



CITY OF BEDFORD

Discover the Center



Program of Services | Fiscal Year 2011-2012



ABOUT THE COVER



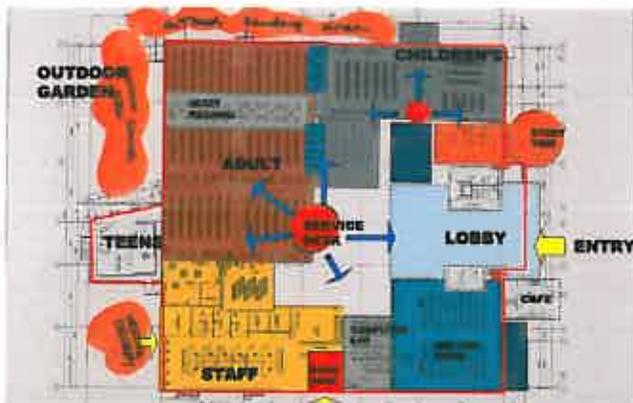
Why a New Library?

The Bedford Public Library is a much loved, cultural institution that shares its wealth of knowledge freely and can be used by anyone. With an average of 4,500 patrons visiting weekly, the library continues to be one of the most popular destinations in the city. The Bedford Public Library is a cost-effective operation that provides excellent customer service and immediate access to a collection of over 100,000 items.

Community Designed Library

In August 2007, the City Council purchased the Food Lion Building from the HEB Independent School District for \$2.215 million dollars. The building was ideal for the library since it was located in the Cultural District, had ample square footage and is in close proximity to the Historic Old Bedford School. The city hired Hidell and Associates Architects to design a new library. The firm was chosen for its creativity and conviction that community involvement is paramount to the success of designing a new library that will meet the needs of citizens in the future.

An Express Yourself Campaign was kicked off with an online and print survey and focus groups. Results were used to begin programming the building and to plan Design Charrettes. The community was invited to a series of Library Design Workshops to lay out the library of their dreams. A Town Hall Meeting was held in July 2008 and the community was asked to vote on their favorite library design. Design # 7 (pictured below) created by our teens won by an overwhelming margin.



The City Council approved the concept that provided 65 public access computers, a dedicated Teen Center, a large community room, seven study rooms, a Quiet Reading Room, an expanded children's area, Story Time and Discovery Room. The design increased the square footage of the building from 37,000 square feet to 40,516 square feet. The selected design will convert the existing Food Lion structure from an eyesore to a building that Bedford citizens can be proud of for years to come.

New Library Floor Plan

The new Bedford Public Library features state-of-the-art technology including 65 computers, a dedicated computer lab and children's computers with educational software. As a community gathering place, patrons will be able to enjoy a Quiet Reading Room, study rooms, and a large community room with a kitchen. Families are sure to appreciate the dedicated Story Time Room, Discovery Room and Teen Center for educational and recreational programs.

Facility Comparison

Current	Future
17,000 sq. ft.	40,516 sq. ft.
17 computers	65 computers
No study rooms	7 study rooms
Limited space for programs	Dedicated Teen Room, Computer Lab & Story Time
No Large Meeting Room	2,200 sq. ft. Multi-media Community Room with Food Prep Area
Manual check-in and sorting	Automated Materials Handling

Sustainable Design

The adaptive re-use of the former Food Lion building was a significant step in building a Library that would showcase sustainable design that is attractive and energy efficient. Geothermal energy is used for the heating and cooling system to realize 20 - 25% energy savings over a conventional HVAC unit. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), geothermal heat pumps are the most energy-efficient, environmentally clean, and cost-effective systems for temperature control. A Department of Energy grant will fund a reflective roof system which is ideal for the flat roof and orientation of the new building. The City of Bedford also received a \$1.9 million dollar grant from the Texas State Energy and Conservation Office to install a solar photovoltaic system. The **New Bedford Public Library** has 824 solar panels on the roof which produced over 390,000 kW of energy since being installed. The reflective roof actually increases production of the solar panels by reducing heat on the roof. Other features include natural lighting, water efficient fixtures and landscaping, low E glass, added insulation and energy efficient lighting fixtures.

RFID Technology and Automated Materials Handling

Extensive research was conducted to determine how to reduce operating costs without reducing customer service. Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) was determined to be the best solution. Implementing RFID allows the library to move staff from the backroom handling materials to direct customer service. A cost Benefit Analysis determined that the system would redirect five full-time equivalent positions to public service in the first year alone and will pay for itself in a seven year period. RFID technology has been used for years to manage inventory in the private sector. The Automated Materials Handling system includes a 50 foot conveyor belt and a nine bin sorting machine. Materials are gently conveyed, checked in, security bit activated and materials are sorted into bins by collection. It separates patron-requested items and prints pick-up slips. Staff place the checked in items onto trucks that are ready to be shelved.

There are many advantages of RFID technology such as the combination of RFID based self-checkout and automated materials handling = 6,559 staff hours saved, circulation staff redirected from the backroom to public floor to handle more customers, it Allows for an external drive-up materials return (the #1 request of our patrons), and Life of the collection is extended through improved security and gentle materials handling. RFID technology also builds capacity for future growth in circulation for years to come by stabilizing staffing needs.



CITY OF BEDFORD

NOTICE

Pursuant to House Bill 3195

This budget will raise more total property taxes than last year's budget by \$292,715 or 2.3% and, of that amount, \$60,426 is tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year.





GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

*Distinguished
Budget Presentation
Award*

PRESENTED TO

**City of Bedford
Texas**

For the Fiscal Year Beginning

October 1, 2010

Linda C. Sanborn Jeffrey R. Stone

President

Executive Director

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) presented a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award to the City of Bedford, Texas for its annual budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2010. In order to receive this award, a governmental unit must publish a budget document that meets program criteria as a policy document, as an operations guide, as a financial plan, and as a communications device.

This award is valid for a period of one year only. We believe our current budget continues to conform to program requirements, and we are submitting it to GFOA to determine its eligibility for another award.

