



MEETING OF JANUARY 2, 2024

TO: Mayor Jordan and City Council
THRU: Susan Norton, Chief of Staff
FROM: Peter Nierengarten, Environmental Director
DATE:
SUBJECT: Litter Abatement Program with Genesis Church

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve contract amendment 2 with Genesis Church for continuation of a litter abatement program in partnership with the City of Fayetteville.

BACKGROUND:

In recent years, the City of Fayetteville has experienced unprecedented growth in population. This growth has exacerbated an ongoing litter problem across the city and in specific geographic areas, notably along streets, trails, parks and streams. The presence of litter degrades our environment, impacts water quality and threatens our quality of life. The City has developed and currently operates numerous adopt-a-trail, adopt-a-street and adopt-a-park initiatives in partnership with volunteer groups to manage and abate litter, but the problem continues to grow.

Simultaneously, Fayetteville is seeing a growing population of unsheltered residents camping primarily in urban woodlands along trails and streams within the city. Several programs and agencies are working in coordination to address this homelessness challenge, but additional support and coordination is needed to address this growing issue.

In June 2022, the City of Fayetteville and Genesis Church worked to develop a 6-month litter abatement pilot program to allow unsheltered individuals a paid work opportunity to beautify the City of Fayetteville by picking up litter in designated areas. And in January 2023 the Fayetteville City Council approved a 1-year contract with Genesis Church to continue the litter abatement program. In 2023, over 131 unique participants removed over 132,000 lbs of litter from creeks, parks, trails and streets in Fayetteville and diverted 21,000 lbs of electronic waste from the landfill.

DISCUSSION:

The City of Fayetteville proposes continuing the Litter Abatement Program into 2024. Genesis Church will manage the day-to-day operation of the program. They will supervise workers, provide transportation, provide lunch, provide access to local social services and pay workers at the end of each day. The City will provide all litter collection supplies and direct litter abatement crews to identify locations for litter collection. Litter that has been collected and bagged by the litter abatement crews will then be delivered to the Recycling and Trash Division's transfer station on Happy Hollow Road.

Mailing address:

113 W. Mountain Street
Fayetteville, AR 72701

www.fayetteville-ar.gov

The City in partnership with Genesis Church, will continue to collect data and metrics that will be utilized to determine the effectiveness of the project.

BUDGET/STAFF IMPACT:

The maximum not-to-exceed amount authorized for this pilot project is \$100,000. Funding for the work will come from the Sustainability Department's contract services budget.

ATTACHMENTS: SRF (#3), Genesis MOA - 2024 (#4)

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