

## COLLECTION POLICY

### I. PURPOSE

This policy outlines the Coronado Public Library's commitment to upholding the freedom to read, developing a diverse and inclusive collection and providing a transparent process for the reconsideration of library materials. In support of its mission, the Board of Trustees endorses and adopts the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights, as its principles are affirmed in this policy. This policy also adopts and aligns with the principles and requirements of the California Freedom to Read Act (AB 1825).

### II. COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

The Library serves as a center for voluntary inquiry and the dissemination of information and ideas. The collection meets the broad and diverse interests of the community and respects both the library's autonomy and specific community needs. Selection and deselection criteria include:

- A. Diversity of Viewpoints. Ensuring representation of various perspectives on subjects.
- B. Community Interest: Responding to the informational, educational, and recreational needs of our patrons.
- C. Authority and Accuracy: Prioritizing materials with credible authorship and factual reliability based on generally accepted and responsible review and critical comment.
- D. Currency and Relevance: Maintaining up-to-date resources pertinent to contemporary issues.
- E. Judicious planning: Trained library professionals select materials based on a positive, planned collection development program. The relationship to the holdings of other accessible libraries may be considered.
- F. Budget and Space Considerations: Balancing resource availability with fiscal and spatial constraints.
- G. Deselection: Except for items of credible historical or archival significance, the library collection shall be regularly reviewed and culled of materials that are obsolete or for which there has not been public demand. Discarded materials may be offered to the Friends of the Coronado Public Library.

The Library Director oversees collection development, guided by these principles and input from professional staff.

### III. FREEDOM TO READ

The Library Board endorses the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights and affirms:

- A. Access to Diverse Materials:
  - 1. Library materials should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people, and should present diverse points of view in the collection as a whole.
  - 2. Patrons have a right to receive access to a range of social, political, aesthetic, moral, and other ideas and experiences.
  - 3. A person's right to use the library and its resources shall not be denied or abridged solely because of personal characteristics, age, background, or views.
  - 4. Any restrictions on access to material must comply with time, place, and manner principles and shall not be based on the content of the materials, in accordance with all applicable laws.
  
- B. Neutrality: Inclusion of materials does not imply endorsement by the Library or its staff.
  
- C. Protection Against Censorship:
  - 1. Access to Library materials will not be restricted based on topic, viewpoint, authorship, ideas, or opinions contained in the materials. Access to Library materials will not be restricted based on the sources of the materials or the perceived audience.
  - 2. Library materials cannot be excluded solely for addressing inclusive, diverse perspectives or for containing sexual content (unless qualified as obscene under U.S. Supreme Court precedent).
  - 3. Library materials cannot be excluded solely based on the race, nationality, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, disability, political affiliation, or socioeconomic status of a subject of the materials, an author of the materials, a source of the materials, or the perceived or intended audience for the materials.
  - 4. The Board will neither permit nor condone efforts by any person or group of persons to confine, censor, impose moral, ethical, or aesthetic standards or tastes upon or otherwise restrict public freedom to read or have access to materials in the library collection.

### IV. RECONSIDERATION OF MATERIALS

Patrons may request reconsideration of materials through the following process:

Adopted: May 13, 2025

- A. Submission of Request for Reconsideration: Patrons may submit a request for reconsideration in writing to the Library Director, providing detailed information about the material and specific concerns about the material's inclusion or exclusion from the Library's collection. The request must provide contact information for purposes of clarification and response.
- B. Review of Request: Professional staff will evaluate the material in consideration of the Library's selection criteria and the provisions of this collection policy to make a determination. Reconsideration of material must be based on the library's established collection policy and decisions to exclude materials must not be based solely due to topic, views, ideas, opinions, or diverse perspectives contained in the material, in accordance with Section III of this policy.
- C. Decision: The Library Director will communicate the results of the staff review in writing to the requester.
- D. Appeal: If unsatisfied, the requester may appeal to the Library Board of Trustees by submitting a request to appeal to the Library Director. The Library Director shall promptly transmit the appeal to the Board. The Board will review based on the provisions of this collection policy and issue a decision. The Board's decision is final.

Materials under review will remain accessible to patrons during the reconsideration process.

## V. STAFF PROTECTION

Library staff shall not be subject to discipline for decisions made in good faith regarding selection of material for circulation, library displays, and programs, in accordance with AB 1825. Library staff shall not be subject to discipline for refusing to remove library material before it has been fully reviewed pursuant to Section IV of this policy.

## VI. PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY

The Library respects all patrons' right to privacy and confidentiality concerning their reading choices and borrowing records, adhering to applicable laws and ethical standards.