

Wendy M. Lack

April 29, 2011

May 11, 2011
Agenda Item 15

Contra Costa Local Agency Formation Commission
c/o Chairman Michael McGill
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553

Re: Municipal Service Review of County Library Services

Dear Commissioners:

The purpose of this letter is to recommend that LAFCO's forthcoming review of the county library system identify alternative service delivery methods as a means of optimizing scarce financial resources. Specifically, it is suggested that your review of libraries explore privatization of library services as a means of modernizing the county's service delivery to provide greater value to taxpayers.

Many California communities have found that privatization of library service delivery has resulted in both cost savings *and* expanded service hours. Further, privatization of library services is not a new concept – it has been in use in some areas of California for more than a decade.

To date the county Board of Supervisors apparently has been unwilling or unable to explore privatization of county services. In light of the enormous cost savings and service improvements experienced by other communities resulting from privatization of library services, it is appropriate for your forthcoming service review to address this alternative service delivery method. Doing so may help to enlighten the county regarding progressive new methods now available that can offer county residents a bigger bang for the buck.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this suggestion.

Sincerely,



Wendy Lack
Pleasant Hill resident
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