

Rosemary Garfoot Public Library
Petitions and Solicitation Policy

The Rosemary Garfoot Public Library takes a key role in supporting the free flow of information and ideas, and supports the citizenry's right to free speech and civic involvement. As an unbiased, non-partisan and active component of the community's civic life, the Rosemary Garfoot Public Library has established the following policy and regulations for petitions and solicitations.

Policy:

Public solicitation of signatures for the purposes of a petition, distribution of literature or leaflets by individuals or organizations, canvassing, surveying and similar types of direct appeals by members of the public is only permitted in the front vestibule of the Library or outside on Library grounds . These activities must be conducted in accordance with the guidelines listed below. Such activities should not interfere with patrons or staff accessing the library entrances or services. The Library Board and staff seek to balance the constitutional rights of citizens and organizations with the rights of library customers and staff when using public space.

Regulations:

- A. Anyone wishing to solicit signatures for a petition or leaflet must inform the Library Administrative staff during normal business hours (9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday) of their intent to solicit signatures for a petition.
- B. The library shall supply the petitioner with a table and chair, and designate the area of the vestibule where petitioning may take place. The library can only accommodate one petitioner's table at a time. This petitioner shall not block, hinder or otherwise impede patrons and staff wishing to exit or enter the building, nor seek to intimidate persons entering or exiting the building into signing a petition or accepting a leaflet.
- C. In the event that more than one person wishes to use the library vestibule in this way at the same time, the table will be assigned by Library Administration on a first-come, first served basis. If the lobbying is to take place on more than one day, the Library will require that the petitioners take turns.
- D. No leafleting or distribution of literature, or solicitation is permitted for the purposes of selling items, renting apartments or other for-profit activities, nor for not-for-profit fund raising activities. Any person who does not abide by the conditions stated above or creates a nuisance such that the regular business of the Library is disrupted shall be required to immediately cease all activities relating to solicitation for a petition or leafleting and to leave the Library premises immediately under the provisions of the Library's Public Behavior Policy.

Adopted 12/13/2011

This document was revised and reviewed accordingly on 7/21/2015

This document was revised and reviewed accordingly on 9/20/2016

This document was revised and reviewed accordingly on 3/20/2018