



ENOCH PRATT  
free LIBRARY

May 23, 2016

Baltimore City Council President  
Members of the Baltimore City Council  
City Hall  
100 North Holliday Street Room 408  
Baltimore, MD 21202

Dear President and Members of the City Council,

This is written in support of City Council Bill 16-0643 which would provide \$3.5 million to make improvements at the Central Library and at several neighborhood branch facilities. The Central Library which serves as the State Library Resource Center is about to be completely renovated to update the original 1933 structure. Funding provided under this legislation will complete the final required City match of this predominately State funded project. Neighborhood libraries fulfill a number of important roles in communities functioning as safe havens and homework centers for our youth and providing meeting rooms for businesses and community groups. The Library has an aging building infrastructure with deficiencies in the areas of accessibility, structural, mechanical, plumbing, and electrical systems. In addition, the world has changed in areas of technology, communications, and service delivery requiring that facilities be modernized to meet the needs of customers. If approved this funding would be used in Fiscal Years 2017-2018 to make needed improvements at our Clifton and Forest Park library facilities.

We request your support of City Council Bill 16-0643 and thank you for your consideration

Sincerely

Carla Hayden  
Chief Executive Officer  
Enoch Pratt Free Library