

From: barry mogerman  
Date: Friday, January 18, 2019 at 1:35 PM  
To: Lisa Chow  
Cc: Patrick Remer  
Subject: Re: Possible early closure of the Pleasant Hill library

Hello Ms. Chow,

Thanks for your response. My home phone is [REDACTED]. I access my email at the library so please excuse my late response. The best time to reach me by phone is between 8am and 10am. You may try anytime.

I am a senior over 70 who lives within a mile of the current library and am a regular patron. I am aware the library is looking at possible limited services in other locations, and I am aware under the original implied plan the library might have to close for 3-4 weeks to set up the new library once built, but it was my understanding or perhaps misunderstanding that the current library would stay open until the new library was completed.

Early closure will negatively impact the library community in Pleasant Hill. Many of us seniors who live close by either bike or walk to the library on a regular basis. I was encouraged to hear the new library would be built across the way next to our current location and appreciate that decision. I have witnessed seniors in this area using walkers or moving slowly but walking to the library( I myself am able to walk or ride my bike without much difficulty). The extended closure would strongly effect the quality of life, negatively, for many long time residents who consider this library a part of their daily routine and despite their challenges make an effort to come here on a regular basis. This library, as I understand it, can have foot traffic up to 1000 people daily. Many programs here would be negatively impacted by an early closure, including ESL program, daily after school programs for the nearby middle school, loss of use of the computer lab and its many computers, and other computers located in the library, programs I have witnessed for adults who have learning challenges, not to mention the incredible, amazing, strongly attended, very popular Storytime Hour led by Patrick Remer(often overflowing with adult residents and their preschoolers on Fridays) and supported at other times by his talented staff.

The Friends of the Pleasant Hill Library raise a tremendous amount of money on a regular basis to support the needs of this library. They have an area within the library to market serviceable used books, open whenever this branch is open, and within the last 8 months have added an area, at certain times, staffed by volunteers, to sell premium books at a greatly discounted price which allows many of us on fixed limited incomes to indulge a "guilty pleasure" and still support our library community with monetary compensation. They also have large sales on designated Saturdays throughout the year here or next door to the library in the parking lot: the use of which is kindly donated by the school district. Their inability to continue these practices for an extended period will be counterproductive to the financial well being of this library.

I am sure I have missed other concerns which might negatively this library by a premature closure. I would appreciate any support you can give us on behalf of your constituents to address these issues with those involved in making the decision to close this library early. I understand there may be reasons I am not aware of that prompted this recent decision. Be assured in talking to others, and the word is not yet well publicised, none of us are pleased with this decision, and may not support future projects by the county if our concerns fall on deaf ears or are not fairly addressed in a reasonable cooperative spirit.

Thank you again for taking the time to address my concerns.

Best regards, sincerely,

Barry