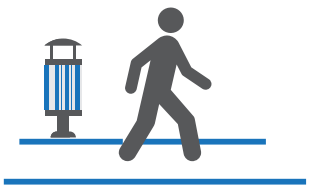




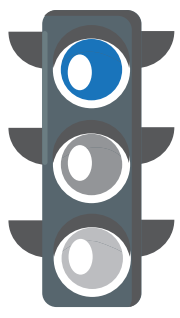
## — City Stats —

2016-2025 Capital Improvement Sales Tax (CIST) Funds

16 major sidewalk construction projects



Traffic calming projects

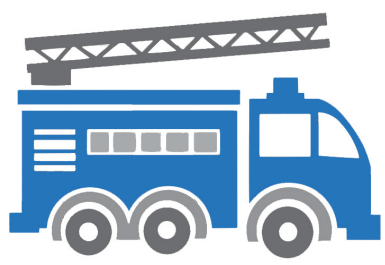


18 completed

9 under construction

3 ongoing public process

9 fire trucks replaced



## Investing in our City's infrastructure



As fire trucks age beyond the point of reasonable repair, sales tax revenue is allocated towards their replacement.

The City of Columbia is committed to making investments in our future through a variety of strategic and critical infrastructure projects.

For several decades, the quarter-cent Capital Improvement Sales Tax has allowed the City to pursue those projects, ensuring continual upgrades to streets, sidewalks, equipment and safety services.

During the current funding period of 2016-2025, sales tax revenue has made major impacts on the daily lives of residents and visitors alike.

Using funds from the Capital Improvement Sales Tax, roads like Rangeline Street, Nifong Boulevard,

Discovery Parkway and East Walnut Street have seen significant reconstruction. Major street projects like these not only address surface issues, but often reconstruct the road base for long-lasting repairs.

Additionally, funds from the sales tax are used to replace deteriorating curbs and sidewalks, enhancing pedestrian safety and improving accessibility for all members of a diverse community.

Capital Improvement Sales Tax funds have played a major role in replacing aging fire trucks, building new fire stations and improving the facilities where our firefighters train.

Funding from the sales tax has supported the establishment of the Molly Bowden Neighborhood Policing Center, strengthening connections between law enforcement and our local neighborhoods.

For Public Works, the 2016-2025 sales tax will also fund the construction of a new municipal service center, aimed at enhancing response times for snowplow operations during winter weather events.

Projects completed with sales tax funding ensure a brighter future for all our residents.

## Water & Light offers rebates that will save you money and water

You can maintain a good-looking yard while keeping your water bills manageable. City of Columbia Water & Light offers an irrigation efficiency rebate program through which our customers can save money while getting the best performance from their irrigation system.

Up to 60% of water use in the summer is used on outdoor landscaping. But, according to the Environmental Protection Agency, up to 50% of outdoor watering is wasted through evaporation, runoff and inefficient practices, such as overwatering.

### City of Columbia Water & Light offers rebates on:

**Smart irrigation controllers:** These devices will automatically adjust your watering schedule based on local weather data and what type of soil, grass and plants you have in your yard to improve water efficiency.

Replacing a standard clock timer with a WaterSense labeled irrigation controller can save an average home nearly 7,600 gallons of water annually.

We offer rebates on smart irrigation controllers up to \$150.

**Rain sensors:** These devices communicate with your irrigation system regarding the amount of rainfall. If the grass is wet with rainfall, the sensor lets the timer know it can skip the next cycle. We offer rebates on rain sensors up to \$150.

**High-efficiency sprinkler heads:** These sprinkler heads evenly distribute water throughout the irrigated area, resulting in 30% less water use compared to traditional sprayers. We offer a rebate up to \$5 per sprinkler head with a minimum of six.



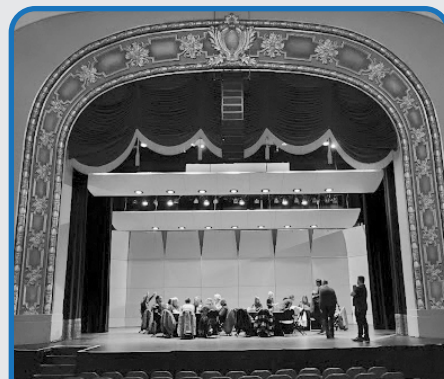
A group of children participate in a previous Make Music Columbia activity at the Armory. This year marks Columbia's third celebration of the long-standing international event.

## City prepares to host third Make Music Columbia celebration

Make Music Day is a free celebration of music around the world on June 21. Launched in 1982 in France as the Fête de la Musique, it is now held on the same day in more than 1,000 cities in 120 countries.

Completely different from a typical music festival, Make Music Columbia is open to anyone who wants to take part. Every kind of musician – young and old, amateur and professional, of every musical persuasion – pours onto streets, parks, plazas and porches to share their music with friends, neighbors and strangers. All of it is free and open to the public.

If you are interested in performing or hosting a performance during Make Music Columbia, visit [MakeMusicDay.org/ColumbiaMO](https://www.makemusicday.org/ColumbiaMO). Registration opens May 1.



Columbia Tourism Ambassadors attending a "Lunch and Learn" at the historic Missouri Theatre. Lunch and Learns are opportunities for CTAs to learn more about Columbia and its attractions.

## Consider becoming a Columbia Tourism Ambassador this National Travel and Tourism Week

Every year in May, the U.S. Travel Association holds National Travel and Tourism Week (NTTW). This week is an annual celebration that underscores travel's essential role in driving the nation's economy, cultivating vibrant communities and forging connections. This year's NTTW takes place May 19-25.

Here in Columbia and Boone County, the Missouri Division of Tourism reported \$545 million in tourism-related spending in fiscal year 2023.

As part of this week, the Columbia Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) encourages Columbia residents to become a Columbia Tourism Ambassador (CTA), a program that increases your knowledge of the region and prepares you to answer a variety of questions you may receive from visitors.

CTA classes are currently scheduled for Wednesday, June 12 and Thursday, August 20 from 12:30-4:30 p.m. at the CVB, located at 300 S. Providence Road.

For more detailed information and to enroll in an upcoming class, visit [CTANetwork.com](https://www.ctanetwork.com). You can also email [Sarah.Parks@CoMo.gov](mailto:Sarah.Parks@CoMo.gov) for more information.



Volunteers show off the sweet potato haul at the Columbia/Boone County Public Health & Human Services Community Garden.

## Check out the COMO Common Ground Community Gardens

There are so many things that we love and appreciate about our unique community. That's why we're taking action to ensure Columbia is healthy, safe, and resilient. The Office of Sustainability is committed to increasing food security and access to fresh, healthy and local foods throughout the community.

City of Columbia's COMO Common Ground Community Gardens (five total) serve over 80 local families. Health, safety and well-being include addressing the impacts of climate change, such as heat stress, air quality and allergens, food security, vector-borne disease and mental health.

The COMO Common Ground Community Garden program is proud to partner with the Community Garden Coalition, and we extend our gratitude to all the volunteers, gardeners and supporters of this fantastic program over the last fifteen years.

## Parking enforcement hours changed to 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Based on amendments to the City code of ordinances approved by City Council Feb. 5, City of Columbia Parking Utility crews have changed enforcement times at all on-street metered parking spaces to 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

These changes are being made to align on-street parking enforcement times with those found inside the City's six downtown parking garages. All on-street parking meters and pay-by-app parking signs have been updated with the new hours of enforcement. Drivers should keep in mind that the days of the week that parking is enforced are not being altered.

## Summer youth volunteering

Summer brings extra time for many young people, and the City of Columbia wants to help them make the most of it! Again this summer, the City of Columbia Volunteer Programs will offer Youth In Action, designed for those 12 years of age and older.

The program includes a variety of volunteer projects and activities that are structured and supervised. Volunteer activities include helping at special events, serving local non-profits and working in our parks and along trails. Participants can select the activities that best suit their interests and schedules.

There is no cost to participate and youth can serve in as many projects as they choose. To learn more, contact Volunteer Programs at 573.874.7499 or visit us at [CoMo.gov](https://www.como.gov).

## Parks and Recreation events

For more 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).

### June 2024

- 1-30 Juneteenth History Display, weekdays at the Armory, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Free

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- 5 Park Pop Up and Play Day, Worley Street Park, 4-5:30 p.m., Free

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- 6 Stephens Lake Park Amphitheater Concert Series, Celia's Sing-Along Dance Party, 6:30 p.m., Free

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- 11 Big Muddy Speaker Series, Riechmann Pavilion, 6 p.m. doors open, presentation at 7 p.m., Free

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- 14 Movies in the Park, Dr. Seuss' the Lorax, Cosmo Park, 8:45 p.m., Free

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- 15 Painting in the Park, Cosmo-Bethel Park, 10 a.m., Free

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- 20 Family Fun Fest: Juneteenth Jamboree, Cosmo Park, 6-8 p.m., Free

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- 22 Shredfest skateboard event, Cosmo Park, 1-4 p.m., Free

## Celebrating Partners in Education Week 2024

Columbia Public Schools and the Office of Cultural Affairs celebrate the 40th Annual Partners in Education Week with a virtual and in-person art gallery in the District.

During the week of May 6-10, visit the District's businesses to view the CPS student artwork or visit [CoMo.gov/arts](https://www.como.gov/arts) to view virtually.

# Christian Sasse-May featured volunteer



Christian Sasse is May's Volunteer of the Month. Christian has been a volunteer with the City of Columbia since 2021.

In May, we are shining our Volunteer Spotlight on Christian Sasse, a GIS analyst who has been a volunteer with the City of Columbia since 2021. Christian started volunteering almost immediately after moving to Columbia, looking for ways to socialize while under restrictions from the COVID-19 pandemic.

"I've been attempting to bring together the places I volunteer with and where I visit for leisure by planning collaborations in hopes of reaching more members of the community and getting a wider demographic of people involved to try and better where we live," Christian said.

When Christian's not volunteering, you can find him at different events hosted throughout the community, such as trivia nights at Hexagon Alley and The Dandy Lion Cafe or at shows put on by Nclusion+ or The Blue Note. When he's relaxing at home, it's usually with his woodworking or a good book.

While Christian focuses most of his volunteering attention on litter pickup and Adopt-a-Trail invasive species removal, he's also an executive committee member for the Missouri chapter of the Sierra Club and supports the Great Rivers Environmental Law Center.

"I think the biggest thing I've gained from volunteering is a better connection with the community and understanding of how many people are trying to help through their own specializations," Christian said.

Christian is looking most forward to the results of the invasive species removal on the trail section he's adopted with the Sierra Club. The goal of invasive species removal is to prevent harm to the environment from aggressive, non-native species and making room for native species to return to the trails without being outcompeted for resources.

"It seems through talking with so many of the people using the trail while we're doing work that they love what we're doing and they get the enjoyment of seeing native species popping up in areas where we've already cleared," Christian said.

For more information, contact Volunteer Programs at 573.874.7499 or Volunteer@CoMo.gov.

## Boards and commissions 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:

- Columbia and Boone County Library District Board
- Commission on Cultural Affairs Standing Committee on Public Art
- Water & Light Advisory Board

Application deadline is Friday, June 7 at 5 p.m. Applications and information about current vacancies are available at [CoMo.gov](http://CoMo.gov). Call 573.874.7208 for more information.



### 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

Barbara Buffaloe  
573.874.7222  
Mayor@CoMo.gov

#### WARD 1

Vacant

#### WARD 2

Lisa E.A. Meyer  
573.823.2274  
Ward2@CoMo.gov

#### WARD 3

Roy Lovelady  
573.864.4976  
Ward3@CoMo.gov

#### WARD 4

Nick Foster  
573.999.0897  
Ward4@CoMo.gov

#### WARD 5

Donald Waterman  
573.864.4972  
Ward5@CoMo.gov

#### WARD 6

Betsy Peters  
573.864.4971  
Ward6@CoMo.gov

### CITY MANAGER

De'Carlton Seewood  
573.874.2489  
CMO@CoMo.gov

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### CITY OF COLUMBIA

701 E. Broadway • P.O. Box 6015  
Columbia, Missouri 65205

**573.874.CITY (2489) • CoMo.gov**