

# Libraries

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Fairfax County Public Library's branches differ in size, collection, services available and customers served. The libraries all have one thing in common: a commitment to provide easy access to a multitude of resources for the education, entertainment, business or pleasure of Fairfax County and City of Fairfax residents of all ages.

## LINK TO THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Fairfax County's Comprehensive Plan has established a number of objectives and policies in order to:

- ✓ Maintain the County planning standard of at least 0.4 square foot of library space per resident, served by regional libraries which should be 30,000 to 40,000 square feet and community libraries which should be 10,000 to 20,000 square feet, and to promote expansion of existing community or regional facilities.
- ✓ Construct a new community library in Burke; renovate and expand Thomas Jefferson, Richard Byrd, Dolley Madison, Martha Washington, John Marshall, Woodrow Wilson, Tysons Pimmit, Pohick and Reston libraries; construct a new regional library in Kingstowne.
- ✓ Consider future library presence in Merrifield Suburban Center and Tysons Corner Urban Center.

Source: 2007 Edition of the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan, as amended

## CURRENT PROGRAM INITIATIVES

Significant changes in the 1990's motivated the Library to adopt strategic planning. Currently, changing demographics indicate a growing diversity among residents and among communities within the County. Expanding technologies offer new opportunities and new user demands to improve information resources and delivery. Increasing costs combined with shrinking resources mean that the Library cannot distribute all resources to all locations equally. The Library must provide a network of facilities that offer library services responding to the needs of the community in which each library is located, and it must provide system-wide mechanisms to share resources among branches. New facilities must be designed to utilize new technologies for information delivery, and existing facilities from the early 1960's must be redesigned and renovated to maximize the use of space and modern technologies.

The Library Board of Trustees, whose members are appointed by the Board of Supervisors, the School Board and the City of Fairfax Council, is responsible for library functions, policy and direction. The Library Board developed its library construction program after a study of long-range space needs. Planning is also based on "Recommended Minimum Standards for Virginia Public Libraries," published by the Library of Virginia, which sets basic requirements for receiving supplemental State Aid. The approved construction projects are based on such factors as the age and condition of buildings, projected

population growth, usage, insufficiencies at existing facilities and demand for services in unserved areas of the County. Library projects have been primarily financed with General Obligation Bonds.

The Kingstowne Community Library (15,000 square feet) opened in June 2000 in a retail partnership. The Great Falls Community Library (13,000 square feet) was completed in October 2000. Land for a community library in the Oakton area was acquired in 2000 through a developer's proffer, and land for Burke Centre Community Library and Kingstowne Regional Library was purchased at a combined cost of \$5.367 million from bond monies. The new Oakton Library (17,300 square feet) opened in September of 2007. Construction for the Burke Centre Library began in FY 2007 and the library is scheduled to open in late FY 2008. Funding for final design and construction of these two new libraries was included in the 2004 Library bond referendum.

To evaluate the scope of work and costs associated with renovation and expansion of existing facilities, feasibility and conceptual design studies were completed in FY 2001 for: Thomas Jefferson Community Library, Richard Byrd Community Library, Dolley Madison Community Library and Martha Washington Community Library. Funding for design and construction of these four library projects was included in the 2004 Library bond referendum. The Dolley Madison, Martha Washington and Richard Byrd library renovations are currently in design, with construction scheduled to begin in FY 2009. The design of Thomas Jefferson library is complete and construction is expected to begin in FY 2008.

Fairfax City and Fairfax County agreed to construct a new library on a site within the City to replace the existing City of Fairfax Regional Library. The City has entered into a partnership with a developer to redevelop its downtown and adjacent areas. As part of the redevelopment, the City negotiated an exchange of land between the County and the City, and the construction of a new library at the intersection of North Street and Old Lee Highway. Construction began in FY 2006. The new state-of-the-art library opened in January 2008 with expanded facilities for the Virginia Room and a parking garage. The County has agreed to support funding for the new library by granting a credit for library services purchased by the City from the County.



*Photo of opening day of the new Fairfax City Regional Library on January 26, 2008.*

Feasibility and conceptual design studies are needed for the potential expansion and renovation of: Reston Regional Library, Pohick Regional Library, John Marshall Community Library, Woodrow Wilson Community Library and Tysons Pimmit Regional Library. Funding for these feasibility studies was approved in the 2004 bond referendum. The expansion and renovation of the Reston Regional Library will be coordinated with the future dedication to the Fairfax County Library Foundation of land that is adjacent to the library, which is contingent upon the final construction plans for the library expansion being approved by 2017.

## CURRENT PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

### NEW CONSTRUCTION

1. **Burke Centre Community** (Braddock District): \$10,750,000 for a new library. A seven-acre site was acquired for the Burke Center Community Library at a cost of \$1,979,000. A community library in this location is necessary to meet demands for service that the insufficient capacities at both Kings Park Community Library and Pohick Regional Library cannot provide. The Burke Centre Community Library site is adjacent to the Fairfax County Parkway and is expected to attract a broad customer base of Parkway commuters in addition to the library's geographically defined community. The Burke Centre Community Library will have a drive-up service window. The library parking lot was constructed first to provide temporary parking during the construction of the nearby Virginia Railway Express (VRE) parking structure. The interim use of the site for commuter parking will result in additional project costs in the estimated amount of \$585,000 due to an increase in Library site infrastructure costs and phased construction costs for the building. Full design and construction funding for this project was included in the fall 2004 Library bond referendum and the cost of the temporary commuter parking use is supported by the General Fund. Design for the new facility was completed and construction began in FY 2007.

2. **Oakton Community** (Providence District): \$6,665,000 for a new Oakton Community Library. Land in Oakton was acquired in FY 2000 through a developer's proffer. The facility is needed to meet the demands for library service that Vienna's Patrick Henry Library cannot provide due to its insufficient capacities in both parking and public service space; the Vienna facility is the busiest per hour among County community libraries. Full design and construction funding for this project was included in the 2004 Library bond referendum. The design was completed in FY 2006. Construction began in FY 2007 and the library opened in September of 2007.



*A picture of the opening of the Oakton Library on September 29, 2007.*

### RENEWALS/ADDITIONS

3. **Thomas Jefferson Community** (Mason District): \$8,056,000 for the expansion and renovation of the Thomas Jefferson Library, which will expand the existing building from 10,300 to 16,500 square feet. This 40-year old building cannot be adapted to the requirements of modern technology. It needs a quiet study space and consistently exceeds the minimum standards for use because of increasing population density in the community. This cost estimate includes funding for feasibility and planning studies that have been completed, expansion/renovation costs and temporary facility space during construction. Funding for design and construction of this project was included in the 2004 Library bond referendum. Project design began in FY 2006 and construction is expected to be completed in FY 2010.

4. **Dolley Madison Community** (Dranesville District): \$12,220,453 for the expansion and renovation of the Dolley Madison Community Library, which will enlarge the existing library from 10,630 to 19,250 square feet. This 35-year old building cannot be adapted to the requirements of modern technology. It needs a quiet study space and consistently exceeds the minimum standards for use. The project also includes funding for the incorporation of the Dranesville District Supervisor's Office as part of the facility. This estimate includes funding for feasibility and planning studies that have been completed, programming and preliminary design for the District Supervisor's Office, expansion/renovation costs, temporary facility space during construction and funding for the District Supervisors office. Funding for design and construction of this project was included in the 2004 Library bond referendum. Funding for final design and construction of the District Supervisor's Office is supported by the General Fund. Project design is expected to be completed in FY 2008. Construction should begin in FY 2009, with completion expected the following fiscal year.
5. **Richard Byrd Community** (Lee District): \$9,130,081 for the expansion and renovation of the Richard Byrd Library, which will enlarge the existing building from 10,000 to 18,200 square feet. This 36-year old building cannot be efficiently adapted to the requirements of modern technology. It needs a quiet study space and consistently exceeds the minimum standards for use because of increasing population density. Renovation of the facility will be coordinated with revitalization goals for the area. This estimate includes funding for feasibility and planning studies that have been completed, expansion/renovation costs and temporary facility space during construction. Funding for design and construction of this project was included in the 2004 Library bond referendum. Project design is expected to be completed in FY 2008 and construction completed in FY 2010.
6. **Martha Washington Community** (Mt. Vernon District): \$8,757,427 for the expansion and renovation of the Martha Washington Library, which will expand the existing building from 10,220 to 17,990 square feet. This 30-year old building cannot be adapted to the requirements of modern technology. It needs a quiet study space and consistently exceeds the minimum standards for use. This estimate includes funding for feasibility and planning studies that have been completed, expansion/renovation costs and temporary facility space during construction. Funding for design and construction of this project was included in the 2004 Library bond referendum. Project design is expected to be completed in FY 2008 and construction completed in FY 2010.
7. **Library Feasibility Studies** (Countywide): \$400,000 to conduct feasibility studies to determine the scope and costs for potential renovations and expansions of Reston, Pohick and Tysons Pimmit Regional Libraries, and John Marshall and Woodrow Wilson Community Libraries. Expansion and renovation of the Reston Regional Library will be coordinated with the future dedication to the Fairfax County Library Foundation of land adjacent to the library, which is contingent upon the final construction plans for the library expansion being approved by 2017. Funding for the feasibility studies was approved in the 2004 Library bond referendum.

**PROJECT COST SUMMARIES  
LIBRARIES  
(\$000's)**

Project Title/ Project Number	Source of Funds	Budgeted or Expended Through FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	Total FY2009-FY2013	Total FY2014-FY2018	Total Project Estimate
<b>NEW CONSTRUCTION</b>										
1 Burke Centre Community / 004838	B,G	10,600	150					150		10,750
2 Oakton Community / 004839	B,G	6,615	50					50		6,665
<b>RENEWALS/ADDITIONS</b>										
3 Thomas Jefferson Community / 004842	B	1,835	5,030	1,141	50			6,221		8,056
4 Dolley Madison Community / 004844	B,G	3,100	6,070	2,900	150			9,120		12,220
5 Richard Byrd Community / 004843	B	1,000	2,610	5,320	200			8,130		9,130
6 Martha Washington Community / 004845	B	915	5,023	2,819				7,842		8,757
7 Library Feasibility Studies	B	0	200	200				400		400
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$24,065</b>	\$19,133	\$12,380	\$400	\$0	\$0	\$31,913	\$0	\$55,978

Key: Stage of Development	
	Feasibility Study or Design
	Land Acquisition
	Construction

Notes:  
 Numbers in **bold italics** represent funded amounts.  
 A "C" in the 'Budgeted or Expended' column denotes a continuing project.

Key: Source of Funds	
B	Bonds
G	General Fund
S	State
F	Federal
X	Other
U	Undetermined

# Libraries Project Locations



- 1 Burke Centre Community
- 2 Oakton Community
- 3 Thomas Jefferson Community
- 4 Dolley Madison Community
- 5 Richard Byrd Community
- 6 Martha Washington Community

Note: Map numbers correspond to project descriptions in the text and cost summary tables. Only CIP projects with selected, fixed sites are shown on the map.