



# City of Corpus Christi

1201 Leopard Street  
Corpus Christi, TX 78401  
cctexas.com

## Meeting Agenda - Final

### Library Board

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Tuesday, November 12, 2024

10:30 AM

La Retama Central Library, La Retama Room

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The City of Corpus Christi promotes participation regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, disability or political belief. Reasonable accommodation is provided upon request and in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. For assistance or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact (361) 826-3300 at least 48 hours in advance. Upon request, this information can be available in larger print and/or in electronic format.

**A. Call To Order**

**B. Roll Call**

**C. Public Comment**

*Members of the audience will be provided two minutes to speak at the Committee meeting. Minutes are being recorded at these meetings. Hence, when addressing the committee, please give your name and address, and state your point as briefly as possible.*

*Please be advised that the Open Meetings Act prohibits the board members from responding to or discussing your comments at length. The law only authorizes them to do the following:*

- 1) Make a statement of factual information;*
- 2) Recite an existing policy in response to the inquiry; or*
- 3) Advise the citizen that this subject will be placed on an agenda at a later date.*

**D. Approval of Minutes and Action on Absences**

1. [24-1872](#) October 1 Library Board Minutes

**Attachments:** [October 1 Library Board Minutes - Draft](#)

**E. Friends of CCPL Liaison Report**

2. [24-1873](#) Friends of CCPL Liaison Report

**F. Director's Report**

3. [24-1874](#) Director's Report

**G. Unfinished Business**

4. [24-1656](#) Collection Development Policy Questions and Discussion

**Attachments:** [REFERENCES FOR TRACKED CHANGES CCPL CDP Recommendations Rec 3 Sep 24 CCPL CDP Recommendations WITH CITATIONS](#)  
[Benchmark Cities Reconsideration Comps for 3 Sep24 Docs](#)  
[2024 CCPL Collection Development Policy](#)

H. **New Business for Discussion and Possible Action**

5. [24-1875](#) Discussion and Possible Action to Create a Subcommittee to Work On the Annual Boards Report

**Attachments:** [Board Annual Report Form](#)  
[2023 Library Annual Report](#)

I. **Future Agenda Items**

J. **Adjournment**



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Library Board

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Tuesday, October 1, 2024

10:30 AM

La Retama Central Library, La Retama Room

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**A. Call To Order**

Pat Craig called the meeting to order at 10:30 am.

**B. Roll Call**

Present: Pat Craig, Carrie Moore, Jennifer Anderson, Joan Carrillo, Melinda De Los Santos, Carroll Matthews, Dolores Rabon, Dora Wilburn

Present Virtually: None

Absent: Alice Hawkins

**C. Public Comment**

- Daniel Resley spoke. Here we go again, the ongoing saga of keeping inappropriate books away from children in the libraries. I have to ask myself why we have to continue fighting this. Why do we have to fight this battle against indoctrination and sexualization of children? Is it because our education system might have a fairly large number of pedophiles in positions where they can have access to groom minors to fulfill their lust and desire? There's been quite a few in the news of late of teachers and staff getting caught having inappropriate contact with minors. Or is it occurring to help businesses of the likes of planned parenthood who need to encourage juveniles to have sex in order to increase pregnancy which will require more abortions, therefore ensuring a steady revenue stream, mostly at taxpayer expense? I've had the opportunity to review some of the material and it reminds me of the books that sailors would bring on deployment and trade among themselves until they had to be thrown away because pages were stuck together. Do we really want books like that available for minors to read? Thank you for your time.

- Ken Weston supports the complete ban or removal of pornographic and sexually obscene material from every area of the CCPL that children have access to. If we had material that explained how to, in detail, harm others, every member of the board and hopefully every council member would want it to be removed. Allowing pornographic

material in the libraries for our children is not education, it is corruption. We have laws that prohibit the sale of alcohol and tobacco to minors to protect our children. The same attitude should exist in regard to pornography and sexually explicit materials in our public libraries. He repeated that he supports the removal of all pornographic and sexually obscene material from the library that children have access to.

- Mary Gagnon I am not a book banner, but I think sexually explicit books about heterosexuality or homosexuality should not be available for children and young adults to grab. The public library should not be sexualizing our kids. At a previous meeting somebody said it was up to the parent to monitor what their children read. She agrees with that, but parents don't always monitor teenagers, and they do not have to check out books to read them at the library. When she had children of her own, she was able to go to the library with them. Her older children would browse independently while she stayed with her younger children in the juvenile section. She was not able to see what her older children could pull off the shelves to view. Harte library is also a school library. It is important to keep explicit books out of that library because parents aren't with them during school hours. She gave an example of books she found that she felt were very graphic. At a previous meeting someone said that there was a small group of extremists who want to keep these books out of the library. She feels that the majority of Corpus Christi residents would not want their taxpayer dollars going towards purchasing these books, but this is just conjecture. Give the public an opportunity to see what books are being considered for purchase. These books should be in a separate section where only adults may enter, like what is done with movies and video games. Books should be rated for content and shelved accordingly. Youth library cards are a great start. She went to a library in South Carolina that had a separate section for Mennonite children.

- Dana Posey is tired of talking about the book issue. She looked to see what books are available to minors. She read an excerpt from "What Girls are Made Of" that she found in the teen section and feels it is pornographic. This is not appropriate for anyone under the age of eighteen. She then thanked board members who are trying keep this kind of material away from kids and teens. Trying to protect our children is a good and noble thing to do. If you hear otherwise, lift up your head, look them in the eye with a smile on your face, and know that what you are doing is good and right. Thank you for protecting our children.

- Shawn Flanagan stated that the current collection development policy is from Austin Public Library and reflects the community standards of Austin. One of which is all materials, including sexually explicit materials, should be available to all ages. City Council appointed new members to the Library Board to correct this and bring the policy up to the standard of conduct for Corpus Christi. Some things are for adults, some for children, especially sexually explicit materials. Opponents to the reforms have raised some issues that are not true. He stated that according to The American Library Association, "Gender Queer" is the most banned book in America. He then showed how you can still buy it. The entire banned book campaign is a lie. His second example is "there are no sexually explicit materials in the library." He said this is a lie. And stated that "Gender Queer" is an example with illustrations. The new policy proposals are common sense that bring the policy in line with the community standards of Corpus Christi.

- Juan Rodriguez said for those of you fighting to change the policy, I applaud you. For

those of you fighting against it, I must ask what master do you serve? As a parent, I have to trust the school system to do right by them. I have been trying to raise them right. 7-Eleven and Circle K have it right (putting pornography) behind the counter not next to comic books. Why can't we get that straight? At what age is it appropriate to start teaching our children about sexuality? The only reason why someone isn't sitting in jail is because the book previously presented has illustrations, not photographs. Most of those illustrations are grooming material. Our culture is so hypersexual. We are attacking our kids and exposing them with subtleties. Lead by example, because the next generation is watching you and you are teaching them how to treat children. This book won an award because it targets a certain age group but if those households have younger siblings, that smut will trickle down.

- Tom Tagliabue is hoping you'll finally answer questions that you haven't answered. Why do you think library staff is not actively protecting the health and safety of the residents of Corpus Christi? What specific problems exist that make you feel that changes to the policy are needed? Why do you believe it's appropriate to meet in private? Are you afraid of people who don't think like you? What resources did you use as a basis to draft the policy? Will you provide source documents? Did you seek outside legal guidance? Did you contact city staff in writing about this draft proposal? As a person of privilege, you probably don't have experience with discrimination. Have you considered what it is like for an LGBTQIA individual, ethnic, or religious minority to walk into this meeting and know that you consider us "less than" and unworthy of public service? DEI does not mean giving some group more rights than others. It's addressing discrimination experienced historically by minorities. Does that fact make you uncomfortable? To deny the public access to materials and services is censorship. You can use dog whistles and codewords to hide your intentions from the public, but we know the bottom line is you are promoting censorship and unconstitutional violations of our rights, and you should resign.

- Melinda De Los Santos made a statement of fact regarding sources. They used Campbell County Public Library policy, Victoria, Dallas, Dripping Springs, one being outside of state of Texas, but it is connected to Texas penal code. Everything came from other library policies. Dora asked if she could do that and Pat Craig clarified that board members may make a statement of factual information, advise citizen question will be addressed at a later date, or refer to policy. Sylvia Campos asked how we know it is a statement of fact. Pat Crag said she cannot interrupt, and this is not a discussion. She then made a statement of fact that this board has never attacked LGBTQ community or proposed to ban any books.

- Brian O'Callaghan represents four generations of library lovers. He almost lost a grandchild to human trafficking within hours due to pornography in the library and sexting. If you want to expose your child to pornography, take them to the adult section but do not leave pornography in the children's or YA sections to affect others without parental knowledge.

- Katy O'Callaghan offered a generational perspective of the city's library system. Starting with her father-in-law who inspired a love for books and reading, and tutored adults in their reading skills at the library. He introduced her oldest son to the world of books. Her granddaughter loves the library. The library provides a safe, welcoming environment for their grandchild. She doesn't know one section from another – if in their

browsing, she pulls explicit material – once you see something, you cannot unsee it. The library is not the place to lose your innocence like that. I support updating the library's policies. Push to finish the renovations at Neyland. It is sad to see the downturn in use because they haven't had bathrooms in months.

- Vickie Natale stated that the proposed policy is a disaster. Staff does a tremendous job. We should trust the professionals. We should be thanking them dearly for their work. This policy criminalizes librarians if a seventeen-year-old gets access to a book that has one word you object to. We will have our librarians working in fear for their jobs and potential prosecution. The policy requires all books to be reviewed and books that meet your objections will be moved to a locked room. Adults will have to ask for access if they want to read those classics. Our education and literacy levels are low in the city compared to the nation. This would limit access and discourage reading. We don't need to reduce access. In honor of banned book week, I invite you to read in its entirety, books that have been banned or proposed to be banned by your political organization in other parts of the country such as "The Kite Runner", "Catcher in the Rye", "The Color Purple" and many others.

- Victoria Holland said I am here to talk about truth. It is false that anyone in this community has proposed banning books like "To Kill a Mockingbird", etc. This policy has proposed three things. 1. To enshrine inclusivity and diversity without using DEI politically divisive language. She said this would be similar to saying "Make America Great Again" this would be divisive and make some uncomfortable. We want to move forward as a community and unite as a community and include diversity for every aspect of our society without bringing in the political muck that the phrase DEI does. 2. Let parents decide. Give us the tools and resources to help us decide. Librarians are not reading every book before putting them on the shelves. We shouldn't "trust librarians" when they aren't reviewing what our children are given to read.

- Becky Moeller stated that she has never heard a statement of fact given before. On August 9th I asked a question about the Collection Development Policy, how did you get citizen input? Why wasn't a "statement of fact" provided to answer that question. I have lived in other places and would get a call back when things are looked into or addressed when things are questioned in public comment. You can't pick and choose what you allow in statement of fact. You should have given a statement of fact that day. Pick and choose is not the answer.

- Pat Craig made a statement of fact, anyone on the board can do that, answer a statement of fact. Carrie Moore stated the board members cannot answer questions or have a back and forth during public comment, we would be here all day. If someone in public comment says something that is factually inaccurate, the board has the right to put the facts out there, that is all. It is on the agenda. Sony Peronel reiterated that statements of fact can be made, but not discussions.

- Ryan Jones stated that he is library user and father. The voices in opposition to the new policy are not actually parents. We expect to have control over what our children are exposed to. We are not asking for control over what the library owns, but what they are exposed to. We can't block our children from going to different sections or what books they pick up when attention is given to another child. It is inappropriate for my child to find a book that is sexually explicit. It doesn't matter what form of sexuality; it is up to the

parent to make that choice on when to expose them to sexuality. We live in a representative republic; you are making decisions to represent our interests. I am showing you our interests as parents, not grandparents or people who believe something different from me. Most parents want to control how their kids are kept safe. I don't go to AARP meetings to influence their membership or go to Medicare meetings to influence their membership. I am a dad, and I expect to be represented.

- Robert Kymes wanted to address the statement that the board hasn't attacked the LGBT community. Removing DEI does attack the LGBT community. DEI is not a political statement; it is not the same as Make America Great Again. It is a policy aimed to protect diverse things and bring people to the same level of others. He said that he went to the World War II Museum in New Orleans and that WWII started with grassroots efforts to attack education and specific minorities, which led to anger and other atrocities. Grassroots movements like we see right now to remove DEI from policies are an attack on the LGBT community and we don't want history to repeat itself.
- Melinda De Los Santos made a statement of fact. DEI is only removed as a unit. You can still find diversity in different sections, just not as a unit. The only other benchmark city that uses DEI as a unit is Austin.
- Julie Rogers spoke on Item 5, Collection Development Policy Questions and Discussion. She handed out the first page of a petition that has 784 signatures, given the City Council and directed to the mayor. She said nobody has been asked about new policy, only a select few of individuals. If you're looking at community input, look at the petition. The second page lays out what you're violating in US Constitution. She declined to use the rest of her time since she feels the board does not listen.
- Eli McKay spoke on item 5, Collection Development Policy Questions and Discussion. She has attended all but one meeting. They're becoming ridiculous. To see so much time wasted when there are more important things to focus on could be seen as distraction. Why? A small minority perceives themselves as the majority when it is clear at meeting after meeting that this community embraces diversity and inclusion so that all citizens can utilize the library. This is not about protecting anyone; it is about projecting one groups trauma that would be better worked out with a therapist instead of on the taxpayers' dime while wasting library staff's time. If you wanted community input, you would have taken feedback from a wide swath of the community. The CDP is up for review later and time spent on it is wasted. She urged the board to stop making problems where there are none and their actions are dividing the community. We all have more in common than what divides us. She was raised conservative, so she understands their point of view but disagrees.
- Pat Craig stated that in the October 2022 board meeting it was said that the collection development policy will be reviewed at least once a year or as needed.

#### **D. Approval of Minutes and Action on Absences**

A motion to approve the September minutes was made by Carrie Moore and seconded by Melinda De Los Santos. The motion passed unanimously.

1. [24-1652](#) September 3rd Library Board Meeting Minutes

**Attachments:**     [September 3 Library Board Minutes - Draft](#)

**E. Friends of CCPL Liaison Report**

2.     [24-1653](#)     Friends of CCPL Liaison Report

- The Friends will have their annual meeting on October 12 at 1:00pm in the conference room at La Retama Central Library. Dr. William J. Chriss, and Jim Moloney will be guest speakers.

**F. Director's Report**

3.     [24-1654](#)     Director's Report

- Budget Update- City Council approved the reduction of six positions, reducing the budget by \$192,329. These are four positions at Garcia, one at Harte, and one at La Retama Central Library.
- New hours have started, with a total reduction of 34 hours throughout the library system.
- E-rate Category 2-Wi-Fi network equipment has been received, an IT project manager has been assigned and we will be meeting to develop an institutional timeline.
- We are hoping that by next week the restrooms at Neyland Library will be in operation. We are doing a walkthrough this Thursday.

**G. Staff Reports**

4.     [24-1655](#)     Cataloging 101- Part 1 Presentation

**Attachments:**     [Cataloging 101- Part 1](#)

- Jayne Atokuku-Vitz, Reference Librarian, gave a presentation on cataloging. Topics included selection, classification, cataloging, processing and labeling, access, and deaccession. More topics will be covered later.

5.     [24-1656](#)     Collection Development Policy Questions and Discussion

- Laura Garcia stated she has some questions to help clarify some of the recommendations being made by the board. What library systems were used for comparisons. It appeared that Victoria and Dripping Springs, Texas and Prattville, Alabama were used. Melinda De Los Santos stated that Prattville was not used that it was Campbell County. Laura asked if any of the policies from the top cities in Texas were used. Laura stated that the top Texas cities were provided by staff during the discussions on forming a subcommittee. City staff uses the top cities when doing presentations to Council and looking into best practices. Laura stated that it appeared Dallas was used for the section related to the reconsideration process. Melinda stated that yes Dallas was used for that section and the Texas cities were Victoria and Dripping Springs, and Campbell County, Wyoming.



- Laura then asked what sections were incorporated from comparable cities to Corpus Christi in Texas. She also said that Victoria is significantly smaller than Corpus Christi, population maybe 100,000 or 80,000. She also stated that Dripping Springs is a library district that is managed by a board of trustees, which is an elected governing board, and the library district serves a county area. The population of Dripping Springs is about 10,000.
- Melinda clarified that the policies were taken from Dripping Springs, Campbell County Wyoming, and that the definitions of sexual activity were taken from Victoria, Campbell County, and the Texas penal code. One section was taken from the library board of trustees in Chicago. Laura asked for clarification if it was a city library, or state, and Melinda said she would need to verify later. Selection was from Campbell County, Wyoming. Reconsideration was from Campbell County, Ft. Worth and Dallas. Laura asked if it was whole sections or excerpts. Melinda then explained which parts came from each library.
- Laura also stated that no decisions are going to be made yet and that legal is reviewing the proposed changes. Laura then said that she has heard that these recommendations are from community input but asked what questions were asked, where were they asked, did you ask about library usage. Melinda said that some organizations have gone before City Council, and she received a report from Citizens Defending Freedom that listed concerns and recommendations that had some of the proposed recommendations. Laura asked how many individuals from the organization participated and asked for a copy of the questions asked and data gathered.
- Melinda then asked if the policy had been changed since August 2023? Laura said that some changes have been made. Melinda stated that the changes were to the reconsideration policy in February 2024. Laura stated that Legal reviewed the policy in December 2023 and changes were done based on that review. Legal found some items were not up to charter. Melinda asked if this was in reference to the final decision lying with the library board. Laura said yes, legal said the decision cannot rest with an advisory board. Melinda asked what benchmark cities use the city manager as the final decision. Laura said she would look and give that to her and that some cities do not use advisory boards. Laura also explained how Victoria runs their board.
- Melinda then gave examples from the TSLAC and City orientation manual what roles advisory boards are given. Laura said the TSLAC manual is being updated and that the roles are advisory. Melinda then read from the manual and Laura clarified that this is in an advisory role. Staff and legal must review recommendations.
- Melinda asked for the sources for the current collection development. Laura said that some of them are from Austin and some from other locations. One example that we are looking at from Austin, is if series starts at juvenile and gets more mature – we'll move entire series. Melinda showed parts pulled from Austin but wants something from Corpus Christi not from Austin.
- Carol Matthews interjected that she has been on lots of boards and committees but has never been on things like this. We had a subcommittee that could not agree. Two people looked at this and the rest of the board were not asked and did not have an opportunity to weigh in. Public comment was accepted. Why hasn't the city attorney put a stop to this? We have more important tasks. It was nice to hear from a professional librarian today.

We do not need to re-catalog books. Pat Craig stated that it is on record, that board members could give input to the subcommittee. Dora Wilburn stated that the subcommittee didn't agree, so she thought it was finished. At this point it won't ever end. Melinda stated that the subcommittee had diverse views and after two months two subcommittee members didn't want to change anything. We made recommendations to reflect the concerns of City Council. We tried to get input from the subcommittee. We felt there was still a concern. We presented to the board and the board voted. Sony stated that we should hear from other members. He also said that everything being done is by the book. How this was done can be another discussion. Joan Carrillo stated that could have brought up the policy to the entire board but in good faith we created a subcommittee since the board said they were tired of discussing it. Laura asked if Jennifer Anderson had anything to add. Jennifer stated she had lots of thoughts and input, and suggestions shared in the subcommittee. Jennifer said she did not sit in the meeting and just say "no comment," there was lots of debate. She did not want to put her name on the final report. Melinda asked Jennifer if she had no recommended changes in the final subcommittee report. Jennifer said that for the final report in the subcommittee, she had no recommended changes to the current policy.

- Laura then stated that DEI is not included for any political reason. Laura read and explained a portion of our collection development policy "Corpus Christi Public Library (CCPL) prioritizes a commitment to equity ensuring that all members of the Corpus Christi community have equitable access to library services and programs. Diversity and inclusion are about respecting, understanding, honoring, and welcoming all members of the staff and community into the library." There were comments from Melinda about DEI as a unit being a political statement. Laura said the library is not political so what would removing those words change in regard to what is added to the collection? Laura asked if we take it out or leave it in, you have no different expectations as to what we're ordering for the collection, is that what I'm hearing? Melinda responded that she doesn't think it changes anything.

- Dora said felt that her job was to let the community know what the library is doing, not deciding what books your child can read. Laura next reminded the board that librarians have their own opinions but must serve the public. Laura stated that everyone here wants to protect parents' rights to make decisions for their children. Laura asked what the objection is to letting parents decide what they can check out. Joan Carrillo said it is both – parents have responsibility, and library has responsibility when spending taxpayers' money to have books that would be expected to be in a library. ALA changed in the 60s for children to have the same rights as adults to see anything.

- Laura said people have said we have pornography in the children's section. Laura said she expected to be provided with a list of the 400 titles of pornography that were mentioned previously and was not. The things we order are from mainstream vendors, some of these titles are out in the open at Walmart. People keep saying we have pornography, but we don't. If there is judgment – that needs to be up to the parent. If we read each book, that would take a lot of staff. We rely on reviews; we'll go over that later. That's why we have the reconsideration so if a book is brought to us, we review it. Three of the items brought to us were LGBTQ books. Melinda asked if any books have been banned. Laura said it's not just banning, it's censorship. Melinda asked: how does it take

away the right of the parent if the book is in the adult section and the parent still has the ability to check out the book for their child. Laura answered that the recommendation seems to restrict the child but will address it more later. Laura said the new library card application makes it clear that parents are responsible for the content.

- Jaqueline Salinas-Bazan, assistant city attorney, said they are doing legal review of the proposed policy but are not finished. They should be ready maybe by next month. Certain parts of revision that would restrict a child from checking out certain types of books, not just sexually explicit but broader than that based on the policy. There are questions that legal is still addressing. What the board passed was a lot broader than sexually explicit materials. It is clear in the paragraph on page 4 that children are restricted. At this point there was a question if legal had the most recent version of the board recommended policy. Laura stated that she was using the recommendations that were on Legistar. Laura had two versions, one that was crossed out and the sample. Pat confirmed Laura had the correct version that were passed out. Discussion ensued about the correct policy recommendations.
- Joan Carrillo gave an example of a book that would not be moved, a Christian book called "Queerfully and Wonderfully Made". Pat suggested tabling the conversation until we could make sure everyone is referencing the same version. A motion to table the conversation until next month was made by Carrie Moore and seconded by Melinda De Los Santos. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **H. Unfinished Business**

#### **I. New Business for Discussion and Possible Action**

##### **6. [24-1657](#) Discussion and Possible Action to Reschedule the November Library Board Meeting to November 12th**

- Carroll Matthews thought the meeting date should not be changed; Dora Wilburn agreed. A motion to reschedule the November Library Board meeting to November 12th was made by Carrie Moore and seconded by Melinda De Los Santos. Pat Craig, Carrie Moore, Jennifer Anderson, Joan Carrillo, Melinda De Los Santos, and Dolores Rabon voted in favor of rescheduling the meeting. Carroll Matthews, and Dora Wilbur voted against rescheduling. The motion to reschedule the November Library Board meeting to November 12th passed.

#### **J. Future Agenda Items**

- None

#### **K. Adjournment**

Adjournment at 12:11pm.

## REFERENCES FOR TRACKED CHANGES IN CCPL CDP

1. Diversity and equity are acknowledged in this proposed policy. There is no one excluded. In reviewing the benchmark cities, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion were only found as a unit in Austin and Corpus Christi Collection Development Policies. Texas Governor Greg Abbot signed SB17-DEI law requiring all state-funded colleges and universities close their DEI offices. Other state legislatures have approved bans on DEI efforts in higher education and public offices.
2. The United States operates as a Constitutional Republic, a form of government that involves representatives elected by the people, who execute their duties under the constraints of a prevailing constitution that specifies the powers and limits of government.
3. Texas has disassociated with the American Library Association by Texas State Library Archives and Commissions not renewing their contract. The current Texas Administrative Code (TAC) reflects this. Title 13, Part 1, Chapter 2, Subchapter A, Rule 2.4 had been removed from the TAC.
4. Not in agreement. The library has a responsibility to the patrons to protect minors from sexually explicit materials.
5. Campbell County, WY Public Library CDP p. 22
6. Recommend materials to be decided by Reconsideration Committee.
7. Recommend adult areas restricted to minors 17 years old and younger.
8. Same as #4
9. Campbell County, WY Public Library CDP p.28
10. Dripping Springs, TX CDP; Irving, TX Public Library CDP p.3
11. Campbell County, WY Public Library CDP p. 13
12. Campbell County, WY Public Library CDP p. 14
13. Victoria, TX Public Library CDP, Juvenile-Selection Criteria
14. Campbell County, WY Public Library CDP p. 14
15. Victoria, TX Public Library CDP, Juvenile-Selection Criteria
16. Campbell County, WY Public Library CDP p.14
17. Campbell County, WY Public Library CDP p. 14
18. Campbell County, WY Public Library CDP p. 14
19. Victoria, TX Public Library CDP, Juvenile-Selection Criteria
20. Victoria, TX Public Library CDP, Juvenile-Selection Criteria
21. Victoria, TX Public Library CDP, Juvenile-Selection Criteria
22. Victoria, TX Public Library CDP, Juvenile-Selection Criteria
23. Campbell County, WY Public Library CDP p. 14
24. Campbell County, WY Public Library CDP p. 14
25. Campbell County, WY Public Library CDP p. 15
26. Campbell County, WY Public Library CDP p. 16
27. <http://safelibraries.blogspot.com/2024/03/the-prattville-putsch.html>; Autauga-Prattville Public Library CDP p.5. Note during Library Board Meeting, Melinda De Los Santos stated this was from Library Board of Trustees in Chicago.

28. Campbell County, WY Public Library CDP p. 9
29. Campbell County, WY Public Library CDP p. 14
30. Campbell County, WY Public Library CDP p. 11
31. No reference. Matter of re-wording.
32. Recommend age restrictions for minors.
33. American Library Association rules/regulation.
34. No reference. Matter of re-wording.
35. Campbell County, WY Public Library CDP p. 21
36. Fort Worth, TX Public Library CDP p.4
37. Dallas, TX Public Library CDP-Request for Reconsideration of Materials in Collection p.1
38. See attached Benchmark Cities and other TX cities comps of Reconsideration Policy
39. Dallas, TX Public Library CDP-Request for Reconsideration of Materials in Collection p.2
40. Dallas, TX Public Library CDP-Request for Reconsideration of Materials in Collection p.2
41. Dallas, TX Public Library CDP-Request for Reconsideration of Materials in Collection p.2
42. CCPL CDP- August 2023 revision p.4
43. CCPL CDP-August 2023 revision p. 4
44. Campbell County, WY Public Library CDP p.16
45. Victoria, TX Public Library CDP-Exhibit Policy
46. No reference. Matter of re-wording
47. No reference. Matter of re-wording

Library Board Recommendations  
Strikeout = passage to be removed  
Underlined = passages to add  
Citations provided = on “References for Tracked Changes in CCPL CDP” document  
Received via email October 11, 2024

# Corpus Christi Public Library Collection Development Policy

## Mission:

The mission of the Corpus Christi Public Libraries (CCPL) is to improve literacy, enhance knowledge, and create a sense of community by making useful information easily accessible to all in the Corpus Christi area.

## Purpose:

To articulate the principles, policies, and criteria that guide the staff in selecting materials to develop responsive collections for the library system and to inform the public on these principles and selection standards used by the Library.

## Commitment:

We are committed to providing easy access to books and information for all ages through responsive professionals, engaging programs, and state-of-the-art technology in a safe and friendly environment.

Corpus Christi Public Library (CCPL) prioritizes a commitment to equity ensuring that all members of the Corpus Christi community have equitable access to library services and programs. ~~Diversity and inclusion are about respecting, understanding, honoring, and welcoming all members of the staff and community into the library. Decisions about hiring, collection development, policies, and programming are made with a lens of equity, diversity, and inclusion:~~ <sup>1</sup>

CCPL remains committed to providing the entire Corpus Christi community with access to books, ideas, and knowledge, and to fostering a Library for All.

## Principles

The Corpus Christi Public Library Collection Development Policy is based on the following principles:

- A. Materials are selected which provide for the interest, information, enlightenment, entertainment, education, development, and enrichment of all library patrons, within budgetary constraints and availability of materials.
- B. The freedom to read, along with the freedom to hear and to view, is protected by the [First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States](#). This freedom, ~~essential to our democracy;~~<sup>2</sup> will be upheld, supported, and defended in the selection and accessibility of all library materials.

~~In this regard, the library upholds the principles of the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights, Freedom to Read, Freedom to View, Statement on Labeling, and Free Access to Libraries for Minors as well as to the Texas Library Association's Intellectual Freedom Statement.~~<sup>3</sup>

C. Selection of materials does not constitute or imply agreement with or approval of the content, viewpoint, implications, or presentation of the materials.

D. ~~The library staff does not serve *in loco parentis*. It is the parent(s), and only the parent(s), who may restrict their children, and only their own children, from access to library materials.~~

~~Responsibility for children's reading rests with their parent(s) and/or legal guardian(s). Selection will not be inhibited by the possibility that materials may inadvertently come into the possession of children.~~<sup>4</sup>

~~CCPL will use its discretion to exclude pornography and other sexually explicit material of prurient value from its collections. Given the number of minor patrons CCPL's interest in protecting its minor patrons from harmful sexual materials is legitimate. The Library's Parent Guide provides helpful instructions on how parents can monitor materials that their minor children check out.~~<sup>5</sup>

E. ~~The library is not a judicial body. Laws governing obscenity, subversive materials, and other questionable matters are subject to interpretation by the courts. Consequently, no challenged material will be removed from the library for complaints of obscenity, pornography, subversiveness, or any other category covered by law until after receipt of an independent court order. Conversely, materials previously judged unlawful will not knowingly be selected.~~<sup>6</sup>

## Policy

In accordance with the above principles, the following policies apply in regard to materials selection and accessibility for the general library collection. ~~While CCPL provides extensive collections for all audiences including adults, juveniles, and teens, access and use of the entire collection is a right of all residents.~~<sup>7</sup>

- Materials move from location to location to fulfill community needs and requests.
- With limited exception, the collection is maintained on "open shelves" and is available for browsing and loan to all patrons using their library card.
- ~~Limiting a minor's (under 18 years of age) access to or utilization of the collection is entirely within the purview of and is solely the responsibility of the minor's parent or guardian.~~<sup>8</sup>
- ~~Materials missing or withdrawn from the Library's collection are not automatically replaced.~~<sup>9</sup>
- ~~Through ongoing methods the library branch managers and director can monitor the collection to see that it is serving its public. The Collection Development Policy should be reviewed as needed to ensure a document that continues to answer the needs of the Library and its community.~~<sup>9</sup>
- ~~The Corpus Christi Public Library's Children's Collection is intended to serve children through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The CCPL's Young Adult Collection is intended to serve teens from 9<sup>th</sup> grade to 12<sup>th</sup> grade.~~<sup>10</sup>
- ~~It shall be the goal of the CCPL through its collection policies in areas designated for minors, to meet the educational, informational, and recreational needs of the community, especially its children. In curating its collection in the children's and young adult sections for the~~

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benefit of the community, CCPL takes seriously its obligation to not include sex acts or sexually explicit or graphic materials within the children's and young adult sections that would be harmful to minors or impede their development.<sup>11</sup>

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The term "sex act" or "sexual activity" is defined as any of the following:<sup>12</sup>

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1. Actual or simulated sexual intercourse, including genital-genital, oral-genital, anal-genital or oral-anal, whether between persons of the same or opposite sex<sup>13</sup>

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2. Contact between the finger, hand, or other body part of one person or the genitalia or anus of another person, except in the course of examination or treatment by a person medically licensed<sup>14</sup>

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3. Masturbation, ejaculation or orgasm<sup>15</sup><sup>16</sup>

4. By use of artificial sex organs or substitutes therefore in contact with genitalia or anus<sup>17</sup>

5. The touching of another person's genitals or anus with a finger, hand, or artificial sex organ or other similar device at the direction of another person<sup>18</sup>

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6. sexual bestiality, or sadomasochistic abuse:<sup>19</sup>

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7. Depictions or descriptions of sexual attraction or romantic relationships between an adult and a child younger than 18 years of age:<sup>20</sup>

8. Nudity: depictions or descriptions of the genitals, pubic region, the anus or any portion of the female breast below the top of the areola; designed to promote prurient interest;<sup>21</sup>

9. Content that would entice, induce, or encourage a child younger than 18 years of age to engage in sexual conduct.<sup>22</sup>

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To improve the experience of our community's children in the Library, CCPL recognizes that certain material, including but not limited to pornography, are not allowable for minors under the law. CCPL will conform the entirety of the Library's collections in the children's and young adult sections to the standards in reference to TX Penal Code 43.24 and requirements of the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) set forth at 20 U.S.C. §9134 and 47 U.S.C. §254.<sup>23</sup>

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(1) The library director shall ensure that in developing the Library's collections for minors, no materials added to the children's and young adult sections of the library's collections shall include (a) any picture, photograph, drawing, sculpture, motion picture film, videocassette, or other visual representation of a person or portion of the human body which depicts sexually suggestive nudity or sexual conduct, sexual excitement, sexual battery, bestiality, or sadomasochistic abuse.



which exhibits sex acts as previously defined or which is otherwise harmful to minors as defined by CIPA; or (b) any book, pamphlet, magazine, printed matter, or sound recording, however reproduced, which contains explicit or detailed descriptions or narrative accounts of sexual excitement or sexual conduct which exhibits sex acts as previously defined or otherwise harmful to minors as defined by CIPA.<sup>24</sup>

(2) The sole exception to this policy is that the library director may curate constitutionally protected materials of the type identified in paragraph (1) above for bona fide research by adults but must ensure that such materials are not accessible to minors. The library director shall ensure that all such materials are kept in such a way as to prevent access by children.<sup>25</sup>

(3) The library director shall report to the City Council regularly, but no less often than once every six months, regarding the Library's compliance with this policy.<sup>26</sup>

• Children under the age of 18 shall receive library cards that are especially designated for minors. These cards will be accompanied by a Parent Guide with resources listed provided to help parents/guardians to quickly locate information about some books. This Youth Library Card is intended to help prevent the checkout of materials with content containing obscenity, sexual conduct, and sexual intercourse. Age-appropriate materials concerning biology, human anatomy, or religion are exempt from this rule.<sup>27</sup>

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## Selection

Ultimate responsibility for materials selection rests with the library director acting on the authority of Corpus Christi City Council and subject to the standards in reference to TX Penal Code 43.24 and requirements of the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) set forth at 20 U.S.C. §9134 and 47 U.S.C. §254.<sup>28</sup> The selection of any material for the Library's collection does not constitute an endorsement of its contents. The Library recognizes that many materials are controversial and that any given item may offend some patrons. Decisions are not made based on any anticipated approval or disapproval, but solely on the merits of the work in relation to the building of the collection and to serving the interests of patrons. The Library strives to provide a balanced view on controversial subjects by selecting sources portraying all sides of an issue. The primary goal of collection development is to provide materials (i.e. books, audio recordings, DVD's, electronic, etc.) that meet the educational, informational, and recreational needs of the community.<sup>29</sup>

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The selections made follow the aforementioned principles while attempting to maintain diversity, quality, and responsiveness to patron interest patterns.<sup>30</sup> As such, selections are made on the basis of any one, several, or all of the following considerations:<sup>31</sup>

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A. Budgetary constraints limit the purchase of materials.

- B. Diversity is pursued by attempting to meet the needs of all ages, backgrounds, and educational levels, by providing as many subject fields as possible, and by providing alternative perspectives on unpopular or unorthodox as well as popular materials. The collection represents various opinions and viewpoints on all issues of general concern and should broadly reflect the various ethnic and social groups in the City.
- C. The collections contain materials that represent people of diverse populations such as ages, races and ethnicities, abilities and disabilities, religions, cultures, gender, and sexual orientation. Some material presents alternative or minority viewpoints, ideas, issues, and lifestyles, special insight into human and social conditions, or their experience and contributions.
- D. ~~Patrons are free to choose what they want from the collection, and to reject what they don't like, but not to restrict the freedom of others to choose.~~<sup>32</sup> It is our goal that within the collection everyone can find something that brings them joy but we are aware that it won't be the same thing for every one of our users. Decisions about what materials are suitable for particular children should be made by the people who know them best – their parents or guardians. The selection of materials for adults is not constrained by possible exposure to children or teenagers. Library staff is available to assist children and parents in finding the materials that are best suited to the individual child.
- E. Quality is pursued by applying professional discretion and standards established by the library profession and through the use of appropriate selection aids, including book reviews, bestseller lists, ~~etc.~~ and local standards.
- F. The Library staff responds to community interests by careful consideration of the following: patron requests for purchases, use patterns for existing materials, purchase trends of similar materials from retailers, and any other source of information indicating community interests. The Library collection serves, to the degree possible, the interests of a diverse community without exclusion. Responsiveness to the interest of one individual or group is not restricted on the basis of dislike or objection of another individual or group.
- G. Undue duplication of materials is avoided, either in the library itself, or with other institutions in the community. Esoteric or very technical works, and materials available elsewhere to special interest groups, are generally excluded from the collection. Materials may also be excluded if the existing collection already covers the field.
- H. Materials with formats that do not conform or lend themselves to library use are usually excluded.
- I. Gifts, unsolicited materials, and patron suggestions for purchases are all evaluated under the same policies, principles, and selection criteria as regularly purchased materials.

## Criteria

Library materials, whether purchased or donated, are subject to the criteria listed below. An item need not meet all of these standards to be included in the Library's collection:

- Public interest or demand
- Relevance to the community
  - Contemporary significance
  - Enduring value
  - Readability and style
  - Treatment of subject for the intended audience
  - Physical durability, and attractiveness

- Suitability of the format for library use
- Creative, literary, or technical quality
- Cost
- Availability from our contracted vendors
- Reviews in professional journals
- Reviews in popular media
- Professional or literary reputation of the author, publisher, or producer
- Circulation of similar material
- Relation to existing collection and other materials on the subject

Materials missing or withdrawn from the Library's collection are not automatically replaced. The decision to replace items is based on the following criteria:

- Not every subject gap will be filled
- Availability of other copies or editions in the collection
- Public interest
- Adequacy of coverage in the subject area
- Circulation of withdrawn or missing item
- Cost
- Availability from our contracted vendors

Formats collected include books, periodicals, newspapers, maps, audio and video recordings, graphic novels, online eBooks and audiobooks, online databases, and a “library of things” such as MakerSpace tools, baking pans, crochet hooks, etc. New and/or emerging formats will be considered when appropriate. The collection does not include pop-up books, coloring books, workbooks, cutout books, or fragile, multipart items that will not withstand circulation.

Periodicals and newspapers are selected to include current information not available in book format. Back issues are retained in paper, microform, or electronic formats considering reference usefulness, customer interest, and space limitations.

CCPL is not responsible for materials available through databases or consortiums.

The Corpus Christi Local History Room at LaRetama Central Library, a special collection of the library, collects, preserves, and manages information about Corpus Christi and Nueces County. Due to the nature of the materials collected, the Corpus Christi Local History Room has its own collection development policy.

## Reconsideration

CCPL believes in freedom of information for all and does not restrict a user's right to read, view, or listen to Library materials.<sup>33</sup> As such, CCPL collects and makes available a wide variety of information resources and materials representing the range of human thought and experience. With such a broad spectrum of ideas and information available, it is inevitable that people will occasionally encounter resources they believe to be inappropriate or offensive. The materials held in the Library's collection are controversial and reflect differing viewpoints.<sup>34</sup> A singular obligation of a public library is to reflect

within its collection differing points of view on controversial or debatable subjects.<sup>35</sup> The Library welcomes expressions of opinions from our residents concerning materials selected for the collection. If any customer who is a resident of the City of Corpus Christi and holds a resident borrower's card from CCPL questions the content, tone, or placement of an item in the collection, they should first address the concern with a Library staff member.<sup>36</sup> If the resident's concern is not satisfied through discussion with Library staff, the resident may initiate a Request for Reconsideration of Library Material.<sup>37</sup>

Library Staff will listen politely and respectfully to any questions and concerns of Library patrons and informally explain the policy. Only City Resident who has been an active CCPL cardholder in good standing for one year or more may request the removal or relocation of items from the collection through the Request for Reconsideration of Materials form. Prior to submitting the Request, the requester must have read the work in its entirety.<sup>38</sup>

- The Request for Reconsideration of Materials form must be filled out, signed, and dated to be accepted. The material will remain available during the reconsideration process. No materials will be removed without following the full reconsideration process.
- The Library Director or designee will assign a committee to review the Request in a timely, professional manner.
- The committee will evaluate the item to determine if it meets the criteria established in the Collection Development Policy. The committee may recommend a number of actions including removal of the material, re-labeling/classification of the material, providing other restrictions on the material, or no action at all. The review process by the committee will be completed and submitted to the Library Director or designee within 30 days from the date the complete Request for Reconsideration of Materials is submitted. If additional time is needed, the customer submitting the request will be notified.<sup>39</sup>
- ~~The Library Director or designee will make a decision based on the recommendation received from the Reconsideration Committee. shall have final discretion as to whether to follow or modify the recommendation by the review committee.~~<sup>40</sup>
- The Library Director or designee shall inform the customer in writing of his or her decision regarding the Request for Reconsideration of Materials no later than 10 days after receiving the report from the review committee.<sup>41</sup>
- The requestor has the right to appeal to the Library Director's decision. The appeal must be submitted in writing within 30 days to the Library Director. If an appeal is requested, the Library Director will forward the request to the Library Board for review at a Library Board meeting and will notify the requester of the date, time, and location at which the Board will address the appeal. If the Board is not in agreement with the staff decision, the Board's recommendation will be submitted to the City Manager or designee. The City Manager or designee will make the final decision.<sup>42</sup>
- ~~After a final decision is made, The Library's Board's decision is final. The decision is effective for two years after which time a citizen may again request reconsideration of the book. Corpus Christi Public Libraries will not review~~

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~~subsequent requests for reconsideration of the same material. (Updated February 2, 2024)~~<sup>43</sup>

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## Weeding

CCPL will evaluate its collections on an ongoing basis in response to the changing nature and needs of the community. CCPL will withdraw materials based on the elimination of outdated materials, materials no longer of interest or in demand, duplicates, and worn or mutilated items. Professional Librarians use the Integrated Library System (ILS) to obtain various views of collection performance. These and other guidelines are from *CREW: A Weeding Manual for Modern Libraries from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission*. Frequency of circulation, community interest, and availability of newer and more valid materials are considered.

The processes of inventory and maintenance are continuous. CCPL maintains an active practice of systematic weeding to keep the collection responsive to patron's needs, to ensure its vitality and usefulness to the community, and to make room for newer materials. ~~As outlined in our policy, which protects children from harmful, sexually explicit material in areas designated for minors, any materials taken from the area intended for minors, may be reshelved in an adult section that reflects the intended genre.~~<sup>44</sup> Local History and Genealogy Room materials are an exception.

Weeding is an integral part of collection development. Weeded materials will be disposed of through means determined by the Library. The Library retains those materials in good condition that continue to have enduring or permanent significance to its mission and overall collection goals.

## Displays and Programs

Library-initiated programs and displays support the mission of the Library by providing patrons with additional opportunities for accessing information, education, and recreation. CCPL believes in promoting the collection through a variety of programs and displays representing the diversity of genres, formats, ideas, and expressions with a multitude of viewpoints and cultural perspectives that reflect the diversity in our community. ~~Displays and programs may not include images, illustrations, representations, or written descriptions of sexual conduct.~~<sup>45</sup> Library displays increase awareness of programs, resources, and services. Some programs or displays may incorporate sensitive issues of civic engagement and explore diverse ideas. CCPL believes in the ability to transform controversy into a learning moment of the nature of diverse opinions and experiences.

Library sponsorship of a program does not constitute an endorsement of the program content, or the views expressed by the participants or speakers, any more than the purchase of resources for the library collection or curation of a display constitutes an endorsement of the resources' content or its creator's views. ~~CCPL vigorously defends the First Amendment right of speakers and participants to express themselves.~~<sup>46</sup>

CCPL creates programs for an intended age group or audience based on educational suitability and audience interest; however, restrictions on participation based solely on the gender, chronological age,

or educational level of patrons violate this right and should be enforced only when not doing so would adversely impact the safety of the participants or interfere with the intended purpose of the program. Parents and guardians are responsible for their own children during library programs, and may restrict their own children's access to library these programs, but no person or organization can interfere in others' access and participation 47

Concerns, questions, or complaints about library-initiated programs and displays are handled according to the Request for Reconsideration process.

Reviewed October 1, 2021; August 2023.

Next review: .



## Request for Reconsideration

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Name Telephone

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Address, City, Zip

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Email

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Library Card Number

***Material on which you are commenting:***

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Title or program or display

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Author

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Format

1. What brought this title to your attention?
2. Did you read/view the entire item/program?
3. What do you believe to be the purpose of this item/program?
4. To what specifically do you object and why?
5. For what age group do you recommend this item/program?
6. Have you read any reviews of this item?
7. How do you feel this item does not conform to CCPL Collection Policy?
8. What would you like CCPL to do about this item/program?
9. In the place of this item, please recommend other materials/programs which you consider to be preferable for the purpose intended.

---

Signature and date

Thank you for your interest in the Corpus Christi Public Libraries!

*Updated: 4/24*

<b>BNCHMRK CITIES</b>	<b>ACT CARDHOLD</b>	<b>GOOD STANDING</b>	<b>REMOV OF BOOK</b>	<b>REVIEW PROCESS</b>	<b>FINAL DECISION</b>	<b>FREQ TITLE REV</b>
HOUSTON	PATRON	NOT MENTIONED	NO	LIB DIR/STAFF	Appeal to Library Board	NOT MENTIONED
SAN ANTONIO	NOT MENTIONED	NOT MENTIONED	NOT MENTIONED	NOT MENTIONED	Library Dir/designee	NOT MENTIONED
DALLAS	PATRON	YES	VARIOUS OPTIONS	Ad Hoc Rev Comm-STAFF >Asst Dir of Cust Exp; appeal to Library Dir	Asst Dir of Cust Exp Library Director	NOT MENTIONED
AUSTIN	Reconsideration Procedures not accessible to the public			Committee (of 7) makes recommendation to LIB DIR	Unknown	Unknown
FORT WORTH	PATRON	NOT MENTIONED	NO	CD MANAGER/STAFF	SAME	NOT MENTIONED
EL PASO	PATRON	NOT MENTIONED	NOT MENTIONED	LIBRARY STAFF	LIBRARY STAFF	NOT MENTIONED
ARLINGTON	NOT MENTIONED	NOT MENTIONED	NO	APPEAL COMM-LIB STAFF	APPEAL COMM-LIB STAFF	2 YRS
CORPUS CHRISTI	PATRON	YES-TWO YEARS	NO	LIB DIR/STAFF	<b>CITY MANAGER</b>	2 YRS
PLANO	No Reconsideration Policy found					
IRVING	YES	YES	VARIOUS OPTIONS	Ad Hoc Rev Comm-STAFF >Senior Lib Serv Manager; appeal to Library Dir	Senior Lib Serv Manager Library Director	NOT MENTIONED
<b>OTHER TX CITIES</b>						
ABILENE	YES	YES	YES; NOT >90DAYS	LIB ADVIS BRD HAS A STANDING COMM (3 MEMBERS) MAKE RECOM>LIBRARY ADV BRD>CITY MANAGER	<b>CITY MANAGER</b>	1 YR
MIDLAND	YES	NOT MENTIONED	NOT MENTIONED	LIB DIRECT>APPEAL TO LIB ADVIS BRD>APPEAL TO COMMISS COURT	LIB ADV BRD; COMMISS COURT	NOT MENTIONED
VICTORIA	NOT MENTIONED	NOT MENTIONED	NOT MENTIONED	LIB DIR>APPEAL TO LIB ADVIS BRD	CITY COUNCIL UPON CONSIDERATION OF LIB ADVIS BRD RECOMM	NOT MENTIONED



FRISCO	NOT MENTIONED	NOT MENTIONED	NOT MENTIONED	STAFF SELECTION COMM> APPEAL TO REVIEW BRD -REPS FROM GROUPS WITHIN THE CITY>APPEAL TO CRT OF COMP JURIS	REVIEW BRD; COURT OF COMPETENT JURISDICTION	NOT MENTIONED
LAREDO	NOT MENTIONED	NOT MENTIONED	NO	LIBRARY SELECTION COMM LIB ADMIN, INFO SERV LIB, PUBLIC SERV LIBR, MEM OF LIB ADVISORY COMM	SAME	NOT MENTIONED
CLEARWATER	YES	NOT MENTIONED	NOT MENTIONED	DIR APPTS 3 MEMBER COMM OF STAFF> DIR MAKES DECISION BASED ON COMM RECOM>APPEAL TO LIB ADVIS BRD>DIRECT MAKES DECISION BASED ON LIB ADV BRD RECOMM	LIBRARY DIRECTO	NOT MENTIONED

## *Current Policy*

# Corpus Christi Public Library Collection Development Policy

### **Mission:**

The mission of the Corpus Christi Public Libraries (CCPL) is to improve literacy, enhance knowledge, and create a sense of community by making useful information easily accessible to the Corpus Christi area.

### **Purpose:**

To articulate the principles, policies, and criteria that guide the staff in selecting materials to develop responsive collections for the library system and to inform the public on these principles and selection standards used by the Library.

### **Commitment:**

We are committed to providing easy access to books and information for all ages through responsive professionals, engaging programs, and state-of-the-art technology in a safe and friendly environment.

Corpus Christi Public Library (CCPL) prioritizes a commitment to equity ensuring that all members of the Corpus Christi community have equitable access to library services and programs. Diversity and inclusion are about respecting, understanding, honoring, and welcoming all members of the staff and community into the library. Decisions about hiring, collection development, policies, and programming are made with a lens of equity, diversity, and inclusion.

CCPL remains committed to providing the entire Corpus Christi community with access to books, ideas, and knowledge, and to fostering a Library for All.

### **Principles**

The Corpus Christi Public Library Collection Development Policy is based on the following principles:

- A. Materials are selected which provide for the interest, information, enlightenment, entertainment, education, development, and enrichment of all library patrons, within budgetary constraints and availability of materials.
- B. The freedom to read, along with the freedom to hear and to view, is protected by the [First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States](#). This freedom, essential to our democracy, will be upheld, supported, and defended in the selection and accessibility of all library materials. In this regard, the library upholds the principles of the American Library Association's [Library Bill of Rights](#), [Freedom to Read](#), [Freedom to View](#), [Statement on Labeling](#), and [Free Access to Libraries for Minors](#) as well as to the Texas Library Association's [Intellectual Freedom Statement](#).
- C. Selection of materials does not constitute or imply agreement with or approval of the content, viewpoint, implications, or presentation of the materials.
- D. The library staff does not serve *in loco parentis*. It is the parent(s), and only the parent(s), who may restrict their children, and only their own children, from access to library materials.

Responsibility for children's reading rests with their parent(s) and/or legal guardian(s). Selection

will not be inhibited by the possibility that materials may inadvertently come into the possession of children.

- E. The library is not a judicial body. Laws governing obscenity, subversive materials, and other questionable matters are subject to interpretation by the courts. Consequently, no challenged material will be removed from the library for complaints of obscenity, pornography, subversiveness, or any other category covered by law until after receipt of an independent court order. Conversely, materials previously judged unlawful will not knowingly be selected.

## Policy

In accordance with the above principles, the following policies apply in regard to materials selection and accessibility for the general library collection. While CCPL provides extensive collections for all audiences including adults, juveniles, and teens, access and use of the entire collection is a right of all residents.

- Materials move from location to location to fulfill community needs and requests.
- With limited exception, the collection is maintained on “open shelves” and is available for browsing and loan to all patrons using their library card.
- Limiting a minor’s (under 18 years of age) access to or utilization of the collection is entirely within the purview of and is solely the responsibility of the minor’s parent or guardian.
- Materials missing or withdrawn from the Library’s collection are not automatically replaced.

## Selection

The selections made follow the aforementioned principles while attempting to maintain diversity, quality, and responsiveness to patron interest patterns. As such, selections are made on the basis of any one, several, or all of the following considerations:

- A. Budgetary constraints limit the purchase of materials.
- B. Diversity is pursued by attempting to meet the needs of all ages, backgrounds, and educational levels, by providing as many subject fields as possible, and by providing alternative perspectives on unpopular or unorthodox as well as popular materials. The collection represents various opinions and viewpoints on all issues of general concern and should broadly reflect the various ethnic and social groups in the City.
- C. The collections contain materials that represent people of diverse populations such as ages, races and ethnicities, abilities and disabilities, religions, cultures, gender, and sexual orientation. Some material presents alternative or minority viewpoints, ideas, issues, and lifestyles, special insight into human and social conditions, or their experience and contributions.
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- F. The Library staff responds to community interests by careful consideration of the following: patron requests for purchases, use patterns for existing materials, purchase trends of similar materials from retailers, and any other source of information indicating community interests. The Library collection serves, to the degree possible, the interests of a diverse community without exclusion. Responsiveness to the interest of one individual or group is not restricted on the basis of dislike or objection of another individual or group.
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- I. Gifts, unsolicited materials, and patron suggestions for purchases are all evaluated under the same policies, principles, and selection criteria as regularly purchased materials.

## Criteria

Library materials, whether purchased or donated, are subject to the criteria listed below. An item need not meet all of these standards to be included in the Library's collection:

- Public interest or demand
- Relevance to the community
  - Contemporary significance
  - Enduring value
  - Readability and style
  - Treatment of subject for the intended audience
  - Physical durability, and attractiveness
  - Suitability of the format for library use
  - Creative, literary, or technical quality
  - Cost
  - Availability from our contracted vendors
  - Reviews in professional journals
  - Reviews in popular media
  - Professional or literary reputation of the author, publisher, or producer
  - Circulation of similar material
  - Relation to existing collection and other materials on the subject

Materials missing or withdrawn from the Library's collection are not automatically replaced. The decision to replace items is based on the following criteria:

- Not every subject gap will be filled
- Availability of other copies or editions in the collection
- Public interest
- Adequacy of coverage in the subject area
- Circulation of withdrawn or missing item
- Cost
- Availability from our contracted vendors

Formats collected include books, periodicals, newspapers, maps, audio and video recordings, graphic novels, online eBooks and audiobooks, online databases, and a "library of things" such as MakerSpace tools, baking pans, crochet hooks, etc. New and/or emerging formats will be considered when

appropriate. The collection does not include pop-up books, coloring books, workbooks, cutout books, or fragile, multipart items that will not withstand circulation.

Periodicals and newspapers are selected to include current information not available in book format. Back issues are retained in paper, microform, or electronic formats considering reference usefulness, customer interest, and space limitations.

CCPL is not responsible for materials available through databases or consortiums.

The Corpus Christi Local History Room at LaRetama Central Library, a special collection of the library, collects, preserves, and manages information about Corpus Christi and Nueces County. Due to the nature of the materials collected, the Corpus Christi Local History Room has its own collection development policy.

## **Reconsideration**

CCPL believes in freedom of information for all and does not restrict a user's right to read, view, or listen to Library materials. As such, CCPL collects and makes available a wide variety of information resources and materials representing the range of human thought and experience. With such a broad spectrum of ideas and information available, it is inevitable that people will occasionally encounter resources they believe to be inappropriate or offensive. The materials held in the Library's collection are controversial and reflect differing viewpoints.

Library Staff will listen politely and respectfully to any questions and concerns of Library patrons and informally explain the policy. Only City Resident who has been an active CCPL cardholder in good standing for one year or more may request the removal or relocation of items from the collection through the Request for Reconsideration of Materials form. Prior to submitting the Request, the requester must have read the work in its entirety. The Request for Reconsideration of Materials form must be filled out, signed, and dated to be accepted. The material will remain available during the reconsideration process. No materials will be removed without following the full reconsideration process.

The Library Director or designee will assign a committee to review the Request in a timely, professional manner. The committee will evaluate the item to determine if it meets the criteria established in the Collection Development Policy. The Library Director or designee will make a decision based on the recommendation received from the Reconsideration Committee.

The requestor has the right to appeal to the Library Director's decision. The appeal must be submitted in writing within 30 days to the Library Director. If an appeal is requested, the Library Director will forward the request to the Library Board for review at a Library Board meeting and will notify the requester of the date, time, and location at which the Board will address the appeal. If the Board is not in agreement with the staff decision, the Board's recommendation will be submitted to the City Manager or designee. The City Manager or designee will make the final decision. After a final decision is made, Corpus Christi Public Libraries will not review subsequent requests for reconsideration of the same material.  
(Updated February 2, 2024)

## **Weeding**

CCPL will evaluate its collections on an ongoing basis in response to the changing nature and needs of the community. CCPL will withdraw materials based on the elimination of outdated materials, materials

no longer of interest or in demand, duplicates, and worn or mutilated items. Professional Librarians use the Integrated Library System (ILS) to obtain various views of collection performance. These and other guidelines are from *CREW: A Weeding Manual for Modern Libraries from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission*. Frequency of circulation, community interest, and availability of newer and more valid materials are considered.

The processes of inventory and maintenance are continuous. CCPL maintains an active practice of systematic weeding to keep the collection responsive to patron's needs, to ensure its vitality and usefulness to the community, and to make room for newer materials. Local History and Genealogy Room materials are an exception.

Weeding is an integral part of collection development. Weeded materials will be disposed of through means determined by the Library. The Library retains those materials in good condition that continue to have enduring or permanent significance to its mission and overall collection goals.

## **Displays and Programs**

Library-initiated programs and displays support the mission of the Library by providing patrons with additional opportunities for accessing information, education, and recreation. CCPL believes in promoting the collection through a variety of programs and displays representing the diversity of genres, formats, ideas, and expressions with a multitude of viewpoints and cultural perspectives that reflect the diversity in our community. Library displays increase awareness of programs, resources, and services. Some programs or displays may incorporate sensitive issues of civic engagement and explore diverse ideas. CCPL believes in the ability to transform controversy into a learning moment of the nature of diverse opinions and experiences.

Library sponsorship of a program does not constitute an endorsement of the program content, or the views expressed by the participants or speakers, any more than the purchase of resources for the library collection or curation of a display constitutes an endorsement of the resources' content or its creator's views. CCPL vigorously defends the First Amendment right of speakers and participants to express themselves.

CCPL creates programs for an intended age group or audience based on educational suitability and audience interest; however, restrictions on participation based solely on the gender, chronological age, or educational level of patrons violate this right and should be enforced only when not doing so would adversely impact the safety of the participants or interfere with the intended purpose of the program. Parents and guardians may restrict their own children's access to library programs, but no person or organization can interfere in others' access and participation.

Concerns, questions, or complaints about library-initiated programs and displays are handled according to the Request for Reconsideration process.

Reviewed October 1, 2021; August 2023.

Next review: August 2025.

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Name

Telephone

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Address, City, Zip

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Email

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Library Card Number

***Material on which you are commenting:***

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Title or program or display

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Author

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Format

1. What brought this title to your attention?
2. Did you read/view the entire item/program?
3. What do you believe to be the purpose of this item/program?
4. To what specifically do you object and why?
5. For what age group do you recommend this item/program?
6. Have you read any reviews of this item?
7. How do you feel this item does not conform to CCPL Collection Policy?
8. What would you like CCPL to do about this item/program?
9. In the place of this item, please recommend other materials/programs which you consider to be preferable for the purpose intended.

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Signature and date

Thank you for your interest in the Corpus Christi Public Libraries!

*Updated: 4/24*





## City Board, Commission & Committee Annual Report to City Council

[Redacted area]

**1. State the goals and objectives for the 2024 calendar year.**

[Redacted area]

**2. Description of the action taken in furtherance of the goals and objectives during the 2024 calendar year.**

[Redacted area]

**3. Did the Board make recommendation to Council? If so, what did they recommend?**

[Redacted area]

**4. What are the goals and objectives for the 2025 calendar year?**

[Redacted area]



# City Board, Commission & Committee

## Annual Report to City Council

### Library Board

#### 1. State the goals and objectives for the 2023 calendar year.

Continue to advocate for CCPL to be funded the same as TX public libraries in cities the same size as Corpus Christi. Increase staffing, add more basic computer classes & more services for underserved areas, like the south & westside. Establish more community partnerships like those with Friends of the Library, AAUW & United Way. Secure a City Proclamation for National Library Week in April 2023.

#### 2. Description of the action taken in furtherance of the goals and objectives during the 2023 calendar year.

FY22-23 Budget Initiative – replaced 50 public computers at Harte, Hopkins, Garcia, and Neyland Libraries. Secured City proclamation for National Library Week, April 25, 2023. Partnered with Municipal Court to host Community Court. FY23-24 Budget Initiative - added 2 Librarian positions and increased Security Guard service hours at branches from 30 a week to their operational hours.

#### 3. Did the Board make recommendation to Council? If so, what did they recommend?

The Library Board voted unanimously at the June Board meeting that the budget recommendation for the FY24 Budget be recommended to the City Council as presented. The Board also expressed their support for increasing both Library staffing levels and Security Guard service hours for branch libraries.

#### 4. What are the goals and objectives for the 2024 calendar year?

Advocate for CCPL to be funded in a manner comparable to communities in TX similar in size to Corpus Christi, coordinating with the city and community organizations. Establish more community partnerships with local organizations. Secure a City Proclamation for National Library Week in April 2024. Develop strategies to increase public literacy and awareness regarding library materials and programs.

**5. How many times did the board meet or failed to meet?**

The Board met 12 times in 2023, once each month.

**6. How many vacancies did the board have and for how long?**

1 Vacancy for a month: Apr 4 to May 9

1 Vacancy for over 2 months: Nov 7 until present

**Approved by Committee:**

Patricia M. Craig

Board Chair Signature

Patricia M. Craig

Board Chair Name

patmcraig14@gmail.com

Board Chair Email

Approved

Review Status

**Submitted by:**

Laura Z. Garcia

Department Head Signature

Laura Garcia

Department Head Name

lauraga@cctexas.com

Department Head Email

Approved

Review Status

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**For Department Head Only:**



I have reviewed the report as submitted by the Board Chair. (Please check to confirm.)

Comments (Optional):