



MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

ROGER BERLINER
COUNCILMEMBER
DISTRICT 1

CHAIRMAN
TRANSPORTATION, INFRASTRUCTURE
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

February 26, 2013

Ms. Parker Hamilton, Director
Montgomery County Public Libraries
21 Maryland Avenue, 3rd Floor #310
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Ms. Hamilton:

Recently, I have received a number of messages from constituents in enthusiastic support of the Poolesville Library. They conveyed to me how much they appreciate the friendly and helpful staff, the children's programming, and how convenient it is to have a branch located in the Town.

It has not been an easy road for any County department the last few years, but as you know, the effects of the economic downturn have been particularly painful for Montgomery County Public Libraries. I am very pleased that last year the County Executive recommended strategic restorations to the MCPL budget – and even more pleased that the County Council exceeded his recommendations by adding additional resources for materials. A thriving library system, to me, is one of the pillars of any great community.

I do hope that as you and the County Executive consider the Fiscal Year 2014 budget for MCPL, you will consider making a modest addition to the amount of public service hours (PSH) at the Poolesville branch. Excluding Noyes Children's Library, Poolesville has the fewest PSH of any branch in the County. As we begin to make restorations across the system's budget, it seems to me that, at the very least, aligning Poolesville's PSH (currently 42 a week) with the other branches most comparable in circulation (currently 46 a week) would be a small step that we could take to enhance library service for our constituents in Poolesville. Given Poolesville's geographic situation in the County, and the distance to the next-closest library alternative, ensuring that the branch's hours meet the needs of our constituents in Poolesville is all the more important.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this request and for your dedication to the County's wonderful library system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Roger Berliner".

Roger Berliner
District 1

CC: Jerry Klobukowski, Commissioner, Town of Poolesville
Jennifer Hughes, Director, Office of Management and Budget
Chris Borawski, Branch Manager, Poolesville Library