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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Agricenter Sunflower Trail Ribbon Cutting

MEMPHIS, TN --- You are invited to join Mayor Mark Luttrell, Commissioner Heidi Shafer, and Agricenter President John Butler for the Agricenter Sunflower Trail ribbon cutting on September 5 at 9am. All Commissioners, media, tenants, bicyclists, and public are invited.

**September 5th
9:00 – 9:15am
Near the Solar Farm (follow signs for parking)**

This trail, funded by a 2016 Shelby County Commission Community Enhancement Grant and IOBY contributors, is a Greenprint Certified Project. Project partners include Shelby County Government.

Mayor Mark H. Luttrell, Jr., said “Investments like this will help us achieve our comprehensive vision to connect communities not just for recreation, but for quality of life, environmental protection, improvement of health, and economic development.”

Chairman-Elect Heidi Shafer stated, “Connecting the Agricenter Farmer's Market to the Greenline makes good sense, giving walkers and bike riders reliable access to fresh foods right here in District 5. I want to thank my fellow Commissioners for allowing me to dedicate District 5's portion of the grant money to physical projects that all citizens can enjoy.”

The trail showcases the agricultural character of the region and will delight the traveler with sights of production crops, research plots, and the solar farm. The trail leads from the Wolf River at the south side of the property, past the sunflower field, to the Farmer’s Market, past the solar farm, past more sunflowers and Catch’em Lakes. At the light on Farm Road the trail connects to Shelby Farms Park and to the Greenline.

Christine Donhardt, Director of Communications, said “We are thrilled to provide this amenity to the public while showcasing agriculture and connecting with the regionwide network of greenspaces.”

Agricenter International, a 1,000 acre farm, is a non-profit dedicated to agricultural research, education, and conservation. It has a \$524 million annual economic impact on the region, hosts over 1.3 million visitors annually, and has educated tens of thousands of students. For more information visit www.agricenter.org or call 901-757-7777.

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