

**From:** William Ortner <[ortnerortner@yahoo.com](mailto:ortnerortner@yahoo.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, January 16, 2017 12:29 PM

**To:** Mayor

**Cc:** Carl Finger; Marc Samwick

**Subject:** Library Funding

Dear Mayor Mark:

I had only been following discussions about the library rebuilding project casually, as it seemed like the voters would be able to decide via referendum whether they supported having the village bond a large portion of the cost. I was surprised to recently learn that the Board had already voted to proceed with the bond without a referendum, when other more critical budgetary matters--like school funding--require a referendum. I believe that the projected costs of rebuilding the library exceed what Scarsdale citizens should support, and would like to see the question put to us. I believe one of the Trustees raised concerns about the project, dissenting from what would typically be a unanimous vote.

In reading a little more about the project, it struck me that it contains a lot of elements of the failed Scarsdale Community Center idea (without the pool). At one point, the group pushing that idea proposed putting the SCC right between the library and the high school. I don't know who is pushing for the library rebuild, but I wouldn't be surprised if there is overlap with the SCC. One of the biggest issues with putting the SCC next to the library and high school was the amount of traffic that would attract to an already busy residential area. The library rebuild would likely cause some of the same problems because the plans call for commercial events to be held there day and night.

Please consider taking this issue to a broader group of citizens to ensure that support exists for it.

Thanks.

Regards,

Bill Ortner  
Butler Road