



Denver Public Library

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From Denver Public Library and Better Denver Bond Program

Green Valley Ranch Branch Library Grand Opening

Community-Wide Grand Opening Celebration set for Saturday, March 12, 2011

DENVER, CO — February 25, 2011 — Mayor Guillermo (Bill) V. Vidal, Councilman Michael Hancock, City Librarian Shirley Amore, Library Commission President Karen Rokala, and community partners are pleased to announce the opening of the newly constructed Green Valley Ranch (GVR) Branch Library with a community-wide celebration Saturday, March 12, 2011.

Members of the community are invited to commemorate the library opening with a ribbon cutting at 10 a.m. A day-long celebration with activities and entertainment will continue after the ribbon cutting themed, "Plains and Planes" acknowledging the surrounding plains landscape and airplanes of nearby Denver International Airport, which gave rise to the GVR Library's architectural inspiration.

The \$11.4 million dollar GVR Library, located at 4586 North Andes Court, is the first of three Better Denver Bond funded, newly constructed Denver Public Library branches to be completed or to begin construction as part of the Better Denver Bond library improvements.

The new 26,000 square foot facility incorporates the latest in library technology including customer self-checkout stations and an automated handling system utilizing Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology, making the checkout of materials quicker and ensuring better tracking and accessibility of library collections.

"This new library is testament to the fact that the Better Denver Bond Program is a smart investment, improving our communities with facilities like libraries where people and families can learn and gather," says Mayor Vidal. "We can be proud that this project was done on-time, on-budget and with great vision."

The new facility boasts fifty public computers, wi-fi accessibility, a library lounge complete with a fireplace and views of the outdoors, areas for children with youth-friendly furniture, a sub-dividable 100-seat community room, small meeting rooms, and an airplane cockpit provided by United Airline's Training Facility that encourages imagination and shared learning for visitors of all ages.

"I'm excited about this new library and the difference it will make in Green Valley and the surrounding area," says Councilman Michael Hancock. "Everything about the library, especially the fabulous access to computers, will add so much to the area's quality of life. Thanks to all the citizens who participated in the library's planning and design brainstorming, and thanks to the voters for endorsing the Better Denver Bonds."

As part of the City's commitment to Greenprint Denver initiatives, the library was designed and constructed with the goal of achieving Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design ([LEED](#)) Gold Certification through

sustainable construction approaches recognized by the U.S. Green Building Council. Through the use of recycled and regional materials, materials with low emissions, low-flow water fixtures, solar tubes, day-lighting, and evaporative cooling systems the facility is estimated to use approximately 60% less energy and 40% less water annually than those buildings using conventional design approaches.

“I couldn’t be more thrilled, to be opening this new library branch in such a wonderful community like Green Valley Ranch,” says Denver City Librarian Shirley Amore. “We have taken special care to ensure that the library is family-friendly, and provides all the resources needed to support our commitment to early literacy and lifelong learning. Opening this branch is just one more way Denver Public Library connects people with information, ideas and experiences to provide enjoyment, enrich lives and strengthen our community.”

Through the Denver Office of Cultural Affairs’ public art program, artist Erik Carlson created the GVR Library public artwork, *Cloud Seeding*, an interactive, multimedia piece that responds to customer’s catalog search terms with a spectrum of associative images and quotes drawn from the Denver Public Library’s collections. The artwork will be fully interactive after the opening of the library.

Humphries Poli Architect was the design firm for the library and Alliance Construction Solutions provided the construction services. Project management of the facility was provided by Denver Public Works, who worked closely with Denver Public Library staff.

For visuals and more information on the project, visit: <http://denverlibrary.org/greenvalley>.

Founded in 1889, the Denver Public Library (DPL) connects people with information, ideas and experiences to provide enjoyment, enrich lives and strengthen our community. With 24 locations throughout the City, DPL provides essential resources to the community including early literacy programs, computer and internet access and training, family and adult programs, and more. DPL is currently ranked in the top five Library systems in the U.S.

The City & County of Denver’s Better Denver Bond Program works to preserve, renovate and create amenities that touch citizen’s lives – including roads, libraries, parks, recreation centers, child care sites, hospitals, city buildings and cultural facilities. Approved by voters in 2007, the bond program generates millions of dollars into the economy, preserves and creates jobs and makes Denver a more attractive place to live, work, and invest in the future. For more information about the Better Denver Bond Program, visit www.denvergov.org/betterdenver.

Greenprint Denver is the City of Denver’s initiative to incorporate sustainability into all city operations and programs. The mission is designed to conserve resources, protect the environment, and save money to make Denver prosperous both now and in the future. Under the Greenprint Denver initiative, all city construction and major renovation projects must achieve US Green Building Council Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver certification with a goal of LEED Gold and achieve Energy Star status after one year of operation. The City established a Better Denver Bond Sustainability Committee to encourage innovation in building design, lead by example, share information and best practices among City agencies, and evaluate all projects’ integration of sustainability and innovation.

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