Committee Substitute for Ordinance No. 241012 ARPA Stormwater Infrastructure Grant - Blue River Riparian Restoration

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December 3, 2024

Neighborhood Planning and Development Committee

Ordinance No. 241012

Accepting and approving a $5,000,000.00 grant award from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, passed through from the federal Treasury Department as part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, to fund riparian restoration along the Blue River; estimating revenue and appropriating funds; and recognizing this ordinance as having an accelerated effective date.

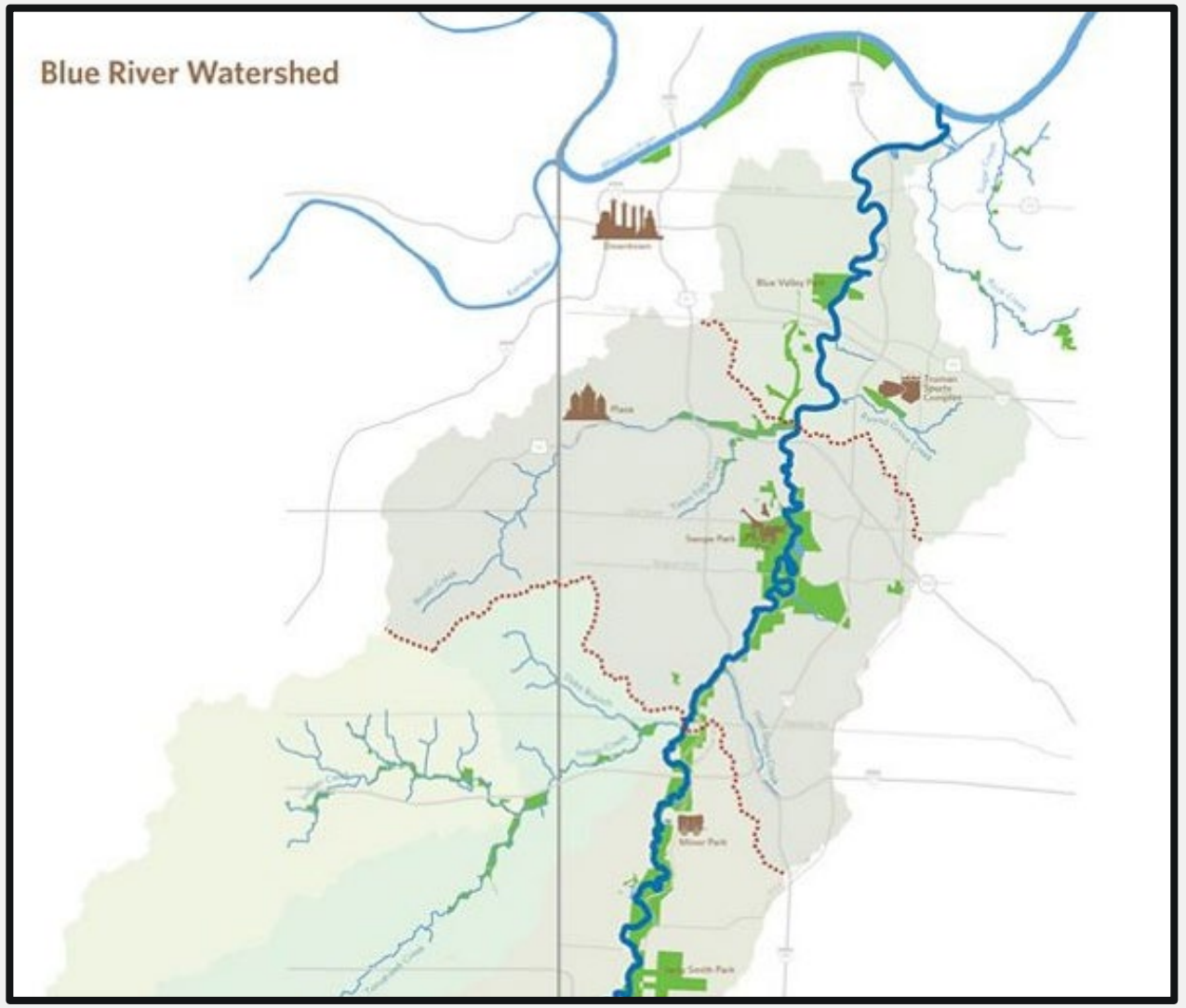
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT 2021

Missouri's State Fiscal Recovery Funds

- Signed into law on March 11, 2021, the **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)** included funding for states and local governments to mitigate impacts from the pandemic.
- Missouri received approximately **$2.7 billion** in State Fiscal Recovery Funds under ARPA.
- The eligible categories of spending include projects or programs that:
  - Support public health expenditures,
  - Address negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency,
  - Replace lost public sector revenue, and
  - **Invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure.**

Blue River Riparian Restoration (DNR-SW-3ECA807E763C)

- The City applied to the state's 2022 ARPA Stormwater Infrastructure Grant solicitation
- In addition to the City's pledged **$100,000 match**, the City is receiving **$5 million** through ARPA for the program
- As for all programs under ARPA, funds must be obligated by **December 31, 2024** and fully expended by December 31, 2026



Riparian Restoration Work Areas

- Much of the restoration work will take place along the Blue River from E 23rd St. to E 53rd St. in **District 3**
- Additional work will be done on land in the Blue River Greenway of **District 5**, south of Swope Park
- Finally, work will also take place on land around Alex George Park and south of Minor Park in **District 6**

Blue River Riparian Restoration Goals

- Restore **200-250 acres** of riparian habitat along the Blue River
- Restore **green infrastructure** in three nodes along the Blue River corridor (Blue River Park, Blue Valley Parkway, Alex George Park)
- Plant up to **2,000 trees** in neighborhoods adjacent to the corridor
- Work with adjacent neighborhoods to increase privately installed and **managed native plant landscapes**
- Update **stormwater standards and policy** and provide riparian and green infrastructure **training** to expand local workforce capacity.

Climate Protection & Resiliency Plan

Natural Systems

- ✓N-1: Expand network of trees and natural areas
- ✓N-2: Promote regenerative, ecologically healthy soils and landscapes
- ✓N-3: Sustainable water supply and use
- ✓N-4: Use natural systems to manage stormwater runoff

Questions?