



## **BETTER DENVER BOND PROGRAM IMPROVEMENTS AT DENVER PUBLIC LIBRARIES**

August 29, 2008

To: Library customers and staff

From: Don Hunt, Manager of Bond Implementation  
Shirley Amore, City Librarian

RE: Bond program improvements at Denver Public Libraries

We are pleased to report work is underway to complete the repair/maintenance work at The Denver Central Library and branch libraries as funded by the Better Denver bond program.

Specifically, beginning in **2008, The Denver Central Library** will begin to realize the following improvements:

- Repairs, replacement and upgrades to building components and several building and life safety systems that have been deferred over the years. This includes upgrades to the existing fire detection and alarm system, security and public address systems with state-of-the-art technology. Many areas of the exterior hardscape and façade will realize repairs to assure a safe and aesthetic approach to our building. Many areas of the roof will have repairs completed. Design will continue on our 'green roof' initiative as a possibility for other areas of the roof. The work on the life safety and security systems will occur in 2008. Other aspects of the repair work will be on going with many being completed before 2010.
- The installation of several automated library material self-check stations and the introduction of Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) to Library materials will revolutionize how our customers will be able to access and acquire Library books and media and conduct other Library related business. The existing automated material handling system will have upgrades and enhancements that will raise library efficiencies, thus, allowing Library staff more time for one-on-one customer service. The application of RFID to library material will commence in 2008 and continue until the entire collection has been accounted for.
- Architectural features and interior finishes at the Central Library are unique, having no equal within the City of Denver and are a source of civic pride. The interiors will get much-needed repairs and refreshing that will include but not limited to: Lighting upgrades, new carpeting and flooring, painting, and woodwork refinishing. New furnishings and shelving will be added that will make library materials and service more readily accessible. Initial design work is already in progress. Many of the repair needs will see attention in 2008 and be on going through to 2012.
- This represents approximately \$1,000,000.00 dollars worth of repairs and upgrades.

In addition, the bond program will include three new branch libraries in Green Valley Ranch, Stapleton, and on the west side of Denver. Work is already underway to begin those projects, and all three should be finished by end of 2012. The existing Branches of the Denver Public Library will also benefit from bond-funded renovations and upgrades completed over the next three years.

These improvements are part of the infrastructure package approved by voters in November 2007 (Ballot Issues B thru I), which also includes funding for parks, streets, public safety, cultural institutions and other important infrastructure needs. In all, over 200 projects are part of the \$550 million bond package, and all projects will be completed within five years (end of 2012).

For more details, visit the program web site: [www.denvergov.org/bondprojects](http://www.denvergov.org/bondprojects) or call Michael Murphy at (720) 865-1151 for additional library improvement questions.