

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

City Council



STAFF

Aaron Harris, Recreation Director
Joanne Cech, Fiscal Recovery Manager

SUBJECT

First Reading of Ordinance No. 031, 2026, Making a Supplemental Appropriation and Authorizing an Appropriation Transfer for the Gardens on Spring Creek Internship Program.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this item is to:

- Appropriate \$5,000 from the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, passed through the Colorado Department of Agriculture Agricultural Workforce Development Program, to the Gardens on Spring Creek to fund a 2026 Horticulture Internship; and
- Authorize the transfer of \$4,545 in matching funds from existing appropriations.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends adoption of the Ordinance on First Reading.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

On March 6, 2026, the Gardens on Spring Creek (The Gardens) was awarded \$5,000 under the Colorado Department of Agriculture's (CDA) Agricultural Workforce Development Program (AWDP) for a general horticulture internship for fiscal year 2026. This award is a federal pass-through award from the Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration to the CDA. The award has a required cost share of \$5,000.

The required cost share of \$5,000 is made up of \$4,545 from Arts and Culture Fund 273, and in-kind match of \$455 of Indirect Cost Recovery.

The intent of the AWDP is to build a talent pipeline and career pathway to align education, training, and work-based learning. The program funds internships that include an education focus preparing interns for a career in one or more occupational areas including, but not limited to, agribusiness, animal husbandry, crop production, farm management, agronomy, natural resources, forestry, research and development, marketing and sales, food safety, and/or maintenance and repair of machinery and equipment.

The Garden's Internship Program aligns with the objective of the AWDP in addressing the shortage of skilled agricultural workers in Colorado by providing training and support through internships. The intern

will work with each member of the Horticulture Team at the Gardens, exposing them to all areas of public horticulture including plant production, food production, curation, ornamental horticulture, community education and more.

CITY FINANCIAL IMPACTS

This item appropriates \$5,000 of unanticipated revenue for a horticulture internship at The Gardens. This appropriation is a Small Dollar Grant Award, subject to the State of Colorado Small Dollar Grant Award (SDGA) Terms and Conditions. There is no requirement that the City sign an agreement for the award. Rather, upon the City submitting the first request for reimbursement under each award/purchase order to CDA, the City agrees to all terms and conditions of the award.

This item also appropriates \$4,545 from Arts and Culture Fund 273, to be spent as matching funds for the project.

BOARD / COMMISSION / COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

None.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

None.

ATTACHMENTS / LINKS

1. State Purchase Order
2. Ordinance No. 031, 2026