



Department Source: Sustainability

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: July 17, 2023

Re: Memorandum of understanding between the City of Columbia and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to co-administer the CoMo Wild Yards Program.

Executive Summary

This memorandum of understanding (MOU) formalizes the partnership between the City of Columbia and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to co-administer the CoMo Wild Yards program, an educational program to help homeowners and businesses create native Missouri landscapes.

Discussion

In 2017, the City of Columbia's Office of Sustainability established the CoMo Wild Yards Program (CWYP) as an educational program to help homeowners and businesses create native Missouri landscapes to support and improve urban biodiversity. The goal of the partnership described in this MOU is to expand these services to more properties and provide expanded support to residential and commercial projects.

This MOU outlines the responsibilities of the City of Columbia and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for implementing the CWYP, which will involve a collaborative approach to developing a small grant program and consulting with property owners about sustainable land management practices. This partnership will allow us to expand the program reducing the impact of stormwater runoff and creating a healthier environment for people and wildlife.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: \$8,000

Long-Term Impact: \$4,000/yr

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Organizational Excellence, Secondary Impact: Reliable Infrastructure,

Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Environmental Management, Secondary Impact: Inter-Governmental Cooperation, Tertiary Impact: Livable & Sustainable Communities

Legislative History

Date	Action
	NA

Suggested Council Action

Staff recommends that Council approve this memorandum of understanding between the City of Columbia and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.