

## **Libraries and Parks Improvement Act**

A statement of the reasons of the proposed action as contemplated in the petition is as follows:

The Libraries and Parks for All citizens' initiative will help to fix our crumbling libraries and parks and ensure these public resources can meet the needs of our growing community.

Well operated and maintained public libraries, parks, and recreation centers are a core part of San Diego's civic and cultural fabric. They are essential to providing vital resources to our community such as safe and enriching afterschool programs for children; computer and internet connections for low-income families; resources that enhance the active lives of seniors and prevent social isolation; and assistance for individuals experiencing homelessness through access to social services, employment, and housing opportunities.

The City of San Diego spends 30 percent less per resident on library services than the California state average. Many libraries are in poor condition and need critical repairs and modernization to help children, families, and seniors continue to access free educational programs, technology, library materials, and community gathering places.

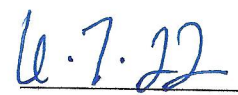
Many local parks are in poor condition and require essential repairs due to a lack of investment. A recent assessment of park conditions conducted by the Parks and Recreation Department found that there is a significant backlog of concerning park repairs and not enough funding to do the work.

This is why families, seniors, and residents like you are coming together to invest in the future of our communities with a plan that includes citizen oversight, fiscal accountability, public audits, and strong protections to ensure the City of San Diego invests in our libraries and parks – ensuring the resources necessary to create a healthy environment, safe and vibrant public spaces, and economic and educational opportunities for all.

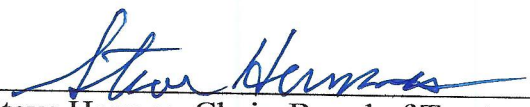
Libraries and Parks Improvement Act – Statement of Reasons



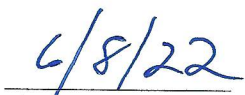
Patrick Stewart, Chief Executive Officer  
San Diego Public Libraries Foundation  
330 Park Blvd.  
San Diego, CA 92101



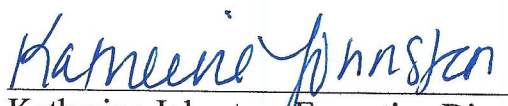
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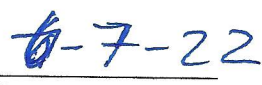
Steve Hermes, Chair, Board of Trustees  
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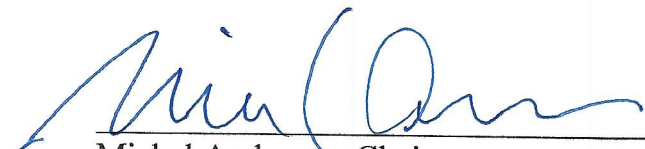
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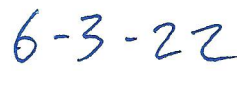
Katherine Johnston, Executive Director  
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Date



Michel Anderson, Chair  
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Date