



City of Jackson

TO: Mayor and Board of Aldermen

FROM: Janet Sanders, Director of Public Works

DATE: December 1, 2023

RE: Aerial Photography

Attached is a proposal from Cape Girardeau County Assessor Bob Adams to cost share in the county's aerial photography to be flown in 2024. The county is requesting participation of \$30,000 from each city. Both Jackson and Cape participated in this program for the county's last flyover in 2021 and have been using that aerial photography for the past three years. In 2021, the City of Jackson paid our share in a lump sum while the City of Cape chose to make three payments over the three-year period. Either is acceptable to the County.

Both cities have recently been approached by Nearmap, another aerial photography provider. They offer a lower cost on a per-year basis with no commitment for multiple years and they would fly the Cape-Jackson area once per year. If the two cities subscribed to their program, they offer a discounted cost of \$6,000/year for each city. The cost for each city separately is \$9,000/year.

Although the cost of the county program has a higher per/year price tag, I recommend continuing to participate in their program for the following reasons:

1. The county photography is guaranteed to be "leaf-off". This is extremely critical when using aerial photography for mapping of parcels, buildings, streets, utilities, etc. Nearmap photography does not provide this guarantee and anticipates their flying schedule would include our area of the United States during "leaf-on" times of year.
2. The City's Building & Planning staff has an ongoing cooperative relationship with the Assessor's office. They share with us their continually updated parcel map layers and ownership information, which is crucial to the accurate property owner notifications required by law for certain zoning processes.

3. There is a third option, which is State of Missouri sponsored photography currently being prepared. However, previews of that photography indicate it will have poorer resolution and oblique views, making it more difficult to use for our purposes.

If the Board is agreeable to participating in the county's program, a Memorandum of Understanding will be prepared for approval at a future meeting.

If you have questions, please contact me at jsanders@jacksonmo.org or 573-243-2300 x 2031.