



Department Source: Community Development - NS

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: August 7, 2023

Re: Adopt A Spot Beautification Agreements

Executive Summary

Volunteer Programs, part of the Community Development Department, is submitting for approval five Adopt-A-Spot Beautification agreements allowing volunteers to care for landscaping at City property or in City right of way.

Discussion

Volunteers are responsible for maintaining landscaped beds in city or state right of way in the City of Columbia at 109 locations. 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. With these agreements and others in progress, the Adopt-A-Spot Beautification program is at a 97% adoption rate.

Staff is asking for council to approve four agreements with volunteers to care for Adopt A Spots:

- The Lady Dragons Columbia Chapter will care for the median located on Blue Ridge, just west of Fire Station 9. This spot was previously cared for by the Prime Timers, and the new adopters are looking forward to continuing the work at this location.
- Janie Ridgwell will be adopting two median beds on Rollins Road just west of Fairview Road. The employees of Missouri Employers Mutual previously cared for these beds; staff is excited to see the beds transform.
- David Hadfield will be caring for the median on Scottson Way, just off Forum Boulevard and Green Meadows Road. David is a longtime resident of Scottson Way and is looking forward to expanding his gardening skills within his neighborhood.
- The landscaping at the intersection of Providence and Broadway will be adopted by John Ott. There are beds at three of the four corners of this intersection where he will install landscaping.

The City supports volunteers with plants, mulch and other support. Spots are reviewed to provide feedback to volunteers and help ensure program quality. Agreements are terminated when volunteers are not meeting the standards for weed free beds and 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 adopters in each bed for a total cost of \$130. Additional support for mulch and plants should not exceed \$1,000.

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 help maintain more than 100 sites. Volunteers provide the labor to maintain these beds at no cost to the City.

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impacts

[Strategic Plan Impacts:](#)

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

[Comprehensive Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Livable & Sustainable Communities, Secondary Impact: Secondary, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

Legislative History

Date	Action
n/a	n/a

Suggested Council Action

Approval of the Adopt-A-Spot agreements.