



# Nevada County Library

## Materials Selection Policy

The mission of the Nevada County Library is to:

- Provide a diverse collection that meets the needs of the community.
- Create an inclusive environment that fosters discovery.
- Connect our community with innovative opportunities.
- Provide a space for community gathering; and
- Inspire lifelong learning and personal growth.

Achieving this mission requires providing the strongest collections that our available resources will permit.

This Materials Selection Policy establishes guidelines for the allocation of library resources.

Further, California State Law, AB 1825 passing in 2024, requires the following statements to be included in public library collection development policies:

- The collection meets the broad and diverse interests of the community and respects both the library's autonomy and their specific community needs.
- The public library serves as a center for voluntary inquiry and the dissemination of information and ideas.
- Library materials should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people, and should present diverse points of view in the collection as a whole.
- The right of the public to receive access to a range of social, political, aesthetic, moral, and other ideas and experiences is acknowledged

Per this policy:

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- The library acknowledges the right of the public to receive access to a range of social, political, aesthetic, moral, and other ideas and experiences.

### **Principles of Selection**

Selection of materials is based upon a number of criteria that include:

- Proven or potential interest to the community served
- Favorable reviews in library review media
- The existence, or lack, of similar materials in the collection
- The constraints of available space
- Cost
- The extent to which the item is available elsewhere in the community.

An item need not meet all criteria to be acceptable, nor will any single criteria be decisive.

The library selects materials in accordance with the guidelines stated by the American Library Association in its Library Bill of Rights, and Freedom to Read Statement and Freedom to View Statements.

The library supports diversity of expression and views in its collection in an attempt to provide patrons with a foundation for making informed decisions and formulating personal opinions. The library does not exclude items because of the race, nationality, social, political, or religious views of the authors. The presence of controversial materials in the collection does not represent the library's endorsement of the opinions expressed therein. Although some materials selected may contain language and/or illustrations that may be offensive to some patrons, the library cannot undertake the task of pleasing all individuals by censoring such items.

### **Selection Responsibility**

The Nevada County Board of Supervisors is the legal body in which rests the ultimate responsibility for the selection of materials for the Nevada County Libraries. The responsibility for the actual selection of materials lies with the professional staff at the library.

### **Weeding**

The library periodically discards materials from the collection if they are obsolete, outdated, physically worn or damaged. Multiple copies of an individual title may also be removed as demand wanes.

### **Challenged Materials**

Any citizen may challenge materials. If the citizen chooses to submit a written Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials (attachment a), Library staff will collect reviews and accumulate data on how the material conforms to the selection policy. An ad hoc review committee consisting of the Library Director, Branch Manager, one other librarian, and a citizen appointed at the discretion of the Library Director will review the material, judge whether it conforms to the Selection Policy and submit its report in writing to the Nevada County Board of Supervisors. Concerned parties will be notified of the final decision in writing.

## Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials

The Nevada County Librarians are responsible for the selection and evaluation of all library resources and have established reconsideration procedures to address concerns about those resources. Completion of this form is the first step in this procedure. If you wish to request reconsideration of library resources, please return the completed form to: Nevada County Librarian, 980 Helling Way, Nevada City, CA 95959.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Are you speaking on behalf of an organization or group? (check one)  Yes  No

If yes, what group or organization? \_\_\_\_\_

1. Type of resource on which you are commenting:

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| _____ Book                                       | _____ Video           |
| _____ Magazine                                   | _____ Audio Recording |
| _____ Newspaper                                  | _____ Display         |
| _____ Electronic Information<br>(please specify) | _____ Library Program |

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Author/Producer \_\_\_\_\_

2. What brought this resource to your attention?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Did you examine the entire resource? \_\_\_\_\_ What parts? \_\_\_\_\_

4. What concerns you about the resource?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Have you read any reviews regarding this resource? If so, which one(s)?

\_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date