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Demolition clears way for \$8.8 Million Library *Alum Rock Branch Library will break ground on February 21, 2004*

San Jose ---On the morning of January 28, 2004, the final structure in a row of vacant retail buildings on Alum Rock and White Roads was demolished. With a swing of a sledgehammer, Councilmember Nora Campos helped clear the way for the state of the art Alum Rock Branch Library.

The \$8.8 million library was paid for by the voter approved Branch Library Bond Measure in November of 2000. The bond provided \$212 million over ten years for six new and fourteen expanded branch libraries.. West Bay Builders will handle the construction of this facility.

“This library is going to have something for everyone, not only will this become a gathering place for people in the community, but it’s something Eastside residents can really take pride in,” said Councilmember Campos.

At 26,000 square feet, the Alum Rock Branch Library will be almost four times larger the original county library and will have shelving for up to 150,000 books. An internet café, adult learning center, teen center, children’s area, community meeting room, and reading room with a fireplace will be some of the many features. The county library will remain open until construction of the new branch is completed and then will be demolished to provide expanded parking.

New library updates are available online at www.newsanjoselibraries.com or by calling (408) 794-1400. The official groundbreaking for the Alum Rock Branch Library will take place on Saturday, February 21 at 11:00 a.m..