



# Councillor Suzan Hall

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## MEMO

**To:** Councillor David Soknacki  
Chair, Budget Advisory Committee

**From:** Councillor Suzan Hall

**cc:** Toronto Public Library Board

**Re:** Albion Library, Capital Budget

**Date:** June 12, 2006

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As outlined in the 2007-2015 Capital Budget, the Albion Library will be undergoing a \$5.1 million retrofit, scheduled to begin in 2011, to ensure that the Library can better serve the public. This District Library is one of the busiest in the City, serving an at-risk community with a large percentage of youths and newcomers to Canada.

The Albion Library is one of the most important focal points in my ward as it has done a great job of providing essential services to the abutting community. Along with its multi-lingual collection and its focus on services to youth, it offers vital literacy, educational and community programs. The library has been a cornerstone of this community for 40 years, over 30 in its current location, but lacks a community theatre to accommodate the heavy demand for such spaces.

Many community groups such as Urban Noise have no choice but to rent theatre spaces elsewhere at high rents when they would prefer to work in their own community. The youth of Etobicoke North have the skills and talent but require suitable community space to further their development. As part of its renovation, an expansion of the Albion Library to include a theatre would respond to this need.

I am kindly asking that the Budget Advisory Committee in consultation with the Toronto Public Library Board authorize staff to move up the Albion Library renovation and look into the feasibility and costs of a community theatre for the Library as part of the 2007-2010 Capital Budget.

Thank you for your consideration.

Suzan Hall  
Councillor, Ward 1 - Etobicoke North