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**City of Duluth Communications Office**

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**DATE: 05/27/2010**

**SUBJECT: Duluth libraries to increase summer hours**

**BY: Pakou Ly**

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## **Duluth libraries to increase summer hours**

Residents will have more opportunities to enjoy the Duluth Public Libraries this summer. Starting June 7, 2010 the Mount Royal branch library will be open on Fridays, from 1:00 to 5:30 PM and the West Duluth branch library will add hours from 1:00 to 5:30 PM on Wednesdays. Both branch libraries currently open two days a week and will now offer three days of library services through the end of summer. The Main library in downtown will maintain its scheduled five day summer service.

City administration presented a balanced budget to the City Council, overcoming a \$2.4 million deficit caused by a cut in Local Government Aid. With a plan for a balanced budget, the City is now able to begin the process of restoring important services such as library hours.

Carla Powers, the Library Manager indicates that use of the public libraries has increased significantly in the past few years. "People are turning to the libraries more and more as a resource for their personal enjoyment and professional development. We are pleased to be able to meet these needs with additional service hours," said Carla Powers.

The public is reminded that *express checks* are available at each library which can often expedite check out. Books and other items requested by patrons will be pulled and placed on the hold shelves for pick up.

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