



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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NORTHEAST LIBRARY & COMMUNITY CENTER DESIGN BEGINS *Community Encouraged to Participate and Share Ideas*

STOCKTON, Calif. – The City of Stockton Community Services Department has begun the process of designing a combined library and community center in Northeast Stockton that will be located on West Lane next to McNair High School. Community members are encouraged to participate in the design process through a series of engaging meetings. The first meetings will be held Wednesday, Oct. 24, 2018. Community members can participate between 4:30 – 6 p.m. or 7 – 8 p.m. All meetings will be held in the Culinary Arts Café at McNair High School, 9550 Ronald E. McNair Way, at Morada and West Lanes.

“This new combined library and community center will be the first of its kind in the city of Stockton,” shared Community Services Director John Alita. “We’ve built libraries and we’ve built community centers. We’ve added libraries to community centers, but this is the first opportunity to design and build a facility that intentionally combines both from the beginning and engages those who will use this incredible resource in the process.”

The site for this new location was selected in 1995 and dedicated to the City in 2002. Strong Communities was approved by voters in November 2016, providing a

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funding source for the building through a dedicated one-quarter cent sales tax initiative, Measure M. Until recently, when a full-service micro library was opened at the Arnold Rue Community Center, the Margaret Troke Library, on Benjamin Holt Drive near Pacific Avenue, was the only library serving the city of Stockton north of Harding Way.

“We’ve recognized the need for additional services for over two decades,” continued Alita. “That is what makes designing and building of this location – based on the ideas and needs of those who will use the services – that much more exciting. In addition, the building will be designed to be environmentally friendly with a minimum goal to obtain LEED Silver-level certification, a commitment made by the City Council back in 2007 for all new City buildings over 10,000 square feet in size.”

Parking for all meetings is available in the McNair High School staff parking lot, which is immediately on the right when entering Ronald E. McNair Way. Signage will be posted with directions to the Culinary Arts Café.

Additional community meetings are scheduled for December 6, 2018, and January 24, 2019. All meeting dates offer two options for participation, 4:30 – 6 p.m. or 7 – 8 p.m. All who are interested, children, youth and adults, are welcome to be part of the process.

Those needing accommodations are asked to call at least five (5) days in advance of the meeting date. Please visit www.stocktonca.gov/necenter or call 209-937-8827.

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