

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Public Comment](#)
Subject: Public Comment on #11 Tonight
Date: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 11:28:10 PM

Hi – I wasn't able to make a Public Comment so here is what I was planning to say. I have been an active volunteer with Friends of the Library for 21 years and I am also a Commissioner on the North County Library Authority Board. I am speaking tonight because when I mentioned the **Citizen's Petition** supporting the Friends of the Los Altos Library to Gabe, he suggested that it would be helpful to remind the Council of the Citizen's Petition.

Prior to the January 28, 2020 Council meeting, a group of people supporting Friends of the Library voluntarily went door to door in their neighborhoods, as I did, or went downtown during First Friday or stood in the library and explained the situation of the Friends and collected signatures, one at a time, on a petition asking the City for support for the Friends to remain on the Civic Center campus. The over **FOUR THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED (4500+) local signatures** on this petition shows the extreme depth of support the Friends of the Library has within our community.

The Petition reads: *Our Library welcomes an average of 1500 visitors a day who benefit from the programs, books, and services provided by the Friends of the Library. Please show your support of our Library by signing this Petition NOW to urge the Los Altos City Council, City Manager and City Staff to continue providing the Friends of the Library, a valuable City partner, with adequate workspace and storage (minimum 4'x40' portable classroom with utilities and the two existing sheds) near the Library on the Civic Center site, at no cost, as they have supported the Friends for over 44 years.*

We, the undersigned, support the Friends of the Library in their request for work and storage space as defined above.

These are thousands of voices of the people you are there representing.

I had planned to hold up the stack of Petitions, but since there was audio-only and no visual tonight, I counted the pages and there are 351 pages, the vast majority fully filled in with 20 signatures a page. A stack of petitions that is 4 1/2 inches high!

For the January 28th meeting, the Friends of the Library had over 80 people in the audience, and you may remember the 40 plus speakers during Public Comments supporting the Friends. It was illuminating and heartwarming that so many people gave up their evening to show their support of the Friends.

Thank you,

Suzanne Epstein