

# The Library Reform Group

November 9, 2008

Councilman Terrance M. Hassett  
15 Higgins Avenue  
Providence RI 02908

Dear Councilman Hassett:

On behalf of the Library Reform Group, I want to thank you for your steadfast support of the library patrons throughout the City.

I appreciate your working to improve the Library Agreement to ensure that it contains a viable Escape Clause, should Providence Public Library be unable to propose a "sustainable" library system for the future that protects comprehensive services and programs for city residents throughout all areas of Providence.

While we hope that PPL will find a way to maintain at least the current level of branch services in the years to come, we are aware that the Library is giving serious consideration to reducing the number of branches it plans to keep open, perhaps limiting the neighborhood library system to just three branches. Should the Library's Board of Trustees decide by December 31 that it is prepared to close several existing branches, we stand ready to assist you in developing an alternative branch library system for the City of Providence that will ensure the continuation of full library services at all of the present branches. We have already begun to work on a plan for maintaining the current level of services and programs at all nine neighborhood branches, and we are convinced that this is financially and administratively feasible.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the importance of our library to all Providence residents, and thank you for your patience and persistence in protecting our libraries.

Sincerely,



Patricia Raub  
Chair, Library Reform Group