



home > city hall > press releases

New, Polished Look for Public Library

Perris Mayor Daryl Busch couldn't hide the satisfaction as he surveyed the new improvements at the City's Cesar E. Chavez Public Library.

The recently-completed renovations included new carpeting, a new paint job, new electrical fixtures and new office equipment for library staff.

"Wow, this looks great!" Busch said as he walked through the Chavez library on a recent Tuesday afternoon. "The improvements really make the library look brand new. We are very proud of our library. We want it to be a place where people can come and enjoy themselves. After seeing these improvements, I think it's safe to say we accomplished that goal."

The Chavez library, at San Jacinto Avenue and D Street, reopened Monday after nearly two weeks of renovations.



Perris Mayor Daryl Busch surveys the new carpeting installed at the Cesar E. Chavez Public Library in the City: "Wow, this looks great."

Worn and faded carpet was removed and replaced with new high-grade rust-red carpeting that was installed in squares which can be removed individually if it gets torn or otherwise damaged, saving repair costs. The new coat of off-white paint adds to the library's ambiance.

Mayor Pro-Tem Al Landers said he remembers the day 20 years ago when the library opened. He called the library a showpiece for the City and one that all Perris residents can take pride in.

"We have a wonderful facility in Perris and it needs to look its best," Landers said. "It's a gem. It needs to be treated like on."

The renovations are already drawing praise from library patrons and branch manager Jacob Barillaro.

"The library is 20 years old and it is great to have it refreshed and looking so good," Barillaro said. "The library is more than just a place for books and computers. It's a gathering hub for the community."



Workers install new electrical outlets and squares of carpeting at the Cesar E. Chavez Public Library in Perris.

Barillaro said he is grateful for the City's support of the library, which began long before the current \$65,000 renovations took place. In recent years, Perris officials have replaced the roof and air-conditioning system and plans are in the works to install drought-resistant landscaping.

"We are grateful for the City of Perris for its commitment," Barillaro said. "The City has been very responsive and we appreciate that. You feel that the people who run the City support the library and keep us in mind."



A new coat of paint adds to the sprucing up of the Cesar E. Chavez Public Library in Perris.

Library patrons agree the new look looks great.

"We feel refreshed," said longtime Perris resident Midgie Parker.

Chineze Ndukwe visits the library most days to escape the summer heat and use the computers. She summed up her thoughts succinctly.

"Thank you City of Perris," Ndukwe said. "I love it. I love it."

Media Contact

Joe Vargo
Public Information Officer
951-956-2120
jvargo@cityofperris.org



Perris City Hall
101 N. D Street
Perris, CA 92570

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