CARLOS A. GIMENEZ
MAYOR
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

October 15, 2014

Honorable Philip Levine
Mayor
City of Miami Beach
1700 Convention Center Drive, 4th Floor
Miami Beach, FL 33139

Dear Mayor Levine:

I am pleased to inform you that the Miami-Dade Public Library System's (MDPLS) FY 2014-15 budget has been approved. The approved funding level will allow the MDPLS to begin implementing recommendations made by the *Mayor's Blue Ribbon Task Force for the Miami-Dade Public Library System* and provide a pathway towards strengthening the role of libraries in our community.

It is my vision that the MDPLS will become an even more responsive 21st century library system, offering state-of-the-art and dynamic services. To this end, public service hours at the Miami Beach Regional Library will increase from 6 to 7 days a week to better address the community's needs and use patterns. The library system's books and materials budget has been increased to allow for more digital products, best sellers, children's books, and e-books. Additionally, the MDPLS will increase innovative services, strengthen community engagement, and deliver enriched technology tools and enhanced system-wide programming to improve our service delivery to the community.

I would also like to take this opportunity to inform you that the MDPLS is now under the leadership of Gia Arbogast, Interim Library Director. I am confident that you will find Gia to be experienced, resourceful and open to collaborations that provide more opportunities for our libraries to evolve and better serve our families and children.

I will keep you informed of any developments that may affect the branch library in your municipality. If you need any additional information or have any questions, please feel free to contact Gia Arbogast at 305-375-5026 or via email at arbogastg@miamidade.gov.

Sincerely,

Carlos A. Gimenez

c: Michael Spring, Senior Advisor, Office of the Mayor
Gia Arbogast, Interim Director, Miami-Dade Public Library System
Suzet Alvarez-Cleary, Assistant Director, Miami-Dade Public Library System