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COUNTY – LIBRARY PARTNERSHIP

MOVES REGIONAL LIBRARY PROJECT FORWARD

(ACCOMAC, VIRGINIA) May 11, 2018 – The Eastern Shore Public Library Board of Trustees approved at their May meeting a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Accomack County that moves the five million dollar new regional library capital project closer to being fully funded. This action follows the approval of the MOU by the Eastern Shore Public Library Foundation Board of Directors at a special meeting on May 3, 2018. The agreement provides for the two million dollar contribution by the County of Accomack pledged in May 2015. Combined with the five hundred thousand dollar allocation from the Library of Virginia in 2016 and over eight hundred thousand dollars raised by the Foundation in donations and grants, the capital project now has nearly four million dollars in hand. The library construction committee plans to break ground in the fall of 2018 with the new regional library completion in December 2019.

The new regional library will be 20,110 square feet compared to the 11,500 square feet facility now in Accomac. Built in 1964, the main library location will be closed and transferred to the County as part of the agreement. Accomack County will also own the new library as collateral for its two million dollar loan and will act as the fiscal agent managing project payments. A Steering Committee will be formed with representatives from both the County and the Library to work jointly on project oversight. Waller, Todd, and Sadler is the architectural firm designing the library in partnership with Greg Lukmire, an architect with library design expertise.

The county-library partnership continues the collaboration since 1958 when the Eastern Shore of Virginia regional library system was created. The new regional library will also include the Eastern Shore of Virginia Heritage Center to house the expanding local history archives and special collections. For more information about the library capital campaign or to donate, visit shorelibrary.com or call (757) 787-2500.

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