

A FEW KEY POINTS RAISED BY COMMUNITY MEMBERS:

- The Library Board has asked us to vote before knowing the true cost of what the Library will be.
- We won't know the actual committed cost until August! But they want you to vote 'yes' now (?)
- They have an estimate of \$16M, but it is old and does not take into account the inflation rate in construction.
- Building costs face highest inflation in decades – up 20% in 2021 & increasing faster in 2022!
- We will be forced to overpay for a Library that is already oversized and designed extravagantly.
- This has been a flawed process from the start, with only 600 people saying they want a bigger Library out of 19k registered voters. We went from “the Library” is cramped, to a proposal that is 2.5 times as big. The Library Board did not broadly engage the public throughout.
- Designed with NO BUDGET in mind! The Library Board gave a blank slate to the architect and now they want to use YOUR checkbook.
- We are being asked to vote on a one-year budget, but the Library Board is committing taxpayers to a 20-year loan. If this moves forward, and the costs increase for the building – we are on the hook.
- Library Director/Library Board President confirmed no budget given to the architect during recent videotaped Town presentations.
- Library Board unwilling to look at moderate proposals – “all or none” attitude.
- Library Board wants the taxpayer to fund 98% of the cost, as opposed to seeking funding for at least half before coming to the taxpayers.
- The size of the Library is well above what is required to replace our existing Library and meet our needs. Library Board refuses to consider moderate and fiscally responsible proposals.
- They have included a 900' coffee shop. Subsidizing their costs vs. other local coffee shops that pay taxes. Is that fair?
- Library costs and taxes already increasing faster than our paychecks – **up 50% in 4 years!** They used much of that money to spend \$600k to design this and to prepare for construction. Yet, we haven't voted 'yes'. Is that fair?
- Local businesses will have significant TAX increases. Barely recovering from the pandemic and many barely making it.
- Library foot traffic and parking lot usage does NOT support needing this sized library. The Library Board has REFUSED to share the actual Library usage.
- Library Board President said he will not allow an independent review of the usage statistics used to justify the new building.
- This is “Taxation Without Representation”. The Library Board votes for themselves – we taxpayers do not vote for the Library Board. But yet they can tax us?