COMMISSIONERS COURT COMMUNICATION

COURT ORDER NUMBER 145689

DATE: 8/19/2025

SUBJECT: **CONSIDERATION TO DEACCESSION ITEMS FROM THE CITY OF FORT WORTH AVIATION DEPARTMENT COLLECTION OF THE TARRANT COUNTY ARCHIVES**

***** CONSENT AGENDA *****

COMMISSIONERS COURT ACTION REQUESTED

It is requested that the Commissioners Court consider authorizing the deaccession of select materials from the City of Fort Worth Aviation Department Collection maintained by the Tarrant County Archives. Deaccessioned materials will be considered for donation, auction, or other disposition in accordance with established archival policies and procedures.

BACKGROUND

The City of Fort Worth Aviation Department Collection was accessioned into the Tarrant County Archives in 2014. The collection consists of over 5,000 items including artifacts, books, technical manuals, training aids, textbooks, magazines, A/V materials, photographs, posters, artwork, personal memorabilia from individuals associated with north Texas aviation, and exhibit displays.

On October 11, 2022, the Commissioners Court, through Court Order #139334, approved the deaccession and donation of two (2) large interactive exhibit displays from this same collection to the Fort Worth Aviation Museum.

A recent review determined that a substantial portion of the collection should be deaccessioned. Items identified for removal include:

- Materials with no additional research value.
- Duplicate materials.
- Items outside the Archives' collecting scope, such as Audio/Visual recordings of popular movies and television shows, publications that are not aviation related, and large quantities of model building magazines.
- Large quantities of readily available maintenance manuals, user guides, and model-building magazines.
- Materials unsuitable for long-term preservation, including items with mold damage.

The collection also contains over 2,300 books, both related and unrelated to aviation history. Due to space limitations, lack of public browsing access, and the absence of an online catalog, the Archives is not an ideal repository for the majority of these volumes. A curated selection of books, including directories for military aviation organizations and those directly related to the history of aviation in Fort Worth will be retained. Remaining titles will be offered to partner institutions, including the Fort Worth Public Library, the Fort Worth History Center, and the Fort Worth Aviation Museum, which have expressed interest in adding select books into their holdings.

SUBMITTED BY	Archives	PREPARED BY:	Jaimi Parker
		APPROVED BY:	Maegan South

If deaccession is approved, Archives staff will make every effort to place the materials with the above named institutions or other appropriate institutions. Items that cannot be placed will be evaluated for possible public auction or disposal in accordance with archival standards.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF TARRANT

DONATION AND TRANSFER OF TITLE

The City of Fort Worth hereby give, assign, transfer, and set over to the Tarrant County Archives, created by Commissioners Court, Tarrant County, Texas all of our rights, title, and interest in and to the following:

Accession # Collection # As described below or in attached inventory.

D14-017-566

(numbers are assigned by Archivist)

City of Fort Worth Historic Aviation Collection - See Attachment - A1 and A2

Stipulations by Donor are none unless stated here: See Attachment - B

A copy of the donation record is provided upon request of the donor.
Copy requested: yes X no ___ If yes, provided on this date: _____ by _____

All donations become the property of the Tarrant County Archives. The donor warrants that no other individuals or institution have interest in the materials and hereby releases all right, title and interest unto the Tarrant County Archives

Signature of Donor (s) Fernando Costa By Date 4/14/14

Fernando Costa, Assistant City Manager

Contact Information:
City of Fort Worth Aviation Department
4201 N Main St Suite 200
Fort Worth, TX 76106
817-392-5400

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGALITY:
By:

Assistant City Attorney

ACCEPTED for and in behalf of the Tarrant County Archives

Authorized Representative Dana Burghdoff Date 4/22/14

with no stipulations.

Attested by:

Mary J. Kayser, City Secretary

RECEIVED APR 15 2014

FORT WORTH®

April 15, 2014

Tarrant County Archive
ATTN: Dawn Youngblood
200 Taylor Street, 5th Floor
Fort Worth, Texas 76102

Dear Ms. Youngblood,

The Fort Worth City Council approved the donation of the City of Fort Worth Historic Aviation Collection on March 18, 2014.

This collection includes items related to the aviation history of Fort Worth and North Texas. In all, the collection represents over 5,000 items, including artifacts, books, aircraft and engine technical manuals and data, aviation training aids and related materials, textbooks, aviation magazines, video tape and film media, photographs, posters, original artwork, and personal memorabilia of individuals associated with North Texas aviation. Dated material ranges from the 1940s to the early 2000s. The collection also includes some of the items from the "Ascent....When Dreams Defy Gravity" exhibit that was created for the Museum of Science and History in 2010.

The City believes that by donating the collection to the Tarrant County Archive, we will ensure the collection is preserved for future generations to explore.

Sincerely,

Fernando Costa
Assistant City Manager

AVIATION DEPARTMENT

CITY OF FORT WORTH * 4201 NORTH MAIN STREET, SUITE 200 * FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76106-2749
817.392.5400 * FAX 817.392.5413

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