

MILESTONES & ACHIEVEMENTS

2024-2025



At a Glance

- **Historical Resources Assessment:** Completed a Historical Resources Assessment Report confirming that the Buena Park Library, designed by William Pereira & Associates, meets state and federal criteria for historical significance.
- **Library Renovation Planning:** Engaged LPA, Inc. to provide architectural and engineering services for a facilities master plan and to initiate design work for the Library Renovation Project, with a focus on improving resilience, accessibility, safety, and overall user experience.
- **Administrative Operations Assessment:** Partnered with Regional Government Services to complete a comprehensive assessment of finance, human resources, and payroll operations, and began implementing policy and procedural improvements aligned with best practices.
- **Financial Management Enhancements:** Established new investment and banking accounts to maximize earnings and enhance the security of library assets.
- **Expanded Community Partnerships:** Collaborated with local government agencies and elected officials—including the City of Buena Park, Buena Park Police Department, Orange County Fire Authority, Orange County Registrar of Voters, Orange County Workforce Solutions, OC Sanitation, and Supervisor Doug Chaffee (4th District)—to ensure broad community access to vital information and resources.
- **Secured Competitive Grant Funding:** Successfully received California State Library grants for the Zip Books and Lunch at the Library programs, increasing community access to library materials and supporting food security for youth and families.
- **Supported Youth Literacy Through Generous Donations:** Obtained a grant from Giving Children Hope in partnership with Toys for Tots, providing 1,000 toys used in the Summer Reading Program to promote early literacy and a love of reading among children under 14.
- **Offered Engaging Public Programs:** Delivered popular community programs including Zumba with Gabita Zumba, BARK (Reading with Therapy Dogs), and Baby Band fostering wellness, literacy and music education in a fun environment.
- **Built Strong Community and Business Partnerships:** Partnered with organizations such as American Red Cross, Raising Cane's, Kawaii Klaws, Old Spaghetti Factory, Pirates Dinner Adventure, Rock & Brews, Six Flags, Panda Express, Black Bear Diner, Knott's Berry Farm, OCAPICA, and Giving Children Hope to expand program reach and community engagement.
- **Strengthened Educational Outreach:** Conducted school tours and classroom visits with Buena Park School District, Centralia School District, and Buena Park High School, fostering relationships and encouraging early library use among students.
- **Modernized Library Technology and Operations:** Implemented an ADA-compliant website, enhanced patron communication through visually rich email notices, and upgraded payroll and accounting systems to improve operational efficiency and reduce administrative risk.