

Eastover Opens Upgraded Richland Library Location

Written by Staff Writer

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Columbia, SC – Richland Library will unveil its newly renovated and expanded Eastover location at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, April 30 at 608 Main St. in Eastover.

Located 20 miles southeast of Columbia, the new 5,200 square foot facility was made possible by a USDA Rural Development grant, funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, and matching funds from Richland County.

More than 300 students from Webber Elementary will be on hand to celebrate the grand opening of the new library, which will provide vital access to resources that will help them become ready to read, learn and succeed.

Highlights of the \$1.6 million renovation and expansion of Richland Library Eastover, which was designed by CDA Architects, include:

- Double the space taking the library from 2,400 square feet to 5,200 square feet;
- Expanded hours and enhanced services;
- A meeting room, tutor room and additional computers;

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- Integrated historical elements that promote Lower Richland's vibrant past; and
- A state-of-the art children's area with exciting new features from EdVenture Children's Museum.

Richland Library Eastover is also pursuing LEED Silver Certification--which would make it one of the first certified county-owned/municipal buildings in Richland County.

"Now more than ever, the people of Eastover need and deserve a first-class library," said Melanie Huggins, Richland Library's Executive Director. "Thanks to their perseverance and support from the USDA—matched by that of Richland County—they got one."

A staple in the Eastover community since 1930, the library has lived in numerous rented storefronts before breaking ground on a permanent home in 1985. Over the last three decades, Eastover's 5,400 residents have proved their need for more space, more computers and more access to the library's resources. In 2012, Richland Library Eastover saw more than 38,000 visitors and circulated 46,000 items.

For more information, visit RichlandLibrary.com or call 803.929.3440.