



Department Source: City Manager

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: August 21, 2017

Re: Supplemental Memo - Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with the Heart of Missouri United Way to conduct a Community Engagement Process about Policing and appropriating funds.

Executive Summary

On July 17, 2017, City Council tabled an item that recommended a Scope of Work for conducting a Community Engagement Process about Policing that was submitted by Heart of Missouri United Way, New Chapter Coaching, and Menifield and Associates. In the intervening month, the City Manager communicated with consultants, City Council Members and other stakeholders to craft the recommendation discussed more fully below. As a result of that consultation, the City Manager recommends withdrawal of this tabled item, and, if so desired by Council, to direct staff to initiate a new effort to engage the community in a conversation outlined in Council Resolution 28-17.

Discussion

On February 20, 2017, council approved Resolution 28-17, which called for a community engagement process about policing in Columbia that addresses staffing levels, officer safety and morale, and community-oriented policing.

After the passage of Resolution 28-17, Council Member Thomas met with the Heart of Missouri United Way and its partners to discuss a process for the facilitation of the community engagement process. In response to those meetings, the Heart of Missouri United Way and its partners submitted the Scope of Work which was tabled at Council's July 17th meeting.

Objections voiced at that meeting tended to focus on a few themes. Many felt the cost was too great. Many disliked the source of the funding proposed to cover the cost. Many comments were also made critical of the process used to reach the scope of services.

City Manager Matthes volunteered to canvas consultants, Council Members, and stakeholders to inform the discussion continued to August 21, 2017. The following recommendations are a direct result of those conversations. Attached to this item, are documents that overview that input.

The City Manager recommends withdrawal of this tabled agenda item. The consultants have withdrawn their proposal; the following is quoted from an email received by the City Manager from Andrew Grabau of the Heart of Missouri United Way.



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

“Having read, listened to, and reflected upon the thoughts and comments of the various perspectives over the past few weeks or so, we are more committed than ever to a successful community engagement process to discuss issues that are important to Columbia's citizens. In order to ensure the process has the greatest opportunity for success and stakeholder buy-in, collectively and individually, Heart of Missouri United Way and New Chapter Coaching withdraw our proposal and support the City's initiation of a competitive bid process.”

This will allow Council Member Ruffin to be far more involved than would otherwise have been the case as he is a member of the board of the Heart of Missouri United Way.

If Council wishes to conduct a community engagement process for the purpose outlined in Resolution 28-17, the City Manager recommends conducting a request for proposals (RFP) process managed by the city's purchasing division.

Rather than use the funding sources identified previously, the City Manager recommends the use of FY2016 savings to fund any resulting proposal the Council would approve from the RFP process. Council could consider limiting that to a not to exceed figure of \$50,000.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: Short-term financial impact is not known at this time.
Long-Term Impact: Long-term financial impact is not known at this time.

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impacts

Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Public Safety, Secondary Impact: Social Equity, Tertiary Impact: Operational Excellence

Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Not Applicable, Secondary Impact: Not applicable, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

Legislative History

Date	Action
07/17/2017	Council tabled this item to the August 21, 2017 meeting in order to collect additional input from stakeholders.
02/20/2017	Approved R28-17 – A resolution declaring the need to conduct a community engagement process about policing in Columbia. Vote recorded as follows: Yes: 7 (Peters, Treece, Ruffin, Trapp, Skala, Thomas, and Nauser) No: 0.



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Suggested Council Action

Staff recommends withdrawal of this item. If Council desires to proceed with an alternate process, funds should be appropriated in the budget and direction should be given to initiate an RFP process.