the experienced and skilled personnel who currently work there, and their replacements will not be adequate.

The library will not be able to maintain the programs it currently does, and many of our communities' homeless will lose their best resource. They won't spend their time at the library any longer, and will instead return to the streets.

Parents rely on the library programs to enrich their children. Without storytimes, playtimes, or the many other fun events the library hosts, Huntington Beach will lose one of its big draws for young couples looking for a place to settle down and start a family.

The library also currently hosts many events that actually serve as a revenue stream for the city. If the library's ability to provide reliable assistance and security for clients is damaged or if the price of renting the library's rooms is increased, it could actually cost the city more than the management company saves.

Last of all, the library's status as a public, non-privatized space is unique in the city. There isn't really anywhere else you can go where you aren't expected to spend money, and privatizing its management will only harm it and the citizens who love and rely on it.

Thanks,
Concerned Resident

From: [Morgen Ehrlich](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: HB Public Library Privatization and Control
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:10:26 PM

Dear City Commissioner:

I strongly oppose item 22-managed Library services.
I strongly oppose item 24-parent review board for children's library.

I am a senior in high school and live in Huntington Beach. I have been going to the library since I learned to read. I have grown up with the kind, helpful, and welcoming community of people that run it. I am the person that I am today because of my love and passion for reading and learning. I have never once had a problem with the library's content. The opinions of a few people should not determine what the entire community can read. Parents can decide for themselves what their children should read. I love the library and its programs and do not want to see a private company interfere with how it runs. It is a very special place for me and I would be incredibly sad if it changed as drastically as these measures entail.

I have been taught by my parents to stand up for what I believe in, and that is what I'm doing now. I want to do my duty as a citizen and share my voice, and I hope you'll consider my perspective.

Regards,
Morgen Ehrlich

From: [Morgen Ehrlich \(Student FVHS\)](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Items 22 and 24: HB Library
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:12:03 PM

Dear City Commissioner:

I strongly oppose item 22-managed Library services.
I strongly oppose item 24-parent review board for children's library.

I am a senior in high school and live in Huntington Beach. I have been going to the library since I learned to read. I have grown up with the kind, helpful, and welcoming community of people that run it. I am the person that I am today because of my love and passion for reading and learning. I have never once had a problem with the library's content. The opinions of a few people should not determine what the entire community can read. Parents can decide for themselves what their children should read. I love the library and its programs and do not want to see a private company interfere with how it runs. It is a very special place for me and I would be incredibly sad if it changed as drastically as these measures entail.

I have been taught by my parents to stand up for what I believe in, and that is what I'm doing now. I want to do my duty as a citizen and share my voice, and I hope you'll consider my perspective.

Regards,
Morgen Ehrlich

From: [Mia Shepard](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Opposing the Privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library System
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:17:48 PM

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to make it known I am OPPOSED to the privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library system. HB's library is an incredible resource and integral part of the community as it currently operates. Please keep our libraries public!

Mia Shepard

From: [Celeste Rybicki](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Against agenda Items 22 and 24
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:44:29 PM

Please leave our libraries alone. Mayor VanDerMark has an axe to grind with free speech and freedom of information but has not made a credible case that any real problem lies on the shelves of our beloved libraries. I've written before about the negative impacts:

Public libraries offer broader accessibility to diverse communities, providing free resources, educational programs, and a communal space for everyone. I'm concerned you're going to put cost-savings and profit margins above services to our community.

IF we're talking about Library Systems and Services here are a few issues that I found reported by libraries that have left LS&S or rejected the company's offer to manage their library:

- **Savings not as expected.** Escondido's contract has the city paying for all technology, software, and maintenance costs as well as being billed for the cost plus 5% handling fee for materials. Santa Clarita Public Library in California found the net cost to operate the library in-house at the same staffing level as LS&S would save the city approximately \$400,000 the first year after leaving LS&S. Calabasas Library saved \$68,000 the first year after leaving LS&S.
- **Reductions of service.** Some libraries have less service and more reduction of hours due to staff cutbacks resulting from the loss of professional staff.
- **Loss of local connection to the community.** LS&S has been reported to substitute a remote reference service for local reference librarians. Also, with their standardized high volume buying there is a minimal collection of Spanish language materials.
- **Library Programming is controlled by LS&S.** It is no longer up to staff to determine what best serves the local population's needs and interests.
- **Negative Effect on library staffing.** LS&S Staff serves at the pleasure of LS&S. They replace unionized workers with nonunion employees and often cut wages. This can cause the loss of experienced staff and result in a high turnover rate.
- **Negative effects on the library collection.** When LS&S takes over, they get control of the library collection and they do the ordering. LS&S saves money by narrowing the library collection and focusing on best sellers. This can result in the loss of ability to adapt to the needs and interests of local patrons.
- **Lack of transparency of finances.** San Juan City Library in Texas left LS&S stating that LS&S would not divulge its profit margin. The Oregon State Library reported LS&S spent 28% of money from Jackson County on "other" but would not identify what constituted "other."
- **Lack of willingness to talk in a public setting** was given as one reason Prince William County, Maryland rejected LS&S.

It is in the best interest of our city and our community to keep the library public and to dismantle any censorship/book banning board and let the licensed librarians do their jobs.

Thank you,

Celeste

From: [Joclyn Rabbitt-Sire](mailto:Joclyn.Rabbitt-Sire)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Proposed Plan to Privatize HB Libraries
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:47:35 PM

Dear Mayor Van der Mark and City Council,

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to the proposal to privatize our public library system.

This action does nothing to benefit community members, and has proven deleterious to library systems in cities that have chosen it - to the quality of library service, to staff morale, to collections, and to programming for patrons.

Please stop this plan in its tracks - we do not want privatized libraries.

Thank you.

Regards,

Joclyn Rabbitt-Sire
Resident

From: [Brienne Murray](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Library Privatization and Book Organization
Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:58:54 PM

Hello,

I am writing ahead of the 3/19 city council meeting to implore you not to outsource library services, something currently restricted under California law. Our library services work well and there is no logical reason to further waste our tax dollars and attempt to incur frivolous lawsuits with the state government for political theater.

Additionally, the creation of a review board approving children's books is ridiculous. Allow parents to decide what books are appropriate for their children to read.

Instead of goading the state government and attempting to establish government rule over what should be individual choice, the council should focus on managing the budget appropriately. These ridiculous, and often illegal, proposals tarnish our city's reputation and waste millions of dollars that should be used to better our city.

Brienne Murray

From: diannef22@yahoo.com
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item #22
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 12:45:52 AM

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers,

I'm writing to express my extreme opposition to moving forward with an RFP to outside companies to manage the Huntington Beach Library. We are so lucky to have our own public library system, inherited from the generosity and forethought of the founders of this city. We should not even consider handing off the management of this amazing asset to a for-profit company. There is only one way to make a profit running a library--to cut expenses. The only expenses a management company would have control over would be services, employees, and materials (books, videos, seeds, etc.). There is no way the quality of the library can remain at the high standards we've come to expect if the management is cutting staffing, reducing hours, reducing selection of materials--all of which would be considered in order to make a profit.

Please protect our email and vote NO on item #22.

Sincerely,
Dianne James

From: [Connie Tomsick](mailto:Connie.Tomsick@surfcity-hb.org)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Protect our Library.
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 12:06:11 AM

I have lived in Huntington Beach for almost 50 years. I have been a volunteer at the Library for 35 years, and I have nothing but respect for our Librarians. For all my years volunteering, I have seen how excited and interested children are when they experience all the activities, the shows, the stories, and so much more. I

I am horrified by the attacks on our Library, the lies and the foolish restrictions.

Now you are proposing a for-profit company might take over our Library. I am suspicious of the motives for this.

A former councilman is, or was, on the board of the company that has been discussed. I wonder if any profits would be as hidden from the citizens of Huntington Beach as the agreement and payment to Code 4.

Investigation of other libraries being run by LS&S has been disliked by the public, they underpay the professional librarians and replace them with unqualified workers. I don't see this as a plus for Huntington Beach. I certainly see it as detrimental to the people who would let our free public library be decimated by a corporation.

There is no reason to fix it if it isn't broken.

Sincerely, Constance Tomsick.

From: [Christopher Rini](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: Public Comment
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 1:05:25 AM

To whom it may concern,

I strongly oppose private managed library services referenced in administrative item 22/item 24-197. I am a Huntington Beach native and am proud of the civic library system. It should be protected and revered as a place of freedom and liberty.

Sincerely yours,
Christopher Rini



Virus-free www.avast.com

From: [Alina Mirza](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: I Strongly Oppose Item 22 & Item 24
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 1:18:19 AM

Hello,

I am a current San Diego State University student who lived and grew up with the Huntington Beach Public Library. From volunteering to participating in the reading events, HBPL is a second home. As a passionate Huntington Beach local I strongly oppose Item 22-Managed Library Services and Item 24-Parent Review Board for Children's Library.

Thank you,

Alina Mirza

From: [Jessie Reeves Clemens](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 4:01:48 AM

Privatizing our libraries is a terrible idea. Please back off.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Cassandra Niswonger](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Privatizing our Libraries
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 4:25:36 AM

Please leave our libraries alone! Don't privatize one of the best public services we have. Our library has so much heart and it would be unconscionable if the city council decides to privatize this. Please listen and please do not privatize our library.

Cassandra Niswonger

From: [Sarah Guichard](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: Item 24-197 Library Management
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 4:44:26 AM

Hello,

I am writing to urge the City Council to NOT consider handing management of our library system over to a private company. I have been a resident of Huntington Beach nearly my entire life and have made much use of the library over the years, so this outcome is very important to me. That this is even being considered is disappointing.

Folding to this idea would be incredibly disrespectful to the people of HB as well as the librarians who work so hard to keep this important public service running. Libraries are an important institution of our society, a vital public resource, and it's absolutely unacceptable for this to be compromised. This is not the area to cut corners. If the goal is greater censorship, this is likewise disappointing and, historically, antithetical to a free society. Keep censorship out of our libraries.

Our librarians are not disposable, and anyone who thinks otherwise is perhaps unfamiliar with what their job actually entails and should not be in a position to destroy that so easily. To dismiss their hard work and dedication to their job would be a betrayal. They deserve better from their city, and shame on anyone who thinks otherwise.

I hope the council will think of the people they serve and not compromise one of our most important public resources.

Thank you,

Sarah Guichard
Huntington Beach resident

From: ilmcelroy90@gmail.com
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 5:16:44 AM

I've use the library as a child going to story time and using the summer reading program. In my teens I volunteered at the library helping keep areas organized and clean. In my young adult years I used it as a place to study to earn my degree. Now as an adult I take my son there for story time. The libraries in this city are amazing and function well. What is the point of changing one of the few things in this city that is actually working? Why privatized the libraries? So citizens have less control and less say in what happens? So the private company can charge us for resources the library currently provides for free through taxes? Is someone from the council getting a kick back? How does this make any reasonable sense?

From: [Lucia](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Re: NO to HBPL Privatization & New Parental Oversight
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 5:45:56 AM

> I strongly oppose all efforts to privatize our wonderful library, including via managed services. I also strongly oppose the proposed parental review board.

>

> In summary, I strongly oppose Item 22 and Item 24 put forth to the Council Agenda.

>

> Best,

> -Aaron Soto

> Long-time HB resident, homeowner, and business owner

>

From: [Tim Channel](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: Opposed to Agenda Items 24-197, 24-208, and 24-209 (3/19/2024)
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 6:14:24 AM

City Council Members,

I am a 34 year resident and homeowner in Huntington Beach and I am writing to voice my opposition to Agenda Items 24-197, 24-208, and 24-209. Ever since the slate majority has come into office, they have done NOTHING but HURT our city. It is obvious that Van Der Mark, Burns, Strickland, and McKeon are more interested in furthering their own political agendas at the expense of the citizens of Huntington Beach. Grandstanding your conservativeness, hoping others of your kind will notice how extreme you are, and heap their praises on you?

Is your goal is to go down in history as the master book banning, library destroying, worst city council in the country then you are definitely on the right track. At the expense of the rest of us.

OPPOSED TO:

24-197 Request authorization to issue a Request for Proposals for Managed Library Services for the Huntington Beach Public Library system

If you want to talk about obscenity at the library, THIS is it. Why would you want to privatize our award winning library except that you think you can? Did the librarians fail to live up to your conservative ideals? Give me one reason why this could possibly be good for the citizens of our city. What non-problem are you trying to fix this time?

OPPOSED TO:

24-208 Item Submitted by Council Member McKeon - Withdrawal from the League of California Cities

Here we go again with the “we hate California” nonsense. If you hate it so much here, why didn’t you pick a city in another state to cause your mischief in? Somewhere where they might actually like it, because great many of your Huntington Beach constituents definitely do not.

OPPOSED TO:

24-209 Approve for introduction Ordinance No. 4318 adding Chapter 2.66 to the Huntington Beach Municipal Code Relating to the Community-Parent Guardian Review Board for Review of Procurement of Children’s Library Material

What is your obsession with banning children’s books? And stop trying to fool us by with the “no books have been banned” nonsense. We aren’t that stupid. Some of us even graduated from high school.

Oh, and Bless your Little Hearts,

Tim Channel
Huntington Beach

From: [Hilarie Kelly](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Library Privatization
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 6:38:58 AM

To All Huntington Beach City Council Members and Council Meeting Attendees:

I object to the lack of transparency involved in this highly politicized investigation into privatizing the Huntington Beach Public Library. What specific problem is privatizing supposed to solve and what solid evidence is there that privatization would solve that problem? Why was there no open process to reliably assess the desires of the entire HB community, no data collection on public use patterns and satisfaction with our libraries? Where is a specific list of exactly what a private company will be contracted to do and how they will be held accountable for doing it? What, precisely, will the city still be responsible for in terms of building and grounds maintenance (including fountains), utilities costs (including internet), and insurance? Who, if anyone, is doing a valid costs and benefits analysis? Is this just childish political payback? How will privatization impact the FOTL, FOTCL, the genealogical collection, seed library, literacy programs, digital library, theater and room rentals, used book and gift sales, and the rich offerings of events and activities that our beloved library is known for? How will privatization improve what the library offers to the residents of Huntington Beach? Most importantly, what happens if privatization fails? How will the residents of Huntington Beach be compensated?

Hilarie Kelly
Huntington Beach Resident for 35 years
Member of Friends of the Children's Library

From: [Pamela McBee](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 6:54:00 AM

Our public libraries should not be privatize for profit.
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Steven C. Shepherd Architect](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: OPPOSED TO AGENDA ITEM #22.
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:16:57 AM

Once again, Huntington Beach residents are confronted with another example of this city council's failure as a local governing body. Agenda Item #22, which seeks to issue an RFP to privatize our public library services, is offered up without even the slightest hint of process, analysis, or context.

- Why is the privatization of our public library services being considered?
- What are the goals of privatizing our public library services?
- How would privatizing our public library services benefit our community?
- How will a private for-profit library services vendor be held accountable for the quality of services to our community?

Under previous city councils, an agenda item seeking to issue an RFP to privatize a well-established and successful city service would have been accompanied by a comprehensive staff report answering the abovementioned questions. Why not now?

Steve Shepherd
Huntington Beach 92646

From: [Leslie Golson](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Library Privatization and League of Cal Cities
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:22:02 AM

Let the record show that I oppose both library privatization and leaving the League of California Cities. This council's reckless settlement and payout to the Airshow and their EIR, along with failed litigation opposing state mandated housing, have created the mess that is our financial outlook. This council wants to pull out of the League because of their opposition to measures that would directly fund our city!

Don't fund your mistakes with our library and funding of city services!

Leslie Golson
Huntington Beach resident and voter

From: terrylaurenrose@gmail.com
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: city council meeting 031924 please include in tonight's agenda items.
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:25:26 AM
Attachments: [city council meeting 031924.docx](#)
Importance: High

Please include my comments on each of the agenda items.

If I need to send separate documents later, I will.

Thank you.

Terry Rose

City Council Meeting Agenda
03-19-2024

Terry Rose, resident since 1983, homeowner

I recently saw an unreleased as yet documentary at the Palm Springs Film Festival called Bad Faith about Christian Nationalism (the “moral” minority) whose mission is to destroy democracy as we know it today and establish a theocracy.

I believe that it is quite possible that Tony Strickland, Gracey Van Der Mark, Casey McKeon & Pat Burns are all Christian Nationalists as I truly believe they are trying to destroy Huntington Beach, are not interested in working for the good of the whole but only interested in serving themselves and driving our city into bankruptcy thus destroying it.

From their campaign lies to “no changes to our city charter” to their changing the protocol on who becomes our mayor and when to paying their “buddy” millions for an oil spill the city was not responsible for and for not sharing with the public the loss of income to the Pacific Air Show or the city to the proposed expansion of the Air Show including building a runway on the beach to what they led by so-called moralist Gracey Van Der Mark, in particular, are doing to our public library to the out and out political speech by the pastor of the Calvery Chapal of Huntington Harbor, they have proven, at least to me, that they do not believe in our democracy but only in their personal agendas.

I wish to go on record for the following:

File #: 24-204 Version: 1 Council Committee Appointments and Liaison Reports

Oppose Gracey Van der Mark’s amendment because it is prejudicial and clearly favors the members of her buddies with Moser & Bolton only being assigned to one committee and Kalmick being assigned to none.

File #: 24-194 Adopt Resolution No. 2024-08 revising and restating Resolution No.2016-01 related to implementing Charter Section 805 and Municipal Code Chapter 5.90 regarding the number of permits issued for Safe and Sane Fireworks from fifteen (15) to sixteen (16)

Oppose I would like to see Huntington Beach ban all fireworks in the city. The amount of illegal fireworks has more than tripled since the city approved the sale of “Safe and Sane Fireworks.”

File #24-197 24-197 Request authorization to issue a Request for Proposals for Managed Library Services for the Huntington Beach Public Library system

Oppose Too many unanswered questions:

- Will the library staff lose their jobs or be forced to take a reduction in their salaries in order to keep their jobs?

- If the private company decides they are not making enough money, will they just close the library completely?
- Will there be fees for everything?
- Who will make the final decision on what books the public has access to?
- How much will this cost the city?
- Is the company friends with the foursome?

File #: 24-209 Approve for introduction Ordinance No. 4318 adding Chapter 2.66 to the Huntington Beach Municipal Code Relating to the Community-Parent Guardian Review Board for Review of Procurement of Children’s Library Material

Oppose This is taking away the rights of parents to make the decisions for their children and because each council member can select 3 people, this committee will be skewed in favor of Tony Strickland, Gracey Van Der Mark, Casey McKeon & Pat Burns’ choices.

- What are the criteria to be on this committee?
- Will members of this committee be paid?
- Will this committee have the final say as to what books are in the library or will their suggestions be put to vote so that every citizen of Huntington Beach has a say so in the matter?
- Will teens be reduced to reading Dick & Jane?
- Will all people regardless of their ethnicity and sexual identification be represented in the books that are available to young people?
- Who decides what is pornographic?
- Too many questions
- Let the library be – let the parents decide

File #: 24-208 Item Submitted by Council Member Casey McKeon to withdraw from the League of California Cities

Question: Why?

In answer to expanding the Air Show, I suggest we expand the Surfing Championship which brings people from all over the world to Huntington Beach. We could add everything the air show wants to add, except for landing the plane on the beach, and continue our legend as Surf City USA vs Pacific Air Show City USA. Let the Pacific Air Show try to find another beach in Orange County – I doubt they will be able to accomplish that.

From: [Jillian Fenton](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Please Do Not Privatize HBPL!
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:31:28 AM

Hello,

I'm writing to ask that you not seek to privatize our beloved Huntington Beach Public Library. It would be a huge mistake as our library is already run by perfectly capable and devoted individuals. Some of you have an agenda that will not fly when it comes to our library. When you go after our perfectly-run library, you go after its patrons and our community.

Do not look to privatize our library.

Thank you,
Jillian Fenton
Homeowner and mother in Huntington Beach

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Consideration of privatizing Huntington Beach Public Library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:37:30 AM

From: Peggy Hepler <peggyhepler@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 6:23 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Consideration of privatizing Huntington Beach Public Library

To the City Council,

As a long time home owning resident of Huntington Beach I want to voice my concern that the council would consider privatizing our wonderful library. I am appalled at the idea. It is clear from reporting on results in other cities that have contracted with Library Systems & Services that this would be a disastrous move.

I have always considered our wonderful library a jewel, and a strong asset for the city. I am a frequent user and have been for the 28 years I have resided here.

I strongly object to you even considering privatizing.

Respectfully, Margaret Hepler

From: Levin, Shannon
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Privatization of HB Library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:37:46 AM

From: Jeanne Farrens <jeannefarrens@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 6:52 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Privatization of HB Library

Dear Mayor and City Council,

I am writing to oppose Item 22 on the March 19, 2024 agenda. I oppose the privatization of our Huntington Beach Library, which will inevitably prioritize cost savings over services to the community. It seems our majority council members and their silent fifth member, Michael Gates, believe everything is for sale. Public libraries serve the public and our Huntington Beach library has a stellar reputation for the service it has provided – both library and cultural services since 1909 – and its library staff has been praised for being one of the finest and most expert in the field. As its name implies, a public library serves the public. Once it's privatized, its focus turns from serving the public of Huntington Beach to ensuring the profits of the shareholders of LS&S, the private-for-profit company with a reputation for saving money by getting rid of union employees. The company employs former mayor Mike Posey as its company's regional sales executive. It was Posey who first approached the city council about privatizing the library. Over the years many communities have rejected contracting with LS&S or ended contracts with them. Some of the reasons were that rather than saving money, LS&S cost the city more money; some libraries ended up with less service and more reduction of hours due to staff cutbacks resulting from the loss of professional staff; loss of control of library programming where staff no longer determines what best serves the local population's needs and interests; negative effect on library staffing due to replacing unionized workers with nonunion employees and often cut wages, leading to loss of experienced staff and high turnover rate; negative effect on the library collection as LS&S takes over ordering books and saving money by narrowing the library collection and focusing on best sellers, often ignoring the needs and interests of local patrons; and a lack of transparency of finances, refusing to divulge its profit margin and expenditures identified as "other."

Will the majority council members even care?

Privatizing our public library would cut out its heart, and not only would it destroy its stellar reputation. It would provide one more way for our majority city council to limit the books and materials available to the citizens of Huntington Beach. Or is that the point?

Please do not entertain any proposal to privatize our beautiful library.

Jeanne Farrens

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Support 24-197
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:37:50 AM

From: Taylor Haug <taylorhaug@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 6:57 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Support 24-197

Thank you for at least seeking proposals to manage the HBPL system. I understand the city is under budget constraints, and if the outside provider can provide the same service and save the city money, everybody benefits.

From: Levin, Shannon
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Oppose Agenda item 24-197
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:38:04 AM

From: laura sire <llaurajjane@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:11 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Oppose Agenda item 24-197

Dear City Council Members and City Manager,

This is a Laura Sire, an over 60 year resident of Huntington Beach and a very long time Patron of our wonderful Huntington Beach Libraries. I'm writing to vehemently object to privatizing our libraries Besides being a free and open resource to all HB residents and folks in Orange County since 1909, they are also community havens where young and old can gather, study, and explore all that literature and public information has to offer. Our public libraries are sacred as they are part and parcel of the right to free speech.

Vote no on this unnecessary and undemocratic item or withdraw it from the agenda. There is no need for a financial overhaul and we have a respected, well-supplied, and varied library system that HB residents are proud of.

Please leave it as it is. I so loved taking my grandkids to the HB Library story hours. plays and other programs. I'm sure I speak for many when I say, Do Not send my taxpayer dollars to a private for-profit corporation. We do LOVE our Libraries and you say you do also. So please leave them and our excellent, professional librarians alone.

Sincerely,
Laura Sire

- -
 -
 -
-

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: HB Library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:38:05 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: nancy wise <nwise50@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:25 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: HB Library

Dear Council Members,

Do not consider privatizing the HB library system. Our library is first rate in locations, book selections, programs for all ages, and convenient hours. As a senior citizen, I rely on the library for my reading materials. Privatizing would make our library mediocre or worse!

Sincerely,

Nancy Wise

16809 Snapper Dr

HB, Ca 92649

Sent from my iPhone

From: Levin, Shannon
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Do NOT Privatize our Libraries
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:38:09 AM

From: Fran Delaney <francesbdelaney@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:26 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Do NOT Privatize our Libraries

Dear City Council Members,

I was shocked to see item 24-197 on this week's City Council Agenda! Under no circumstances should the City of Huntington Beach consider privatizing any aspect of the fine library system in our city. The Huntington Beach City Libraries are the jewels in the crown of Huntington Beach and the fact that members of City Council are even considering this option is a testament to how little you understand the importance of and the role of public libraries in a city.

While private library "management" organizations may tout the cost saving aspects of their services, on deeper research into cities who have tried this idea, you will find that in a matter of a few short years, cost did in fact go up and cities were locked into a lengthy contract at a higher expense. Using city funds to replace a publicly run organization that works for the sake of the citizens with a private organization whose real goal is to make money for their investors seems not only illogical but also corrupt and immoral. Cities who have made this poor choice have found that the quality of books in their library has dwindled to new purchases of low-cost best sellers, which do little to inform, and educate the public. One might only presume this to be the real goal of anyone who would vote for such a thing.

In a city that is known for its magnificent libraries, libraries that are deeply loved by its citizens, privatization of any aspect of the libraries is a poor decision and a weak attempt to rid the city of financial difficulties caused by excessive expenditures of the new city council members. This privatization attempt must not be approved in Huntington Beach.

Fran Delaney-Barron
Resident

--

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Agenda item #24-197
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:38:15 AM

From: Kathy McGuire <kzm@dslextreme.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:29 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Agenda item #24-197

Hello,

Please record my opposition to any change in the administration of our library system.
I am opposed to agenda item #24-197.

Thank you,
Kathy McGuire

From: Levin, Shannon
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Opposition to Agenda Items 24-209 and 24-197
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:38:25 AM

From: Annie <hbannie8600@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:32 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Opposition to Agenda Items 24-209 and 24-197

Agenda Item 24-209:

I believe the proposed ordinance in the form presented is unnecessary and myopic. I trust in qualified and trained librarians who have the pulse on HB residents' needs to make the best decisions on the selection of books that serve the HB public.

Agenda Item 24-197:

I want to take the opportunity to underscore that libraries serve the public interest and are one of our most valuable community resources. A for-profit company's interests do not lie in the enrichment, education, and engagement of HB residents. Rather, private companies are obligated to their shareholders. For all this talk of "local control", I find it notable City Council is exploring an option that is contradictory to the very notion of local control.

Stay away from our libraries.

Thank you.

AN
HB Resident & Mobilized Voter

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Our library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:38:31 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Susan Herron <ssn_hrrn@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:33 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Our library

I am totally against privatizing our city libraries. Cutting staff and having a corporation take over is completely against everything libraries have stood for. Do not sell out our library and patrons!

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Privatizing library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:38:35 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Joan Wood <jwoods@jwoods@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:33 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Privatizing library

Dear Council members,

Please don't do this. Take the win with measures A and B and call it a day.

I do not want a third party contractor running our beautiful library, which I consider to be the heart of our city.

Thank you,

Joan Wood

Sent from my iPad

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Save the library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:38:41 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Tina Escobar <mommy24hrs7@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:43 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Save the library

Don't sell the libraries don't sell the land save our Libraries.
Tina Escobar
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Letter to the council
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:38:53 AM

From: Christina Milucky <ccarey1977@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:56 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Letter to the council

To whom it may
concern,

March 18, 2024

I have lived in Huntington Beach for most of my life, and was, up until these last few years, a proud resident. One of my favorite places throughout my childhood was the time spent wandering the stacks of the Huntington Beach Library. I grew up in the library and it was the foundation of becoming a bibliophile. I have always loved books and the smell of the library and those who worked there created an environment for learning and loving books.

As a bibliophile and a resident of this city, I am asking that the city council and any other organizations affiliated with the council, to maintain the work of what a city council is meant to do and utilize our tax dollars to improving our city. Parents need to be the ones who decide what their children read. I do not know you personally, but I am sure you do not want anyone you don't know censoring your reading. It is unbelievable that the city is going to such lengths to justify their own agendas and continue to rationalize this agenda through the privatization of the library. I ask that you allow our library to be free of the interference of council [and/or council committees] and to give the citizens the right to choose what they feel is appropriate for themselves and their children.

Libraries *should* be places where people can learn, dream, and grow their imaginations. Libraries should be considered neutral ground where anyone can be free to seek out their own interests regardless of the topic. I do not believe that it is appropriate for any entity to rule over the library, and with the agendas we have seen in recent elections, it feels like we are returning to an era of censorship when everything and anything was under fire. Please do not believe that you, the council or its committee members are above the average citizen, who can make their own decisions and choices on what they read. Please hear me when I say that the potential privatization and other changes to our library make it almost impossible to be a proud citizen of this city.

If you believe our city to be one that promotes freedoms, then these potential changes, take that freedom away from the average citizen. I truly hope that one day I can be proud of this city once again.

Sincerely,

CMM

Christina M. Milucky

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Considering Privatization
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:39:00 AM

From: Jen Bledsoe <jenbledsoe66@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:56 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Considering Privatization

Hello Esteemed Council Members,

I am writing to voice my concern over the preliminary steps that are on the agenda which may lead to the privatization of our library system.

I am a long time resident, and voter. I oppose such a move. Primarily, I oppose it because of the track record of other cities in their moves towards privatization. They have not fared well. Additionally, Michael Posey is aligned with the company under consideration, and any time I see his involvement I suspect a bait-and-switch or a boondoggle. I recognize that part of the argument in favor of such a move may be fiscal responsibility, but I believe it will cost us more in actual money in the long term, as evidenced by other cities' experiences.

Finally, I am proud of our libraries. They serve so many functions, and their staff are tireless in their efforts to support the community. They are well-educated, well-trained, and--in my experience-- have performed their jobs with pride and excellence.

This citizen feels that our library system isn't broken. I'm proud that my tax dollars are supporting such an important part of our community.

Thank you for your consideration,
Jennifer Bledsoe

From: Levin, Shannon
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: NO to Library privatization!
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:39:10 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Lisa Marquise <elle.emme.couture@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:23 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: NO to Library privatization!

To the City Council Members,

I am opposed to the privatization of our beloved Huntington Beach Central Library by contracting with LS&S, (or any private business), a for profit company, whose owner Frank A Pezzanite has a dim view of libraries and librarians, so much that he expresses disgust that they should receive pensions. Shameful! This action would be an utter betrayal to our community.

LS&S got into the library management business contracting with financially failing cities, Riverside notably, after March AF Base closed. Is that what Huntington Beach is now, a failing city, since the partisan Republican four became a majority? Surely Huntington Beach has no such need, even with the millions being wasted on useless lawsuits by the four & City Attorney Gates. Mr. Pezzanite has made large political donations to Republicans hiring his company. Will CouncilMembers pledge not to accept donations from him or affiliates?

It would be easy to assume that this action is to give Gracey Van Der Mark yet more control in wielding her bizarre bathing suit rule against our children's and teen's education and enjoyment of books, but it's clear that this is yet another power grab in a quest to dismantle government, services and protections (including transparency) for political and personal gain.

Our librarians and staff deserve their hard earned pensions, pay, benefits, and respect. How do those with their own pensions including CalPERS defend this, and some with likely more than one pension? Does CouncilMember Burns have one from his years with the LB Police Department? Does he believe that he deserves his pension but librarians don't? It all smacks of disdain for what is considered "women's work".

These questions and more will continue to be asked by the community.

Lisa Marquise

From: Levin, Shannon
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Oppose Library Privatization
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:39:14 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Ameelia Ghareeb <amghareeb@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:25 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Oppose Library Privatization

Good evening, I am a voter and resident in Huntington Beach. I want my elected officials to oppose privatizing the Library operations.

That library is the jewel of our city. It brings tourists in summer, hosts students year round, brings our families together, and provides unquantifiable benefit to our community. Privatizing this resource is a sure way to ruin all of this, as these goals no longer become the priority, making money is instead.

There is no reason. There is no need. It's the City's job to provide public services.

Please oppose privatization of our Library System.

- Ameelia Ghareeb
Resident 92649

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Library privatization
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:39:20 AM

From: Jeanne Whitesell <jswhitesell3211@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:27 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Library privatization

Dear Council Members,

I am appalled to think you are considering privatizing the wonderful HB Library that has been operating for over 100 years without any problems.

Please, Council, spend time working on real issues confronting HB and quit making up 'problems' that don't exist. Vote NO on library privatization.

Sincerely,
Jeanne Whitesell
17922 Shoreham Lane
Huntington Beach, CA 92649

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Huntington Beach Library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:39:27 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Angela Huang <radiomode@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:31 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Huntington Beach Library

Huntington Beach City Council Members,

As a Huntington Beach resident, I strongly oppose the following items:

Item 22 — managed library services

Item 24 — parent review board for children's library

The library has been a wonderful resource for the city as is and there is no reason to even consider having it managed by a private company.

There is also no reason to have anyone review books for the children's library. It is not an issue and has never been an issue.

Angela Huang

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Item 22. 24-197 Privatization of Huntington Beach Public Library 3/18/2024
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:39:33 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Cathy <cathy6mccabe@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:40 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Item 22. 24-197 Privatization of Huntington Beach Public Library 3/18/2024

Honorable Council Members,

If the beach is the heart of Huntington Beach, the library is its soul. The activities and resources at the library build community. The volunteers and Friends of the Library help build relationships and skills in our neighborhoods. It supports literacy, veterans, seniors and career building. This will be dissolved under a corporation led library. A corporation serves its stockholders, not the citizens.

Huntington Beach Public Library, and its branches, is a source of pride for our city. Let us not denigrate a jewel in the crown of HB .

Huntington Beach resident of 44 years,
Cathy McCabe
Sent from my iPad

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Remove Administrative Item 24-197
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:39:37 AM

From: Maya Ford <hbmford@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:40 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Remove Administrative Item 24-197

Please do not give away our Public Library to any private company. This library has been an extremely useful public space for our community. It is a place for people of all ages and I enjoy every time I go.

There are so many benefits this library provides for its community that for our benefit it must not go to a private sector.

Thank you for listening and I hope this encourages you to drop Administrative item 24-197.

Maya Ford

From: Levin, Shannon
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: March 19, 2024 Agenda item #22
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:39:55 AM

From: Bev Sansone <drsansone001@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:41 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Re: March 19, 2024 Agenda item #22

I have lived in Huntington Beach since 1996 and have enjoyed using the HBPL since moving here.

I do not support Agenda item #22 regarding a request for proposals for Managed library Services for the Huntington Beach Public Library system which is to be discussed at the March 19, 2024 City Council meeting.

I have been researching Library Systems and Services and I have concerns regarding this business taking over our library system. In addition to the ongoing lawsuit in Escondido over the privatization of their public library system there, I have also read about other cities that have had problems with LS&S. I found a good summary in the Fullerton Observer March 8, 2022 as included here:

Over the years many communities have rejected contracting with LS&S or ended their contracts with them. The bullet-pointed items below are some of the more compelling issues that have been recorded by those libraries that have left LS&S or rejected the company's offer to manage their library.

- **Savings not as expected.** Escondido's contract has the city paying for all technology, software, and maintenance costs as well as being billed for the cost plus 5% handling fee for materials. Santa Clarita Public Library in California found the net cost to operate the library in-house at the same staffing level as LS&S would save the city approximately \$400,000 the first year after leaving LS&S. Calabasas Library saved \$68,000 the first year after leaving LS&S.
- **Reductions of service.** Some libraries have less service and more reduction of hours due to staff cutbacks resulting from the loss of professional staff.
- **Loss of local connection to the community.** LS&S has been reported to substitute a remote reference service for local reference librarians. Also, with their standardized high volume buying there is a minimal collection of Spanish language materials.
- **Library Programming is controlled by LS&S.** It is no longer up to staff to determine what best serves the local population's needs and interests.
- **Negative Effect on library staffing.** LS&S Staff serves at the pleasure of LS&S. They replace unionized workers with nonunion employees and often cut wages. This can cause the loss of experienced staff and result in a high turnover rate.
- **Negative effects on the library collection.** When LS&S takes over, they get control of the library collection and they do the ordering. LS&S saves money by narrowing the library collection and focusing on best sellers. This can result in the loss of ability to adapt to the needs and interests of local patrons.

- **Lack of transparency of finances.** San Juan City Library in Texas left LS&S stating that LS&S would not divulge its profit margin. The Oregon State Library reported LS&S spent 28% of money from Jackson County on “other” but would not identify what constituted “other.”

- **Lack of willingness to talk in a public setting** was given as one reason Prince William County, Maryland rejected LS&S.

Privatization of the library would take control of managing the library out of the hands of local staff and place it in the grasp of a for-profit company whose previously stated goal has been to generate outstanding returns and grow revenues and profits for their investors.

Our projected budgets are starting to show negative cash flow. I believe this can be turned around easily by avoiding future lawsuits we are sure to encounter with some of the provisions this city council has recommended, as well as reviewing the \$5 million we gave the the airshow to settle that lawsuit - I feel Huntington Beach was taken to the bank and that we should have gone to court rather than settling.

I don't believe we should be privatizing our libraries in order to find “savings”, of which other cities have found elusive when dealing with LS&S.

Thank you,
Beverly Sansone, MD

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:40:04 AM

From: Kathleen Lueck <k_l_lueck@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:47 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Library

For 53 years I have been a proud resident of Huntington Beach, cheering for and delighting in the unnumbered improvements to our city made by former council members — our PUBLIC library system one of the most magnificent and most revered by citizens of Huntington Beach and residents of the entire county.

How DARE YOU, how DARE YOU bring your wrecking ball to this system that has well served us for more than 100 years? How DARE YOU make our library part of your claim to fame as your political agenda?

I demand that you leave our library alone. Our staff of REAL LIBRARIANS and the planning of our former REAL CITY-BUILDERS have created and maintained this gem for years. LEAVE our PUBLIC LIBRARY in the hands of the PUBLIC — not in the hands of a private company.

Kathleen Lueck
17411 Mayor Lane, H.B.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad](#)

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: No! To Item 22 and Item 24!!!!
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:40:08 AM

From: Nancy Nielsen-Mirza <surfcitycalling@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 8:51 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: No! To Item 22 and Item 24!!!!

What's wrong with you people? Our library and librarians are great. Please focus on real city problems like EVERYONE agrees - homelessness. Geez.

NO on Item 22and Item 24.

Nancy
12 year HB/SB resident
2 kids in the school system

From: Levin, Shannon
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Do not privatize library management
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:40:12 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Conor Sullivan <conorsullivan87@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:02 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Do not privatize library management

Dear City Council,

Privatizing the city library management would be a detrimental decision that jeopardizes the accessibility, autonomy, and integrity of this essential public institution. Libraries are pillars of democracy, offering free access to information, education, and community resources for all residents. Management from a private entity introduces profit motives that could compromise the library's core mission, leading to restricted access, reduced services, and biased information dissemination. Moreover, privatization could result in increased costs for residents, as private companies prioritize financial gains over public service. The library must remain under public stewardship to ensure equitable access, democratic principles, and the preservation of community interests. Therefore, I urge the city council to reject any proposals for the private management of our city libraries and instead focus on strengthening public funding and support for this vital community resource.

Sincerely,
Conor Sullivan

From: [Susie Cerami](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Preserving our Public Library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:40:14 AM

Dear HB City Council,

I am writing to respectfully request and Encourage you to PLEASE keep our amazing HB Public Library PUBLIC, and not vote to privatize it. For MANY reasons. As a LONG time Huntington Beach resident, I know that our HB Public Library is one of the most beloved locations in our city. HBPL has ALWAYS been known even countywide as being the BEST library. Our now teen daughters enjoyed so many storytimes, study hours, events in the theatre, etc. Please don't change this for generations to come. The city SHOULD be funding the library. Why don't we look at creative ways to raise money for the library if needed? Our HB residents are MORE than willing to do that. But if you sell the library to LS&S Corp, our HB community will lose all say in what happens at our COMMUNITY library. And those free events that are so educational and enriching for our HB residents, will start to cost money, and people will stop coming. LS&S stands to make big profits at the expense of our own magnificent librarians and staff, and will reduce our library services to be a business. Not the warm, inviting, loving place that it currently is. Bloomberg News reports trying to reach LS&S run libraries throughout the country, and running into automated response systems without ever finding a real person. Emails go unanswered. Do we want this for our library? Our ONE wonderful institution that is so amazing, and a home for so many families? Ownership by LS&S will also streamline the content that is in our library, rather than having books that reflect our local community. Additionally, they will remain completely unaccountable to us taxpayers. So basically, they will have the ability to use OUR taxpayer money in any way THEY see fit. Why would you want to lose this control? Why would we want to sell our library to a big business? PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE vote NO on privatizing our public library. At the VERY least, vote to table the issue and do more research. The residents of Huntington Beach deserve this. Please Vote to SAVE our HB PUBLIC library.

Sincerely,

Susie Cerami

HB resident

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Privatizing library and Council appointment of book monitors
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:40:18 AM

From: Annilise Flanagan-Frankl <anniliseff@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:06 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Privatizing library and Council appointment of book monitors

As an HB resident, educator, school psychologist and mother, I am in opposition to privatization of the public library. The words PUBLIC LIBRARY means our taxes pay for the library and belongs to the community not a for-profit entity.

Second, I am totally against non-professionals, with agendas, determining what my grandchildren should be allowed to read. What is decided by parents is the key to developing independent, creative thinkers- that means keep your hands off the library and the books within.

Annilise M. Flanagan-Frankl, M.A.

Counseling Psychologist

Nationally

Certified School Psychologist

***Remember - the past is over, the future is a mystery, and today is a gift.
That is why it is called the PRESENT.***

Make today count.

Call: 847-226-3119

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: HB Library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:40:23 AM

From: Diane Amendola <diane@sandy-paws.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:07 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: HB Library

For Public Record

Dear Council Members,

Until a complete analysis of the costs associated with turning our libraries over to a for profit equity firm we need to hear of their track record and history of library management which I do not believe has been done. It would seem highly irresponsible of this council to make such a decision without community involvement. This is my library too, not just yours. Which residents have weighed in on your decision? I had heard nothing about this at prior Council Meetings, when did you begin considering this? In my opinion these are questions which you owe the residents an answer for. Do you think it's wrong for residents to expect be better informed about major decisions? If you do, then I voted for the wrong people.

Sincerely,

Mary Amendola
Resident, homeowner and voter

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Against Privatization of Library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:40:33 AM

From: Kaitlin Mendoza <kaitlinjmendoza@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:26 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Against Privatization of Library

Hello,

As a long term resident of Huntington Beach, I am thoroughly against privatizing our library. Please MOVE ON and pass some measures that will actually benefit the residents of Huntington Beach. There have to be better issues that you can focus your efforts on rather than this needless posturing.

Thank you,
Kaitlin Mendoza

From: Levin, Shannon
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: City library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:40:45 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Sue Gordon <suejanegordon1@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:59 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: City library

Members of City Council,

I'm contacting you to let you know I'm fearful that if you contract operations the new operator will change how we can check out books or even change what kind of books they order. If the new company keeps the same check out systems and doesn't ban books and hopefully doesn't lay off staff then I'm all for it.

Sue Gordon

Huntington Beach resident for 40 years

Sent from my iPad

From: Levin, Shannon
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Agenda Item24-197
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:40:52 AM

From: Ellie Johnson <elliejohnson19@twc.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:15 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Agenda Item24-197

To the members of the City Council:

I am opposed to Agenda Item 24-197.

A few weeks ago I emailed about my concern that consideration was being given to contract with a for-profit library management company. I received a response from Casey McKeon who stated that the Council received lots of proposals to consider. So had the Council already received proposals? But now the Council is asking for there to be a vote on requesting proposals for Managed Library Services which leaves me wondering where exactly the Council is heading and why this would even be considered. We have an excellent, well managed, successful public library system. We have infrastructure and institutional knowledge. Why look to outsource an exceptional library system with 5 branches? I say "YES" to maintain our thriving, inclusive publicly owned Hunting Beach Public Library. It is a treasure in our community.

Respectfully submitted,

Eleanor Johnson
Eaglecrest Drive
Huntington Beach

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: March 19, 2024 HB City Council Meeting, Agenda Items 22 and 24
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:41:06 AM

From: Pamela Edwards <arteabooksage@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:23 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: March 19, 2024 HB City Council Meeting, Agenda Items 22 and 24

HB City Council,

As a non-resident of HB, what draws me to HB is the beautiful HB Central Library. This dynamic library is the reason my family and I come to HB. Not the beach but the library! The sweeping changes being made to the library are destroying this great institution. Please stop before the HB Library is gutted.

My family and I have been HB Library patrons for 30 years. If you continue on this path you will no longer have this 'jewel' as it's known and loved today. The HB Central Library draws people from all over Orange County. Do you want to lose visitors from surrounding communities that bring money into your community? Keep making these changes and you will have destroyed what makes the HB Central Library unique and special.

From: Levin, Shannon
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Vote NO to privatization please. It is the conservative thing to do. NO to 24-197
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:41:19 AM

From: T N <timnoble71@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:49 PM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Vote NO to privatization please. It is the conservative thing to do. NO to 24-197

First time ever writing City Council in 15 years, but **that's how much I want the Central Library to stay publicly funded.**

I voted for a mix of people on the City Council to stay conservative, but **I will vote against anybody voting for privatization.**

I need to see **old experienced well-paid people** running the library, **they give more** than we could ever pay them. Anybody in management knows that **loyalty is a bargain.** If you want to have a committee fine, but **please do not privatize.** We visit every single weekend and **I make sure to buy something to support the city and library every single weekend.**

Privatization is a race to the bottom that ends up costing more in the long run, always does, it has my entire life in everything. Our "privatized libraries" are Amazon and Barnes and Noble and they aren't good libraries.

You really don't want to lose my reasonable, conservative vote going forward. Please vote NO to privatization.

Thank you for listening, I will be following up,

Tim Noble
Director of Technology and Product Development
HB Homeowner/Tax Payer SINCE 2009

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: HB public library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:41:28 AM

From: Gina Cappelli <missacadia9@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 12:03 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: HB public library

Hello,

I have lived in HB for almost my entire life. I moved here at age 6, but even before then, my dad and I would drive to HB central library to sit and read books almost every weekend. Now I live 3 minutes down the road and marvel at how lucky I am to have such a wonderful library, with amazing staff at arms reach. For you to even consider having a private company take over management is saddening. HB claims to be a great community, but how came you claim this and privatize one of our beloved community centers? This would take away needed jobs from people who actually love the library and make it what it is (part of the community!). I please urge you to not have a provate company take over.

Thank you,

Concerned resident

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

From: Levin, Shannon
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Privatization of the Huntington Beach Library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:41:40 AM

From: Jean Peterson <jpeterson1@socal.rr.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 12:23 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Privatization of the Huntington Beach Library

March 18, 2024

Huntington Beach City Council Members
Gracey Van Der Mark
Rhonda Bolton
Dan Kalmick
Natalie Moser
Pat Burns
Tony Strickland
Casey McKeon
Huntington Beach
200 Main St #5
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

Dear Huntington Beach City Council Members,

I am writing you this letter in support of our beautiful public library in Huntington Beach. I have read disturbing, concerning news that the Huntington Beach City Council is discussing privatizing the services of our public library. Apparently, the CC will be discussing a proposal from a former mayor of Huntington Beach on behalf of a company called LS&S at the March 19th CC meeting.

A quick, simple Google search shows this company to be a for-profit company that started as a software company, having no experience with library science or library services. Also found via a Google search is that libraries that have fallen under this private control have hundreds of books culled from their shelves, employees fired, and library programs cancelled. The company makes decisions on which books remain, and which books get "cancelled." Furthermore, LS&S is apparently well known for its lack of transparency regarding its activities in "managing" the libraries that it takes over.

The depleted shelves of libraries that LS&S takes complete control of do not have a diverse variety of books, just best seller books. That is not a library. It is a Barnes and Noble bookstore. LS&S has no Library Science degrees of its employees. It is a management company only, just interested in making a profit. The library is a PUBLIC entity, that should not have uneducated managers making decisions about the content of our PUBLIC library. A diverse collection of books and reading materials in the library ensures that Huntington Beach residents have the ability to learn about their cultures as well as others. Books allow for the public to read and learn about the experiences of other people, people like themselves, people different from them, people from different parts of the country, and people from other countries.. This includes both non-fiction books as well as fiction books.

The Huntington Beach Library offers so many services for children, teens, and adults. Those services would most likely be cancelled with the LS&S takeover. I encourage you to view the Huntington Beach Library's webpage as well as its FaceBook page to see all of the different services and activities our library offers. Our PUBLIC library is so much more than books and "management." I worked for the Los Angeles County Public Library System for five years as my first job. I cannot tell you how much I enjoyed being able to provide services and knowledge to patrons regarding all of the different books and types of books in our collection, making their experiences more personalized. Not every library patron wanted to read the same books or the same types of books.

I know other Huntington Beach residents have sent emails in support of the library as well. One CC member's response was "... The library will remain a Public Library free of charge to visitors except for the tax dollars that pay for the Library budget." That is a disingenuous response from CC member McKeon

relating to the issues the residents of HB are concerned about regarding privatization of our library's daily activities, It seems as if the "majority" of CC members have already made a decision without any input from HB residents. It would be a tremendous mistake to privatize our PUBLIC library by LS&S, as former mayor Posey has proposed. Please do not hire a private, for-profit company to take over our public library services.

Sincerely,

Jean L Peterson

16921 Red Rock Circle

Huntington Beach, 92649

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Privatization of HB Library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:41:46 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Curtis Ong <ong.curtis@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 12:40 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Privatization of HB Library

Sent from my iPhoneI

I am totally against the privatization of our public libraries to be contracted out by outside firms. A disservice to our community and the heritage of Huntington Beach. The council members who have even entertained this option should be ashamed.

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:41:53 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Jessie Reeves Clemens <JRClemens52@outlook.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 4:03 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Library

Please leave the library alone. Privatizing would be a mistake.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: The potential outsourcing of our public library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:42:59 AM

From: natalie rokos <nrokos28@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 6:12 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: The potential outsourcing of our public library

Dear Council, I am writing to express my dismay and disappoint with the agenda item regarding studying the possibility of outsourcing our wonderful HB public library. This is one of the worst ideas this council has come up with , however there have been plenty of others preceding. In no way, shape or fashion does the award winning library need to be turned over to a for profit company. Nor does it need to have untrained and uneducated people in library science, choosing which books may or may not be in the library. Please let this idea go and get back to running our city.

Natalie Rokos
Resident and homeowner of HB for 29 years

From: Levin, Shannon
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Library Privatization
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:43:09 AM

From: Hilarie Kelly <hilarie.kelly@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 6:18 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Library Privatization

To All Huntington Beach City Council Members:

I object to the lack of transparency involved in this highly politicized investigation into privatizing the Huntington Beach Public Library. What specific problem is privatizing supposed to solve and what solid evidence is there that privatization would solve that problem? Why was there no open process to reliably assess the desires of the entire HB community, no data collection on public use patterns and satisfaction with our libraries? Where is a specific list of what, exactly, a private company will be contracted to do and how will they be held accountable for doing it? What, precisely, will the city still be responsible for in terms of building and grounds maintenance (including fountains), utilities costs (including internet), and insurance? Who, if anyone, is doing a valid costs and benefits analysis? Is this just childish political payback? How will privatization impact the FOTL, FOTCL, the genealogical collection, seed library, literacy programs, digital library, theater and room rentals, used book and gift sales, and the rich offerings of events and activities that our beloved library is known for? How will privatization improve what the library offers to the residents of Huntington Beach? Most importantly, what happens if privatization fails? How will the residents of Huntington Beach be compensated?

Hilarie Kelly
Resident of Huntington Beach for 35 years
Member of FOTCL

From: Levin, Shannon
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Outsourcing the library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:43:16 AM

From: elena uranga <urangamex@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 6:27 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Outsourcing the library

Huntington Beach City Council Members
March 15, 2024

My name is Elena Uranga, a Huntington Beach resident, user of the Huntington Beach library, and member of a Book Club organized by the Oak View Library.

I sincerely appreciate the work of the HB Library staff and how community oriented they are in their approach to managing the City's libraries.

Please do not change this by putting our libraries in the hands of private companies, the libraries are not a business. I view them in the same category as our local government staff, including police and fire, in that they are all necessary public services funded by our tax dollars. Libraries are a significant community resource, not a profit center.

Your attention to this petition is greatly appreciated.

Elena Uranga
20042 Harbor Isle Ln.
Huntington Beach, Ca,92646

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:43:22 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: teriwill2 <teriwill2@aol.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 6:33 AM

To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>

Subject: Library

It has come to my attention that the city council is considering selling our library system to a private company. Please do the right thing by our citizens and do not do this. There is nothing wrong with the beautiful libraries we have. Please think of future generations, not profit.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration in this manner.

Teri Williams

Sent from my iPhone

From: Levin, Shannon
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:43:27 AM

From: jose uranga <urangajose@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 6:40 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Library

Huntington Beach City Council Members
March 15, 2024

My name is Jose Uranga, a Huntington Beach resident, user of the Huntington Beach library, and member of a Book Club organized by the Oak View Library.

I sincerely appreciate the work of the HB Library staff and how community oriented they are in their approach to managing the City's libraries.

Please do not change this by putting our libraries in the hands of private companies, the libraries are not a business. I view them in the same category as our local government staff, including police and fire, in that they are all necessary public services funded by our tax dollars. Libraries are a significant community resource, not a profit center.

Your attention to this petition is greatly appreciated.

Jose Uranga
20042 Harbor Isle Ln.
Huntington Beach, Ca,92646

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Please Do Not Privatize HBPL!
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:43:46 AM

From: Jillian Fenton <jillianleighmartin@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:29 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Please Do Not Privatize HBPL!

Hello,

I'm writing to ask that you not seek to privatize our beloved Huntington Beach Public Library. It would be a huge mistake as our library is already run by perfectly capable and devoted individuals. Some of you have an agenda that will not fly when it comes to our library. When you go after our perfectly-run library, you go after its patrons and our community.

Do not look to privatize our library.

Thank you,
Jillian Fenton
Homeowner and mother in Huntington Beach

From: Levin, Shannon
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Making our library run by a private company
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:43:51 AM

From: Polly Pitsker <pdp422@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:30 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Making our library run by a private company

I am a Huntington Beach resident, living on 22nd Street. I am 88 years old. I am appalled at the idea that the council is considering privatization of our FREE AND PUBLIC library. A private owned company must make a profit. Are we to pay for each book? A subscription? How are the underprivileged going to do that? This is a terrible idea. I know we pay for the library through our taxes but that is a progressive tax. A private company would basically eliminate the group of lower income families, who could then neither buy or borrow books. Reading is critical for growth and understanding ourselves, our world and our environment. It also brings joy and humor into our lives. Don't privatize our City's library system.

Sincerely,
Polly Pitsker
610 22nd Street
713-375-3337 land line

From: Levin, Shannon
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: No to Privatizing the HB PUBLIC Library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:43:56 AM

From: Allie Plum <skyedawg007@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:39 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: No to Privatizing the HB PUBLIC Library

I want to express my total dissatisfaction and opposition with what the City Council has on the agenda for privatizing our jewel, HB Central library.

First the public should have been given a choice on such an important issue. No competition between private for profit firms was held. Why? Mr Posey stands ready to gain significantly. Were there behind the scenes meetings held? Violation of the Brown Act possibly?

Second who is responsible for maintaining the building when L S & S takes over? My understanding is the City, which would be a cost on this aging building. And what about what happens when the contract runs out?

Our fantastic HB library system has served our community well since 1909. The Central Park library built in 1975 stands as a unique architectural landmark which presently serves EVERYONE. Please don't break a system that works so well because of political divides. Vote NO on privatization of OUR library.

Sincerely,

Allie Plum
Concerned HB citizen
And Avid library user

From: [Melissa Romero](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Protect our libraries
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:51:47 AM

To whom it may concern,

As a Huntington Beach taxpayer and frequent library patron, leave our libraries alone! Privatizing our libraries is a disgusting proposition and the right wing's attempt to further politicize our public institutions. Do not privatize our libraries.

Sincerely,
Melissa R.
(she/her)

From: [Debbi Parrott](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: Library privatization
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:52:03 AM

Dear HB City Council,

I deeply oppose item #22 which explores the privatization of our library. This is just another instance of trying to fix some thing that isn't broken and inventing problems. Please focus on things that actually benefit all constituents like fixing our infrastructure.

**With gratitude,
Debbi Parrott**

From: [Mary Cota](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Do NOT privatize Libraries
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:52:29 AM

Hello,
please do NOT privatize our libraries. This is literally one of the few safe spaces left. We don't want or need capitalism and extreme politics infiltrating our libraries. I'm a life long resident and I've never missed voting. We will mobilize. Leave our libraries as is.

Thank you,
Mary Cota

From: [Jennifer Brannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Our Library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:52:51 AM

Dear Council Members,

I'm writing to encourage you to preserve and celebrate our local library and maintain it completely under local control. I'm a Huntington Beach resident, my husband and I raised our daughter here and I am also a teacher. I was raised with a fabulous local library and unfettered access to books. I read voraciously and have been saddened with the onset of social media to see children read fewer novels.

Books transported me to other worlds and gave me a window into other lives and experiences. Never did I want to become a different person just because I read a character in a book. When I encountered content or vocabulary I didn't understand, I simply asked my parents and I felt safe to as they created that relationship with me. I kept my parents value of allowing my daughter access to any book she wanted and she in turn felt safe to ask me questions. Books are the best example of self-directed learning and self-directed learning leads to people who want to be lifelong learners. In my case, reading gorgeous novels and poetry led me to study creative writing. In my husband's case, his love of the writings of Marcus Aurelius led him to studying him more deeply in an expansive thesis. In our daughter's case, reading philosophical and religious texts have led her to a deeper relationship with her faith. What each of us had was a teacher or librarian to guide, question and support us as we literally gobbled up what interested us.

I'm a special education teacher. My students struggle deeply with reading and it's extremely hard to keep them engaged while still working on basic decoding. This is why I always read novels to my students. Nothing else makes them want to learn to read like escaping and delighting into a good book. We read "Matilda" and "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" and I adore seeing all of them attach to the characters and be able to compare and contrast them. One day, a boy returned from an absence and was giving me lots of attitude during the reading block. Finally he confessed that he was upset that we read the book while we were gone and he missed what had happened. I have seen kids make two grade levels of growth in one year just because they fell in love with books and it ignited their learning. Last year we took students on a walking field trip to the library. One boy said to me incredulously, "I've never been to a library before. I didn't know all of this was here." We must keep that wonder just that way for our kids and for us.

The danger to our children is not books, it's the tool that parents buy and put into the hands of their children with little to no supervision. The reality is that is where kids regularly encounter graphic content and are left vulnerable to manipulation. The best way we have of preserving innocence in our kids is by helping to shape a love of reading books. That is exactly where librarians who know books intimately come in and are able to use that expertise to spark a love of reading for our kids and further it. Please don't replace that incredible resource by privatizing or outsourcing our amazing library. Please turn your energy into empowering the library as the incredible resource it is for our community.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Brannon

From: [j m](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: do not privatize our library (HBPL)
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:54:59 AM

Dear Council Members and Mayor,

We believe in choice in this country, correct?

I, and many others, are speaking out against the plans to privatize the Huntington Beach Public Library or allow anyone other than our professional, educated and dedicated librarians and educators to select the best books to develop and expand the minds of our community.

I remember going to HBPL a few decades ago when i was growing up here and this institution is a valuable resource we should be increasing public funds for it best operation.

It is time we all stop fighting and start uniting on the issues we can. Stop this mess and let's focus on:
1-Cleaning and protecting our beaches (which bring in billions of dollars, but will not when the sand is covered with trash).

2-Truly helping our unhoused neighbors off the streets and back into employment and stable housing...

3-educating our young folks to be the best leaders they can be in the near future. To lead with intelligence, compassion, and sound reasoning.

4-Creating a public works program to make the above things happen as efficiently, successfully, and transparency and accountability to help maintain the course.

Are a few places to start.

Please do not privatize the Huntington Public Library, instead please increase their funding and give the local librarians, educators and involved families make these choices. We do believe in choices in this country, right?

One more point, is the lack of transparency, credibility, and strong chance of corruption regarding the company Library Systems, LLC with Mike Posey, to take over the HBPL, NO, this is shameful and should be investigated by the FBI if what seems to be true about these dealings. Please stop this mess and let's focus on issues we all want to deal with and help our community.

Thank you

Julie Molitor
92649

From: [Ella Cerami](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Please SAVE our PUBLIC Library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:58:07 AM

Dear Huntington Beach City Council,
We are writing to encourage you to please vote NO on privatizing the HB Public Library. We both have grown up with the HB library, from walking across the street for storytime and studying with friends to exploring the children's section. Even now, we are both interns on HBPL's PressTeen, where we have been given the opportunity to collaborate with other teens through reading and writing. The Public Library gives so many opportunities and experiences to both young and old. It is a special place for the community and many would be devastated to see it privatized. Huntington Beach citizens deserve a say in our public library which we hold so close to our hearts! The community would be more than willing to design ways to keep the library under public control. So please vote no on privatizing the public library so that future generations can continue to enjoy and contribute to its continued success.

--

Ava & Ella Cerami
ellathelab09@gmail.com

From: [Kathleen Deemer](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:58:37 AM

I strongly oppose privatizing the library in Huntington Beach and urge you to do the same. Turning over the library to a for profit company will adversely affect the services provided by the library and adversely affect community.

I am very concerned that the library will have to shorten hours, lose librarians and do other things to cut cost and make a profit.

The city needs to maintain control of the library and continue to make it a community service.

Thank you.

Kathleen Deemer

--

Kathleen Deemer
Dr. Albert Schweitzer Leadership Academy
4th Grade

From: [Linda](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Cc: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:00:28 AM

I do not understand why you would want to allow a private company to take over the library. Our HB libraries are known widely for their collections, for their commitment to the surrounding communities, their programs that serve so many in so many ways and of course the beautiful building in Central Park. Surely it cannot just be \$\$ you are concerned about.

Please reconsider-talk to some of the citizens who use the library-come into the library if for nothing more than to sit and take a moment to peacefully think about how many HB (and other) citizens will be affected. The library has many volunteers who lovingly give of their time and talents to help this institution remain the valuable icon that it is.

Won't you join us?

Linda Mendelssohn

From: [SUZETTE CLARK](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Cc: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Item 22. Item 24-197
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:03:49 AM

I STRONGLY OPPOSE Managed Library Services!

I am a teacher of over 45 years and have been a patron of our HB libraries for the 25 years I've owned in this city. I am appalled at the assault on our library system by the Majority City Council ! I have spoken to many library personnel and volunteers who daily work hard to provide our community with a wonderful learning environment. I have found that our Libraries are completely keeping within the 5 million dollar budget AND receive up to 18,000 per month donated from the Friends of the Library to add to the multi educational opportunities provided. There are no financial reasons that the library itself needs to privatize . None of the patrons or personnel I spoke with over the last several weeks desire this change. I am told they are quite self sufficient and doing just fine. This I have witnessed. I have bragged about our beautiful library and its efficiency for as long as I've lived here. "Why fix something that ain't broke?" Our Central Library is the Crown Jewel of Huntington Beach and is very busy on a daily basis. I visit quite often and almost daily since I heard of this proposed unnecessary private takeover. The library doesn't want it, the employees and volunteers don't want it and the patrons don't want it. Why in the world would you be looking for a solution for a problem that doesn't exist???? From my research it appears that we have the air show lawsuit to cover, among multiple lawsuits , and the newest about to happen according to the state because of your Measure A adoption, not to mention the over \$400,000 of our taxpayers' money to put those measures on the ballot now instead of November . Why should the patrons of the library be saddled with your debt when our budget is a tiny fraction of your entire city budget and we meet it.

Additionally When I learned you're taking away 8,000 library cards from our children 18 and under - I was shocked and thought I was being thrust back into Nazi Germany. At a time when educators are doing everything they can to encourage children to read and pick up a book - you appear to be doing everything you can to discourage that! Lets see, our pre teens and teens can recklessly ride all over the city on streets and intersections on motorized E bikes but dear Lord - do not let them have access to library materials without mommy next to them. Are you serious?? Do you know how preposterous that sounds not to mention restrictive of civil rights? If you don't see the serious threat these kids on e-bikes are causing - you must not drive in this city.

Your allegiances appear to be misguided. STOP THE ASSAULT on our HUNTINGTON BEACH LIBRARIES where our citizens and guests go to learn, relax and quietly enjoy the immeasurable benefits of reading and productive community groups. We want our kids READING not on social media trying the latest dangerous TIK TOK challenge or recklessly driving e-bikes across busy streets, taking over intersections, being used for quick getaways with our juvenile theft, or injuring themselves and others. Put your efforts there along with the homeless and mentally ill and leave the library alone.

Sincerely,
Suzette Clark
18877 Breezy Ln
Huntington Beach, CA 92648
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Joshua Nykamp](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Library privatization
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:06:49 AM

The library system in HB is great. I don't think there's a real reason to privatize it. This seems like more overreach by the city council to further the culture war agenda of banning the books four members disagree with.

Josh Nykamp

From: Levin, Shannon
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:10:37 AM

From: Kathleen Deemer <kdeemer@magnoliasd.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 7:53 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Library

Dear City Council :

I strongly oppose privatizing the library in Huntington Beach and urge you to do the same. Turning over the library to a for profit company will adversely affect the services provided by the library and adversely affect community.

I am very concerned that the library will have to shorten hours, lose librarians and do other things to cut cost and make a profit.

The city needs to maintain control of the library and continue to make it a community service.

Thank you.

Kathleen Deemer

--

Kathleen Deemer
Dr. Albert Schweitzer Leadership Academy
4th Grade

From: [Steven Coots](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Do Not Privatize Our Libraries
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:11:00 AM

To whom it may concern,

As a lifelong Huntington Beach resident and taxpayer, I am completely against privatizing our libraries. It is one of the few safe and accessible places in our city for families. Do not politicize this amazing public institution by privatizing the library.

Sincerely,
Steven Coots
(He/Him/His)
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Art Gittleman](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:11:04 AM

We will lose hundreds of volunteers. The library is a gem a highlight of HB. We must protect it.

Art gittleman

Resident

7144545642

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Glenda Golobay](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Library Changes
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:14:48 AM

Please do not privatize our main library. Funding is always a difficult situation but we need to look to other sources of revenue. We have a beautiful Library. our library is a huge part of the efforts developing an area of community. The library, athletic center, senior center and parks have created a sense of true planning for an area of community resource. Perhaps the committee could look at other OC cities like Irvine and other cities with strong Community programs and resourced.

Thank you
Glenda Golobay

Sent from my iPhone are also

From: Levin, Shannon
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Vote NO on Request for Proposal to outsource the Huntington Beach Public Library (Agenda Item 24-197).
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:15:04 AM

From: j m <julzkitty13@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:14 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Vote NO on Request for Proposal to outsource the Huntington Beach Public Library (Agenda Item 24-197).

Dear Council Members and Mayor,

The city of Huntington Beach needs HBPL to be owned and operated by the people of Huntington Beach, not a private corporation. Period.

Let's find common ground to work together, fix our issues, not bicker and fight over issues that are not problems (until they are created)

I, and many others, are speaking out against the plans to privatize the Huntington Beach Public Library or allow anyone other than our professional, educated and dedicated librarians and educators to select the best books to develop and expand the minds of our community.

I remember going to HBPL a few decades ago when i was growing up here and this institution is a valuable resource we should be increasing public funds for it best operation.

It is time we stop fighting and time we start uniting on the issues we can and must work together to fix. Stop this mess and let's focus on together:

- 1-Cleaning and protecting our beaches (which bring in billions of dollars, but will stop when the sand is always covered with trash).
- 2-Truly helping our unhoused neighbors off the streets and back into employment and stable housing...
- 3-Educating our young folks to be the best leaders they can be in the near future. Whether we prepare them or not, they may be the leaders who have the control over us when we are in our senior years. We want them to lead with intelligence, compassion, and sound reasoning, correct?
- 4-Creating a public works program to make the above things happen as efficiently, successfully, and transparency and accountability to help maintain the course.

These are a few starting points for us to focus our energy, instead of fighting each other, let's start working together...

Please do not privatize the Huntington Public Library, instead please increase their funding and give the local librarians, educators and involved families make these choices. We do believe in choices in this country, right? We have had a public library for many decades, don't stop that now.

NO, this is shameful, we do not need a Maryland Company, or organizations from the East Coast telling us how to run our library that has been in operated by local folks, who know and love HB for many decades.

Please do not continue on this issue.

Fund the library and let's move on to real problems. Clean our beaches!! Educate our Youth! Help our unhoused neighbors back into employment and housing! the list goes on... let's stop fighting and start working...

Please stop this mess and let's focus on issues we all want to deal with and help our community, together.

Thank you

Julie Molitor, 92649

From: Levin, Shannon
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:15:10 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Art Gittleman <artgittleman@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:14 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Library

We will lose hundreds of volunteers. Our library is a gem a highlight of our city. Do not ruin it Art Gittleman
Resident 1902 park st Down the street from city hall Sent from my iPhone

From: [Mathieu Royer](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:22:50 AM

Oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library

Dear Huntington Beach City Council,

My name is Mathieu Royer and I am opposed to the privatization of our Public Library as it will diminish a great city institution that serves all members of our community.

As a lifelong citizen of Huntington Beach I have enjoyed nearly fifty years of library use. As a young student I relied on the vast collection to research class assignments and also nurtured my curiosity in all things literature. As an adult I visit the library after a stroll through Central Park and sit amongst the stacks for a leisurely read. There is a sound, a feeling that accompanies the well tended library. In my travels and experiences, I have enjoyed many libraries and I am proud to say that our hometown Huntington Beach public library is the best of them. Please consider these points when voting to keep our Library public.

Thank you, Mathieu Royer

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Long Vo](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Library Privatization
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:26:02 AM

I am a resident of Huntington Beach, zip code 92646.

We do not need to privatize what is already a working public resource. This is not a good decision for our community.

I strongly urge the city council to reject this proposal

Long Vo

From: [Tomi Simmons](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Public comment
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:26:06 AM

Good morning,
I am submitting a public comment
I STRONGLY OPPOSE the proposed MANAGED LIBRARY SERVICES
ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM 22 • ITEM 24-197

I strongly advise the council to not vote yes.

Tomi Simmons

From: [Casey Shim](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Opposition to 24-197
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:32:26 AM

As a former long-time resident of Huntington Beach, among my fondest memories was going to the HB Public Library branch near my parents' home. It was also a place that my mother visited twice per month to get her fix of fact and fiction. The library staff were always kind and responsive.

A public library is the best service a city can provide to its citizens, young, old, and in between. Privatization of that public service will not improve services.

Huntington Beach should not go down this path.

Casey T Shim

From: +17148043875@tmomail.net
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:34:09 AM
Attachments: [text 0.txt](#)

.....

No privatization of Central Library! Dolly Burgess

T-Mobile

This message was sent to you by a T-Mobile wireless phone.

From: [Ken Greer](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Cc: [Katie Greer](#)
Subject: Privatizing Library Services
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:35:09 AM

Last Friday was a sad day in our household when I learned Huntington Beach is contemplating handing over the literary future of our city to a private, for-profit company.

I guess one good thing that could come from this is that it will end the debate on what books to allow or not allow in our library. Library Services & Systems (LS&S) will make all the decisions for us. No more public opinion on what books or services to offer. Corporate executives that are beholden to shareholders (not the public they're serving) will make all the decisions. And those decisions will be based on profit margins, not what the public wants/deserves.

If the City Council is looking for easy ways to balance the budget, be wary of LS&S. As they've proven in other cities, there is a lack of financial transparency and more often than not the city's had to regain control of the library to save it from the poor state LS&S allowed it to get to. In the end, you may spend more money fixing what LS&S does to our beloved library system than you expect.

As a resident of Huntington Beach, it's embarrassing to see our city contemplate such a disastrous move. Our library didn't win BEST STORY-TIME in Orange County for no reason, we have passionate employees and devoted residents that take pride in our library system.

Please don't destroy such an incredible community resource!

Sincerely,
Ken Greer
(714) 904-8908

From: [Deborah Harvey](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:35:17 AM

I have owned my home in HB for over 22 years. I oppose privatization of the library. Please do not let this happen.

Be real.

Sincerely,

Deborah R. Harvey

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jaime Kauffman Palumbo](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Comment for City Council Meeting 3-19-24
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:38:23 AM

Hello,

I am strongly opposed to the privatization of our beloved library. This city council is temporary, but our library is something that we are supposed to care for and then pass on to the next generation. How dare this council try to sell off our library, something that belongs to all of us. I don't care if the city council uses semantics to say it's only the managing of the library, this is a give away of something that our community cherishes. How dare you! The city council's job is to take care of this city, but all this one has done is mire us in lawsuits and tarnish our image with its right wing performance art. After campaigning on not changing our charter, the first chance they got, they wasted money rushing ballot measures that do just that. And now they are going after our library. This will not go well for whoever tries to pass this. After breaking their one promise, doing nothing to better this city, and causing so much division in this community by not listening to what their constituents want, trying to sell off our library will unleash a backlash that I don't think they are ready for. Do not entertain this ridiculous proposal.

Thank you,

John and Jaime Palumbo

From: [Ryan List](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:38:28 AM

To the Huntington Beach City Council,

I am writing to oppose privatization of the Huntington Beach Public Library.

Our public libraries have been an essential part of civic life for generations, available to every citizen regardless of income. Please do not take this resource from the citizens of Huntington Beach and turn it over to a private company that does not have ALL of our citizens' best interests in mind.

I am confident that most citizens of Huntington Beach would agree that our public libraries are one of the best uses of our taxpayer dollars.

Voters will remember how this issue was handled (or mishandled) when the time comes to vote again for those who will best represent the city of Huntington Beach on City Council.

Ryan List
HB resident, voter and homeowner

From: [Kiki Young](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Privitizing our library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:38:53 AM

Dear City Council Members,

I am greatly opposed to your plans to privitizing our library system. Our librarians and library employees take great care with the operations of our libraries.

Learn from other cities failures after hiring

LS & S.

Sincerely,

Kari Dennis

From: [Brittany Laurin](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Save the Huntington Beach PUBLIC Library!
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:39:19 AM

My name is Brittany Laurin and I work at Central Library and I live in Huntington Beach. I have worked there for several years and in many capacities; as a Page, as a Literacy Clerk, as a Borrower Services Clerk, and as a patron. Through these many positions I have come to have a fair understanding of how our public library works. I've also come to know the team of brilliant and dedicated employees who work hard every single day to bring the best of what the library has to offer to the HB community and beyond. We have an award winning children's programs, we have one of the best used book stores in the state, we have FREE adult programming, we have a Makerspace that teaches the patrons that use it, we have a Veterans Resource Center to support those community members that have served us, we have a Literacy Department that is creating opportunities for adults to reach their goals. All of this and more is possible due to the team of sincere and invested staff.

I am ashamed to live in a city that would attack such a wonderful institution. This feels like an attack. Our own city council has decided to ignore the richness we bring to HB. Instead we have been called horrific names, villainized, and had our livelihood attacked.

We aren't just talking about privatizing the library, we are talking about taking away people's jobs, their ability to pay their bills, their health insurance, and their pride. Why would my own city do this to me?

It seems as though certain measures were unpopular and the public voted the way it saw fit. I thought my team of incredible coworkers would celebrate this victory, knowing the public was on our side. Now I see that there are those that want to circumvent their community by winning another way. "If we can't control them, let's destroy them."

I would implore whoever may read this email to stand up for me, an employee and a denizen of Huntington Beach. I love working for the library and I would love to continue doing that in a positive, constructive, service-oriented way, with the support of our city behind us. Please support this great PUBLIC resource!

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Brittany Laurin
Very concerned citizen and employee of Huntington Beach

From: [Jeff Lebow](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Privatization of our library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:41:32 AM

How much will the private company pay the citizens of Huntington Beach for the opportunity to make profit off of our library? Will profits come from staff and program cuts? Which programs will be discontinued?

Jeff Lebow

37 year homeowner and resident in Huntington Beach

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jenny Quatman](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Library public
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:43:39 AM

We pay thousands of dollars to this city through our housing tax as well as local business owners tax and fees. We are raising our children in this city and chose a house next to a HB library because of all it offers to our local community and my children's well being. It is unfathomable it is being voted to make our library's private and for profit. Shame on this idea and everyone overbuilding our city for profit. Please keep this invaluable resource a public entity for those of us in the community that prefer HB a giving and fulfilling community that gives its residents ample opportunities for increased quality of life. My best memories are taking my kids to these libraries. Please keep them as is!!!

Jenny Quatman

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Oppose ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM 22 24-197
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:46:35 AM

From: Tomi Simmons <tsimmswrites@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:24 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Oppose ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM 22 24-197

Good morning,

I STRONGLY OPPOSE the proposed MANAGED LIBRARY SERVICES ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM 22 • ITEM 24-197

I strongly advise the council to not vote yes.

Tomi Simmons

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Privatizing our Libraries
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:46:40 AM

From: bethwebb711@msn.com <bethwebb711@msn.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:28 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Privatizing our Libraries

Leave our Award Winning Libraries Alone.

As a 40+ year Huntington Beach resident, I have watched in horror, as this activist city council has embarrassed our beautiful city.

The citizens of HB love our Libraries and will show up in numbers to stop your privatization of beloved Libraries.

You have divided this city enough. Why don't you stop with your culture wars and start doing things the citizens of HB really need attended to?

Bethany Webb

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: City Council Meeting Agenda for March 19, 2024 (revised the morning of 3/19/24)
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:47:14 AM

From: Larry Slonim <laryslonim@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:28 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Re: City Council Meeting Agenda for March 19, 2024 (revised the morning of 3/19/24)

To All Members of the Huntington Beach City Council:
(Please note my latest revisions are to supersede my earlier email dated 3/18/24 in **bold black text**)

We have been very concerned about the 4-3 vote by the City Council to put Charter Amendments A, B & C on the ballot for the Primary Election, and have been following to vote tally closely. As of Sunday, March 17th, with about 46% of the voters registered in the City of HB voting, the tallies for A & B have be trending Yes and the tally for C has been trending No. We strongly agree with the constituents voting No on C, primarily because it gave the mayor, ANY mayor, the authority to cancel and change Council Meetings at his or her sole discretion.

While the four new councilmembers (Strickland, Van Der Mark, Burns and Mckeon) **regularly exercise** a majority vote advantage, it's clear to **me and my wife** that they often decide to vote as a block **too hastily**, with **superficial** debate or **consideration** of dissenting opinions, whether coming from the other 3 councilmembers (Kalmick, Moser and Bolton), and/or from public comments made **that are relevant** to Council's agenda items. This is totally contrary to and blatantly hypocritical of one of the main reasons, if not the KEY reason, they **claimed and continue to claim that the prior City Council was not responsive to the concerns of all its residents.**

Since the four new councilmembers have taken office, **deference, respect, honesty and trust** has suffered badly and continues to get worse. **Any reliance** in them and the City Attorney to **responsibly steer our city** has been **greatly** compromised. We strongly urge the **four of them** to modify the course they are currently on.

Lastly, we think that the current **Administrative item 23 (24-195) Approval of FY 2023/24 Revised Budget, and Ordinance for Introduction item 24 (24-209) Ordinance No. 4318**, scheduled **for** the meeting of March 19th, be DEFERRED until the first meeting in April, to provide **proper** time for a more reasonable understanding and evaluation by the public and the other council members of the details **and potential impacts** contained within them.

A glaring case in point is that it's now been established beyond any reasonable doubt that having "more secure" municipal elections, regardless of their purported costs, will not produce safer elections than have been won in 2022 and with the likely approval of Charter Amendments A & B in 2024. City run elections would clearly be an added burden to the City's proposed revised

budget and are NOT needed! Certainly not at the expense of selling off our public library system to fund them, or by cutting other, more needed city services! Our four new councilmembers have to SEE that, and truly appreciate that reality. Otherwise, the legacy they create for our city will very, very grim.

Respectfully,

Larry and Susan Slonim

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: No library privatization
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:47:17 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Amy Black <amyjblack5@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:33 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: No library privatization

Hello City council,

I have lived in Huntington Beach most of my life and have always loved our library resources. I've recently been informed of the city council's plans to privatize our library (managed library services, administrative item 22, item 24-196).

To say this is a disappointment is an understatement. I strongly oppose this move. Privatization of services never results in saved costs. If the goal is to be able to police books in our community, I think we can let parents do that. Or just don't read a book you find offensive.

If this is an effort to save the city money, why not look at ways to bring more funds into the city, like taxing short term rentals. Or reducing the lawsuits we keep bringing against the state.

Again, I strongly oppose the privatization/managed services of our libraries. Please leave them alone.

Thank you,
Amy Black

From: Levin, Shannon
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Library Issue
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:47:21 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Deborah Harvey <drharvey313@icloud.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:38 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Library Issue

I oppose privatization of the library. That is a ridiculous concept.

I have been a HB homeowner for over 22 years. No other previous City Council put forth such a shortsighted proposal. Please reconsider.

Deborah Harvey

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Item #22
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:47:25 AM

From: kate healy <kate@jrdb.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:39 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Item #22

I am against any consideration or move to the privatization of our library system.

-home (20+ years), property (40+ years) and business owner (76+ years) in Huntington Beach
-Kate H.

...

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Library Advocacy
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:47:45 AM
Attachments: [Outlook-fjnsq0uz.png](#)
[Outlook-5f4yg0ol.png](#)

From: Brenes Erica <ebrenes@elcamino.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:42 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Library Advocacy

Hello HB City Council,

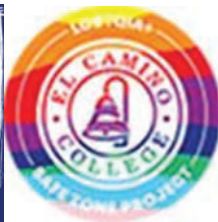
I am native to HB, and that means I grew up visiting and loving the HB library. Outsourcing the library to a hedgefund that does not know our community or feel committed to its growth and education is a poor choice, and I hope you choose instead to respect and maintain our library. It remains one of my favorite HB institutions and I still regularly grade papers there and take my children for theatre performances and story time. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Erica Brenes (she/her/hers)

Associate Professor, English

Co-Coordinator of *New Faculty Learning Academy & Equity Minded Teaching Institute*
El Camino College



Want to meet with me?

[Join me on Zoom](#) Thursdays 10-11 or visit me during in-person student hours at Humanities 321P Tuesdays 10-11 and Wednesdays 1:45-2:45. We can also schedule 1:1s around [your calendar!](#)

In need of emergency psychological support?

If you or someone you know is in crisis—whether they are considering suicide or not—[please](#)

call the toll-free Lifeline at 800-273-TALK (8255) to speak with a trained crisis counselor 24/7. And if you are an ECC student, reach out for support services at [our Student Health Center](#).

"When teachers teach with love, combining care, commitment, knowledge, responsibility, respect, and trust, we are often able to enter the classroom and go straight to the heart of the matter, which is knowing what to do on any given day to create the best climate for learning."

bell hooks

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: libraries
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:47:48 AM

From: Stewart Brown <swpb90815@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:46 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: libraries

Again, leave Benjamin Franklin's idea about a publicly funded, non partisan run public library alone. It's worked well for 250 yr + .
If there is issue with the library materials then find a certificated librarian that agrees with the town council on viewing criteria and safeguards.

--

Stewart Brown

From: [Tyler Bowlin](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Do NOT Privatize Library Services
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:49:42 AM

Hello,

My name is Tyler Bowlin, and I am a lifelong - 36 year - resident of Huntington Beach. I was born and raised in Huntington and benefited from the wonderful library services at several locations throughout my childhood. In 2020, after graduating law school and working as an attorney in Northern California for several years, I moved back to my hometown of Huntington Beach and was lucky enough to purchase a home in the city. I moved back to start and raise a family in what I consider a wonderful city - Huntington Beach. My children, 3 and 1 years old, love the library and the services provided. I see absolutely no reason to privatize what is already a great service for the residents of Huntington Beach. I am conservative. This is not political. Despite my political affiliations, I vow to vote for the opponent of any City Council member who votes in favor of privatizing the City's library services. This is simply a step too far.

Respectfully,

A concerned father, resident, and political donor, Tyler Bowlin.

From: [buzz mccord](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: Privatizing the Library. NO
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:51:27 AM

No matter what sophistry (wriggle words) you may use, you are wasting time and money with your RFP to "study" privatizing (insert wriggle words) the HB library system. The library is not broken. Your "descent into madness" (OC Register) since January 2023 is broken. Look in the mirror for understanding.

Buzz McCord
HB resident.

BCC: maillist

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Please vote against Privatization of our library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:51:50 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: James Reed <Jamesreed@jamesreedlegal.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:51 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Please vote against Privatization of our library

As a concerned resident citizen of Huntington Beach I urge that you Please vote against Privatization of our library!
Thank you
Jim
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Privatizing the Library. NO
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:51:58 AM

From: buzz mccord <buzzmccord@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:51 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>; supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Privatizing the Library. NO

No matter what sophistry (wriggle words) you may use, you are wasting time and money with your RFP to "study" privatizing (insert wriggle words) the HB library system. The library is not broken. Your "descent into madness" (OC Register) since January 2023 is broken. Look in the mirror for understanding.

Buzz McCord
HB resident.

BCC: maillist

From: [Mary Ann Celinder](mailto:supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: HB libraries
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:52:27 AM

What benefits are there to the public for changing the library control?

If it is run for profit, we will see a cut in services, quality of the workforce and a reduction of the number of books purchased annually.

The Four already tried to shut down our branch, surely it will be on the block if this passes. This is an overstep. Onec council should now be able to screw up the city so quickly with your temporary power. The Four are an embarrassment.

Moving perfectly great books for the children's section was already way out of control, especially without providing any guIdelines to the librarians.

What's in it for the city council members who are putting this forward?
Campaign contributions?

What is next, privatizing the police and fire dept?

NO!

Mary Ann Celinder
Celinder's Glass Design
21341 Fleet Lane
Huntington Beach Ca 92646

studio 714 962 8361
cell 714 504 8361

www.customleadedglass.com

From: Levin, Shannon
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Keep our Public Library Public
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:52:47 AM

From: K B <joiphull1@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:52 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Keep our Public Library Public

It's our CommUNITY library. Public Library—public, since 1928.

We must not allow anyone to sell our Library to a for profit company based on the East Coast. I lived bi-coastal. Completely different worlds, culturally, let's start there.

Seriously, what do they know about our culture here, on the West Coast in Surf City. We love our City, we are proud of our public non profit Library!

Just the other day, I took my Uncle, who is 84 years of age, to walk in Central Park after his emergency surgery. He found the architecture of our Library stunning as he walked along the creek with the huge trees, the reflections of nature Art, the Cherry Trees, everything so beautifully planned with well thought out plans for the commUNITY of our City residents.

Just the other day, I spoke with tourists who were impressed with the Library facade. I happily shared how incredible our Library is, and they were excited to head over there to explore as they were considering relocating here. It was their second day in town after arriving and they were exploring our park. What a bummer it would be for tourists to go to see a for profit private library, after they see the many labors of love that surround it.

For them to see empty bookshelves, such as Escondido's library. A tragedy. Everything about the land, what was planted there - from gardens to programs - it all surrounds and encompasses the Library. Most important, our public Library is where we all Vote in our elections. This space, it is all about US. And, I don't a private for profit company handling or supervising my Vote.

Consider the Seed Library, that is a labor of love. The program is physically supported by the labor of our HB students who need to work off hours. What an incredible program that provides the seeds for native plants for our natural habitat and the seeds are gifted by a supportive vendor! Most importantly, the students are in a positive environment and giving more to the community with their labor with the seeds! When we work together, our City benefits. Good meets good! When a for profit organization wants to contribute, we have good work that benefits a good work, that benefits our City. A Community win/win. Certainly, a for profit company would lose money and nix the program that currently benefits our lands, our community and our youth.

The for profit company cares about the profit. Nothing wrong with that at all. However, EVEN in a contract, THE HEART of the program will no longer will be there. The development of

relationships, trust, common goals, it's all about UNITY, our Community, our City. One last thing, the conditions of the Escondido library is not just concerning, but frightening. We are at a time when quality education is declining. Images being reported of once brimming shelves of books are barren.

We want to provide educational information. Books that may not be readily available to read, or easy to find, scholarly research for students, old books from another era with a different cadence, the ability to walk the Library aisles, touching the book covers, scanning row after row when suddenly, one book shines and that is the one! I love the memory of taking my children to the library and we each picked a book, sat in a nook and we each read our books as we sat together. Keep our HB City Library Public! Keep our HB City public library public and available, as the incredible resource that it is to all of us and our neighbors. Our children's and their children's future are counting on it.

No, to privatization.

Ms. Lingan of Huntington Beach

From: [Mark Spangrud](mailto:Mark.Spangrud@surfcity-hb.org)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Cc: CityCouncil@surfcity-Hhb.org
Subject: STOP to Privatize our Public Library.... PLEASE
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:52:53 AM

To My City Council,

Please do not Privatize our Public Library! I speak for many long time residents in Huntington Beach with families that have used our Public Central Park Library for two + generations. We have been very proud of our Library as it is was for our children and now for their children; even to this day as adults. This is a Public Library, meaning our tax dollars make all of us part owner and we do not want a private company that is looking at profitability goals , which will change a great Library with it's great programs into something much less. As well as losing all control of what our Library is today.

We feel as part owners that we should have a say into what happens to our Library and you as our elected City Council should listen.

Sincerely,

Mark Spangrud
5611 Ridgebury Drive
Huntington Beach, CA 92649

From: [Levin, Shannon](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: FW: Privatizing the library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:55:04 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Ann <rhynoboy@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:54 AM
To: CITY COUNCIL (INCL. CMO STAFF) <city.council@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Privatizing the library

I am writing as an HB citizen to strongly object to agenda item #22 to privatize the library! This is NOT in the best interest of the city or the citizens.

The city council should focus on areas of need for city instead on non issues.

Ann Ryan, Huntington Beach

From: [Sandy de la Fuente](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:55:53 AM

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

Our public libraries are treasured institutions that serve all members of our community regardless of their background, income, or social status. They are the heart of our neighborhoods, where we gather, interact, and connect. Where strangers become friends. They preserve our collective memory. They are not commodities, they are essential pillars of civic life.

Privatization of our public libraries threatens the very core of what makes our precious libraries valuable.

Say NO to privatization and yes to a thriving inclusive, and publicly owned Huntington Beach Public Library.

Sincerely,

Sandra de la Fuente

From: allyson.cosgrove
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Cc: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: LS&S Library Acquisition
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:56:20 AM

To whom it may concern,

I have to say that I'm disappointed to hear that the city is considering using an outside company to manage the HB Central Library and oppose such a decision. The library is a safe a place to all who enter it's doors, myself included and is one I consider my favorite place in the entire world from the time I was a small child. I'm sure there are others who feel the same. The staff go to extraordinary lengths to make sure that their patrons feel welcome and seen in a way that most of us don't get in our lives. This outside company will wreck all of that in a way that will damage the goodwill that the library has within the community for generations to come, so I hope that you will reconsider using them.

Thank you for your time,

Allyson Cosgrove

From: [Erin Johnston](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: March 19, 2024 Council Meeting
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:56:22 AM

Good morning,

I am a 14-year resident of Huntington Beach with two children in our elementary schools. We are daily users of our library and could not be more impressed with the library services. Our city residents share this sentiment, as noted in the “2023 Quality of Life Community Survey”:

- “Particularly high satisfaction with water reliability, fire protection and paramedic services, special events, **library services**, and 911 emergency response”.

Given such high satisfaction with the library services as they currently exist, I am writing to advocate against the Agenda Items below.

Agenda Item 24 Community-Parent Guardian Review Board for Review of Procurement of Children’s Library Material

During the 2023 Strategic Plan Workshop, held on June 8, 2023, City Council identified 8 goals and priorities for the Fiscal Year 2023-2027 Strategic Plan: 1) High Performing Organization; 2) Fiscal Stability; 3) Public Engagement; 4) Public Safety; 5) Homelessness; 6) Infrastructure Investment; 7) Housing; and 8) Economic Development.

This Agenda Item does not address any of these stated goals or priorities. It should therefore wait until the next priority-setting session to avoid diverting city and community resources from our goals and priorities as established in the Strategic Plan.

Agenda Item 22 for Managed Library Services

Given the high resident satisfaction with our current library services, I propose we analyze other areas within the Budget for cost reductions before looking to change library operations.

In the 2023-2027 Strategic Plan workshop, the following were listed as opportunities to boost our fiscal stability:

- Undertake a new cost of service (fee) study and cost allocation plan
- Update Developer Impact Fees to ensure new development is paying its fair share
- Implement centralized contract management system
- Develop a long-term vehicle replacement plan
- Review General Fund reserve levels using the Government Finance Officers Association Risk Analysis Template
- Consider options for new revenues
- Restart Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT), Utility User

We should review those as priority over library services. In addition, we should rationalize our city headcount, as it has grown 2% since the 2021-2022 Budget Year (+22 headcount) while the city population has decreased 3% in this timeframe (-5,311 residents).

Regards,

Erin Johnston

From: [Rob Koepf](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Opposed to privatizing HB public libraries
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:57:49 AM

Hello,

I have lived in Huntington Beach for over 40 years. For numerous reasons, I am opposed to privatizing the city's public libraries.

Best regards,
Rob

Robert W. Koepf
(康士學 | ロバート・コップ)
+1.562.279.3527
[About](#)

From: [Caryl](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Cc: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Huntington Beach library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:59:03 AM

Do not privatize our public library in Huntington Beach. This was built by the people for the people. Hands off!!!

Caryl Hytopoulos
4112 MorningStar Drive
Huntington Beach, CA 92649
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Akemi Royer](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:59:29 AM

Dear City Council Members,

I am a lifelong HB resident and I work as a literacy program specialist at Huntington Beach Public Library.

The Adult Literacy Program has been thriving for 40 years and has served thousands of adult learners with the help of hundreds of volunteers. We currently have waitlists at both Central Library and Oak View Branch Library.

If the library is privatized, we will no longer qualify for our full grant funding of \$95,574 (which is not part of the city budget). Funding for literacy will go down. We will have to turn away many adults who seek help with their reading and writing, English language skills, earning a high school diploma, preparing for the citizenship exam, and much more.

You have the power to change lives. You have the power to decide whether or not individuals will get help with their literacy skills. The decision is in your hands. Oppose item #24-197.

If you have any questions about how our literacy grant funding qualifications work, please do not hesitate to contact me at akemi.royer@surfcity-hb.org.

Sincerely,

Akemi Royer

From: [Dina Chavez](#)
To: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\); supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org](#)
Subject: Oppose Agenda Item 24-197
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:59:54 AM

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to express my fervent opposition to agenda item 24-197. Privatization of our beloved Huntington Beach Public Library is unacceptable, unnecessary, and unwelcome in our community. The HBPL is the jewel of our city and an institution we should all value and support. Interesting that a council majority claiming to be for local control would be so eager to turn over control of our beloved public library to a for profit company funneling our tax dollars away from the City of Huntington Beach. Perhaps it is time to re-evaluate your priorities and begin to care about our City and the people in it and stop relentlessly pursuing attacks on our beautiful libraries.

Sincerely,

Dina Chavez

From: [Dr. Heine](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org; [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Against Request for Proposal to outsource the Huntington Beach Public Library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 9:00:08 AM
Importance: High

Hello Huntington Beach leaders,

While we understand many of the current concerns related to the Huntington Beach Library system, our family of four adults is **emphatically against outsourcing** the management of the library. The library means so much for our family and believe that giving control of the library to an outside entity would be a huge mistake. Please keep the library what it has been for over 100 years: a valuable community resource that is overseen and supported by our community and its leaders.

Thank you for your time,

Barb, Phil. Luke and Mark Heine

From: [STEVEN WELLS](#)
To: supplementalcomm@surfcity-hb.org
Cc: [CITY COUNCIL \(INCL. CMO STAFF\)](#)
Subject: Privatizing Library
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 9:00:12 AM

Dear HB City Council,

I am against the attempt to privatize the library. Period. Free public libraries have a long history in the US. They give people a chance...to read, to learn, to grow. People of all ages need this opportunity.

Privatizing always results in lower quality personnel, no benefits for the people working there, lower quality of service. But, the profits will drive up stock prices, at the cost of the city.

I wish I had more time to tell you my story about spending time in the library as a child, the Santa Ana Public Library. A poor kid who got to spend hours at the library, reading, studying. I went to public schools in a terrible school district. And, because of books, was able to go to college (paid for by myself), get several degrees including a PhD in chemistry. Libraries were responsible for a significant portion of that.

Thanks for keeping our libraries as part of our city.

Steve Wells