

*Obtained under the Public Records Act, the following message from Cornwall of the City Budget Office to Belz and Lee of the City Council central staff shows the successful effort to eliminate from what would appear on the ballot, language that would have committed the Mayor and City Council to “ensuring libraries remain open” (i.e. not to close branch libraries) or even “maintaining and improving essential services” if the levy is passed. Later, even the words “increasing operating hours in 2013” were deleted. (“Marilyn” is the Library’s chief financial officer. “MT” is Marcus Turner, the City Librarian. “Julie” and “Ainsley” are the Mayor’s aides. “Conlin” is Councilmember Richard Conlin. “Law” is the City Attorney’s office).*

**From:** Cornwall, Catherine  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 07, 2012 3:46 PM  
**To:** Belz, Sara; Lee, Patricia (LEG)  
**Cc:** Stickel, Karl  
**Subject:** RE: library levy title language

I totally agree about the word “ensure.” Thanks for catching that. What would you think about the language below? I’m also calling Eve and Marilynne to check in with them.

Also, do you know if CM Conlin and Julie were able to connect with MT this morning?

The City of Seattle's Proposition xxx concerns increasing library collections, increasing operating hours in 2013, and maintaining and improving Library services.

**From:** Belz, Sara  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 07, 2012 3:31 PM  
**To:** Cornwall, Catherine; Lee, Patricia (LEG)  
**Cc:** Stickel, Karl  
**Subject:** RE: library levy title language

The word “ensure” gives me heartburn. Per Law’s recommendation, we also need to remove the word “essential” from the ballot language.

**From:** Cornwall, Catherine  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 07, 2012 3:07 PM  
**To:** Lee, Patricia (LEG); Belz, Sara  
**Cc:** Stickel, Karl  
**Subject:** FW: library levy title language

Hi Sara and Patricia – after this morning’s meeting, Ainsley suggested we tweak the language in the ordinance for the suggested ballot wording. What do you think of the proposed language? Catherine

THE CITY OF SEATTLE

PROPOSITION NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

REGULAR TAX LEVY INCLUDING SEATTLE PUBLIC LIBRARIES

The City of Seattle's Proposition xxx concerns increasing library collections, ensuring libraries remain open, and maintaining and improving essential Library services. This proposition would fund Library services as provided in Ordinance xxx. It authorizes regular property taxes above RCW 84.55 limits, allowing additional 2013 collection of up to \$17,000,000 (approximately \$0.14/\$1000 assessed value) and up to \$122,630,099 over seven years. In 2013, total City taxes collected would not exceed \$3.60 per \$1,000 of assessed value.

Should this levy be approved? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No