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SIERRA MADRE LIBRARY CHILDREN'S ROOM RENOVATION GETS UNDERWAY

Work will begin Monday, April 2 on renovations to the Sierra Madre Public Library Children's Room. It has been nearly 20 years since the Children's Room was last updated. The Children's Room will be upgraded to make the most of new child-centered services and improve the use of space in the room. Plans include creating a preschool zone and a study/reading area for students, and devoting more space to computers and technology, making the room more usable for children from birth through sixth grade.

Sierra Madre's Community Foundation recently presented a check for \$15,000 to the Sierra Madre Public Library to help fund the renovation of the Children's Room. Erica Blodgett, Chair of the Sierra Madre Community Foundation, came before the Sierra Madre City Council on March 13 to present the donation to Library Director Carolyn Thomas. In a presentation last May, the Council recognized the Rotary Club for their donation of \$20,000 to the Library Children's Room Campaign. Together with donations from the Community Foundation, Rotary, the Friends of the library, Library Partners, the Mary Tumilty Endowment, Library Gift and Memorial Fund and generous individuals, more than \$84,000 has been raised for the project.

During the 6-week "makeover," the Children's Room will be closed. Children's services will move temporarily into the adjacent Library Reference Room, with a limited collection of picture, fiction and non-fiction books available for checkout. One homework and two early literacy computers will be available for use. Preschool Story Times will continue as scheduled, but school class visits will be suspended during construction.

When the remodel is complete, the Children's Room will be renamed the "Rotary Children's Library."

Accompanying photo caption: The Sierra Madre Community Foundation presented a \$15,000 check to the Library at the March 13 City Council Meeting. L. to R.: Community Foundation members John Capoccia and Erica Blodgett, Mayor John Buchanan, Library Director Carolyn Thomas, Youth Services Librarian Meegan Tosh, and Library Trustees Catherine Addé, Colin Braudrick, and Rob Stockly.