
DEKALB COUNTY

W. Burrell Ellis, Jr.
Chief Executive Officer



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**DEKALB CEO BURRELL ELLIS, COMMISSIONER
CONNIE STOKES AND COMMISSIONER LEE MAY
BREAK GROUND FOR NEW LIBRARY**
“Citizens Will Soon Have More Room to Read”

DECATUR – DeKalb CEO Burrell Ellis, District 7 Commissioner Connie Stokes, District 5 Commissioner Lee May, and DeKalb County Library Board of Trustees Chairperson Mary Lee Davis along with DeKalb County Library Director Darro Willey broke ground recently on the expansion of the Salem-Panola Library. Once completed, the project will increase the library’s 4,000 square feet to 18,000 square feet.

“Investing in our library system is the equivalent of investing in our future and our children’s futures,” said CEO Ellis.

Salem-Panola Library, located at 5137 Salem Road in Lithonia, was built October 15, 1990. Currently, the branch includes an 11,000 volume collection, children’s area, 10 computers for public use, and 20 parking spaces. Once completed, the new facility will include a 53,000 volume collection, a 100-seat meeting room, a 12-seat conference room, a six-seat study/tutor room, a youth area, a teen area, 38 computers for public use, self-checkout stations, and 140 parking spaces. Library hours also will be extended when the facility reopens.

“The impact that our libraries have on our educational advancement and quality of life help to create vital economic advantages,” CEO Ellis said. “Studies have shown that an educated

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community thrives in business, builds the economy, and helps to improve the workforce, which is why we have continued to support our libraries in the county's 2009 budget.”

The new library is slated to open in the Fall of 2010.



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