



Department Source: Housing & Neighborhood Services

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: July 15, 2024

Re: Adopt-A-Spot Beautification Agreements

Executive Summary

Volunteer Programs, part of the Housing and Neighborhood Services Department, is submitting for approval three Adopt-A-Spot Beautification agreements allowing volunteers to care for landscaping at City property or in City right of way.

Discussion

Volunteers are responsible for maintaining landscaped beds in city or state right of way in the City of Columbia at 110 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 in progress, the Adopt-A-Spot Beautification program is at a 100% adoption rate.

Staff is asking for council to approve three agreements with volunteers to care for Adopt-A-Spots:

- Lesa Beamer will be caring for the island on Monterey Drive, near Outer Rd. This location will be a new Adopt-A-Spot and we are looking forward to Lesa providing her landscaping experience to this bed.
- House of Brokers Realty, Inc. will be adopting the roundabout at Nifong Blvd and Sinclair Rd. We are elated to have this group of volunteers on board that are willing to put in time to get the roundabout back into shape.
- Beacon Street Properties have agreed to adopt the roundabout at Scott Blvd and Route KK. We are excited for new adopters that have the resources to maintain this large roundabout.

The City supports volunteers with plants, mulch and other support. Spots are reviewed to provide feedback to volunteers and help ensure program quality. Agreements are terminated when volunteers are not meeting the standards for weed free beds and color throughout the growing season.

The City's Volunteer Programs staff appreciates the investment that volunteers put into Adopt-A-Spot beds 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 \$174. Additional support for mulch and plants should not exceed \$1,000 per spot.

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. Volunteers provide the labor to maintain these beds at no cost to the City.

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

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.