

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Office of the Mayor- Town of East Haven
250 Main Street
East Haven, Connecticut 06512

Mayor Carfora Provides Update on East Haven Library Restoration

The Town of East Haven has been prioritizing the restoration of our library from day one. Behind the scenes, Town Administration has been working closely with the Library Director, our insurance carrier, and the carrier for the third-party vendor responsible for the cause of the damage to ensure the process is handled with care, particularly regarding the preservation of our materials and the integrity of the building.

We understand how eager the community is to have their library back. While working with insurance companies can take time, it was a necessary step to ensure this project could move forward without placing any financial burden on the taxpayers of East Haven. Following those extensive negotiations, I am pleased to report that repair work is well underway.

The building sustained extensive water damage as a result of a failed water line installed and maintained by a third-party vendor. Books and materials have been securely packed and stored. Critical electrical systems have been repaired. In the limited areas where asbestos was present, it has been fully and safely remediated. Restoration in the historic 1928 front rooms of the library and adult reading areas are nearing completion, with the children's department next in line. New flooring will be installed throughout most of the building, and many areas will receive fresh paint and wallpaper. When the library reopens, residents will return to a revitalized space—familiar but modernized—with new technology, updated computers, and enhanced opportunities for learning and engagement.

It is also important to note that from the beginning, the Town has worked closely with both insurance carriers to ensure that the responsible party and its insurer cover the costs.

Finally, regarding concerns about rodents, I want to be clear: there is no rodent problem inside the library building. The rumor appears to be based on a careless misrepresentation of a report that documented rodent damage to an outdoor air conditioning compressor unit—an issue not uncommon in outdoor systems. The indoor systems were not impacted. While the concern is understandable, this claim has been exaggerated and misrepresented.

We appreciate your patience as this important restoration continues. It is our goal to have a grand reopening of the East Haven Library no later than January, providing residents with a renewed library that will serve the community for many years to come.

In the meantime, the library staff continue to work diligently to provide services, programs, and book access to our community. We are offering a Satellite Library at the East Haven Senior Center on Tuesdays from 9:30am-2:30pm, and on Thursdays from 9:30am-8pm. For more information about services available during the closure, the Library Director can be reached at smallory@biblio.org.

Contact:

Ed Sabatino
esabatino@easthaven-ct.gov
(203) 468-3204