

# CITYSOURCE

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October 2017



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## City Council places local Use Tax on Nov. 7 ballot

On Aug. 21 City Council voted to place Proposition 1, a local Use Tax, on the Nov. 7, 2017 ballot. A local Use Tax is a tax that applies to purchases made from out-of-state vendors.

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT PROPOSITION 1

#### **I already pay Sales Tax, is this the same thing?**

No. The Sales Tax applies to purchases made at retail within Missouri, while the Use Tax applies to purchases made from out-of-state vendors. Purchases cannot fall into both groups and therefore a purchase would not be taxed twice.

#### **What is the Use Tax rate?**

The Use Tax is imposed at the same rate as the total local Sales Tax rate, currently two percent (2%). If the local Sales Tax rate is reduced or raised by voter approval, the local Use Tax rate shall also be reduced or raised by the same action.

#### **How is the Use Tax reported?**

Businesses report their use tax quarterly to the State of Missouri. If the business does not collect the tax, the consumer is responsible for self-reporting purchases subject to the Use Tax exceeding two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) in a calendar year to the Missouri Department of Revenue. Residents self-report annually on their taxes due every April 15. This is not a new reporting obligation imposed by Proposition 1. The reporting requirement is currently in existence for the State Use Tax of 4.225%.

#### **How much will the City of Columbia receive from a local Use Tax?**

The Missouri Department of Revenue issues public information reports for Use Tax taxable sales and purchases by locality. From 2007 to 2016, the yearly average Use Tax taxable sales and purchases for Columbia was approximately \$45 million. Using the two percent (2%) local tax rate, the Use Tax revenue that Columbia would have received each year from 2007 to 2016 would have been approximately \$900,000.

#### **Why is this important to City of Columbia's residents?**

The Use Tax levels the playing field for local businesses who are required to pay the local Sales Tax. With no local Use Tax in place, consumers have an incentive to purchase items from out-of-state vendors instead of buying locally. This costs the city local jobs and tax revenue because millions of dollars are sent out of our state and local economy. The City of Columbia needs to maintain this revenue stream for vital City services such as: public safety (police and fire), roads and sidewalks.

#### **Do other Missouri cities have a Use Tax?**

Yes. Approximately half of all Missouri cities with populations of 2,000 or more already have a Use Tax in place. The City of Columbia does not. Large cities with a Use Tax are Kansas City, St. Louis and Springfield. Cities in the mid-Missouri area with a Use Tax are Boonville, Moberly and Fayette.

For more information, including the official ballot language and additional details for businesses, visit the City of Columbia website at [CoMo.gov/usetax/](http://CoMo.gov/usetax/) or the Missouri Department of Revenue at [dor.mo.gov/business/sales](http://dor.mo.gov/business/sales).

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

## Commemorative Poster 2017

The 2017 City of Columbia Commemorative Poster has been unveiled. Each year, an artist's work is selected to communicate the vitality and beauty of mid-Missouri and the significance of the arts. This year's poster features a photograph entitled "The Champion" by Svetlana Grobman.

"Having come from a big city, I found life in Columbia very different," Grobman said. "I found something that I never before realized I was missing. I found nature. Many Columbians know Missouri's oldest and largest bur oak near McBaine. In the early spring, when the oak stands dark and bare, small purple henbit wildflowers sprout all around it and cover the ground with a colorful blanket as a symbol of spring and the eternal conflict between old and new."

Posters can be purchased for \$15 at the Office of Cultural Affairs, 300 S. Providence Road. Poster sponsored by Commerce Bank.



*Svetlana Grobman | The Champion | Photography*

Reduce, Reuse, Repair!

# FIX-IT FAIR



Saturday, Nov. 11 from 1 to 4 p.m.  
Columbia Public Library,  
Friends Room

## Reduce, Reuse, Repair FIX-IT FAIR

Saturday, Nov. 11 from 1-4 p.m.  
Columbia Public Library, Friends Room

Fixing items instead of throwing them away can help conserve resources, reduce waste and save money. Ripped clothing, malfunctioning electronics, squeaky bikes or broken small appliances are just a few examples.

Learn how to repair instead of replace everyday items at the first ever Fix-it Fair. Expert volunteers will be on hand to assist with repairs. Residents are asked to bring only one item that can be carried in (no microwaves, CRT monitors or large appliances). Residents who plan to attend are encouraged to email [mmswmd@CoMo.gov](mailto:mmswmd@CoMo.gov) and list what they plan to bring to ensure the necessary equipment and expertise is available at the event.



## Recognizing local businesses for efforts in sustainability

The Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement (MCPA) Awards application is now open. Each year the City of Columbia's Office of Sustainability recognizes local businesses and organizations that take action in their own operations to reduce environmental impacts, champion sustainable practices and promote an eco-friendly culture.

Winners will be announced in April and awards will be given in the categories of Environmental Stewardship, Pollution Prevention, Resource Conservation and Innovative Best Practices. Applications are being accepted now through Dec. 31 and may be submitted by anyone: customers, clients, partners, etc. Business owners and employees may also self-nominate. Visit

[CoMo.gov/sustainability/awards/](http://CoMo.gov/sustainability/awards/) for more information and to apply.

## Boards & Commissions

The City is accepting applications for the following:

**Application deadline is Nov. 3 at 5 p.m.**

- Airport Advisory Board
- Columbia Vision Commission
- Community Land Trust Organization Board
- Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness and Health

Applications and information about current vacancies are available online at [CoMo.gov](http://CoMo.gov) or at the City Clerk's office. Call 573-874-7208 for more information.

## Street Talk: 2017 spring/ summer road maintenance report

Summertime means construction to improve infrastructure and enhance the longevity of the streets in Columbia. Below is a breakdown of the construction performed in spring and summer:

### April - September 2017:

Type of Work ... **Lane Miles**

Milling and/or Asphalt Overlay ... **26**

Surface Sealing ... **22.74**

Asphalt Rejuvenators ... **8.82**

Chip Seal ... **48.23**

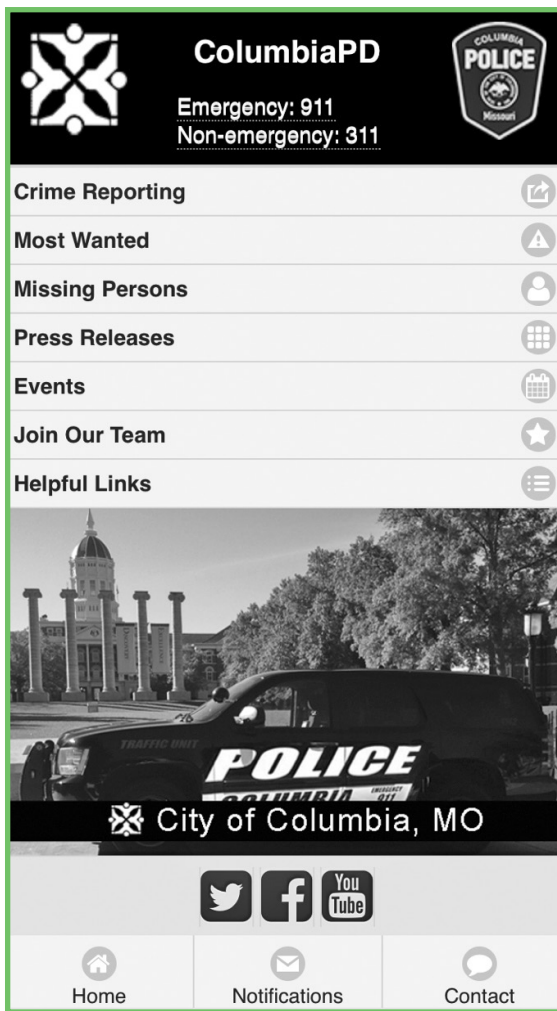
"We milled and overlaid the same number of lane miles as last year but were able to increase the amount of preventative maintenance, which includes chip seal, surface sealing and asphalt rejuvenators," Pavement Engineer Seth Nelson said.

Crews also sealed an estimated 40 lane miles of cracks, repaired or replaced 350 street signs, used 3,300 gallons of paint and 1,100 pounds of glass beads for line striping and used 46 tons of pothole repair mix.

This was in addition to their ongoing work of mowing 145 miles of right of way, clearing hazardous storm debris from Columbia's roads, responding to flooding, assisting with special events and street sweeping.

Details about street maintenance such as asphalt overlay, chip seal, surface sealing and rejuvenators are available at [CoMo.gov/PublicWorks](http://CoMo.gov/PublicWorks). The 2017 Columbia Pavement Management Plan is also available online. Anyone wishing to report critical road work needs, such as potholes, major cracks, heat buckles or missing/damaged street signs, are encouraged to call 573-874-2489 or [pubw@CoMo.gov](mailto:pubw@CoMo.gov).





## Columbia Police Department launches mobile app

A new app will allow Columbia citizens direct access to police services at the tap of a button. The app, ColumbiaPD Mobile, is a collaborative effort between the Columbia Police Department and the City of Columbia Information Technology Department to give users access to the latest CPD news, notifications, and crime reporting options from any mobile device, no matter where the user is.

Users can also connect with the department on social media using the app, including Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

### Features of ColumbiaPD Mobile include:

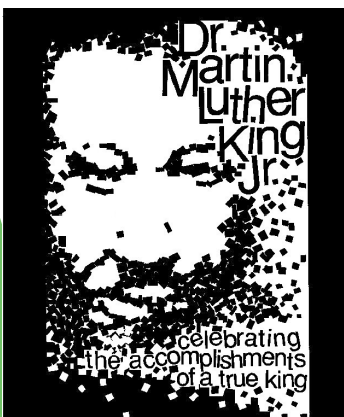
- Press Releases
- Crime Reporting
- Notifications
- Events
- Most Wanted
- Missing Persons
- Join Our Team
- Videos
- Helpful Links

Additionally, the City also offers apps for recycling and trash, trails, bus maps, L.A. Nickell and Lake of the Woods golf courses, Parkmobile, public art guide, Visit Columbia and a City of Columbia app. All apps are available for **FREE** download from the Apple Store or the Google Play Store. To learn more about City apps, visit [CoMo.gov/mobile](http://CoMo.gov/mobile).

## Live chat now available on CoMo.gov

Have a question about a City webpage? Need to request a special trash pickup and have questions regarding the specifications? Well, now citizens can live chat with a helpful Contact Center customer service representative who can answer questions and take service requests.

With live chat available on [CoMo.gov](http://CoMo.gov), getting questions answered about City information has never been easier. Offering live chat to website viewers offers more options for citizens to interact with the City of Columbia. To chat with a customer service representative, simply visit [CoMo.gov](http://CoMo.gov) and click the button on the bottom right corner of the page that says "Chat live with an agent now" and a chat box will appear. The chat option is available during business hours, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.



## Columbia Values Diversity Awards

Help celebrate diversity in the community by nominating an individual, family, organization or group for the 21st annual Columbia Values Diversity Awards. This is a great way to show appreciation for those who have had a significant impact promoting diversity and cultural understanding.

These awards will be presented at the 25th annual Columbia Values Diversity Celebration on Jan. 11, 2018, recognizing people whose work exemplifies the life and teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., by fostering individual dignity, racial equality, understanding, peacemaking and solving problems through non-violence. Two awards will be presented: one individual/family award and one organization/group award.

The deadline for nominations is Nov. 27, 2017. Nomination forms are available by contacting the City of Columbia Office of Cultural Affairs at 573-874-6386 or by visiting [CoMo.gov](http://CoMo.gov) (Search: Diversity Celebration).



## Flu shot season



### **Columbia resident receives a flu shot at Columbia/Boone County Public Health and Human Services.**

Beginning in late September, all individuals six months and older can visit the Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services, 1005 W. Worley, for an annual flu vaccine. No appointment is needed Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Flu shots are **FREE** for all children ages 6 months to 18 years thanks to our generous partners, the University of Missouri Children's Hospital and the David B. Lichtenstein Foundation. The price for ages 19 and older depends on insurance coverage.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends getting a flu vaccine before the flu begins spreading in your community. Make plans to get vaccinated early in the fall. The CDC recommends that people get a flu vaccine by the end of October.

## Code Corner – rental compliance

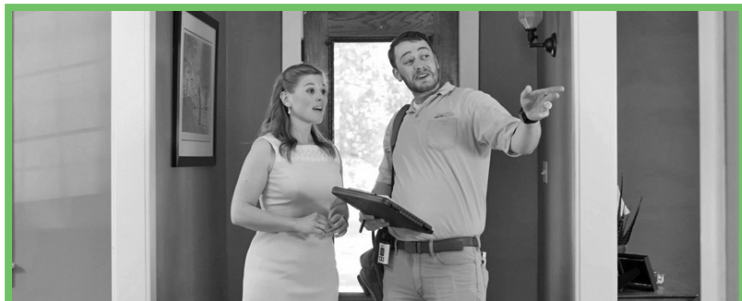
The City of Columbia adopted the Rental Unit Conservation Law in the late 1970s to ensure healthy and safe living conditions for renters. Currently, the City has more than 10,000 buildings and 27,600 units in compliance with the program.

Any living unit where rent is being collected needs to be in compliance with the law—this includes someone renting a room in a house or a vacation rental. To find out if a property is in compliance with Columbia's ordinance, or to learn about registering a property, contact the Office of Neighborhood Services at 573-817-5050 or [neighborhood@CoMo.gov](mailto:neighborhood@CoMo.gov).

## Human Rights Commission celebrates anniversaries

The City of Columbia established a Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations in 1961. Although the ordinances establishing the Commission have changed over time, the Commission remains dedicated to eliminating discrimination in our community and to promoting fair treatment of all persons.

The City of Columbia noted significant anniversaries this year. Twenty-five years ago, the City Council approved ordinance changes to provide protection from discrimination based upon sexual orientation. Twenty years ago, the City established its Disabilities Commission to further accessibility for all of the city's residents. Both the Human Rights Commission and the Disabilities Commission show the City of Columbia's long-term commitment to building a community in which all persons are valued. These long standing values form the basis for the City's 2016-2019 Strategic Plan.



### COLUMBIA WATER & LIGHT OFFERS



REBATES  
AND

LOW-INTEREST LOANS



to help finance your home  
energy efficiency improvements.

**ColumbiaPowerPartners.com**  
**573-874-7325**

## Parks & Recreation Calendar

Call 573-874-7460 for more information.

### NOVEMBER

- 18** Homeless Youth Awareness Month  
Dodgeball Tournament, Armory Sports  
Center, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., \$75 per team

## Now accepting Howard B. Lang, Jr. Award nominations

It's time to nominate deserving persons to receive the annual Howard B. Lang, Jr. Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service to the City of Columbia.

Howard Lang was Mayor of Columbia from 1953-1957 and made a positive difference for our city. Columbia now has hundreds of volunteers with a similar volunteer spirit and dedication, who make a positive difference for Columbia in their own way.

The recipient of the Lang Award will receive \$1,000 (which may be designated to a project, program or charity of her/his choice) and an engraved plaque.

Please consider nominating someone who serves Columbia as a volunteer through its departments, services or programs. Such a person may be a member of a City board or commission, an unpaid elected official or other individual who volunteers for the City of Columbia. The recipient will be chosen based on her/his impact, initiative and length of service.

Nomination forms can be found at [CoMo.gov](http://CoMo.gov); search for "Lang Award Nomination Form." Click, print and return to the address noted on the form. The deadline for nominations is Jan. 19, 2018.

Questions can be directed to Trust Administrator John Baker at 573-817-5027 or [john.baker@CoMo.gov](mailto:john.baker@CoMo.gov).



Call the City Contact Center for all  
City questions.



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

Follow the City of Columbia on Facebook or Twitter at @CoMoGov. Find us online at CoMo.gov.

### VISIT US DOWNTOWN

City of Columbia, Missouri  
City Hall  
701 E. Broadway  
Columbia, Mo 65205

## RECYCLING FACTS TO KNOW

### SOLID WASTE

"Dual Stream" means fibers and containers must be kept separate.

### SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES WITH CURBSIDE COLLECTION

The City of Columbia issues vouchers to residents which may be redeemed for recycling and trash bags at: Gerbes, Hy-Vee, Menard's, Moser's, Schnuck's and Westlakes Ace Hardware.

Vouchers arrive in the mail in January and June or roughly 3 weeks after beginning utility service. Call WasteZero, Inc. at 800-866-3954 to request additional blue bags.

### CONTAINERS GO IN THE BLUE BAGS

- All rigid PLASTICS (#1-7), except styrofoam and plastic bags
- GLASS bottles and jars
- ALUMINUM cans
- TIN/Metal food cans

### FIBERS GO INTO PAPER BAG OR CARDBOARD BOX

- Cardboard (flattened)
- Office Paper
- Newspaper
- Mail (paper envelopes, magazines)
- Paperboard or Chipboard (cereal/cracker boxes)

### MULTI-FAMILY HOMES WITHOUT CURBSIDE COLLECTION

Recyclable materials must be separated into containers and fibers. Several apartment complexes have a designated weekday and location for a recycle dumpster, however, residents without on-site recycle dumpsters should drop off recyclables at one of Columbia's 12 Drop-Off Centers into the designated fiber and container bins.

### HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW)

Products that are flammable, combustible, explosive, reactive, corrosive or toxic are considered hazardous and are NOT collected curbside. Signal words include DANGER, POISON, WARNING or CAUTION.

Columbia residents should dispose and recycle their hazardous waste for no cost at the HHW Collection Facility: 1313 Lakeview Avenue, Columbia, MO 65201

Open the first and third Saturdays, April through November 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Follow @ColumbiaRecycle on Facebook and download the COMO Recycle and Trash app to sign up for collection reminders, special notifications and instant access to the Waste Wizard feature.



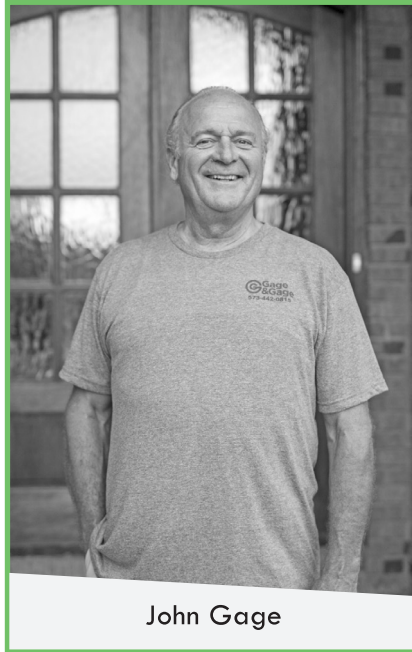
CUT ALONG LINE

## Volunteer of the Month—John Gage

In the 1997 class of Leadership Columbia, John Gage met Kenny Greene. At that moment, Tai Chi became part of John's life. John's experience in learning Traditional Chinese Medicine enables him to help himself and those around him. As a result, John joined the City of Columbia Volunteer Programs to become a volunteer Qigong instructor for the Columbia Parks and Recreation Community Recreation Program located at the Armory. John believes that, "in giving we receive," and that, "the life energy in our body can be calm to erratic." We make the difference and so our choices matter. That's why John chooses to help others through life's energy experience of Qigong.

John's passion for Qigong and teaching others has been a great resource for the community. Community Recreation Supervisor Camren Cross said because John gives him time every week he is able to provide a healthy activity at no cost to Columbia residents. John can be found at the Armory teaching Tai Chi every Tuesday and Thursday at 8:30 a.m. We thank John for his years of dedicated service to our city.

To learn more about volunteering with the City of Columbia, visit our website at [CoMo.gov/volunteer](http://CoMo.gov/volunteer) or contact us by phone at 573-874-7499 or [volunteer@CoMO.gov](mailto:volunteer@CoMO.gov).



John Gage

## Contact Center Connections



Contact Center Customer Service Representative Hannah takes a citizen's call.

Did you know that you can call one number for all City services? A helpful customer service representative who is also a Certified Tourism Ambassador can answer your questions, take your request or identify the City expert that can assist you. Call 573-874-CITY (2489) today!

## Progress As Promised: McKee Street Park improvements

Columbia Parks and Recreation has completed improvements at McKee Street Park, 1900 McKee St. The 4.7-acre park is located in the City of Columbia's Strategic Plan East Neighborhood.

Park improvements include: a new small shelter, replacement of the 25-year-old playground equipment, ADA walkway improvements, additional lighting around the playground and shelter, and the replacement of the pedestrian bridge, which provides access to the basketball court and open playfield.

Parks and Recreation held public meetings and conducted an online survey to obtain feedback on what citizens would like to see at the park.

Funding for McKee Street Park improvements came from the voter-approved Park Sales Tax.



The City does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, marital status, disability, familial status, sexual orientation or gender identity.

City of Columbia  
701 E. Broadway • Columbia, Mo 65205  
573-874-7111 • CoMo.gov

**MAYOR**  
**Brian Treece**

## CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

<i>First Ward</i>	<b>Clyde Ruffin</b>
<i>Second Ward</i>	<b>Michael Trapp</b>
<i>Third Ward</i>	<b>Karl Skala</b>
<i>Fourth Ward</i>	<b>Ian Thomas</b>
<i>Fifth Ward</i>	<b>Matt Pitzer</b>
<i>Sixth Ward</i>	<b>Betsy Peters</b>
<i>City Manager</i>	<b>Mike Matthes</b>



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