



Department Source: Community Development - BSD

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: March 19, 2018

Re: Appropriation of funds for the open Project Compliance Inspector position in the Community Development Department.

Executive Summary

Staff has prepared for Council consideration an ordinance authorizing the appropriation of funds to fill the open Project Compliance Inspector position in the Community Development Department. This position was added to effectively enforce Chapter 24, Article X. "Public Utility Rights-of-Way Users" previously approved by Council which goes into effect on May 1, 2018.

Discussion

City Council approved Ordinance #023267 on August 7, 2017 which added a Right of Way Technician to the Community Development Department. That position was filled and is currently helping prepare for the May 1, 2018 effective date of the "Public Utility Rights-of-Way Users" ordinance (#023373) approved by Council on November 20, 2017. However, the open Project Compliance Inspection position was not filled at that time so as to not to incur unnecessary costs too far in advance of the additional revenue the ordinance will produce.

Staff previously studied data from the Missouri One Call website to determine the number of calls completed by contractors working for utility companies between April 1 and September 30, 2016 (2016 construction season). That study resulted in 3,358 calls within the City limits. Staff conservatively estimated that 50% of these calls impact the right of way, resulting in approximately \$84,000 in additional revenue per year at the current fifty (\$50) dollar right of way permit cost. Therefore, the additional revenue is anticipated to cover the cost of the Project Compliance Inspector (\$68,097). An amendment is necessary to appropriate the necessary funds to the Community Development budget.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: For FY2018 staff estimates \$35,000 in additional revenues related to permit fees and approximately \$29,000 in added personnel costs. There would be no negative impact to the budget.

Long-Term Impact: Additional revenue for permit fees would offset personnel costs.

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

[Strategic Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Public Safety, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

[Comprehensive Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Inter-Governmental Cooperation, Secondary Impact: Secondary, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

Legislative History

Date	Action
10/3/2016	Staff presentation to Council concerning issues related to utility companies working within the right of way.
11/30/2016	Staff met with representatives from local utility companies.
04/03/2017	REP23-17 Proposed Amendment to Chapter 24 (Rights-of-Way Management).
07/17/2017	B214-17 Introduction and 1 st reading.
08/07/2017	B214-17 Old Business and continued to 11/20/2017 council meeting.
08/07/2017	B215-17 Amended FY2017 Annual Budget by adding a Right of Way Technician position in the Community Development Department
11/20/2017	B214-17 Chapter 24, Article X (Public Utility Rights-of-Way Users) amended. Made effective May 1, 2018.

Suggested Council Action

Pass the ordinance amending the Community Development budget in order to fill the open Project Compliance Inspector position.