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# **Press Release**

For Immediate Release  
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## **County to Break Ground on Turlock Library Expansion**

The Turlock Library has provided service at its current location for 51 years, since its opening in 1968. Welcoming nearly 170,000 people in Fiscal Year 2019, the library is frequented by many residents of South Stanislaus County and those who reside in the city of Turlock. The Turlock Library is long overdue for expansion.

A Facilities Assessment commissioned as part of the Library's 2010 Strategic Planning process identified several challenging issues with the existing Turlock Library including insufficient size to meet the needs of the community it serves, inadequate space for community meetings, Story Time and other children's program, space for teens, computer use, and quiet study areas.

The Board of Supervisors has recognized the need for additional library space and enthusiastically support serving the Turlock community with a larger library. "I'm excited to finally break ground on this much needed expansion of the Turlock Library," said Stanislaus County Supervisor Vito Chiesa. "The residents of Turlock have been extremely supportive and engaged in the process."

The Turlock Library project will renovate the existing Library and expand it significantly. The new Library will be approximately 16,530 square feet (currently 10,000 sf). Highlights of the new facility will include a community room for library programs and public meetings, an expanded children's library with adjacent children's garden, an improved teen area, space for Turlock Friends of the Library and a quiet reading room. Study rooms, a flexible programming space, and an enclosed courtyard will provide additional uses for the new facility. The Library's entry, children's garden, and an enclosed courtyard will enhance the Library's park-like setting.

In addition to providing the materials and services Library users are already familiar with, the renovated Turlock Library will offer Google Chromebooks for checkout and use within the library, and passport application acceptance services which are currently only available at Modesto and Salida Libraries. The Turlock Library community room will be available for use by area organizations and groups, for meetings and programs open to the general public.

Last fall, the Board of Supervisors approved the design documents for the Turlock Library Expansion Project and selected the Design-Build Team, Roebbelen Contracting Inc., and LDA Partners Inc. Since then, the County's Capital Projects team and the Design Build team have been working on final construction plans and specifications.

The Turlock Library will close for renovation on March 14, 2020 which will be the last day of operation, pending approval by the Board of Supervisors. Construction for the Turlock Branch Library is anticipated to begin in early April 2020 and to be completed in Spring 2021.

During the temporary closure of the Turlock Library:

- The book drops located on Minaret and in the Library's parking lot will remain open and available for returns.
- A pop-up library will be available for customers to place and pick up holds at the Turlock Senior Center, 1191 Cahill St, Turlock, CA 95380. Pop-up hours of operations will be:
  - Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
  - Thursdays 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- Story times for babies, toddlers and preschoolers are scheduled at the pop-up library at Turlock Senior Center, Turlock Senior Center, 1191 Cahill St, Turlock, CA 95380, on Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

The public is encouraged to visit nearby libraries during Turlock's temporary closure:

- Denair Library, 4801 Kersey Road, Denair, CA 95316 (5 miles)
- Keyes Library, 4420 Maud Avenue, Keyes, CA 95328 (6 miles)
- Hughson Library, 2412 A Third Street, Hughson, CA 95326 (8 miles)
- Ceres Library, 2250 Magnolia, Ceres, CA 95307 (10 miles)

**The County Board of Supervisors will hold a public ground-breaking ceremony to celebrate the Turlock Library project at 550 North Minaret Avenue, Turlock CA on Saturday, February 22, 2020 at 11 a.m. This event is a collaboration between the Friends of the Turlock Library and Stanislaus County.**

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