



News Release For Immediate Release

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Joel D. Valdez Main Library to close briefly for renovation work

The Joel D. Valdez Main Library downtown will close temporarily over the weekend of May 2 to allow a more rapid and safe installation of carpet and furniture during renovation work at the library.

The Main library at 101 N. Stone, will reopen as usual on Monday, May 4.

The three parts of this renovation project include:

-Recarpeting the common area of the library's first floor, and replacing worn carpeting on the main stairwell in the building.

-Rearranging the layout of the first floor to combine service tasks such as information, reference help and customer service in one area. The "one desk" layout allows fewer library personnel to complete tasks more efficiently, and has been proven effective in other library locations. No changes will occur in the children's' area.

-Installation of a Computer Commons area on the third floor. Most of the public use computers now located on the second floor will be moved and several new computers will be added to the new commons to accommodate the high need for computers at the Main Library. New computers will not be added until sometime in the next fiscal year, but when completed, the commons area will have 32 computers available for the public.

Most of the renovation work will be done after library hours.

This project has been in the planning for two years. The project cost of approximately \$325,000 comes from Library District Capital Improvement funds. Opened in 1990, the Main Library has not had any renovation work done in several years.

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