



# City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Department Source: Parks and Recreation

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: January 6, 2020

Re: Holiday Toys for Columbia's Youth Donation Appropriation

## Executive Summary

The Holiday Toys for Columbia's Youth is a program to provide toys for the holidays for Columbia's underprivileged youth and is supported by voluntary donations from individuals and agencies. The Parks and Recreation Department received cash donations in the amount of \$7,918 and expended \$5,620 to purchase toys for the Holiday Toys for Columbia's Youth Program for Fiscal Years 2018-2020. Some years, the Department receives numerous new toy donations that lessen the amount needed to be spent on purchases and other years, there are very few new toy donations, thus requiring an increase in expenditures. The Department is requesting the City Council approve the ordinance accepting the donations and appropriating funds to the Community Recreation operating account to reimburse the Recreation Services Fund for the amount expended to purchase new toys for the program. The unappropriated balance of donation funds will roll over to support next year's program.

## Discussion

The Holiday Toys for Columbia's Youth Program was created to provide toys for the holidays for Columbia's underprivileged youth, ages 1-12. The goal is to provide at least three gifts for up to three children per family for qualifying households. Registrants must be residents of Columbia who are not receiving holiday assistance from another agency. The Department collaborates with the Salvation Army and Voluntary Action Center to make sure families are not receiving support from more than one service, enabling more families in the community to receive assistance. Participants must provide proof of income or EBT (food stamp) card and a picture ID upon registration. More than 200 youths are served by this program each year.

The program is supported by voluntary donations. Citizens are invited to donate toys and/or make a monetary donation to the program. The Parks and Recreation Department received \$7,918 in cash donations from various individuals and agencies for Fiscal Years 2018-2020. The Department assesses the amount and type of toys donated and the number and ages of the children of registered families to determine how many new toys are needed to be purchased. The Department expended \$5,620 on new toys, which were distributed to children in qualifying families. The amount needed to purchase new toys varies depending on the number of new toy donations. For example, three years ago, the Food Bank for Central and Northeast Missouri made a significant donation of new toys thus lessening the amount spent. The balance of the donated funds will roll over to support next year's program.



# City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

The Department is requesting the City Council approve the ordinance accepting the donations and appropriating the funds to the Community Recreation operating account to reimburse the Recreation Services Fund for the amount expended to purchase new toys.

## Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: None. The donation appropriation will offset the amount expended for the program. The balance of unappropriated donations will roll over to support next year's program.

Long-Term Impact: None.

## Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

### Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Social Equity, 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
02/20/2017	<a href="#">Ordinance #023093; Donation appropriation for Holiday Toys for Columbia's Youth</a>
02/01/2016	<a href="#">Ordinance #022727; Donation appropriation for Holiday Toys for Columbia's Youth</a>
02/16/2015	<a href="#">Ordinance #022369; Donation appropriation for Holiday Toys for Columbia's Youth</a>

## Suggested Council Action

Approve the ordinance accepting and appropriating the donations for the Holiday Toys for Columbia's Youth Program.