



Lake Oswego Public Library Facility, Petitions & Solicitations Policy

The Lake Oswego Public Library provides educational, recreational, and research materials to residents and Library patrons. To minimize disruptions to residents and patrons, the Library prohibits solicitation and/or petition circulation within the interior spaces and entry lobby of the Library. Certain areas outside of the Library may be used by the public to solicit or gather petitions if the solicitors adhere to the following regulations.

1. Only nonprofit organizations may assemble outside the Library buildings. For the purpose of this policy, “nonprofit organizations” include public educational institutions. For-profit or commercial organizations may not assemble on Library grounds.
2. Petitioners/solicitors and their furniture or equipment must be stationed along the perimeter of the outside brick area in front of the Library and may not impede, hinder or block access to the Library facility or create potentially unsafe conditions to Library staff, patrons, or to the general public. The library building must be kept clear for emergency exit so patrons can enter and leave freely without impediment.
3. The Library retains the right to request relocation of people, furniture or equipment if patron access to the Library buildings is blocked or impeded by the gathering of people or the furniture or equipment. Persons who fail to promptly comply with the request will be cited for trespassing.
4. The Library will not provide supplies, furniture, equipment, or any other amenities to petitioners/solicitors, nor will the Library store any items for any period of time. The petitioner/solicitor that uses the areas outside of the Library buildings will hold the City of Lake Oswego harmless against any claims arising out of the petitioner’s/solicitor’s activities.
5. The Library reserves the right to permit groups that promote Library services or closely-related activities to set up tables in the entrance lobby.
6. Petitioners/solicitors may not use any part of the buildings, including walls, columns, and lights to exhibit posters, notes or printed information.
7. With the exception of City of Lake Oswego and/or Lake Oswego Public Library-sponsored fundraising that benefits the programs and services of the City and/or the Library, solicitation for funds is strictly prohibited on Library property. Prohibited solicitation for funds includes, but is not limited to: panhandling, seeking donations, or raising funds through selling goods or services to patrons and the general public.

8. Petitioners/solicitors shall not approach Library patrons and staff in an aggressive manner or engage in action that constitutes harassment of Library patrons and staff.
9. Persons who fail to comply with any party of this policy will be asked to leave the Library premises.
10. The presence of petitioners/solicitors outside of the Library does not constitute the Library's endorsement of the policies, beliefs, or political affiliations of petitioning persons or groups; nor does it constitute the Library's endorsement of any candidate, initiative, or referendum.
11. Loitering on Library property shall be prohibited from 10pm to 6am, but does not preclude access to the Library book drop as needed. Hours may be modified by approval from the Library Director or designee.

Adopted by the Library Advisory Board; amended July 11, 2018.