



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Department Source: Parks and Recreation

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: June 5, 2023

Re: Missouri Department of Economic Development – Missouri ARPA Community Revitalization Grant Program – Douglass Park

Executive Summary

The Parks and Recreation Department is requesting an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to sign a grant agreement with the Missouri Department of Economic Development. The grant is provided to the City through the Missouri ARPA Community Revitalization Grant Program and will offset expenses associated with the FY2024 capital improvement project at Douglass Park. The grant funding, totaling \$495,000, will be used for expansion of the existing skate park and improvements to the Douglass Family Aquatic Center and basketball courts at the park. The department is also requesting City Council approval to appropriate the grant funds to the Douglass Park capital improvement project. The grant requires a minimum 50% match from the recipient, and matching funds are provided by the 2021 Park Sales Tax and donations provided by the Veterans United Foundation and Mizzou Sports Properties. Staff will return to City Council for project approval after park staff completes the public input process for the proposed improvements at the park. The grant requires all construction related to the project be completed by Sept. 30, 2026.

Discussion

In November 2022, park staff submitted a grant application for improvements to Douglass Park to the Missouri Department of Economic Development for funding available through the Missouri ARPA Community Revitalization Grant Program. The competitive grant program was designed to make significant financial investments in communities of all sizes throughout Missouri. The funding opportunity was designed to support major local priorities in order to spur economic recovery and help communities build stronger economies for the future. The Program is funded through U.S. Department of the Treasury Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds authorized by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

The Parks and Recreation Department is requesting an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to sign an agreement with the Missouri Department of Economic Development. The agreement outlines the acceptance of \$495,000 in grant funding to be used for improvements at Douglass Park. The proposed improvements include expansion of the skate park and renovations to the Douglass Family Aquatic Center and basketball courts. The department is also requesting City Council approval to appropriate the grant funds to the Douglass Park capital improvement project.

After the grant agreement has been finalized and the grant funding is appropriated to the project, park staff will begin the public input process for the park improvements. Staff will host



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at least one in-person public input meeting at the park in June and will utilize BeHeard.CoMo.gov to collect online feedback about the proposed improvements at the park. After park staff has completed the public input process for the project, staff will hold a public hearing for the capital improvement project at the July or August Parks and Recreation Commission meeting and will then return to City Council to request project approval to proceed with the improvements.

The funding provided through the Missouri ARPA Community Revitalization Grant Program requires a minimum 50% match by the receiving organization. The match for the grant in the amount of \$500,000 is funded by the 2021 Park Sales Tax and donations provided by the Veterans United Foundation and Mizzou Sports Properties. The grant requires all construction related to the project be completed by September 30, 2026.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: Park staff is requesting City Council approval to execute an agreement with the Missouri Department of Economic Development to accept \$495,000 in grant funding provided by the Missouri ARPA Community Revitalization Grant Program and to appropriate the grant funds to the Douglass Park capital improvement project. The grant program requires a minimum 50% match by the receiving organization. The match for the grant in the amount of \$500,000 is funded by the 2021 Park Sales Tax and donations provided by the Veterans United Foundation and Mizzou Sports Properties.

Long-Term Impact: None

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Reliable Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Resilient Economy, Tertiary Impact: Safe Neighborhoods

Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Livable & Sustainable Communities, Tertiary Impact: Economic Development

Legislative History

Date	Action
N/A	N/A

Suggested Council Action

Approve the ordinance authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with the Missouri Department of Economic Development and appropriate the funds to the Douglass Park capital improvement project.