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DATE: <u>10/11/2022</u>

### SUBJECT: APPROVAL TO DE-ACCESSION AND RETURN ITEMS TO THE WOMAN'S WEDNESDAY CLUB OF FORT WORTH – ARCHIVES

# \*\*\* CONSENT AGENDA \*\*\*

#### **COMMISSIONERS COURT ACTION REQUESTED**

It is requested that the Commissioners Court provide approval for the Tarrant County Archives to deaccession and return approximately 1,060 titles, including books and some magazines, to the Woman's Wednesday Club (WWC) of Fort Worth.

#### **BACKGROUND**

In May 2011, WWC of Fort Worth donated approximately 1,060 titles, including books and magazines, to the Fort Worth Public Library Foundation for display in an exhibition. This exhibition never came to fruition, and in May 2018 the Fort Worth Public Library Foundation donated the WWC books and magazines to the Tarrant County Archives with the stipulation that the collection remain whole. The Tarrant County Archives had tentative plans to display the materials, but it has been determined unfeasible due to the number of items and lack of space.

Representatives from the WWC of Fort Worth requested the return of the collection in August 2022. Upon review, the Tarrant County Archives has determined that the relevant value of these items to the Archives collection mandate lies within the history of their use, and not in the physical presence of the items. No researchers have expressed interest in this collection since its acquisition in 2018, other than members of the WWC. It is the opinion of the Tarrant County Archives that these items would be better suited in the WWC library, and the Fort Worth Public Library Foundation agrees with the Archives and has signed paperwork to this effect.

Return of these items serves a public purpose in that it will allow the WWC to properly display and provide access to the items, and removal from the Archives will allow use of the freed up space for other items.

## FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.