



Department Source: Housing & Neighborhood Services

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: August 19, 2024

Re: Grant acceptance – Love Your Block

Executive Summary

Staff is asking Council to consider an ordinance authorizing acceptance of a Love Your Block grant that will provide an estimated \$100,000 to support activities in our central neighborhoods. The grant agreement is with Johns Hopkins University with funding from Bloomberg Philanthropies.

Discussion

Housing & Neighborhood Services staff applied for a Love Your Block grant through the Bloomberg Center for Public Innovation at Johns Hopkins University. Columbia was one of 16 cities selected for the 2024 award cycle and is the first ever from Missouri. A copy of the grant agreement is attached for review.

The grant will provide a total of \$100,000 over two years. Funds will be used to hire a fellow (\$60,000) with the remainder to support neighborhood projects including mini-grants. The grant also includes an AmeriCorps VISTA placement to provide additional staffing during the grant.

Staff intend to use this grant to support work that has started in our central neighborhoods including development of greenspace on the City-owned lots on Sexton near Garth, supporting minor home repairs including those performed by ForColumbia, and helping the neighborhood with dumpsters and volunteer litter cleanup. Additional activities may be added to our Love Your Block efforts once the project is launched and residents are engaged.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: None

Long-Term Impact: None

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

[Strategic Plan Impacts:](#)

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

[Comprehensive Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Livable & Sustainable Communities, Secondary Impact: Environmental Management, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Legislative History

| Date | Action |
|------|--------|
| n/a | n/a |

Suggested Council Action

Approve the ordinance authorizing the City Manager to execute the Love Your Block Grant agreement and appropriate the funds.