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CITY OF OAKLAND COUNCIL BUDGET MEETING

MAY 27, 2011

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MS. BLOCH: Good evening. My name is Helen Bloch. I am an Oakland resident, Oakland homeowner, Oakland taxpayer. I am an employee for the City of Oakland, and a proud member of 1021 SEIU, and most importantly --

(applause)

MS. BLOCH: -- most importantly, I am a voter in Oakland.

I have some petition signatures to present to the council.

For the last two weeks, a collection of volunteers have been collecting petition signatures for people who are outraged at the idea that any of the Oakland Public Library locations may be closed.

These petitions have been collected by volunteers during a two-week time period and more are coming.

I have a total of 5,511 signatures.

(applause)

MS. BLOCH: I have a total of 5,511 signatures of outraged voters.

5,511 may be just a number, but in terms of things that you can better visualize, if each of those 5,511 people were given one minute of speaking time, we would be here for 91.85 hours, so I am speaking on their behalf. I don't think any of us want to be here that long.

5,511 people. If we stood hand-in-hand, would make

