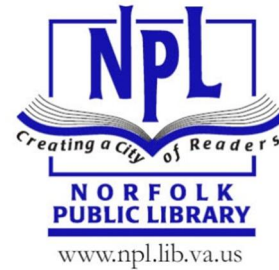


For Immediate Release

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Norfolk Main Library Will Close November 1, 2011 for the Construction of the Slover Memorial Library.

Norfolk, VA (October 14, 2011). On November 1, 2011, the interim Norfolk Main Library will close to begin preparations for the construction of the City of Norfolk's new main library, the Colonel Samuel L. Slover Memorial Main Library.

Now in the final stages of the building design and planning phase, the Slover Memorial Main Library is close to becoming a reality. The groundbreaking is anticipated to take place in early 2012, and the new library will be open in early 2014. In order to maintain a safe environment during construction for the public and library staff, the current interim main library, Norfolk Main Library, will be closed during the construction of Slover Memorial Library.

Norfolk Main Library collections are being redistributed to Norfolk's 10 neighborhood branches, the Mary D. Pretlow Anchor Branch Library, and the Library Administrative Offices and Service Center. A portion of the Sargeant Memorial Local History and Genealogy Collection (SMC) will relocate temporarily to the Pretlow Anchor Branch Library at 111 West Ocean View Avenue, and will be available to the public on January 17, 2012.

During the closure of the main library, residents of downtown Norfolk who utilized Norfolk Main Library as their neighborhood branch will have several ways to receive library services. Downtown residents who need library services can do so at any of NPL's 10 branch libraries or the Pretlow Anchor Branch Library. The Bookmobile will also make stops at three locations in downtown: Nauticus parking lot, Freemason Street Baptist Church and the W.A Hunton YMCA Learning Academy. The Bookmobile schedule is available online at www.npl.lib.va.us.

During construction, the public will find that many of Norfolk Main Library's services are also available at the Pretlow Anchor Branch Library. At the Pretlow Anchor Branch, customers will have access to books, computers, a KidZone and Children's Library, and the Sargeant Memorial Local History and Genealogy Collection. There is ample parking at Pretlow Anchor Branch Library, and the library is open seven days a week.

With the distribution of Norfolk Main Library's materials and services to the Pretlow Anchor Branch Library and the neighborhood branches, the citizens of Norfolk will continue to have access to the Main Library's unique collection and its services during the construction of the Slover Memorial Library.

For more information about the Slover Memorial Library project, please call Norman Maas, Library Director, at 441-5910 or go to www.npl.lib.va.us and click on the Slover Memorial Library icon.

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