



## MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Marc Elrich  
*County Executive*

Anita Vassallo  
*Director*

March 17, 2020

Dear Chevy Chase Residents, Branch Staff, Friends of the Library and Library Advisory Committee:

Montgomery County Public Libraries (MCPL) recently met with the Department of General Services (DGS), the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and DGS' Division of Building Design and Construction (DBDC) to discuss the Chevy Chase Library refresh project. During this meeting, we received good and bad news.

After the facility assessment of the building was completed, it was determined that there is a more significant amount of work needed to remediate the issues of the building than first anticipated. Some of the major costly repairs/improvements needed include: a new roof; replacing the HVAC system, glass store front, elevator, and all windows; adding electrical outlets; lead paint removal; new plumbing; remediation of moisture issues on the lower level; ADA /accessibility remediation for outdoor ramp, stairs, bathrooms, and lower level entrance. This aging building has many structural issues that would exceed the budget of a refresh or even a major renovation. MCPL wants the community to have a building that is functional, comfortable, and safe. We also want a building that provides services and resources appropriate for a 21st century library and one that addresses community needs. A refresh/refurbishment project would not achieve the needed or desired results.

As an alternative, the county would like to explore the possibility of a public-private partnership (P3) for the redevelopment of the Site to include a replacement library. An exploratory solicitation will be posted Monday, March 23, 2020. For more information, please visit the DGS website.

I am aware the community may find this surprising, but a refresh/renovation of this building would not be wise economically. We believe this would be an opportunity to provide a new 21<sup>st</sup> century library for the Chevy Chase community on the existing site.

I ask that you keep an open mind about this new venture. We look forward to providing Montgomery County and the Chevy Chase community the library that you need and deserve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anita Vassallo".

Anita Vassallo  
Director

c: David Dise, Director, Department of General Services  
Greg Ossont, Deputy Director, Department of General Services  
Angelisa Hawes, Assistant Director, Montgomery County Public Libraries

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