



City of
SANTA CLARITA
PUBLIC LIBRARY

August 4, 2017

Mr. Jeffrey Epp
City Manager
City of Escondido
201 North Broadway
Escondido, CA 92025

Dear Mr. Epp,

I have been a Library Director with Library System & Services since 2015 and I am writing to share my experience. I am a PhD in Public Affairs and spent many years working for a municipal library, where I felt the library was limited in its ability to be responsive to community needs and lacking opportunities for aspiring library professionals. Since deciding to join LS&S, I have held two Library Director positions – previously at Simi Valley Public Library and currently at Santa Clarita Public Library. When approached by LS&S leadership to take on my current role in Santa Clarita, I was thrilled to have the opportunity to move from a single branch to a multi-branch system and take on a new set of challenges.

The one aspect of LS&S that I have found most inspiring is that I am surrounded by a strong group of talented library professionals that are motivated to work hard, serve the community, and make a difference. Library Directors and staff are empowered with local control and responsibility, allowing us to be adaptive and responsive to the communities we serve. The impact is amazing. By collecting input from residents and creating and executing a strategic plan, I have seen vast improvements in programming, collections and materials, technology access, space usage and community building. I have watched the libraries become a more integral and active part of the community.

LS&S supports and cultivates its employees, enabling them to experience and become knowledgeable in many different areas of the library. As evidenced by my own growth, LS&S offers opportunities for career development, movement between all LS&S libraries and upward mobility. Our staff is supported in every way to ensure that our libraries provide the best services to patrons and local communities we serve.

I am proud to work for LS&S and foresee many opportunities ahead to continue doing the great work that we do to ensure libraries remain a vital resource.

Canyon Country JoAnne Darcy Library • 18601 Soledad Canyon Road • Santa Clarita, CA 91351

Old Town Newhall Library • 24500 Main Street • Santa Clarita, CA 91321

Valencia Library • 23743 W. Valencia Boulevard • Santa Clarita, CA 91355



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Sincerely,

Matthew Hortt, PhD.
City Librarian
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