

The New Ramona Branch Library

Frequently Asked Questions - FAQs

The Ramona Library officially opened as a San Diego County Library branch on May 26, 1913. The new Library will open on February 15, 2011. It will offer a host of services that empower and educate the community including free access to 33.7 million books, DVD movies, and music CDs.

How were the architect and contractor chosen to design and build the new library?

The decision was made that the new library would be built using the Design/Build model. The Design/Build Request for Statement of Qualifications was submitted and the four highest ranking submittals went on to the second part of the process, the Request for Proposal. The best value Design/Build proposal was awarded the contract in accordance with the provisions of the Public Contract Code.

Who is the Design/Build Team?

The Ramona Library was delivered by the Design build team of C.W. Driver - Builders; Ferguson Pape Baldwin Architects – Architects of Record; and Manuel Oncina – Design Architect.

When is the opening of the new Ramona Library?

The new library will open on February 15, 2011.

Where is the new library located?

The new library is located at 1275 Main Street, Ramona, CA 92065.

How was the new library funded?

The San Diego County Board of Supervisors authorized \$11,629,000 with \$966,000 contributed by The Friends of the Ramona Library.

How big is the new library?

The new library is approximately 21,000 square feet, which is four times the size of the previous facility.

What are some of the features of the new library?

- Friends of the Library Bookstore
- Community Room
- Expanded children's space with story time room
- Fireplace
- Separate space for teens
- Family homework and tutoring center
- Comfortable lounge seating
- Solar panels – providing energy savings
- Small group meeting rooms and study spaces
- A Poets' Patio
- Local Eagle Scout Troop Flag Pole

Why are solar panels an important feature of the new Ramona Library?

The energy generated by the three County-owned photovoltaic (PV) arrays which totals more than 5,000 square feet and installed on the Ramona Library roof, will offset approximately one-half the estimated electrical consumption needed to operate the Library. This use of an alternative energy source as a part of the building's design contributes to LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification requirements. Ramona Library is expected to achieve Gold LEED status.

Information displaying the energy produced by the photovoltaic systems as well as the building's energy use is displayed on a screen mounted in the lobby of the Ramona Library.

What are some of the technological features of the new library?

- Public internet computers
- Free wireless internet access
- Digital monitor to track solar energy contribution and branch updates
- Automated book check-out
- Automated sorter for book check-in

Additional information:

- The Ramona Library is expected to achieve Gold LEED certification for sustainability.