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Headquarters, Lee-Itawamba Library System

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October 7, 2020

The Honorable Jason Shelton, Mayor of Tupelo  
and Members of the Tupelo City Council  
Tupelo City Hall  
71 East Troy Street  
Tupelo, Mississippi 38804

Dear Mayor Shelton and Members of the City Council,

I am writing to provide an update on our efforts to purchase a new Bookmobile. In December 2019, I made a presentation to the City Council requesting funds to purchase a Freightliner MT-55, with an approximate cost of \$250,000.00. Since that time circumstances have led us to reconsider this choice of vehicle in favor of a smaller, less expensive option - the Dodge Sprinter Van. The estimated cost of the Sprinter bookmobile is \$155,000.00. The Friends of the Lee County Library have raised \$35,000.00 to help pay for the new bookmobile.

Please have a look at the attached document 'Example Photos Sprinter Bookmobile' prepared by Matthews Specialty Vehicles of Greensboro, NC. You will note that the Sprinter is a much more compact design; allows access for those with mobility limitations; incorporates removable shelving carts for rotating materials and for display outside the vehicle, while providing shelving for up to 1,500 items. The slimmer body design and cab configuration make for an easily maneuverable vehicle for library staff to drive to locations throughout the City.

I am requesting that the Tupelo City Council approve \$25,000.00 in FY 2021 funds for a new Bookmobile.

Thank you for your continued support!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeff Tomlinson".

Jeff Tomlinson  
Director

Cc: Kim Hanna, CFO/City Clerk; Don Lewis, COO