



— City Stats —

Below are data
from Columbia Police
about local thefts in 2019

Thefts from vehicles
548 reports



Thefts from buildings
340 reports

Average
stolen
value
\$1,566



All theft of personal
property reported
2,431



Changes to Solid Waste beginning Feb. 1

Beginning Feb. 1, all material placed on the curb for Solid Waste collection must be in City-provided trash bags with a City of Columbia logo. Residents will receive vouchers for the equivalent of two bags per week with extra refuse bags available for a fee.

Bags left curbside for pickup should weigh 50 pounds or less. According to calculations, Solid Waste crews pick up 40 pounds of refuse per household per week. The two bags under the new regulations allow for 100 pounds per household each week.

Columbia residents will receive vouchers for refuse bags (26 bags per roll) in January and June. Vouchers can be redeemed at the same retailers that currently offer City bags. The City will not exchange old bags for the new logoed bags.

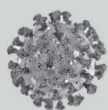
There is no limit to the number of bags placed curbside for pickup, as long as they are the City-issued bags with the City logo. If needed, residents can purchase additional bags in rolls of five for \$10. The charge for the additional bags acts as a usage fee where customers throwing away more garbage will pay a higher rate. The \$2-per-bag fee will cover extra costs, including the landfill disposal fee, employee salaries and vehicle maintenance.

The new guidelines continue a refocus in Solid Waste collection approved by the City Council in September. In November, the Solid Waste Utility stopped picking up items that were not in garbage bags and began charging for bulk-item pickup.

The Solid Waste Utility designed the new regulations with the intent of limiting the volume of trash and encouraging residents to reduce, reuse and recycle. For example, old clothes or books can be donated rather than be taken to the landfill and yard waste can be taken to one of the City's Yard Waste Drop-off Centers. You can find addresses for Recycling Drop-off Centers and Yard Waste Drop-off Centers by visiting [CoMo.gov/Utilities/SolidWaste](https://www.como.gov/utilities/solidwaste).

WasteZero, the current vendor for the City's refuse and recycling bags, estimates a reduction of 6,000 tons of garbage going to the landfill per year, thanks to the new regulations.

Residents will also still receive vouchers for blue recycle bags (54 for the year) though the Solid Waste Utility does not have an estimated date for when it will resume curbside recycling pick up. Residents can download the [COMO Recycle and Trash app](#) for collection day reminders and service notifications.



Coronavirus (COVID-19) Official Information
Visit [CoMo.gov/Coronavirus](https://www.como.gov/coronavirus)

Letter from City Manager John Glascock



Columbia City Manager John Glascock (right) chats with Former City Manager Ray Beck at the groundbreaking for the new terminal at Columbia Regional Airport.

Happy New Year!

I know many people are happy to leave 2020 behind us as it was a very difficult year. As we turn the page on 2020 and enter a new year, it's important to remember that we still need to remain vigilant when it comes to COVID-19 precautions. Just because the year is over doesn't mean the virus has gone away. Please continue to follow all health orders, wash your hands and social distance.

I want to give my sincere thanks to everyone who continues to do good in our community. Everyone plays a part in your own way if that's through the work you do, your volunteer activities, raising your family, shopping in our local stores and more. We will get through this hard time together.

In 2021, I hope for positive outcomes in our community, including decreasing COVID-19 cases and deaths, increased job opportunities for our residents and more community collaboration.

I wish you health and happiness in this new year.

John
Columbia City Manager

Street Talk: Phase one complete of Nifong Boulevard Corridor project



Phase one of the Nifong Boulevard Corridor project was completed in late 2020. The final phase of the project is scheduled to be completed by fall of 2021.

Phase one of the estimated two year Nifong Boulevard Corridor, Forum Boulevard Improvement project has been completed as of November 2020. Crews began working on striping and pavement marking in preparation of opening the intersection. Phase two will improve the Nifong Boulevard and Bethel Street intersection including improved accessibility along Nifong Boulevard from South Providence Road to Bethel Street with an estimated completion in fall 2021.

This improvement added an additional left turn lane in three directions and an additional through lane in each direction on Nifong Boulevard. Pedestrian signals have been upgraded to meet current ADA requirements. Further improvements include bike lanes, sidewalks and intersection improvements. The project also includes a new traffic signal at the new intersection of Nifong Boulevard and Aurora Drive.

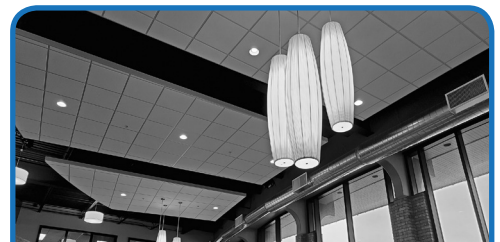
A public hearing for the project was held Jan. 16, 2018. The investment for the project is \$12,300,300 funded by the 2015 Capital Improvement Sales Tax. For more information, visit [CoMo.gov/PublicWorks/Nifong-Corridor-And-Forum](https://www.co.mo.gov/PublicWorks/Nifong-Corridor-And-Forum).

City offers Lighting Incentive Program

Join City of Columbia Utilities' efforts to reduce electric loads by being paid to increase lighting efficiency in commercial and industrial businesses. By taking advantage of our Commercial Lighting Incentive Program you can improve the lighting, reduce time and money spent on maintenance, achieve significant reductions in energy use, and receive a rebate for \$300 per kilowatt reduced or up to one-half of the project cost.

Lighting can represent 10 to 25% of a business's total energy use. Upgrades can make a real difference on your electric costs. Upgrades can also improve the quality of the lighting. This makes your product look more appealing and improves the working environment.

For more information, visit [ColumbiaPowerPartners.com](https://www.columbiapowerpartners.com) or call 573.874.CITY (2489).



True Media. Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement Awards winner in 2018.

Progress as Promised: Lions-Stephens Park renovations



Renovations were recently completed at Lions-Stephens Park, 104 N. William St.

Columbia Parks and Recreation has completed another renovation project funded by the voter-approved 2015 Park Sales Tax ballot issue.

Improvements at the 6.8-acre Lions-Stephens Park, 104 N. William St., include a new shelter, playground, water fountain, bike racks and ADA walkways. The former shelter at the park was more than 37 years old and the playground was approximately 27 years old.

Parks and Recreation staff have planned a series of park renovation projects in

response to the 2015 citizen survey. Seventy-two percent of respondents stated that City officials should place a high priority on maintaining the condition of Columbia's parks, trails and recreation facilities.

The total investment of the Lions-Stephens Park renovations was \$100,000. Staff gained public feedback through an online survey and interested parties meetings with the neighborhood.

For more information, please contact Parks and Recreation at 573.874.7460.

Code Corner: Trash compliance

In November, the City's rules related to trash pickup changed. Trash for curbside residential collection must be in bags. Bundled items are no longer picked up and bulky items must be scheduled for a special pickup.

Neighborhood Services is supporting the Solid Waste Utility in enforcement of the new trash collection system. Residents may be contacted by our staff if items need to be removed from the curb or scheduled for bulky items trash pickup. Failure to comply with City ordinance may result in prosecution in Municipal Court. For questions contact the City at 573.874.CITY (2489).

Keep your utility account current

Utility Customer Services would like to remind customers that keeping current with utility payments will prevent delinquent shut-offs.

Per City Ordinance 27-21 (h), services may be disconnected for nonpayment when temperatures are above 32 degrees or below 90 degrees. Disconnections are based on actual, not forecasted, temperatures. Before utilities are shut off for non-payment, please call 573.874.7380 or visit the Utility Customer Service office in City Hall.

Payment agreements are easily done for eligible accounts. Register for the customer portal at [MyUtilityBill.Como.gov/register](https://myutilitybill.como.gov/register) to help stay on top of your utility bill. Once you are registered you can see your bills, check due dates, track your usage and find links to other utility services.

Contact Center Connection

Looking for more ways to connect the City of Columbia? Download the MyCOMO app from the App store or Google Play Store. Look up meetings, report an issue and check out the latest City information on the [MyCOMO app](#).

Parks and Recreation Events

Columbia Parks and Recreation is modifying and adding to the list of community special events to ensure compliance with Columbia/Boone County Public Health and Human Services orders and social distancing guidelines. For current information, please visit CoMo.gov/ParksAndRec or call 573.874.7460. You may also visit the Parks and Recreation Facebook page at facebook.com/ComoParksandRec.



Research finds that greener play areas boost children's immune systems due to exposure to microbial diversity.

Board and commission vacancies

The City is accepting applications for the following boards, commissions or task forces:

Application deadline is Feb. 5 at 5 p.m.

- Commission on Human Rights
- Public Transit Advisory Commission
- University of Missouri Extension Council of Boone County

Boards and commissions are a way for residents to be involved in local government and to represent the voices of their fellow community members. Applications and information about current vacancies are available online at CoMo.gov. Call 573.874.7208 for more information.

Volunteer of the Month: Ed Kaiser

Volunteer Columbia celebrates 25 years of connecting residents to service opportunities in local government in 2021. Throughout the year, we will highlight the efforts of long-time volunteers.

After an attempt to get into the Air Force, Ed Kaiser subconsciously found himself being a volunteer officer in the Columbia Police Reserves. The reserves were a diverse force of 40 dedicated volunteers serving their community.

Through the Police Reserves, Ed met a battalion chief with the Columbia Fire Department who requested Ed accompany him on an inspection tour for his company to look for hazardous materials. Ed realized storage and disposal of hazardous materials was an issue that needed a solution immediately.

After being made aware of extremely harmful hazardous materials in local buildings, it dawned on him the possible hazardous materials in homes. This concern led him to pen a letter to the City of Columbia.

With his "Ivory tower" experience as he explained (thanks to his Ph.D. in organic chemistry from Purdue University) Ed made it a priority to teach firefighters about hazardous materials. Ed then developed a program for residents to dispose of their hazardous materials in cooperation with the City's Solid Waste Utility. Household Hazardous Waste collection, developed by Ed, accepts your materials on the first and third Saturday mornings, April through November, at the Grissum Building, 1313 Lakeview Ave.

In approaching the 25th anniversary of Volunteer Columbia, Ed responded: "To thine own self be true...". Ed and his wife, Judy, have visited all seven continents. Congratulations to Ed Kaiser on this honor and thanks for your impact as a volunteer.

Written by volunteer Maggie Brown



Ed Kaiser at a Household Hazardous Waste collection event.



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
573.874.7222

mayor@CoMo.gov

WARD 1

Pat Fowler
573.256.6841

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WARD 2

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WARD 4

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WARD 5

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ward5@CoMo.gov

WARD 6

Betsy Peters
573.874.7812

ward6@CoMo.gov

CITY MANAGER

John Glascock
573.874.7214

cmo@CoMo.gov

Personal property inventory tracking

The Columbia Police Department encourages all community members to keep a list of your personal property. You can do this by registering your property with **ReportIt.LeadsOnline.com**. This service will safely and securely store important information that could be useful in identifying or recovering your property in the event that it is stolen or damaged/lost in a natural disaster. By storing the information in one central digital location you would be able to view that information anywhere as long as you have access to the internet.

The service is free and allows residents to record serial numbers and upload images for everything from jewelry, sporting equipment, firearms, electronics, designer clothing, collectibles and other items with invaluable personal worth. Community members can store an unlimited number of serial numbers, item descriptions, pictures and scans of receipts.

To participate in Report It, register for the free service at **ReportIt.LeadsOnline.com** and begin building your personal property inventory list.



The City of Columbia does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, familial status, receipt of governmental assistance, alienage or citizenship status, status as a victim of sexual or domestic violence or order of protection status.

CITY OF COLUMBIA

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573.874.CITY (2489) • CoMo.gov



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