

Armorall Tuttle Public Library

Collection Development Policy

Objectives: The purpose of the Armorall Tuttle Public Library is to provide all individuals in the community with carefully selected books and other materials to aid in the pursuit of education, information, research, pleasure, and the creative use of leisure time. The library will strive to meet the needs of patrons such as the disabled, children, senior citizens, and English language learners.

Because of the volume of publishing and the limitations of budget and space, the library must have a selection policy to meet community interests and needs.

The library staff uses the materials selection/collection development policy in selecting materials and also serves to acquaint the general public with the principles of selection. The Library Bill of Rights and The Freedom to Read Statement have been endorsed by the Armorall Tuttle Public Library Board of Trustees and are integral parts of the policy.

The materials selection/collection development policy, like all other policies, will be reviewed and/or revised as the need arises.

Responsibility for Selection: The ultimate responsibility for the selection of library materials rests with the library director who operates within the framework of the policies determined by the Armorall Tuttle Public Library Board of Trustees.

This responsibility may be shared with other members of the library staff; however, because the director must be available to answer to the library board and the general public for actual selections made, the director has the authority to reject or select any item contrary to the recommendations of the staff.

Materials budget: The Armorall Tuttle Public Library annual budget is primarily the responsibility of the Library Director, as directed by the entire City of New Plymouth budget.

The Director and the Library Board will work together to develop this budget within the dictates of the City and the selection criteria. This budget is created using circulation statistics, cost per item, annual collection goals, and support for the strategic plan.

Criteria for Selection: The main points considered in the selection of materials are the Individual literary merit of each item, accuracy, authoritativeness, popular appeal/demand, suitability of material for the clientele, existing library holdings, quality of format, budget, and space.

This criteria extends to all formats as well as our on-line databases. Reviews are a major source of information about new materials, primarily fiction.

The primary source of reviews is Goodreads.

The lack of a review or an unfavorable review shall not be the sole reason for rejecting a title that is in demand. Consideration is, therefore, given to requests from library patrons and books discussed on public media. Materials are judged based on the work as a whole, not on a part taken out of context.

The Library Board considers all materials selected under this policy to be constitutionally protected under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution and the Idaho State Constitution. If a patron claims that a particular item is not constitutionally protected, the burden of proof rests with that patron.

The library will make every effort to choose material formats that are cost-effective, durable, and popular.

The library strives to provide a balanced view on controversial subjects by selecting sources portraying all sides of an issue. The selection of any material for the Library's collection does not constitute an endorsement of its contents by the Library Director, library staff, Library Board, or the City of New Plymouth.

Decisions are not made based on any anticipated approval or disapproval, but solely on the merits of the work concerning the building of the collection and serving the interest of patrons.