

April 10, 2015

Cynthia Chadwick
Deputy County Librarian
Alameda County Library
2450 Stevenson Blvd.
Fremont, California

Dear Ms. Chadwick,

My name is Jean Svetik. I am a former Alameda County Library employee, Fremont resident and library patron.

I am writing to you at the suggestion of Josh Thurman in Supervisor Scott Haggerty's office. I had been communicating with him regarding my questions and concerns involving the extreme changes to the libraries and massive quantities of library materials that were destroyed. He was unable to answer some of my questions and referred me to you.

My daughter, Kris, recently attended an ACLAC meeting in San Lorenzo on 4/1/15 and addressed some of my concerns; however, she said no response was provided by you or Ms. Martinez. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to request from you an answer, as recommended by Mr. Thurman, to several questions I've had that, to date, have remained unanswered. They are:

Why wasn't the public consulted and given the opportunity to provide input PRIOR to the implementation of all the drastic changes that have been and are being made within the Alameda County libraries?

Who, specifically, made the decision to discard and toss thousands of library books into recycling dumpsters without first attempting to redistribute them to needy individuals and communities?

When will the new discard policy be completed? Will it be posted on the Alameda County homepage? If not, will it be available to the public to request and review? Will there be complete transparency as to what is being discarded and redistributed, and what is being recycled into pulp? Will this information be posted and/or available on a regular basis, such as monthly or quarterly?

I would appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Jean Svetik