

## **BOONE COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

2201 I-70 Drive NW • Columbia, Missouri 65202 • Telephone (573) 447-5000 • FAX (573) 447-5099 • www.bcfdmo.com

August 22, 2024

City of Columbia Mayor Barbara Buffaloe 701 E Broadway Columbia, MO 65205

Subject: Request for Amendment to Pre-Annexation Agreement – Case #49-2022

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

I am writing on behalf of the Boone County Fire Protection District to formally request an amendment to the pre-annexation agreement between the City of Columbia and the Boone County Fire Protection District, referenced as Case #49-2022 and ordinance #024934 which was executed on February 22, 2022. Specifically, we are seeking to amend item number 5 within the agreement.

The amendment we are requesting pertains to the requirement for a 5-foot sidewalk along S. Bethel Church Road, as mandated by city codes. We propose that this requirement be eliminated for the following reasons:

- 1. **Preservation of Mature Trees**: Eliminating the sidewalk would allow us to preserve a significant amount of mature oak trees along the west property line of the new fire station location. These trees contribute to the environmental quality and aesthetic value of the area, and their preservation is in the community's best interest.
- 2. **Cost Savings**: By amending this requirement, the Boone County Fire Protection District would save approximately \$60,000 in construction costs. These funds could be better allocated to enhancing public safety services within the district.
- 3. Lack of Existing Sidewalk Connectivity: Currently, the nearest sidewalk along S. Bethel Church Road is located 1,400 feet north of our property. Constructing a sidewalk on this short stretch would not provide meaningful connectivity at this time.

In lieu of this immediate construction, the Boone County Fire Protection District agrees to participate in the future development of S. Bethel Church Road, should there be a broader initiative to extend sidewalks or other infrastructure improvements in this area.

We believe this amendment will not only support our mission to serve the community efficiently but also align with the City's goals for responsible and sustainable development. We respectfully request your consideration of this amendment and look forward to discussing this proposal further.

Attached you will find several photos of the area which supports our request for this amendment demonstrating the mature tree preservation, overall aesthetic value of the area and the lack of sidewalk connectivity.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any additional information or clarification.

Sincerely,

Scott Olsen, Fire Chief

Boone County Fire Protection District 2201 I-70 Drive NW

Columbia, MO 65202 solsen@bcfdmo.com

573-447-5000

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John Sam Williamson, Board Chairman Boone County Fire Protection District 2201 I-70 Drive NW Columbia, MO 65202 jwilliamson@bcfdmo.com 573-447-5000







## Boone County Internet Parcel Map Prepared by the Boone County Assessor's Office, (573) 886-4262



ATTENTION!!

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