



**For immediate release**

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### **Siloam Springs Public Library to Open Doors at New Building**

Monday, February 29, 2016 (*Siloam Springs, Ark.*) The City of Siloam Springs will open the doors at the new Siloam Springs Public Library on Monday, March 7 at 10:00 a.m. with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Please join us at 205 E. Jefferson to see the future of the Siloam Springs Public Library.

This newly constructed building totals 18,500 square feet including a teen area, a children's area and reading room, six study/work rooms, expansive main floor area for adult reading, a cozy nook for periodicals and reference materials plus a wing dedicated to public use. This public use area hosts two rooms that can hold 100 and 50 respectively, but can also be combined to host larger meetings. The nonprofit group the Friends of the Library also has its own store in the public wing of the building. Outside you can enjoy the back balcony overlooking downtown or the west patio featuring a gas fireplace.

- In September of 2012, library design firm MSR and architect Matt Pearson started feasibility studies.
- In February of 2013, the Board approved a future library up to 22,000 square feet and \$4.4 million with \$2 million coming from the City and the other monies coming from fundraising. The site was also decided upon.
- Throughout 2013 staff visited a number of local libraries and spoke with their staff, getting feedback about what worked for them and what didn't work for them.
- In 2013, a number of public meetings, work sessions and steering committee meetings were held to discuss the façade and interior spaces.
- By November 2013, architect Matt Pearson revealed a conceptual design at a Board meeting.
- In December of 2014, the City Board of Directors, with the leadership of Director Bob Coleman, voted to allocate \$4.7 million towards the building of the new Library.
- A groundbreaking ceremony was held April 20, 2015.
- Construction began at the new library site on May 1, 2015
- City staff started the moving process into the new building on February 22, 2016.

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