

Joint Position Paper on MCPL's FY 2023 Budget

We library lovers have been grateful for the strong support that the County Executive and County Council have given our libraries. With their support our libraries responded magnificently to the COVID crisis, finding many innovative ways to make their resources, delights and reassurances available to all of us even though their doors were closed.

As our libraries continue to move toward more normal operations, we look forward to the Executive and Council continuing their strong support. With this support our libraries can strengthen and expand their collection, continue Storytime and other programs that help get our children ready for kindergarten, work with community partners to present literacy programs help people find jobs and serve again as treasured community hubs across our various neighborhoods.

The pandemic showed us how farsighted the Executive and Council were when they emphasized the need to care for racial and social equity in all that our government does. The pandemic only underlined how important this is. It also demonstrated how important our libraries are in this effort. Our libraries are available to everyone and with continued support from our county government we can translate this universal availability into universal access and use.