

## **Longview Public Library Library Materials Selection Policy**

The Longview Public Library provides free library service to all residents of the City of Longview, both children and adults. An important part of this service is the professional selection of books and other library materials to aid the individual in their pursuit of self-education, information, recreation, and the creative use of leisure time. The library will select, acquire and organize various materials to satisfy the diverse reading needs and interests of Longview library patrons. The library will also provide guidance in the use of these materials, and will utilize the State Library and other libraries when necessary to extend the range of materials available to the library patron.

The ultimate responsibility for the library materials selection policy lies with the Board of Trustees, which delegates the actual selection of materials to the City Librarian and Staff.

General considerations for the selection of library materials include:

1. Permanent or timely value
2. Patron requests
3. Accuracy and authoritativeness
4. Published reviews
5. Price of material
6. Reputation of author and publisher
7. Availability of similar material in the collection

In its selection of library materials, the Longview Library subscribes to the principles contained in the Library Bill of Rights, revised and adopted by the American Library Association in 1967, and the Washington Library Association Intellectual Freedom Statement.

The library believes that its function is to provide the means, whenever possible, through which all persons may have free access to the thinking of all sides of all issues. The Library will also make available any current works of fiction and non-fiction which are in great popular demand.

The Library recognizes that many materials selected may be controversial and that any given item may not be approved by some. However, selection will not be made on the basis of 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 all library users.

*Board Approved: 06/07/1999; 11/05/2001*