

Subject Line: McAuliffe Branch Library and Foundation Update

Dear Friend of the FPL Foundation,

Framingham will probably receive Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners' (MBLC's) funds to build a new McAuliffe Branch Library in July, 2013, according to Rosemary Waltos and Patience Jackson, Library Building Consultants for the MBLC. The MBLC met with Framingham Public Library officials on December 14, 2011, at the Northborough Public Library. Also attending the meeting were Jeanne Kelley, FPL Director, Jane Peck, FPL Assistant Director; FPL Trustees Sam Klaidman, Jan Harrington, and Ruth Winett; Tony Hsiao, an architect with Finegold Alexander + Associates, and Sondra Vandermark, Vandermark Consulting.

Upon signing a contract with the MBLC, Framingham will receive the first installment of the Commonwealth's share of the cost of the new branch, with the requirement that construction would begin by July, 2014. The Commonwealth's share is about 50% of the cost of the land and the construction costs.

Before Framingham can receive funding for the McAuliffe project, municipalities that are ahead of Framingham on the MBLC's list must receive local allocations for their projects or withdraw their applications because their communities will not fund their portions of the cost. In addition, the Executive Office for Finance and Administration must release funds previously allocated for library construction projects.

At the meeting Ms. Jackson and Ms Waltos noted the high quality of Sondra Vandermark's feasibility study. They also provided constructive feedback on the plans for the new McAuliffe Branch Library, which will be located on Water Street, east of the Nobscot Plaza.

Framingham remains sixth on a waiting list of 15. The eight municipalities that were awarded funds in July, 2011 have until January 31, 2012 to obtain local funds for their projects. Six month extensions are sometimes granted.

The FPL Foundation appreciates your support of the Foundation and of the new McAuliffe Branch Library. In 2011 we made good strides towards reaching our target, but we still have more work ahead of us. We hope we can count on your continued support.

The Foundation will email occasional updates with Foundation news.

Please call Jeanne Kelley, Library Director (508-532-5570, x 4358) if you have any questions.

The FPL Foundation