



Department Source: Public Health and Human Services

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: November 20, 2023

Re: A resolution authorizing the Missouri Foundation for Health Agreement 21-0507-OF-2022, and authorizing the City Manger to sign the First Amendment of the Missouri Foundation for Health Agreement 21-0507-OF-2022

Executive Summary

This resolution authorizes the Missouri Foundation for Health Agreement 21-0507-OF-2022 which was inadvertently executed without prior authorization by the City Council. Additionally, this ordinance would authorize the City Manager to sign the First Amendment of Missouri Foundation for Health Agreement 21-0507-OF-2022

Discussion

The Missouri Foundation for Health Opportunity Funding provides for \$518,494 for four (4) years. The purpose of this funding is to support the work of a local Food Council (FC) and to create a resilient, equitable, and sustainable local food system that positively impacts the nutritional, economic, social, environmental, and human health of the City of Columbia and Boone County. The establishment of the Food Council Board/Commission will be presented to Council as a separate Ordinance. The Food Council will conduct a comprehensive Community Food System Assessment (CFSA) and, with the approval of the City Council, create a FC 5-year Strategic Plan. Other supported activities include community outreach events and public forums; policy analysis; networking and educating with other Food Councils and groups throughout Missouri; working to reduce barriers to participation in council activities among marginalized groups; and other supportive activities that address inequities in the food system. Upon request, the FC will provide recommendations for the City Council as an official city board/commission.

Staff applied for and received Missouri Foundation for Health Opportunity Fund funding in May of 2022. The contract was inadvertently signed prior to receiving Council approval. Staff developed the First Amendment to the agreement to comply with law and outline changes in the narrative and budget.

COVID-19 exacerbated previously existing inequities in our food system. Restaurants shut down, school lunches were disrupted, food supply chains were/are disrupted, local farmers lost many of their avenues to sell products, and food insecurity greatly increased, particularly for persons and families already struggling to meet basic needs before the pandemic. FC interviews with various sectors of the food system in March of 2021 indicate gaps in our food system that were exposed by COVID-19, ones that could have been addressed with cross-sector collaboration. Interviews with restaurants showed a strong trend in lost revenue due to closures, challenges ensuring staff health, increased food prices, and difficulty obtaining supplies. Farmers reported a decrease in sales and nowhere for their products to go, while



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

local hunger relief agencies reported increased need for emergency food assistance in the community. All trends indicated missed potential for cross-sector collaboration to address gaps in the food system.

This project aims to address these issues and builds on a foundation going back to 2018. In 2018, Public Health and Human Services completed a Community Health Improvement Plan which included a recommendation to create a Food-Council to identify issues and educate City Council, city staff, and the community. In 2019, the City of Columbia received funding from the BC Opportunity Fund, enabling the City of Columbia to hire a part-time Food Council coordinator to develop this program. This funding was included in the FY24 budget.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: This is grant funding. There is no impact on the general fund.
Long-Term Impact: none

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Inclusive and Equitable Community, Secondary Impact: Not Applicable, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Livable & Sustainable Communities, Secondary Impact: Not applicable, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

Legislative History

Date	Action
11/20/2023	Initial Contract and First Amendment

Suggested Council Action

Should the Council agree with staff recommendations, an affirmative vote is in order.