

My name is Lori Rotterman, President of the Dayton Metro Library Staff Association, and it is in that capacity which I speak to you today.

The Library is now focusing on plans for reopening and have shared a draft document regarding reopening with all staff; therefore, the union would like to request the opportunity to have input in the planning process before these plans are finalized.

Our members are very happy that we have been able to return to work. We are also glad that the Library has returned to providing services to our patrons, even though our doors are closed, through provision of virtual services and curbside pickup. Many staff are eager to contribute more fully to our virtual programming services and look forward to the opportunity to do so.

While we understand the Library's wish to reopen to the public, we want to ask that the health and safety of everyone concerned, both patrons and staff, be at the forefront of any decisions which are made. The Library is in a unique position of public trust, and we could model what responsible actions for reopening look like to the community. Southwest Ohio has already seen an increase in cases following the reopening of businesses. Montgomery County is currently #21 in Ohio for cases per 100k population, but is #9 for percentage daily increase in cases, and some staff fear the dangers inherent in reopening without adequate safety precautions in place.

The Union appreciates the fact that we were invited to participate in the plans for staff returning to work and for instituting curbside pickup, and we have requested that we also be included in plans for reopening to the public, due to the fact that there are many aspects regarding reopening which affect the terms and conditions of our employment. We hope that DMLSA will be allowed an opportunity to more fully participate in the planning process and to offer possible suggestions for improvements and additional alternatives.

Thank you for your time and consideration today.