



Department Source: Community Development - NS

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: January 21, 2020

Re: Adopt A Spot Beautification Agreements

Executive Summary

Volunteer Programs, part of the Community Development Department, is submitting for approval Adopt-A-Spot Beautification agreements to allow volunteers to care for landscaping in street right of way. Staff is happy to add three new adopters to the program; their service to our community is greatly appreciated.

Discussion

Volunteers are responsible for maintaining landscaped beds in city or state right of way in the City of Columbia in around 100 locations. 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. With these agreements, the Adopt-A-Spot Beautification program is at a 95% adoption rate.

Staff is asking for council to approve three Adopt A Spot Agreements:

- Richard Olesen, a resident of the Valley View neighborhood, has requested to maintain a median in Barnwood Drive just north of I-70 Drive NW. This median is new to the program but has been in existence for many years.
- A bed in the median of Forum Boulevard will be adopted by Jeff Radmer with Reece and Nichols Mid-Missouri. This is an existing bed whose longtime adopter left the program in 2019. Jeff was looking to participate in the program and this location is convenient for him.
- Jacob Vaughn has agreed to maintain the roundabout at Old 63 and Chinaberry. Jacob is a Plant Science student at the University of Missouri and is eager to use his gardening experience to refurbish this intersection currently filled with Missouri natives.

City staff will work with volunteers to provide plants and other support to ensure their success. Spots are reviewed two to three times each year to provide feedback to volunteers and help ensure program quality. Staff terminates agreements with volunteers who are not meeting the standards for weed free beds with color throughout the growing season. The City's Volunteer Programs staff appreciates the investment that volunteers put into Adopt-A-Spot beds and rain gardens to be enjoyed by hundreds of residents and visitors each day.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: The City will provide signs acknowledging adopters in each bed for a total cost of \$130. Additional support for mulch and plants should not exceed \$1,000.



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

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, mulch, bulbs and annual flowers. No more than \$15,000 is spent on the program to support more 100 beds. Volunteers provide the labor to maintain these beds at no cost to the City.

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impacts

[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
n/a	n/a

Suggested Council Action

Approval of the Adopt A Spot agreements.