



# City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Department Source: City Utilities - Sewer/Stormwater

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: October 6, 2025

Re: Authorizing a Landowner Participation Agreement with US Fish and Wildlife Services for native planting at 515 Hickman Avenue.

## Executive Summary

Staff has prepared for council consideration an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to sign an agreement with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to participate in planting native vegetation at 515 Hickman Avenue, a City owned lot used for stormwater management.

## Discussion

In 2022, the Storm Water Utility completed construction of a stormwater management basin at 515 Hickman as part of the Hickman and 6th Stormwater Management Project. The basin was initially seeded with fescue turf, which staff have maintained through regular mowing.

Local residents have collaborated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to propose converting the basin's turf grass to native vegetation that supports pollinating insects, such as butterflies. The neighbors have expressed enthusiasm for participating in both the planting process and ongoing maintenance efforts.

The USFWS has pledged \$4,924 in native plants and will oversee the planting coordination. The City's Storm Water Utility will provide very minor in-kind services for the planting and additional significant maintenance required beyond the neighborhood's contributions during the three-year establishment period for the native vegetation. Once established, the native plants are expected to require significantly less maintenance.

## Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: Up to \$2,400 may be required for maintenance during the establishment period (first 3 years). Funds are available in the Storm Water Utility.

Long-Term Impact: It is anticipated that this project will have a minimal impact on the Stormwater & Sewer Utility's annual operating costs.

## Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

### Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Reliable and Sustainable Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Not Applicable, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

### Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Environmental Management, Secondary Impact: Not applicable, 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.