

On June 18, the Board of County Commissioners will discuss two issues that affect the libraries. As supporters of the libraries, we urge the BCC to put the library expansion fund on the ballot for November. We also support the reappointment of Trustee Rogers.

You can show up to make in-person public comment, 6/18 at 10:00 a.m. at 1001 E. Ninth Street, Building A, in the County Commission Chambers,

OR

Make public comment online (before 4 PM on 6/17).

Our talking points and shared values are below - feel free to add your own personal touch! Why are Washoe County libraries important to you?

RENEW WASHOE LIBRARIES

Ask the BCC to put the Renew Washoe County Libraries Resolution on the ballot: (GO TO THE TOP OF ITEM 8 IN THE AGENDA AND CLICK ON "COMMENT")

https://washoe-nv.granicusideas.com/meetings/1858-board-of-county-commissioners-on-2024-06-18-10-00-am/agenda_items/666b106d44253849e9000e24-8-dot-e-2-discussion-and-possible-adoption-of-resolut

We ask that the BCC approve the "Renew Washoe Libraries Resolution," thereby submitting the question to Washoe County voters for the General Election on November 5, 2024.

- The library expansion fund is not a new tax, but is a continuation of a tax override that has existed for the last 30 years.
- This funding source has built many of our libraries, and renovated others. As Washoe County continues to grow, the library system needs to grow to meet the needs of the residents.
- Washoe County libraries play an especially important role in early literacy, a critical issue in Washoe County, where student literacy is below 50%. The libraries host hundreds of literacy events for children each year, and the public values these programs.
- The libraries also play an important role in workforce development and assistance to seniors.
- If the library expansion fund is not renewed, we face cuts to library services including reduced library hours and staffing, and cuts to book and technology budgets.
- The public has shown overwhelming support for libraries by showing up and commenting at library board meetings and commenting on library issues at BCC meetings.

REAPPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEE ROGERS

We support the reappointment of Al Rogers to the library board: (GO TO THE TOP OF ITEM 8 IN THE AGENDA AND CLICK ON "COMMENT")

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We ask the BCC to reappoint Trustee Al Rogers to the Library Board of Trustees.

- Trustee Rogers is one of the most experienced members of the board, which also contains several relatively new members. He has demonstrated an understanding of the role of the board, and of open meeting law.
- Trustee Rogers has emphasized the important role of the board in promoting continued funding of the libraries.

- Trustee Rogers has demonstrated a commonsense approach to the issues that the library board has been facing and has helped the board continue to move forward.