

New West Irving Library to Provide More Services to Residents

Expanded library services will be available to residents in west and central Irving as plans for a new standalone facility begin to take shape. The West Irving Library will replace the city's Northwest and Southwest library storefronts. Construction on the 25,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art library is set to begin this December.

In keeping with the city's green initiative, the building will be designed to be LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Certified in accordance with the U.S. Green Building Council standards. The library will be equipped with panels that allow for the conversion of solar energy into electricity, and will include use of geo-thermal energy to heat and cool the building.

Library features will include a computer lab and business center complete with WiFi access, and outdoor reading and activity areas. Exterior elements will consist of pocket parks with native landscaping, public art, native stone walls and a retention pond.

The future site of the West Irving Library is a 6.5-acre plot of city-owned property located on the corner of Rochelle and Esters roads near Northwest Park Recreation Center. Cost to complete the West Irving Library is estimated at \$8 million, with the facility's grand opening scheduled for early 2011.