

Don't let the same old special interest rhetoric get in the way of the safe, modern library that thousands of El Cerrito residents have said that they want—vote YES on B!

AUG 29 2016

City of El Cerrito
City Clerk

FACT: Thousands of El Cerrito residents and library stakeholders have been engaged in setting priorities and a vision for an updated library. The opponent did not bother to provide input or attend any of these planning sessions.

FACT: NO funds from Measure B can be spent on any other purpose other than a seismically-safe library. Measure B also requires Independent Citizens Oversight and mandatory annual audits.

FACT: El Cerrito's Library – built in 1948 – does NOT meet current earthquake safety standards or fire codes, and is simply too small for what our community needs. It is routinely overcrowded, especially after school and is cramped and dilapidated. YES on B provides a safe, 21st century library that meets current library standards and future community needs.

FACT: Visits to the El Cerrito Library have increased 26% since 2006 and circulation is up over 27%. We need YES on B to meet user demand and provide space for the after-school and summer programs for youth and teens to keep them off the streets, out of trouble and away from drugs and gangs!

YES on B requires a 2/3rds vote. We urge each and every one of you to find Measure B on the ballot and vote "yes."

Visit www.YesonB.ElCerritoLibrary.org and join the growing YES on B supporters throughout our community.

The undersigned Proponent(s) or Author(s) hereby state that such an argument is true and correct to the best of their knowledge and belief.

Print Name GREG CRUMP

Title Financial Advisory Board Member

Signature G. Crump Resident

Print Name Janet Hubble Abelson

Title Mayor Pro Tem

Signature Janet Hubble Abelson

Print Name Matthew Burnham

Title Principal, Kercanton Middle School

Signature Matthew Burnham

Print Name Joanna K. Pace

Title Middle School Teacher and former

Signature Joanna K. Pace PTSA President

Print Name Randy Schekman

Title Professor of Molecular & Cell Biology

Signature Uc Berkeley
2013 Nobel Prize in Physiology & Medicine

Signature Randy Schekman

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Rebuttal Argument Against Measure B

Let's be clear: El Cerrito needs a better library. But Measure B does not pay for more library hours, computers, librarians, maintenance, upkeep or after-school programs.

Homeowners and renters (and our children) will be paying this bill for over three decades. We deserve an excellent return on our investment. \$30 million is more than twice as much as many recent library projects, and many of those utilized grants from the State Library Bond Act of 2000, funds for which El Cerrito could have applied.

This ballot measure allows the City to build without plans, location or specific agreements with the County for staffing. It should be built for far less than this bond commits. In 2013, the award-winning West Berkeley Public Library was built for \$592 per square foot. Even with inflation, a 21,000 square foot library should only cost about HALF the amount the proponents want you to pay. Why should you pay more?

El Cerrito deserves a library that will serve us well into the future. But there is no need to rush; there will be other opportunities. Measure B is a bond, backed by your taxes. As responsible citizens, we must know what we are paying for. With all the other tax measures and needs for our community, we cannot afford to hand out blank checks. Not now. Not ever.

Let's get the plans and budget right and put this project responsibly on track.

Vote No on Measure B.



Susan L. Pricco

Contra Contra Costa Taxpayers Association
West County Branch Chair