

Request for Legislative Action

File #: 25-234, Version: 0

REQUESTED MEETING DATE: Select Date

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To be confirmed by County Counselor's Office:

Resolution No.: 21966 Sponsor: Megan L. Smith Date: July 21, 2025

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DEPARTMENT: Parks + Rec

TITLE: A Resolution authorizing the Director of Parks + Rec to execute a Memorandum of Understanding for Conservation Planning and Natural Area Restoration in the Jackson County Parks System with the Bridging the Gap Non Profit Organization through their Kansas City Wildlands Program, at an actual cost to the County in the amount of \$25,000.

SUMMARY: This proposed Memorandum of Understanding with Bridging the Gap is designed to continue to advance the goals and objectives of the County's long term park plans, by partnering with local agencies to improve our park programs, and to conserve and restore our most sensitive natural habitats. Bridging the Gap is a Jackson County based non-profit organization with a long history of sustainable programs focusing on natural area protection and restoration, and engaging the community through volunteer efforts and educational programs. Through their Kansas City Wildlands program, the organization has been a long-time partner for restoration of parklands along the Blue River, creating plans for restoration of the Blue River Glade, and recruiting the volunteers needed to implement the program. This MOU expands upon this successful partnership, by bringing the scope

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to new areas of the Parks System to take advantage of BTG's expertise in ecological planning, and their unique ability to help manage these important natural areas. Future work sites in our parks, as called out in the MOU, include the Blue Springs Lake Glade, conservation areas at Lake Jacomo, and the Kemper Outdoor Education Center. Funding for this MOU is included in the Department's 2025 Budget. This authorization is consistent with Chapter 1030.7 of the Jackson County Code, Tax Exempt Organizations and Agency services.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

NO 🗆

Amount	Fund	Department	Line-Item Detail
\$25,000	003	1601	6789

YES 🖂

ACTION NEEDED: AUTHORIZE

TTACHMENTS:

Proposed MOU