



Clearinghouse CDFI 2024-25 Annual Video Transcript – West Las Vegas Library

Kevin Watson, Exec. Director – WLV Library (01:17):

I'm most excited about the New West Las Vegas Library because it's an enhancement for the library district. We currently have a library already in West Las Vegas. This new library will be double the [00:01:30] size of the current location. It's going to include numerous resources that the current facility doesn't have, which includes a business incubation center. We're going to have more computers, 3D printing, for example, but the other thing that we're going to have is more parking, which is something that we currently lack at the current location. So, the library district fits into the city of Las Vegas's 50 year master plan. Bringing a revitalization to the historic west [00:02:00] side and the new library is going to be a focal point for the community. It's going to inspire our youth to do and experience different things that they haven't had an opportunity to experience.

Lenika Coleman, Branch Manager – WLV Library (02:12):

Our biggest struggle is space and the programming that we're doing now kind of makes us stretch, and so we can't stretch that much in this library. We've used every square corner, so it's just going to be an opportunity to really expand out.

Floresto Cabias, CFO – WLV Library (02:25):

This brand new facility is really going to expand our programming. [00:02:30] We'll be able to provide business hubs for our partners and residents of the community to use to further develop themselves professionally and personally. The project is really going to honor the cultural tradition and the history of that community.

Kevin Watson, Exec. Director – WLV Library (02:46):

Libraries are more than just shelves of books. They're hubs, they're where people meet one another. They're social activities, but there's also literacy, learning, education, and improving people's lives.

Floresto Cabias, CFO – WLV Library (03:00):

This project was a long time coming, but it had to be delayed because of the financial constraints that we face when the community really is in need of these services. Clearing house's support has helped to provide the critical funding needed to make this project possible. Clearinghouse is really setting a powerful example here of what financial institutions can do to drive progress in an underserved community.

Lenika Coleman, Branch Manager – WLV Library (03:27):

I'm excited about the business help that we're going to have upstairs. [00:03:30] What we're planning right now is be able to take those micro businesses so they can check into an office, be able to go in and actually expand out their business, be able to say, okay, there's a fax machine over there. There's a phone. I could have a meeting if I wanted to. We want entrepreneurs to come in and show them how they can get into this entrepreneur world, and Northern Library has that. So I'm really excited.



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Floresto Cabias, CFO – WLW Library ([03:51](#)):

This project reminded me that finance is not just about the numbers. It can be about real people.

Lenika Coleman, Branch Manager – WLW Library ([03:57](#)):

I was here as a child, now I'm back as an adult, and now I get [00:04:00] to give back to the community that has given so much to me, so I have an opportunity to lead change. We're about making things better. We're about bringing opportunities. We're about making those connections. It goes back to the core of what we're about As a library, we are the connection, so I'm thrilled to just be a part of the process.