



March 15
2025



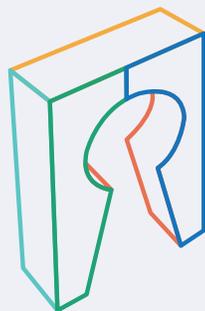
Report & Analysis



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Vision

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

Mission

To serve the public equitably through democratic, transparent and efficient government.

Introduction

The City of Columbia is committed to ensuring that community engagement is at the core of everything it does. With the belief that the best decisions are made when the community's voice is heard, the City has taken significant steps to create opportunities for residents to actively participate in shaping the direction of their city.

The first annual Community Summit, held March 15, 2025, served as an essential platform for the City to strengthen its relationship with the people it serves, foster meaningful dialogues and ensure the community's priorities are front and center in the City's decision-making processes.

Inspired by the award-winning #IamPSL Citizen Summit in Port St. Lucie, Florida, the event brought over 300 residents to City Hall. A key element of the summit was its focus on engaging residents in a way that went beyond the typical government meeting format. This event was intentionally designed to be an interactive experience, where residents could speak directly with City employees at all levels of government.

The summit featured over 30 interactive booths, offering residents the opportunity to engage with various City departments, provide feedback on services, strategic priority areas and potential future initiatives. This was facilitated through the use of poster boards that allowed residents to respond to specific questions with provided stickers. Summit attendees were also provided with a Summit Guide, a document in which they could record open-ended feedback on any of the questions. The Guide also included "CoMo Bucks," a kind of currency that residents could then choose to invest in any of the City's five strategic priority areas—Organizational Excellence, Safe Community, Inclusive & Equitable Community, Resilient Economy and Reliable & Sustainable Infrastructure. Options were also provided for children and teenagers to provide feedback.

Residents also had the opportunity to dialogue with City employees and learn more about City services, initiatives and City government overall. More than 100 City staff members from a wide range of City departments were present at each booth as subject matter experts, answering questions and providing additional context. Several employees, including department heads, functioned as "floaters" who walked the event, interacted with residents and ensured that they had no lingering questions.

Message from the City Manager

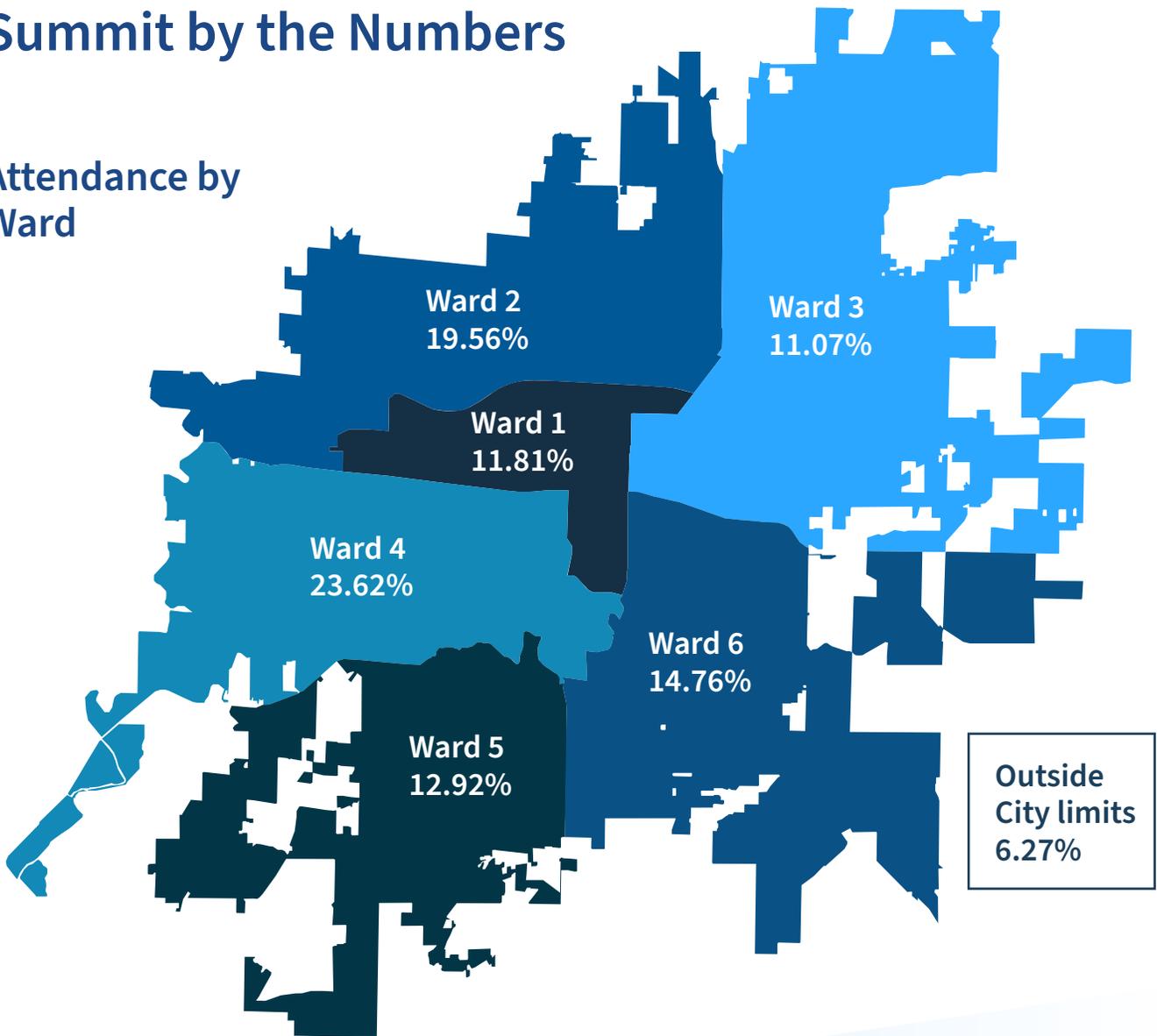
“This is our first event and seeing how many families come through and as many residents, it's exciting. This is a community that really cares. It cares about itself. It cares about what we are doing. It cares about its neighbors.”

—De'Carlton Seewood



Summit by the Numbers

Attendance by Ward



Number of youth who attended
Ward 1 // 3
Ward 2 // 13
Ward 3 // 3
Ward 4 // 4
Ward 5 // 5
Ward 6 // 6
Outside City limits // 1

More than
300
attendees

More than
100
employee
volunteers

Community
feedback on
more than
30
topics

Community Survey and Engagement Opportunities

Over the past year, the City of Columbia has made resident engagement a top priority, expanding efforts to ensure community voices are heard and reflected in City decision-making. Through both in-person and digital platforms, the City has invested in initiatives that offer residents meaningful opportunities to share their perspectives, helping guide the City’s approach to growth, development and service delivery.

Other major initiatives include the forming of the Community Connectors program, conducting ward-specific monthly meetings and hosting educational town hall meetings for residents to learn about major City processes and services. Together, these efforts represent a renewed commitment to transparent, inclusive governance, and will continue to inform strategic planning and service improvements in the years ahead.

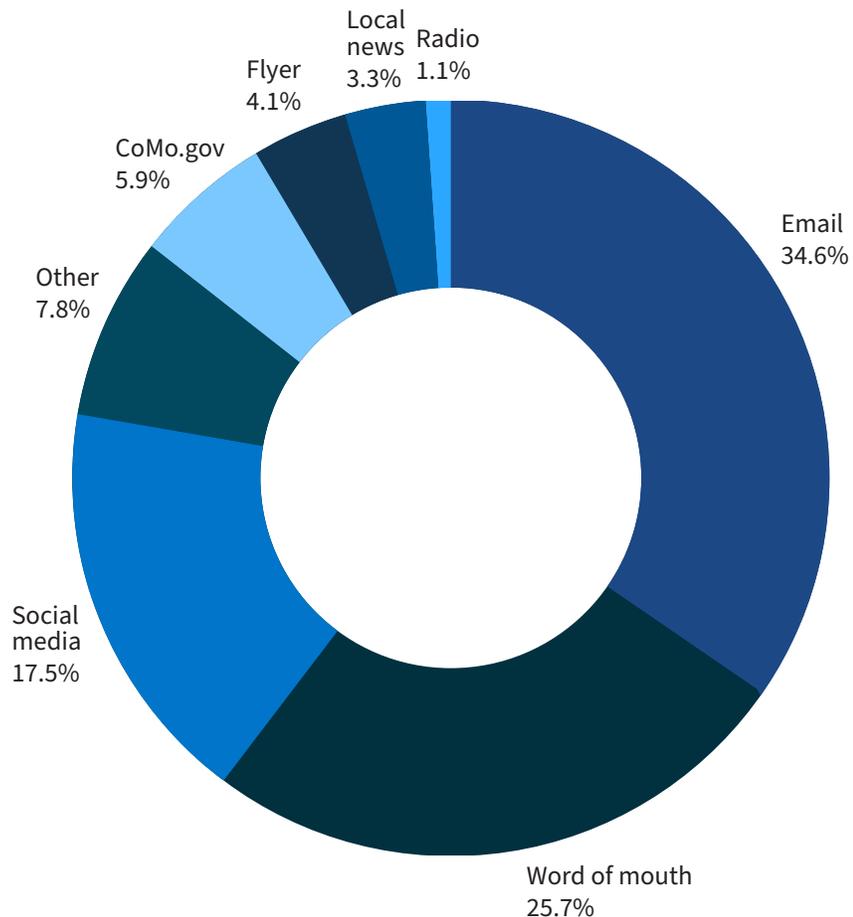
The Community Survey conducted last summer was one of the key initiatives that helped inform the Community Summit. In order to support efforts in data-driven decision-making, the City partnered with ETC Institute to conduct a citywide community survey in August and September 2024. The goal was to assess resident satisfaction with major City services and ensure alignment between resident needs and City priorities. This marked the first ETC-administered survey since December 2019–January 2020, just prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. The 2024 effort introduced a newly designed survey instrument, aimed at improving the quality and relevance of the data collected.

Engagement Initiatives Highlights

- Community Summit
- Community Survey
- Community Connectors
- Topical Surveys (Utilities, Housing, Community Health Assessment)
- Let’s Talk Local ward meetings
- Budget Town Halls
- BeHeard.CoMo.gov

How did you hear about today’s Community Summit?

Residents were asked to select one option.





ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Goal Statement

Create and support an engaged workforce and organization that delivers an efficient, innovative, transparent and collaborative City government.



The Organizational Excellence priority area gave community members the opportunity to share their thoughts on a range of City functions, including job recruitment, digital tools and the budget process. One major area of feedback centered on the City's interactive mapping system, which participants recognized as a valuable resource. Many suggested additional features, such as updates on street and sidewalk repairs, upcoming closures and projects, crime statistics and utility upgrades. These insights will help the Information Technology department enhance the mapping platform's usefulness and relevance for residents.

Feedback also highlighted a strong desire for greater transparency and accessibility around the City's budget. Community members expressed interest in tools that make the budget process easier to understand, with short-form videos being the most preferred method, followed by community workshops and educational materials. This input will support efforts to improve communication as the City prepares for the FY 2026 budget and beyond.

In the area of workforce development, community members identified the City's website, Indeed.com and LinkedIn as the most commonly used platforms when searching for career opportunities. Additionally, health insurance was ranked as the most important job benefit, followed by retirement benefits and career advancement opportunities. These responses will help the Human Resources department refine recruitment strategies and ensure employment offerings align with what job seekers value most.

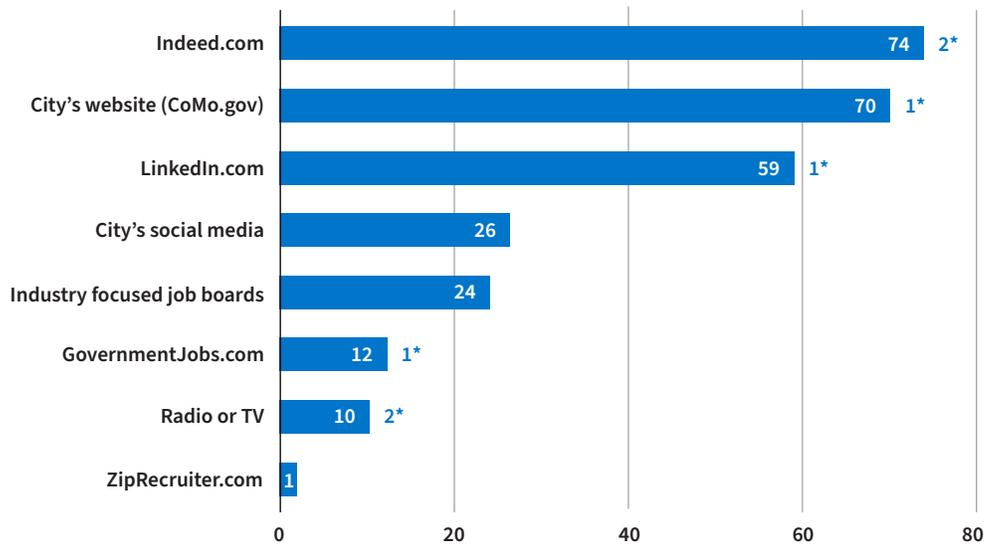
Public engagement and communication were recurring themes across all topics, with attendees sharing both praise and constructive suggestions. The feedback collected through this process reflects a shared interest in improving how the City connects with and informs its residents, laying the groundwork for more inclusive and effective public service.



What recruitment platforms, sites and apps do you use when searching for a career opportunity?

Residents were asked to select all that applied.

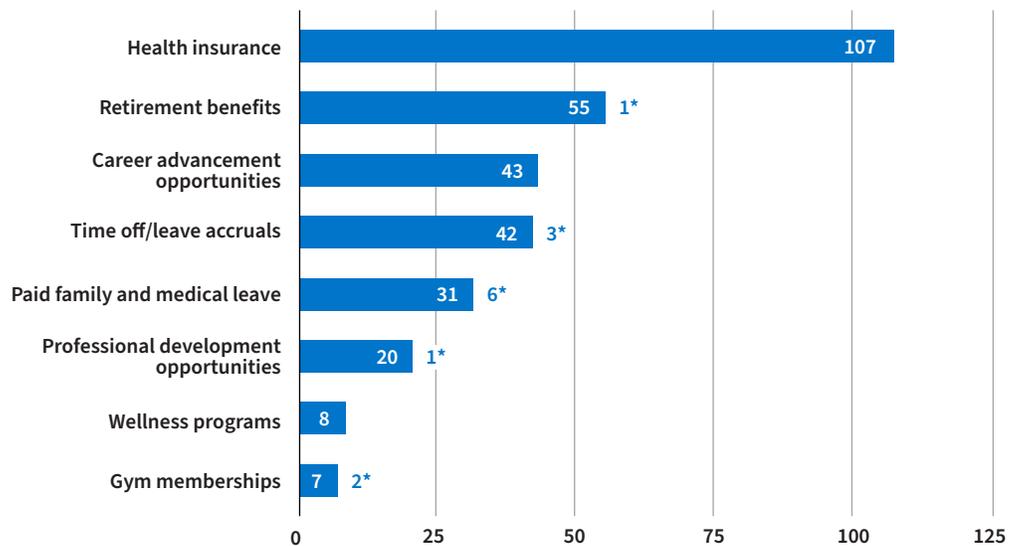
* Number of youth who voted within each option



What are the most important benefits you seek when searching for job opportunities?

Residents were asked to select two options.

* Number of youth who voted within each option

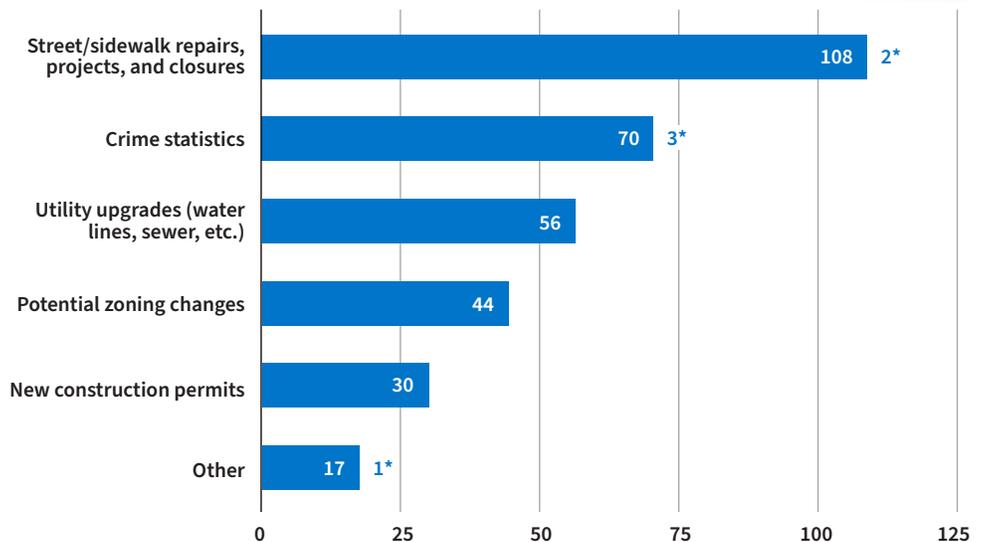




If the City created an interactive online map where you entered your address to learn about things happening in your immediate area, what types of information would you like to see on that map?

Residents were asked to select two options.

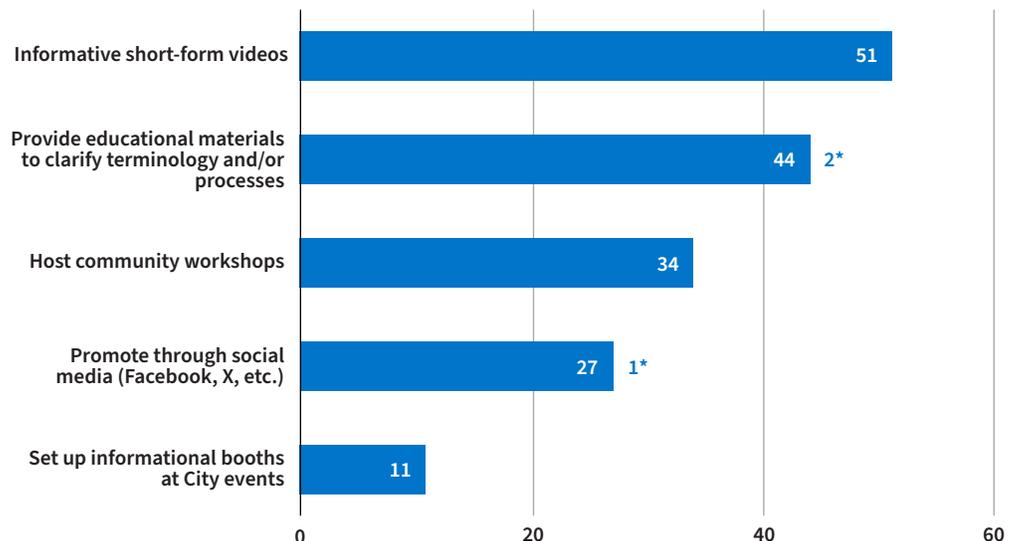
* Number of youth who voted within each option



How can we best ensure residents understand the City's budget and the process by which it is developed?

Residents were asked to select one option.

* Number of youth who voted within each option

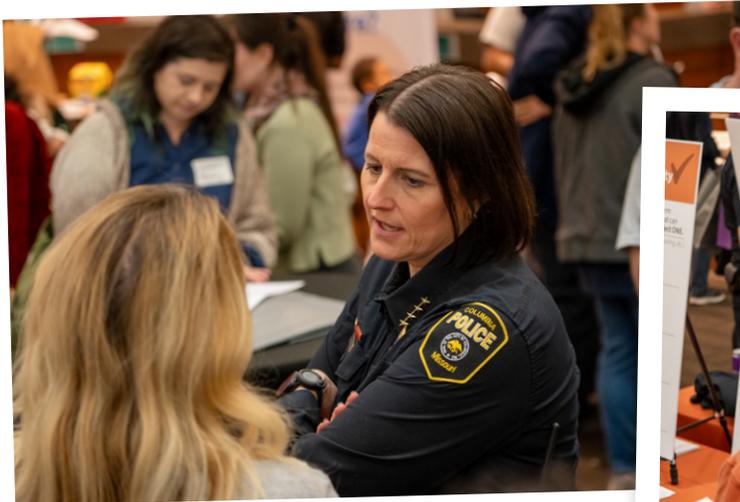




SAFE COMMUNITY

Goal Statement

Provide equitable community-centered public health and safety services to ensure the City is safe for all.



The Safe Community priority area gave residents the opportunity to share feedback on a range of public safety issues, including short-term rentals, fire prevention, homelessness, code enforcement and violence prevention. Their input will guide the work of multiple departments as they shape programs, policies and priorities to better serve Columbia.

For short-term rentals (STRs), nearly half of participants emphasized the importance of monitoring the number of STRs in neighborhoods, citing concerns about housing availability and neighborhood stability. Others pointed to guest behavior as a top issue, highlighting the need for clear expectations and enforcement. Staff also used the opportunity to share information about the City’s STR ordinance and registration requirements.

The Fire Department gathered insights on fire safety preparedness in local homes. Most residents reported having working smoke detectors under 10 years old—a positive sign. However, many shared that their detectors were older or they were unsure of their age, pointing to a gap in maintenance awareness. A few reported having no detectors at all, underscoring the need for expanded outreach, education and installation efforts to ensure basic fire safety in every household.

When asked about the biggest code enforcement issues in their neighborhoods, many participants reported no concerns. While this is positive, there is also the potential that this does not represent citywide conditions. Among those who did cite concerns, the issues were varied and spanned multiple departments. The feedback also revealed a need to raise awareness of the “Report an Issue” tool on the City website and the MyCOMO app.

Community members also shared their views on homelessness and who holds responsibility for addressing it. A majority identified local government as the key leader, while others pointed to nonprofits, faith organizations and federal or state agencies. Many advocated for a collaborative, cross-sector approach, recognizing the complexity of homelessness and the need for shared solutions.

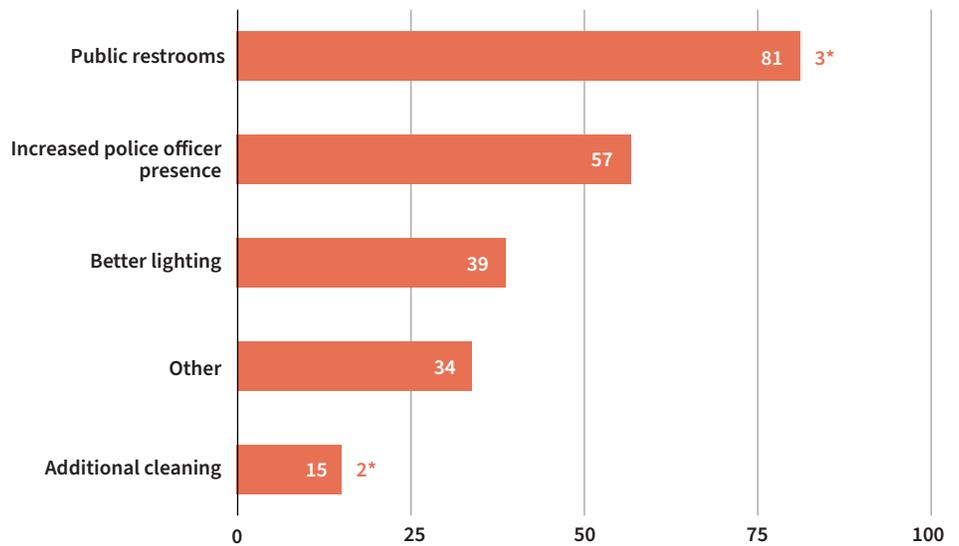
Finally, residents were invited to help shape the focus of the City’s new Office of Violence Prevention. Youth programming emerged as the top priority, followed by support for community dialogue and funding opportunities for local groups. Additional suggestions included addressing domestic violence, expanding school-based supports and increasing support for social workers. This input will play a key role in guiding the Office’s direction as it works to build a safer, more resilient community.



What improvements would you like to see in Columbia's downtown area?

Residents were asked to select two options.

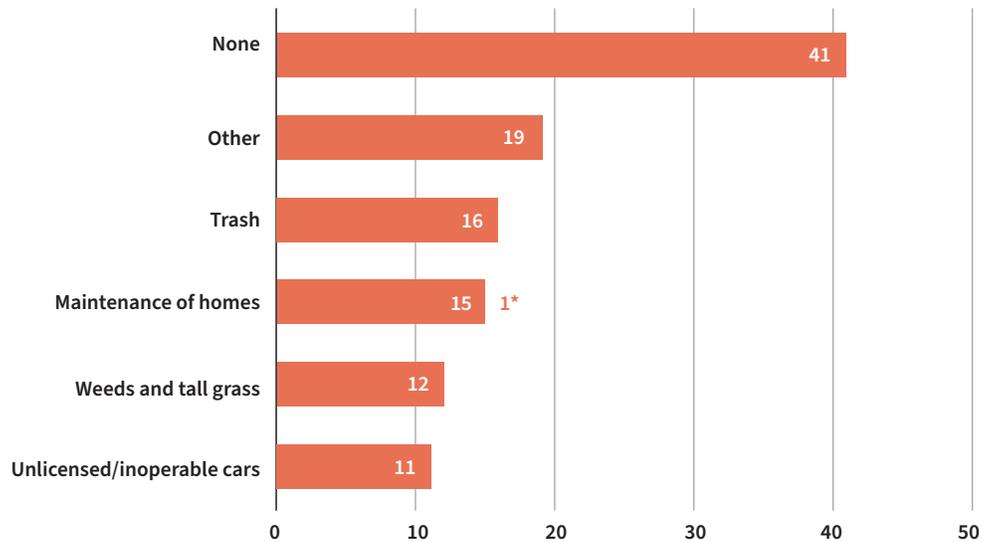
* Number of youth who voted within each option



What is the biggest code enforcement issue in your neighborhood?

Residents were asked to select one option.

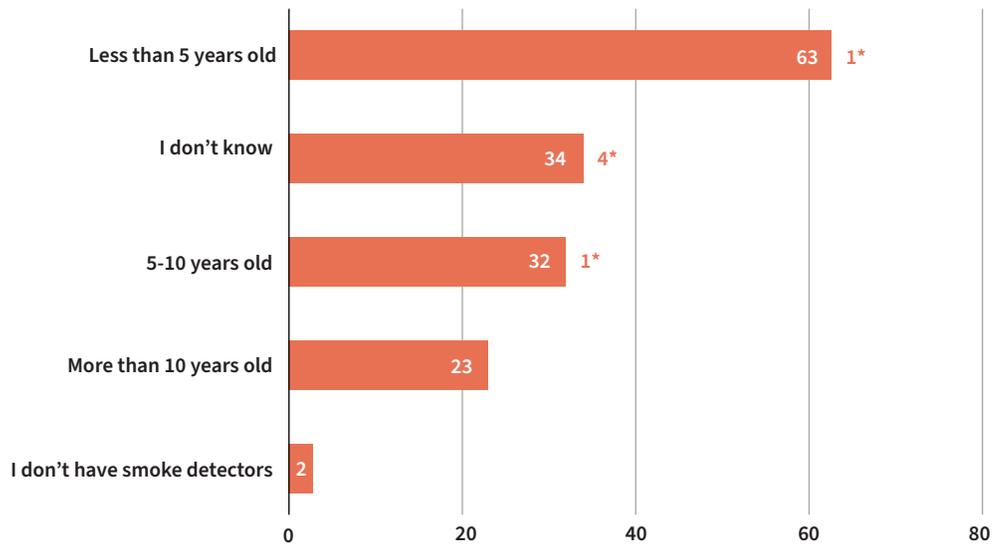
* Number of youth who voted within each option



How old are the smoke detectors in your home?

Residents were asked to select one option.

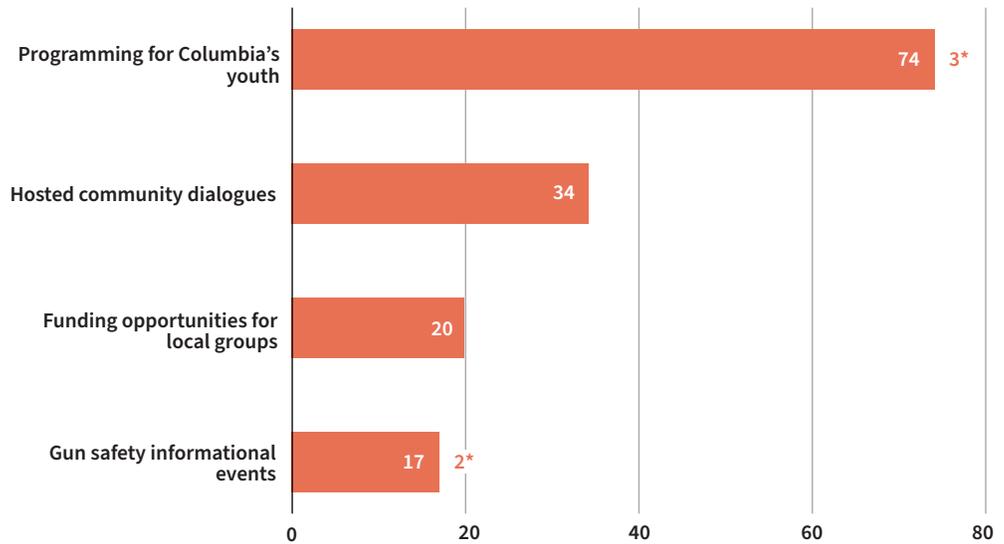
* Number of youth who voted within each option



What would you like to see from the new Office of Violence Prevention?

Residents were asked to select one option.

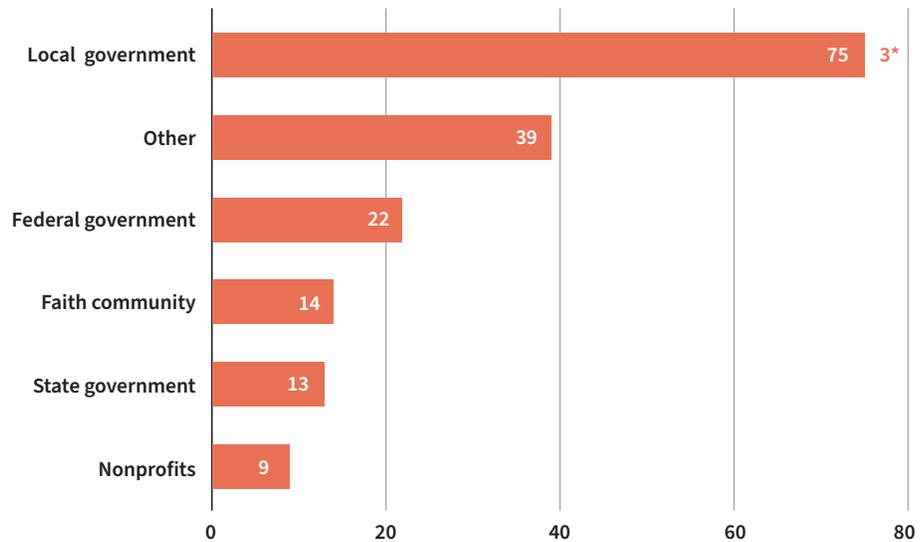
* Number of youth who voted within each option



Who do you feel is most responsible for addressing homelessness?

Residents were asked to select one option.

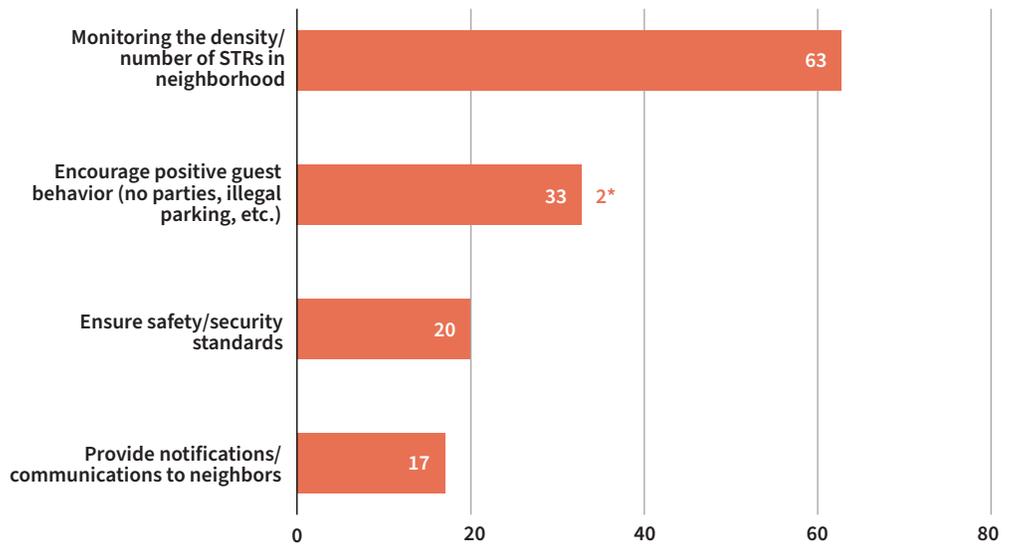
* Number of youth who voted within each option

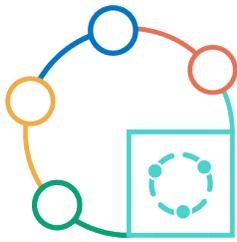


With the City beginning to license short-term rentals (STRs), such as properties used for AirBnB or VRBO, what can the City do to support neighborhoods?

Residents were asked to select one option.

* Number of youth who voted within each option





INCLUSIVE & EQUITABLE COMMUNITY

Goal Statement

Cultivate a community focusing on equitable access, inclusive engagement and equal opportunity and treatment for all.

Community members who visited the Inclusive & Equitable Community priority area shared thoughtful feedback on how the City can better support the entire Columbia community. Input focused on three key areas: energy efficiency programs, public health and human services, and opportunities for community building.

When learning about the City’s energy efficiency initiatives—such as the combined Home Performance Rebates and Loans program and Free Residential Energy Assessments—many participants expressed interest in participating but highlighted some potential barriers to access. Several shared that they were renters and either felt unsure whether they were eligible or did not know where to begin. Others simply were not aware these programs existed. This feedback highlights an opportunity for the City to expand outreach and consider new strategies for making environmental programs more accessible, especially for renters and residents in multifamily housing.

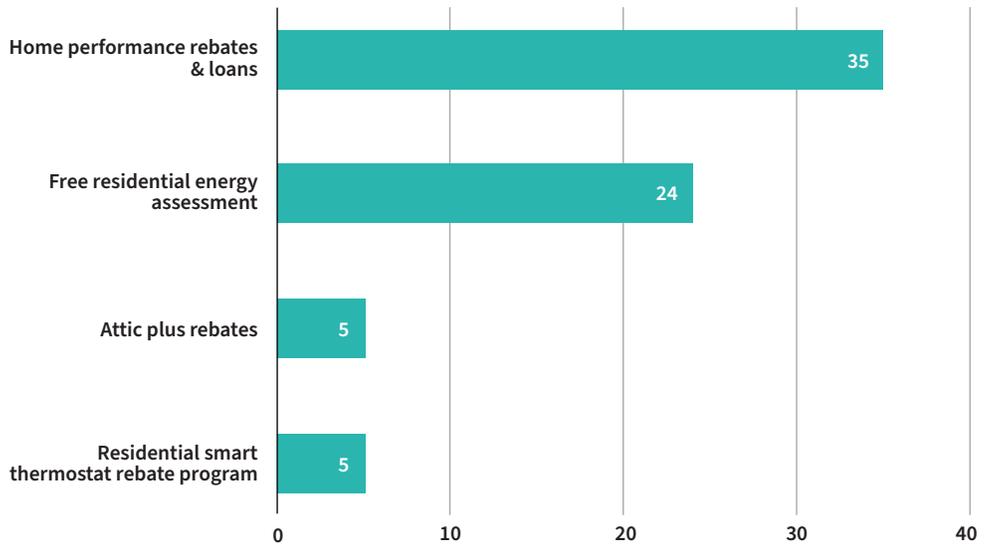
In relation to health and human services, community members prioritized mental health crisis prevention, homelessness reduction and support for affordable housing. These topics not only received the most support from available options, but also appeared frequently in open-ended comments—emphasizing the need for continued investment in housing stability and mental health access throughout Columbia.

Community-building opportunities also stood out. Many participants expressed a desire for more neighborhood events such as block parties and family-friendly gatherings. These types of activities were viewed as powerful tools for strengthening community ties and encouraging broader participation in local government. As the City designs future engagement efforts, this feedback underscores the value of informal, inclusive events that bring people together and foster a sense of belonging.



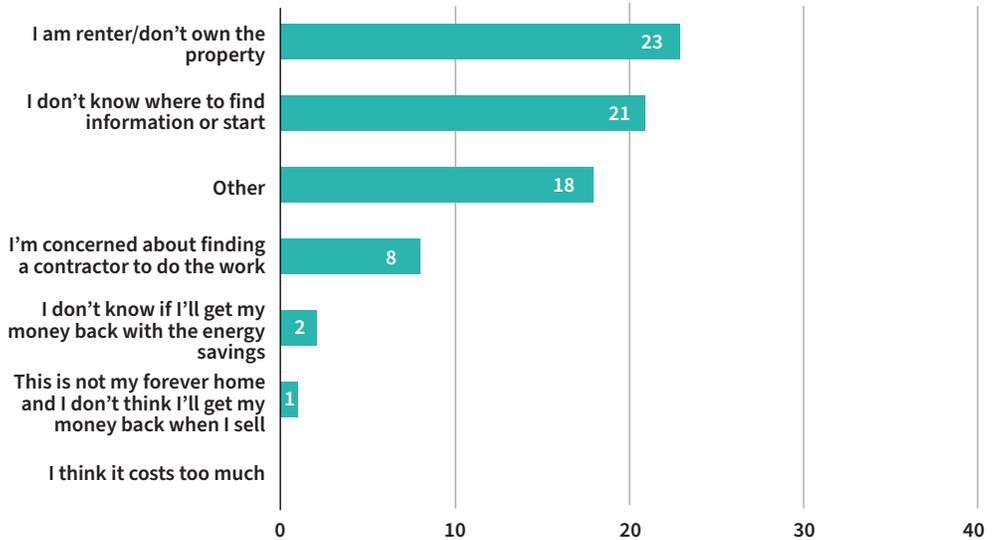
Have you ever participated in any of the City of Columbia Energy Efficiency Programs?

Residents who answered “yes” were asked to select one option.



Have you ever participated in any of the City of Columbia Energy Efficiency Programs?

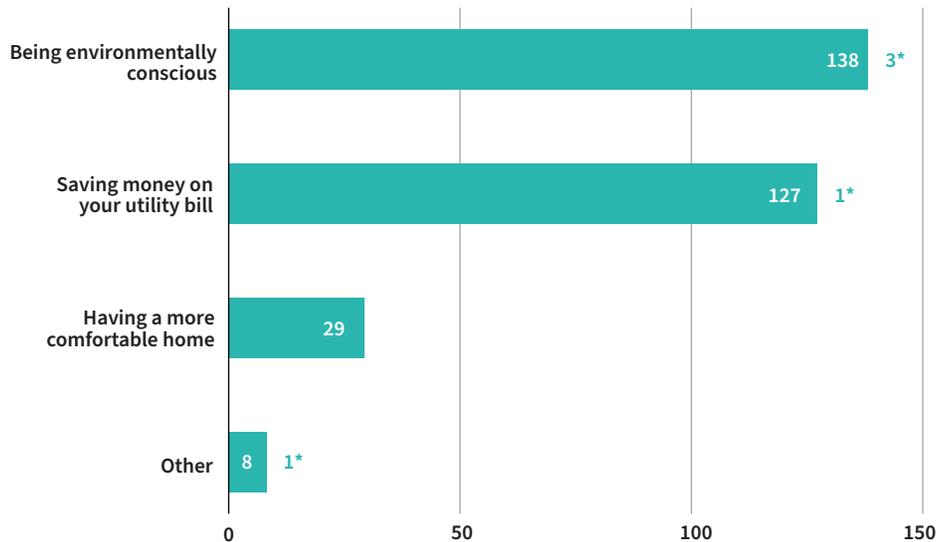
Residents who answered “no” were asked to select one option.



What motivates you to be more energy efficient in your home?

Residents were asked to select two options.

* Number of youth who voted within each option

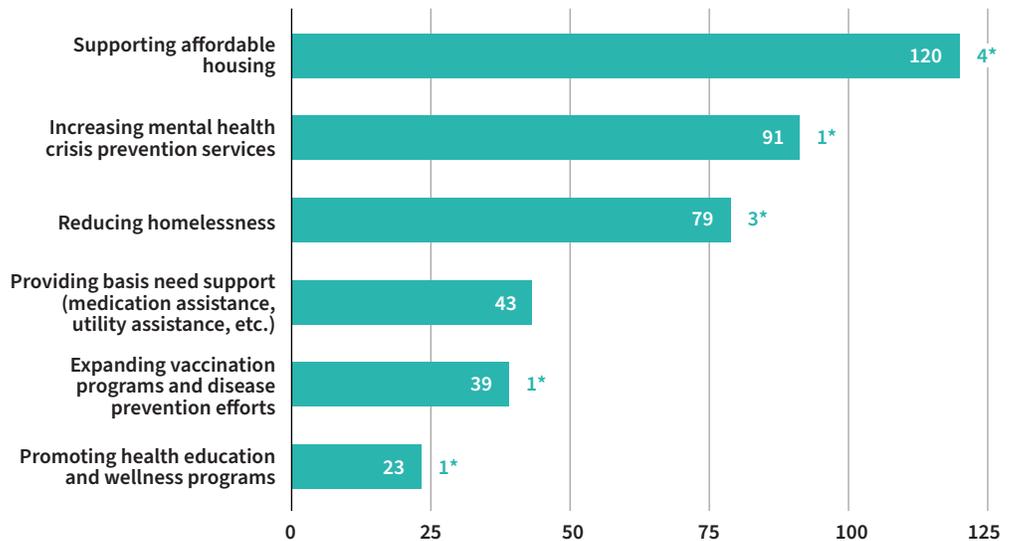




Which public health initiatives are most important to you?

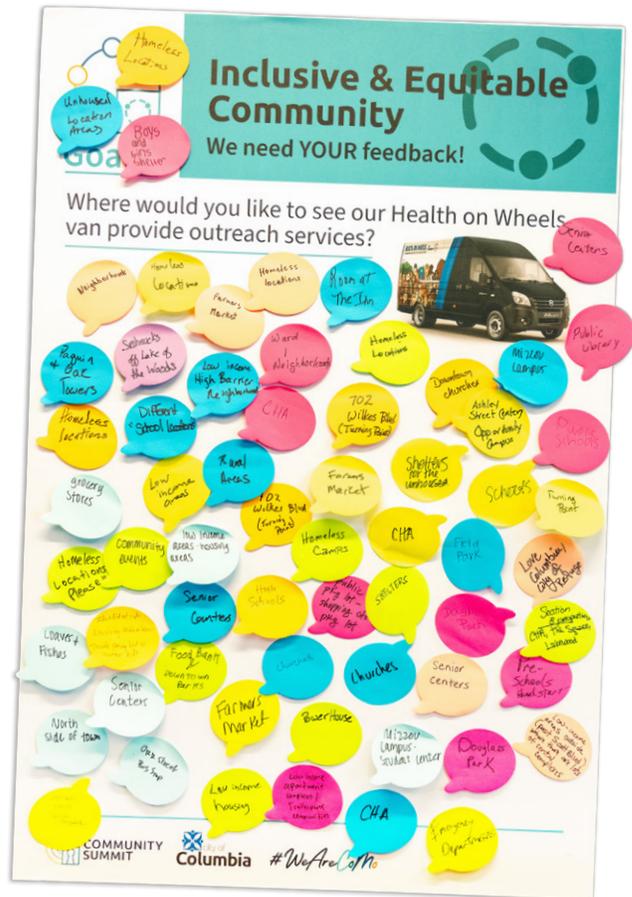
Residents were asked to select two options.

* Number of youth who voted within each option



Where would you like to see our Health on Wheels van provide outreach services?

- Neighborhoods
- Homeless Locations (8 instances)*
- Unhoused Location Areas
- Boys and Girls Shelter
- Farmers Market
- Room at the Inn
- Senior Centers (4 instances)*
- Paquin & Oak Towers
- Schnucks off Lake of the Woods
- Different School Locations
- Low Income High Barrier Neighborhoods (4 instances)*
- Ward 1 Neighborhoods
- Mizzou Campus (2 instances)*
- Downtown Churches
- Grocery Stores
- Rural Areas
- CHA (4 instances)*
- Community Events
- 702 Wilkes Blvd (Turning Point)
- Farmers Market (2 instances)*
- Ashley Street Center, Opportunity Campus
- Public Schools (3 instances)*
- Turning Point
- Loaves and Fishes
- Identified at risk: Receiving Meals on Wheels, Trouble paying heat or water bills
- Library (2 instances)*
- North side of town
- Food Bank and Downtown Park
- Vintage Falls and Senior Population
- Orr street Bus Stop
- Churches (2 instances)*
- Low Income apartment / Trailer Park Communities
- Powerhouse
- Public Pkg Lot-Shopping - Center
- Shelters
- Field Park
- Douglass Park (2 instances)*
- Emergency Departments
- Preschools - Headshorts
- Love Columbia, City of Refuge
- Section 8 properties
- The Square
- Lakewood



* Number of times comment noted



How would you and your neighbors like to collaborate with the City?

- Different times for council meetings-day-
- Block Party at the neighborhood level
- Local ward meeting with your Council Person
- Resident led social/meet + greet => build relationships
- Diversify your Reach
- Block Party + Resources
- Finds ways to ignite community members
- Social Media outreach w/ understandable information.
- Interactive, Informative, Low Pressure Meetings (Like the Summit)
- Council Member come to my Book Club
- Meetings w/ Translation (Spanish, Asl)
- Informal Chats/ coffee monthly w/ your council person
- Truly Listen to resident
- Consistency (Same time/Same place)
- Monthly Coffee talk w/ council members
- Outdoors Event (food, talk, activities)
- Civic Academy + focus area (Round Two)
- Weekend Discussions
- Blockparty combined with Resource Fair
- Expanding the Volunteer Columbia Program to let citizens know more tangible ways we can help with community initiatives.
- Transportation Barrier - bring buses
- When people in a community want to see that community developed in a specific way, listen to them
- Community Summits
- Protecting Neighborhood "flavor"
- Weekend Discussions Please
- Council should door-knock to show they care
- Catered Town Hall
- Council Person attend annual HOA meeting
- How to Start a Neighborhood Association
- Group community volunteer event (pollinator garden)
- Flying in ALL neighborhoods
- Block Party with Comm. Resourcing
- Surveys
- Block party for CHA
- Council Person attend annual HOA meeting
- Community Building events w/Board & Council members
- Ice Cream party
- Outdoor events (parks)
- Flying in Businesses (Liquor Stores. smoke shops)
- Neighborhood Listening Sessions
- Block Party
- Stamp Out Apathy party
- Driveway party for neighbors. Food. Invite City to Come
- Neighborhood Associations Website issues
- Surveys
- Festival Booth & City Staff
- Please return my emails

- Community events Calendar (festivals, etc)
- Weekend meetings! We're working M - F
- Tenant nights workshop
- Neighborhood meeting with council person
- Digital Surveying
- Block Party neighborhood meetings
- Way to learn about community events
- Surveys by Ward
- Better Public Transit Bike Lanes
- Annual Community Summit
- Community TikTok Page
- Help New residents access resources + build community
- No one speaks w/people in low income neighborhoods come out to talk to them
- Meetings for hole naberhood talk about how to make it a Better Place
- Neighborhood Watch
- Community Garden Events
- Provide information in bite sized pieces
- -With neighborhood associations - Email





RESILIENT ECONOMY

Goal Statement

Foster a resilient and diverse economy that meets the needs of our community.

Community members who visited the Resilient Economy priority area offered valuable feedback on how the City can strengthen Columbia's economic future. Input was gathered across a variety of topics, including public art, airport services, transit improvements and funding, the relationship between housing and transportation planning, and economic development priorities.

There was strong support for increasing public art throughout the community. Participants identified parks, public spaces and roundabouts as top locations for future installations, with additional suggestions including roadways, medians, libraries and community centers—demonstrating a widespread desire to integrate art into everyday spaces.

Community members shared ways to improve Go COMO bus services to increase ridership. Residents called for more frequent and reliable routes, reduced wait times and expanded service hours. Suggestions also included clearer maps and schedules, as well as more bus shelters to enhance comfort and accessibility.

When asked how transit improvements should be funded, the most commonly supported option was a dedicated property tax, followed by a sales tax. While some respondents were open to introducing fares for the currently fare-free service, a smaller number expressed concerns about implementing any additional funding measures.

Participants also weighed in on how the City can better plan for attainable housing and transportation. The top recommendation was creating safe, continuous



and connected bike, pedestrian and transit networks. Additional priorities included locating essential services—such as grocery stores, health care and child care—closer to neighborhoods, increasing the diversity of housing types and encouraging development near employment hubs. Concerns about housing affordability and the influence of corporate landlords on rental availability were also commonly noted. Many community members advocated for walkable, mixed-use neighborhoods with small retail and grocery options to support daily needs.

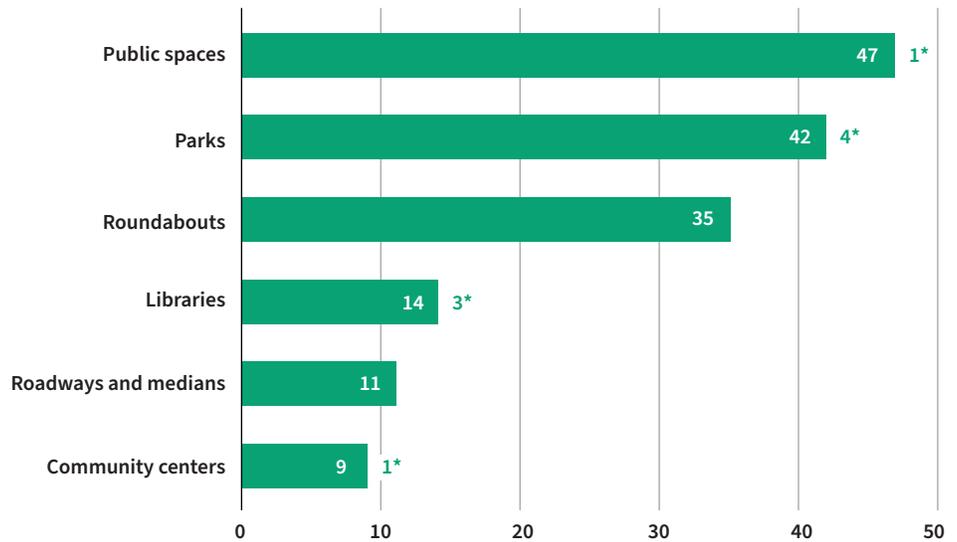
In terms of business development, residents expressed a strong desire for more locally owned businesses, especially in the areas of dining, retail, entertainment and fitness. Respondents highlighted a need for more family-friendly and age-inclusive entertainment venues, along with grocery options that emphasize health and variety—specifically calling out interest in stores like Trader Joe's or Sprouts.



Where would you like to experience public art?

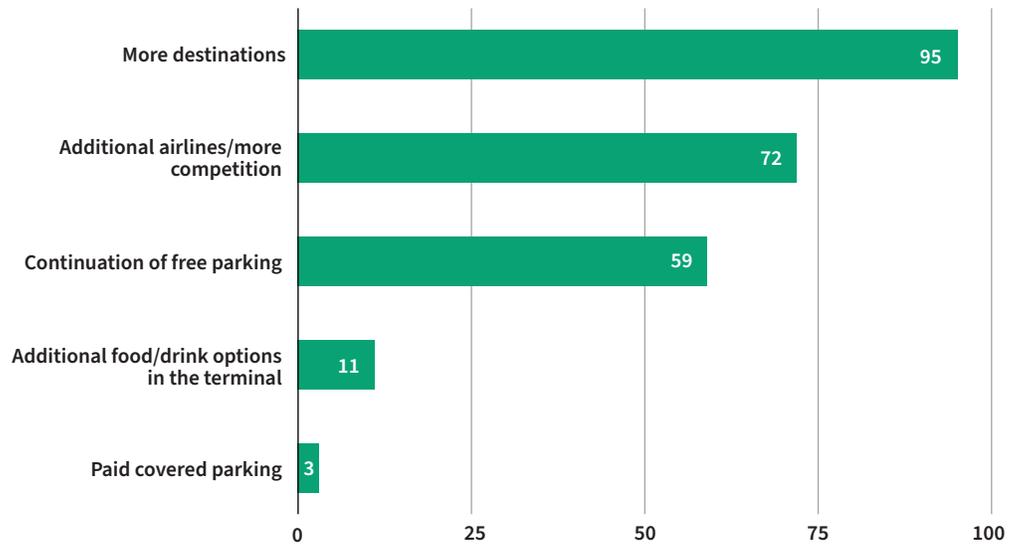
Residents were asked to select one option.

* Number of youth who voted within each option



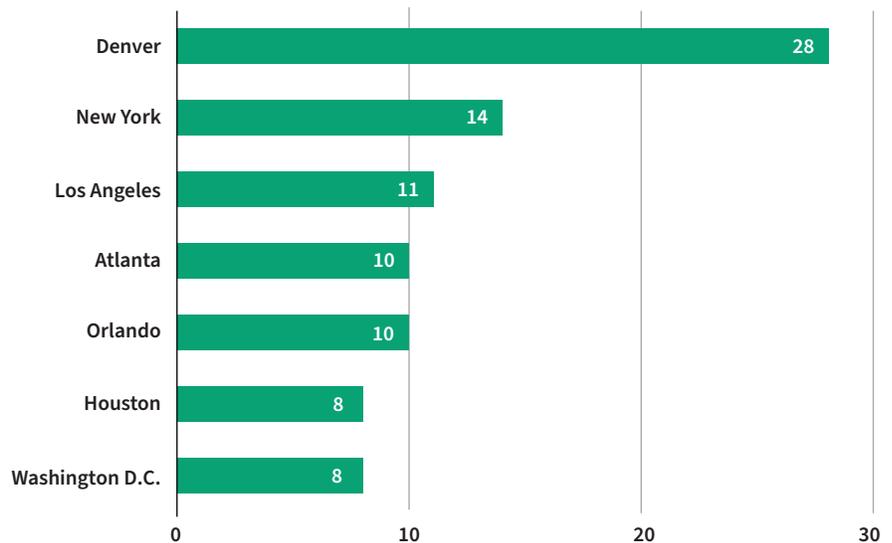
What types of amenities would make the Columbia Regional Airport (COU) a better choice for you?

Residents were asked to select two options.



What U.S. destination would you like to fly direct to from Columbia Regional Airport (COU)?

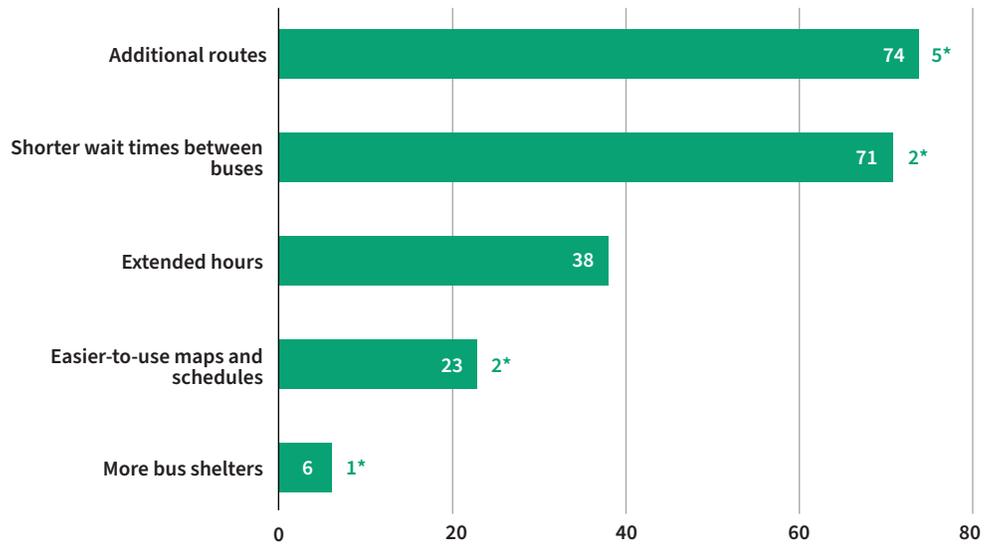
Residents were asked to select one option. Top seven responses shown.



What changes could the City make to our Go COMO bus service that would make you more likely to take public transit?

Residents were asked to select two options.

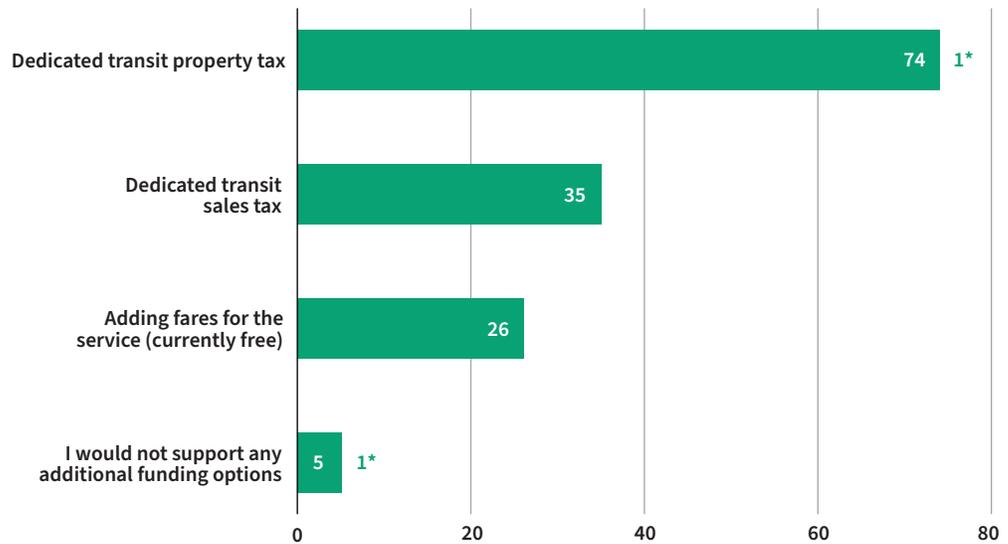
* Number of youth who voted within each option



What funding options would you support to improve Go COMO bus service?

Residents were asked to select one option.

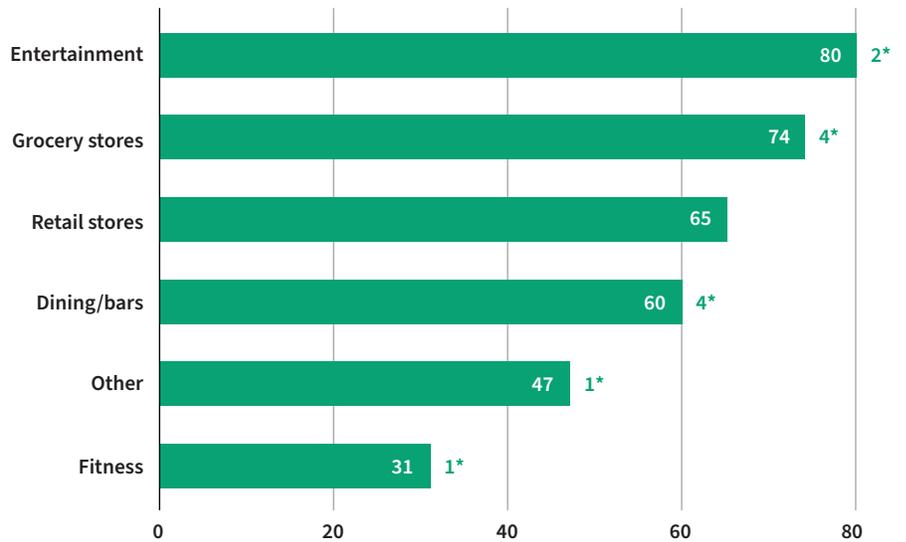
* Number of youth who voted within each option



What type of business offerings would you like to see more of in our community?

Residents were asked to select three options.

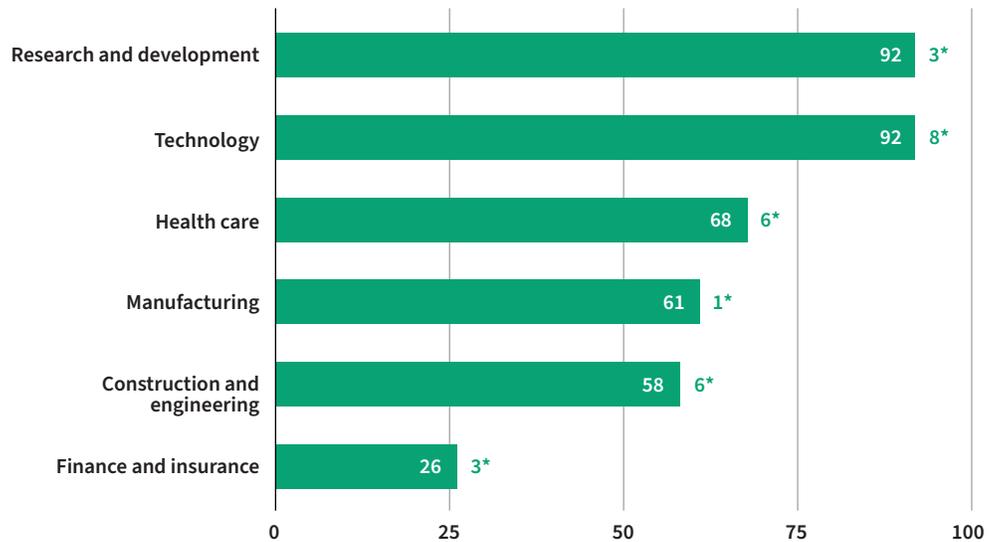
* Number of youth who voted within each option



Which industries would you like to see the City more actively recruit?

Residents were asked to select three options.

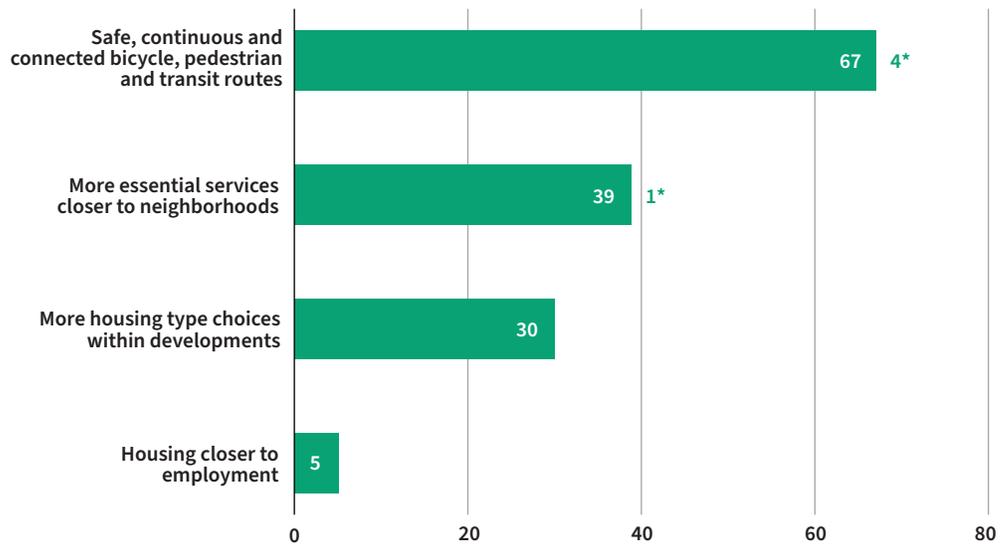
* Number of youth who voted within each option



How can housing and transportation be planned to make both more attainable?

Residents were asked to select one option.

* Number of youth who voted within each option





Goal Statement

Provide reliable, sustainable and innovative infrastructure for the efficient delivery of municipal services to meet the current and future needs of our community.



Community feedback gathered from the Reliable & Sustainable Infrastructure priority area reinforced the importance of resilient infrastructure and provided valuable insights for City staff across multiple service areas. Participants shared input on road quality, utilities, bike infrastructure, sidewalk connectivity and recycling programs—all of which play a critical role in Columbia’s long-term sustainability and livability.

Maintaining a high-quality road system emerged as a key priority, with residents emphasizing not only the importance of smooth and connected roadways, but also their role in supporting mobility and enhancing the city’s visual appeal. Participants also underscored the need for a more complete and connected sidewalk network, along with expanded trail systems that serve both recreational and practical transportation purposes. These insights will help guide future planning to improve accessibility and beautify Columbia’s public spaces.

There was strong support for expanding the City’s bike infrastructure. Community members expressed a clear

desire for more bike lanes—particularly those protected by permanent barriers from traffic—to improve safety and comfort for cyclists. This feedback will help shape transportation planning that supports biking as a viable and attractive mode of travel.

Participants also weighed in on City utility services, including water, electric, sewer, solid waste and stormwater. Residents emphasized the importance of delivering these essential services with a continued focus on reliability, affordability and energy efficiency. Their input will inform utility program development to ensure services evolve responsibly and sustainably.

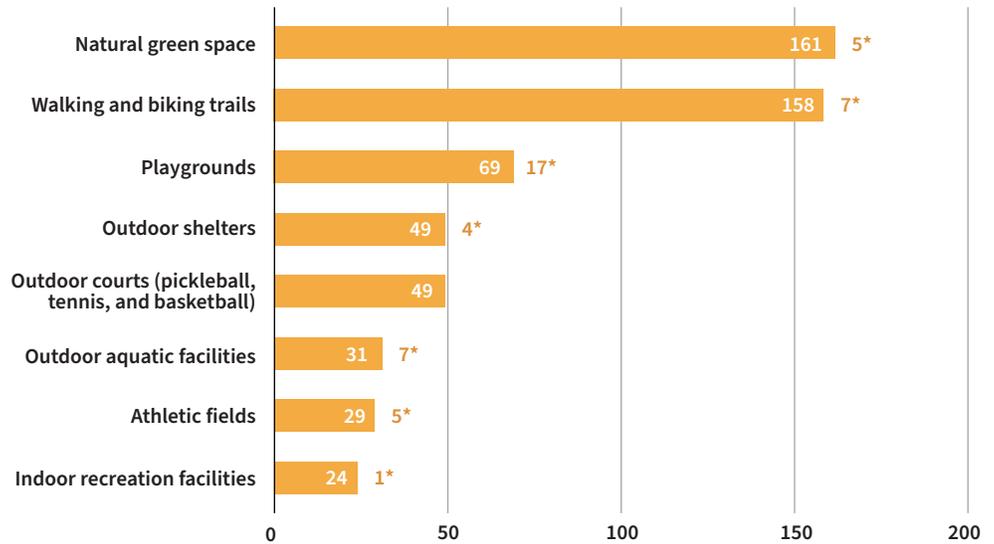
Recycling was another area of high interest. Residents called for the implementation of single-stream recycling, additional drop-off sites and more educational outreach to boost participation and awareness. These suggestions will help shape future recycling initiatives, making them more accessible, user-friendly and effective for the entire community.



What do you value the most in the City's parks?

Residents were asked to select three options.

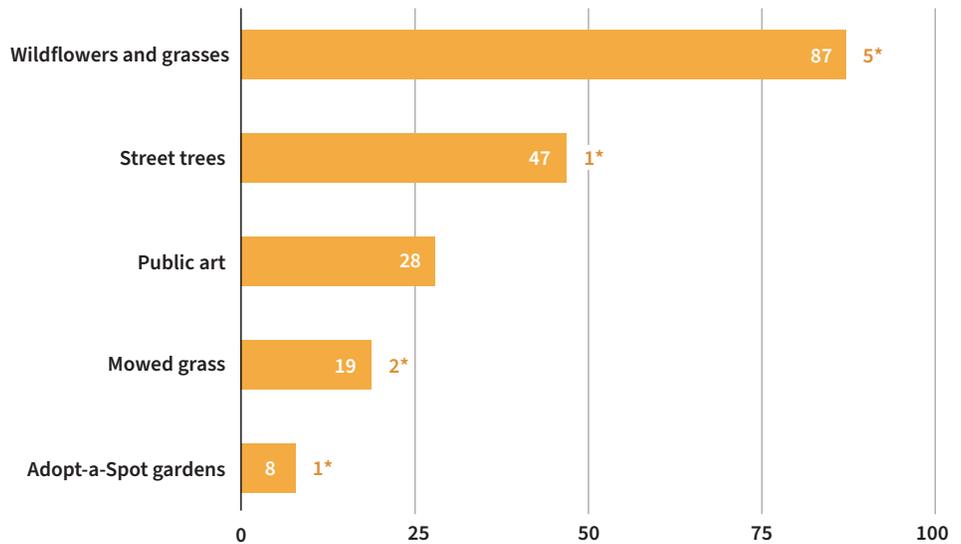
* Number of youth who voted within each option



What would you like to see in the right-of-way near roads?

Residents were asked to select one option.

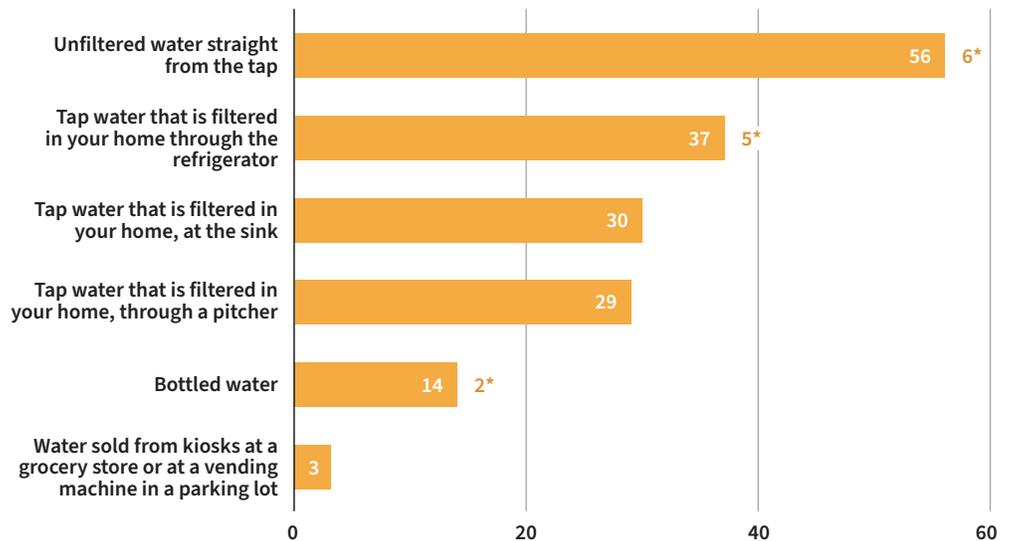
* Number of youth who voted within each option



What is your primary source of drinking water?

Residents were asked to select one option.

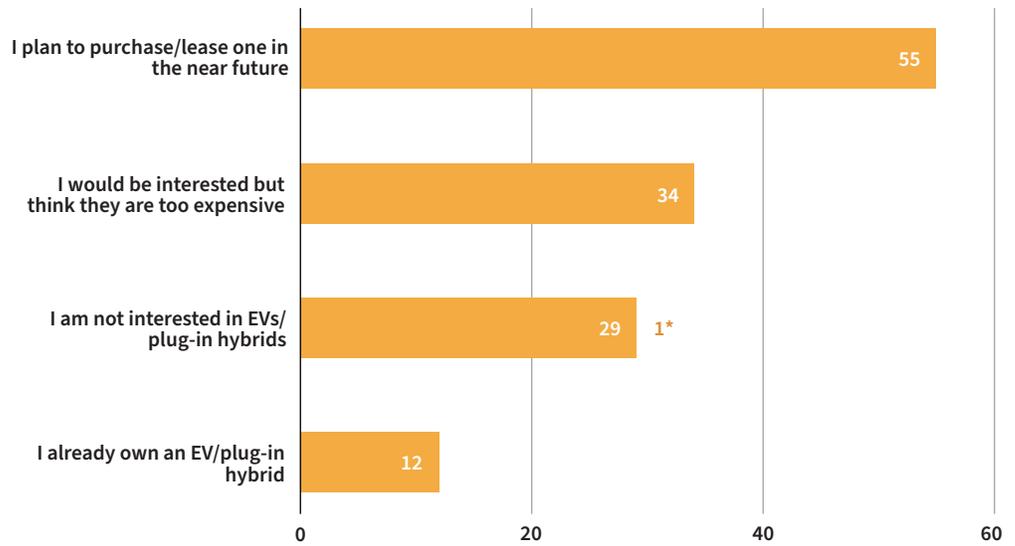
* Number of youth who voted within each option



How likely are you to purchase/lease an electric vehicle (EV) or plug-in hybrid?

Residents were asked to select one option.

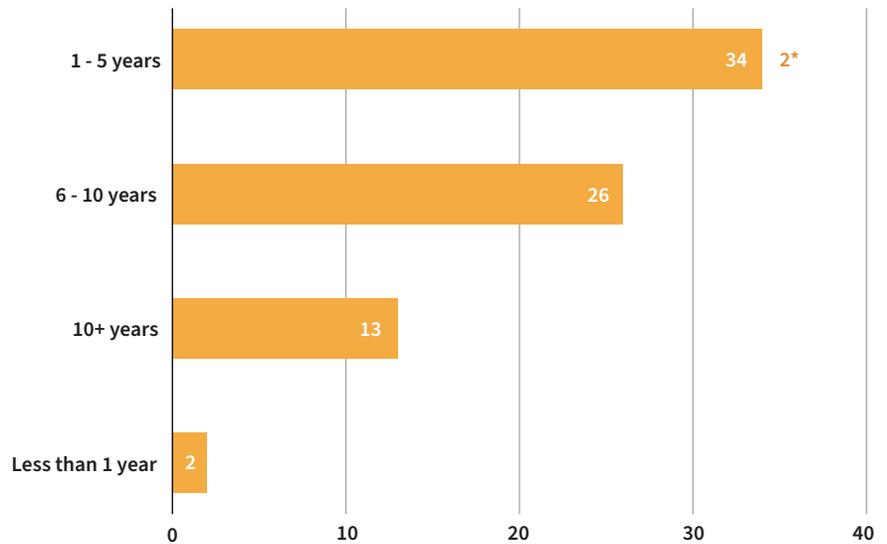
* Number of youth who voted within each option



If you plan to purchase/lease an electric vehicle (EV) or plug-in hybrid, in what time frame are you planning to do so?

Residents were asked to select one option.

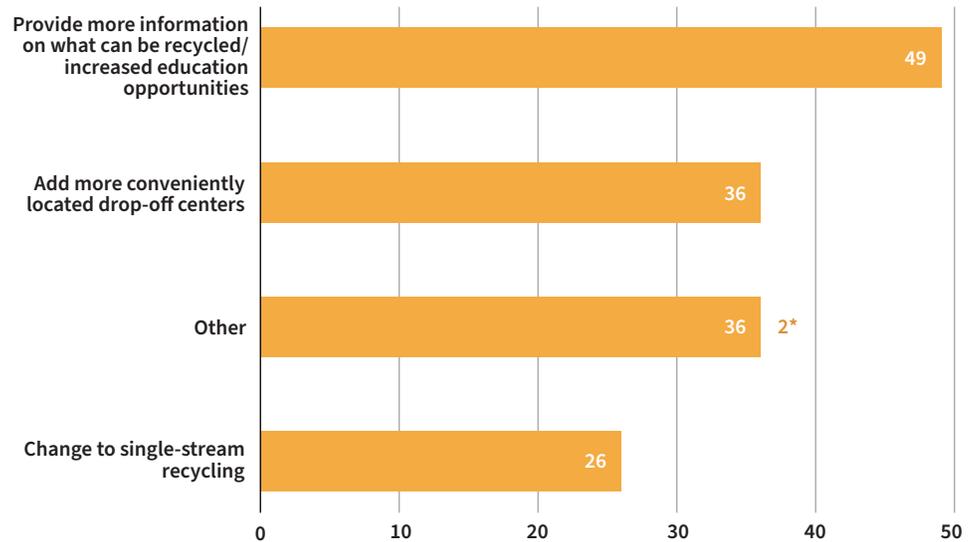
* Number of youth who voted within each option



How could the City make it easier for you to recycle?

Residents were asked to select one option.

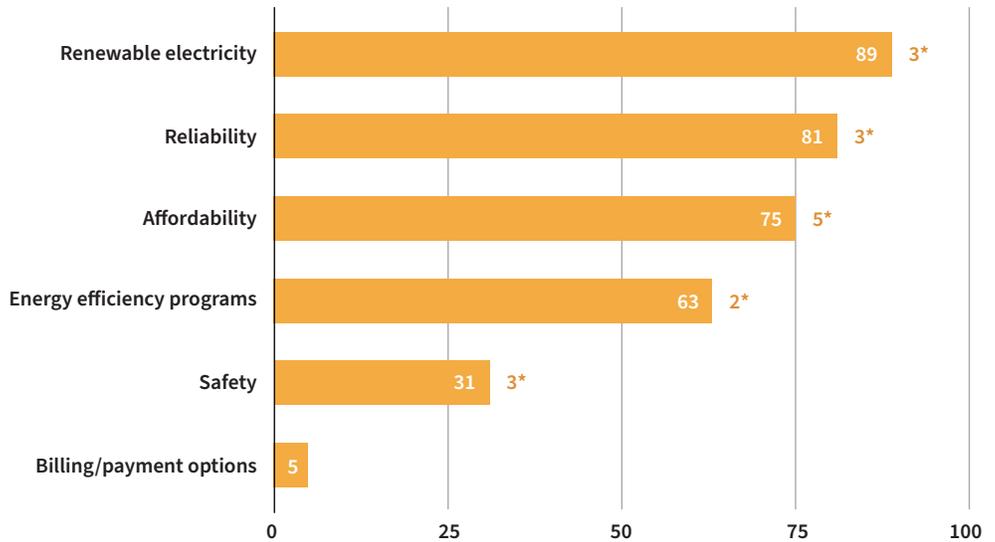
* Number of youth who voted within each option



What are the most important features to you from City Utilities (Water, Electric, Sewer/Stormwater, Trash/Recycling)?

Residents were asked to select two options.

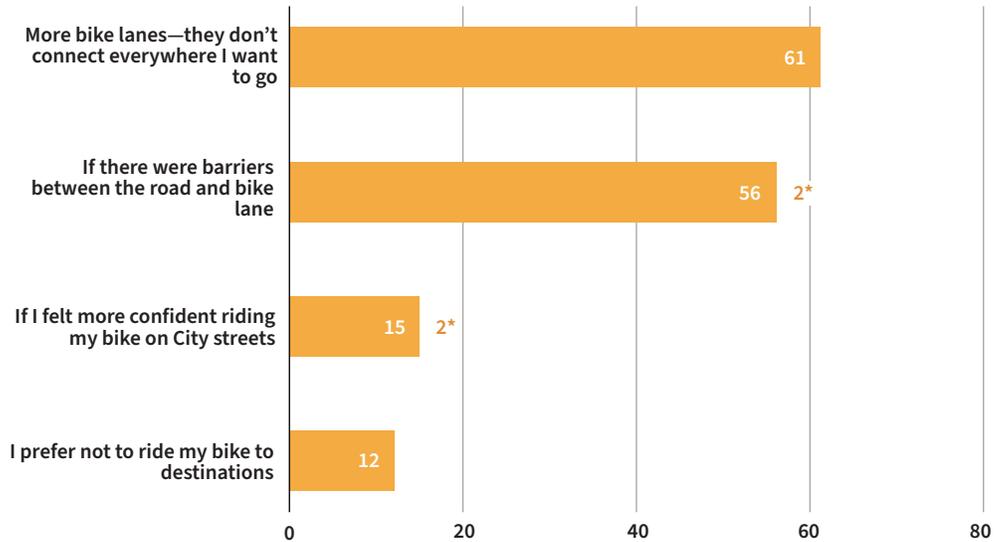
* Number of youth who voted within each option



What would make you feel more comfortable using bike lanes?

Residents were asked to select one option.

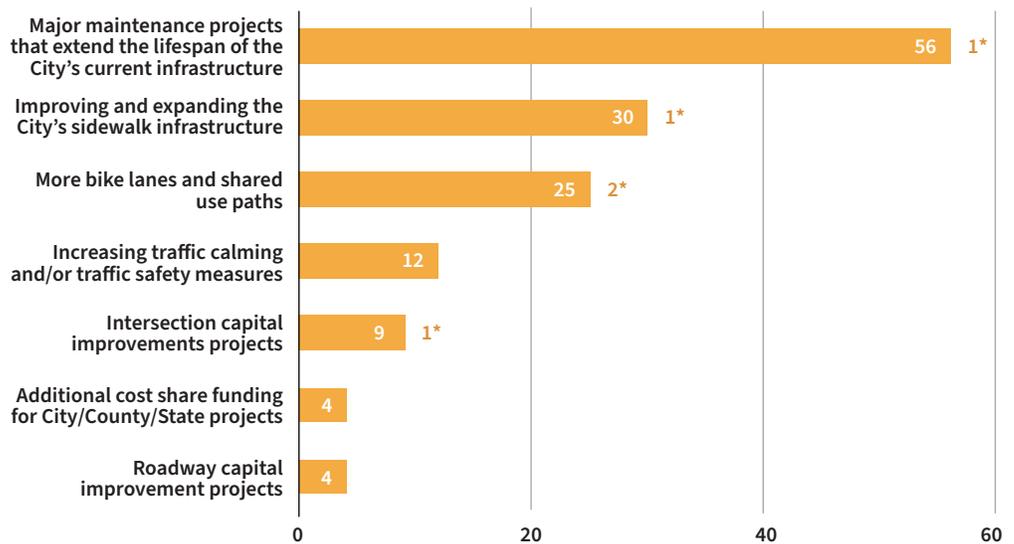
* Number of youth who voted within each option



The City has approximately 1,500 lane miles of roadway to maintain. If the City were to pursue additional funding mechanisms, where would you like to see the City prioritize these funds?

Residents were asked to select one option.

* Number of youth who voted within each option



Citizen Spending



Organizational Excellence

\$2,090 **209**
Total Value CoMo Bucks/votes

Summit guests were given \$100 each in “CoMo Bucks” to “invest” in the five Strategic Plan priority areas they felt deserved additional funding. Reliable & Sustainable Infrastructure received the most funding at \$5,360 with Inclusive & Equitable Community in second at \$4,600. Overall, \$19,580 was “invested” in the five priority areas by residents.



Safe Community

\$4,350 **435**
Total Value CoMo Bucks/votes



Inclusive & Equitable Community

\$4,600 **460**
Total Value CoMo Bucks/votes



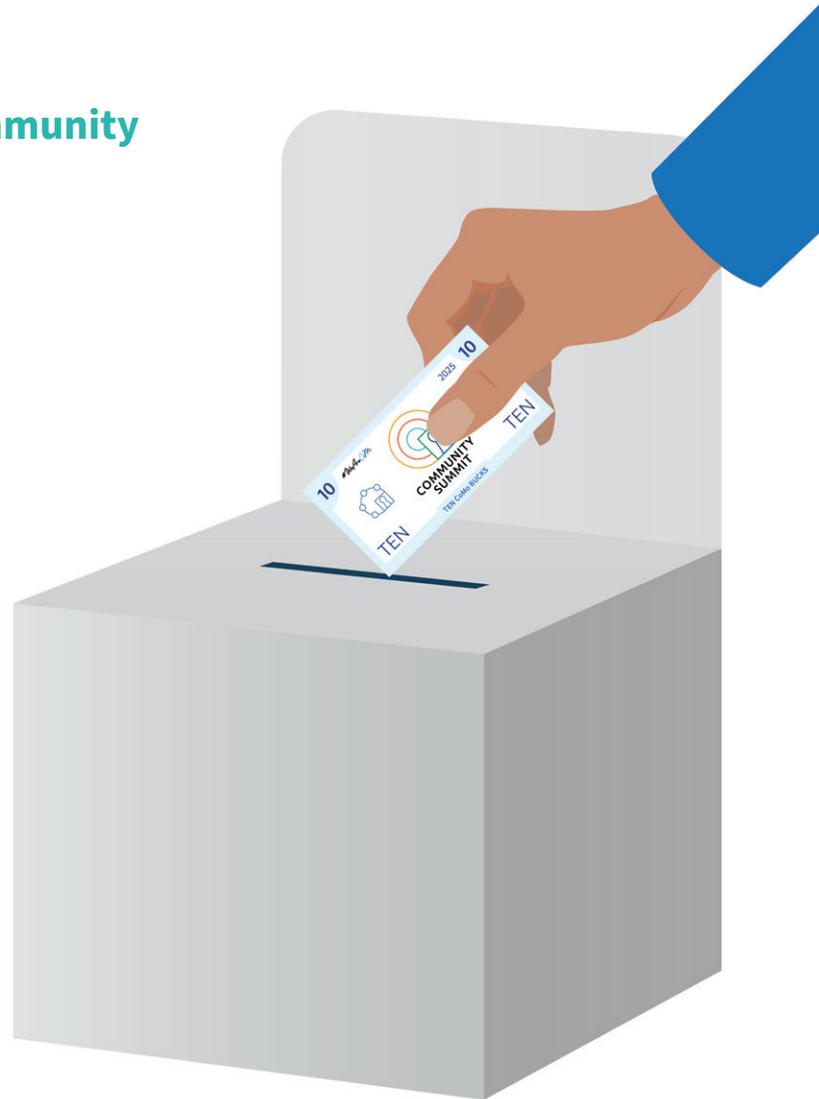
Resilient Economy

\$3,180 **318**
Total Value CoMo Bucks/votes



Reliable & Sustainable Infrastructure

\$5,360 **536**
Total Value CoMo Bucks/votes



Appendix

The following pages are open-ended feedback from Summit Guides organized by strategic priority areas.



Organizational Excellence



<p>Currently Columbia provides the most funds for CPS - They have always been good stewards. I worry that the department of Ed is closed and Missouri is expected to take the responsibility of funding D of E services, it will not take this on - but rely on local communities to increase their funding. The City of Columbia should prepare for this possibility.</p>	<p>Reduce school share of the property tax from 84% to 50%. More taxes devoted to affordable housing. Have energy efficiency, corner grocery stores within neighborhoods.</p>
<p>Access to public health facilities downtown. Neighbors in the downtown area sometimes (often) have to use 911 call to get treatment at a hospital because they have no transportation to health care and its too far to walk.</p>	<p>Better programs held to educate employee retirement, healthcare</p>
<p>Better onboarding process for Board and Commission Volunteers.</p>	<p>Lower fairer wages (salaries) why are the top 5% paid 10 times more?</p>
<p>public engagement</p>	<p>Clean trash in ally more. Less ticketing.</p>
<p>Notify residents when changing street signs to memorial names</p>	<p>Columbia maps should update more frequently.</p>
<p>Trail & transit maps</p>	<p>Easily searchable map for zoning and other information</p>
<p>Housing Stock - add to map. Budget - Explain the budgeted expenses are not all directly from city - Some departments revenues offset the difference.</p>	<p>Love the idea for an interactive map showing road closures, work, and other info</p>
<p>More programs for homeless individuals to enter the workforce.</p>	<p>More events like this Summit!</p>
<p>Interactive Maps- I haven't used them before, but I see their value now.</p>	<p>More events like this. Twilight Festival.</p>
<p>I would like more info about how the City budget is used</p>	<p>Maps to show all updates on bike routes and other bike info. Great info on improving insulation and other energy efficiency strategies for homes.</p>
<p>Board of adjustment & crime stats, city website and hub boards. Health insurance and retirement benefits, provide education materials</p>	<p>I work for Tyler Tech. Are there untapped ways to use existing software to connect with the community?</p>
<p>Keep promoting & hosting public input sessions and surveys. BeHeard CoMo is great!</p>	<p>I am looking forward to an online map for new business permits to be able to spread the word about exciting business developments!</p>
	<p>Encourage biking - for health benefits and decreasing green house gases. Recruiting - very hard to do for small business in CoMo, definitely needs help.</p>
	<p>Place the budget breakdown on the city app.</p>

GIS maps of fatalities and serious injuries
I want all city employees making a living wage and binding arbitration for grievences process. Better online communication work with new options on public verification.
Color code on maps - capital projects
Sadly, I think many people really dont understand the structure of local government as it is to keep informed voters aware of whats being done, it's also like there's a great need to go back to basics & teach people which government roles are responsible for which aspects of their city. That might be a good use of the short from the video.
City doing well.
Great topics and learned things
Love the focus on maps, what people look for from jobs. we need stability to be able to provide for our families with the hard work we put in & we need paid leave to be present for the rest of our lives outside of work
Cityview helpful, Boone county info is good
Summit was great! Love to see the engagement!
All of the above in teaching people about the city budget when, where, how,- educational materials , workshops, events, online, videos, handouts, web
Come to my neighborhood council people buses so people can vote!
I'd love to be able to quickly get the "5 main changes this year" synopsis of the budget. It's hard to publish that info with the perfect middleground level of detail where it's useful/ informative, but not overwhelming. I think 5-ish bullet points for "what are we doing with our money this year" would be great information for the budget breakdown.

Would love to be able to more easilty access info about crimes and street closures as they are happening.
Crime streets/sidewalk repair, projects, closures
crash data, housing stock data (w/ zoning changes & constitution permits) - all transportation plans overdelayed
Retention of CDL drivers to keep services running smoothly
Easy to see budget plans that are broken down and easy to understand
Explaining how budgets are allocated, decision-making processes, etc. can go a long way to help people know what the city is doing
This was a great event! Looking forward to next year!
Excited to check out the energy efficient rebates available to homeowners
outage of speciality programs especially in the summer , frequecy outages in the green meadows area, public bus for specialists not enough bus drivers, limited bus routes, health insurance dor self employed or private jobs, need to disucss more family leave, family leave with kids & elderly
For the Summit: move voting opps away from staff to ease congestion
Hold more job fairs for low income families, individuals. An interactive city map would be an important addition for CoMo residents and visitors
My interactions with utilities building permits and other offices have been 100% positive, keep up the good work
Keep website current
Career path in a job. REDI is a great organization!



Crime!, Construction, Sidewalks, Finance Communicate social media now
Love the maps, make them easier to find
I didnt know about the maps. Please dont interpret historic lack of engagement with them as a lack of need/appreciation for them. I will use them more going forward
Columbia is fabulous- Thanks
Life Ins extended beyond age 70
Mapping, social outreach, budget process
All goals are formed and would make a difference if completed however, I often wonder if it isnt better to focus less on the work experience and move on promoting work life balance and community engagement in neighborhoods
Letting the community know about City -resources, etc by email- text etc.
I find myutilities bill site very udeful in understanding my energy use. Also plan to look into energy audit and community solar.
Events like this are the soul of the beloved community.
Federal grant approach to homelessness is by far the most effective, State probably should but generally not willing to invest resources, local govt- most impacted within community but variable and generally inadequate resources
My priorities for Columbia would be to decrease crime with investment in staff equipment including cameras, lighting, drones, and safety equipment for officers.
Good as is
I love GIS project, especially making it available/ accesible on phones!
Infrastructure-street sewer utility upgrades other- city bus service expanded, health insurance
Interactive Maps on the city's website with statistics. Budget annual, get more feedback from people.
Online video
Council meeting minutes Publish them
I would like organized city resistance against the wrecking ball of Trump
I appreciate the graphs explaining where tax money goes - it really helped see the value.
More of these events, so citizens can keep informed and aware of what the city is up to
Use what if software for citizens to comment on taxes and staffing

While I think IT/data is helpful to share, more face to face in community is needed. Sustainability and Volunteer Services are excellent examples of how the city can support its citizen
Map: Community events
Valuable event
I would like to see SMART goals. This city has ideas for days and they are good, but I need to see the changes play out. Half-baked ideas are not ideas. They make think and go away.
Focus now to improve: 1. Crime 2. trash/recycle 3. streets - potholes! No spending on climate change - FAKE!
Homeless situation
Nice interactive map of capital improvement projects and 911 calls. Good to see where some of the money is going.
Great conversation with the GIS team about the data used on community dashboard. Interested in May's data points on Historic Brick Streets.
Need sensory playground equipment in Parks
Support good staff.
Utilizing MyComo app for more information, news, activities distribution. Post CIP Projects info on MyComo app.
Mayors who aren't bought and paid for. (He knows who he is).
Make community leaders more available



Public Safety

Harm reduction efforts downtown
1. Homelessness: different levels of government need to work together and coordinate. 2. Police downtown: it would be great for police to be present, walking or cycling around downtown in a non-threatening/non-reactionary capacity to ensure a sense of safety and not just show up when something has gone wrong.
Support law enforcement-retention of officers - benefits
I don't think you fully realize the remendous community service the CMHS (and animal control) provide. Have you ever imagined how many stray dogs, cats would be on our streets trying to survive? Do you think that is healthy for them and/ or humans? You have an expert in vetrinary public health right here in CoMo. His name is Thomas D. Rolo DVM (Rolling Hills Vet Clinic) He also has a masters degree in veterinary public health, and he teaches the subject at MU's dept. of public health program. Tom was also selected on the school board at one time.
Thanks for a Terrific Morning.
Community policing round tables
Violence Prevention should focus on preventing domestic violence. Please expand the AREA that you clean downtown. You are do a great job with the Broadway area.
Increase in pay and benefits for officers
Homelessness rate needs to be lowered, not sure what the solution is. More green spaces and youth development programs for low-income neighborhoods.
homeless low income housing
Homelessness - Everyone coming together is the answer.
Police need to focus less on angering the at risk community & building connections no more killing of deer in parks Gabe
"Harm Reduction" downtown, not necessarily more police, but "Harm Reduction"
Gun safety classes for adults and youth would be amazing. Learning how to feel safe around homeless might also be great. I'm often afraid I will hit them on the street corners or feel nervous on the trails during runs. Do people know there are programs available to help maintain their homes?
I would have a continuation of the support resources for homeless individuals living in Columbia. Cops should be more supportive and less punitive.
Appropriate funding for police officers and firefighters so growth of community continues to provide safe and healthy environment. Concentrate on growing homeless population.
Increase police presense & public restrooms. Local Gov. Less than 5 (every 10 years), teaching youth, other (street maintenance)

I would like to increase safety, especially in the downtown area.
Helping homeless folks requires overall coordination as homeless folks are generally transient. Police visability downtown, more foot patrol/presense. Enforcement around 9th & Broadway, the smoke shops are a mess.
Improved signs & road markins downtown. Improved signs on business loop.
Another version of traffic cops, like transit police including citizen reporting open a a video app for speeders and unsafe driving. App for citizens to report hate speech from drive by vehicles people against the homeless.
Very complex issues. Glad to see the new crime prevention.
More funding for homeless population.
Action is taking place for the homeless community.
Stop attacking homeless people. Invest in housing, better walfare programs, and just helping the less fortunate instead of punishing them further. Happy healthy economically stable people don't commit crimes out of necessity.
Keeping our kids park safe. Police presence. Homeless people..
Encourage community based efforts. More programs for youth and harm reduction.
Keeping downtown cleaner. Keeping the City cleaner. More gun safety.
Stop parking so many care in downtown. Make pedestrian only fee. Too many cares. Speed
Support CMHS new facility. This will keep the pet population under control if we are able to provide resources to spay/ neuter/stop disease spread & prevent spread of invasive species.
Party noise and fire works in East Campus. Trash, Home maintence in rentals.
More non-uniformed outreach to build relationships with community members (including unhoused)
Sidewalk obstruction biggest city issue! Would like to see additional traffick calming downtown not always safe to walk.
Our police and fire do an excellent job. Give them more resources. More youth programs.
I would like better lighting for a safer community
Issue with people parking in bike lanes/sidewalks. I would like to see more traffic calming and pediestrian-friendly areas downtown.
Homelessness - increase ability to call 911 / help
Sidewalk maintenance, HOA sidewalks, sidewalk maintenance in snow



Violence Preston: Not Listed: Basic Prevention of anti violence. Domestic abuse info and support. What is mean they fueling opportunities for local shops?
Grateful for family support resources. I learned to replace my smoke alarm every 10 years. Safer intersections downtown. Would like more collaboration between agencies to address homeless population.
More community policeing help activate neighborhood associations in areas with disconnect from city or high crime.
Emergency buttons STRs - Limit to 1-2 STRS per owner (although they'll find loopholes)
Really want to see affordable housing and support for most vulnerable. Compassionate help for our homeless population
More homeless shelters.
I liked talking to the police officers
Increase community spirit on city buses. I am trying to get ideas on this but dont any so far. There is intense bullying and violence on the buses that I have witnessed.
I think we need more public restrooms cleanups and lights
Put a very high sales tax on AirBnB - raise lodging tax. Increase authorized police force.
Homelessness is not a government problem, not is it responsible. People literally don't take help and it's a societal issue (drugs play a large part). Columbia should make efforts to improve without expecting help from outside government. Local government should address local issues instead of ignoring them.
Allocating police resources where they are needed most, Lax gun laws necessitate community conversations solutions
More parking downtown.
Really hoping the opportunity campus works out. Long over due.
Lights at the Cosmo roller hockey rink.
Safer Bus Rides. Homeless issues.
Honestly, I feel very safe here. No concerns or complaints. Great job!
I think Columbia is safer than people give it credit for! Great Job =)
Biggest code enforcement issue- other-half dead trees sweet gum trees. Inoperable cars on properties & in streets Supporting our police by not automatically commenting on incidents where force has to be used on individuals
more community resource officers, and how to connect those struggling w/ resources
Improve community policing practices

Need a good website w/ stats to see what a neighborhood dynamic is
Using funding for social workers to first respond instead of cops, better lighting on roads that have sidewalks, No short term rentals bad for the housing crisis
Support funding for social workers, emphasis on restorative justice, not punitive justice, try to discourage short-term rentals like VRBO so housing stays, available & affordable for residents
We bought our house this year and have interacted w/ the City in numerous ways - utilities, planning, water & light. Everyone has been super helpful, friendly, and informative. Keep up the good work!
Downtown is great! Maybe more high quality businesses instead of places like smoke shops? Fill in the vacant spaces downtown
Congrats on graduating new police officers - keep it up! More police visability will help with the burst of recent crime.
Other - more spaces to hang out
Safe streets for everyone to feel like they belong
Find ways to feed the homeless & the hungry, provide healthy meals with the help of building a community to each out to lock, grocery stores & others who are well to cook or finance, finding ways to have affordable housing & place
Set up some designated Uber (and other) pickup sites near bars and restaurants - maybe 2-4 downtown
Keep each other accountable - not necessary to see something say something but instead approach lesser crimes with more open minds. Provide education in de-escalation
Bike riders need training. Those riding bikes don't understand bike lanes. They lanes almost make riders more dangerous - riding any direction they chose. At least people have a general idea of rules of the road for cars. They also approach intersections from the right. Drivers turning right don't think to look over their right shoulders before turning right. Also there should be an ordinance for landlords to have and maintain in every rental a smoke & carbon monoxide dectector.
Too many noisy vehicles, no license plates, reckless drivers
I support back the blue! Cops are heroes in my eyes!
Police in community, police move, police in downtown
Public bathrooms downtown, CPD, better lightning * Homeless, carbon monoxide
office of violence prevention would like to know more about this! Incentivize home maintenance, Airbnb/ STR's - dont let corporations buy homes to rent back to people, appreciate licensing restrictions
Close streets to cars and promote pedestrians



Incentivize maintenance please take care of the homeless in productive and compassionate ways STR Map
too many break ins of cars less bonding out of criminals
Until trust is improved the rest is worthwhile, but lacking preparedness is important- resources have to be allocated and I think you do that fine
More police downtown after 7pm, more police or park rangers @ the trails or siren pole for up to push when in danger, provide smoke detectors with free detectors
Its good to hear about the hiring and train of new police officer. I saw online comment about not feeling safe downtown, but I haven't experienced that.
Homelessness- there are resources available to them but most who we see on the streets panhandling do not want help. That's their way of living can we tax them? All the cash they get from donors at medians? remove them from the medians that's a safety issue for all
New Animal Shelter for CMHS - to replace current dilapidated facilities.
Speeding on Green Meadows Rd
Safety is of course a primary concern in Columbia. The best thing would be to have more preventative measures such as activities for youth. I am concerned with the current climate that migrants and refugees are made to feel afraid. I think Columbia and the CPD are doing well.
Police presence during all times and in positive community interactions is greatly beneficial
Good as is
providing adequate city services. I pay hefty property taxes so it is reasonable to expect that if the city approved the development I live in then they should be able to provide me with adequate and constant water pressure. Your variability of water pressure cost me a water softener and flood in my basement as stated by plumber. Get the water tower solved be the highest priority. Working on it since citizens approved in 2016.
Better lighting- not only better illuminating streets, but also designing streetlights that are properly shaded above to reduce light pollution
Five stations fine/ smoke detection- less than 5 year old
Homelessness: Contracting with nonprofits and city helps with local judicial system. Funding comes from all levels. Office Violence Prevents - Activities downtown? More parking and public restroom.
More homeless resources
Better education and community action
Expand the Park Patrol concept

Police, clean up, don't set up some neighborhoods to fool around Wilkes 1st ward
End police with weapons. Ban guns in City. End bail. End access of Ring doorbells to police.
I think you guys are doing a great job and I do NOT support the current election/CPOA narrative that you are not.
More shelters and day shelters for homeless. Public restrooms that get cleaned. Cameras: traffic and downtown.
More restrooms downtown is such a great idea! The best way to make a community safer isn't police - it meeting people's needs. If someone could buy what they need, they are less likely to steal it.
Opportunity Campus and other programs that offer support for homeless people is the #1 way to reduce homelessness. They need opportunities, not enforcement
Glad to see the Chief is here! She's done a great job! I like that Columbia police recruiting focuses on community, doing good things, etc. vs. Jeff City that focuses on lights, sirens, and rush of arresting someone.
I have always felt very safe in CoMo. Thank you to everyone who is part of that! I would love more education on how to interact with the homeless community.
I would like to see less crimes but that takes more jobs, classes to work on self, and hope
Greater presence in high crime areas and during night downtown
Safer biking, community awareness of bike rights and bikers who follow bike rules
Local community and citizens should care for homeless
Increase police
Extremely important: I don't feel safe going to the shops on one end of the city because of stealing even in the daytime.
To build confidence in CPD, restore lost functionality of the CPRB. Would require Council attention
The root cause of homelessness should be addressed. Taking them off the street is not enough. They need to be provided with proper healthcare in a compassionate way and given the tools to give a successful life.
We want to feel safe and comfortable.
Other: sidewalk maintenance
I feel safe in my community and city center.
More support for stray pets.
Worried about animals in our community. We need better services for strays
Increase community policing



Inclusive & Equitable Community

Home prices are out of reach for many. Would like to see limit of Air B&Bs and rental properties (these should be regulated for health and safety before being allowed for rental market.) Build more affordable homes.	More HUD & LIHTC Housing-better bus system
Would like to be able to meet in person with councilperson. Example: Have councilperson attend HOA or neighborhood association meetings.	A community block party with resource booths and games for the kids. A community event.
Do you feed animals don't count in our community and should not be protected? I have never heard anybody in city government mention CMHS. When I asked employees today which category my concerns would fall under, nobody knew.	It would be great if rebate programs were advertised in places like Lowe's or Home Depot.
More funding	We need better public transit in this city. Community Garden Events.
Build roads, sidewalks, and housing so that people can walk to different sections of the community and store/services in way that builds bridges across income and racial/ethnic groups. Get Rid of Gated Communities.	Need concentration on working toward a healthier community - taking healthcare to lower income neighborhoods - education on vaccinations, etc.
Develop more trail systems & nature areas like Bonnie View. More green spaces in lower income areas and as Columbia expands.	I would like more information on how to be a part of reducing homelessness in my community. This is a great goal and I think as a resident, I need to participate and make my community stronger and better.
Better bus systems	MU, supporting affordable housing and promoting health education and wellness programs. Being environmentally conscious & saving money on utility bills. Free residential energy assessment. Community Summits.
Look at real equitable outcomes for marginalized people.	More funding for CCLT lower-income sustainable housing. More funding for low-income folds, like daycare, annual increases in sustainable living wages. Encourage email comments/suggestions/questions to city staff workers official. Give us a voice.





More affordable housing options and resources.
More homeless safety and prevention resources could be helpful.
I want inclusive and equitable efforts because American food is wack. Ethnic restaurants are great tasting, local, and affordable. So the more the merrier.
Make sure things are accessible for people with mobility issues. Dog park on the south side of town.
More support and centers for homeless support
Allow more affordability in housing. Stop NIMBYISM
More affordable housing, more homes in the 100-150,000 range. Work on the homeless population.
More social programs for low-income/minorities/addiction services. LGBTQ+ support.
Strong Support for Neighborhoods.
I love that this is a goal for my city :)
988 program is great! Needed!
Mental health access. More centers for re-skilling job seekers.

Energy efficiency for renters (not just non-profit support)
I appreciate the resources for energy efficiency and home assessment
Online or virtual compents for those who cant meet in person events. Providing childcare, food, easy access and multiple times to city events.
Yes! CoMo where all can thrive
Additional public health van website directorly liasion for people to find local health care cooperative one-stop website to list available local providers
Affordable housing. I know its a nationwide phenomanon but wheres the new affordable housing.
CoMo has great diversity already and I'm happy it's a priority
more engagement coordinators (eventually at least one for each department), more diverse meeting styles/ times (IP meetings, etc.)
More Representation from Ethinc Groups
More options for low-cost housing - need to assist homeless population and people who are stuck in low-wage jobs.
I love the format for this event and that it's hosted in an accessible location. I think you could gather more insights if you gave people stickers that were color coded by ward, so that way you're seeing what the priorities are by location.
City is doing great things here
More chill meetings with the ward and city council, more energy efficiency programs for local restaurants/ stores (solar panels/ lights)
DEI YES!
Ways to encourage community engagement & conversation will help a lot in community building, ways to increase people being involved in their communities, such as group volunteer events, such as large trash pickup days or garden planting/ maintenance
More third spaces to encourage people to congregate. Parks and coffee shops are our main two right now, Downtown parking often discourages me from going downtown
We plan to utilize the rebate programs for home improvements
We need more than one library! At least one additional north of town and south of town
Building community using all voices. Plan fun events. Promote togetherness through positive actions. Monthly community building events.
Support CMHS - dogs help with health, stress, and personal growth
Housing for low income, housing for transferring housing
Public schools, community events, art in round abouts



Block parties, meetings w. council people locally, I didnt know about the health van- increase awareness, more guidance/ incentive to follow-thorough on energy , improvements after getting assessment
I support any event that gets people out of the house and interacting with the community! I especially support affordable housing and a committment to supporting homeless (health, safety, shelter, all of it)
We need to ensure Phat zoning doesnt segregate by income. Adopt Minneapolis policy of allowing duplex in R-1 zones. Promote town home development
Keep your DEI programs please
Public Service announcement to help overcome public empathy with respect to the individuals, involvement in community participation
Bilingual is important- and Columbia ecosystem is diverse we should utilize it
Make the resources known better by emails, newsletters, text etc.
I had good talk with the representation at his station about my thought on building a good community in my neighborhood.
Increase in community support of minority groups of DEI removal. Especially at Mizzou.
I would love to be more involved and get friends involved but Im a bit intimidated by the formal City Council Meeting and they can be long and in the weeds. I love the monthly events with council members and would love to see more informal events.
I am grateful for the efforts the city is doing.
It is ridiculous to have me paying for weeking recycling but only get services every two weeks.
This issue is even more important now with the current attack at the federal level on DEI. I liked to think that we are on opposing of trauma and support common sense.
Support city identification of at-risk people and connect with services, How do we et more people participating in ____ energy assessments and free insulation/color consultation friendly compeition for audit participation- neighborhoods, wards, towns
Good as is
Retirement, environmentally concious, low income communities protected, pollution etc this might come under zoning
Free residential energy assessment. Applies to renters, free/ no cost and shared with property owners. Public Health incentives Example Vaccine and support for housing. Health on Wheels.
Increase mental health substance abuse care to decrease homelessnes, Inclusive zoning increase housing affordability

Remove Reference to more from Common Language
Seniors engage-protect, safe streets sidewalks
Guarenteed min. income for all.
I love this focus! Vaccines & financial support should absolutely be top priorities, public health for the win
Public utilities assistance is so important. And affordable housing. One of the best ways to support mental and physical health is to make it so they don't have to worry about how they are going to survive. Make it accessible and so people know about it.
Need more effective communitcation about what is being done. Some of these programs are too little known
Being in a hospitably city for guests, refugees, etc. is important to me.
Basic needs, homelessness, and affordable housing all seem so related. Can we work on them all?
Everyone needs to feel welcomed and we do an okay job but the unhoused are also out people and we need to help them as much as possible
Ridiculous. End it now! No spending on this!
I feel strongly that homelessness is tied to housing affordability and flexibility. An easy way to tackle both is to relax zoning restrictions and allow more diversity of construction in both new and existing development. The city should work w/ developers to come up with new housing forms that fit with the tastes of current residents
Inform citizen on health awareness and mental health commonality so that everyone can see the availability of resources
More mental health awareness
Love the Let's Talk Local series to open up dialogue with City leaders
Very important. Please resist MAGA
More transportation infrastructure that doesn't require a car
Great conversation with Tim Teddy about possible change in structure of community land trust. Suggest City try to improve visibility of CCLTs work
Please keep working on affordable housing
Other: EE helps with utility be efficient and fiscally responsible
Protect LGBTQ!
Should be a priority



Resilient Economy

“Other” to me is about making communities more walkable with store/little shops closer to neighborhoods.
Entertainment (Kids Activities)
Private school options-support their flourishing-private schools are not rich (common misconception) teachers underpaid
Dining/Bars: it would be great if more existing restaurants had longer hours or could be open on Sunday.
Local-neighborhoods groceries-small food markets in neighborhoods would be very useful (not gas stations)
more community classes
task force & more summits
More multi-family housing, please!
Larger businesses not soft industry, Invest in what com currently has dont build more to care for maintain when the current city needs so much-If the budget is in such trouble-Why why continue expansion?????
This should include an update to the animal shelter for CMHS and also animal control! Out community is big enough now to need such a facility. The reason they did not take the City's offer was because they realized in a short time they would need a new facility. You should not punish them for that. The number of animals they receive has increased. They need more support! The abandonment/dumping of animals is at an extremely high level.
Develop work for people across various cognitive, mental, and educational ranges. Everyone should have meaningful work that comes with healthcare, vacation, and retirements, Not just the middle to upper class people.
More airlines at airport. More bike and pedestrain transit routes! More nature corridors for the bike routes so that they are pleasant to commute on. More safe public transit in addition to bike routes so that rush hour is less bad. Public transit, i.e. buses/shuttles to the Farmer's Market. More bike routes to local businesses.
Buses - Stop allowing football and other MU events to interfere with buses for people shopping and working. More businesses - not what but where - neighborhood centered.
Tourism is low income target-only attracts low wage jobs & the only people who benefit are rich people
Bicycle lanes + speed reduction techiques are needed. Energy renewables that are affordables. Implement your office of Violence Prevention.
It is important to have as many needed resources near by low income homes as possible. No additional funding - we need more routes as well as shorter waiting times.
It would be great to have more say in what kinds of businesses are put close to the neighborhoods. Often there is a sign with a phone number, but that is difficult while driving to navigate.

Business- Services like Spa, Pedicure, Personal Care
More inexpensive fitness facilities.
I would like better advertising of dining/bars/entertainment venues already available
Other (agriculture). Fitness. Entertainment.
Bringing in other airlines to COU while also keeping parking fee. I would like to see more information on the Bus Service. Which might inspire me to use the bus on the weekends as I often drive to Fulton for Work. While we have many resturants, Coffee Shops, gorceries etc, They are not located in many neighborhoods.
Local income tax, Local wealth tax. Affordable housing 3000 units a year increase. Incentivize ride sharing with the city from work groceries, ARC Church etc.
Dining and bars open later and Sunday. Symbolic bus fare.
Community theatre/music programs for free or low cost
Focus on supporting small local business
More diversity in busesses in Columbia. We are very heavy on healthcare, university, insurance, and finance. Need good jobs for less skilled workers.
More local companies, lower taxes on weed.
Make sure the largest businesses (amazon, walmart, etc) are paying their fair share in taxes and treating our community with respect (fair pay, equitable business practices, health insurance)
More business throughout parts of the city. Cheaper dispensory taxes.
I would like to see a space for children that is free/low cost sponsored by out big businesses. Similar to the one in Jeff City mall. Also I love their park (Community Park) I'd love to see a splash pad on the south side of town.
Emphasize City's natural and sports economy - both college and other. Decent and affordable housing near downtown. Don't move True/False to the mall.
It would be nice if the airport had more destinations. Artwork at the roundabouts - loved that idea! More mom & pop stores in neighborhoods.
Public transportation to COU. Travel in Columbia Coordinated with Mizzou. Reduce parking costs.
More art!! Expand COU to coasts.
Buy local. Healthcare - Clinics. Extend Buses to outer Columbia. Free buses but I would be happy to pay a fare for extended service. Also like to see essential services closer to Neighborhoods.



Help homeowners with maintaining homes.
Consider Public Transit to COU. More mixe areas with neighborhoods. Corner grocery stores. Small local retail shops. Resturants within Neighborhoods.
We need more entertainment options for families and kids!
I would like more small neighborhood grocery stores.
Building a variety of businesses that produce 'goods' (tech, services, education). Low cost bike hives like bird and other electric single person transportation
Shuttle to airport (Columbia (wabash) to Ashland). Museums. Dining w/ wifi
Great to learn about upgrades to airport. Business offerings (dining, art studios, entertainment) spread throughout City
Walkable neighborhoods/business centers we have lot of great businesses not arts/meusums all accessible.
Would love to see more locally owned businesses, nonprofits. We have a lot of big box stores.
YES! Robust transit for a cleaner environment & to support working people. I wasnt sure how to vote on the priorities to make that happen, several means to the same end. Business-small walkable grocery/markets no massive big box parking lots, zoning that supports cafes/bars/coffee shops within neighborhoods
More retail, but not chain stores. We need a way for people to be able to open a local business w/o going bankrupt to do it. No more vape shops, no more bars.
Less eateries bars. However, I know these are integral to the college experience.
Try to offer tax subsidies on property to attract larger R&D businesses or try attracting finance opportunities
Love the additions of more to our airport- I have had very positive experiences there & would love to be able to utilize it more
Would like more small independent business less Big Box Stores. Roots and Blues Fesitvals.
Expand flights to west, north, or southeast of US. Paid parking is a great idea because it could help fund future growth at the airport. Clean up the tash along our streets.
Sprouts/ Central market- bulk foods, healthy, Costco dining in the west stile
Liked learning about the available interactive maps,
Need more grocery like trader joe's, sprouts, whole foods,
Trader Joes!!! An ice rink and new skating rink.
Get rid of restrictions such as unreasonable permits to let business operate & thrive

Would love to see a museum for kids here.
More economic grocery stores (Aldi or similar) would be great. Mike with Transit was really great to talk to - I learned so much from him about the state of public transportation, its goals, and current challenges. If nothing else, I'm glad I came just for that.
More intentional investing in transit & driver retention/recruitment, more mini-parks and street tours, more committed sidewalks/bike lanes
Downtown-parking lots w/ shuttle service so I can avoid parking issues
More businesses with longer schedules keep it free, local groceries stores so we dont have to rely on big chains walmart/target
Job opportunities w/ a living wage. Support for low-income families
Keep the airport parking free!
Website providing drop off points for recycling what can/cant be recycled, manage parks for biodiversity; proud education about native species, more bike routes to drop off bikes, I love wildflower planting but more sign explaining ehat they are would be helpful , have more vairyty of plants to flower/look good throughout the year
Excited for airport developments - more airlines would be great! The parks system is great
More local grocery options. Local in neighborhoods.
Shelter and environment for kids and teens
Would like more small independent business less Big Box Stores. Roots and Blues Fesitvals.
Bus routes extended with show times, and waits & extended hours are needed, we need more outliners - prices are very high not affordable- more libraries & library programs
Celebrate CoMo's diverse arts community - bring the arts into more public spaces. Hold more large scale events.
Diverse economy
Support CMHS
Important! Plan welcome to Columbia signs at i-70 & 63 entrance to Columbia
housing for low income, housing for transitional families in the communities
businesses/entertainment-incentivize new entertainment places to come to COMO, love free airport parking, want more destinations, I need to look into busses more but I expect timing would be my biggest issue
Free parking at the airport is a great incentive to use the Columbia airport



Try to keep tech firms from moving to St.Louis, KC or elsewhere as soon as they become successful
Bring in more natural trails
Perhaps an indepth study as to what issues are causing the lack of affordable housing, my personal observation is one that I never hear discussed in public forums; and that is the purchase of homes by individual and/or corportations to be turned into rentals
additional budgeting & routes for Columbia
Bet on your town and offer startup funding and growth, Columbia could be a great boutique hub for startups but we are underutilizing our resources
I would like to go back to weekly recycling pick up also as a business owner there is cardboard recycling available but not "blue bag" recycling if that currently exists. I dont know about it. I take home my businesses recyclables & put them @ my home recycling pick up or drop them off at centers and ther are very crowded and messy
General comments- 1. Concerns about data not all visitors are voting on all boards making numbers inconsistent 2. Questions some were written in a manner that didnt support parked selection so didnt vote on all boards.
Business offereing in Columbia - I wonder how we might promote local business, rather than expanding large non-local/chain/chair/big box businesses
More options in general in North Columbia, especially affordable gyms. Would be nice if there was a walkable area with a variety of businesses.
Murals on buildings, art in the park
Good as is
I have never lived in a community that didn't clear street of snow in neighborhoods. i have lived in Norfolk, VA, Columbus, OH, Normal IL, and Greely CO. All cleared neighborhoods streets of snow, people need to get out of neighborhoods to work and it is a reasonable expectation that city roads should be plowed.
Retail stores- N/ Chains necessary, Dining est.
Attract more manufacturing - need low skill decent jobs
We need more clean industry that support are more academic on Hi Tech workforce.
Spend \$ on seniors not addicted homeless, seniors are safe need help
Stop the expansion of parking lot at ARC. Do not convert green space into parking lot please.
When I put entertainment I meant for adults, the kids have plenty to do. So do college kids. Like 40+ entertainment.

Please expand public transportation! Better bus service. More affordable/public housing. Storefront (small) libraries.
One of my financial goals this year is to shop small, brick & motar as much as possible - more retail spaces to complete w/ Amazon/Target/Walmart is a must.
Business distributed across the City. Housing, increasing zoning is pretty mixed. Upzone. Do parking requirements.
Thank you for putting art under resilient economy. #1 priorities for me are walkable neighborhoods and free public transit, more safe bike lanes
Consider recruiting more telecommunters who add to the community economy but require fewer resources
It's great to think about attracting business, but remmeber that those who are returing here also need services expanded
Other business offerigs: environmentally friendly places to shop. I love hosting AirBnB and don't want to see it over regulated I'd love to see community orchards of fruit trees.
Less vape shops please
I would like to see more places open and stay open
Do not raise taxes! Ridiculous!
More art
Continue growing Columbia with new businesses
We need more art! I also appreciate the airport looking at adding airlines and destinations
Less centralized commerce areas so people have more shops in walking distance
Healthy foods (individuals who are gluten sensitive)
We don't need more business especially cannabis store and Air bnb type properties (which buy our available housing).
Other: art/museum
No more cuts for the rich!
Tax rich more.
Roadway Maintenance better evaluation of annexing areas into city & extending roadway system when existing roadways have deferred maintenance issues.
Support for small businesses, including minority owned businesses



Reliable & Sustainable Infrastructure

Accept more plastic types
Roll Carts for Recycling - No Bags
Would be cool to close down parts of 9th st. and make it pedestrian-only on weekends
weekly recycle, more recycle options-types of items that can recycle
We need more trees-Public art would be really nice
City should have 100% renewable electricity by 2030. Trails that connect neighborhoods - walkable + safe neighborhoods.
Weekly curbside recycling more aquatic options-adult swim lap
More funding
Return residential recycle pick-up to weekly, Make south city electrical substation project happen
Put the most disenfranchised in middle when doing planning rather than those with most advantage.
Decrease amount of parks and trees
Don't build a new parking lot at the Farmer's Market. Instead, move ARC swim lessons to a different time so as to not conflict with the Farmer's Market. More native wildflowers in the right of way and medians! They have ecological benefit. Prairie restoration in lawn area that surrounds the ARC. Buy more and more land to create more native areas and bike systems.
Good for low income community
Improve MERF so glass can be recycled single stream recycling.
Recycling every week would be amazing!
More gardens and Green Space. More convenient recycling dropoffs.
Bike lanes - maintenance, better cleaning, free of obstacles, traffic control. Water infrastructure: watering schedule. Trash collection: smaller cart - find laying frequently - monitor to set on level ground.
App to match rides near me to meet transportation deserts.
Athletic fields, natural green spaces, walking & biking trails. Styrofoam isn't recyclable. Bottled water, EV: maybe some day. Trees.
Have a pedestrian only area (part of 9th st. for example)
More funding to parks dept. for staff & equipment. Regular hybrid vehicles are the future, not plug in EVs
More funding for parks & rec department. Master plan for connecting soft surface trails in Columbia.
Invest in modern, sustainable solutions. The better we build things initially, the less we have to spend on repairs and upkeep.

More heating/cooking shelters for homeless other than bus stop.
Clear the roads and ice faster.
"Walking" mall closed off to cars.
Better protected bike lanes and pedestrian friendly spaces.
Fixing the roads we have before building more. More renewable electricity. Safety for the workers. Providing more education for people. Love our trails & parks. Love the disc golf courses.
We need to allow for more housing near downtown Stop Sprawl. Increase population density. Smaller walkable neighborhoods.
Support more recycling initiatives or start actually fining residents for littering! more Cleanup Columbia events, more sustainable options for utilities & transportation
Barriers would be great. I don't drive a car so anything you can do to make biking safer and long distance locations available would be awesome!!!
Leverage tax dollars to update and maintain infrastructure
Add more glass dropoffs at recycling sites. I would like to see ongoing replacement program of drinking water lines. To replace drinking water lines before they break. Design more bike lanes to be usable by everyone. Asking does a 5 year old feel safe to use it.
Continue to expand (?) recycling
Single stream recycling would greatly help me make a better effort.
See if Parkway Apartments will participate in Share Recycling drop off. Not interested in EVs - I have my bike. More Bike Infrastructure!
Smart metering (AMI)
Recycling estically reusable items should be considered - can't depend on goodwill stores or other thrift stores
Education workshops on public art to focus on making art using recycled/repurposed materials that would otherwise be trash - Art in the Park booth? Right-of-ways: combine native plants with public art sculptures (and adopt a spot on maintenance), raingardens to help manage stormwater.
More sidewalks/Pedestrian infrastructure.
There is so much trash everywhere along the roadways and weeds. Please stop using chip & seal on City residential streets. It has ruined walking in my neighborhood.
I'd like to see heavy duty zoning. Columbia's growth has been virtually nonstop, uncontrolled for 25 years. Why? its making the city less liveable. Stand up to developer please.



Yes to more pollinators, also or + & trees- Community EV charging stations- Programs to help people afford e-bikes, maybe payment plans
More cross walks - like Garth and business loop have none. Safe walking to get places hard to get. Water available to pedestrians and public in different spots outside for homeless. Increase community and compassion with bus riders and drivers. I am trying to come up with ideas for this.
Recycling centers strategically placed near neighborhoods (but hidden so they don't complain - like a backroad or something)
This is one I am very passionate about more accessible, safe bike lanes, love given to the parks & community resources- these make it Columbia what it is!
Pedestrian only. Good education on trails. Street trees business loop.
More detailed recycling information available on website @ recycling centers for example. Dog food cans have teflon coating making them not recyclable that hard to know. Accessible and frequent charging locations for EV renters.
More strategically placed recycle centers, like fire stations, collaborate efforts with a clean up Columbia. Upgrade the MRF!
Recycle more plastics!
Single stream recycling, more drop off sites with glass only containers, (only 1 location now) More drop off sites east and west parts of town. I use sidewalks along Scott Blvd because vehicle traffic is too fast need to maintain sidewalks better along these high traffic streets
Electric Vehicles don't help if they use coal generate electricity.
Lower Utility Costs. Better upkeep of Public Parks after they are built.
More reliable recycle pickup, more dog parks, walking trails need wood chips to avoid, walking in the mud, maintaining roads, sewers, sidewalks & building new ones. Actually I would like to see the city disincorporated the county take over police & fire, electric go to Boone Cooperative, the water & trash by private enterprises. Either personal or real estate tax. Fair tax only!
Busses need to have bus monitor like school buses have. People want to feel safe on the bus
More roundabouts with wildlife grass
Better recycling more spots to drop off or more days to pick up from curbside, bring back recycling for old electronics and batteries
Compost bins. Recycling carts to pair with rollcarts - the rollcarts are awesome! Would be great to see more grocery stores in walkable distance. Bury the powerlines! The tree replacement program is awesome!
Schedule more clean up events in problem areas

Increase funding for infrastructure (potentially through property taxes)
More "neighborhood" feel to local shops/restaurants - things that are walkable no matter where you live in the city. Love the rollcarts, need recycling and compost rollcarts. Focus on road maintenance and adding sidewalks. Bury power lines!
When trash pickup had to be cancelled due to snow, why was pickup not pushed a day rather than waiting a week? We need better street maintenance. Continue to expand what can be recycled.
At home pick up (like trash). More often empty drop off locations
Have some kind of electronic to scan barcode to say "recycle" or "trash"
weekly collection of recycling materials
Maintain, improve existing roadway intersections
1. We need a solution to the yard waste issue. If you do not own a truck, you have no way but to pay a lot for removal. Could we have a menu of services priced individually to select? 2. Can we buy our rollcarts outright? We are over-paying for the service. 3. We pay more for fewer services and fewer options. 4. Can we opt to contract trash service?
More dog parks!
Move more quickly to 100% renewable electricity
Need more recycling drop off places, keep up good job emptying recycle dumpsters
Provide recycle bins, recycle dryers
other recycling provide the bins, parks, trails, courts, recycling site
Recycle -consistent schedule weekly, charging stations-EV, right of way no tall plants blocking views
Recycling: more reliable pickup schedule. It feels like it is repeatedly delayed due to weather, starting holidays, etc. Additionally putting my single use plastics in a single use plastic bag is upsetting roll carts would be great!
Recognize that public transportation always LOSES money. Discourage 2x/day commuting, rather than add capacity, e.g. Chapel Hill & fairview don't widen Ash to relieve traffic- you will never relieve traffic let commuters adapt e.g. flexible work/ shopping hours
Would love more "leash free" dog parks
Street need improvement
Overall, this has been a great public event and I was pleased to be greeted with such enthusiasm and pleased to see so many in attendance



Food waste, forum blvd bike barriers, nature bike paths
City infrastructure- roads/ sidewalks is important prioritizing sidewalks, bike/ scooter lanes are imperative for our growth in this community
Get rid of minimum parking rules for new locations. Better Education - People too much junk in the can.
Pickup trash when its scheduled to be picked up
I recycle and find it to be convenient. Also I'd like to see focus on the reduce and reuse as a priority. How can the city promote those? Tax on plastics bags maybe? Bike lane improvements-ensure sufficient width and clear neighborhood services. How can we help people clear sidewalks.
More transportation to and from food banks and tiger pantry and Truman's closet.
Better accountability of sewer system.
More drop of site making sure the sites are clean and smell bad. The site is pretty gross, there is a lot of grass and stuff on the ground.
Other: Re: Sustainable recycling-city needs to address picking up leaves/ yard/ garden waste with garbage- no longer allowed. City mulch sites have not been expanded/increased residents w/o vehicles to have L/q/G waste have few options street cleaning done to infrequently to stay on top of leaf litter in the streets
I love the Office of Sustainability.
This is so important now to help the city maintain its excellence as a city that values the environment. I hope that recycling will remain a priority for Columbia and that the city will designate more bins for glass that can be recycled.
Energy efficiency friendly community competition for % getting free audit
Good as is
Natural resources major here! Huge support for wildflowers, native grasses and street trees- trees especially to reduce urban heat island effect
City needs to stop building more parks until they can maintain parks that hard working tax payers have paid for. Stop the ridiculous pollinator habitat in the middle of the roadways. And it was the height of absurdity when they put up 64 No Mow Zones signs on one between Smith Rd and Thronbrook on Scott. Then take most of them down leaving 14 or so signs!
Summers bike trails, street trees, wild flowers, graves, roadway capital improvement, reliable power sources, affordability
Transit- Increase routes & frequency
better streets (Wider) to accommodate increasing traffic.
Stop fossil fuels asap. Solar please.

Glass collected separately for recycling. Biweekly curbside yard waste collection.
Work w/ large corporations (MU, apartment complexes, etc.) to make recycling possible - so much paper waste in my job at Boone. How can renters be part of the electric vehicle movement?
Sidewalks on roads. Lighting. Short connector paths.
I would love to see even more of a focus on recycling and sustainability and being a leader in the country. We have a lot of biking which is A+, but I'd like them to be safer. Think like a European city where it's encouraged and safe.
Expand residential geothermal
I would love to see the City invest in composting programs. Great for sustainability, landfill diversion, lowering carbon footprint, city beautification via gardens and green space
Transportation, the last mile. Why is this being left to a volunteer group?
Other, Recycling: promote the use of less single-use items to reduce the need for recycling.
Fix potholes!
Funding infrastructure should come from property taxes. Every dollar of infrastructure and public works spending ends up as property taxes. Look up the Henry George Theorem by Nobel Prize winning economist Joseph Stiglitz
Better compliance for recycling
Indoor municipal funded kids safe place areas
I tried to buy energy efficient items for my home but had no cooperation from retailers or installers so I couldn't get the rebates available. How can this be fixed?
I would like to see more recycling drop offs in the 3 ward
Please keep working on energy efficiency! We want a great Columbia!
Streets: fix, repave, etc. Ability to use solar credits to cover other fees.
Good, we are part of solar city.
Ability to use solar credits for charges beyond electricity, i.e. PILOT fees/taxes/other utilities
Provide recycling information in MyComo app.
New updated recycling center.
Need modern shelter facility for animals. Current is not safe.
Need modern shelter facility for animals.



Photo Booth





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 City of Columbia,
Mo. Government

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 beheard