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***** Attached Building Renderings *****

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**LIBRARY BOARD OF CONTROL INVITES PUBLIC TO GROUNDBREAKING
FOR SCOTLANDVILLE BRANCH LIBRARY RENOVATION ON MAY 19**

To start construction of the Phase Two renovation/expansion of the Scotlandville Branch Library, the East Baton Rouge Parish Library Board of Control will host a formal groundbreaking event. The public is invited to this special “gold shovel event” at 10 a.m. on Monday, May 19 at 7373 Scenic Highway.

Beyond remarks to be made by **Library Board President Candace Temple and East Baton Rouge Parish Library Director Katrina Stokes**, will be special VIP guests, including **East Baton Rouge City-Parish Mayor-President Emile “Sid” Edwards; East Baton Rouge Metro Councilman Anthony Kenney (District 2)**; representatives of Stantec Architecture; Sienna Construction; and Library Board members: Donald Luther, Jr. (vice president), Kathy Wascom (treasurer), Nicole Allmon-Learson, Councilman Darryl Hurst, Ronnie Pierce, and Delores Watts.

Phase Two of the renovation/expansion will take an estimated 10 months. A total of \$8.8 million is budgeted for the entire project. The East Baton Rouge City-Parish is the owner; the Library is the user. During construction, City-Parish Architectural Services and Library staff will work with the architect and the general contractor to oversee the project. Funds for this pay-as-you-go project were amassed over time by the East Baton Rouge Parish Library, with no bonds or indebtedness, through the Library’s 10-year dedicated property tax and in accordance with the Capital Improvement Plan.

“We are pleased to continue the much-anticipated expansion and renovation of the Scotlandville Branch Library as we begin Phase Two of the project,” **said Library Director Katrina Stokes**. “The Scotlandville Branch Library has served its patrons well for over 50 years, and upon completion of Phase Two, will enhance its services and resources to the north Baton Rouge community. The project has been executed in two phases to minimize disruption and loss of library services to patrons and affirms the Library’s commitment to maintain the public’s investment throughout the parish by updating and expanding currently utilized facilities, as well as providing new indoor and outdoor spaces to benefit residents of the community.”

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SCOTLANDVILLE BRANCH LIBRARY GROUNDBREAKING/2

The renovated Library Complex will include:

- Increased square footage of 6,241 for a total of 24,226 square feet
- Newly completed, adjacent Archive Annex of 6,640 square feet (Phase One)
- Dynamic, dedicated spaces for children, teens, and adults
- Books, AV materials, and periodicals for all ages
- Free public computers and printing
- Laptops for free computer classes
- Free Wi-Fi and laptop bar
- AWE Early Literacy Workstations and Interactives for children
- Self-check stations, full-service checkout, and online library catalogs
- Large meeting/assembly room with a retractable stage that can be divided into two meeting rooms
- Black Heritage Room with gallery space
- One conference room
- Two programming rooms with green screen and maker technology
- Three collaborative work/study rooms with regular and interactive monitors for public use
- Protected overhang for convenient drop off
- Dedicated parking with additional handicap accessible parking
- Bike racks and bike repair station
- Updated courtyards, including one designed for public programming
- Garden story walk
- Space for community fridge

This spacious and welcoming Library will continue to offer the public a carefully selected collection of popular browsing materials for all ages and interests, including new books, audio books, music, DVDs, Blu-rays, magazines, and newspapers. The Black Heritage Room will provide a space for special exhibits and displays, as well as a space for hosting programming related to African American art and literature.

Technology will remain a strong feature of the renovated Scotlandville Branch, with robust WiFi, computers with free access to the Internet (including the EBRPL Digital Library), as well as Microsoft Office. In addition, the Library offers free public printing of up to 20 black-and-white pages per day, mobile printing through the PaperCut app, black-and-white and color copiers, and fax-on-demand.

For more information about phase two of the Scotlandville Branch Renovation Project, visit ebrpl.co/scotlandville.

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The East Baton Rouge Parish Library is a community service organization that provides access and connects people to information, resources, materials, technology, and experiences to make a positive difference in their lives. The Main Library at Goodwood is joined by 14 branches open seven days a week, and Library services are available 24 / 7 at www.ebrpl.com. Please follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube and Pinterest.