

Keep Our Library — Vote “No” on Proposition 2

Proposition 2 seeks to dissolve the Columbia County Rural Library District. Dissolution would *eliminate all library funding*. The Dayton Memorial Library would close. All books and other printed material would—in accordance with state law—be sent to the State Library in Olympia. Citizens of Columbia County would lose the library services they now rely on.

Funded by the City of Dayton, the Dayton Memorial Library opened its doors in 1937. Decades later, economic conditions threatened its closure. To keep—and fund—a community resource they valued, rural county voters approved the creation of the Columbia County Rural Library District in 2005. Their commitment to the greater good sent a clear message: To strengthen the social and economic fabric of our community, Columbia County makes literacy and life-long learning a priority for all its citizens.

Dayton city voters agreed. In 2009 they approved their city’s annexation to the district. With this broader base of stable funding, the district invested in repairs and upgrades to the historic Dayton Memorial Library building, increased library hours, and expanded services—including reducing the digital divide by making computers, tablets, printers, copiers, a fax machine, and internet access available to all.

In 2005, Columbia County’s rural voters affirmed the importance of having a library with the financial means, vision, and leadership necessary to keep pace with our community’s 21st-century needs. *On November 7, rural voters can reaffirm that commitment: Vote “No” on Proposition 2.*

