



## 2015 East Baton Rouge Parish Library Branch Assessment Project

One of the goals of the Library's Strategic Plan addresses facilities and infrastructure:

*"Create welcoming, supportive, and stimulating spaces that fulfill the changing needs, preferences, and safety of patrons, by refreshing, repurposing, and renovating library facilities."*

Our older branches were originally built when customer needs and priorities were different from today, and these buildings have experienced the inevitable difficulties associated with age and heavy use.

The library system reviewed all facilities between 2014-2015 to determine what upgrades and new or repurposed spaces could and should be introduced at these other sites. One of the major objectives of the formal assessment was to help the Library review needs over the next decade, so that we could responsibly and prudently plan for improvements and the necessary funding to support them. The resulting **2015 Branch Assessment Study** provided the information needed to plan for equitable, current, and responsive services and opportunities throughout the Parish. This approach has helped the Library update and repurpose a number of existing buildings so that they offer the latest technology, collections, and space and plan for future improvements at other sites, going from oldest to newest construction.

Since 2013, the Library completed outstanding new facilities with the Fairwood Branch, the Main Library at Goodwood and the River Center Branch Library, and began phased renovations to Bluebonnet Regional. Major renovations to Greenwell Springs Road Regional and Jones Creek Regional Branch Libraries are now complete. Plans are currently underway to renovate the Baker and Scotlandville Branches as well as construct a new South Branch Library, which was not included in the 2015 Branch Assessment Study.

These new facilities offer many services and features that citizens have requested and which meet the changing service needs of our population:

- Dynamic, inviting spaces
- More technology: not just more computers and robust Wi-Fi, but a wider variety of technological features and innovations (for example, content creation spaces, streaming media, whiteboards, smart tables, smart boards, and 3D printing, wireless access, and power and data for the devices they use)
- Collaborative Meeting Spaces (of different sizes)
- Quiet study areas
- Maker areas: where patrons can learn new skills and create/build objects (now available at Bluebonnet, Greenwell Springs, and in the new River Center Branch)
- Dedicated areas for teens that are separate from children's spaces
- Programming spaces for all age groups
- Efficient, sustainable design
- Infrastructure that will allow us to be flexible, repurposing areas as the needs arise.

## Overview of 11 Facilities in the 2015 Branch Assessment Study, Updated as of February 2023:

Branch	Size (sf)	Type of Construction	Year Opened	Year Updated	Size (sf)	Projected Cost 2015 Assessment Study	Actual Cost
Jones Creek Regional Branch	34,750	New Building	1990	2016-2021	34,750 + 3,202 37,952 total	\$3.3 - \$6.1 Million	\$5,300,340
Bluebonnet Regional Branch	37,600	New Building	1993	2015-2017	37,600 <i>Space was re-worked but no additional s.f. was added</i>	\$1.9 Million;	\$1,238,420
Greenwell Springs Regional Branch	26,672	New Building	1997	2016-2020	26,672 + 5,972 32,644 total	\$5.4 – \$6.5 Million	\$4,634,500
Baker Branch	18,592	Rebuilt in a new location	2001	Begin Design May 2022	<i>Scope reworks space and increases s.f.; Budget adjusted for inflation.</i>	\$5.1 - \$5.7 Million in Plan; \$3,836,850 budgeted; added \$819,740 in 2021; added \$648,490 in 2022; added \$629,220 in 2023	
Scotlandville Branch  <i>to also include a non-public storage &amp; maintenance facility</i>	17,985	Rebuilt in a new location	2001	Begin Design May 2021; CD Phase Summer 2022	<i>Scope now includes s.f. for non-public storage and maintenance building on site; Budget adjusted for inflation.</i>	\$4.0– \$4.5 Million in plan; \$8,144,290 budgeted; added \$76,210 in 2021; Added \$1,233,080 in 2022; added \$1,327,560 in 2023 budget	
Central Branch	18,263	Rebuilt in a new location	2002	Begin 2023		\$2.6 – \$4.4 Million	
Zachary Branch	17,869	Rebuilt in a new location	2004	Begin 2023		\$4.7 – \$4.8 Million	
Delmont Gardens Branch	19,267	Renovation / Expansion	1984 2005	Begin 2023	2021-2022 Site Investigation	\$8.0–\$8.3 Million	
Carver Branch	11,817	Rebuilt in a new location	2005	Begin 2026 -		\$2.7– \$3.6 Million	
Pride-Chaneyville Branch	11,127	Rebuilt in a new location	2005	Begin 2026 -		\$1.9– \$2.0 Million	
Eden Park Branch	14,026	Rebuilt in a new location	2007	Begin 2026 -		\$1.5– \$2.0 Million	
South Branch (not part of Branch Assessment Study)	NA	New Branch	2023 – 2024 est	Design Phase 2021- 2022	18,000 est; 2023 construction; open 2024	\$ 10.3 Million; added \$1,169,050 in 2023 budget	