Detroit Public Library Property Tax Revenues as Compared to Tax Captures, Capital Expenditures, and Use of Fund Balance for FY2015 – FY2020

This chart represents the Detroit Public Library’s (DPL) audited financial statements pertaining to property tax revenues collected, compared to the taxes captured for economic development, critical capital expenditures made using funds purposed for the Library’s operations, and use of the Library’s fund balance for Fiscal Years 2015 – 2020.

A total of $167,011,122 in property taxes has been collected on behalf of the Library since FY2015. A total of $12,487,250, or slightly more than 7% of the property taxes has been captured by the Detroit Development Authority and used for economic development projects during this period. The Detroit Public Library has spent a total of $6,609,700 or 4% of its property tax revenue, needed to support library operations, for critical capital expenditures during the same period. During the past three fiscal years (FY2018 – FY2020), the DPL has used $7,526,518 of its fund balance to offset declining property tax revenue, pay for critical capital needs, while maintaining existing operations.

A highlight of much needed capital expenditures made since FY2015 to date are as follows:

- Redford Library Branch renovation – new flooring, lighting, new shelving, paint and technology upgrades
- Douglass Library Branch renovation – new flooring, lighting, new technology center
• Wilder Library Branch renovation – new flooring, lighting, new shelving, new HVAC system, technology upgrades
• Edison Branch renovation – new flooring, lighting, new shelving, new HVAC system, new parking lot, technology upgrades
• Skillman Branch renovation (due to flooding from a ruptured pipe in the fire suppression system) - ceiling tile replacement, new technology upgrade, new boiler
• Franklin Library branch renovation – new flooring, lighting, and shelving, HVAC system replacement, technology upgrades
• Jefferson Branch renovation – new flooring, lighting, and shelving, HVAC system replacement, technology upgrades
• Purchase of a New Mobile Library; included in the total cost of the project was the garage extension at the Douglass branch and replacement of the concrete parking area to accommodate the larger vehicle
• Bowen Branch Library – New air conditioning system
• Duffield Branch Library – new flooring, lighting, and technology upgrades
• Main Library – new flooring on one half of Music, Arts, and Literature section, installation of new condenser pumps and air handling units, new furniture and technology upgrades including a state-of-the-art studio in the Teen HYPE center, new roof on Cass Ave. Side
• Hubbard Branch Library – new HVAC system replacement
• Parkman Branch Library – replacement of two boilers