



Office of the Mayor

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Martha Nicholson, President
Friends of Pinney Branch Library
204 Cottage Grove Road
Madison, WI 53716

Dear Ms. Nicholson,

Thank you so much for your recent letter in support of the Pinney Branch Library and the many services that it offers to the neighborhood. In this era of rapidly changing technology that has a direct effect on how our libraries do business, I am pleased that Madison Public Library has been able to not only keep up with the newest trends, but use them to enhance its offerings to the public. As your letter demonstrates, libraries are much more than simple book collections.

Madison Public Library administration and board members have recognized for some time that the Pinney Branch has outgrown its space and also that this space is not conducive to employing new technology and offering new services to patrons. As you know, MPL has requested funds for a new building to replace the rented space that Pinney occupies. I fully support this request.

This year, MPL will open the new Central Library. Plans are in place to expand and remodel the Meadowood Branch. Once these projects are complete, MPL's next priority is the new Pinney Branch. We are developing the 2014 Capital Budget for the city this month. The Capital Budget is also our roadmap for capital improvements over the next few years. At this point, decisions as to timing of the many capital investments which various agencies have requested have not been finalized.

However, I assure you and the Friends of Pinney Branch that I am well aware of the need for a new facility and will keep this project in mind as we complete the Executive Capital Budget. I appreciate not only your words of support, but your volunteer work on behalf of the library and your commitment to fundraising for it.

Sincerely,

Paul R. Soglin
Mayor