

Youth & Education Committee

June 4, 2012

Resolution in support for the continued postponement of the renovation of Stephen A. Schwarzman New York Public Library and the sale of Mid-Manhattan Library and Science Industry Business Library (SIBL) under the “Central Library Plan (CPL)”

WHEREAS: In March 2008 NYPL announced its proposal to renovate the Stephen A. Schwarzman Building at Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street as the Central Library Plan; and

WHEREAS: The Central Library Plan also plans to sell the Mid-Manhattan Library and Science Industry Business Library (SIBL) and integrate those services in the Stephen A. Schwarzman Building; and

WHEREAS: Central Library Plan will cost \$300 million dollars, \$150 million dollars in taxpayer funds; and

WHEREAS: Since the announcement, the Central Library Plan has been postponed due to New York City budget cuts; and

WHEREAS: The Library system has been cut \$20.7 million since Fiscal Year 2008, and there is a proposed \$43 million cut on the table this year; and

WHEREAS: If the current proposed cuts are not reversed 12 neighborhood branches could possibly close; average days of services per week could drop from six or seven days to four; there would be 21,600 fewer job counseling slots, and 682 jobs eliminated; and

WHEREAS: The New York Public Library has an online campaign to voice your opinion on the current cuts to Libraries at <http://www.nypl.org/speakout/letter>; and

WHEREAS: Community Board 12-Manhattan is in general support of all plans that will improve and expand access to libraries in every community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: Community Board 12-Manhattan calls upon the Mayor and the City Council to continue the postponement of the Central Library Plan until such a time when other libraries are not facing closures; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The Mayor and City Council move forward on the plan after conducting an Economic Impact Study on the impact of the Central Library Plan on other libraries; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: the City Council conduct borough-wide public hearings on the issue.

This resolution was approved by the following vote:

Committee Members	4-0-0-0
Other Board Members	1-0-0-1 (not voting due to employment by the DOE)
Public Member	1-0-0-0