

FAYETTEVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

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MEDIA ADVISORY

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Fayetteville Public Library expansion moves one step closer with Arkansas Supreme Court decision

The Arkansas Supreme Court today upheld a lower court decision ruling in favor of Washington Regional Medical Center as the rightful owner of the former Fayetteville City Hospital property. The land has been tied up in litigation since 2012 following Washington Regional's agreement to sell the property to Fayetteville Public Library.

The four-acre property, located just south of the current Fayetteville Public Library, is a proposed site for library expansion.

“We are pleased that the proper legal processes have played out and that the Supreme Court has made this decision,” said David Johnson, executive director at Fayetteville Public Library.

“Fayetteville voters graciously approved expansion for the library last August. Today, we are a step closer to making that expansion a reality.”

Washington Regional and Fayetteville Public Library have the property under contract, and are expected to close on the property sale in the near future.

The library is currently working through the City of Fayetteville’s procurement process to release a request for qualifications for architecture partners interested in designing the new space. RFQs for construction management partners will begin immediately and will be followed by a series of public input sessions.

A Fayetteville special election held last August included two separate millage increases approved by voters:

- 1.5 mills for operation and maintenance of the current and expanded library.
- 1.2 mills for bonds to pay for the construction of a library expansion.

For more information, contact Executive Director David Johnson at 479-856-7100.

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