

MEDIA RELEASE

Fresno County Public Library



FRESNO COUNTY PUBLIC
LIBRARY
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FRESNO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY ANNOUNCES NEW LOCATION FOR THE LEO POLITI BRANCH LIBRARY

The Fresno County Public Library is excited to announce that the Fresno County Board of Supervisors has officially approved a lease agreement today, paving the way for our move into a larger, more modern facility for the Leo Politi Branch Library. This significant step marks a new chapter for our library and promises to enhance the services and resources we provide to our community.

The new space, located at 6074 North First Street, Fresno, CA 93710, offers approximately 21,400 square feet, a substantial increase from just over 5,000 square feet at our current location. This expansion will allow us to accommodate a growing collection of books, digital media, and other resources, while also providing ample room for community events, library programs, and study areas.

"We are incredibly excited about this move," said Sally Gomez, Director of the Fresno County Public Library. "The new space will not only allow us to expand our offerings but also create a more welcoming and functional environment for our patrons. We envision this new location as a hub for learning, creativity, and community engagement."

Key features of the new space include:

- Expanded children's and young adult sections
- Additional public computers
- Meeting rooms and quiet study space
- A multi-use community room

The relocation process for the Leo Politi Library will involve renovating the building, previously occupied by Rite Aide, into a modern public library. As we prepare for this transition, we are committed to moving as quickly as possible while ensuring the project is completed to the highest standards. Our goal is to create a space that will serve our community for decades to come, and we appreciate the patience and support of our patrons during this process.

The funding for this project comes from the voter-approved sales tax Measure B, which provides 1/8 of a percent of sales tax in Fresno County to Fresno County Public Libraries. We thank the community for their continued commitment to our shared vision of creating free community spaces and resources for our residents.

This project would not have been possible without the tireless advocacy and support of the Friends of the Leo Politi Library. Their dedication to our mission and unwavering efforts to champion this expansion have been instrumental in bringing this vision to life. We extend our deepest gratitude to the Friends of the Library for their continued commitment to enhancing the services and facilities available to our community.

"The Friends of Leo Politi Library are thrilled to have a new larger library available to our community. A great big thanks to all who supported us and helped make this long-time dream come true." Janet Classen, Friends of the Leo Politi Library.

We look forward to welcoming everyone to our new location and continuing to serve as a vital resource for education, information, and cultural enrichment. To stay up to date on the progress of the new Leo Politi Branch Library, please visit our website at www.fresnolibrary.org or follow us on Facebook, where we will post ongoing photos and videos of the renovation.

About the Leo Politi Library: The Leo Politi Library was named after renowned children's book author/illustrator and Fresno native, who won the 1950 Caldecott Award for his *Song of the Swallows*. The current location opened just over fifty years ago on May 20th, 1974, and has been one of the busiest library locations in Fresno County. The Leo Politi Library contains many pieces of original Leo Politi artwork, including the famous mural in the children's section painted by Leo Politi for the Leo Politi Library.

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