1999: The Marine Corps Air Station in Tustin ceased operations.

2000: The district began offering classes on a 1.5-acre portion of the ATEP site in a group of temporary buildings that included classrooms, laboratories, and offices.

2004: Tustin agreed to transfer 68.4 acres to the district for development of an education village. The district acquired 37.7 acres immediately, while the remaining 30.7 acres remained under U.S. Navy control for environmental remediation.

2007: The district began the demolition of the Marine Corps buildings and infrastructure on the ATEP site. The process took nearly two years to complete.

2008: The district and Tustin entered into an agreement that detailed the density allowed. The more educational use of buildings, the more square footage can be built.

2009: Installation of three large monument ATEP signs completed. Two at the north and south roundabouts and one at the corner of Redhill Ave. and Victory Ave. Also, pedestrian and vehicle wayfinding signs were installed.

2010: The district Board of Trustees approved a 157-page Development Framework document, which outlined the district’s vision and goals for ATEP.

2012-13: A series of land exchanges are finalized between the district, the county, and the city that realign ATEP’s boundary. The new configuration reduces ATEP’s size to 61.4 acres.

2013: The district and Tustin entered into a development agreement that detailed the density allowed. The more educational use of buildings, the more square footage can be built.

2016: Construction started on the first permanent building at ATEP. The building was fully funded by the district and is home to IVC’s School of Integrated Design, Engineering, and Automation (IDEA).

2018: Irvine Valley College’s 32,492-square-foot IDEA Building opened its classrooms to students. The energy-efficient building features high-tech labs and a testing center.

July 2022: The district agreed to a lease with PIK&J Venture LLC, who will build a 14,689-square-foot educational preschool facility on a 1.44-acre parcel adjacent to the IDEA Building.

Feb. 27, 2023: SOCCCD Board of Trustees unanimously approved a new land deal with an emerging leader in industrial and embedded computing technologies. The plan calls for two multi-story buildings totaling nearly 180,000 square feet. Construction is scheduled to begin in fall 2023.

March 1, 2023: Groundbreaking for Saddleback’s SC@ATEP starts construction of two buildings (49,844 square feet) that support the Automotive Technology and Culinary Arts departments. The buildings include commercial kitchens, a restaurant, classrooms, labs, and a high-tech auto shop with 14 lifts.

1999: The Marine Corps Air Station in Tustin ceased operations. The base was conveyed to the City of Tustin and named Tustin Legacy.

2000: The district began offering classes on a 1.5-acre portion of the ATEP site in a group of temporary buildings that included classrooms, laboratories, and offices.