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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hobbs Public Library Closed for HVAC Updates

The Hobbs Public Library located at 509 N. Shipp Street in Hobbs, New Mexico provides a vital service including access to services, programs, and materials in an array of formats and options for people of all ages and backgrounds. A power outage that occurred on September 7th severely damaged the HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning) system at the Hobbs Public Library to the point that it no longer cools the facility. Several other City of Hobbs facilities were affected but did not experience the same extent of damage, including City Hall, Teen Center, and Municipal Court.

Due to the uncomfortable temperatures in excess 80° inside the building, the Hobbs Public Library has been and remains to be closed as of Monday, September 11th until further notice. The completion date for the repair is unknown at this time as it is dependent on the availability and delivery of ordered parts. Staff have worked diligently to identify the issue and order parts during a season when many other HVAC systems are under repair. The Library is temporarily scheduled to reopen by the end of next week but with no guarantee. Continuous updates regarding the reopening date and changes to any rescheduled programming will be made via future social media and press release.

Staff will continue to attend work and find creative ways to provide services during this challenging time, including Story Time for children and access to materials. Due items may be returned at the drop box located at the curb in front of the building at 509 N. Shipp Street, however, late fees will not be incurred during this time. Any scheduled programs, reservations, or meetings are cancelled.

Library and City Staff ask the public for patience as they coordinate the various obligations at this time. Library Director Nichole Lawless stated, "We want to be open and serving the public every day, so this is a very difficult time for our team. With many new ideas and programming currently in planning phases, we are motivated to get back to work and engaging with the public. The support and encouragement, especially from our regular patronship, has been incredibly encouraging, and we ask for them to continue to support us."

If anyone needs to contact a member of the Hobbs Public Library, they may do so at library@hobbsnm.org or via the City of Hobbs Facebook or Instagram pages.

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