

**VI. GENERAL FUND AND MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE FUND**  
**C.2 Grants - Library Services Improvement Fund Request**

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The Albertson Foundation awarded a portion of the cash match required for the \$250,000 Institute of Museum and Library Services National Leadership Grant for the Routes to Reading Program. Their \$30,000 will be used to help pay for the evaluation of the project and some of the books for the Books to Go program. This fiscal year, we will be spending \$17,000 of Albertson Foundation funds toward those two spending categories. We're also using some state operating funds (\$15,000 per year) for match and have some in-kind donations from Idaho Kids Count.

The goal of the Routes to Reading program is to significantly increase the amount of reading done in Idaho homes and child care settings. The target audience is low-income rural families with young children. This program will support children's early learning by greatly increasing convenient access to quality children's books and providing information for parents and caregivers on how they can help develop their children's early literacy skills.

I am requesting Board approval for expenditures, up to \$30,000, over the life of the project from the Library Services Improvement Fund for expenses incurred for the Commission's Routes to Reading program.

Expenditures from that fund require specific approval of the Board of Library Commissioners:

IC 33-2506(2) Purpose. The purpose of the library services improvement fund is to further the development of library services for all the people of Idaho. Moneys in the library services improvement fund are appropriated to and may be expended by the board of library commissioners at any time for the purposes provided in this section.

(4) Payments. (c) Payments from the library services improvement fund may be used only for the purposes approved by the board of library commissioners. Funding decisions shall be solely within the discretion of the board of library commissioners.

**Suggested motion:** I move that expenditures, up to \$30,000, from the Library Services Improvement Fund be approved for expenses incurred for the Routes to Reading program over the life of the project.

MSC \_\_\_\_\_