



8/21/2025

Dear Buchanan City Commissioners,

As you know, during our recent millage renewal, questions were raised by concerned citizens about this line in our ballot language:

By law, a portion of the revenue from the millage may be subject to capture by the City of Buchanan Brownfield Redevelopment Authority.

We knew this language was legally required to be included in our ballot proposal, but we also believed that there were no captures happening currently (and that there had not been for many years, if ever). No record of notice of captures could be found, and a board member who has served for decades had no memory of previous captures. In an effort to confirm what we thought we knew, we reached out to City Treasurer, Deb Perez. We were surprised to learn that Brownfield captures of Library millage funds have happened as recently as 2023.

We understand that the City has no legal obligation to inform the Library or taxpayers when these captures occur, but we are requesting to enter into a formal agreement with the City to be informed of future Brownfield captures. We appreciate our good relationship with City employees and the Treasurer's quick response to answer our questions when asked. However, we would prefer to be informed as soon as captures occur rather than only learning of them if we ask. The Buchanan District Library does not have the ability to opt out of Brownfield captures, so it is important for us to be aware of them as early as possible.

We appreciate your cooperation in this matter and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Meg Paulette
Library Director

Molly Thornton
Library Board President