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108 Silver Cedar Lane
Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514
August 2, 2002

Mayor Kevin Foy
Town of Chapel Hill
Chapel Hill, N. C.

Dear Kevin,

We appreciated the call from Michelle about our request to lower the Public Library's Interlibrary Loan fee. We will not be in town to attend the Town Council's August 26 meeting and see no need for our being there for the Council to consider the request.

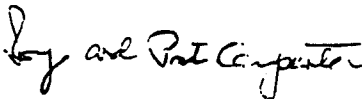
It might be useful for you to share with the Council that it is fairly customary to charge no fee for interlibrary loans – there is no charge at the Carrboro or Hillsborough public libraries nor is there any fee at UNC-Chapel Hill Academic Affairs Library.

The bulk of public library interlibrary loan requests are for fairly ordinary books, nothing very special or exotic. No library is expected to have all the materials that patrons can reasonably expect, and the interlibrary loan system is encouraged to allow for cooperation among libraries to share materials and reduce the need for purchases, thereby maintaining a degree of cost effectiveness while enhancing public service.

Any increase in this fee seems a questionable way to raise additional revenue. It would likely reduce the number of loans and thus fail to meet some patrons' needs without much benefit to the general fund.

This is hardly a world-shaking issue, and we hope that the Council can reconsider it without undue effort for them or the Town Manager. Please convey our special thanks to Michelle for her kind and courteous call.

Best wishes,



Ray and Pat Carpenter