



East Baton Rouge Parish Library

7711 Goodwood Boulevard
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
70806

NEWS RELEASE

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INDEPENDENCE COMMUNITY PARK CONCEPT PLAN FOR NEW MAIN LIBRARY IN THE PARK

After numerous meetings and workshops over the past few months, a site concept plan has been developed for the new Main Library in the Park. This plan is the result of a joint process led by The Library Design Collaborative which incorporated community input as well staff involvement from the East Baton Rouge Parish Library and BREC. This plan situates the new Main Library to the immediate north of the existing facility, which will be replaced with parking.

In addition to defining the site for the approximately 100,000 square foot Library, highlights include BREC's plans for access to new and established gardens, water features, a free-standing cyber café, a teaching garden, and Thought Square. Thought Square, reminiscent of a town plaza or center, will be a multi-use activity area that will serve as a dynamic, unifying gathering space for all of the functions and features of Independence Community Park: the Library, the gardens, soccer facilities, the theater, and the playground. Other details of the concept plan include prominent access to the Library from Goodwood Boulevard, ample shared parking, and accommodations for a Library drive-thru window which will allow patrons to pick up or drop-off materials.

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This concept plan will serve as the template for the next stage of design development of the project. The anticipated groundbreaking for the new Main Library is 2009. “We are extremely pleased and excited with the outcome of this stage of the design process,” says Library Director, Lydia M. Acosta. “This plan truly integrates the Library into the Park and creates a new community space that will be full of energy, both functional and beautiful, and will build on the synergy between the Library and the Park.”

For more information, call (225) 231-3700.

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