

For Immediate Release:September 15, 2011For More Information:Sharon Thomas, Chair, Board of Trustees, 716-783-6903

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LIBRARY SYSTEM TRUSTEES ENDORSE CREATION OF A SPECIAL LIBRARY DISTRICT

Resolution to move forward approved at today's board meeting

Sharon Thomas, chair of the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System, released the following statement following this afternoon's monthly board meeting held at Central Library in downtown Buffalo.

"Trustees of the Library System today approved a resolution that endorses the creation of a Special Legislative District Public Library to serve the residents of Erie County. **This is the first step in a two to three year process to establish a special district.**

A special legislative district public library (SLDPL) enables voters to approve the library budget and elect the library's trustees. The SLDPL will be created through an act of the New York State Legislature and then established by a popular vote.

Library Trustees, working with the 22-contracting member library boards across Erie County, began researching alternative funding sources and a new form **of** governance more than a year ago. A number of contract library trustees are serving on various subcommittees that are dealing with specific policy, funding and governance issues regarding planning for the district."

For more information, visit the Library System website at www.buffalolib.org