



ENOCH PRATT
free LIBRARY

PRESS RELEASE

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INQUIRIES:

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MEDIA

Meghan McCorkell
work: (410) 545-3115
cell: (410) 365-7007
mmccorkell@prattlibrary.org

PRATT LIBRARY ANNOUNCES HISTORIC EXPANSION OF HOURS *Libraries to increase hours more than 30% thanks to state and city funds*

BALTIMORE—The Enoch Pratt Free Library is proud to announce an historic increase in service hours at library branches across the city. The extended hours are thanks to funding approved by both the Maryland General Assembly and the Baltimore City Council.

WHAT: Press Conference

WHO: Pratt CEO Heidi Daniel
Mayor Catherine Pugh
Sen. Barbara Robinson
Del. Curt Anderson

WHEN: Monday, January 8, 11am

WHERE: Patterson Park Branch
158 N. Linwood Ave
Baltimore, MD 21224

“We are very grateful to state and city leaders for helping the Pratt expand services across the city,” says Pratt Library President & CEO Heidi Daniel. “We believe this more than 30% increase in hours will be a game changer for Baltimore.”

Starting January 8, all neighborhood branches will move to a universal schedule opening at 10am six days a week, rather than the staggered schedule currently in place. The Southeast Anchor and Pennsylvania Avenue libraries will serve as community anchors on the East and West sides of the city, with added evening hours. The Central Library, open 7 days a week, will also increase evening hours. The Pratt Bookmobile, Book Buggy and Mobile Job Center will spend more time on the roads serving the community.

“From now on, you’ll never have to wonder when your library is open,” says Daniel. “This means more free school readiness classes for children, free job training, free computer classes and so much more.”

The state has committed \$3 million each year for five years to increase library operating hours. The city has pledged \$750,000 annually over that time period to help the library hire additional staff.

