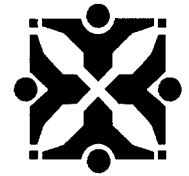


City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201



Agenda Item Number: B 308-15

Department Source: Parks and Recreation

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: 10/19/2015

Re: FY2016 Implementation Phase of the Open Space/Green Infrastructure Plan

Documents Included With This Agenda Item

Council memo, Resolution/Ordinance, Exhibits to Resolution/Ordinance

Supporting documentation includes: None

Executive Summary

The Parks & Recreation Department is requesting Council approval for the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Greenbelt Land Trust (GLT) for the second implementation phase of the open space/green infrastructure plan known as "Our Natural Legacy: A plan for Columbia and Boone County" (ONL). During this phase, Greenbelt will continue identifying and prioritizing land parcels for conservation purposes in harmony with the goals of the ONL, identify possible funding sources for land acquisition, complete subjective criteria scoring for highest priority land parcels, make contact with selected land owners of the highest priority land parcels, and develop the next set of recommended implementation actions. Greenbelt will also evaluate and score land that is offered to the City for either purchase, donation, or a combination of the two. There may be other partners, such as Missouri Department of Conservation, Department of Natural Resources, and Boone County funding this second phase, but the City's portion of the plan is \$50,000 with staggered payments scheduled upon the completion of the various tasks. Funding is included in the department's FY-2016 CIP, with funding coming from the 2010 Park Sales Tax. The agreement will begin November 16, 2015 and conclude on September 30, 2016.

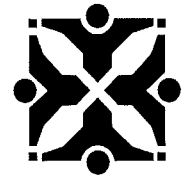
Discussion

The City's FY-2014 capital improvement budget included \$50,000 in support for the implementation phase of the open space/green infrastructure plan known as "Our Natural Legacy: A plan for Columbia and Boone County (ONL)." This multi-agency, public/private partnership plan accomplished numerous conservation goals, including: developed a comprehensive natural resource inventory; identified ways to connect people to nature; discussed health benefits of green infrastructure; created a vision on how to support rural/urban farming; and identified notable historic, cultural, and scenic resources.

The implementation phase of this plan will include at least three partners: Greenbelt Land Trust, Missouri Department of Conservation, and the City of Columbia. Other partner agencies, such as Department of Natural Resources and Boone County, may contribute funds during their respective budget years. These partners may contribute up to \$50,000 each towards a fund, which Greenbelt

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will use to carry out the following initiatives of the ONL plan:

1. Coordinate all activities associated with implementation of the land conservation initiatives identified in ONL, including maintaining paid staff and/or contracts required to meet the deliverables as identified in this contract.
2. Continue to review and revise as necessary the Public Land Acquisition Scoring Matrix as approved by the most recent collaboration of agency and non-governmental organization partners that has been established as the Land Conservation Implementation Committee (LandCIC).
3. Continue to use the matrix to score properties offered to the City by willing sellers as requested by Columbia Parks and Recreation staff, using a combination of the GIS model and subjective investigations. Note: There are instances where a landowner will approach the City to either sell, donate, or combination of both, land either within or near the city of Columbia. Park staff would like the GLT to evaluate and score these properties during the duration of the contract.
4. Identify and evaluate potential sources of funding for land acquisition, including traditional funding mechanisms and programs providing match funding. Provide a report to Columbia Parks and Recreation detailing options and summarizing application process.
5. Complete the subjective criteria scoring for the highest priority parcels that scored greater than 20 points through the GIS model application, and evaluate the top 20 scoring parcels to determine their feasibility for acquisition. By May 31, 2016, prepare and submit a report that includes the completed Land Acquisition Scoring Evaluation Forms and the recommendations resulting from information presented on these forms.
6. Draft and send as many letters as necessary to all owners of the parcels identified in the May 31, 2016 report to discuss options for conserving their properties. Continue to discuss land conservation options, including donation or sale to Columbia Parks and Recreation, with landowners for duration of contract. Specific locations to be determined by a joint P&R and Greenbelt Land Trust committee.
7. Coordinate quarterly meetings of the Land Conservation Implementation Committee (LandCIC) to articulate actions designed to deliver conservation within the Conservation Priority Areas identified in the ONL plan. Minutes from all the stakeholder meetings (with two meetings as a required minimum) and a final report documenting that all the MEASURABLE DELIVERABLES have been accomplished, including documentation of correspondence and contacts with owners of the top priority parcels, the final set of recommended implementation actions, and minutes from all meetings of the Land Conservation Implementation Committee.

The agreement will begin November 16, 2015 and conclude on September 30, 2016.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: Short-Term Impact: The City will provide \$50,000 of financial support towards the implementation phase of the "Our Natural Legacy: A Plan for Columbia and Boone County." This funding has been allocated from resources generated from the 2010 Park Sales Tax for the preservation and acquisition of land for natural areas and public open space.

Long-Term Impact: None.

City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201



Vision, Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Vision Impact: Environment, Parks, Recreation and Greenways

Strategic Plan Impact: Social Equity...Improving the Odds for Success

Comprehensive Plan Impact: Environmental Management, Livable & Sustainable Communities

Suggested Council Action


Approve the ordinance authorizing the City Manager to sign the agreement with the Greenbelt Land Trust, providing for the implementation phase of the open space and green infrastructure plan.

Legislative History

Approval of the Open Space and Green Infrastructure Plan: October 15, 2012, Ordinance #21479

http://www.gocolumbiamo.com/ParksandRec/Council_Agenda/Items/documents/council_2012_10_01_greenbelt.pdf


Department Approved


City Manager Approved

Introduced by _____

First Reading _____

Second Reading _____

Ordinance No. _____

Council Bill No. B 308-15

AN ORDINANCE

authorizing a cooperative agreement with the Greenbelt Land Trust of Mid-Missouri for the FY 2016 implementation phase of the "Our Natural Legacy: A Plan for Columbia and Boone County" open space/green infrastructure project; and fixing the time when this ordinance shall become effective.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Manager is hereby authorized to execute a cooperative agreement with the Greenbelt Land Trust of Mid-Missouri for the FY 2016 implementation phase of the "Our Natural Legacy: A Plan for Columbia and Boone County" open space/green infrastructure project. The form and content of the agreement shall be substantially in the same form as set forth in "Exhibit A" attached hereto.

SECTION 2. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

PASSED this _____ day of _____, 2015.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor and Presiding Officer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Counselor

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

This agreement is entered into on this _____ day of _____, 2015 by and between the City of Columbia, Missouri, a municipal corporation (hereinafter "City"), and Greenbelt Land Trust of Mid-Missouri, a non-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Missouri (hereinafter "GLT").

The parties agree as follows:

A. BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

The purpose of this cooperative agreement is to establish a framework between City and GLT to implement a mutually beneficial set of conservation actions for the City of Columbia and Boone County Missouri. Based upon the wide ranging partnerships, and tangible conservation opportunities, generated by the Green Infrastructure Network development process, this agreement will serve to implement the land conservation efforts of the City and GLT with a focus on the highest priority areas to conserve and restore the natural resources of Columbia and Boone County.

This cooperative agreement is intended to be a continuation of the larger partnerships generated during development of the "Our Natural Legacy - A Plan for Columbia and Boone County" (ONL) that pertained specifically to land conservation, which included the Missouri Department of Conservation, City of Columbia, Boone County, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and other invited stakeholders. During implementation of key ONL components that pertain specifically to land conservation, a Land Conservation Implementation Committee (See Attachment A) will continue through participation by the above mentioned partners. Financial support for this project is being provided by the City of Columbia and through this agreement.

B. STATEMENT OF MUTUAL INTERESTS AND BENEFITS

It is mutually agreed that City and GLT have significant interest in the conservation of the natural resources of mid-Missouri. Moreover, it is of mutual interest for each party to work together when appropriate and possible to promote, conduct, plan, develop, implement, and facilitate any and all efforts and activities designed to benefit those natural resources, and it is further recognized that working together will provide natural resource benefits in excess of those achieved through separate initiatives. Therefore, each party, in consideration of the mutual benefits flowing from each to the other, does hereby agree to the following provisions:

1. As its mission indicates, "The Department of Parks & Recreation is committed to improving our community's health, stability, beauty, and quality of life by providing outstanding parks, trails, recreational facilities, and leisure opportunities for all Columbia citizens." In order to accomplish this mission, the department has several strategic goals, one of which is to "provide park and facility planning, acquisition,

development and restoration of Columbia's natural ecosystem to meet the needs and expectations of citizens of Columbia." One of the visioning goals of the City is that "Land will be preserved throughout Columbia and Boone County to protect farmland, scenic views, natural topographies, rural atmosphere, watersheds, healthy streams, natural areas, native species, and unique environmentally sensitive areas, thereby enhancing quality of life." Other elements of that vision state that "Columbia and its neighboring communities will be a place where the air, water, land, and natural aesthetic qualities of our environment shall be protected by a combination of conservation strategies including, but not limited to, regulations and ordinances, conservation incentives, education programs, and smart growth planning." Strategies to meet these goals include: developing an environmental protection plan; preserving open space, farmland, natural beauty, and critical environmental areas and; and evaluating potential land preservation areas in Columbia and Boone County.

2. GLT, originally established in 1993 as the Greenbelt Coalition, is dedicated to the conservation and protection of natural resources that represent the mid-Missouri landscape for present and future generations. GLT accomplishes their mission through fee simple land acquisition and stewardship, or by accepting permanent conservation easements on private land. GLT is a non-profit organization governed by a Board of Directors (Attachment B) and is supported by individual memberships and donations. GLT is a member of the Land Trust Alliance and, as such, implements the Land Trust Standards and Practices. GLT is in good standing with the Missouri Secretary of State.
3. In 2015, GLT hired a Land Conservation Coordinator, established a Land Conservation Implementation Committee, developed a Land Preservation Scoring Matrix, and used the matrix to complete objective criteria scoring for land parcels in the Columbia metropolitan area. Moving forward, the goal is to continue identifying and prioritizing land parcels for conservation purposes in harmony with the goals of the ONL, identify possible funding sources for land acquisition, complete subjective criteria scoring for highest priority land parcels, make contact with the land owners of the highest priority land parcels, and develop the next set of recommended implementation actions.

C. MEASURABLE DELIVERABLES

In consideration of the above premises, the parties agree as follows:

City shall:

1. Provide up to \$50,000 for a paid professional Land Conservation Implementation team to advance the land conservation efforts identified in the ONL document and as further outlined in the attached budget (Attachment C).

2. Designate a Parks and Recreation staff member to serve on the Land Conservation Implementation Committee that will participate in the continuation of this partnership effort alongside other agency and stakeholders.
3. Participate in Land Conservation Implementation Committee meetings and events that promote the ONL efforts that are focused on fish, forest and wildlife conservation.
4. Participate in the use and evaluation of the Land Preservation Scoring Matrix and assist with the identification of possible land acquisition targets.
5. Provide technical assistance during implementation of land conservation efforts, including goals of the *2013 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan*, science perspective, private landowner outreach assistance, and GIS applications.
6. Advise GLT and the Land Conservation Implementation Committee of potential funding sources that could benefit implementation of the ONL plan.

GLT shall:

1. Coordinate all activities associated with implementation of the land conservation initiatives identified in ONL, including maintaining paid staff and/or contracts required to meet the deliverables as identified in this contract.
2. Continue to review and revise as necessary the Public Land Acquisition Scoring Matrix as approved by the most recent collaboration of agency and non-governmental organization partners that has been established as the Land Conservation Implementation Committee (LandCIC).
3. Continue to use the matrix to score properties offered to the City by willing sellers as requested by Columbia Parks and Recreation staff, using a combination of the GIS model and subjective investigations. Note: There are instances where a land owner will approach the City to either sell, donate or combination of both, land either within or near the city of Columbia. Park staff would like the GLT to evaluate and score these properties during the duration of the contract.
4. **By February 29, 2016**, identify and evaluate potential sources of funding for land acquisition, including traditional funding mechanisms and programs providing match funding. Provide a report to Columbia Parks and Recreation detailing options and summarizing application process.
5. **By May 1, 2016**, complete the subjective criteria scoring for the highest priority parcels that scored greater than 20 points through the GIS model application, and evaluate the top 20 scoring parcels to determine their feasibility for

acquisition. **By May 31, 2016**, prepare and submit a report that includes the completed Land Acquisition Scoring Evaluation Forms and the recommendations resulting from information presented on these forms.

6. **By July 31, 2016**, draft and send as many letters as necessary to all owners of the parcels identified in the May 31, 2016 report to discuss options for conserving their properties. Continue to discuss land conservation options, including donation or sale to Columbia Parks and Recreation, with landowners for duration of contract. Specific locations to be determined by a joint P&R and Greenbelt Land Trust committee.
7. Coordinate quarterly meetings of the Land Conservation Implementation Committee (LandCIC) to articulate actions designed to deliver conservation within the Conservation Priority Areas identified in the ONL plan. Minutes from all the stakeholder meetings (with two meetings as a required minimum) and a final report documenting that all the MEASURABLE DELIVERABLES have been accomplished, including documentation of correspondence and contacts with owners of the top priority parcels, the final set of recommended implementation actions, and minutes from all meetings of the Land Conservation Implementation Committee **by September 30, 2016**.

D. IT IS MUTUALLY AGREED AND UNDERSTOOD BY ALL PARTIES THAT

1. Any modifications to this agreement shall be made by mutual consent of the parties by the issuance of written modification, signed and dated by all parties thirty (30) days prior to any changes being performed.
2. This agreement in no way restricts City or GLT from participating in similar activities with other public or private agencies, organizations and individuals.
3. Meetings will take place periodically between City, GLT and the other partners to discuss and identify opportunities for mutually beneficial projects and activities.
4. City and GLT agree to hold harmless and save one another free from any and all claims or causes of action whatsoever resulting from the obligations undertaken by each party, respectively, under this agreement or resulting from the work, or provided for by themselves or their employees and agents under the terms of this agreement.
5. City's obligation to perform under this agreement is subject to the availability of funds and contingent upon annual budget appropriations.
6. It is understood that GLT is an Independent Contractor and neither it, nor its agents, shall represent themselves as employees or agents of City.

7. GLT shall comply with all local, state, and federal laws and regulations related to the performance of this grant agreement to the extent that the same may be applicable to the entity. GLT will indemnify and hold City harmless in all claims of damage resulting from the actions of the GLT staff, contractors or volunteers under GLT supervision. City will not be liable in the event that GLT staff, contractors, or volunteers are involved with any dispute, claim, or litigation arising from implementation of the project.

E. PARTIES AND CONTACTS

CITY OF COLUMBIA:

Mike Matthes, City Manager
P.O. Box 6015
Columbia, MO 65205-6015
(573) 874-7214
cmo@GoColumbiaMo.com

Mike Griggs
Director of Parks and Recreation
P.O. Box 6015
Columbia, MO 65205-6015
(573) 874-7463
mbg@GoColumbiaMo.com

GREENBELT LAND TRUST OF MID-MISSOURI:

Gene Gardner, President
PO Box 144
Columbia, MO 65205
(573) 353-2726
eacjeg@mediacombb.net

F. AGREEMENT PERIOD

This agreement shall be effective from November 16, 2015 through September 30, 2016. Use of all funds should be documented within the project period.

G. PAYMENT PROCESSING

The City shall contribute funds, not to exceed \$50,000, for the period of this agreement, and then an amount not to exceed \$50,000 annually if renewal occurs.

The first payment of \$12,500 may be invoiced after this agreement has been signed.

A second payment of \$12,500 may be invoiced February 29, 2016 or after, upon convening at least one meeting of the Land Conservation Implementation Committee

and delivery of the minutes of that meeting(s) and the Acquisition Funding Options Report.

A third payment of \$12,500 may be invoiced May 31, 2016 or after, upon delivery of the minutes from all meetings of the Land Conservation Implementation Committee and the Land Acquisition Recommendation Report and Scoring Evaluation Forms for the top 20 scoring parcels.

A fourth and final payment of \$12,500 may be invoiced September 30, 2016 or after, upon delivery of a FINAL REPORT documenting that all the MEASUREABLE DELIVERABLES have been accomplished, including documentation of correspondence and contacts with owners of the top priority parcels, the final set of recommended implementation actions, and minutes from all meetings of the Land Conservation Implementation Committee.

All funds must be deposited in a timely manner into a bank account from which payment of applicable expenses will be made. Interest, if any, earned on these funds must also be deposited into the same bank account and used for this project.

H. MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

The Department's Director and the Park Services Manager shall monitor the Agreement for compliance. Such monitoring shall include, but not be limited to on-site visits, ongoing informal monitoring through phone calls and email, and periodic desk review of financial information, progress, and performance reports.

GLT shall allow the Department access to all financial records and/or audited financial statements related to this Agreement.

I. CONTRACT TOTAL FOR FY2015 - \$50,000

Firm fixed amount funded by the Park Sales Tax, Land Acquisition Fund.

J. TERMINATION

Either GLT or City retains the right to terminate this agreement at any time, without penalty or recourse, by giving written notice at least sixty (60) days prior to the effective date of the termination. In the event of agreement termination, unspent funds must be returned to City. Funds previously spent must be repaid only if expended contrary to the purpose of this agreement.

[SIGNATURES ON FOLLOWING PAGE]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this agreement to be executed through their duly authorized signatures on the day and year last written below.

CITY OF COLUMBIA, MISSOURI

By: _____
Mike Matthes, City Manager

ATTEST:

Sheela Amin, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Nancy Thompson, City Counselor Date _____

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that this contract is within the purpose of the appropriation to which it is to be charged, Account No. 440-8800-548.49-90 C00517, and that there is an unencumbered balance to the credit of such appropriation sufficient to pay therefor.

John Blattell, Director of Finance

GREENBELT LAND TRUST OF MID-MISSOURI

By: _____
Gene Gardner
President of the Board of Directors
Greenbelt Land Trust of Mid-Missouri

Date

ATTACHMENT A

Land Conservation Implementation Committee

Greenbelt Land Trust, Gene Gardner, President; Mike Powell, Land Conservation Coordinator; other Board Members and Board consultants as necessary

City of Columbia, Mike Griggs, Director of Parks and Recreation; Mike Snyder, Superintendent Park Planning and Development

Missouri Department of Conservation, John George, Wildlife Regional Supervisor, Central Region; Susan Troxel-DeWitt, Forestry Regional Supervisor, Central Region; Chris McLeland, Private Land Services Regional Supervisor, Central Region

Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Joe Engeln, Assistant Director for Science and Technology;

Boone County, Bill Florea, Senior Planner; Uriah Mach, Planner;

US Fish and Wildlife Service, Amy Salveter, Field Office Supervisor, Ecological Services; Shauna Marquardt, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, Ecological Services; Tom Bell, Refuge Manager, Big Muddy National Fish & Wildlife Refuge

Other stakeholders as appropriately identified

ATTACHMENT B

GREENBELT LAND TRUST OF MID-MISSOURI BOARD OF DIRECTORS (As of October 9, 2015)

Gene Gardner, President
Janet Hammen, Vice President
Fred Young, Secretary

Mary Lottes
Esther D. Stroh
Mike Hood
Barbara Hoppe

ATTACHMENT C

Budget

The following is an itemized budget for activities to be performed by the Greenbelt Land Trust of Mid-Missouri pursuant to its cooperative agreement related to the Our Natural Legacy Planning and implementation process in Boone County and the City of Columbia. These classifications are to be used as guides; definite limits as applicable are noted in the narrative descriptions.

Professional Services \$5,000

Conduct a minimum of three meetings of the Land Conservation Implementation Committee and seven meetings/contacts with potential land targets.

Evaluate scoring matrix, project plans and deliverables for ONL plan implementation

Personnel Services \$40,000

Partial support of salaries/benefits to support staff necessary to carry out tasks in the cooperative agreement (i.e., Land Conservation Coordinator).

Administrative Overhead \$5,000

This supports a portion of overall operating costs such as occupancy, computer, fax, copier, other office equipment, insurance, legal and accounting, and miscellaneous operating expenses.