

August 6, 2017

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

Dear Mr. Epp,

As an employee of Library Systems & Services since 2011, I enjoy a career as a librarian that is both rewarding for me and productive for the community. There are numerous examples of how the company fulfills its mission of keeping libraries as a vital part of a community, but let me focus on two in particular.

For example, LS&S gives its libraries the autonomy to make decisions in the best interest of the community. On a day-to-day level, this means we can buy supplies from local vendors for the best price, so the community gets the best value. On a higher level, LS&S gave me the authority to proceed with a project that will turn an underused storage area into a new reading space—and save hundreds of thousands of dollars off the initial estimate.

On a personal level, LS&S has enriched my career by giving me access to the best librarians in the business. I was introduced to the company by Texas State Librarian, Mark Smith, and I've learned from the leadership team including Regional Director Barbara Howison of Riverside, California. Equally as important is how I've been able to mentor others such as the staff member who created the first seed lending library in the Upland, California area. I worked with her to create the program that lets residents take organic seeds, grow the fruits and flowers, and then bring back new seeds for others. I invite any local government with a public library to contact LS&S and learn how it adds to communities. And I encourage librarians to consider that the most important part of our job is delivering exceptional service to patrons regardless of whether that's accomplished through a government agency or private company.

Respectfully,



Yuri Hurtado  
Director  
Upland Public Library