Significant Dates in Branch Library Development:

1986-1990 Board approved Branch Library Development Plan and construction of the Central Library

FY 1996 - A Board workshop on branch libraries was held on December 2, 1996. Workshop actions were subsequently ratified thus approving a revised Branch Development Plan and scheduling the construction of the Bond Branch and the Northeast Branch. The Board noted that "the cost of leases was increasing and the county was realizing no appreciated value for its investment." The Northeast Branch opened in 2000 and the Dr. B. L. Perry, Jr. Branch opened 2001, replacing the Bond Branch.

The adopted CIP for that year included a construction budget for two 12, 000 s/f branches to be planned, designed, and constructed between 1998 and 2001 to replace the leased spaces housing the Lake Jackson Branch and the Parkway Branch. The CIP included a budget for the Lake Jackson of $2,160,000 and $3,600,000 for the Parkway.

FY 1999 – A Board Workshop on Branch Library Development was conducted on September 21, 1999. The Board ratified the workshop actions on September 28, 1999. At that time the leases for both Lake Jackson and Parkway were due to renew and the Board requested a comparison of leasing vs. building for the Lake Jackson Branch Library and the Parkway Branch Library. Woodville and Fort Braden were discussed as future sites for branch libraries. The 5,500 s/f Fort Braden Branch was funded in a $1,093,750 CIP to be planned, designed and constructed between 2000 and 2001. The Fort Braden Branch opened in 2004.

FY 2004 – The Board adopted a CIP that included the Lake Jackson Branch be planned, designed and constructed between 2004 and 2005 for $2,996,500. The Apalachee Parkway Branch was also adopted to be planned, designed and constructed between 2004 and 2008 at a cost of $3,295,000. Both remain in leased facilities.

FY 2007 – The County's five year CIP program included construction of the Lake Jackson Branch Library, Southeast Branch Library (Eastside, Parkway) and Woodville Branch Library.

FY 2008 – The CIP includes funding for the Lake Jackson Branch (Northwest Branch) at $3,583,160, the Eastside Branch (Parkway, Southeast) at $4,196,220, and Woodville Branch at $1,400,000.