701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Council Memo

Department Source: City Manager
To: City Council
From: City Manager & Staff
Council Meeting Date: May 4, 2026
Re: 2026 Community Summit Report
Impacted Ward: Citywide

Executive Summary

The City hosted its second annual Community Summit on Saturday, March 14 from 9 a.m. to noon at City Hall. Over the three-hour period, over 200 community members stopped by to speak with staff, provide feedback on key City projects, and learn about a variety of City programs and initiatives. Over 100 staff members supported the event, either by serving at the event or assisting with the preparation.

Discussion

The second annual Community Summit was held on Saturday, March 14 from 9 a.m. to noon at City Hall. Similar to last year's event, attendees had the opportunity to share their feedback on key City programs, as well as speak with staff about the issues that matter to them most. In addition to dot polling boards, we incorporated informational booths for attendees to learn more about a specific topic, such as where their sales tax dollars go, what a comprehensive plan is, and what updates there are on the projects associated with the 2025 Capital Improvement Sales Tax ballot.

In an attempt to localize some of the feedback received through dot polling, we color coded responses by ward. Having these responses by ward will allow staff to determine if there are any specific trends by geographic location. This is particularly useful for questions that sought information on neighborhood-level concerns, such as public safety concerns or code enforcement issues in each attendees' neighborhood.

Attendees again had the opportunity to spend "CoMo Bucks" on the Strategic Plan Priority Area for which they would like to see the City increase investment. Similar to last year, Reliable and Sustainable Infrastructure received the most investment, with $2,550 "Bucks" spent. Following that was Safe Community ($2,080 "Bucks"), Inclusive and Equitable Community ($1,920 "Bucks"), Resilient Economy ($1,100 "Bucks"), and Organizational Excellence ($730 "Bucks").

Additionally, the Strategic Plan update kicked off at the Community Summit. Consultants from BerryDunn, the firm assisting with the Strategic Plan update, were present to get feedback from community members on, in an ideal world, what the City of Columbia would look and feel like in five years' time.

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Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: Project costs were included in the FY 2026 budget
Long-Term Impact: N/A

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

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

Comprehensive Plan Impacts:
Primary Impact: Primary, Secondary Impact: Secondary, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

Legislative History

Date	Action
N/A	N/A

Suggested Council Action

This report is for information only.