



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Department Source: Convention and Visitors Bureau

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: May 19, 2025

Re: Authorizing a Special Event Operations Agreement with Columbia Art League for the 2025 Art in the Park

Executive Summary

The Columbia Art League has submitted a special event application for the 2025 Art in the Park festival June 7 and June 8, 2025 in Stephens Lake Park. This resolution authorizes the Operations Agreement pursuant to Section 24-73(b) of the City Code.

Discussion

The City Special Events Committee has reviewed the Special Event Application for Art in the Park and has worked closely with the event organizer to address all aspects of the festival. Now in its 66th year, this two-day regional fine arts & crafts fair offers a family-friendly experience for residents and visitors.

City staff has reviewed the festival layout, street closure map, tent placements, public safety plan, solid waste plan and insurance requirements. Due to the size and scope of the festival, as well as the need for a street closure, city services and equipment, an Operations Agreement must be executed and approved by the City Council per Section 24-73(b) of the City Code.

The Parks & Recreation Department and the City Special Events Committee have worked closely with the Columbia Art League to coordinate event logistics within Stephens Lake Park, and to finalize the public safety, traffic and waste management plans, along with insurance compliance.

The Special Events Committee will continue to work with the festival organizer prior to the start of the event, including conducting a walk-through inspection to ensure all requirements of the Operations Agreement are met and approved by the appropriate city staff.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: N/A

Long-Term Impact: N/A



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Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

[Strategic Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Resilient Economy, Secondary Impact: Organizational Excellence, Tertiary Impact: Safe Community

[Comprehensive Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Economic Development, Secondary Impact: Livable & Sustainable Communities, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

Legislative History

Date	Action
4.16.24	R85-24: Authorizing a special event operations agreement with Columbia Art League for the 2024 Art in the Park event.
5.1.23	R69-23: Authorizing a special event operations agreement with Columbia Art League for the 2023 Art in the Park event.
5.2.22	R62-22: Authorizing a special event operations agreement with Columbia Art League for the 2022 Art in the Park event.

Suggested Council Action

Approval of the legislation.