



Rochester Public Library

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August 22, 2008

Teri Hill
c/o SELCO
2600 19th Street NW
Rochester MN 55901

Dear Teri,

At the July meeting of the Rochester Public Library (RPL) board, it was unanimously decided to endorse the SELCO Advisory Committee Statement on Structure Study.

Board members question the real value of the merger given that the forecasted \$22,000 in savings will likely be eclipsed by time and resources spent lobbying the Legislature for a change in the statute. In addition, we are concerned about the level of discord surrounding the proposed merger. It is not clear to us why SELCO would promote such a significant change without full consent of its member libraries.

The RPL board is in total agreement that SELS member libraries serve an extremely important need in our communities, but we do not understand the need to merge two organizations with different missions and widely-disparate budgets.

We look forward to a continued dialogue at the August 28 meeting.

Sincerely,

Deborah Westerland
President, Rochester Public Library Board

cc: Ann Hutton
Stevan Kvenvold
Richard Devlin