



NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

615 Church Street | Nashville, TN | 37219

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, June 23, 2025, 6:15 p.m. CDT

MAIN LIBRARY CLOSURE EXTENDED THROUGH JULY 28

Early assessments show 90% of building sustained 'light' impact

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Nashville Public Library's Main location in downtown Nashville remains closed through **July 28** following an assessment of impacts to the building after an early morning fire in the adjacent parking garage on June 10.

This temporary closure will allow for the continuation of a full and thorough cleaning and restoration process by restoration experts, environmentalist professionals and industrial hygienists.

Crews began working 24 hours a day in 12-hour shifts immediately following the fire to thoroughly assess and restore the Main Library, which measures roughly 300,000 square feet across five levels.

Meanwhile, delivery of library books and materials, as well as free library services and programs, have continued at branch locations and other community sites across Davidson County.

Results of Assessment:

More than 90 percent of the building sustained very light soot and smoke impact. Light impact occurs when residue found on a surface – a table or

furnishing, for example – is so minimal that it cannot at first glance be differentiated from normal dust typically found in any building or workplace.

Less than 10 percent of the building – primarily the Conference Center area on the first floor – sustained moderate or heavy impacts. Moderate impact occurs when a surface is still visible through soot, and heavy impact occurs when a surface cannot be seen through soot.

Air quality within the Library has been restored to normal, and routine ongoing monitoring will continue throughout the restoration process out of an abundance of caution.

Ninety-nine percent of books and materials housed at the Main Library are fully restorable with a light cleaning.

Restoration experts are evaluating artwork and other assets throughout the building as the assessments continue.

Follow the Main Library's [website](#) and social accounts (@nowatNPL) for updates.

About Nashville Public Library

With more than 2 million books, movies and music items to choose from — plus great programming and resources to improve early and adult literacy, STEAM, ESL and other key skills — NPL is Nashville's gateway to some of the best resources our city has to offer. Every year, across our 21-location system, thousands of visitors discover how our library lives up to our philosophy: at NPL, books are only half the story.

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