



PRESS RELEASE

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City of San Pablo and Contra Costa County Unveil State-of-the-Art Library

Library will serve as a community hub for San Pablo residents thanks to city/county partnership

San Pablo, Calif.— The City of San Pablo and Contra Costa County are set to open a new expanded library facility on Saturday, August 19. The project is made possible by a joint funding partnership in which Contra Costa County provides the operating budget and staff, while the City of San Pablo invested in the capital costs for construction.

The Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting Celebration is set for 10:15 a.m. on Saturday, August 19. There will be a community celebration to follow from 10am-5pm. Leaders from the City of San Pablo, the San Pablo Economic Development Corporation and Contra Costa County, along with library staff and residents will be in attendance. Event is free and open to all. Library tours and other family focused activities will follow the Ribbon Cutting.

The new 22,000 sq ft, LEED certified library, which cost \$6.5 million to construct, will provide San Pablo residents with access to computers, books, meeting rooms, and study rooms. Given the expected demand for usage, the City and County have increased the library's hours of operation from 39 hours per week to 47 hours.

“Our new library is a community asset we want to make available to every single one of our community members,” said Matt Rodriguez, City Manager, City of San Pablo. “As City Manager, I am

fortunate to have a City Council that has the leadership and vision to make the right investment in long-term community benefitting projects, such as our new San Pablo library.”

Supervisor John Gioia representing District One said, “The partnership between San Pablo and the County has enabled us to provide the community with what they deserve — a new state of the art library nearly three times larger than the old facility. San Pablo residents will now be able to access the resources and services of a 21st century library.”

The new library replaces the 8,000 sq ft location at El Portal Drive. Despite the major change in facility, there is one aspect of the El Portal location that will remain: The City’s partnership with the Contra Costa County Library system.

In maintaining the relationship, the San Pablo library stays within the County’s extensive network of 26 libraries spread throughout Contra Costa County. Additionally, the Contra Costa Library was a key partner in conceptualizing the library and helping identify community priorities.

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