



To the Mayor and Members of the City Council

August 27, 2019

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SUBJECT: AMENDMENT TO CITY CODE SECTION 19-17 "DUTIES OF LIBRARIAN"

The purpose of this IR is to inform Mayor and City Council about a plan 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 Library Director, 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.

If you have any questions concerning this information, please contact Manya Shorr, Library Director at 817-392-7707 or manya.shorr@fortworthtexas.gov.

David Cooke
City Manager