



City of
OAKLAND
California

Media Contact:

Winifred Walters
Community Relations Director
510-238-6932
wwalters@oaklandlibrary.org

News from: **Oakland Public Library**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Oakland Public Library's Dimond Branch to Close Temporarily for a Renovation Project

Oakland, CA – The Oakland Public Library has announced that the Dimond Branch Library, 3565 Fruitvale Avenue, will close temporarily, beginning Friday December 23, for a renovation project. The Dimond Branch is scheduled to reopen in May 2017.

The Dimond Library renovation project consists of a “makeover” of the first floor to better serve children, teens and adult patrons, with distinct program areas and comfortable seating. There will be fresh paint throughout the interior, new carpeting on the first floor and enhancements to the second floor meeting room, including replacing the linoleum tile floor with carpeting. New furniture will be purchased for the first floor spaces for children, teens, and adults. The remodeled branch will feature a new information desk and self-check machines.

“The project supports two important OPL objectives – promoting early literacy with an improved Children’s area and providing a welcoming, safe space for teens with the establishment of a Teen Zone,” according to Gerry Garzon, Director of Library Services.

The project is funded entirely by donations and foundation grants. To date, a total of \$660,000 has been raised. A community fundraising campaign led by the Friends of the Dimond Library has set a goal of \$50,000 to help purchase new, library-grade furniture. For more information about the community fundraising campaign, visit www.friendsofdimondlibrary.org.

If patrons have items on hold with Dimond Branch designated as the pick-up location, the location will automatically change to César E. Chávez Branch, 3301 East 12th St., Suite 271. The Dimond book drops will remain open during the closure and returned items will be checked in on a regular basis.

“We know that this temporary closure will have an impact on community members who use this busy branch,” says Garzon. “We encourage patrons to visit other Oakland libraries to check out books, and to participate in storytimes and other programs. We look forward to welcoming everyone back to a new and improved Dimond Library in 2017.”

For more information, please contact Mary Schrader, Supervising Librarian, at 510-238-6720 or mschrader@oaklandlibrary.org. Visit the Oakland Public Library on line at www.oaklandlibrary.org.

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