



NEWS RELEASE

October 14, 2003

City Council Member Jerry Holland (Dist. 5) joined Jacksonville Public Library director Ken Sivulich and Library Board of Trustees chairman Steve Rosenbloom at the groundbreaking of the East Regional Branch Library. The \$10.25 million project, located at 13295 Beach Boulevard, west of the Beach Boulevard and Hodges Boulevard intersection, is anticipated to open in summer 2004.

The new 40,000 square foot branch library will feature a children's area with a story hour room and puppet theatre, a separate teen section and eight meeting rooms. The public will have access to computer technology with 72 public computers and an electronic classroom of 15 computers.

"This branch will be a blend of the old and the new," said Ken Sivulich, Library Director, "We will have many of the services our library customers would expect, but also many new features that customers will be surprised to see, such as a teen area, drive up service window and express checkout."

The Program Manager for the East Regional Branch Library is Heery International. The facility was designed by VRL Architects and the general contractor is O.R. Dicky Smith and Company, Inc.

The East Regional Branch Library is one of the six new branch libraries funded by The Better Jacksonville Plan. The Better Jacksonville Plan also includes the renovation of 12 existing library branches and a new 300,000 square foot Main Library.

For more information, contact Lisa Rowe at 630-1653 or Marcy Cook at 630-7669.

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