



October 14, 2024

Kimberly Brantley
City of Wolfforth Public Library
P.O. BOX 36
Wolfforth, Texas 79382

To whom it may concern:

Since 1992, the Tocker Foundation has devoted most of its philanthropic giving to rural, public libraries in Texas towns of 12,000 or less. The foundation works closely with the Texas State Library, Texas Library Association and other philanthropic organizations. The due diligence of the foundation includes the review of the annual library report filed with the Texas State Library, product research and on-site visits.

In recent years, we have seen a rise in requests for large amounts of furniture and shelving. Many, if not most, of these libraries remain unchanged from the time they were built thirty, forty or even fifty years ago. The changes in our world since then are dramatic and as a result, the ways that libraries are used have changed as well.

In an effort to support these changing needs in the library, we launched an initiative that elevates these furniture and shelving projects from the ordinary replacement of tables and chairs to a transformation that addresses the entire facility and the uniqueness of each community while providing flexibility for future changes. Key to the success of this transformation is our partnership with an architect/library design consultant who works closely with the library applicant to assess the space, create a new floor plan and guide applicants through the selection process. The value of her expertise extends to the bottom line by managing a bid process, saving the library thousands of dollars and expanding the impact of the grant.

Word of this initiative has spread and librarians who were once resigned to their current arrangement are now encouraged and hopeful that they, too, can update their facility to address the multitude of programs and services that make rural libraries the hub of their community. These libraries typically reach out to our foundation because of our past support and our dedication to rural public libraries but we cannot fund this alone. We encourage the libraries to reach out to other funding sources to complete the project all at one time.



Public library projects of this type are not possible within a typical library's operating budget. Extraordinary assistance is vital. **I encourage the City of Wolfforth's elected officials to join us in addressing facility needs during this transformation project at the City of Wolfforth Public Library.** Please contact me at the Tocker Foundation if I can offer any further information. I appreciate your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Darryl Tocker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Darryl" being more prominent than the last name "Tocker".

Darryl Tocker
Executive Director

