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Ferndale Library Reopening Plan

The Ferndale Area District Library Board of Directors approved the *Library Reopening Policy* at its meeting on May 21, 2020. The Policy establishes the steps the Library may take and the protocols that may be put in place when the Library is able to reopen. The Policy includes a reopening plan, which details reopening requirements based on CDC guidelines and Governor Whitmer's latest Executive Order No. 2020-110. The plan also covers the six stages of reopening that the Library may move through on its way to full operation. "We are going to start simple and scale up as we get a sense of how to safely provide services in a public building," said Library Director Jenny Marr.

Below is a list of the stages:

1. **Closed to the Public:** Limited staff able to return to perform essential operations, including building maintenance and administrative tasks.
2. **Staff Returning; Patron In-Person Services Still Suspended:** All staff are able to return in order to establish and receive training on new safety procedures, process new materials, plan for upcoming programs, and answer phones.
3. **Curbside Pick Up and Limited Patron Services. Library Building Still Closed to the Public:** Curbside and delivery services will begin, returned materials accepted but quarantined for an initial time period, interlibrary loan may resume if available through the regional library system.
4. **Limited Lobby or Atrium Space Open:** Some in-person services may be added but in a limited area of the library.
5. **Library Open to Public With Conditions:** Additional services and areas of the library opened to the public, social distancing protocols will be in place, possibly including restrictions on occupancy. As it is safe to do so, the library will continue to build capacity to offer services in a new way.
6. **Library Open for Regular Business:** All services able to resume without restrictions.

The library building has been shutdown since March 13th. What has not been shutdown has been the hard work of library staff working remotely to provide services to library patrons – respond to patron questions, prepare and deliver virtual programming, and order new materials for when the building reopens. "We have pushed more resources to our online library, including adding new subscriptions such as RB Digital Comics and the video streaming service Kanopy, which is coming soon," says Marr.

The Governor's Executive Order allows libraries to reopen on June 8th and the Ferndale Area District will implement its reopening plan then to prepare the building and materials to welcome back patrons with the safety and wellbeing of all as its primary focus. For news about what services are available, visit the library website often at www.ferndalepubliclibrary.org. We look forward to seeing you soon!