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News Release

*For Immediate Release*

### **Community Leader Robin Melton Made Positive Impact**

It is with a heavy heart that we send our sincere condolences to the friends and family of the victims of the Sept. 15 plane crash north of Springfield. Among those on board the plane was Robin Melton, a local business and community leader, who served as co-chair of the FieldGuide 2030 (our community strategic plan) planning committee.

The City of Springfield greatly appreciates Robin's contributions and wanted to say a few words about her positive impact:



"Robin was an independent-minded, strong businesswoman who cared deeply about her community," said Springfield City Manager Greg Burris. "When she was asked to co-chair the strategic planning committee, she was reluctant at first because she was humble. I asked her to seriously consider it because she was independent, fair and brought a new and fresh perspective."

Burris explained that Robin and co-chair Mark McNay have worked together to navigate the planning committee through multiple issues.

"Robin was the perfect co-chair for our community's planning initiative," said co-chair Mark McNay. The two led a coordinating committee meeting with City Manager Greg Burris just last week.

"In addition to working beside her on the FieldGuide, I've had the pleasure of serving with her on the Chamber Board and the Watershed Committee Capital Campaign. I've always known Robin as a passionate professional who led by example. I've always admired her unique ability to build consensus. Her leadership will be sorely missed," McNay said.

Robin was President and Owner of [Environmental Works, Inc.](#) (EWI), an environmental consulting firm. After starting the company in 1992, Robin successfully grew the firm to nearly 50 associates and three locations – Springfield, MO headquarters with regional offices in Rolla, MO and Kansas City, KS.

Environmental Works, Inc. (EWI) has helped lead the revitalization of city districts through a variety of joint projects. EWI partnered with the City of Springfield, Missouri for several years on various environmental assessment and brownfield restoration projects under the City Brownfields Consultant Contract. Of significant note, an abundance of abandoned service stations, petroleum distribution facilities and neglected underground storage tanks (USTs) have hindered redevelopment projects throughout the community. To help mitigate associated concerns, EWI successfully completed dozens of environmental assessments through joint ventures with Missouri Department of Natural Resources, developers and various community-based organizations.

Robin also shared her time and talent by serving as a board member for the following non-profit boards: Mercy Hospital, Springfield Chamber of Commerce, Jordan Valley Innovation Center, Inc., Urban Neighborhoods Alliance, Watershed Committee of the Ozarks, and Missouri Petroleum Storage Tank Insurance Fund. EWI is also a corporate sponsor of the James River Basin Partnership.

“Robin’s entrepreneurial spirit, dedication to the community and commitment to preserving and enhancing quality of life, will be missed. Her support of environmental preservation practices to help lead to a sustainable future, will no doubt leave a positive legacy,” Burris concluded.

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