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OF

THE CITY OF NEW YORK

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June 13, 2022

Tony Marx
President and CEO
The New York Public Library
Stephen A. Schwarzman Building
Fifth Avenue & 42nd Street
New York, NY 10018

Dear Mr. Marx,

I write on behalf of constituents to request that the planned temporary closure of the St. Agnes Library, located at 444 Amsterdam Avenue, be postponed.

Last Wednesday, June 8 my staff saw a notice at St. Agnes, detailing a June 27 temporary closure to facilitate floor replacement and repairs throughout the building. Patrons were directed to visit either the Bloomingdale (150 West 100 Street) or Riverside (127 Amsterdam Avenue) libraries.

We then learned that the Bloomingdale Library experienced an unexpected massive flood on that same evening, June 8. NYPL staff said that due to the damage and repairs needed, the branch will need to be closed for approximately 4 to 6 weeks, diverting alternate services to Riverside for the duration. The closest location to the north is Morningside Heights Library, located at 2900 Broadway.

While there is no convenient time to close a library, so many New Yorkers of all ages rely on these West Side libraries staying open during the summer (and not just for the air conditioning). It is particularly concerning then for two libraries to be closed to patrons over these next several months. Please postpone the planned closure of St. Agnes until Bloomingdale reopens.

Thank you for your attention to this issue.

Sincerely,

Gale A. Brewer
Council Member 6th District