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NATURAL RESOURCES

April 26, 2016

Paula Bosel
Friends of Woodland Community Library
P O Box 894
Woodland, WA 98674

Ms. Bosel,

The purpose of this letter is to express my support for the Friends of Woodland Community Library proposal to construct a new library in Woodland.

While some may question construction of a new library during the age of the internet and e-books, I believe libraries will forever play an important role in the lives of our youth and adults. The fact that there will always be those in our communities who lack the resources to provide their own computers or internet service is only one reason why libraries will remain an important part of any community. Many who live out of city limits struggle to access the internet at adequate speeds to conduct research, so will need a location that not only offers high speed internet and computers, but librarians who can help point them in the right direction and help determine which key words will get them the best results or which sites are credible and which are not.

Libraries also provide other learning opportunities for individuals and groups. Many programs help with research techniques but also with basic reading skills, book discussion groups, story time to spark a child's imagination, and other important programs. And it is a great way to build social skills by reading with others.

And, yes, books. Books should always be available to our citizens and will always be an important part of our heritage.

As part of the Fort Vancouver Regional Library District, a new library would provide access to a wide variety of services and books for the residents of the Woodland area, leveraging much benefit with little cost.

For these reasons, I am pleased to express my support for construction of a new library in Woodland. I believe it is a great investment for those wishing to invest in our citizens and our community.

Sincerely,

Ed Orcutt