2019 MERIDIAN LIBRARY DISTRICT
PLANT FACILITY LEVY

WHAT ARE WE BEING ASKED TO VOTE FOR?
Meridian’s growth has led to greater library utilization and the current branches are inadequate with limited space. The library has not passed any new funding measures since 1995. The Plant Levy Measure is for $14 million to renovate, expand and modernize.

IF THE LEVY PASSES, HOW WILL THE FUNDS BE USED?
- North Branch: 15,000 sq ft branch in the Linder Village commercial development project. An estimated $1.5 million will be used for finishing the interior and providing furnishings.
- unBound: Tech-focused branch in downtown Meridian. An estimated $1 million would fund the projected costs.
- Cherry Lane: Estimated $3.5 million for a renovation of the 27,600 sq ft main library, 1,840 sq ft annex building & parking lot redesign.
- The Hill Branch: Estimated $8 million to build a 15,000 sq ft new branch at The Hill community campus in South Meridian. This would be the final project in the timeline and would estimate beginning in 2025.

WHEN WILL THE ELECTION BE HELD?
The General Election is held on Tuesday, May 21, 2019.

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE IN-DEPTH INFORMATION ON THE LEVY AND PROJECTS?
www.mld.org/2019levy
WHAT IS THE LEVY IMPACT FOR ADDITIONAL TAXES?
If approved, this would cost taxpayers approximately $1.00 per month for every $100,000 of taxable property value for 10 years beginning 2020.

WHY DOESN’T THE LIBRARY DISTRICT SAVE AND PAY FOR THESE PROJECTS FROM THEIR RESERVES?
Idaho Law 33-2724 (4) states that "Moneys from the capital assets replacement and repair fund may not be used for the purchase of land or to build new library facilities or to build additions to current library facilities." (https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/title33/t33ch27/sect33-2724/)
Unlike other entities, public library districts cannot legally pay for new construction from reserves. Bonds and levies are the only legal mechanisms for expanding and building new locations.

WHAT ARE THE IMPACTS IF THE PROPOSED LEVY PASSES?
If 55% of the Meridian voters approve the capital funding, over a 10 year period library space will be expanded; two new branches will open, the community will have more indoor public space, and parking at the Cherry Lane location will be improved.

WHAT ARE THE IMPACTS IF THE PROPOSED LEVY DOES NOT PASS?
Without capital funding, the North and South branches will not be built, unBound will potentially remain closed, and the Cherry Lane renovation will be minimal.

ARE LIBRARIES STILL RELEVANT?
Here in Meridian, demand for our resources and programs is continually climbing. Checkouts have increased by almost 50% in the last 5 years from 1 million in 2013 to 1.6 million in 2018 and program attendance has increased 213% from 38,500 to 121,000 during that same 5 years.