

Report to the Library Board December 3, 2007

Planning for Library's Facilities Development

A major item on this month's agenda involves facilities planning, due to issues that came up during the recently concluded 2008 City budget deliberations. The Board will need to discuss whether the current criteria for determining where future new branches should occur (in your packet) are still valid for long-range facilities planning, and/or need to be changed. Long-range planning is driven by population growth estimates and peripheral area development, and Brad Murphy, City Planner, will offer his expertise at this meeting regarding future branch development to assist the Board in ultimately agreeing on a new schedule (timetable) for future branch development. (The current schedule for future library development is outlined in the 2008 Capital Improvement Program portion of the City's capital budget, also in your packet.) It was decided to make this topic an agenda item (rather than a separate meeting) in order to have the full Board present at the discussions. This agenda item may lead to further discussions/meetings regarding branch development.

Action needed: Southwest Neighborhood Plan

The Library Board is a referral agency for a resolution adopting the Southwest Neighborhood Plan and recommendations contained therein as a supplement to the City's adopted Comprehensive Plan. This plan, currently wending its way through the Council approval process, is "a comprehensive framework for future improvements for the southwest side ...and an advisory document for initiating, directing and managing change." The resolution includes six priority recommendations, including recommendation #2, relating to the Library Board:

"Explore the feasibility of expanding Meadowridge Library at or near its present location. Provide services and programs for youth and adult residents, with an added emphasis on programs dealing with education and employment resources. Offer bilingual classes in Spanish and Hmong. Use the library as a clearinghouse for programs and services offered for youth and families in the area. A new facility should include adequate meeting space for neighborhood-based groups."

The full Plan will be available for you at the meeting. The portions of the plan that deal with the Meadowridge Branch are enclosed.

Other Business

Staff will report on the complaint raised at last month's meeting regarding meeting room use. We are recommending no changes to the Meeting Room Policy (enclosed) at this time.

Approval is needed for the 2008 facilities agreement between MPL and the Dane County Library Service. This spells out next year's DCLS rent and photocopying charges.