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#### Comments:

As the Library Director of the Rio Rancho Public Libraries, I would like to comment on agenda item #8 Resolution No. 8-6-20.8 for Issuing the 2020 Library General Obligation Bonds.

Rio Rancho, which makes up 68% of the County's entire population, is the largest property tax base that funds bonds, and has greatest population of library users, should logically, and is justified to receive, a majority of any County Library Bond proceeds. This has normally been the case as the 2006, 2010, and 2014 library bonds all provided approximately \$1.9 million to Rio Rancho, or more than 50% of available proceeds.

In 2018, curiously and with no warning, the County originally attempted to reduce Rio Rancho's historical allocation of \$1.9 million down to \$1.2 million. After Mayor Hull raised concerns with the original proposal, the County raised the allocation to \$1.5 million. After all was said and done, Rio Rancho only received 45% of available 2018 bond proceeds.

What the County is proposing to provide Rio Rancho from the 2020 Bond is \$456,099 or 24% of available bond proceeds, and is below what the City requested. While \$456,099 keeps Rio Rancho's allocation similar to past 4-year funding cycles, I cannot stress enough that keeping Rio Rancho's funding flat is not addressing natural increases in costs outside of the library's control, nor the evolving needs of libraries over time. As such, if only \$456,099 is allocated and approved, Rio Rancho library materials and services will be reduced. Furthermore, Rio Rancho Public Libraries will be in jeopardy of meeting State Grants in Aid eligibility criteria in relation to spending formulas. The consequences of not meeting the minimum expenditures will mean Rio Rancho Public Libraries will not qualify for state or federal funding for library collections, a further reduction of Rio Rancho library services.

With a 2018 and 2020 bond cycle, more funding is now available for County libraries over a four-year period than ever before. However, Rio Rancho taxpayers and their libraries are not the beneficiaries, and, in fact, will experience a reduction in materials and services.

Thank you.