



City of Denton

City Hall
215 E. McKinney Street
Denton, Texas
www.cityofdenton.com

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Procurement
ACM: Cassey Ogden
DATE: March 19, 2024

SUBJECT

Consider adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton, a Texas home-rule municipal corporation, authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with BiblioCommons Corp., for software maintenance and licensing from BiblioCommons for the Online Library Catalog Discovery & Overlay Tool for the Denton Public Library, which is the sole provider of this software, in accordance with Texas Local Government Code 252.022, which provides that procurement of commodities and services that are available from one source are exempt from competitive bidding, and if over \$50,000 shall be awarded by the governing body; and providing an effective date (File 8448 – awarded to BiblioCommons Corp., in the three (3) year not-to-exceed amount of \$83,000.00).

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

This action supports Key Focus Area: Strengthen Community and Quality of Life.

INFORMATION/BACKGROUND

The library's basic online catalog provides only simple searches, with limited functionality and services for library users. An online catalog overlay adds additional service features and library information; integrates library classes, events, and digital resources; enhances searchability; allows user account access; improves user experiences through clear and easy-to-use features; and includes an attractive layout that markets library services and resources to users. The overlay provides the modern library catalog experience and look expected by users.

The BiblioCommons online catalog overlay has a visually appealing interface that integrates reviews, library classes, and database options for a complete offering in response to customers' queries. BiblioCommons includes built-in reviews for titles including professional literary reviews and user reviews from BiblioCommons library users across the country. These reviews help inform selection choices by customers.

The overlay also allows for service pages to highlight and inform library users about services such as makerspaces, outreach, StoryWalks®, local history, and more. Library classes and events are available in the overlay, searchable, and include filters to limit events to a library branch, date range, intended audience, and topic. Additionally, BiblioCommons offers a Spanish language option to assist Spanish language speakers seeking library information and material selections.

The BiblioCommons catalog overlay provides enhanced searching capability by using natural language searching. For example, Patrons looking for the latest movies or TV shows often search for “DVDs” in the catalog. With natural language searching, they will see a list of the most recently added DVDs in the library collection instead of books about DVDs. Search results also include filters to refine searches by format, audience, genre, language, publication date, and more.

By integrating added value about library classes and resources, the customer will have a more complete picture of the available options at their disposal. The overlay supports the Library’s mission to transform lives, strengthen community, and inspire imagination. It further supports the library’s strategic priorities and goals by championing literacy, creating a culture of lifelong learning, embracing technology, and expanding horizons.

It is essential for the City of Denton to keep current maintenance with the software vendor to ensure the availability of upgrades, software fixes, and access to knowledge and support resources. The Technology Services department could not identify any local vendors in the city limits that could provide software maintenance for this application. The City of Denton would like to continue to utilize BiblioCommons software for another three years to capture the full 10-year lifecycle of the product. Therefore, procuring this maintenance from the above vendor is the best value for the City of Denton.

Section 252.022 of the Local Government Code provides that procurement of sole source commodities and services are exempt from competitive bidding, if over \$50,000, shall be awarded by the governing body.

RECOMMENDATION

Award with a contract to BiblioCommons Corp., as a sole source supplier, for software maintenance and licensing from BiblioCommons for the Online Library Catalog Discovery & Overlay Tool for the Denton Public Library, in a three (3) year amount not-to-exceed \$83,000.

PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS

BiblioCommons Corp.
Toronto, ON

ESTIMATED SCHEDULE OF PROJECT

This is a three (3) year contract.

FISCAL INFORMATION

These services will be funded from the Library’s operational account 301000.7879. Requisitions will be entered on an as-needed basis. The budgeted amount for this item is \$83,000.

EXHIBITS

Exhibit 1: Agenda Information Sheet
Exhibit 2: Ordinance and Contract

Respectfully submitted:
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Purchasing Manager

For information concerning this acquisition, contact: Jennifer Bekker, 940-349-8753.

Legal point of contact: Marcella Lunn at 940-349-8333.