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MEDIA RELEASE

April 29, 2021

Hernando County Public Library to use Automated Materials Handlers (AMH)

(Brooksville, FL) – The Hernando County Public Library will begin the use of the **Automated Materials Handlers (AMH) beginning Monday, May 3, 2021**. This project is brought to you and made possible through the CARES Act grant, provided by the U.S. Department of Treasury. This grant enables government to continue to support the public health response and lay the foundation for a strong and equitable economic recovery.

Automated materials handling (AMH) refers to any automation that assists the staff to physically check-in, check-out and sort bins containing library material. The mechanical equipment used in the AMH systems includes check-in machines, sorters and conveyors. Within the process, there are scanners to read the bar code or a reader to read the RFID tag (or both). Various belts, pulleys, chutes, slides and laser beams are used to ensure bins do not overflow and to get each item oriented correctly and moved into the correct bin.

The AMH uses information it receives back from the Library's computer software to sort each item according to a "sort plan". Sorting is based on the status of the item, collection code, material type, shelving location or any combination of these pieces of information. The AMH system will check-in items, trigger a hold, print a hold slip or send the item(s) to select bins for further processing.

How does this benefit the patron? Workflow optimization is an important way to reduce costs and provide better services for patrons. With inefficient workflows, things take longer and cost more to complete. Immediate check-in of materials returned and high-speed sorting makes sure the materials reach the next patron as fast as possible. No more waiting for days on fulfillment of the next hold. The AMH also minimizes the number of touches on materials. By implementing smart book return and sorting solutions, human contact is minimized and hygiene is improved.

For locations, hours or other information, visit www.HernandoCountyLibrary.us or call (352) 754-4043.

4 LOCATIONS

BROOKSVILLE - MAIN

238 Howell Avenue
Brooksville, FL 34601

WEST BRANCH

6335 Blackbird Avenue
Brooksville, FL 34613

SPRING HILL BRANCH

9220 Spring Hill Drive
Spring Hill, FL 34608

EAST BRANCH

6457 Windmere Road
Brooksville, FL 34602



LIBRARY SERVICES

P 352.754.4043 ♦ F 352.754.4044 ♦ W www.HernandoCountyLibrary.us



AMH employee induction and work area



AMH patron induction area

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