



**Build This  
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Mike Griggs  
City of Columbia  
Department of Parks and Recreation  
1 S Seventh Street  
Columbia MO 65201

April 27<sup>th</sup> 2018

RE: Phase 1 Construction of the Agriculture Park

Mr. Griggs,

I write this letter today on behalf of the Friends of the Farm partnership. Since November 2016, the non-profit team of Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture, Columbia Farmers Market, and Sustainable Farms & Communities, together the "Friends of the Farm" partnership, have been fundraising to support the capital expenses at a new Agriculture Park at Clary-Shy Park on Ash Street in Columbia, Missouri.

As of today, I am proud to announce a total of \$3,620,765 has been fundraised for this project. In total we have received contributions from over 350 individuals, businesses, charitable foundations, and governmental entities. **These park improvements have been overwhelmingly funded by private money (73.5%) and will be property of the City.** The non-profit partners are thrilled to contribute our fundraising efforts and create a new gem in our city's park system.

The Agriculture Park has developed a broad base of support in Columbia. This park will build community around healthy food, support entrepreneurial food businesses, and deliver programs which foster equity in West Central Columbia. We have worked with City staff to conduct extensive community outreach; gathering community input is important and will continue. A large Community Food Assessment, is currently compiling input from nearly 3,000 Columbians on the city's food environment; the assessment will publish a final report this summer.

The non-profit partners listed above have paid all expenses for design, architecture, engineering, marketing, and fundraising related to the Agriculture Park.

- Biddable construction documents including civil, electrical geotechnical, MEP and all other aspect for the park are complete. The non-profit partners have gifted these documents to the city. The total estimated value of the construction documents is \$446,840.
- The partners have paid for all advertising, marketing, and fundraising expenses associated with this campaign, the value of these costs to date is \$96,569.

In November 2017, City Council appropriated \$1,269,565 to the project fund: \$200,000 Park Sales Tax, \$495,000 MU Health Care contribution, and \$574,565 borrowing against three years of pledges from the designated loan fund.

In order to sign the pending construction contract for the base bid, winter market side walls, and have the \$100,000 contingency recommended by our architects, the project needs a total appropriation of \$2,381,770. Therefore an additional appropriation of \$1,112,205 is needed:

- \$200,000 from the Park Sales Tax FY 19 to be appropriated this year
- \$25,000 can be appropriated from a Missouri Foundation for Health grant already secured by the City.
- \$250,000 of cash is being transferred from the non-profit partners' Friends of the Farm Fund account at the Community Foundation to the Agriculture Park project fund, and will arrive in the coming week.
- Friends of the Farm has \$637,205 in new pledges (since 10-5-2017), that will be received over the next five years that can be contributed to the project.

The table below lists pledges in hand that will be borrowed against using the City of Columbia's designated loan fund (or similar funding instrument). This table includes the \$574,565 that was borrowed against in November 2017, as well as the additional pledges, \$637,205, that will be to borrow against to reach the needed appropriations amount. Thus the total amount that is borrowed is \$1,211,770. Friends of the Farm agrees to make timely and appropriate payments to the designated loan fund to repay the loans that are now being made.

Updated Anticipated Pledge Repayment Schedule: As of 4/26/2018

| Year                      | Pledge Collections | Repayment Date |
|---------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 2018                      | \$350,000          | 01/01/2019     |
| 2019                      | \$350,000          | 01/01/2020     |
| 2020                      | \$250,000          | 01/01/2021     |
| 2021                      | \$130,885          | 01/01/2022     |
| 2022                      | \$130,885          | 01/01/2023     |
| <b>TOTAL over 5 Years</b> | <b>\$1,211,770</b> |                |

*Note: This chart includes pledges from the Disbursement Schedule provided on 10-5-2017, plus new pledges received since that date.*

We look forward to working with you and the other partners to develop this park over the coming seasons!

Many thanks!  
Adam Saunders  
Campaign Director



4-27-2018

Build This Town: Campaign for the Agriculture Park & Friends of the Farm  
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