COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: Councilmembers Andrews, Denis, Perez, Floreen, Subin and Silverman

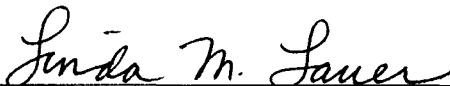SUBJECT: Policy on Parking at County libraries

Background

1.   Libraries are an essential component of lifelong public education, and provide access to a world of information for all library users regardless of income.

2.   The County Council wants to ensure that County policies encourage use of libraries.

3.   The County currently provides free parking for library users at all County libraries, the sole exception being a charge for parking at Bethesda Regional Library until 2 p.m. on weekdays.

4.   The County Council is concerned that charging library users for parking – which is planned at the new Rockville Regional Library under construction, at the planned new Silver Spring Library in downtown Silver Spring, and in place now at Bethesda Regional Library until 2 p.m. – may impose a barrier for the poor, may discourage other residents as well from using libraries, and establishes a de facto admissions fee for the many County residents who have no reasonable way of getting to a library other than driving.

Action

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following resolution:

It is the policy of Montgomery County that County residents will not be charged for parking while using any County library. The County will move expeditiously to implement this policy and attempt to ensure that parking reserved for library users is not used by non-library users.

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council