

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE **March 23, 2026**

Honorable Members of the Quality of Life, Arts & Culture Committee: Zarin D. Gracey (Chair), Laura Cadena (Vice Chair), Adam Bazaldua, Paul Ridley, Bill Roth, Chad West, Gay Donnell Willis

SUBJECT **Library Regional Model Update**

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an update on the Library’s regional model proposal that was presented to the Quality of Life, Arts, and Culture Committee on January 20, 2026.

At that meeting, staff presented a proposal to transition to a regional library model that included establishing five flagship libraries and closing four neighborhood branches. This proposal was developed in alignment with the planned FY2026-27 budget.

LIBRARY

Major Budget Item	FY 2025-26 Positions	FY 2025-26 Budget	FY 2026-27 Positions	FY 2026-27 Planned
Streamline the Community Library Program's operations by consolidating specialized services, technology, and programming into a smaller number of strategically located regional branches, supported by surrounding satellite locations (29.76 FTEs).	0	0	(32)	(2,600,000)

Both the Committee and members of the community expressed significant concern regarding the potential closure of libraries and the methodology used to identify the proposed branches. Staff in collaboration with the Friends of the Dallas Public Library conducted a community survey in February and staff further investigated factors requested by the Committee. Once survey data is compiled and fully assessed, Staff will return to the Quality of Life, Arts, and Culture Committee in April to present a more detailed explanation of next steps and recommendations. The Friends of the Dallas Public Library plan to release a preliminary report on March 17, 2026.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact myself or Manya Shorr, Director, Library at manya.shorr@dallas.gov.

DATE March 23, 2026
SUBJECT **Library Regional Model Update**
PAGE **Page 2 of 2**

Service First, Now!



M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira
Assistant City Manager

c: Kimberly Bizzor Tolbert, City Manager
Tammy Palomino, City Attorney
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Baron Eliason, Inspector General (I)
Dominique Artis, Chief of Public Safety

Dev Rastogi, Assistant City Manager
Alina Ciocan, Assistant City Manager
Donzell Gipson, Assistant City Manager
Robin Bentley, Assistant City Manager
Jack Ireland, Chief Financial Officer
Ahmad Goree, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
Directors and Assistant Directors