Help us Save our library

**Attend October 18 City Council meeting**

Escondido **Mayor** **Sam Abed and Councilmembers Ed Gallo and John Masson** voted to move forward to outsource operations of the Escondido Public Library to the private, for-profit, out-of-state corporation Library Systems and Services (LS&S) which specializes in taking over failing libraries. But, ours isn’t failing. Outsourcing would spell the end of our library as we know it. The final decision will be made Oct. 18 and will be in effect for at least 10 years.

**Please attend this hearing** and join over 3,000 residents already opposing outsourcing the library because:

* We would lose local control of an important city resource.
* Our local tax $$ would go to a corporate organization in Maryland, not stay here in our community.
* No alternatives (there are many) were publicly evaluated so that the best option could be selected.
* This action will further divide the community and erode support for a bond for a new library.
* This action will cause a loss of volunteers, donations, and skilled library personnel.
* Outsourcing is opposed by the Escondido Library Board of Trustees and American Library Association.
* The contract is for 10-20 years and is too vague to be effectively monitored.

Our library is more than a building; it is the programs and people who make it the soul of the community. We need to preserve our library as a true community resource, responsive to the needs of our residents. Outsourcing is the WRONG way to go.

**The final vote is Wednesday, October 18 at 4:30**

**CONTACT Mayor Sam Abed, Ed Gallo, and John Masson**.

[SAbed@escondido.org](mailto:SAbed@escondido.org) [EGallo@escondido.org](mailto:EGallo@escondido.org) [JMasson@escondido.org](mailto:JMasson@escondido.org)

Email them all at once using this link: <https://www.escondido.org/city-council-contact-us.aspx>

**Ask them to:**

* VOTE NO on the LS&S contract.
* Ask for alternatives at least from current library department and county through a public process.
* Impanel a Budget Committee to develop a comprehensive, sustainable plan to address the pension crisis and the paydown of pension liability

**ATTEND COUNCIL MEETING**

Wednesday, October 18, 4:30 PM

201 North Broadway, Council Chambers

Escondido

**TALK to your friends and neighbors and ask them to attend.** Help Save our Library services!

**For more info:** <https://www.escondidoindivisible.com/2017/07/24/on-the-issue-escondido-public-library-privatization/> **Email us at** [SaveEscondidoLibrary@gmail.com](mailto:SaveEscondidoLibrary@gmail.com)