



Denver Central Library

10 W. 14th Ave. Pkwy.,
80204 | 720-865-1111

October 26, 2022

Dear Ross-Cherry Creek Branch Library Community,

We wanted to take a moment to provide you with an update on the status of the Ross-Cherry Creek Branch Library. As you know, the branch temporarily closed in January 2022 due to concerns raised in an initial structural review.

Reopening the Ross-Cherry Creek branch remains a high priority. We know you are eager to have the library back in a place in your community and we hope to be able to do so when we can safely open our doors again.

Background

Like all DPL buildings, the Ross-Cherry Creek branch library is owned by the City and County of Denver. As City assets, all building updates and maintenance concerns are led by and addressed by our partners at the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure (DOTI). The branch closed in January 2022 after a 2021 *initial* structural engineering review indicated that concrete cracking and the concrete composition of the building were legitimate safety concerns.

At this point, it was determined that more analysis was needed to ensure the structural integrity of the building. Over this past year, another, more in depth structural review was initiated and completed. In late September 2022, we, along with our partners at DOTI received the report from the structural engineering firm.

The September 2022 structural review report was recently reviewed by our partners at DOTI. The additional testing validated concerns with the structural integrity of the building and identified challenges with the concrete composition of the structure. In partnership with DOTI, we will be commissioning another engineering study in order to gather a second opinion on the structural risks and potential mitigation investments to return to safe utilization of the Cherry Creek Branch.

Next Steps

Because of this additional engineering study, the building will remain closed until all deficiencies in the building are identified and can be corrected. To gather this second opinion, we will need to go through the City's procurement process to get another engineering firm onboard.

Procurement process timeframes vary - at this time we do not have an estimated timeframe for when the work will begin or how long the building will be closed. Once this second opinion is

received, we will work with our partners at the City to understand the findings along with what next steps need to be taken to correct the issues and damage.

In the interim, we are exploring options to bring library service to the area while the branch remains closed. We would appreciate your assistance in dispelling inaccurate information about the branch's closure. *The Denver Public Library has no interest or plans to sell the property and is committed to providing library service in this community.*

We will be hosting an open house for the community on Thursday, November 3 from 8-10am at Aviano Coffee on 2nd & Saint Paul. We don't anticipate having any new information then but plan to use this time to connect and hear your questions.

We will also continue to provide updates via the branch Facebook page and our website. You can also call 720.865.1111 for more information.

Sincerely,

Michelle Jeske
City Librarian