

CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

Community Services Committee

November 16, 2021

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY

WHEREAS, The Cleveland Public Library's extensive print and digital collections are developed and maintained by Library professionals to serve the highly diverse recreational and research needs of the city of Cleveland through the Main Library and 27 neighborhood branches; and

WHEREAS, The Library's extraordinary collections also serve the broader Northeast Ohio region and the state of Ohio due to the Library's role as the backbone of the visionary CLEVNET consortium and the fact that approximately 40% of Library funding is provided by the State of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, Due to the investment of hundreds of millions of public tax dollars and philanthropic income over the course of 152 years, Cleveland Public Library's Main Library collections have gained recognition as being equal to or greater than nearly all academic, public, and private libraries in the state of Ohio and rank favorably among public library, private, and academic collections throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, The orderly development and maintenance of collections in a publicly-transparent manner is paramount to the effective operation of the Library, and the Library Administration prepared a draft Collection Development Policy, which has been shared with this Board via the Library's staff intranet; and

WHEREAS, The Collection Development Policy is designed to be comprehensive and to provide both a policy framework within which collection development can occur as well as detailed guidelines and descriptions for how the policy should be implemented; and

WHEREAS, The first comprehensive Collection Development Policy was introduced in January 1982, and the last full-scale review of the Policy occurred in July 1985, and since that time, collection development practices evolved according to both formal revisions of various sections and informal practices that responded to changing needs; and

WHEREAS, Previous Collection Development Policies were considered administrative guidelines and were not presented to the Library Board for adoption, but as a matter of transparency and accountability to the public we serve, this Policy is being presented to the Library Board for adoption; and

WHEREAS, As of November 18, 2021, the Policy is 80% complete, with policies for Branch Libraries and Digital Media expected to be completed by December 2022, which will be presented to this Board for approval at such time as they are complete; and

WHEREAS, The Library Administration intends that the Collection Development Policy will be reviewed continuously to ensure that it is aligned with the changing needs of the community and updated annually or as otherwise needed, and the Library Administration requests the authority to make minor, non-substantive updates to the Collection Development Policy as needed and to report such updates to the Board of Library Trustees for approval on an annual basis; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees of the Cleveland Public Library hereby adopts the Collection Development Policy in the form shared with this Board via the CPL Staff Intranet to be effective November 19, 2021 and instructs the Library Administration to include a copy of the Collection Development Policy in the form approved herein with the minutes of this meeting; be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board of Library Trustees authorizes the Executive Director, CEO or his designee to make non-substantive revisions to the Collection Development Policy to make corrections and to adapt the Policy to changing usage conditions and trends, provided that such revisions are reported to this Board for approval on at least an annual basis.