

New Central Library to be Built in Heritage Crossing

Heritage Crossing plans are proceeding with the latest announcement of a new Central Library in the redevelopment area that will provide enhanced services and more entertainment options to residents and visitors.

Public Investment

Library services will be improved through facility features such as:

- Indoor and outdoor programming
- State-of-the-art computer technology
- Quiet reading area
- Expanded children's area
- Individual study rooms
- Multipurpose rooftop garden

With a new library in the works, plans for the existing Central Library include a complete renovation of the facility into a city-owned museum that will honor and exhibit the unique history of Irving. The museum is being billed as a cultural asset that will attract visitors throughout the North Central Texas region.

Complete with historical storyboards depicting the history of Irving, interactive audiovisual elements, and a host of educational activities for the entire family, the museum will complement the retail and housing developments also in the planning stages for the same vicinity.

Following City Council consensus of the concept will be the city staff creation and implementation of an action plan that will include the proposed timeline.

Private Investment

In addition, several private investment projects also are in the works for Heritage Crossing. Along with McDougal Companies, longtime corporate partners are working to change the face of the area. A brief timeline of some of the planned projects to date is as follows:

- McDonald's, located at 302 W. Irving Blvd., is being replaced with a more modern structure that will meet the established guidelines for the area. The caboose has been removed to make way for the new pedestrian-friendly restaurant.
- Construction is set to begin later this year on a \$16 million townhome complex featuring 40 units and 17,000 square feet of retail space just east of the Heritage Senior Center between Second and Fourth streets.
- In 2010, construction will begin on a \$22-plus million apartment project on Main Street.
- The former site of the Vista Del Lago apartments will be home to a new \$30 million apartment complex, with construction set to begin in 2011.

The 640-acre Heritage Crossing area is bound by Pioneer Drive, Britain Road, Shady Grove Road and MacArthur Boulevard. Stay up to date with all of Irving's major developments by tuning in to "Building Our City" on ICTN 1 (Time Warner – Channel 16 and Verizon – Channel 30) or by [viewing it online through video on demand](#).