



Janet F. Harte Public Library Library Advisory Board Meeting August 4, 2026

Presented by Laura Garcia,
Director of Public Libraries

Janet F. Harte Library

Background

- In 1998, the City of Corpus Christi and the Flour Bluff Independent School District (FBISD) entered into a 99-year intergovernmental agreement to establish and jointly operate a branch library on school district property.
- The Harte Library, located on the campus of Flour Bluff High School in Council District 4, opened in August 2000 as a joint-use facility, serving both the public and school district.



Intergovernmental Agreement

- The Lease Agreement is for a term of 99 years (1998-2097)
- City owns the public library building
- FBISD owns the land and parking lot (FBISD provides the City with 50 parking spaces)
- Cost sharing: 75% City/25% FBISD for utilities, cleaning services, alarm monitoring, and inspections
- City pays library maintenance expenses for repairs, modifications to the library, plumbing repairs, and electrical repairs
- City establishes hours of library operation and opening and closing procedures, with recommendations from FBISD



Texas Education Code Section 61.1031

School Safety Requirements

In the Spring of 2025, FBISD notified the City of the requirements outlined in Texas Education Code Section 61.1031. This section mandates that school districts secure building entry points and limit public access during instructional hours. To enhance student safety and comply with these safety and security requirements, FBISD and the City mutually agreed to temporarily adjust the Harte Library's operating hours to align with regular school hours effective August 11, 2025.

CITY PATRON HOURS AT JANET F. HARTE LIBRARY		
Day	Former Hours	Operating Hours (Effective August 11)
Monday*	10 a.m. to 7 p.m.	5 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Tuesday*	10 a.m. to 7 p.m.	9 a.m. to 1 p.m. 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Wednesday*	10 a.m. to 7 p.m.	5 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Thursday*	10 a.m. to 7 p.m.	5 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Friday	10 a.m. to 2 p.m.	5 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday	10 a.m. to 2 p.m.	9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sunday	CLOSED	CLOSED
Total Operating Hours	44	28



Joint Town Hall Meeting – August 25, 2025

After receiving feedback from residents and at the request of Councilwoman Kaylynn Paxson (Council District 4), the City and FBISD held a joint town hall meeting at the Harte Library, to gather input on the updated operating hours. Residents primarily expressed a need for increased weekday operating hours, curbside service accessibility, and access for homeschool instruction. In response to this feedback, the City and FBISD collaborated to address these concerns, which took effect on Monday, September 15, 2025.

CITY PATRON HOURS AT JANET F. HARTE LIBRARY			
Day	Former Hours	Operating Hours (Effective August 11)	New Operating Hours (Effective September 15)
Monday*	10 a.m. to 7 p.m.	5 p.m. to 8 p.m.	4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Curbside 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Tuesday*	10 a.m. to 7 p.m.	9 a.m. to 1 p.m. 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.	9 a.m. to 12:30 pm* 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Wednesday*	10 a.m. to 7 p.m.	5 p.m. to 8 p.m.	4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Curbside 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Thursday*	10 a.m. to 7 p.m.	5 p.m. to 8 p.m.	9 a.m. to 12:30 pm* 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Friday	10 a.m. to 2 p.m.	5 p.m. to 8 p.m.	4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday	10 a.m. to 2 p.m.	9 a.m. to 6 p.m.	9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sunday	CLOSED	CLOSED	2 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Total Operating Hours	44	28	40



Options Explored

- 1. FBISD to relocate library operations
- 2. City to purchase land from FBISD
 - Appraised value - \$765,000
- 3. FBISD to purchase the City library building
 - Appraised value - \$1,505,000
- 4. Temporary partition wall
 - Deemed not feasible due to code and fire egress requirements
- 5. Partition wall (Recommended)



Partition Wall Assessment

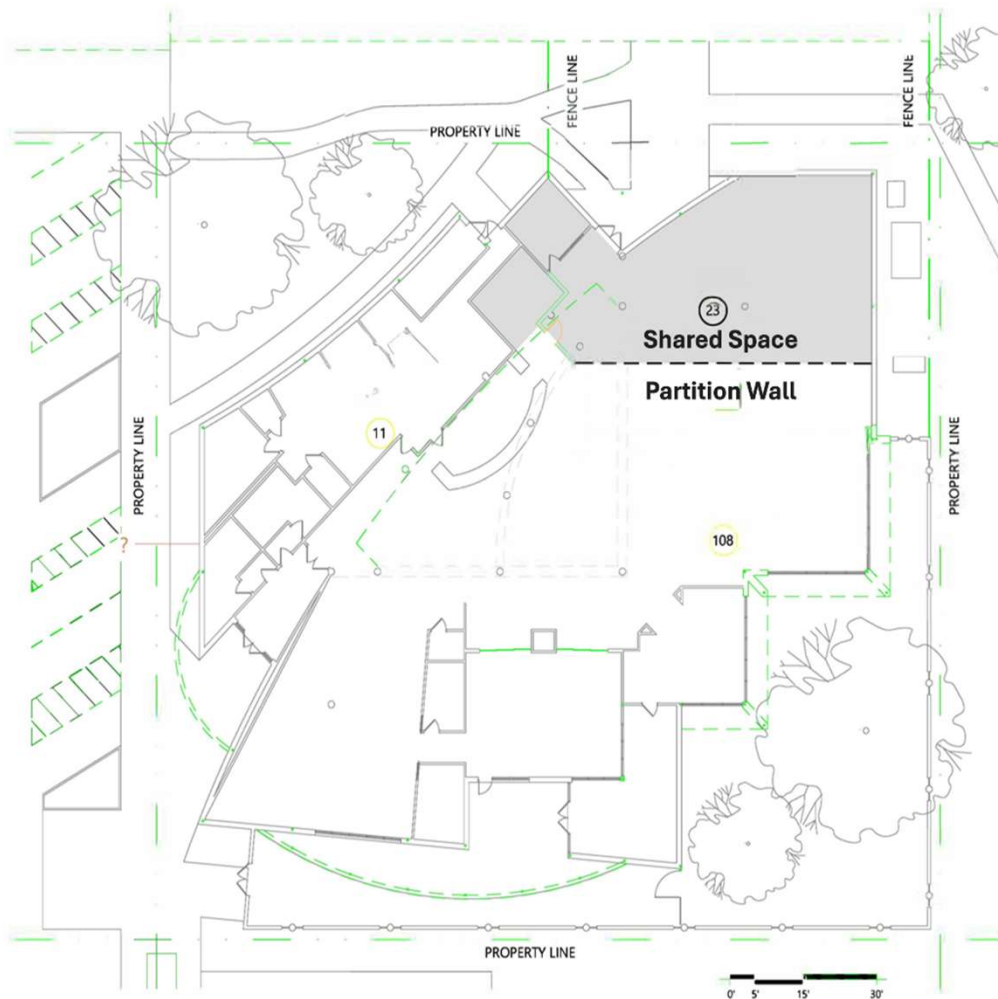
- City hired an architecture firm in January to conduct a pre-design engineering assessment. The assessment evaluated the construction of a partition wall, analyzed system impacts, developed as-built and schematic plans, and provided cost estimates.
- The pre-design assessment is 90% complete. Engineering Services is working with the architecture firm to finalize pre-design assessment and cost estimates.



Pre-design Assessment Scope

1. Partition Wall Evaluation Review the proposed partition wall design to ensure compliance with building codes, including fire and life safety requirements.
 - Verify egress routes to ensure safe and accessible exit paths for both public and school areas.
 - Assess ADA accessibility for all affected spaces, including paths of travel, door widths, and required clearances.
2. System Impact Review
 - Identify impacts of the partition wall on existing Architectural elements.
 - Provide recommendations for necessary adjustments, upgrades, or modifications.
3. Development of As-Builts and Schematic Plans
 - Develop existing as-built drawings of the affected areas to document current conditions.
 - Prepare schematic plans illustrating the proposed partition wall, egress paths, and secure school area layout.





- The partition wall will allow the City and FBISD to operate concurrently.
- The “shared space” section will only be used by FBISD during their school hours.



Estimated Cost & Timeline

Estimated Project Cost

- Partition Wall - \$186,500
 - The City and FBISD will share the cost 50/50
 - City - \$93,250
 - FBISD - \$93,250

Estimated Project Timeline

DESIGN	PROCUREMENT & AWARD	CONSTRUCTION
3 MONTHS	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS





Thank you!