



MEDIA ADVISORY

Friends of the Temple Public Library donate \$83,000 for new Bookmobile

TEMPLE, TX (July 27, 2023) – The Friends of the Temple Public Library have donated \$83,000 to the City of Temple, for the purchase of a brand-new bookmobile. This generous donation marks a significant milestone in the mission to expand access to literature and knowledge across the Temple community.

The bookmobile, a mobile library unit, will play a pivotal role in reaching out to the community at various locations, including pop-up visits, schools and daycares, senior centers, churches, festivals, and other city, county, and partner events. The Temple Public Library's Outreach Division will operate the bookmobile, offering the same services as the library, encompassing card registration, checkouts and returns of materials, engaging programming, reference services, and notary services.

“The Friends have been saving many years for a new bookmobile,” said Friends President Nikki Morrow. “The Friends provided the library’s first bookmobile, and we are excited to be able to purchase a second library bookmobile. This donation is made possible by the work of many volunteers, Friends members and past boards and the community’s outstanding support of our used book sales.”

While the Library Master Plan, unveiled in April 2023, proposed the establishment of branch libraries, Library Director Natalie McAdams highlights the bookmobile's indispensable value.

“The bookmobile represents the most cost-effective means to connect with our community members right where they are,” said McAdams. “While the city may envision building additional branches over the next decade, the library cannot delay in providing essential services to its neighbors dispersed across the city. The bookmobile will be a crucial link in bringing the joy of reading to children, supporting low-income families, engaging seniors, and aiding individuals with disabilities who may face challenges in traveling to the downtown library or a potential future branch.”

The City of Temple extends its heartfelt gratitude to the Friends organization and the supportive community members whose collective efforts will now touch the lives of countless individuals through the boundless opportunities that a mobile library brings.

The Friends of the Temple Public will be recognized at the August 3, 2023, City Council Meeting for their support of the Library and the Bookmobile Purchase.

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Please find images of the Temple Public Library’s current Bookmobile attached to this email.