



## CITY OF FULLERTON

Fullerton Public Library Board of Trustees

September 24, 2020

Hon. Mayor Jennifer Fitzgerald  
Hon. Mayor Pro Tem Jan M. Flory  
Hon. Councilmember Jesus Silva  
Hon. Councilmember Bruce Whitaker  
Hon. Councilmember Ahmad Zahra  
[EvaA@ci.fullerton.ca.us](mailto:EvaA@ci.fullerton.ca.us)

### **Re: Hunt Branch Library Rehabilitation Concerns**

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers:

The Fullerton Library Board of Trustees request that the City take necessary and appropriate steps to ensure that during the process of the rehabilitation of the Hunt Branch Library, the architectural and historical elements of the building and grounds are given due consideration.

Our concern stems from the potential that the unique architectural features of the building may be lost during the rehabilitation process due to oversight or a lack of understanding of the significance of those features by those with whom the City contracts to perform the rehabilitation. Recently the Trustees were given a presentation by the Save The Hunt organization identifying concerns with a rehabilitation process that lacks the oversight of a preservation architect. A lack of such oversight could result in fundamental changes to the building during the rehabilitation that runs contrary to its inclusion in the Register of Historical Places.

We are providing a copy of the presentation given by the Save The Hunt organization regarding these issues. As you know, Save The Hunt has been very active in advocating for the Hunt Branch and has developed the historical knowledge of the building to be able to assess whether the extensive rehabilitation efforts are faithful to the building's original architectural features and fixtures.

In addressing this concern, we believe it would be appropriate for the City to retain a preservation architect to consult on the rehabilitation. Additionally, because of their interest in, passion for, and historical knowledge of the Hunt Branch, the City would be well served by including the Save The Hunt organization as a partner in the rehabilitation process.

### **THE EDUCATION COMMUNITY**

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The City and the councilmembers have taken laudable steps to secure funding for the rehabilitation of the Hunt Branch and undertake the process for its reopening. Having put in such effort and being so close to the goal of rehabilitating and reopening the building, it would be unfortunate if these great accomplishments were overshadowed by public dismay and outcry over rehabilitation work that inadvertently changed or damaged the building's character.

Sincerely,

Joshua Dale

President

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