



# Mayor Dick Murphy NEWS FOR RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE:** February 9, 2005

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## **\$80 MILLION FOR THE NEW MAIN LIBRARY**

### ***A CCDC Committee Recommends Upping the Agency's Investment by \$30 Million***

**San Diego** - Mayor Dick Murphy today celebrated a recommendation by a Centre City Development Corporation (CCDC) subcommittee to increase the organization's contribution to the new main library by \$30 million dollars.

"I encourage the full CCDC board to follow suit and put its stamp of approval on this important recommendation," Mayor Murphy said. "Once it is finalized, the CCDC will have committed up to \$80 million to helping build a new landmark main library in downtown San Diego."

During a meeting Wednesday, the CCDC Finance Committee agreed that the downtown redevelopment board should increase its investment in the \$150 million library project from \$50 million to \$80 million. The full CCDC board is expected to vote on the recommendation February 23.

"We can build this project with little or no general fund money," Mayor Murphy said. "In spite of the city's financial problems, we must not abandon our dream for a new state-of-the-art facility. If we work hard and refuse to give in to the naysayers, we will succeed."

If CCDC agrees to put up to \$80 million into the project, the city will have raised more than two-thirds of the money needed to build the new main library. The State of California has awarded the city a \$20 million grant to help build the project. And the Hervey Family Foundation has announced it will donate \$1 million toward the library.

In the coming months, a campaign will take place to raise the remaining \$49 million needed to pay for the project from private donors and other sources.

The main library is part of a \$312 million program to build a 21st century library system for the city of San Diego. The program calls for building 13 new libraries and expanding 11 existing branches over 10 years. During the last four years, this city has completed two new branch libraries and started construction on four more.

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