

200 N Alpine Parkway Oregon, WI 53575 OregonPublicLibrary.org (608) 835-3656

April 4, 2024

Tracy Herold, Director
Dane County Library Service
1874 South Stoughton Rd.
Madison, WI 53716

Dear Tracy,

This letter is to formally request that the Dane County Library Board grant a one year County Library tax provisional exemption to the Oregon Public Library. The Oregon Public Library passed a resolution requesting this exemption at its April 10, 2024 meeting.

The Oregon Public Library completed construction of a new public library facility in 2023. This new space will allow us to better serve our community into the future. The Oregon Public Library was closed from December 10, 2023 - January 4, 2024 to allow for the necessary work of moving the entire library and workflows to the new facility (along with paid Village holidays).

As you know, because of this temporary closure the Oregon Public Library did not meet the Dane County standard for open hours in 2023 as reported in our annual report. The Oregon Public Library was open 2,891 hours in 2023; to meet standards, the minimum number of hours would need to have been 2,985 – a difference of 94 hours. Had the Oregon Public Library been open its regular business hours (59 hours per week) without this important temporary closure, it would have fully met the standards. This anomaly was entirely related to our one-time closure to move facilities and we fully intend to meet this standard for 2024 and future years.

We thank you for your consideration on this matter and invite you to visit our new library.

Sincerely,

Laura Shtaida

Library Board President

Jennifer Endres Way

Library Director