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BRANCH LIBRARIES: Alicia Ashman • Hawthorne • Lakeview • Meadowridge • Monroe Street • Pinney • Sequoya • South Madison

## **Report to the Library Board**

April, 2009

***Note: This Library Board meeting will be held at the Meadowridge Branch Library, 5740 Raymond Road, at 4:30***

### ***Back to the Future: Branch Planning***

Board planning for new future branches in a growing Madison was put aside last summer in favor of other pressing matters, including a particularly difficult 2009 operating budget, unexpected development proposals for a new Central Library, completing a new Sequoya Branch Library and getting started on a new South Madison Branch. At this Board meeting Brad Murphy, City Planner, will share new population density maps showing expected future population increases and changes, and will also share information about impact fees and future development. We will also review and approve a version of the DRAFT Revised Site Selection Criteria for New Branch Libraries (in your packet). Although the likelihood of near-term development for new branch libraries in current and future growth areas of Madison is slim, due to the current economic climate, it's important for the Library to have language in place that oversees future development, including defining the criteria for the location and population base for new branches.

### ***Meadowridge Branch Library Lease Renewal***

As well as meeting at the Meadowridge Branch this month, the Board will be asked to approve a new lease agreement for this rental space. The new five-year Meadowridge lease will be effective July 1, 2009, with a 3% per year escalator and the right to terminate after the third year. The Lease resolution is enclosed.

### ***New South Madison Branch Library Groundbreaking***

Last Friday, Board President Tripp Widder joined Mayor Cieslewicz, alder Tim Bruer, County Exec Kathleen Falk and Urban League President and CEO Scott Gray, among other dignitaries, to celebrate a ground breaking for the new Villager Mall Atrium building AND the South Madison Branch/Urban League/Planned Parenthood building. Tripp's comments to the assembled group of celebrants mused on how, on occasion, service on the Library Board can be ... shall we say boring ... like overseeing budgets and working on library policies. But then, he said, you're rewarded by being part of an exciting project like the Villager Mall redevelopment. (OK, in the future we'll obviously have to work harder at making budget deliberations more fun and exhilarating.) The next public meeting regarding the new 12,000 sq. ft. South Madison Branch is April 7 at 6:00 p.m. at the Villager Mall. The Engberg Anderson Design Team will present preliminary schematic sketches for review and discussion.

### ***Kudos***

As well as having been recently awarded a top ten ranking in the *Hennen's American Public Library Ratings* and a three-star rating from the *Library Journal*, MPL has just been informed that *American Libraries* will feature the new Sequoya Branch Library in its Digital Design Showcase, due out in April. 