



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Michael Gianaris

Senate Deputy Leader Gianaris Calls On Savanna To Extend Lease With Court Square Library Through December 2020

MICHAEL GIANARIS February 12, 2020

| ISSUE: **COURT SQUARE LIBRARY, COURT SQUARE, LONG ISLAND CITY, LIBRARIES, QUEENS**



LONG ISLAND CITY, N.Y. – Senate Deputy Leader Michael Gianaris called on the owners of Savanna Realty to extend the library’s lease until a permanent home is secured. Without an extension of their lease, the library is slated to close their doors to the public on Saturday.

“This library is a critical asset to Long Island City and this company should be able to extend their lease, for even a few more months, to facilitate continuity of services while a

permanent home is found,” said **Senate Deputy Leader Michael Gianaris**. “The Court Square Library plays an important role for a growing neighborhood and I will do everything I can to ensure its continuing presence in our community in a permanent home.”

Senator Gianaris has been working with Queens Public Library leaders and Court Square community advocates to keep the library’s doors open longer. Through Senator Gianaris’ pressure, the library received an earlier extension through this month preventing their initially planned 2019 closure.

Senator Gianaris’ full letter appears below:

February 11, 2020

Brian Reiver, Managing Director

Savanna

430 Park Avenue, 12th Floor

New York, New York 10022

Dear Mr. Reiver,

I write urging you to extend the lease of your building at 25-01 Jackson Avenue with the Queens Public Library through December 31, 2020. This library is a critical asset to our community and cannot afford for it to cease operations just this weekend.

With more time, we will be able to partner with neighbors, community groups, and various government agencies to find a long term home for the library. Extending the lease from its current March 31 termination will allow for continuity of service for library patrons who rely on this facility.

I urge you to consider this short lease extension. This library is a public good and the neighborhood deserves continued access to this important resource.

Please do not hesitate to reach out directly should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Senator Michael Gianaris

Deputy Majority Leader