



Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-2798, **Agenda Item #:** 24.

9/30/2021

Posting Language:

Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Austin Public Library Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to accept and appropriate \$25,000 in grant funds from the Grants to States program from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission's federal funder, Institute of Museum and Library Services, for the costs associated with story book signs on nature walks.

Lead Department:

Austin Public Library.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$25,000 is available from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission Special Project grant program. A City funding match is not required. A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information:

Roosevelt Weeks, Director of Libraries, (512) 974-7444

Additional Backup Information:

The Texas State Library and Archives Special Project grant funds of \$25,000 will allow the Austin Public Library to purchase story book boards, posting supplies and prepped books. The project period is September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022. Families, teachers, and students can experience a children's picture book together, even outside of library business hours, while walking along an outdoor path during all seasons. Books with minimal text are used to appeal to all ages. It can, also, be focused on a community's desired topic. The pages are laminated, posted in protective frames on aluminum posts, and spaced out on a library's nature path. As children and adults stroll down the path, they are directed to the next page in the story. The featured books can be changed regularly.

This project will promote early literacy, physical activity, and family time together in nature. At the final post, readers will be directed to take a survey regarding their experience. The successful physical and literacy activity will initially be provided at three library branch locations then rotate to other library locations' nature walks.

This is a one-time, materials-only project.

The General Fund will not be required to contribute to this grant.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Culture and Lifelong Learning, Government that Works for All.