

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
INTERDEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM
LIBRARY DEPARTMENT**

CONSENT AGENDA

ITEM NO. 38

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Aubrey W. George, Acting Library Director

THROUGH: Terry M. Brechtel, City Manager

COPIES: Frances A. Gonzalez; Legal; Finance; Management and Budget; File

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT FY2004 LOAN STAR LIBRARIES GRANT

DATE: December 18, 2003

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Approval of this ordinance will authorize acceptance of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission FY2004 Loan Star Libraries grant award in the amount of \$89,292. The 77th Texas Legislature has funded \$2.6 million this year to strengthen public libraries statewide. Grant funds will be used to purchase furniture and display cases to enhance the children's areas in library locations throughout the city. All funds will be expended by August 31, 2004.

The Library Board of Trustees and staff recommend approval of this ordinance.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Loan Star Libraries grant award program provides direct state aid for Texas public libraries. It is predicated on a partnership between the state of Texas and local political jurisdictions. The program intends to improve public library services statewide, ensure access to adequate public library resources for all Texans, build the capacity of each public library to serve as the information resource and lifelong learning center for their community, and enhance the public library's ability to serve Texans in the "Digital Divide". This year, money provided by Loan Star Libraries will improve and expand library services in 532 Texas communities.

Loan Star Libraries grants can be used for any public library operating expenses, including the expansion and improvement of existing public library services and programs and for the establishment of new services and programs. The grants cannot be used for the purchase or construction of a library building. Libraries are encouraged to use the funds for highly visible programs that will bring the greatest benefit to the community and the greatest attention to resources available at the Library.

Authorization to accept the 2002 Loan Star Libraries grant was established in Ordinance 95664 (April 25, 2002). The first two years of the Loan Star Libraries grant award was used to enhance the San Antonio