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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Fort Vancouver Regional Libraries re-opened for limited in-branch services

VANCOUVER, Wash. – Fort Vancouver Regional Libraries is excited to see you again.

Following Washington State's "Roadmap to Recovery" plan and the state's safety protocols, FVRLibraries locations throughout Clark, Skamania, Klickitat, and Cowlitz Counties began letting patrons in as a "soft opening" last week. This was in order to practice new safety protocols and ensure staff was trained and ready for the public's return to library buildings. Now, the library district is happy to announce that they've officially reopened their libraries with limited services.

Patrons can browse the library's collection, use computers and printer/scanners, pick up holds, and get assistance from staff. Visits are limited to 30 minutes or less, starting at the top of each hour, allowing time for library staff to clean each hour. Under state guidelines, building access is limited, and all patrons over the age of five must wear a mask or face covering.

The library district encourages patrons to schedule a visit via their website, www.fvrl.org, though walk-in visitors will be served on a first-come, first-served basis, as allowed by capacity.



Curbside pickup of holds and all online services – including virtual programs – will also continue.

"We are very excited to welcome you back inside the library," said Amelia Shelley, Executive Director of FVRLibraries. "After a year of serving our communities through curbside pickup, books by mail, and virtually, it's great to open our doors and see patrons in-person."

In keeping with safety guidelines, patrons may notice a few changes to their library. Plexiglass barriers and other safety enhancements have been added, and some services such as in-person programs, meeting rooms, and children's play areas are still not available. The library district asks that all visitors follow staff instructions and signage while in their locations.

For more information about FVRLibraries' reopening, including branch service hours, visit www.fvrl.org or call 360-906-5000.

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## **About Fort Vancouver Regional Libraries**

Established in 1950, Fort Vancouver Regional Libraries (FVRLibraries) provides a vast range of information and cultural services to almost 490,000 Southwest and South Central Washington citizens in Clark, Skamania, and Klickitat Counties, and the city of Woodland and Yale Valley Library District in Cowlitz County. FVRLibraries provides a collection of more than 650,000 items, online library services at www.fvrl.org, two bookmobiles, telephone information services, 24/7 online help, outreach programs, and 15 public library locations: Community Libraries in Battle Ground, Cascade Park, Goldendale, La Center, North Bonneville, Ridgefield, Stevenson, Three Creeks, Vancouver, Vancouver Mall, Washougal, White Salmon Valley, and Woodland; and Library Express facilities in Yacolt and Yale.