



OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

Megan Davey Limarzi, Esq.
Inspector General

NEWS RELEASE

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OIG Recommends Improvements to MCPL Collection Management Program

Rockville, Maryland – Montgomery County Maryland Inspector General Megan Davey Limarzi announced today the release of an Office of the Inspector General (OIG) report, [*Performance Audit of the Montgomery County Public Libraries Collection Management Program*](#), OIG Publication #22-012, detailing the results of an OIG audit of the Montgomery County Public Libraries (MCPL) collection management program. The review was performed pursuant to the OIG’s mandate to conduct reviews of the internal accounting and contracting practices and controls used by principal departments and offices in the Executive Branch.

MCPL’s fiscal year (FY) 2020 budget was just over \$43 million, with approximately \$6 million dedicated to the purchase of library materials. The purchases were the highest non-personnel expense category for MCPL in FY 2020. Through this audit, the OIG examined a representative sample of library material purchases and all contracts in effect in FY 2020. The OIG also assessed controls over specific library materials and the extent that community interest and needs is used to inform the acquisition of library materials.

The audit resulted in six findings and eight recommendations centered around MCPL’s compliance with county purchasing policies, and policy addressing inventory management controls. Significantly, the OIG identified instances where MCPL placed orders for materials without first obtaining necessary approvals and having required agreements in place. The Chief Administrative Officer concurred with the OIG’s recommendations.

Additionally, consistent with the OIG’s commitment to seeking opportunities to address diversity, equity, and inclusion in all aspects of its work, including its audits and reviews, the OIG presented observations to encourage MCPL to fully optimize efforts to better support the needs of the county’s diverse population and improve management of the world languages collection.

The full report can be found at the following location:

<https://montgomerycountymd.gov/OIG/Resources/Files/PDF/IGActivity/FY2022/report22-12.pdf>

Please direct all inquiries to: **Email:** ig@montgomerycountymd.gov

Phone: 240-777-8240