

Department Source: City Clerk

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: November 3, 2025

Re: Establishment of the Collegiate Advisory Council

Impacted Ward: Citywide

Executive Summary

This ordinance would establish the Collegiate Advisory Council to provide a structured avenue for engaging college students in Columbia's civic life. The Council will advise the City Council on policy issues impacting student residents and support citywide initiatives related to safety, housing, workforce development, transportation, and other topics of interest.

Discussion

In 2015, the City Council established the Youth Advisory Council to involve high school students in civic engagement and policymaking. The program has successfully developed youth leadership and provided valuable input on issues affecting young residents. Building on that model, the Collegiate Advisory Council aims to extend this engagement to university and college students—an integral and growing segment of Columbia's population.

Structure of the Collegiate Advisory Council:

- Membership: Nine student members representing the University of Missouri, Columbia College, Stephens College, and Moberly Area Community College – Columbia Campus.
- Appointment: Appointments to be made by the City Council following an application process coordinated with participating institutions and student governments.
- Meetings: Monthly during the academic year, and subcommittee meetings as needed.
- Leadership: Elected Chair and Vice Chair.
- Support: Staff liaison from the City Manager's Office and a small operational budget.

Anticipated Outcomes:

- Strengthened partnerships between the City and higher education institutions.
- Increased student understanding of municipal government and civic participation.
- Policy input from student residents on topics including public safety, housing affordability, transportation, and workforce retention.
- Development of future civic leaders committed to Columbia's long-term vitality.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: Unknown, but minimal

Long-Term Impact: Unknown, but minimal

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact[Strategic Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Inclusive and Equitable Community, Secondary Impact: Safe Community,

Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

[Comprehensive Plan Impacts:](#)

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

Legislative History

Date	Action

Suggested Council Action

Passage of the ordinance to establish the Collegiate Advisory Council.