

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 09/10/19

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 19-0113

LOG NAME: 84AMENDCITYCODECHAPTER19LIBRARIES

SUBJECT

Adopt Attached Ordinance Amending Chapter 19 "Libraries," Article II "Department of Public Libraries," Section 19-17 "Duties of Librarian," of the Code of the City of Fort Worth, Texas (2015), as Amended, to Clarify the Process for Implementing and Administering Policies for the Department of Public Libraries (All COUNCIL DISTRICTS)

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the attached ordinance amending Chapter 19 "Libraries," Article II "Department of Public Libraries," Section 19-17 "Duties of Librarian," of the Code of the City of Fort Worth, Texas (2015), as amended, to clarify the process for implementing and administering policies for the Department of Public Libraries.

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this Mayor and Council Communication (M&C) is to update the process for the administration and implementation of rules of behavior, circulation policies and other day-to-day operational policies for the City's libraries.

Chapter 19 "Libraries," Article II "Department of Public Libraries," Section 19-17 "Duties of Librarian," of the Code of the City of Fort Worth, Texas (2015), as amended, (City Code) includes a sentence stating that the librarian shall be responsible for the administration and implementation of policies that are established by the City Council for the operation of the City's libraries.

This portion of the City Code has not been substantively updated since its adoption in 1975. Staff recommends amending the City Code to align the text with the City's practice of allowing department heads, such as the librarian, to create operating policies for their respective departments. Policy decisions that have broader implications beyond day-to-day operations - such as master plans/vision statements and facilities planning determinations - would continue to be brought before the City Council.

This change will allow the Library to efficiently make necessary changes in order to ensure that patrons are able to enjoy the City's library locations, maximize the Library's ability to adapt quickly to changes in demand and technology, and to respond to patron and employee feedback.

A Form 1295 is not required for this contract because: This M&C does not request approval of a contract with a business entity.

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that this action will have no material effect on city funds.

Submitted for City Manager's Office by: Jay Chapa 5804

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