


Memorandum

To: Edward Lavalley, City Manager

From: John Veneziano, Director of Public Works and Asset Management 

Date: August 4, 2017

Subject: License Agreement for VABI Flower Fountain East Venice Avenue Median

Requested Action

Approval of the attached License Agreement with Sarasota County. The Agreement has been reviewed by the City Attorney and Risk Manager.

Background

Bob Vedder, representing Venice Area Beautification, Inc. (VABI) has proposed to place a "flower fountain" in the median of East Venice Avenue between Grove Street and Warfield Avenue. A "flower fountain" uses a four to six foot tall multi-tiered terra cotta fountain manufactured for water to be pumped to the top and cascade down from level to level, but instead of connecting to a water source VABI volunteers fill each level of the fountain with soil and flowers. The City staff constructs a concrete pad for the fountain and connects tubes to the nearby irrigation system so the flowers may be watered automatically. VABI has successfully installed two similar "flower fountains" on West Venice Avenue in the city-owned portion of Venice Avenue.

East Venice Avenue is a Sarasota County owned and maintained roadway. In order to install a "flower fountain" the county requires an agreement covering responsibilities for the installation. As the city already has irrigation and enhanced landscaping in this median, it appears that the least complicated course of action would be for the city rather than VABI enter into an agreement with the county. The relationship between the City and VABI would continue as with the other flower fountains. The department head and city manager approved these other fountains in accordance with city council policy. Their continued presence is dependent on VABI volunteer's providing trimming, removal of dead flowers and replacement flowers, as needed.