

Budget Proposal FY 2025

Dear Members of City Council,

We, the active members of the City of Columbia Tree Board, are requesting **\$1800** in funds to aid in fulfilling our duties.

The Tree Board advises City Council on tree-related ordinances and management of the city's urban tree canopy. We promote the integration of urban forestry practices and principles into the city structure by assisting in development, review, and revision of the Urban Forest Master Plan. We also educate the public on proper tree care and the importance of the urban forest. We liaise between the public and city staff on tree-related issues.

Our mission aligns with the CAAP plan, and we continue to help achieve implementation of CAAP goals. To do this, we formed relationships with other boards and commissions to focus our efforts on this action. We continue to build off of past accomplishments, including working on increasing tree plantings in underserved communities, attend conferences to boost our knowledge to help increase the public's knowledge of tree-related issues, and beginning the venture of making a small interpretive tree trail in Columbia. We have done outreach events at city events, including Earth Day and the Farmers' Market. Finally, we have obtained a Community Forestry Grant from Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) to aid in a tree planting in an area of the Ridgeway Neighborhood.

Historically, Tree Board promptly responds to requests by City Council, cooperates with city staff, and exhibits a strong community support, as evident by past applications to serve on the board outnumbered the number of vacancies. The Tree Board exists to support the city and community, and this funding will allow us to better serve at a higher capacity. We appreciate your thoughtful review of this proposal.

Category	Description	Funding Requested
Food	Food and beverage for events	\$200
Promotions and Sponsorships	Registration fees for local events (Earth Day, Arbor Day, Farmer's Market, etc.), hosting a public speaker, sponsoring a booth at a conference.	\$900
Travel/Training	Mileage reimbursement, registration fees, lodging, staff development/training/education at conferences (ISA, MCFC, etc.)	\$700
TOTAL FUNDING REQUESTED		\$1800