



DIGITAL ARCHIVES FOR NEWSPAPERS

PRESENTED BY:

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MAY 4, 2023

DESCRIPTION OF PURCHASE

Mayor-approved project using funds from cost savings to purchase the following for \$2.1 million:

- Houston Chronicle Digital Archives (1982-2017)
- Access to digital Houston Chronicle as they are printed (2023-2027)
- Houston Post Digital Archives (1881-1995)
- San Antonio Express News Digital Archives (1867-1990)
- Fort Worth Star Telegram Digital Archives (1902-1991)
- Ten years of online hosting of archives included for all archives
- (Large portion of Dallas Morning News Archives purchased previously)

CHALLENGE BEING ADDRESSED

Currently, the Houston Chronicle and Houston Post archives are stored on microfilm at 500 McKinney at the Central Library

1. Microfilm is a dying format
 - A. The microfilm owned by HPL is deteriorating
 - B. Most library vendors no longer work with the microfilm format
 - C. Microfilm readers are becoming obsolete

2. Microfilm Accessibility Issues
 - A. Available only at the Central Library
 - B. Accessible only during open Library hours
 - C. Microfilm is not indexed or keyword searchable



BENEFIT OF DIGITAL ARCHIVES

1. Digital Archives would be owned in perpetuity by Houston Public Library
2. Library cardholders can access any time from any where
3. Digital archives can be searched by keyword and browsed by date
4. Customers can easily clip and save digital files and e-mail articles to themselves or others
5. No staff interaction needed to retrieve microfilm rolls from storage
6. Digital Archives do not deteriorate and have no need for expensive readers to view them



HOUSTON CHRONICLE ARCHIVES

HOUSTON ★ **CHRONICLE**

Thursday, November 2, 2017 | HoustonChronicle.com and Chron.com | Vol. 117, No. 20 | \$2.00 ***** Mostly cloudy: High 63, Low 70

★ **WORLD SERIES** ★
ASTROS BEAT DODGERS TO WIN TITLE, 4-3

CHAMPS!



A PATH FORWARD

1. NewsBank is sole-source vendor for newspaper digital archives
2. HPL already owns a portion of the Houston Chronicle digital archives that gets used by customers 30,000 times per month
3. This purchase would buy the entire range of years available of Houston Chronicle digital archives up to 2027
4. This lump sum purchase provides discount to City and vendor waives hosting fees for first ten years
5. Vendor hosts archives and provides searchable web interface

This purchase represents a huge leap forward in accessibility for our customers by providing Library cardholders with online searchable access to all major Texas newspapers, including the two authoritative news sources for Houston. These digital archives are an invaluable resource and research tool for our customers that provides access to Houston's and Texas' rich history.

Thank you.

Houston Public Library

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