

Dear Council President Stewart and Council Members,

My name is Jennifer Diamond, and I live in Silver Spring (District 4). I am a lifelong Montgomery County resident and library user.

Montgomery County's libraries are one of this county's most valuable assets. The resources, services, and programs that they provide to both kids and adults are invaluable.

I grew up at Gaithersburg Library, and now my home library is Brigadier General Charles E. McGee Library. I also have spent time attending programs at many other library locations throughout the county. It's not only a great source for a wide variety of books, but I appreciate the community resources it provides around job hunting, health (yoga), and the opportunities for community members to connect through book, craft, and language clubs.

I ask that the Council support the following in the FY 2026 operating budget for Montgomery County Public Libraries:

- An additional \$121,000 to increase the collection acquisitions budget, ensuring that the library can continue meeting the rise in demand for digital materials, including maintaining five Hoopla checkouts per month;
- An additional \$153,000 to increase the world languages collection. This will better serve the communities that speak many different languages in Montgomery County.

Please fully support the County Executive's proposed operating budget for Montgomery County Public Libraries.

Respectfully,
Jennifer Diamond