

For Immediate Release  
Friday, June 5, 2009 (rev. July 8, 2009)

Contact:  
Lorraine Oback  
(408) 808-2176

## Expanded Educational Park Branch Library Breaks Ground

SAN JOSE, Calif. – East San Jose residents are invited to join city and library officials **Saturday, June 20 at 10 a.m.** to celebrate the groundbreaking for the construction of a new 18,000 sq. ft. library facility to replace Educational Park Branch Library. The brief ceremony, held in the parking lot at 1770 Educational Park Drive, will be followed by special activities marking the last day of business for the original 14,084 sq. ft. library, which has served the community since 1976. For more information, call (408) 535-8450.

“I am very excited to be part of the groundbreaking ceremony, which will mark the beginning of a new and improved Educational Branch Library that will serve San Jose residents,” stated Councilmember Kansen Chu. “This is a special library with a unique location, making it both an educational center for the adjacent high school and a vital resource for the whole community.”

### AT A GLANCE

	<i>Old</i>	<i>New</i>
Building Size	14,084 sq. ft.	18,000 sq. ft.
Computers	13	29
Seats	51	160
Group Study Area	-	16 persons
Storytelling Area	-	35 persons
Community Room	-	70 persons
Parking	70 spaces	100 spaces

The new library will be built on the adjacent parking lot. The building design by Anderson Brule Architects (San Jose, CA) features an Internet café, community living room with a fireplace, technology space, teen room, group study areas, and a community

- more -

## **Expanded Education Park Branch Library Breaks Ground**

Friday, June 5, 2009

p2

room that will accommodate 70 persons, as well as significantly more space for seating, collections and computers.

Public art for the project will be created by Catherine Wagner, an internationally exhibited photographer, Guggenheim fellow, and professor of Art at Mills College in Oakland. She is also recognized for a growing body of public art projects including major projects in San Francisco and Los Angeles. The total project budget is \$13.5 million. The new Educational Park Branch Library is projected to open in September 2011 with a new address: 1772 Educational Park Dr.

Onset of construction also marks the beginning of fundraising efforts to furnish and stock the library for opening day, projected to occur in 2011. Tax-deductible check donations to the *Branching Out Campaign* on behalf of Educational Park Branch Library may be addressed to San José Public Library Foundation, 150 E. San Fernando St., San Jose, CA 95112-3580. Donations by credit card are also accepted online at <http://www.sjplf.org/contribute.htm>. For more information, contact the San José Public Library Foundation at (408) 808-2174.

Educational Park Library is the first of two library branch bond construction projects expected to get underway in San José this year. It is the eighteenth of 20 that will be completed under the \$212 million library branch bond measure, approved by voters in November 2000 and dedicated to the construction of six new and fourteen expanded branch libraries. At this stage, 13 new libraries have opened and four more are under construction. A new Calabazas Branch Library, currently in the final stages of the design phase, is expected to celebrate its own groundbreaking later this year.

While the new branch is under construction, Educational Park area residents are welcome at all branches of the San José Public Library System. Many will find the following three neighboring branches to be most convenient:

Berryessa, 3355 Noble Ave., (408) 808-3050

## **Expanded Education Park Branch Library Breaks Ground**

Friday, June 5, 2009

p3

Dr. Roberto Cruz – Alum Rock, 3090 Alum Rock Ave., (408) 808-3090

Joyce Ellington, 491 Empire St., (408) 808-3043

All branch libraries are *currently* open Monday 2 p.m. – 7 p.m., Tuesday - Wednesday 11 a.m. – 8 p.m. and Thursday - Saturday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. The East San José Carnegie Branch Library—currently undergoing expansion—is anticipated to open later this summer, thus providing a fourth option.

For updates on future branch library developments, visit [www.newsanjoselibraries.com](http://www.newsanjoselibraries.com).

###

- more -