



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Department Source: City Manager
To: City Council
From: City Manager & Staff
Council Meeting Date: July 21, 2025
Re: Community Summit Feedback Report

Executive Summary

Residents who attended the City's first Community Summit in March 2025 had the opportunity to provide their input through dot-polling questions, written comments in their Summit Guides, and by voting with "CoMo Bucks" on which Strategic Plan Priority Area they felt should City leadership should focus their attention toward in the upcoming fiscal year. The feedback we received has been compiled in the attached report. In addition to highlighting the Community Summit Report & Analysis, we wanted to provide information on some of the ways staff are applying that feedback.

Discussion

The City hosted our first Community Summit on March 15th from 9 a.m. to noon at City Hall. Over the course of those three hours, we had a steady stream of 300+ residents attend to engage with staff, enjoy live performances, and respond to dot-polling questions organized by Strategic Plan Priority Area. We also received feedback via written comments in the Summit Guides provided to participants as they entered – these comments were organized by priority area. All the participant input we received has been compiled in the attached report. Below are some examples of how the feedback is being utilized.

Organizational Excellence:

- Information Technology has identified targeted areas for improvement based on feedback from the interactive map question. These areas include enhancing the Streets App with up-to-date information on repairs and closures, improved crime mapping, and improving the CityView map to include zoning. A Parks Activities Finder was recently launched.
- In collaboration with our Finance Department, Engagement staff have hosted a series of budget town halls to help residents better understand City finances and the budget process. While these started before the Summit, the feedback reinforces the need for these opportunities. Engagement staff are looking into ways to expand the town halls to cover a variety of topics of community interest.

Safe Community:

- Feedback residents provided related to the new Office of Violence Prevention was shared with the Violence Prevention Administrator. This information will help gauge which initiatives are seen as a priority by the community.
- As short-term rentals (STRs) are licensed, participants indicated the City could best support neighborhoods by closely monitoring density, or the number of STRs in neighborhoods. The City will be utilizing software that will identify active STRs within City



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limits. This, in addition to our existing regulatory standards, will allow the City to ensure density of STRs within neighborhoods is being managed.

Inclusive & Equitable Community:

- The community block parties the City hosted this summer are a direct result of the feedback we received at the Summit. In total, the City hosted 7 block parties at parks across the City this summer.
- Based on feedback from the Summit, staff are looking into opportunities to increase awareness of our energy efficiency programs. In addition to updating some of the areas on the City's website, staff have been exploring ways to get messaging out, including working with Columbia Public Schools to include messaging at high school athletic and activity events.

Resilient Economy:

- While the groundwork for this predated the Summit, the majority of participants indicated a desire for a direct flight to Denver, CO out of the Columbia Regional Airport. In May, the City announced direct flights to Denver would be available beginning in September.
- Participants at the Summit indicated a desire to see more business offerings in entertainment, grocery stores, and retail closer to their neighborhoods. Economic Development's Business Development Specialist position was reclassified in May 2025 and will now have a greater emphasis on recruiting retail offerings, especially to underserved areas.

Reliable & Sustainable Infrastructure:

- Parks and Recreation staff will utilize data collected at the Community Summit as additional feedback related to long-term planning and park development. The information from the Summit confirms the public's desire to continue efforts to acquire green space to preserve natural areas and provide park spaces throughout Columbia. Trails are a staple of our community and the data received at the Summit will be used as a justification tool for future trail development and acquisition.
- Engagement staff are exploring ways to incorporate short form videos to help educate the public on a variety of items, such as what can and cannot be recycled when the service resumes.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: N/A

Long-Term Impact: N/A

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Strategic Plan Impacts:



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Primary Impact: Organizational Excellence, Secondary Impact: Inclusive and Equitable Community, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

[Comprehensive Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Not Applicable, Secondary Impact: Secondary, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

Legislative History	
Date	Action
N/A	N/A

Suggested Council Action

For informational purposes only.