



Department Source: Community Development - NS

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: June 6, 2022

Re: Adopt A Spot Beautification Agreements

Executive Summary

Volunteer Programs, part of the Community Development Department, is submitting for approval two 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 107 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 two agreements with volunteers to care for Adopt A Spots:

- Joshua Fulkerson has agreed to care for the landscaping in the roundabout in Rollins Road near Bonnie View Nature Sanctuary. This is an existing site, but the landscaping needs a refresh. Staff will work this year with a contractor and Joshua to prepare and replant this location. Funds have been appropriated from the Share the Light program to help with this improvement.
- Raw Roots Turmeric and owner Ranjana Hans will care for landscaped beds in front of the current terminal at the Columbia Regional Airport. Airport staff requested help from a volunteer to care for this area. The landscaping will be enjoyed even after the new terminal is open as this building will be used as office space and airport visitors will walk past this area to the parking lots.

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: 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 agreement.