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State Superintendent of Schools

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TO: Members of the State Board of Education
FROM: Lillian M. Lowery, Ed.D. *Lillian M. Lowery*
DATE: September 23, 2014
SUBJECT: County Library Capital Project Grants Program
Projects Recommended for Funding, FY2016

PURPOSE:

To present county library capital projects recommended for funding in the State's FY2016 Capital Budget to the State Board of Education for review and approval.

BACKGROUND:

The Division of Library Development and Services (DLDS), within the Maryland State Department of Education, provides leadership and guidance for the planning and coordinating development of public library and information services in the State, including the development of the State Library Network. DLDS also administers federal and State funds appropriated for library purposes.

Article § 23-510 of the Annotated Code of Maryland provides for the establishment of a grant program in the Division of Library Development and Services to assist in the funding of public library capital projects. This statute mandates that \$5,000,000 will be included in the State budget annually for this program beginning in FY2008.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Eight projects from 7 public library systems are recommended for funding in FY2016. Upon State Board approval, letters from each grantee, evidencing the local participation for each project, will be forwarded to the Department of Budget and Management. This evidence of the local match coupled with the list of approved projects from the State Board completes the communication necessary to certify projects as "ready to proceed" and finalize the standard grant and loan program budget request.

ACTION:

I am requesting approval of the State's FY 2016 Capital Budget for submission to the Department of Budget and Management.