

Dear Lompoc City Council,

I am writing to express my strong support for the approval of a full-time Library Assistant I position to support and expand the Charlotte's Web Bookmobile services.

As detailed in the proposal, this new role is crucial for meeting the growing demand for bookmobile stops and school visits, enabling the launch of a monthly rotation to 14 Lompoc preschools, and expanding the valuable teen volunteer program. They have had great success in outreach for our youth at events like Bubbles and Books at Ryon Park and the Old Town Market.

It is important to note that this position, along with the bookmobile and its current staff, is fully funded through the Charlotte Benton Trust. The Trust's board has already approved the funding, ensuring there will be no impact on the City's General Fund.

Literacy and access to books are fundamental to the development of a thriving community. They foster a love of learning, encourage critical thinking, and provide opportunities for personal growth and educational advancement for residents of all ages. Recent events have made it evident that literacy, independent thinking, and honest, informed discourse are sorely needed to begin stitching humanity back together, to end violence, and the silencing of different opinions. We can start healing our communities here, in our amazing little city, with our wonderful youth. By supporting the bookmobile's expansion, we are investing in the intellectual vibrancy and overall well-being of Lompoc.

The bookmobile provides vital access to books in our community, and the addition of this position will significantly enhance its reach and positive impact. Your approval will allow the bookmobile to better serve the needs of Lompoc residents.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

Megan Raff

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