

Historical Timeline for future library facility planning:

- June 8, 2007- City Council holds adjourned meeting. Study Session on Capital Improvement Plan, Council reviews proposal from the City Manager Longley about securing \$220k to develop a plan for a future library. (members of Council: Hamilton, F. Martinez, P. Martinez, McCracken, Hernandez)
- June 13, 2007 – Parks and Leisure Services Director Perrine, provides the preliminary cost information for a future library that is between 20,000-30,000sq.ft., est. \$9.5-\$14.3Million. Director Perrine further explains the \$220k that would be utilized to explore the feasibility of a future library and mentions the amount reflected for such study is roughly a 2% investment.
- January 2008 – City Planner Kimball, initiates input from the Library Board of Trustees on the City’s 2030 General Plan draft as it pertains to future planning of a new library facility.
- September 2008 – P&L Director Perrine and the City Librarian Cervantes work together to recruit members of the community to serve on a Library Facility Planning Committee (LFPC).
- October 2008 – Appointments to serve on the LFPC 2008-2009 include: Eddie Hernandez, Gilbert Ynigues, Sharon Kamburg, Pat Beck, Betty Webb, Gary Day, Jim Tank, Carrie Stinson, Jaime Hunt, Mary Leavitt, Catherine May, Thomas Calloway, Lorie Barker, Rebecca Carley, and City Staff.
- November 2008 – The LFPC Administrative Work group (P&L Director, City Library, Joe Moreno of the Library Board, and City Staff) meet to discuss Purpose and goals of the LFPC.
- Dec 2008 to April 2009 – The LFPC spend 2 meetings per month reviewing relevant information on modern library facilities and visit a handful of modern library buildings in Fresno County, Tulare County, and the newly expanded Porterville College Library. Several guest speakers including the California State Librarian attend the LFPC to share information and build knowledge for the LFPC in the areas of funding, site selection criteria, future trends, and stakeholder advocacy.
- March 6, 2009 – RFQ for “Library Services and Facilities Needs Assessment Project” goes out to a professional pool of library consultants.
- May 19, 2009 – City Council (F.Martinez, P.Martinez, Hamilton, McCracken, Ward) approve the service contract for Page+Moris to complete the scope of work of a Library Services and Facilities Needs Assessment for \$80K, from the appropriated funds of \$220K for future library planning.
- June 2009 – October 2009 – LFPC works with consultants to develop a needs assessment report. Consultants work with staff to conduct Community Survey and Focus groups. LFPC identifies future library vision and five primary service roles of the future library. LFPC arrive at the conclusion that a single central facility of 48,000sqft to 53,000sqft is a suitable to serve a future population of 90,000 in 2030.
- January 12, 2010 – City Council holds a joint meeting with the Library Board of Trustees to consider the Library Facilities and Space Needs Assessment of October 2009 and future efforts relative to the planning of a new library facility. Report accepted as complete by City Council (F. Martinez, P. Martinez, Ward, McCracken, and Hamilton). City Council gives direction to the Parks and Leisure Director Perrine and LFPC to approach the County about the possibility of a partnership, commence the funding evaluation and the identification of site requirements.
- May 2010 – Parks & Leisure Director Perrine resigns, LFPC disbands.
- August 2010- Milt Stowe comes on as new Parks & Leisure Director.
- September 2010 to February 2011 – City Council proposes the Library Board of Trustees expand and change name of the advisory body. Library Board of Trustees expands the advisory body of five to seven and is renamed as the Library and Literacy Commission.
- January 2011 – Commissioner May proposes the Library and Literacy take on the direction City Council gave to the Parks & Leisure Director and LFPC.

- February 2011 to May 2012 – the Library and Literacy Commission take time to acquaint the newly seated members of the advisory body, with all the documentation involved in the planning for future library.
- July 31, 2012 – Parks & Leisure Services Director Milt Stowe retires.
- August 14, 2012 – Tulare County Supervisor Ennis is invited to the Library and Literacy Commission meeting to begin a discussion that would explore the potential of a partnership with Tulare County as related to the planning of a future library facility.
- October 2012 – Donnie Moore appointed as the Parks & Leisure Director
- January 8, 2013 – Library and Literacy Commission invited City Planner Julie Phillips to provide a presentation to start the discussion and next steps of site requirement criteria, as it relates to the continued discussion that the Commission has had over the last year about a future library facility.
- March 12, 2013 – Library and Literacy Commission review the excerpts from the 2030 General Plan and the 2009 Needs Assessment report as a refresher to focus efforts for future library planning after meeting with City Planner and Supervisor Ennis.
- September 10, 2013 – Library and Literacy Commission receive a site selection for libraries packet from staff that includes, a checklist for site selection criteria, transit mapping, and City Zoning map of the downtown corridor.
- December 10, 2013 – Library and Literacy Commission form an Ad-Hoc Committee to develop a strategic plan and ideas for fundraising.
- February 11, 2014 – Library and Literacy Commission accepts a recommendation from the Ad-Hoc Committee to invited Diane Satchwell to hold a special session meeting of the Library and Literacy Commission to learn about the strategic planning process.
- March 11, 2014 – Staff shares with the Library and Literacy Commission SCA7, which would lower the voter thresholds to make a constitutional change for bonds and tax measures on ballots for libraries, and SB 1455 a major construction bond measure.
- March 19, 2014 – Adjourned meeting of the Library and Literacy Commission Strategic Planning with Facilitator Diane Satchwell who took the Commission through steps of the strategic planning process that will help them to develop a strategic plan that serves as a roadmap for a new community library facility.
- May 13, 2014 – Library and Literacy Commission gives direction to Ad-Hoc Committee to create a library survey and disseminate at the July Mixer.
- August 12, 2014 – Library and Literacy Commission reconvene after summer hiatus. Library and Literacy Commission become aware of City Council's (Ward, Gurrola, Stowe, Hamilton, and Reyes) acquisition of the Smith Properties with media coverage that conveys an interest to utilize the building for possible library services.