

From: Sarah Gurney [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2026 10:54 AM
To: Jill McLewis <jmclewis@cityofsebastopol.gov>; Sandra Maurer <smaurer@cityofsebastopol.gov>; Neysa Hinton <NHinton@cityofsebastopol.gov>; Phill Carter <pcarter@cityofsebastopol.gov>; Stephen Zollman <szollman@cityofsebastopol.gov>; City Council <citycouncil@cityofsebastopol.gov>
Cc: Mary Gourley <mgourley@cityofsebastopol.gov>; Oriana Hart <ohart@cityofsebastopol.gov>
Subject: SEB CC Mtg July 7, 2026 Public Comment on Items NOT on the Agenda

RE: Crisis of Library Services

Dear Council Members:

The loss of our community living room, in our most visited public building, has negatively affected more people than you might realize. As a retired Council Member, I receive comments and complaints daily.

People need a safe, secure and welcoming place to go, for many reasons. They need an alternate location to settle into, during their day, not only for the information, education, entertainment, programs, activities, and enrichment that our local Library provides but also for the comfort of company and community. Isolation is now a top health concern.

Folks need a place of shelter that is free, where there is no need to buy anything in order to sit a spell, no coffee or cookie.

This need is experienced by all ages, from infants to elders.

I urge you to create satisfactory interim arrangements and, importantly, to think more ambitiously and courageously to improve and expand our local Library services to 21st century standards.

Sebastopol needs a dynamic community Library housed in an adequate facility, more spacious than its current location.

Respectfully,

Sarah Gurney
[REDACTED]