

City of Hamilton  
Ed VanderWindt, Chief Building Official  
Mayor Fred Eisenberger and Members of Council

To all interested parties,

Please accept this submission from MasonryWorx respecting the proposed new Valley Park Branch Library.

MasonryWorx is Ontario's professional association representing the brick, block and stone industry. This letter is not intended to be part of a procurement process and is not a submission or a response to a request for proposals; we are not a contractor and are not bidding on any project.

Instead, in our capacity as citizens and members of the business community within Ontario and the GTHA, we wish to voice our support for the construction of the new library branch. Major infrastructure projects such as libraries become local centrepieces which define neighbourhoods for generations. They help build tomorrow's heritage communities, today.

A municipality's sense of place comes from its distinct architectural character. Many of Ontario's most notable surviving heritage buildings are masonry structures. These long-lasting, resilient buildings become more than just buildings – they are local landmarks. Libraries in particular are important, beloved elements of complete communities, serving as community hubs.

Taxpayers expect not only high-quality civil services and civic buildings, but also an approach to public projects which respects local economic development and builds communities with an enduring sense of place. Local, resilient and sustainable Ontario masonry delivers on all fronts. Municipalities can realize savings in maintenance and replacement costs when civic buildings are resilient, attractive and easy to maintain.

Masonry is a local material, and building with it supports local Ontario businesses. By making use of high-quality Ontario masonry, you have the opportunity to support Ontario jobs and strengthen industry while also choosing sustainable, natural building products. Most municipalities, including Hamilton, are close enough to masonry manufacturers to realize carbon savings by reducing how far the product is transported to reach the site.

Ontario's masonry industry alone supports more than 14,000 jobs and contributes \$1.3 billion to Ontario's economy.

On behalf of our members, we urge you to choose Ontario masonry as the primary building material for the new library branch.

Yours,



Andrew Payne, Executive Director  
MasonryWorx