



Department Source: Community Development - NS

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: September 6, 2016

Re: Adopt-A-Spot Beautification Agreements

## Executive Summary

Volunteer Programs, part of the Community Development Department, is submitting for approval of three Adopt-A-Spot Beautification agreements to allow volunteers to care for landscaping in street right of way.

## Discussion

Volunteers are responsible for maintaining 98 landscaped beds in city or state right of way in the City of Columbia. 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. Currently 88 beds, or 90%, have adopters

Staff is asking for council to approve three agreements with volunteers to maintain beds:

- Ed Hohlt, a Shelter Insurance agent, will take over care for a small existing bed located at the northwest corner of Forum and Nifong.
- The West Lawn Owner's Association will be caring for a new bed to the program in Joslyn Court. The City has provided a water meter to serve this median and the association will provide and install the plants.
- Marty Kidd has agreed to adopt a median in Blue Ridge Road between Dove Drive and Gazelle Drive. This is an existing bed with water access.

City staff will work with these volunteers to provide mulch, annual flowers, bulbs and replacement plants as needed to help them be successful. City staff also review the beds two to three times each year to provide feedback to volunteers and help ensure program quality. 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 the work of each adopter for a total cost of \$390. The Volunteer Program has paid for water to be installed in the Joslyn Court bed at a cost of approximately \$2000 for the meter and backflow preventer. In addition the City will provide mulch, plants, annuals and bulbs for a total two year cost not to exceed \$1000.

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,



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mulch, bulbs and annual flowers. No more than \$15,000 is spent on the program to support more than 90 beds. Volunteers provide the labor to maintain these beds at no cost to the City.

## Vision & Strategic Plan Impact

### Vision Impacts:

Primary Impact: Community Character, Secondary Impact: Secondary, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

### 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
None	None

## Suggested Council Action

Approval of the Adopt-A-Spot agreements.