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**Libraries get technological makeover**

**Pueblo, Colo.** – Pueblo City-County Library District is undergoing changes aimed at improving customer service. PCCLD locations including Rawlings, Pueblo West, Barkman and the Library @ the Y will soon be using Radio Frequency Identification enabled check in and check out. Automated Materials Handling will also be implemented at the Rawlings, Pueblo West, Barkman and Lamb libraries. These upgrades will require temporary closures at Lamb and Barkman libraries in early January, for about a month.

The goal of RFID and AMH is to enhance customer service through immediate check in/check out of materials. The systems also improve accuracy of returned materials, and makes those returned materials available sooner to check out again. RFID tags and new security gates at all library locations will decrease theft of library items.

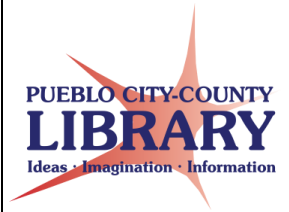
PCCLD is in the process of adding RFID tags to all books, movies, CDs and video games. The tags have RFID antennae and are programmed with the item number only. Lamb and Barkman library materials are tagged, and Pueblo West Library’s materials are next. When the project is done, approximately 430,000 items will be tagged.

AMH is a machine that works with RFID to provide nearly instantaneous check in/check out and automated sorting via a conveyor belt. The conveyor belt deposits materials into sorting bins, reducing the time it takes to return materials to shelves. Using RFID and AMH frees up staff to work directly with customers.

To accommodate RFID and AMH, significant physical changes will occur at the Rawlings, Lamb and Barkman libraries. While the machines are being installed, the libraries will be remodeled as well. New flooring and paint, as well as a revamped layout, will be part of the improvements. Barkman and Lamb libraries will close around the beginning of January and reopen in late January or early February. Construction at Rawlings and Pueblo West libraries will be done at night, and customers will be able to use these libraries while the other ones are closed.

Updates on the this library project will be posted at [www.pueblolibrary.org](http://www.pueblolibrary.org), under the “News and Events” menu at “Library Enhancement Project” link.

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[www.pueblolibrary.org](http://www.pueblolibrary.org)

- Robert Hoag Rawlings Library
- Barkman Library
- Lamb Library
- Library @ the Y
- Pueblo West Library

**Community Satellites:**

- Avondale Elementary
- Beulah School
- Craver Middle School
- Hyde Park at Cesar Chavez
- North Mesa Elementary
- Risley Middle School
- Rye Elementary
- South Mesa Elementary
- Vineland Elementary