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**For Immediate Release**

## **Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh – South Side Prepares for Renovation**

*Building to close temporarily after Thursday, June 30*

**(PITTSBURGH, PA – June 16, 2011)** To better serve the South Side community, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh has announced the long-awaited capital renovation of its South Side location at 2205 East Carson Street. To accommodate the extensive renovation, the facility temporarily will close for business starting at 7 pm on Thursday, June 30.

Constructed in 1909, CLP – South Side was one of the City’s first neighborhood libraries. The building will undergo extensive updates, which will include the addition of a much-needed air conditioning system and the replacement of an antiquated heating system. Monumental front entrance stairs will be incorporated into the design to mimic the original plans of the Library’s main entrance. The inclusion of an elevator, along with the installation of a user-friendly and aesthetically pleasing entrance ramp, will provide full access to all levels of the library. As with all Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh renovations, CLP – South Side will be built to LEED standards and will be fully accessible in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The Library’s renovations have revitalized communities in many ways, making a significant economic impact on local businesses and increasing literacy through increased use and number of visitors, as much as 48% in some communities.

The project is expected to take 12 months to complete. The Library has received generous contributions from UPMC Health Plan and American Eagle Outfitters to support the Library’s eleventh capital project. In addition, more than \$2.5 million in government grants has been allocated, including monies from the Allegheny County Economic Development Community Infrastructure & Tourism Fund, the Commonwealth’s Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program and the Office of Commonwealth Libraries Keystone Recreation, Park and Conservation Fund. In May, a fundraiser at the Library raised more than \$10,000 toward renovation costs.

During construction, South Side customers are encouraged to visit neighboring Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh locations, including:

CLP - Knoxville  
400 Brownsville Road \* 412.381.6543

CLP – Mt. Washington  
315 Grandview Avenue \* 412.381.3380

CLP - Main (Oakland)  
4400 Forbes Avenue \* 412.622.3114

For weekend library service, customers may visit CLP-LYNCS in theStrip District.  
Pittsburgh Public Market \* 2100 Smallman Street \* 412.877.8357

Customers may visit [www.carnegielibrary.org](http://www.carnegielibrary.org) for more information, or to locate other neighboring libraries to visit. Carnegie Library cardholders may borrow and return materials at any Allegheny County library.

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## **About Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh**

*Engaging our Community in Literacy and Learning*

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh contributes to the educational attainment, economic development, and cultural enrichment of the region. Through critical services such as early learning programs for children, job search assistance and computer and Internet access, the Library fosters lifelong learning and is a renowned leader among the nation's libraries. With more than 2 million visitors and 3.5 million items borrowed each year, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh is the region's most visited asset and one of the largest public libraries in Pennsylvania. Established in 1895 by philanthropist Andrew Carnegie as a public trust to be funded by the community, the Library derives approximately 90% of its annual operating budget from public or government sources, including the Allegheny County Regional Asset District (RAD), the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the City of Pittsburgh.