CoMo Climate Action
Community Survey Results

November 13, 2018

Total Respondents: 946
It is important for Columbia to take immediate action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from energy use and land use.

Response Rate: 98.94%
It is important for Columbia to take action to prepare for and manage the projected impacts of climate change such as more heat waves, heavier rain events, and more days of poor air quality.

Response Rate: 99.04%
Columbia should be a leader when it comes to proactively addressing climate change.

Response Rate: 98.63%
From the list below, please choose the action areas you would like to give feedback on (you can choose as little or as many as you like):

- Transportation: How we get people and goods from one place to another.
- Housing, Buildings, and Development: How and where we build the places we live, work, shop and play.
- Waste: Materials we throw away or waste.
- Energy: The electricity and fossil fuels we use to light, heat, cool and operate our built environment.
- Health, Safety, and Well-being: The people, organizations and programs supporting community health.
- Natural Resources: Trees, streams, grasslands, and other natural areas.

Response Rate: 86.47%
I would use carpools, park and ride lots, or rideshare programs to commute to work if they were available.

117

I would ride the bus at least once more per week if it ran more frequently and during more hours of the day.

157

I would walk or ride a bike at least once more per week if I felt safer (e.g., if there were protected bike lanes).

236

I would like community development rules to favor walkable neighborhoods and business districts and more dense neighborhoods.

325

I would support the City in designing streets and traffic controls to lower vehicle emissions (e.g., design streets to reduce fast starts and stops, time traffic signals to reduce emissions and idling, etc.).

401

I would support citywide anti-idling policies (e.g. not letting vehicle engines run while not in motion) in an effort to improve air quality.

239

I would support the City using taxpayer dollars to install electric vehicle charging stations for the public at key locations in the city.

287

I would support the City in replacing its fleet vehicles with hybrid and electric vehicles.

376

Response Rate: 50.74%
I support the City in allocating more taxpayer dollars for: (select all that apply)

- Public buses: 318
- Sidewalks, crosswalks, trails, etc.: 391
- Bike lanes, trails, bike parking, protected bike lanes, etc.: 330
- None of the above: 64

Response Rate: 52.64%
I think the City should require all rental properties to meet energy efficiency standards that reduce energy bills (even if the cost of rent slightly increases).

I think the City should continue to adopt energy efficiency building codes that reduce energy bills (even if the new home costs slightly more to build/purchase).

I think it would be beneficial for me to know the energy score of a house before buying it.

I think the City should offer incentives for energy and water efficiency, solar readiness, and stormwater management that go beyond code.

I think all businesses over a certain size should be required to make their energy use publicly available.

I would support Water & Light in expanding incentives for customers switching from using gas to electricity.

I would support using taxpayer money to reduce the climate impact of City buildings and operations. City facilities should be examples of sustainable resource management.

I think how and where we build should take into account expected future climate conditions (increased heat, heavier rain events, etc.).

Response Rate: 49.58%
I would participate if the City offered a program to compost household food waste.

I would like a roll cart for trash and recycling.

I think my rates should be based on the amount of trash I throw away and recycling should be free.

I think multi-family and apartment complexes should be required to offer recycling on-site for residents.

I would support the City providing scheduled curbside collection of bulky items as part of my utility rate instead of a fee-for-pickup on demand.

I would support providing incentives to help divert or recycle construction materials through building relocation, deconstruction, or salvage.

I would support the City partnering or investing in processes that would divert usable items for reuse.

Response Rate: 63.74%
I would pay $5-$10 more per month for a subscription to local solar power generation (e.g. community solar program).

I think a community solar program should be available at lower cost to low- and moderate-income customers.

I would be willing to pay more for electricity at certain times of day (afternoon-evening) and less at other times in order to meet Climate Action & Adaptation Plan and

I would support Columbia Water & Light in establishing a goal for 100% renewable electricity by 2035 even if electricity costs 10-15% more.

I would support Columbia Water & Light in establishing a goal for 100% renewable electricity by 2035 even if electricity costs 30-50% more.

I think that the municipal utilities’ (Water & Light, Stormwater, Solid Waste, Sewer) strategic plans should help the community meet our climate action objectives.

I think the City should invest in innovative technologies that enhance renewable energy usage (e.g., energy storage, combined heat and power, microgrids, etc.).

I would support Columbia Water & Light burning wood waste at the municipal power plant to generate electricity.

I would support requiring all new residential and commercial buildings to install on-site solar energy.
I would support the Health Department developing and monitoring climate change-related illnesses and communicating the results to the community.

I would support anti-idling policies (e.g. not letting vehicle engines run while not in motion) citywide to improve air quality.

I would actively participate if the City developed programs that improve neighborhood resilience such as, workshops, events, manuals, etc. to develop neighborhood cohesion and readiness for emergency response.

I think the City should develop a sustainable funding source for utility assistance programs.

I think it would be useful and I would opt-in to a community-wide alert system that sends notifications of heat waves, poor air quality, vector-borne disease outbreaks, etc., and that directs residents to available resources.

I would support an ordinance requiring landlords to manage and mitigate mold and fungus in rental units.

Response Rate: 44.50%
I think increasing native tree cover on public and private property is a good idea.

I think the development code should require trees and vegetation to be planted to shade parking lots, streets, and sidewalks.

I think protecting soil and surface water quality, trees, and wildlife habitat should be prioritized during development activities.

I would support a water rate structure that encourages using less water.

I would support a change to the City weed ordinance to encourage the use of native plants in landscaping and lawns, understanding that yards might look different as a result.

I think the City should prioritize and invest in protecting and conserving natural habitats.

Response Rate: 57.40%
Do you have any concerns about how any of these potential actions could affect historically marginalized and vulnerable populations?

- Many people want to see more safe, affordable, energy efficient housing. Many people are concerned that associated costs will be passed on to the renter.

- Many people are concerned that particular actions could cause the cost of utilities to increase, which could affect historically marginalized and vulnerable populations.

- Some people feel that acting on climate change will only help historically marginalized and vulnerable populations.

- Some people mentioned an option to provide financial assistance for those struggling to pay for increasing utility costs.

- Some people did not understand the question or did not think it was an issue to be concerned about.

- A few people mentioned the need to target systematic changes rather than individual changes in order to combat this issue.

Response Rate: 40.17%
For the City actions where you have shown support, please indicate funding strategies you support: (check all that apply)

- I would be willing to pay more in taxes to support these initiatives. 461
- I would be willing to pay fees associated with specific services, programs, or activities to support these initiatives. 538
- I would be willing to pay higher utility rates to support these initiatives. 421
- The City should re-prioritize existing resources to pay for climate action. 532

Response Rate: 80.02%
Survey Respondent Demographics
Tell us from which of the following perspectives are you providing input: (select all that apply)

- I am a renter of a home or apartment in the City of Columbia: 19.76%
- I own a home or apartment in the City of Columbia: 66.62%
- I am a student: 12.17%
- I work in the city limits of Columbia: 55.50%
- I am a business owner in the City of Columbia: 10.08%
- I don't live or work in Columbia, but would like to provide feedback on the actions: 5.37%

Response Rate: 80.76%
Do you identify as...

Response Rate: 80.55%
What is your age?

Response Rate: 78.44%
If you live in the City of Columbia, in which ward do you live?

- Ward 1: 14.75%
- Ward 2: 10.47%
- Ward 3: 12.24%
- Ward 4: 32.30%
- Ward 5: 12.54%
- Ward 6: 10.47%
- I don't live in the City of Columbia: 3.10%
- I prefer not to answer: 4.13%

Response Rate: 71.67%
How many children under the age of 18 currently live in your home?

Response Rate: 77.27%
Do you have any other feedback on the goals, strategies, or this planning process?

- Many people thanked the City for embarking on this effort.
- Many people like the idea of implementing renewable energy sources, especially solar panels on homes.
- Many people are excited about the possibility of adding more curbside recycling options.
- Some people think the City should prioritize public transit.
- Some people voiced a concern that businesses and developers would oppose these policies or that the costs would be passed on to the community.
- A few people felt that the City should focus on crime and infrastructure before climate change.
- A few people voiced their opinion that climate change is a hoax.

Response Rate: 27.17%