



Department Source: Community Development - NS

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: July 6, 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 appreciates the efforts of these three new adopters; 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 and others pending, the Adopt-A-Spot Beautification program is at a 96% adoption rate.

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

- Columba Jimenez will be caring for the "splitter islands" near the roundabout at Green Meadows Road and Carter Lane with the help of Terri Watts and Jeremy Walton. Columba, Terri and Jeremy are long-time volunteers with several programs.
- Brenda Chapman has applied to care for existing landscaping at the northwest corner of Business Loop 70 and Garth Avenue.
- A new bed is being added to the island at Country Club Drive and Alfred Street by the Country Club Estates Neighborhood Association. Adjacent residents are putting the effort and resources into beautifying this existing triangle.

City staff will work with volunteers to provide plants and other support to ensure their success. Spots are reviewed annually 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.

Staff would like to make Council aware that we are eliminating the median bed in West Worley near Park de Ville. This median was recently driven over. Due to safety concerns, neighbors who had been caring for this bed suggested we remove it from the program. Public Works-Streets Division will convert this bed to concrete in the fall.

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.

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.