



MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Marc Elrich
County Executive

Anita Vassallo
Director

March 24, 2020

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

Last week, I wrote to you about the County's plan to solicit interest in a possible public/private partnership that would allow for redevelopment of the Chevy Chase Library site with a replacement library. Due to the rapid acceleration of the public health crisis, the letter reached only some but not all intended parties. This letter seeks to provide information to all interested parties, including an explanation of the County's process and the community's expected involvement if this moves beyond the initial exploratory stage.

It is important to note that a solicitation of interest is a first step - a chance for private parties to submit proposals that meet the County's project goals and requirements. In this case, a major goal is to replace the library building on site, since it has structural deficits beyond what could be remedied in a refresh/refurbishment project. The County would review all proposals received to determine if they offer replacement of the library and its associated parking spaces, as well as other community benefits. It is possible that we will not receive any proposals. However, if we do, and if any proposals meet the criteria, the County would hold a community forum before proceeding further. The County Executive would like to assure everyone that the process will be transparent and inclusive.

This is a difficult time for everyone in the county and beyond as we try to cope with extraordinary circumstances. Therefore, we are going to delay posting the request for expressions of interest until a later date, which will be shared with you.

Thank you for your interest in this project and your dedication to the library and the community at large. We look forward to working together toward a first-class library facility for Chevy Chase.

Sincerely,

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

Anita Vassallo
Director

c: Marc Elrich, Montgomery County Executive
David Dise, Director, Department of General Services
Greg Ossont, Deputy Director, Department of General Services
Angelisa Hawes, Assistant Director, Montgomery County Public Libraries
Sonja Roberts, Chair, Montgomery County Library Board
Ari Brooks, Executive Director, Friends of the Library, Montgomery County, Inc.