



Department Source: Community Development - NS

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: August 20, 2018

Re: Adopt A Spot Agreements

Executive Summary

Volunteer Programs, part of the Community Development Department, is submitting for approval four Adopt-A-Spot Beautification agreements to allow volunteers to care for landscaping in street right of way.

Discussion

Volunteers are responsible for maintaining 99 landscaped beds in city or state right of way in the City of Columbia. Adopters are responsible for weeding, watering, and mulching the beds and planting annual flowers and bulbs. Agreements are written for a four-year commitment and each bed has a sign to acknowledge the efforts of the adopter. Currently 83 beds, or 84%, have adopters.

Staff is asking for Council to approve four agreements with volunteers to maintain beds:

- Katie Huddlestonsmith would like to take over a bed in the median of Brown Station Road and Leeway Drive. This is the north bed of two that were cared for by the Northwest Rotary Club for 12 years until they chose not to renew their adoption. Ms. Huddlestonsmith lives nearby and would like to care for her neighborhood.
- Fidelis Support Services has agreed to care for a bed in Scottson Way. This bed is viewed only by those on the street and because of the low visibility has been up for adoption for more than 2 years. Fidelis Support Services provides care for adults with developmental disabilities and is grateful to have a low-traffic area so their staff and clients can work together to beautify this neighborhood.
- The Hawthorn Chapter of the Missouri Native Plant Society has applied to care for landscaping at the entrance of the Providence Road Drop-off Recycling Center, formerly the site of Fire Station #7. This adoption consists of three existing beds at the site that are planted in natives.
- A bed in the median of Burning Bush Road, located east of the northern end of Providence, will be adopted by Becca Kint. This is another bed located in a neighborhood with low vehicle traffic. Becca and her family live nearby and would like to care for this bed to improve their neighborhood.

City staff will work with these volunteers to provide mulch, annual flowers, bulbs and plants as needed to help them be successful. City staff review the beds two to three times each year to provide feedback to volunteers and help ensure program quality. Staff will terminate agreements with volunteers who are not meeting the standards for weed free beds with color throughout the growing season. The City's Volunteer Programs staff appreciates the



investment that volunteers put into Adopt-A-Spot beds to be enjoyed by hundreds of residents and visitors each day.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: The City will provide signs acknowledging the work of each adopter for a total cost of \$520. In addition, the City will provide mulch, plants, annuals and bulbs for a total two year cost not to exceed \$1000.

Long-Term Impact: The City's Volunteer Programs provides ongoing support for Adopt A Spot beds including water meter and hydrant maintenance and repair, replacement plants, mulch, bulbs and annual flowers. No more than \$15,000 is spent on the program to support more than 90 beds. Volunteers provide the labor to maintain these beds at no cost to the City.

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

[Strategic Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Not Applicable, Secondary Impact: Secondary, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

[Comprehensive Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Not Applicable, Secondary Impact: Secondary, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

Legislative History

Date	Action
n/a	n/a

Suggested Council Action

Approval of the Adopt A Spot agreements.