Agenda Item Report

Legislative Board:	City Council
Date:	November 5, 2025
Contact:	Melinda Hodges, Library Director
Agenda Item ID / Number:	2025-959- / H.5

ITEM TITLE: Authorization for the City Manager to execute a contract with Hays County for the provision of library services to Hays County residents (Library Director Melinda Hodges)

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Hays County has awarded $35,000 to the Buda Public Library as a Community Service Agency.

2. BACKGROUND/HISTORY

This is a routine action that is completed each year.

The Hays County government has provided funds for the Buda Public Library since the early 1980s. These funds are given to ensure that all residents of Hays County have access to free library services. These funds are used for general library expenditures, and, since the library became a city department, are added as revenue to the General Fund.

Each year, the directors of the five public libraries of Hays County meet to discuss budget needs on the libraries and to request the assistance of Hays County to meet the fiscal demands on library services. We then submitted an application for funding to the Hays County Judge.

3. ANALYSIS

This longtime partnership between the City of Buda and Hays County has greatly benefited the residents of both entities. Continuation of the partnership contributes to fulfilling the ongoing educational and cultural needs of our community.

4. FINANCIAL IMPACT

Hays County has awarded $35,000 to the City of Buda Public Library to provide library services to Hays County residents. This provides the additional benefit of giving City of Buda residents the ability to obtain free library cards at the other four public library in Hays County, expanding their access to informational and cultural services.

5. STRATEGIC PLAN/GOALS

EXCEPTIONAL CITY SERVICES WITH A LOW TAX RATE

6. STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVES

Outstanding customer service and exceptional city services.

7. PROS AND CONS

Pros:

- The residents of the City of Buda have full membership access to all five Hays County libraries for no additional cost.

- Residents of Hays County have access to educational and cultural resources, which contributes to the overall success and vibrancy of our community.
- Continuation of partnership and support between the five Hays County library staff members.
- Provides operating revenue for the City of Buda.

Cons: No cons are yet identified.

8. ALTERNATIVES

The option exists to not approve the contract. This would lead to the loss of these revenues from the General Fund budget. It could also lead to City of Buda residents not having access to other libraries at no additional cost. It is unlikely to provide considerable additional revenues from non-residency fees because of our library's participation in the TexShare Card program, which allows patrons to have non-residency fees waived.

9. REQUESTED ACTION / SUGGESTED MOTION / RECOMMENDATION

The Library Commission recommended that City Council approve this agreement at their October 27, 2025 meeting. Staff recommends approval of this contract.

Attachments:

2025-1105 Hays County Buda Contract.pdf
2025-1105 Exhibit A.pdf