



MEMORANDUM

TO: Bruce K. Walden, Chief Administrative Officer
FROM: William R. Gray, Public Works Director
Barbara H. Stiehl, Assistant to the Director
DATE: January 22, 2004
RE: Statewide Roadway Beautification Program
U.S. Route 45 Median and I-74

INTRODUCTION

The "State Beautification Initiative" is a program introduced by Illinois' First Lady, Patti Blagojevich to encourage the growth of wildflowers and grasses indigenous to the state of Illinois. Illinois Department of Transportation officials have recently met with City staff to discuss the details of this program. As part of the program, the City of Urbana recommended the entryway median on U.S. Route 45 (Cunningham Avenue), north of I-74, as one of the locations for this beautification project. The State of Illinois approved this site for the statewide roadside beautification program.

FINANCIAL IMPACTS

If the City of Urbana agrees to participate in this program, the State of Illinois will reimburse the City up to \$35,000 for landscaping costs. As part of the agreement, the City will be asked to contribute \$5,000 in costs and/or in-kind services towards this project. Additionally, the State will reimburse the City for \$5,000 each year over the next two years to maintain and repair the landscaped area. A budget amendment will need to be considered by the City Council at a later date.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that "AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR PLANTING OF WILDFLOWERS AND OTHER PLANTINGS" be approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 2004-01-008

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR PLANTING OF WILDFLOWERS AND OTHER PLANTINGS

(Entryway Median on U.S. Route 45, Cunningham Avenue, North of I-74)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF URBANA, ILLINOIS, as follows:

Section 1. That An Intergovernmental Agreement Between the State of Illinois Department of Transportation and the City of Urbana for Planting of Wildflowers and Other Plantings, in substantially the form of the copy of said Agreement attached hereto and hereby incorporated by reference, be and the same is hereby authorized and approved.

Section 2. That the Mayor of the City of Urbana, Illinois, be and the same is hereby authorized to execute and deliver and the City Clerk of the City of Urbana, Illinois, be and the same is authorized to attest to said execution of said Agreement as so authorized and approved for and on behalf of the City of Urbana, Illinois.

PASSED by the City Council this _____ day of _____,
_____.

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSTAINS:

Phyllis D. Clark, City Clerk

APPROVED by the Mayor this _____ day of _____,
_____.

Tod Satterthwaite, Mayor

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

This intergovernmental agreement is entered into this 8th day of December, 2003 by and between the STATE OF ILLINOIS, acting by and through its DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION hereinafter called the STATE, and the CITY OF URBANA, of the State of Illinois, hereinafter called the CITY, in accordance with the authority granted in sections 4-406 and 4-409 of the Illinois Highway Code.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the STATE and the CITY are desirous of improving a site which will be determined at a later date by both the CITY and the STATE, by planting wildflowers and other plantings, and by performing all other work necessary to provide an attractive roadside entering the community; and

WHEREAS, the CITY has agreed to partner with the STATE in this project, to provide \$5,000.00 in matching funds or services costing that amount of money; and

WHEREAS., the STATE **will** reimburse the CITY up to \$35,000 toward the cost of the work completed through the provisions of this Agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. The CITY agrees to prepare plans and specifications, either receive bids and award a contract or use its own forces, furnish inspection during construction, and cause the landscaping to be installed in accordance with plans, specifications, and contract.
2. The STATE agrees to send a letter, prior to the CITY's commencement of work, approving the plans and specifications as prepared.
3. The STATE agrees to reimburse the CITY for the construction costs up to a maximum of \$35,000, upon satisfactory completion of the work and receipt of an invoice.
4. The CITY agrees to provide to the STATE, a summary of the landscape quantities and costs at the time the invoice is presented for payment.
5. Upon completion of the landscaping work, the CITY agrees to maintain or cause to be maintained for two years, the landscaped areas. The STATE will reimburse the CITY for all maintenance costs up to \$5,000.00 annually for two years.
6. The CITY agrees that maintenance of the landscaped areas includes eradication of all aggressive weed species and replacement of plant material as necessary, to the STATE's satisfaction. Should the CITY fail to provide satisfactory care to the landscaped areas, the STATE shall serve notice to the CITY of the deficiencies. The CITY shall, either correct the said deficiencies or with the approval of the STATE and in accordance with the applicable portions of the STATE's Standard Specifications for the Road and Bridge Construction remove the landscaping, replacing

it with sod or other materials as directed by the STATE. **Upon** acceptance of the grassed areas by the STATE, the STATE shall thenceforward maintain the grassed areas. Should the parties agree that the continued maintenance of the landscaped areas is beyond their financial and/or other means, the CITY may remove the landscaping, replacing it as specified above, with the STATE similarly accepting the grassed area maintenance subject to the afore described conditions.

7. The CITY shall maintain, for a minimum of 3 years after the completion of the Project, adequate books, records, and supporting documents to verify the amounts, recipients, and uses of all disbursements of funds passing in conjunction with this Agreement. All books, records, and supporting documents related to the Project shall be available for review and audit by the Auditor General and other STATE Auditors and the CITY agrees to cooperate fully with an audit conducted by the Auditor General and other STATE Auditors and to provide full access to all relevant materials. Failure to maintain the books, records, and supporting documents required by this paragraph shall establish a presumption in favor of the STATE for the recovery of any funds paid by the STATE under this Agreement for which adequate books, records, and supporting documentation are not available to support their purported disbursement.

8. The CITY agrees to comply with all applicable Executive Orders and laws requiring Equal Employment Opportunity and non-discrimination in public works projects, and with all regulations required by the Illinois Department of Transportation.

9. The CITY agrees that in the event any work is performed by other than CITY forces, the provisions of "an act regulating wages of laborers, mechanics and other workers employed in public works by the State, County, or any public body or any political subdivision or by any one under contract for public works" (Illinois Compiled Statutes, 820 ILCS 130/1) shall apply.

10. Under penalties of perjury, the CITY certifies that its correct Federal Tax Identification number is _____ and it's doing business as a GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY, whose mailing address is _____

11. Obligations of the STATE and CITY will cease immediately without penalty or further payment being required if, in any fiscal year, the Illinois General Assembly fails to appropriate or otherwise make available funds for this contract;

12. This AGREEMENT and the covenants contained herein shall be null and void in the event the construction work contemplated herein is not completed within the three years subsequent to execution of the agreement.

13. This Agreement shall be binding upon and to the benefit of the parties hereto, their successors and assigns.

Attest:

City/Village Clerk

(SEAL)

By:

Tod Satterthwaite
Mayor

Date:

STATE OF ILLINOIS

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

By:

Timothy W. Martin
Secretary of Transportation

Date:

WILDERNESS

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Revised Monday, September 1, 2003.

EXPLORING NATURE & CULTURE

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Fall 2003

of the Wild

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In August, Illinois First Lady Patti Blagojevich launched a "State Beautification Initiative" to promote plantings of native wildflowers and grasses along highways throughout the state. "We wanted to make Illinois a more beautiful place for everyone who lives here and to draw more tourists here, Mrs. Blagojevich said. 'And we want to enhance the natural environment - the less mowing we can do the better.'

Blagojevich announced the initiative - her first and most extensive as First Lady - in conjunction with the Illinois State Fair, where thousands of visitors to her booth delighted in a splendid display of 48 species of native wildflowers and grasses, courtesy of Pizzo and Associates, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, and the Illinois Department of Transportation. The flowers on display were to be replanted along highway interchanges near Springfield at the dose of the fair. "The minute we installed the flowers [in our booth], we saw bumblebees and seven or eight types of butterflies attracted to the wildflowers, she noted. "There weren't nearly the variety at the cultivated areas across the way."



Photo by Jack Pizzo

Readers of a certain age will recall

Lady Bird Johnson's efforts to beautify America's highways by removing billboards and planting native flowers - a campaign that resulted in the Highway Beautification Act of 1965. Now tourists flock to Texas in the spring to see displays of roadside bluebonnets and Indian

paintbrush. Patti Blagojevich's goal is no less ambitious. Ultimately we'd like to have wildflowers along all the Interstates in Illinois, she said. The program will begin, however, by targeting gateways into the state and major Interchanges and exits around cities. Twenty-eight sites have been selected for starters with the funds being reallocated from existing highway maintenance dollars.

"In selecting the flower mixes, we're going to be basing our information on historic records, Mrs. Blagojevich added, 'and an analysis of the different soil types and subclimates throughout the state.'

Mrs. Blagojevich added that she will be looking for help from neighboring municipalities, garden clubs, universities and other groups to make this program a success.

"Ugliness is so grim, Lady Bird Johnson once said. "A little beauty, something that is lovely; I think, can help create harmony which will lessen tensions."

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