

Material Review Policy

Access

The Library considers reading, listening, and viewing to be individual, private matters. The Library believes that full, confidential, and unrestricted access to information is essential for patrons to exercise their constitutional rights. While anyone is free to select or reject materials for themselves or their own minor child(ren), the freedom of others to read or inquire will not be restricted. Only parents and guardians have the right and responsibility to guide and direct the reading, listening and viewing choices of their own minor child(ren). The Library does not stand in the place of parents (in loco parentis).

The Library collection will be organized, marked, and maintained to help people find the materials they want. Any labeling, sequestering, or alteration of materials because of controversy surrounding the author or the subject matter will not be sanctioned.

Constitutional Protection

The Library considers all materials selected under this policy to be constitutionally protected under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution and the Washington State Constitution.

If a court having jurisdiction over the Walla Walla Public Library decides that any material in the collection is not constitutionally protected, such material will be removed. Material under court consideration will remain available to patrons until a final court ruling is made after all appeals are exhausted.

Collection Review

The Library recognizes the right of individuals to question the inclusion of materials in the Library collection. The Library will give serious consideration to each patron's opinion.

Patrons questioning material in the Library collection may ask Library staff about such material. The staff person in charge of the library at the time will discuss these concerns and give the patron a copy of this policy.

Individuals who wish to continue questioning library materials may state their opinion in writing on the Material Review Form provided by the library. The form will be sent to the Library Director who will refer it to an appropriate Library staff member or committee in order to review the patron's concern and the material in question. A Library staff member or committee will provide a recommendation as to whether the material was appropriately selected and made accessible under this policy.

The Library Director will review the recommendation, make the final decision, and reply to the individual in writing. The Library Director will inform the Library Board of the decision reached about the material requested for review at its next scheduled meeting.

Adopted 9/19/22

Request for Reconsideration of Materials

The Walla Walla Public Library has established a Reconsideration policy and a procedure for gathering input about particular items. Completion of this form is the first step in that procedure. If you wish to request reconsideration of a resource, please return the completed form to the library director.

Date _____

Your Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Do you represent self? Or an organization? Name of Organization _____

1. Resource on which you are commenting: Book (e-book) Movie Magazine Audio Recording Digital Resource Game Newspaper Other

Title _____ Author/Producer _____

2. What brought this resource to your attention?

3. Have you examined the entire resource? If not, what sections did you review?

4. What concerns you about the resource?

5. Are there resource(s) you suggest to provide additional information and/or other viewpoints on this topic?

6. What action are you requesting the Library consider?
