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## **Renovated St. Matthews Library set to reopen May 9**

**LOUISVILLE, Ky. (February 25, 2019)** – One of the busiest branches in the Louisville Free Public Library system will re-open its doors after nearly nine months of renovations. Starting Thursday, May 9, the newly expanded St. Matthews Library—located at 3940 Grandview Avenue—will become the fourth largest public library in Louisville.

With 7,800 square feet of additional space, the now 19,000-square-foot library will house more than 70,000 books and feature a large meeting room with seating for 100, a small conference room, a space for teens, an outdoor children’s area, and new technology—including self-checkout stations. A new entrance with glass façade will fill the space with an abundance of natural light, and services will be on one level for easy access for all members of the community.

Renovation of the St. Matthews Library was spearheaded by St. Matthews Mayor Rick Tonini and the St. Matthews City Council as part of a comprehensive \$10 million project to remodel the St. Matthews city hall and police headquarters. Louisville Metro Government contributed \$1 million towards the library portion of the project.

“Four years ago we met with library officials about ‘freshening up’ the St. Matthews Eline Library,” said St. Matthews Mayor Rick Tonini. “Our discussions turned from new paint to a new building. Now we are about to cut the ribbon on a greatly expanded venue that will serve people of all ages. There are more books and materials checked out at this branch than any library in the LFPL system. We are excited to see the use grow for the entire community.”

“Lifelong learning is one of our city’s core values, and our investment in the Louisville Free Public Library system is a tangible sign of that commitment,” said Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer. “I am excited about the amazing resources the expanded St. Matthews Library is going to provide for our citizens, and I am thankful to Mayor Tonini and the City of St. Matthews for the wonderful partnership that made this happen.”

The community is invited to come celebrate the grand opening with Mayor Tonini and Mayor Fischer on Thursday, May 9 at 10:00 a.m. There will be tours of the library, refreshments, and activities for the whole family. The grand opening event is free and open to the public.

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*Louisville Free Public Library connects the residents of Louisville and Jefferson County to knowledge and information at our 18 locations and on the web at [LFPL.org](http://LFPL.org). Come on in, the whole world’s inside.*