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Washington-Centerville Library

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Library Purchases Property With Plans to Expand

The Washington-Centerville Public Library Board of Trustees intends to expand Woodbourne Library thanks to the recent purchase of the McDonald's property, located at 6004 Far Hills Avenue. "We've had our eye on that property for some time. The additional property gives us the opportunity to 'unpack' the collections, services and programs at Woodbourne Library," said Randell Bowling, President of the Library Board of Trustees. The Board unanimously voted to purchase the McDonald's property for \$775,000 at a special board meeting on July 30th. The purchase, which was finalized on November 12th, was funded with money set aside in the Library's capital projects fund for improvement of the property.

Plans for how the McDonald's property will be used are still in development. Per the sale contract, the Library must demolish the McDonald's building within 14 days of closing. "Our long range facilities planning committee is looking at several options to best utilize the additional property over the next several years. We will include residents and library users in that conversation. Until a final determination has been made on how to use the property, it could at the very least, be used for additional parking in the short term," commented Library Trustee and Chair of the Long Range Facilities Planning Committee, Richard Carr. The Library currently owns the property that sits between Woodbourne Library and McDonald's. It functions as the Cataloging Center for new library materials.

In September, the Library announced plans to construct a one-way rear driveway to connect the Woodbourne Library parking lot to nearby North Village Drive, allowing library visitors to exit the property more safely and use the existing traffic light at N. Village Drive to turn either north or south on State Route 48. "This improved traffic flow resulting from the addition of a rear driveway will be even more important as Woodbourne Library expands and experiences an increase in library visits," comments Mr. Bowling.

For more information on the Washington-Centerville Public Library, contact the library at 433-8091 or visit www.wclibrary.info.

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