

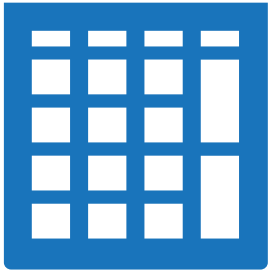
— City Stats —

The City of Columbia began fiscal year 2021 on Oct. 1 after the budget was approved by City Council.

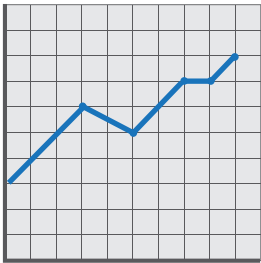
The FY 2021 budget includes:

\$470,631,436

total
estimated
expenditures



48 budgets divided over
seven focus areas



1,463.85
permanent City employees



Changes to Solid Waste curbside collection

At the City Council's regular meeting on Sept. 21, council approved changes to the curbside collection of residential refuse, some of which will occur beginning Monday, Nov. 2, 2020.

All material placed at the curb for collection must be in trash bags. At this time, any manufactured trash bag is acceptable, however, be aware that early next year, trash bags with city logos will be the only acceptable bag for curbside collection. Additional information on that change will be issued in early winter.

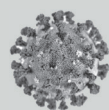
Bundled items, such as tree limbs, etc., and items in disposable containers (dog food bags, potting soil bags, etc.) will not be collected and will be left at the curb with a sticker/note indicating the item was not placed in a bag for collection. The customer is responsible for removing any tagged item from the curb and making arrangements for the proper disposal of the item(s).

Bulky items will no longer be collected on a customer's scheduled collection day. The collection of bulky items and appliances will need to be requested and scheduled a minimum of one week in advance. Each residential customer will receive one scheduled bulky item collection at no charge each calendar year. Additional requests for bulky item pickup will be charged at a rate of \$21.50 for an individual item and \$5.00 for each additional item collected at the same time. Appliances with refrigerant will be charged at \$29 per item and appliances without refrigerant will be charged at \$21.50 per item. Customers must provide a minimum of 24-hour notice to cancel a bulky item or appliance pickup or the collection charge will be included on the next utility bill.

Bulky items are defined as normal household items that will not fit in a refuse bag. This would include items such as chairs, sofas, tables, mattress, box springs, etc. Specifically prohibited items are materials resulting from the erection, destruction or remodeling of a building, felled trees, large automobile parts, hazardous materials, etc.

Requests for bulky item pickups and appliance collections can be made by calling 573.874.CITY (2489), online at [CoMo.gov](https://www.comogov.com), or the MyCoMo app available in the App Store or Google Play Store.

Information on changes to residential curbside refuse collection are also available on the City website, [CoMo.gov/Utilities](https://www.comogov.com/Utilities) and via the CoMo Recycling and Trash app available on [CoMo.gov](https://www.comogov.com) via the CoMobile Apps link at the top of the page.



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



CPD encourages you to be on alert for scammers this holiday season

As the holiday season approaches it is important that residents stay on alert for scammers.

In the past few months, the Columbia Police Department has seen an increase in telephone scams where the caller identifies as a police officer or other law enforcement official. The caller may indicate that you have a warrant for your arrest or that a loved one needs money to be bailed out of jail.

Scammers are able to “spoof” official phone numbers, which means the number is falsely identified as a local number. This makes it more likely that the receiver will believe that it is a valid call.

It is important to note that neither Columbia Police nor any other law enforcement agency will ever contact anyone to request payment for something over the phone under any circumstances.

Remember to never give out any personal or financial information such as credit card numbers and expiration dates, bank account numbers, dates of birth or social security numbers to any unsolicited callers.

If you receive a call like this, please hang up and immediately contact local law enforcement by dialing 3-1-1 to report the incident.

Street Talk: Winter is coming



City employees work to remove snow from downtown Columbia during a large winter storm in January 2019.

Have you begun to prepare for this winter yet? Ensuring your tires are in good shape with good tread, considering snow tires or chains, and packing your car with emergency winter weather supplies such as blankets, batteries, snacks and water are all steps you can take to prepare for winter weather. You can also sign up for Nixle Alerts and bookmark [CoMoSnow.com](https://www.columbiagov.com/CoMoSnow) for the latest winter weather updates.

Whenever snow accumulates more than 2 inches, any vehicle parked on a designated snow route must be moved off of the roadway or risk a fine of \$100 plus towing and storage charges. This critical ordinance allows plow drivers the space to do their work quickly, efficiently and safely. To be notified when it snows 2 inches or more, please sign up for alerts at [Nixle.com](https://www.nixle.com) or by texting COLUMBIAPW to 888-777.

[CoMoSnow.com](https://www.columbiagov.com/CoMoSnow) provides all the information you need before, during and after a winter weather event. Information includes:

- Nixle alerts for those who don't text.
- Snow fighting plans and procedures.
- A complete list of Designated Snow Routes with maps.
- Examples of what a passable road looks like.
- Links to resources for all City services potentially impacted by winter weather, including the electrical outage map, warming centers, transit and trash collection.

Utility assistance available

For many in the community, working and schooling from home has become more common. With everyone spending more time at home utility bills have likely seen an increase. If this increase has made it harder to pay your utility bills, there are programs available from the City and other nonprofit organizations that may be able to lend a helping hand.

The City of Columbia offers two programs that utility customers can sign up for to provide assistance. These programs are:

- **CASH (Citizens Assisting Seniors and Handicapped)** - This program specifically assists income-eligible elderly and disabled residents.
- **HELP (Heat Energy and Light Program)** - This program provides aid to income-eligible families with children in one-time emergency situations.
- For more information on these programs or to sign up call 573.817.6430 or visit [CoMo.gov/Health/Human-Services/Assistance-With-Utility-Bills](https://www.columbiagov.com/Health/Human-Services/Assistance-With-Utility-Bills).

Central Missouri Community Action (CMCA) offers the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). This program assists income-eligible families with energy costs in the summer and winter months. For more information or to sign up call 573.443.1100 or visit [cmca.us/get-help/energy-assistance](https://www.cmca.us/get-help/energy-assistance).

City offices closed for upcoming holidays

The City of Columbia offices will be closed to observe Thanksgiving Day (Nov. 26), the day after Thanksgiving (Nov. 27), Christmas Day (Dec. 25) and New Year's Day (Jan. 1).

All Solid Waste services (landfill and all collections) will not operate on Thanksgiving Day. Solid Waste will resume normal operations on Friday, Nov. 27. Thursday and Friday curbside routes will be delayed by one day following the holiday. Thursday customers will be collected on Friday and Friday customers will be collected on Saturday.

Curbside trash and collection will not occur on Christmas Day and New Year's Day. All curbside routes will be delayed by one day after the holiday for the remainder of the week.

Residents can download the COMO Recycle and Trash app for collection day reminders and notifications. Questions concerning holiday collection should be directed to the Contact Center at 573.874.CITY (2489).

Go COMO, Columbia's public transit system, will not operate and parking meter regulations will not be enforced on the observed City holidays.

Parks and Recreation's Activity & Recreation Center (ARC) will close at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 25. Recreation swim will be open that day from 12 to 5 p.m. The ARC will remain closed on Thanksgiving Day. The facility will reopen the day after Thanksgiving for normal operating hours of 5:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Recreation swim will be open that day from 12 to 9 p.m. The ARC will close early at 3 p.m. on Christmas Eve (Dec. 24) and New Year's Eve (Dec. 31). The ARC will be closed on Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

Although administrative offices for both the Police and Fire departments will be closed, all other emergency services will be available.

Please visit [CoMo.gov/Utilities](https://www.como.gov/Utilities) for phone numbers to contact staff regarding emergencies related to Water, Electric, Sewer and Stormwater.

Code Corner: Sidewalk snow removal

When it snows, having a clear sidewalk can be very helpful to those on foot who may be walking to school or work or delivering mail or meals.

It is the responsibility of property owners and occupants to keep sidewalks clear. Section 302.3 of the International Property Maintenance Code says that *all sidewalks, walkways.... shall be...maintained free from hazardous conditions.*

Chapter 24 of City Ordinance requires property owners or occupants to keep sidewalks, "clear and free from rubbish, filth, refuse, dirt, snow, ice and from any and all obstructions and dangerous agencies of every kind and description whatsoever."

The City's Community Development Department is continuing to enforce these ordinances. Property owners who do not comply are subject to prosecution in Municipal Court.

Seniors and those with disabilities who need assistance with snow removal and volunteers who want to assist can contact Services for Independent Living at 573.874.1646 or email Volunteer Coordinator Madison Anderson at manderson@silcolumbia.org. There is an income qualification to receive services.

Thanks for keeping our sidewalks clean for the benefit of all Columbia residents who use them.

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](https://www.como.gov/ParksAndRec) or call 573.874.7460. You may also visit the Parks and Recreation Facebook page at [Facebook.com/ComoParksandRec](https://www.facebook.com/ComoParksandRec).



Three in five people in the United States visited a local park, trail, public open space or other recreation facility during the first three months of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Board and commission vacancies

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

Application deadline is Dec. 4 at 5 p.m.

- Columbia Sports Commission
- Finance Advisory and Audit Committee
- Firefighters' Retirement Board
- Human Services Commission
- Police Retirement Board

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](https://www.como.gov) or at the City Clerk's Office. Call 573.874.7208 for more information.

Volunteer of the Month: Travis Swearengin

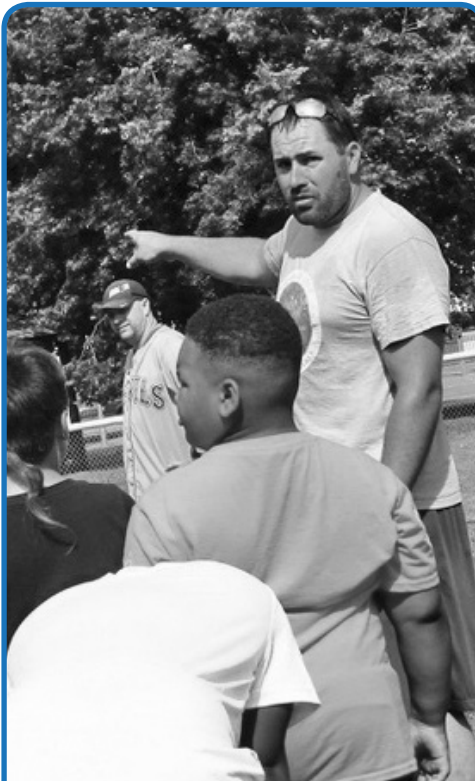
Travis Swearengin is honored as the City of Columbia's November Volunteer of the Month for his work with the Douglass Baseball Program, a non-competitive league for kids 5-10 years old. Travis serves the program in several roles: board member, coach and baseball camp leader.

Travis started volunteering with Douglass Baseball four or five years ago after connecting with Community Recreation Supervisor Camren Cross. With more than 15 years of baseball coaching experience, Travis was interested in using his skills with Columbia Parks and Recreation.

"Travis is a huge asset to Douglas Baseball. He is always willing to lead clinics and is always trying to go the extra mile to help the players learn the basic skills of baseball. He has so much patience and is always willing to help!" staff coordinator for Douglass baseball Ca-Sandra Gunn said.

"Athletics, and baseball especially, have always been an escape from whatever life stress is currently troubling me. My participation at Douglass still does some of that for me, but more so, it's the idea that I may be helping to provide a much-needed break for a child," Travis said.

Travis, originally from Houston, Missouri, also keeps busy with his landscaping business. Thank you, Travis, for sharing time with the City of Columbia! To learn more about volunteering, visit CoMo.gov.



Travis Swearengin (pointing) volunteers with the Douglass Baseball Program.



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

ward1@CoMo.gov

WARD 2

Michael Trapp

573.256.0174

ward2@CoMo.gov

WARD 3

Karl Skala

573.474.2195

ward3@CoMo.gov

WARD 4

Ian Thomas

573.239.7916

ward4@CoMo.gov

WARD 5

Matt Pitzer

573.823.7037

ward5@CoMo.gov

WARD 6

Betsy Peters

573.874.7812

ward6@CoMo.gov

CITY MANAGER

John Glascock

573.874.7214

cmo@CoMo.gov



CITY OF COLUMBIA
CONTACT CENTER
573·874·CITY
CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH ANSWERS

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

701 E. Broadway • P.O. Box 6015

Columbia, Missouri 65205

573.874.CITY (2489) • CoMo.gov



Printed on recycled paper

Toys for Columbia's Youth Drive

Columbia Parks and Recreation is organizing the annual Toys for Columbia's Youth Drive. Families interested in applying for the program may do so by Monday, Dec. 7.

The toy drive serves children ages 12 and under. To be eligible, families must be Columbia residents, meet income requirements and not be receiving toy assistance from another agency.

Donations of new toys and money are being accepted through Dec. 7. Toys can be dropped off at the following locations:

- **Armory Sports Center** - 701 E. Ash
- **Activity & Recreation Center (ARC)** - 1701 W. Ash

In addition to toys, cash, checks or credit cards are accepted. A letter of receipt for tax purposes will be provided for your generosity. Please call 573.874.7460 for more information.