



STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: October 22, 2024

TITLE:

Consider action to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2024-35 of the City Council of the City of Bastrop Texas, amending Appendix A - Fee Schedule, Section A1.12 – Libraries; establishing a repealing clause; providing severability; and providing an effective date.

STAFF REPRESENTATIVE:

Bonnie Pierson, Library Director

BACKGROUND/HISTORY:

The Bastrop Public Library began charging Non-Resident fees in January 2020 under Ordinance No. 2019-42. Since the implementation of the Non-Resident fee, the Bastrop Public Library has received repeated requests for a discount from senior citizens, veterans, and individuals with disabilities. Similar discounts and memberships to make services more accessible to Non-Residents have been implemented by other City of Bastrop services. Discount rates for these populations tend to be between 10-15%.

According to the 2020 Decennial United States Census, the City of Bastrop and surrounding areas have a high population of senior citizens, veterans, and individuals with disabilities. The charts below showcase how these populations compare to the state average.

Senior Citizens

State of Texas Average	13.4%
Bastrop County Average	16.0%

Veterans

State of Texas Average	6.2%
Bastrop County Average	8.1%

Individuals with Disabilities

State of Texas Average	12.4%
Bastrop County Average	10.3%

POLICY EXPLANATION:

The purpose of the proposed fee update is to address the needs and concerns of the citizens of Bastrop County by providing a 20% discount on annual individual membership for senior citizens aged 55 and older, veterans, and individuals with disabilities. To further increase access to the library, an annual family membership is also being recommended. A family membership would have a higher check-out limit than an individual membership and would only be available to patrons living outside the Bastrop city limits.

The proposed changes in fees are summarized in the chart below.

DESCRIPTION	FEE
Individual Annual Membership	Resident: \$0.00 Non-Resident: \$25.00
Individual Six-month Membership	Resident: \$0.00 Non-Resident: \$15.00
Senior Citizen (55+), Veteran, or Individual with Disabilities Annual Membership	Resident: \$0.00 Non-Resident: \$20.00
Family Annual Membership	Resident: N/A Non-Resident: \$40.00

FUNDING SOURCE:

N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

Consider action to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2024-35 of the City Council of the City of Bastrop Texas, amending Appendix A - Fee Schedule, Section A1.12 – Libraries; establishing a repealing clause; providing severability; and providing an effective date.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Ordinance No. 2024-35
- City of Bastrop Library Fee Schedule - Memberships
- City of Bastrop Recreation Fee Schedule - Memberships

