WEST PORTAL BRANCH LIBRARY
FACTS & FIGURES

Address	190 Lenox Way (at Ulloa) San Francisco, CA 94127
Opened	1939
Built by	Works Progress Administration (WPA)
Closed for renovation	December 2004
Grand Re-Opening	February 10, 2007
City Librarian	Luis Herrera
Branch Manager	Terry Carlson
Architect	Thomas Hacker Architects, Inc.
Associate Architect	Karin Payson Architecture + Design
Project Management	Department of Public Works
General Contractor	MH Construction Management Co.
Cost	$4.6 million
New addition	1,750 square feet
Financing	Renovation of the branch was funded by a $105.9 million bond measure passed by voters in November 2000 that calls for 19 branches to be renovated, four leased facilities to be replaced with City-owned buildings and one brand-new branch to be constructed in Mission Bay. The Branch Library Improvement Program (BLIP) is the largest capital improvement campaign in the history of the San Francisco Public Library. Friends of the San Francisco Public Library raised $500,000 in private funds to pay for furniture, fixtures and equipment at the branch not covered by the bond.

Highlights

Safe and accessible
- Seismic strengthening
- New elevator and entrance
- New accessible restrooms
- ADA fully accessible building

Functional and efficient for the public and staff
- Updated book & materials collection
- New designated Teen Area
- New entrance from Ulloa Street
- New street level after hours book drop
- New efficient book shelving & materials displays
- More functional staff work areas
- Clearer signage
- Improved heating and ventilation
- Improved lighting throughout; more task lighting at desks & book stacks
- Maximum use of natural light
- New and restored furniture
- Redesigned entry garden

Technology
- 14 public computers for children, teens, and adults with word processing and spreadsheet software plus access to the Internet, library online catalog, and multiple databases
- Wireless (Wi-Fi) access to the Internet
- Express checkout machines

Historic restoration
- Refinished perimeter wood book shelving
- Refinished historic tables & chairs
- Replicated original historic ceiling light fixtures
- Original ceiling stencils remain

Environmentally Sound
- New linoleum flooring
- More energy efficient mechanical system
- Improved window efficiency
- Increased day lighting from long skylight
- Reuse of existing furniture
- Reuse of existing building

We voted to renovate and build new branches across the city. It's happening!