



*CREO Document Submittal Project

CREO Document Submittal for Non e-Builder Projects: #1983

Subject: Goal Request Document Upload | Contract EV3765-02 | ARPA Blue
River Restoration
Creator: Dresen, Stephanie
Date Created: 01.31.2025 12:05PM
Process Date Due:
Open: Yes

Accepted By:
Current Step: CREO MM Goal Request
Status: Approved
Date Due:

Comments

By: ,

Civil Rights & Equal Opportunity Department
Economic Equity & Inclusion
Contract Goals Request

Date: 01/31/2025

Form Prepared By: Stephanie Dresen

Contract/Project Number: EV3765-02/G10DNRARPA	Project Name: ARPA Blue River Restoration
Owning Department: OEQ/NSD	Project Manager: Stephanie Dresen

Funding: ☐ City ☐ State ☐ Federal ☐ CO-OP ☒ Grant: ARPA ☐ Other:
 Project Requirements: ☐ M/WBE ☐ DBE ☐ Section 3 ☒ N/A
 Tax Incentive: ☐ LCRA ☐ TIF ☐ PIEA ☒ N/A ☐ Other:
 Prevailing Wage: ☐ Yes ☒ No
 Davis-Bacon: ☐ Yes ☒ No
 Presenting to Council¹: ☒ Yes ☐ No
 Construction Employment Program: ☐ Yes: Workforce employment goals are 10% minority hours & 2% female hours. This project is estimated at over 800 work hours and over \$300,000.
 (not construction) ☐ No: This project is estimated at less than \$300,000 and no more than 800 work hours.

Estimated Number of Project Days: 730 (2 years)	Anticipated Solicitation Date: Solicitation Waiver
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Contract Type:

☐ Construction ☐ Design-Build ☐ Design Professional ☒ Professional Services
☐ General Service ☐ Concession ☐ Other Goods & Services ☒ Non-Municipal Agency
☐ Co-Operative ☐ Revenue Sharing ☐ Facilities Maintenance/Repair/Renovation
☐ Other:

Description of Contract (Provide Details):

In Spring 2022, Kansas City was approached by four local nonprofit organizations with a grant proposal under the the Missouri Department of Natural Resources' ARPA Stormwater Infrastructure Grant. This program is administered by MDNR using federal ARPA funds for projects requiring necessary stormwater infrastructure improvements. The City's application was awarded \$5 million, plus our \$100,000 match for a \$5.1 million project total. The City was approved to use a noncompetitive bid process in order to work with the four, nonprofit grant partners listed in the grant application. These four contractors will divide the award and scope of work between them. The project as a whole is focused on restoring 200-250 acres of riparian habitat along the Blue River corridor. In addition, there are state/federal required EEO goals in the contracts per MDNR. Please see the attached Scope of Work for Bridging the Gap, one of the four grant partners receiving a contract of ~\$1,946,060.

Pursuant to RSMo. Section 610.021(11) & (12) documents related to bids will not be made available until bids are completed.

This document is submitted with all available facts. Intentionally falsifying this document or omitting pertinent facts is grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to KCMO Human Resources Rules & Policy Manual (eff. August 4, 2014).

FOR GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT (PROCUREMENT) USE ONLY:Reviewed CREO Annual Goal Manual? ☐ Yes ☐ NoWaiver being applied? ☐ Yes ☐ No Type:

According to CREO Annual Goal Manual, the Goals for this project are:

_____ % MBE	_____ % WBE	_____ % DBE
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Electronic Record? ☐ Yes ☐ No

GSD Signature: _____ Date: _____

FOR CIVIL RIGHTS & EQUAL OPPORTUNITY DEPARTMENT (CREO) USE ONLY:Reviewed CREO Annual Goal Manual? ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A☐ The following Goals are approved for this Project:

_____ % MBE	_____ % WBE	_____ % DBE
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☒ No Goals are set for this Project ☒ Waiver Approved ☐ Waiver Denied

Reason for Waiver: The selected non-profits were partners in writing the grant and were explicitly named in the grant application.

Electronic Record? ☐ Yes ☐ No

DocuSigned by:

CREO Signature: Rebecca Amezcua-Hogan

Date: 2/13/2025

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Bridging The Gap Watershed Restoration and Neighborhood Tree Program

Scope of Work

Bridging The Gap proposes a community-based program to support the Urban Forestry Master Plan, the Blue River Watershed Restoration Plan, and the Climate Protection & Resiliency Plan made possible through American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 funding. This will be accomplished by:

1. **Natural Resources Planning:** Collect baseline habitat assessment data to synthesize 5-year sub watershed management plans
2. **Ecosystem Management:** Removal of invasive species followed by broadcasting of hand-collected local ecotype native seed
3. **Neighborhood Planting:** 1-inch caliper trees in neighborhoods throughout the Blue River watershed
4. **Park Planting:** 1-inch caliper trees in parks throughout neighborhoods in the Blue River watershed
5. **Community Outreach and Engagement:** Door to door communication, tabling, and attending public meetings
6. **Education and Technical Support:** Presentations, providing consultation and follow up support for recently accomplished work, synthesizing educational materials, and marketing
7. **KC Tree Corps:** Workforce training in arboriculture and riparian restoration

PROJECT 1: WATERSHED RESTORATION

SERVICE	COST	PER UNIT	TOTAL
Site-specific management plans including baseline assessments and restoration work recommendations (occurs pre-restoration work)	\$500	200 acres	\$100,000
Riparian restoration work on KC Wildland parcels	\$3,000	87 acres	\$261,000
Subcontracted restoration work for targeted areas	\$2,000	60 acres	\$120,000

Project 1 Description:

Kansas City WildLands (KCWL) conserves, protects, and restores priority areas located on public lands to rewild the Kansas City metro. Restoring landscapes using KCWL's citizen ecology approach builds resiliency within communities and mitigates the intertwined biodiversity and climate crises. Identified

project areas along the Blue River face exponential threats to habitat, limiting the ecosystem services available to communities within the watershed. Additionally, lack of suitable riparian habitat is a leading cause of species decline, biodiversity loss, impaired water quality, and increased flood risk. KCWL has identified priority riparian restoration areas in the southern project area totaling between 75-100 acres, reserving the additional space to work on contiguous acreage as identified.

Project 1 Deliverables:

Restoration is necessary to prevent further watershed degradation and subsequent large-scale biodiversity and climate resiliency loss. KCWL will accomplish this work through the following:

- 1) Synthesize baseline data for total project acreage through community health index surveys
- 2) Synthesize restoration plans for total project acreage informed by baseline data and adaptive management
- 3) Hire and manage ecological restoration contractors on identified project acreage to remove large-scale populations of established invasive species
- 4) Hire a Program Coordinator that will coordinate and conduct ecological restoration within the project area, both overseeing contractors and manually restoring project acreage:
 - a) Invasive species removal in identified project areas
 - b) Seed collection and broadcasting
 - c) Other restoration tools and techniques as deemed appropriate
 - d) Track data, including staff hours and acres impacted
- 5) Coordinate and conduct 10 volunteer ecological restoration workdays within the project area. Workday activities may include but are not limited to:
 - a) Invasive species removal
 - b) Recruit, train, and manage volunteers for involvement in this project
 - c) Lead education at each workday to engage volunteers in the long-term stewardship and importance of this project
 - d) Track volunteer data, including numbers of volunteers, number of volunteer hours, and acres impacted
- 6) Coordinate and conduct 10 volunteer seed workdays of local ecotype seed from high quality habitat across metro to be redistributed back on public land within the project area. Activities may include but are not limited to:
 - a) Seed collection, seed processing, and seed broadcasting
 - b) Recruit, train, and manage volunteers for involvement in this project
 - c) Lead educational training at each collection workday to engage volunteers in the long-term stewardship and importance of this project
 - d) Advanced training and coordination of independent citizen scientist volunteers
 - e) Surveying and tagging high value plants for collection
 - f) Seed storage to meet restoration timelines
 - g) Track data including numbers of volunteers, number of volunteer hours, species collected, species dispersed, and acres impacted

- 7) Coordinate and lead at least one community event annually to foster environmental education and increase outreach and awareness for local natural resources

Project 2: Neighborhood Tree Program

SERVICE	COST	PER UNIT	TOTAL
Watershed neighborhood tree planting (with 2 years watering and establishment)	\$600	2,000 trees	\$1,200,000

Project 2 Description:

An important element of the program is public education. We will stress the importance of maintaining and adding to our urban forest through public speaking engagements, handouts, door hangers, neighborhood canvassing, and volunteer workdays. Choosing the right tree for the right location will be a repeated theme.

Because the Heartland Tree Alliance (HTA) capitalizes on a volunteer workforce, we can plant quality trees with a high level of success. HTA also involves the adjacent property owners and other stake holders into the process creating buy-in for the program. Other benefits we provide include:

- On-site forester and Certified Arborists, which provides high-level expertise not typically offered by landscape companies
- One-on-one community engagement including but not limited to outreach, presentations, door-to-door canvassing, and workday activities
- Establishment of a long-term maintenance plan, where homeowners and/or HTA take responsibility for watering the trees for two years
- Follow up reminders, support, education, and expert advice either by phone, email, E-News or in person
- GIS data points of each planted tree with inventory information such as species and size

Project 2 Deliverables:

For this contract, HTA will:

1. Partner with neighborhoods/property owners to plant 1-inch caliper trees
 - a. BTG will have at minimum three touch points with neighborhoods (for more information see the community engagement and outreach section - Project 3)
 - b. BTG will plant trees, which includes:
 - i. Identifying tree-planting locations and selecting species
 - ii. Calling utilities / Dig Rite
 - iii. Creating a map of planting sites for approval by a Forester or representative
 - iv. Ordering trees and mulch

- v. Providing additional support and supplemental water to the tree annually, at a higher cost per tree. These projects would be approved by the forester prior to planting and would target neighborhoods within the Quality-of-Life Improvement District or defined in the Urban Forest Master Plan to have low tree canopy cover
- vi. Recruiting volunteers and community partners
- vii. Hosting workday
 - 1. As much as possible, the workday should be treated as a community event, with a formal beginning and a celebration of the accomplishments at the end. The goal is to create a unified community feeling that leads to stronger support of trees and momentum that can lead to other tree projects in this and other Kansas City neighborhoods
 - 2. Provide educational overview for volunteers and conduct tree-planting demonstrations
 - 3. Divide volunteers into teams; provide tools; promote safety
 - 4. Plant, mulch, and water trees
 - 5. Create spatial data points and inventory information for each planted tree. This information will be transferred to the Kansas City Parks & Recreation Department for use in Arc Map/Cartegraph
 - 6. Distribute door hangers and follow-up postcards to recipients with watering and maintenance instructions
- viii. Conducting 1-year visual inspection with replacement
 - 1. Engage residents and/or leave watering reminders at each home
 - 2. Report mortality rates to the Kansas City Parks & Recreation Department
 - 3. Replant trees that did not survive the 1-year guarantee

2. Park Planting

- a. Kansas City Parks & Recreation Department will identify parks or public spaces where more trees could be planted
- b. BTG will plant trees within parks and public spaces which includes:
 - i. Selecting appropriate species in partnership with the Kansas City Parks & Recreation Department and the Jackson County Parks & Recreation Department
 - ii. Call utilities/Dig Rite
 - iii. Order trees, mulch, and water bag
 - iv. Plant, mulch, water, and protect trees
 - 1. Create spatial data point and simple inventory information for each planted tree that will then be transferred to the Kansas City Parks & Recreation Department for use in Arc Map/Cartegraph
 - 2. Water trees, as needed, during the 2-year maintenance period, utilizing water from the Kansas City Parks & Recreation District Offices

3. Install deer protection when necessary
- c. Conduct 2-year visual inspection with replacement
 1. Re-mulch the tree, utilizing mulch from the Kansas City Parks & Recreation Department
 2. Report mortality rates to the Kansas City Parks & Recreation Department
 3. Schedule replacement of dead trees prior to the end of the 2-year maintenance period

Project 3: Community Environmental Education

SERVICE	COST	PER UNIT	TOTAL
Public education and engagement (community engagement services and expenses, public education materials and marketing, education-related recreational amenity enhancements, participant stipends, tours, community meetings and notifications, etc.)	\$4,170	18 months	\$75,060

Project 3 Description:

Bridging The Gap consistently centers environmental education and community outreach in the work we accomplish, and one of our measures of success is how engaged a community or volunteers feel while the work is progressing. Providing consistent environmental education to the communities that will be involved in this work is key to creating and empowering natural resources stewards and fostering momentum for years to come. Heartland Conservation Alliance, a separate organization partnering on this overall opportunity, has committed to creating the messaging and educational campaign for the Blue River Watershed. Bridging The Gap will use Project 3 to disseminate and support the messaging Heartland Conservation Alliance creates. Fees for Project 3 will be tracked monthly.

Project 3 Deliverables:

1. Perform door to door engagement in neighborhoods to recruit stewards and engage residents
2. Attend community meetings and table at events
3. Organize at least one community event focused on natural resources education within the watershed
4. Gather input from community groups through surveys, interviews, and/or focus groups
 - a. Address community specific concerns
 - b. Provide opportunities for feedback and collaboration
5. BTG will present at neighborhood/community meetings
6. Host a landing page where homeowners can learn about the projects, reference FAQs, sign up to adopt a tree, sign up to volunteer, etc.
7. Provide educational e-newsletters and blogs for at least the first year

8. Staff foresters, ecologists, and certified arborists will be available for questions or consultations via phone, email, or in person visits
9. BTG will publish related educational posts through social media outlets

Project 4: KC Tree Corps

SERVICE	COST	PER UNIT	TOTAL
KC Tree Corps	\$38,000	5 Cohorts	\$190,000

Project 4 Description:

Commercial tree care companies, municipalities, and utility companies are the top employers in the arboriculture field and have historically struggled to recruit and retain a diverse workforce. Many people are unaware of forestry or green infrastructure maintenance as a career, or do not understand the opportunities for advancement throughout their lifetime. KC Tree Corps is a 10-week pre-apprenticeship that upon completion, will provide knowledgeable and willing workers to an industry responsible for quality maintenance of Kansas City's urban forest canopy. Program goals include:

- Support the 2018 Kansas City, MO Urban Forestry Master Plan recommendation of improved maintenance and development of Kansas City's urban forest canopy.
- Equip workers for employment in an industry that has demand for knowledgeable and willing workers.
- Develop positive environmental attitudes in participants such as encouraging individual advocacy for urban forests.
- Build a viable, replicable job training model for urban neighborhoods.
- Improve local neighborhood physical infrastructure.
- Create a successful local "Green Jobs" workforce training program.

Project 4 Deliverables:

1. Participants will learn in-depth topics such as tree ID, biology, planting, pruning, and pest identification. Emphasis will be placed on trees as green infrastructure, specifically in storm water management, and the importance of healthy resilient riparian ecosystems in flood mitigation.
2. Nationally recognized certifications offered include training in Grounds Operation through the Tree Care Industry Association, first aid/CPR, and OSHA 10.
3. BTG will support and instruct participants for a 10-week period completing a work readiness curriculum including fundamental skills for the workforce and project-based learning.
4. Project based learning will include tree planting projects, riparian restoration work, and community engagement related to projects detailed above.

Lastly, all the work listed herein will adhere to Section 5 of the [Restoration Work Plan](#), including applicable performance objectives, monitoring methods, reporting requirements, and scheduling.



Bridging The Gap Watershed Restoration and Neighborhood Tree Program

Pricing Addendum

Bridging The Gap proposes a community-based program to support the Urban Forestry Master Plan, the Blue River Watershed Restoration Plan, and the Climate Protection & Resiliency Plan made possible through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 funding.

SERVICE	COST	UNIT	TOTAL NOT TO EXCEED
KC Tree Corps	\$38,000	5 cohorts	\$190,000
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Subcontracted restoration work for targeted areas	\$2,000	60 acres	\$120,000
BTG Total Not to Exceed			\$1,946,060