

— City Stats —

Use Tax

More than
220
Missouri cities
have a use tax

If voters approve a
use tax, the City would
collect an estimated
\$5.6 million
annually

What could a use tax mean for Columbia?



7 new firefighters

8 new police
officers



15 lane miles
of annual road
repairs

30 blocks of
annual sidewalk
repairs



Use Tax – Modernizing Columbia's funding sources

Consumer spending habits have changed a lot in recent years, with more people choosing to buy goods online.

Nationwide, online sales rose 30 percent during the pandemic and now represent more than 13 percent of total retail sales.

However, because the City of Columbia doesn't collect a local sales tax on goods purchased online from out-of-state vendors, the City has missed out on an estimated \$30 million in tax revenue over the last five years.

To address these changes in consumer behavior, the Columbia City Council has put Proposition 1, a use tax question, on the ballot for the April 5 election.

A use tax is a 2 percent local tax collected on purchases made online from out-of-state vendors, the same way a sales tax is collected on in-store purchases. A use tax is not a double tax. Residents would never have to pay both use tax and sales tax on the same purchase.

If voters approve Proposition 1, a use tax would help the City maintain its revenue sources while providing the essential services residents expect, such as road maintenance and public safety.

With a use tax, it is estimated the City would be able to hire and pay the yearly salaries of seven new firefighters and eight new police officers. The use tax funds could also help repave up to 15 lane miles of roads and repair 30 city blocks of sidewalk annually.

More than 220 Missouri cities currently have a use tax, including Kansas City, St. Louis, Springfield, Fulton and Boonville.

To learn more, visit CoMo.gov/use-tax.

Paid for by the City of Columbia, Missouri. De'Carlton Seewood, City Manager, 701 E. Broadway, P.O. 6015, Columbia, MO 65205.

PROP 1
— USE TAX —
Columbia, MO
April 5, 2022

CoMo.GOV/COVIDVACCINE

LET'S MOVE
FORWARD



573.874.CITY (2489)
TTY (MoRelay) 711



City of Columbia, Mo. Government



@CoMoGov

Wabash Drive Extension to provide Paris Road intersection relief starting this summer



Wabash Drive Extension is expected to be complete by late spring or early summer.

Wabash Drive, a small and little-known road branching off from Vandiver Drive, could soon help to significantly improve nearby traffic conditions.

To kick off its first project of the spring, the City of Columbia Public Works department has contracted with Rhad A. Baker Construction LLC to extend Wabash Drive to Route B (Paris Road), allowing traffic from Vandiver Drive to use Wabash Drive as a through road.

The extension will alleviate some of the congestion caused by the complexity at the three-road intersection of Route B, Oakland Gravel Road and Vandiver Drive. Public Works looked at opportunities to improve traffic flow by allowing motorists the ability to bypass the intersection entirely.

Crews began work on the project on Feb. 9 and the extension is expected to be complete by late spring or early summer.

Due to supply chain delays in obtaining materials, the project will be performed in two phases, with a pause in between phases to allow for delivery.



Wabash Drive Extension will relieve traffic congestion caused by highly traveled nearby roads.

Starting this summer, anyone on Vandiver who intends to turn southwest on Paris Road to head toward the downtown area will be able to use Wabash Drive to save time. Due to safety concerns, motorists will not be able to use the Wabash Extension to turn left onto Route B to head northeast, as the extension will be for right turns only.

Registration open for Molly's Miles 5k, 10k and Virtual Run

On Saturday, April 30, families and friends statewide will gather at Molly Bowden Memorial Park, 900 W. Nifong Blvd., to walk and run in memory of those who have died in the line of duty and to honor their surviving families.

Molly's Miles is a family-friendly walk/run named after Columbia Police Officer Molly Thomas Bowden who was shot and killed in the line of duty in 2005. All proceeds from the event benefit the Missouri Chapter of Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.). Participants can register for the 5K, 10K or a Virtual Run option for those unable to attend in person.

Registration for the 5K is \$35 for adults and youth (12 and under) or \$120 for the family 4-pack. The 10K is \$40 for adults, and the Virtual Run is \$25. Participants in the 5K and 10K will receive a shirt, a finisher medal, chip timing and live results. Shirts are only guaranteed to those who register by Feb. 28.

To register or find more information, visit MollysMilesRun.com. If you have any questions, please email MollysMiles5K@gmail.com.

Become a Columbia Tourism Ambassador

Travel and tourism is a massive industry. It creates jobs, injects money into the economy and helps enhance the local quality of life. Here in Columbia and Boone County, tourism brought in over \$393 million in fiscal year 2021. If you want to play a role in helping tourism grow in and around Columbia, consider becoming a Columbia Tourism Ambassador (CTA).

The CTA program, administered by the City of Columbia Convention and Visitors Bureau, serves to inspire Columbia residents and tourism partners to make every visitor's experience in our City a positive one. This program increases your knowledge of the region, helps you understand how tourism impacts the economy, prepares you to answer a variety of questions you may receive from visitors, and provides resources that'll allow you stay aware of what's going on around town.

CTA classes are currently scheduled for Tuesday, April 12; Thursday, June 9; and Thursday, Aug. 11; from 12:30 – 4:30 p.m. at the Convention and Visitors Bureau, 300 S. Providence Rd., Columbia, MO 65203. Please contact Andrea Quiroz Jira, Andrea.Jira@CoMo.gov, for additional information and to enroll in a class.

Code Corner: Gravel parking

Parking and driving areas cannot be expanded or created using gravel. Vehicle parking, storage and maneuvering areas must be paved with concrete, asphalt or an alternative paving material approved by the Director of Community Development, per Chapter 29 of the City Code of Ordinances.

Gravel parking areas that were created when allowed by city code can continued to be maintained with gravel. Also, trailers, boats and RV's may not park on the grass in accordance with the City's property maintenance code.

If there is an issue in your neighborhood, please let us know how we can help: 573.874-CITY (2489) or neighborhood@CoMo.gov.

Home Composting

This spring, the City of Columbia's Volunteer Program is hosting free, in-person workshops where residents can learn about converting waste into compost.

Composting can significantly reduce a household's waste. It is a fun and simple process that everyone can do to live a more sustainable lifestyle. Gardeners love composting and the vitality it brings to plants, vegetables and their yards. Those who don't garden can also reap many benefits from composting by greatly reducing what goes into their trash bags.

Learn the why, what and how of residential composting at a free workshop. Begin your waste reduction journey by diverting kitchen scraps and yard waste while producing a nutrient rich soil amendment. The City's Volunteer Programs offers Composting Workshops throughout the year.

Search workshops at CoMo.gov for resources on residential composting and the complete workshop schedule or contact Volunteer Programs at Volunteer@CoMo.gov or 573.874.6271 for more information.



Composting Workshop via Zoom

2022 Dates

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Sun., April 24	1 - 2 p.m.	Peace Park
Tue., May 3	6 - 7 p.m.	Capen
Sat., May 14	9 - 10 a.m.	Farmers Market
Sat., May 14	10:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Farmers Market
Tue., June 21	5:30 - 6:30 p.m.	Capen
Sat., July 23	9 - 10 a.m.	Capen
Tue., Sept. 13	5:30 - 6:30 p.m.	Capen

Register by emailing Jody.Cook@CoMo.gov

Board and commission vacancies

Boards and commissions are a way for residents to be involved in local government and to represent the voices of their fellow community members. The City is accepting applications for the following boards, commissions or task forces:

Application deadline is April 8 at 5 p.m.

- Board of Adjustment
- Downtown Columbia Leadership Council
- Liquor License Review Board
- Planning and Zoning Commission


Applications and information about current vacancies are available online at CoMo.gov. Call 573.874.7208 for more information.

Parks and Recreation events

For more information, please visit CoMo.gov/ParksandRec or call 573.874.7460. You may also visit the Parks and Recreation Facebook page at Facebook.com/ParksandRec.

April 2022

- 9 Boy Scout Scout-o-Rama, Armory Sports Center, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Free
- 9 Kite Flying Day, Douglass Park, noon-2 p.m., Free
- 16 Egg Hunt EGGstravaganza, Douglass Park from noon-1:15 p.m., Indian Hills Park from 3-4:15 p.m., Free
- 23 Columbia Youth Intro Track and Field, Hickman High School Track, 9 a.m. check in, \$8
- 28 Stephens Lake Park Amphitheater Concert Series, Marty the Magician, 6 p.m., Free



**Kite Flying Day
will be held at
Douglass Park on
April 9 from noon-2 p.m.**



The Forestry crew's Adopt-a-Trail program has volunteers working citywide to help remove invasive species along trails and in City-owned nature areas.

March Volunteers of the Month: Harry & Jane Beckett



Thank you Harry Beckett for your dedicated service to the City of Columbia.



Thank you Jane Beckett for making Columbia a more beautiful place for all.

Harry and Jane Beckett began volunteering due to their interest in the City's parks and trails. As avid cyclists, they were looking for ways to connect as volunteers. Harry and Jane joined the Park Patrol, a team of volunteers who help keep our parks and trails safe and report maintenance issues. They also care for a quarter mile of the MKT Trail through the Adopt-A-Trail program, where they work to control invasive species.

While spending time in our parks, the Beckett's identified another way they could serve: painting park benches and signs in need of a refresh. Jane's skills from her career as an art teacher, along with Harry's enthusiasm, have made a great team! They have improved the appearance of several benches in our park system.

Thank you, Harry & Jane, for your enthusiastic service to the City of Columbia! To learn how you can volunteer, visit CoMo.gov or call 573.874.7499.



OUR VISION

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

OUR MISSION

To serve the public equitably 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

Andrea Waner
636.233.4493
ward2@CoMo.gov

WARD 3

Karl Skala
573.474.2195
ward3@CoMo.gov

WARD 4

Ian Thomas
573.239.7916
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WARD 5

Matt Pitzer
573.823.7037
ward5@CoMo.gov

WARD 6

Betsy Peters
573.874.7812
ward6@CoMo.gov

CITY MANAGER

De'Carlton Seewood
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

Recycle and Trash app makes it easier to schedule large item pickup

The COMO Recycle and Trash app now makes it easier to schedule the collection of bulky items and major appliances.

Residents with curbside collection can schedule a pickup for large items by logging onto COMO Recycle and Trash via the phone app or through the Solid Waste homepage at CoMo.gov. Bulky items and appliances are now listed under the Large Item icon.

Once the customer makes their selections, the app will provide four possible dates for the customer to schedule the pickup.

Customers who are unable to complete an online request may call 573.874.CITY (2489) for assistance.

Bulky items are household items that will not fit in an official City bag, such as sofas, mattresses and tables. This category does not include construction-related materials, felled trees, large automobile parts or hazardous materials. Each residential customer will receive one bulky item pickup per year at no cost. For each subsequent bulky item collection, the first item will incur a \$21.50 fee, with a \$5 fee for each additional item scheduled.

Major appliances with refrigerant will incur a \$29 fee per item, and items without refrigerant will be charged \$21.50 per item. Residents with a large amount of material for disposal can bring the material directly to the landfill for disposal.