

MEETING DATE: November 5, 2012 ITEM NUMBER:

TYPE OF ITEM: ***New East Branch Library@ Western Dakota Tech Update***

PRESENTED BY: Library Board of Trustees

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: In 2009 planning began for a shared public and academic library branch at Western Dakota Tech. A memorandum of understanding for providing shared library services to city, county, students and faculty was agreed upon and signed by the four governing bodies of the City of Rapid City Library Board, Rapid City School District, Western Dakota Tech (WDT) and Pennington County Commissioners.

Over the course of the next three years contacts were made that incorporated 21st Century Library Services and a consulting firm that specializes in this area was employed to design the current branch. In addition to the design, an extensive amount of work was given to joint operating procedures on behalf of the public and education populations to be served. Workgroups were formed and measurable outcomes are defined. Three years later the facility is built and being readied for the grand opening. It is an example of collaboration to maximize taxpayer's funding and usage of library services that benefits all populations served for our economic, cultural and education needs by staying competitive in our Information Economy.

FISCAL IMPACT: Shared Branch Library Annual Operational City costs are approximately \$234,000 of funding shifted within the existing city library and county contract funding with one additional full time equivalent clerk of work-study students provided by WDT. A stand-alone library branch operational city costs would be approximately \$450,000. The facilities investment is paid by state funding and \$1 million from Pennington County. Operational costs include the use of the facility based on rental costs per square foot of the library per the number of hours open to the public. This same type of contact has been operational at the North Branch@General Beadle since 2008.

BACKGROUND : Pictures of East Branch Equipment and Space

