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For Immediate Release

Library Service Set to Resume on Pittsburgh's North Side

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh – Allegheny Prepares for a Summer Opening

(PITTSBURGH, PA – March 25, 2009) Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's newest library will soon become a beacon for literacy, learning and economic development on the city's North Side. The Library is preparing to welcome customers to its new facility located at 1230 Federal Street this summer.

Construction crews are currently transforming a 15,500 square foot lot into one-level building that complements the street line with the look and feel of a two-story building. In addition to a teen corner and children's area, the \$6 million facility will feature a historic reading room and a children's terrace. When completed, CLP – Allegheny will also be equipped with wireless Internet, a multipurpose room, reading space and will be fully accessible for the physically challenged in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

As with all of the Library's recent renovations and renewals, CLP – Allegheny will be an environmentally-friendly building. Renewable resources, natural lighting and energy conscious mechanical and electrical systems are a sampling of the ways Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh will seek to achieve LEED certification for the building. In addition, the Library, as always, is committed to using local workers and Women and Minority Owned Businesses. The project boasts a 33.7% MBE/WBE participation, a rate that exceeds goals set forth by the URA.

"The North Side community understands the value a library brings to a neighborhood," said Dr. Barbara K. Mistick, President & Director, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. "Their support has been invaluable and has paved the way for future development of the area. We are delighted that the Library could serve as a catalyst for new construction, homes and small businesses."

Since 2006, the Library has engaged in a community dialog, with the entire North Side community coming together to share ideas on the design and name of the building. CLP – Allegheny was chosen in honor of the neighborhood's history and reflects the many North Side neighborhoods that the library serves.

Pittsburgh's North Side community has been without direct library service since April 7, 2006 when the building, in which the library operated, was struck by a lightning. The lightning strike caused severe damage to the building's steeple and roof resulting in damage to major components of the air handling systems and roof structure. No one was injured during the incident and none of the library's materials or computers were damaged.

Please visit www.carnegielibrary.org to view architectural renderings and photos of CLP – Allegheny.

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About Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

To Engage our Community in Literacy and Learning

Established as a public trust in 1895, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh serves the citizens of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County with a distinguished history of leadership among the country's great public libraries. Through its 19 neighborhood locations, including Main Library and the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh is the region's most visited asset,

with 2.6 million visitors in 2008. Each year the Library provides valuable resources, programs, classes and training opportunities that engage the community in literacy, and life-long learning.

About Libraries *for* LIFE

Building Communities, Enriching Lives

While Andrew Carnegie provided the seed money to build the library facilities; he did not leave an endowment for their ongoing operations and maintenance. Thanks to local, county and state governments, corporations, foundations and individuals, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's Libraries *for* LIFE Capital Campaign is renewing library buildings to meet the needs of today's library customer. In 2000 Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh embarked upon a \$55 million capital campaign, the first in the Library's history, to make neighborhood libraries accessible system-wide. Since the campaign began, the Library has renovated or relocated seven neighborhood libraries and completed a partial renovation of the Main Library, First Floor. CLP-Hill District is the seventh library to be completed in the system-wide renewal, and the city's first newly constructed library since 1980. To date, the Library's efforts have resulted in significant investment in Pittsburgh neighborhoods, providing a range of library services and programs for children, teens and adults and facilities that accommodate new collections and 21st century technology.