

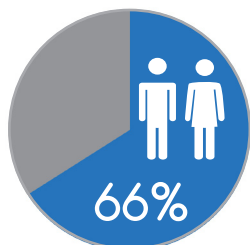
## — City Stats —



**70,136**  
copies of City  
Source printed  
each month on  
recycled paper



**221**  
informative  
articles  
published in  
2017



**66 percent** of citizen survey respondents said they would like to receive information about City issues from the City Source newsletter

### New City Source design

Welcome to the new City Source newsletter! You will still receive the reliable and accurate information about City business that we've been delivering for decades, but with a more modern look. City Source was redesigned by a team of three City employees over the course of several months researching, reviewing, and modifying design concepts and best practices. A special thanks to the Communications and Marketing Division of Community Relations. We hope you enjoy the new layout!

## PROP 1: Water Bond on Aug. 7, 2018 ballot

On Aug. 7, 2018, voters will decide whether to make water system improvements using bond funds. A simple majority is needed to pass this initiative.

### PURPOSE:

City of Columbia Water & Light is requesting \$42.845 million to be borrowed to pay for projects throughout the water service territory, the largest of which is \$23 million for Phase I improvements to the City's water treatment plant. The Phase I improvements will modernize the City's water treatment plant by adding additional reliability and safety elements. The remaining projects intended to be constructed with the bond funds are shown in the Water Bond Project List.

### USE OF BOND FUNDS:

Water & Light pays for large capital projects with a combination of cash and borrowed money. Historically voters are asked to approve bond financing every five years. The last election when bond funding was requested for water system upgrades was in 2008 for \$38 million. Borrowing money to pay for large-scale capital improvement projects spreads the cost of the projects over time so current and future users of the system pay for the improvements.

### RATE IMPACT:

If the bond issue passes, water customers will likely see a total 11 percent increase over a four-year period to cover bond payments: 3 percent in 2019, 3 percent in 2020, 3 percent in 2021 and 2 percent in 2022. When completed, the total impact of the 11 percent increase will be realized as approximately \$2.71 per month increase in the utility bill for the average residential customer. Taxes will not be impacted by this bond initiative. If the bond issue does not pass, project costs will be paid through rate increases in an amount sufficient to fund each project in its entirety prior to construction.

### BALLOT LANGUAGE:

Shall the City of Columbia, Missouri issue its Water and Electric System Revenue Bonds in the amount of \$42,845,000.00 for the purpose of extending, expanding, improving, repairing, replacing and equipping the City-owned waterworks system with the cost of operation and maintenance of said water and electric system and the principal of and interest on said revenue bonds to be payable solely from the revenues derived by the City from the operation of its water and electric system, including all future extensions and improvements thereto?

YES ( ) NO ( )

Paid for by the City of Columbia, Missouri. Mike Matthes, City Manager  
701 E. Broadway, P.O. Box 6015, Columbia, MO 65205



# PROP 1: Water Bond on Aug. 7, 2018 ballot

Proposition 1: Water Bond Project List	
System Modernization	Estimated Cost
Water Treatment Plant Upgrade Phase 1	\$23,000,000
West Ash Upgrades	\$3,000,000
Well Platforms	\$1,000,000
Subtotal	\$27,000,000
System Reliability	
Elevated Storage – Southwest	\$3,000,000
Pump Station – Southeast	\$3,200,000
Subtotal	\$6,200,000
Replacement of Existing Infrastructure	
Main Relocation Program for Streets and Highways	\$1,500,000
Water Main Replacement	\$3,750,000
Subtotal	\$5,250,000

Total for projects: ..... \$38,450,000  
Contingency fund: ..... \$500,000  
Bond issuance reserve requirement ..... \$3,895,000  
TOTAL BOND ISSUE: ..... \$42,845,000

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## Boards & Commissions

The City is accepting applications for the following:

- Application deadline is Aug. 3 at 5 p.m.**
- Board of Health
  - Historic Preservation Commission
  - Tax Increment Financing Commission

Applications and information about current vacancies are available online at **CoMo.gov** or at the City Clerk's Office. Call 573.874.7208 for more information.

## Community members encouraged to give budget feedback

Community members will have a chance to give feedback about the fiscal year 2019 proposed budget after it is presented by City Manager Mike Matthes to City Council in July. The Council will review the budget during a work session in August. There are also three public hearings scheduled for the community to provide feedback on the proposed budget: Aug. 20, Sept. 4 and Sept. 17. City Council is scheduled to vote on adopting the budget for the coming fiscal year on Sept. 17. The City encourages citizens to get involved with this process.

## Water irrigation tips

Up to 80 percent of all water use in the summer is outdoors on landscaping. However, one of the most common problems with landscaping is over watering. By using the water conservation techniques outlined below, you may be surprised by a better looking yard and lower water bills. You will also help the community by ensuring the availability of water during peak pumping periods. Most importantly, you are saving water for future generations.

### How much should I water?

- Lawns need only one inch of water per week; approximately three times a week for 20 minutes.
- Use a rain gauge or tuna can to accurately measure the amount of water

- your irrigation or sprinkler system delivers.
- Set a timer as a reminder to turn off the sprinkler.
  - Water in the early morning and try to avoid watering during the middle of the day and during windy conditions.

### Other easy ways to conserve water outdoors

- Don't irrigate the pavement; choose and adjust sprinklers to fit the lawn area.
- Mulch to retain moisture and prevent water-robbing weeds.
- Mow grass to a height of 2 1/2" with a sharp blade.
- Never use a hose to rinse off pavement; sweep leaves and grass clippings.

- Protect your water supply; make sure irrigation systems have backflow preventers.
- Try Xeriscaping plants for water efficiency—Check out the City's Xeriscaping demonstration at Twin Lakes.

### Reuse

Consider rain barrels to capture water from a roof and use it to water gardens or indoor plants. Collecting roof runoff in rain barrels also reduces the amount of water that flows from your property into storm drains. Using rain barrels is a great way to protect the environment, it's free water for use in your landscape and it helps extend the useful life of existing infrastructure.



## Community Policing Plan to be submitted to City Council

After several community policing meetings, City Manager Mike Matthes and Columbia Police Sergeant Robert Fox are finalizing the citywide Community Policing Plan that will be submitted to City Council next month. Dozens of citizens joined the discussions and provided suggestions about community policing and how they'd like to see it implemented in Columbia.

Fox encourages citizens who were unable to attend the meetings to provide feedback using an online survey. The survey will remain open until the end of July. It can be found by visiting [CoMo.gov](http://CoMo.gov).

## Please don't leave pets in hot cars

When the outside temperature reaches 70 degrees or warmer, please leave your pet at home.

Our Columbia/Boone County Animal Control officers would like to remind you about the dangers of summer heat for your pets. Specifically, when pets are left in parked vehicles while you are shopping, visiting friends or family or running errands. According to Jan Null from the Department of Geosciences at San Francisco State University, even at an outside air temperature of 70 degrees, the interior of a parked car can feel like 89 degrees in just 10 minutes, and 99 degrees in 20 minutes. Please note, the temperatures noted above in parked vehicles only occur when it is turned off (no air conditioning), and its windows are rolled up or cracked.

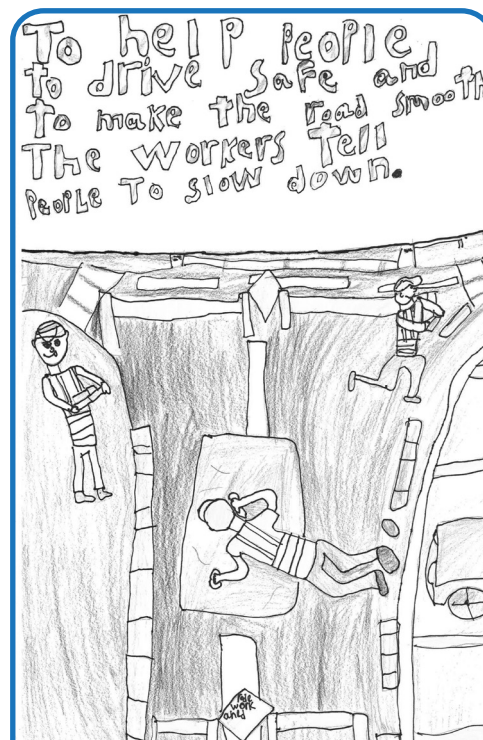
If you see a potential situation in Columbia or Boone County where a pet's health may be in danger inside a parked vehicle when outdoor temperatures are above 70 degrees, please call Animal Control at 573.449.1888. We will send an Animal Control officer to the location to assess the situation and determine the appropriate next steps for the future health of the animal.

## The Power of Public Works poster contest winners

To celebrate Public Works Week with our community, the Public Works Department held a poster contest for students from Columbia Public Schools to enter. Their mission was to illustrate the Power of Public Works, and their mission was accomplished!

We received entries showing what Public Works is all about, including street maintenance, public transit, parking and so much more. The grand prize winners are Arafa from Lee Expressive Arts Elementary School and Sonya from Ridgeway Elementary School. The honorable mentions are Elizabeth from Ridgeway Elementary School and Oliver from Two Mile Prairie Elementary School.

Arafa and Sonya received a \$50 gift card, and all four winners received a Power of Public Works t-shirt. In addition, all four posters will be displayed at various City locations. We are already looking forward to seeing next year's entries. Many thanks to everyone who entered our poster contest and illustrated the Power of Public Works.



The poster by Arafa, from Lee Expressive Arts Elementary School, illustrates the work Public Works crews do every day to make our roads safe.

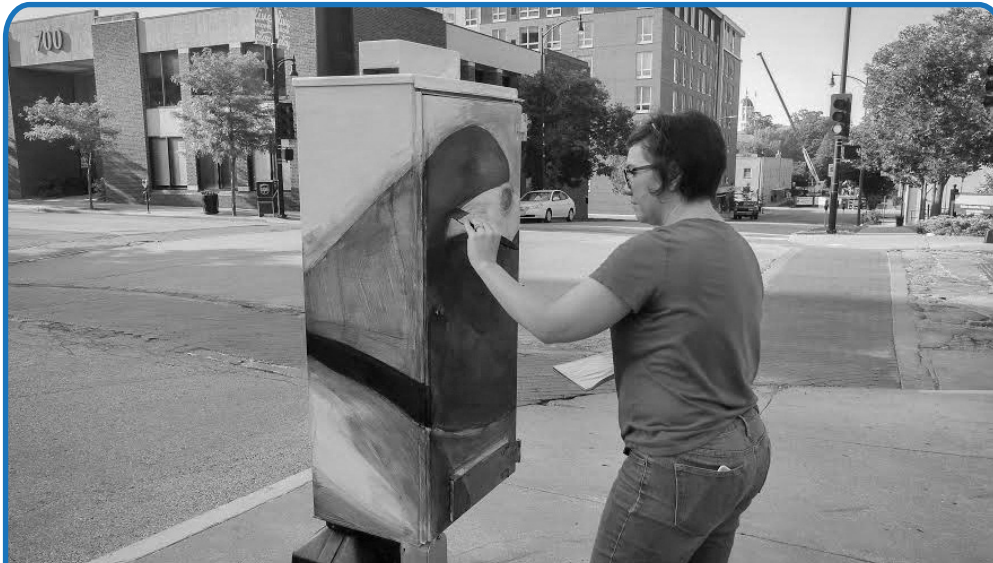


The poster by Sonya, from Ridgeway Elementary School, shows how the Power of Public Works helps make the City the best place to live, work, learn and play.

## Water & Light named Energy Star Partner of the Year

Columbia's Water & Light Utility Services Division received the Energy Star Partner of the Year Award. This prestigious accomplishment recognizes Water & Light for continuing to offer a quality Home Performance with Energy Star program (HPwES) to customers and for its ongoing efforts to reach more people and improve more homes. Within the framework of this national program, Utility Services focuses on the best ways to work with contractors, collect data, properly incentivize customers, provide quality assurance and accurately measure the savings. As a result, they have created a robust program that has improved thousands of homes and saved money on electric bills for thousands of residents. They have integrated many new energy efficiency incentives within the HPwES program and extended Home Performance concepts to more affordable options to ensure equitable access to energy efficiency programs. For more information, visit [ColumbiaPowerPartners.com](http://ColumbiaPowerPartners.com).

## New traffic box art in downtown Columbia



Amanda Harms paints her design on the traffic signal box at Seventh and Cherry streets. The completed project was dedicated in late June.

The traffic signal box at the corner of Seventh and Cherry streets joined our public art portfolio in June with a design by local artist Amanda Harms. The design was inspired by the nearby MKT railroad and features a speeding train traveling past Missouri's famous Dogwood blossoms. Harms' art will discourage graffiti and brighten the street for visitors and residents traveling downtown.

## City Council adopts Principles of Community

The Columbia City Council unanimously passed a resolution affirming and adopting the Principles of Community for the City of Columbia. Principles of Community is an aspirational statement and pledge that reflects the ideals we seek and embodies the City's commitment to creating a community that's inclusive of all citizens who have differing perspectives, identities and lived experiences.

These Principles of Community reflect the City's vision that Columbia is the best place for everyone to live, work, learn and play.

**WE AFFIRM** the inherent dignity and value of every person and strive to maintain a climate for work and learning based on mutual respect and understanding.

**WE AFFIRM** the right of each person to express thoughts and opinions freely. We encourage open expression within a climate of civility, sensitivity, and mutual respect.

**WE AFFIRM** the value of human diversity because it enriches our lives and our organizations. We acknowledge and respect our differences while affirming our common humanity.

**WE REJECT** all forms of prejudice and discrimination, including those based on age, color, diverse ability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, and veteran status. We take individual and collective responsibility for helping to eliminate bias, and discrimination and for increasing our own understanding of these issues through education, training, and interaction with others.

**WE PLEDGE** our collective commitment to incorporate these principles into the City of Columbia mission.

## Parks and Recreation Calendar

Call 573.874.7460  
for more information

### AUGUST

- 2 Stephens Lake Park  
Amphitheater Concert Series,  
BXR Acoustic Artist Showcase,  
7 p.m., **FREE**
- 8 New Leisure Times available
- 10 Movies in the Park, Coco, Cosmo  
Park, 8:30 p.m., **FREE**
- 12 Coolin' Down with the Blues,  
Douglass Park, 3-8 p.m., **FREE**
- 15 Family Fun Fest: Around the  
World, Cosmo Park, 6-8 p.m.,  
**FREE**
- 19 Kaleidospoke, Meet at Flat  
Branch Park, 7:30 p.m., \$15
- 24 Night Flight Glow Golf, L.A.  
Nickell Golf Course, 8:30 p.m.  
shotgun start
- 29 Neighborhood Park Block Party,  
Auburn Hills Park, 5:30-7:30  
p.m., **FREE**

## Barbecue safety tips

The men and women of the Columbia Fire Department encourage you to follow these barbecue tips to have a safe summer.

- If you have a propane grill, check all hoses for leaks by turning the gas on, spraying all hoses with soapy water and look for bubbles. If you do see bubbles, replace that hose.
- Keep your grill a safe distance from any structures or overhangs.
- Keep your grill clean of any excessive grease.
- Dispose of charcoal in a metal container with a tight fitting lid.
- Never leave your barbecue grill unattended.



## Climate Action Community Workshops



Members from the Mayor's Task Force for Climate Action and Adaptation Planning take notes at the May 22 Climate Action Community Workshop as community members discuss opportunities for protecting our natural resources.

On May 22, nearly 150 community members gathered to discuss climate change and the effects it will have on Columbia. This Climate Action Community Workshop was the first of three workshops where City staff, members of the Mayor's Task Force for Climate Action and Adaptation Planning, and our team of consultants meet with residents to discuss future goals and strategies for addressing climate change in Columbia.

The group spoke about climate trends in Columbia and how this plan can be used to help reduce our impact. With average temperatures rising and more severe weather and precipitation anticipated, Columbia residents discussed ways to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

During the visioning exercise, participants shared what they'd like Columbia to be in 2050. Some common themes include: a place that supports public transit, biking and walking; clean air and water; energy-efficient homes and buildings; carbon neutrality and renewable energy; health; green space; and zero waste.

Attendees gathered into small groups facilitated by Task Force members to take a deeper dive into specific sectors: health, safety and well-being; our built environment (transportation, housing, buildings and development); waste and energy; and natural resources (water, open space and agriculture), which will all be covered by the Plan.

The planning group knows that not everyone whose voice should be heard was able to attend the meeting. Community members are encouraged to provide comment at [CoMo.gov/Sustainability/Climate-Action](https://CoMo.gov/Sustainability/Climate-Action) or email us at [Sustainability@CoMo.gov](mailto:Sustainability@CoMo.gov). We are also available to come and speak at neighborhood meetings, church groups or wherever you find yourself in a group of people who want to talk. To attend the next Community Workshops, please follow us on Facebook @CoMoSustainability.



Residents gather to discuss ideas regarding our built environment at the May 22 Climate Action Community Workshop.

## Strategic Plan: Sharp End Entrepreneurial Development Fund

A new fund was created in Columbia to provide grants and small business loans for qualifying small businesses and startup businesses. The Sharp End Entrepreneurial Development Fund (EDF) was established with the Community Foundation of Central Missouri.

The goal of the Sharp End EDF is to provide opportunities for continuous, sustainable, economic growth and development for historically underrepresented business enterprises/owners. Additionally, the Sharp End EDF will work with these business owners to ensure they develop the necessary business skills for long-term business growth and sustainability.

Sharp End EDF has developed a working relationship with the lending institution Justine Petersen, which specializes in making micro- to medium-sized loans to small businesses in low- to moderate-income neighborhoods in Missouri and southern Illinois. They also have a major focus on credit building, providing an alternative to payday lending and utilizing entrepreneurship as a road to re-entry for ex-offenders.

Sharp End EDF will provide a grant packaged with a loan from Justine Petersen. The grant portion provided from Sharp End EDF will be used to fund technical assistance such as financial and accounting support, cash flow management, business planning, marketing as well as other specialized support designed to help these businesses understand sound business practices and build for future success.

The program is named Sharp End in honor of Columbia's historic site of businesses owned by African-Americans from the 1910s to the 1960s from Fifth Street to Sixth Street on Walnut Street.

This new Fund aligns with the City's 2016-2019 Strategic Plan priority of economy to create jobs that support families and social equity to improve the odds for success.

## Volunteer of the month: Steve Spellman



Steve Spellman

Steve Spellman began volunteering with the Columbia Parks and Recreation TreeKeepers program several years ago. After learning more about pruning and planting from the City forester, Spellman was happy to help with tree projects around town. Recently, he has moved near the Twin Lakes Recreation Area and has maintained a quarter-mile section of the MKT Trail over the past year.

After moving, Spellman donated a lot more time to beautifying the city.

"The work he has done has been tremendous and you can tell that he truly enjoys what he does," Volunteer Program Specialist Amber Olson said.

As a bike commuter, dog walker, and frequent trail user, Spellman was excited to adopt a portion of the MKT Trail near the lake, removing the invasive bush honeysuckle, vines, dead tree branches and trash.

"It is motivating to help clear the edges of trail of the ever-encroaching bushes, allowing sunlight to feed wildflowers and other native plants, as well as opening up trail-goers' views for scenic and safety benefits," he said.

Spellman uses this volunteering time to work at his own pace and enjoys the frequent well-wishes of passersby and the camaraderie of fellow trail adopters.

*Written by Laura Davis*

## Understanding Your Utility Bill: Sewer Rates

Utility Customer Service (UCS) often gets questions about how sewer rates are determined. Sewer charges are based on a customer's residential water consumption during the winter. This time period provides a true picture of interior water use when water consumption is not impacted by outdoor usage such as filling swimming pools and watering lawns. Sewer rates are reset every spring based on water consumption from November through March. The highest and lowest months are dropped and the remaining three are averaged to set the Winter Quarter Average, or WQA.

Each April, sewer charges are reset based on WQA. The sewer charge on your utility bill includes a base charge (\$12.25 for most residential customers inside the city limits) plus \$2.52 per centum cubic feet (CCF) of water, as determined by WQA. If your WQA is 2, for example, your sewer charge would be \$12.25 + \$5.04, for a total charge of \$17.29.

If you have any additional questions about this or any other charges on your bill, please call UCS at 573.874.7380.



### OUR VISION

*Columbia is the best place for everyone to live, work, learn and play.*

### OUR MISSION

*To serve the public through democratic, transparent and efficient government.*

### CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

#### MAYOR

Brian Treece  
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mayor@CoMo.gov

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CITY OF COLUMBIA  
**CONTACT CENTER**  
**573-874-CITY**  
CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH ANSWERS

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### CITY OF COLUMBIA

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