



BETTER DENVER PROGRAM

201 West Colfax Avenue
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denvergov.org

BETTER DENVER BOND PROGRAM IMPROVEMENTS AT DENVER PUBLIC LIBRARIES

September 15, 2008

To: Denver Public 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 branch libraries as funded by the Better Denver bond program.

Specifically, in 2008, **the Smiley Branch Library**, one of five Carnegie inspired libraries in Denver, will begin to realize the following improvements:

- Replacement and upgrades to several building and life safety systems that have been deferred over the years. This includes the replacement of the fire detection and alarm system with state-of-the-art technology, replacement of the 30-year-old boiler with a high energy efficient, Energy Star rated boiler, and modernization of other related plumbing and electrical systems.
- The installation of 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.
- Architectural features, interior finishes and park setting make the Smiley Branch Library unique in the City of Denver. These unique features and historical ambience will receive much-needed repairs and refreshing, including but not limited to: Lighting upgrades, new carpeting and flooring, new furniture and paint.
- This represents approx \$250,000 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 the 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 or call Michael Murphy at (720) 865-1151 for additional library improvement questions.