

NEWS

From the County of San Bernardino

Josie Gonzales Fifth District

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**JGFDS-PR-247 SUPERVISOR SUPPORTS RIALTO LIBRARY EXPANSION
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City, County Partner on Rialto Library Project

SUPERVISOR GONZALES GIVES OVER \$500,000 FOR LIBRARY EXPANSION, NEW BOOKS AND MATERIALS FOR BRANCHES SERVING 5TH DISTRICT RESIDENTS

SAN BERNARDINO – Board approval of today’s agreements between the City of Rialto and the County will enable the 2,400 square foot expansion of the Rialto branch library to move forward.

In 2009, San Bernardino County 5th District Supervisor Gonzales allocated \$304,000 for the library project, which will include a new computer lab and community room for the 251 West First Street location. Total cost for the expansion is not to exceed \$1 million. The City of Rialto Redevelopment Agency will fund the remainder.

“The demand on our county libraries continues to grow,” said Supervisor Gonzales. “As more people discover our libraries, and facilities like the Rialto branch expand, it’s essential that we provide the computers, books, DVDs and other materials they seek for their educational and professional growth as well as their personal enjoyment.”

County Library has identified the Rialto library among the busiest in its system. The planned expansion will enable the facility to better accommodate its current and future use. According to the City, the project is slated to be completed later this year.

An avid reader and supporter of local libraries, Supervisor Gonzales in early February gave \$200,000 to three libraries serving residents living within her district. She allocated \$30,000 to Rialto, \$70,000 to the Bloomington branch and \$100,000 to Fontana’s Lewis Library and Technology Center. Most of the funds were used to purchase materials for youth, with the remainder used to support the libraries’ adult collections.

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The Fifth District includes the unincorporated areas of Bloomington, Muscoy, North Norton, El Rancho Verde, and Arrowhead Farms, the City of Rialto, major portions of the cities of Colton and San Bernardino, and the eastern portion of the City of Fontana.