



**Board of Chosen Freeholders**

County of Hunterdon  
71 Main Street, Building #1  
PO Box 2900  
Flemington, NJ 08822-2900

**MEDIA RELEASE**

---

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE: May 30, 2018**

**Contact: Suzanne Lagay, Freeholder Deputy Director**

[slagay@co.hunterdon.nj.us](mailto:slagay@co.hunterdon.nj.us)

**South County Library May Be Headed Back To East Amwell**

East Amwell Mayor Tim Mathews recommended that the Hunterdon County Library branch in South County be re-located back to 1103 Old York Road in Ringoes, during an appearance at the Freeholder meeting on May 29<sup>th</sup>.

Freeholder Board Deputy Director Suzanne Lagay, liaison to the Library Commission, noted, "Use of the South County Library has dropped by nearly 60% since the move to away from Ringoes, according to data provided by the Library Director. The South County branch needs to be more available to residents."

South County library usage dropped from 106,731 in 2011, the last full year the facility was located in Ringoes, to 44,089 in 2017, according to library provided data.

Lagay added, "Mayor Mathews' recommendation of re-locating the branch back to its former home is a significantly better plan than was proposed by the East Amwell administration last year, which the Library Commission rejected.

With the support of my colleagues on the Board, I will recommend the new plan to the Library Commission."

Freeholder Board Director Matt Holt stated, "The County Administrator is in contact with the owners of the property at 1103 Old York Road and we believe an appropriate agreement can be reached between the County, the Library Commission, and the property owner."

Mayor Mathews said, "There is a great deal of support in East Amwell for the return of the library. We appreciate the Freeholders giving this matter serious consideration."