

Introduced by _____

First Reading _____

Second Reading _____

Ordinance No. _____

Council Bill No. B 296-18

AN ORDINANCE

amending Chapter 2 of the City Code to establish a tree board;
and fixing the time when this ordinance shall become effective.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, MISSOURI, AS
FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. A new Division 17 under Article V of Chapter 2 of the Code of
Ordinances of the City of Columbia, Missouri, is hereby enacted as follows:

DIVISION 17. TREE BOARD

Sec. 2-365.10. Established.

The tree board is hereby established to study, plan and advise the city council on
urban forest resources.

Sec. 2-365.11. Duties and responsibilities.

The board shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- (1) Provide guidance to the city council on ordinances related to the
management of the urban forest;
- (2) Assist in the development, review and revision of an urban forest master
plan;
- (3) Educate the public on the proper care and management of trees and the
importance of the urban forest to the environment;
- (4) Act as liaison between the public and city staff on tree-related issues;
- (5) Promote the integration of urban forestry in the city organization; and
- (6) Advise the city council on any other urban forestry matters referred to the
board by the city council.

Sec. 2-365.12. Membership; appointment; qualifications; terms.

(a) The board shall consist of seven (7) members to be appointed by the city council. Board members shall demonstrate an interest and experience in arboriculture, urban forest management, tree care, horticulture, botany, ecology, environmental education, environmental policy, landscape architecture, or related fields.

(b) Board members shall be residents and qualified voters of the city. Members shall serve without compensation. A member may not be a paid officer or employee of the city, be a party to any pending litigation against the city, or be an elected public office holder.

(c) Board members shall initially be appointed to staggered terms as follows: two (2) members for a term of one (1) year, two (2) members for a term of two (2) years, and three (3) members for a term of three (3) years each. Thereafter, appointments shall be for a term of three (3) years, except that any appointment to fill a vacancy, occurring other than by expiration of a term, shall be filled for the unexpired term only.

Sec. 2-365.13. Election of officers; terms.

The board shall annually elect from one of its members a chair and a vice-chair. Officers shall serve a term of one (1) year and shall be eligible for re-election. In the event of a vacancy of any elected office, the board shall elect an officer to serve until the next regular annual election. The chair shall preside at all meetings. In the absence of the chair or the chair's inability to preside, the vice-chair shall preside.

Sec. 2-365.14. Meetings; quorum; attendance.

(a) The board shall meet at least quarterly at times and places accessible to the public to be determined by the board. Special meetings may be called by the chair of the board. All meetings shall be open to the public and shall comply with the requirements of the Missouri Sunshine Law and the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia.

(b) Four (4) members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

(c) The chair is authorized to excuse any member from attendance at a meeting; provided that the member requested to be excused before the meeting. Any member who is absent, without being excused, from fifty (50) percent of the regular board meetings held in a calendar year shall automatically forfeit the office. Any member who is absent, without being excused, from three (3) consecutive regular meetings shall automatically forfeit the office. The chair shall promptly notify the city clerk and the appointing authority of any such vacancy.

Sec. 2-365.15. Conflicts of interest.

Board members shall not serve on the board of directors or be employed by any organization which receives funding upon recommendation of the board or when such member's immediate family or an organization owned or controlled by such member or such member's immediate family could derive a financial or other material gain arising out of action or recommendation by the board. For purposes of this section, each academic and administrative unit of the University of Missouri shall be considered a separate organization and each school of the Columbia Public School District shall be considered a separate organization. When there is doubt as to whether a conflict of interest exists, the matter shall be resolved by a vote of the board, excluding the person that is the subject of the potential conflict. For purposes of this section "personal interest" means more than a nominal interest arising from family; close business, political or other associations or other factor likely to affect the welfare of the member or the member's family and is something more than a well-known opinion, or interest in, or academic study of, a subject matter. "Immediate family" includes any person living in the same household as the member together with children, grandchildren, parents and grandparents of the member. Any board member who violates this section shall automatically forfeit the office.

SECTION 2. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

PASSED this _____ day of _____, 2018.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor and Presiding Officer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Counselor