The Town of Washington Grove
P. O. Box 216
300 Grove Avenue
Washington Grove, MD 20880
voice: 301-926-22566
email: mayor@washingtongrovemd.gov

March 3, 2026

To: County Council, Montgomery County
Education and Culture Committee

From: The Town of Washington Grove

Re: Shady Grove West Library in the FY 2027 CIP
Position: Support

I'm writing as Mayor of Washington Grove in strong support for funding the Shady Grove West Library in the FY 2027 Capital Improvement Plan.

I was an original participant in the creation of the 2006 Shady Grove Sector Master Plan (the "Plan") when Mayor in 2006, and I have been a member of the Shady Grove Master Plan Advisory Committee ever since. The transition from County service parks to residential development as envisioned in the Plan continues to progress, adding significantly to housing in Montgomery County. The 2006 Shady Grove Sector Master Plan and 2021 Plan Amendment also envisioned the need for education and cultural amenities from the County to facilitate the highly desirable increased housing available by this transit-oriented development. A library and future elementary school site were integral to the Plan. ***It is high time for these to progress as well.***

Libraries are a vital community asset not only for the resources they provided for learning and culture, but also for fostering social interaction and a sense of belonging to that community. While this area of Montgomery County remains rich in amenities serving residents County-wide (such as the Shady Grove Refuse and Recycling Processing Facility and Transfer Station, the Equipment Maintenance and Transit Operations Center (EMOC), and the MCPS School Bus Depot), the area remains poorly provided with amenities that serve the immediate community. *The Shady Grove West Library will go far to fostering the sense of community for the area.*

Of course, the Shady Grove West Library will also serve the community of the Town of Washington Grove and other adjacent residents. It will bring library services and facilities closer and provide a significant benefit to the Town's residents.

For these reasons, the CIP proposal for implementing the Shady Grove West Library merits strong support.

Thank you for your consideration,

John G. Compton
Mayor, Town of Washington Grove