



COLUMBIA QUARTERLY

Your Source for City of Columbia News and Events

Spring /2022



Metter Park

What Do You See for Columbia Beyond the Horizon?

The City of Columbia continues to make progress on the Beyond the Horizon Comprehensive Plan to guide our community over the next 25 years.

Share Your Ideas

Over the coming weeks we will be launching topical surveys and other engagement activities and we want to hear from you! Visit www.ColumbiaConversations.com to share your thoughts about our community amenities and attractions, health and safety, neighborhoods and housing, economic development, transportation, City services, natural environment, parks and recreation, and infrastructure.

Currently, we have three engagement opportunities available on the engagement platform for your input:

- Community Vision Survey - tell us about Columbia's strengths and weaknesses
- Vision MadLib - share your vision for Columbia's future
- Places We Love Map - identify and describe the places you love most in Columbia

Your participation and insight are critical to establishing our community vision, goals, and strategies to ensure a bright horizon for our community!

See Comp Plan page 3

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Mayor's Message



Mayor Bob Hill

This spring, as I reflect back on my first year as Mayor of the City of Columbia, I am most proud of our community and how our residents have continued to support each other, our businesses, and schools through two years of extraordinary times. Our commitment to be kind to one another has created an environment where we can all flourish and grow.

The City has weathered COVID with no significant impacts and is in a strong financial position as we will soon move into our new fiscal year. The City's budgeting process has begun and City staff will put much of their focus on determining the best way to utilize the City's ARPA funds, keeping in line with regulations from the federal government. Although the City's financial position is strong, the nation's economy has forced us to evaluate planned and future capital projects due to unexpected increases in material costs.

This time of year our spirits are bright and coming alive with new ideas. As you read on the front page of this newsletter, we're looking to you to share some of your ideas of how you think Columbia should grow and flourish over the next 25 years. The plan that is created this year will be our guide for almost every decision we make in the future, because it will have been created with your thoughts and ideas in mind. I hope you will help me understand how you want to see our community move forward. I encourage everyone to visit www.columbiaconversations.com, register as a user and share your ideas. Don't wait until it's too late, I want to hear from you now! Stop by our upcoming community meetings too. The first one will be held on March 31 at Main Street Abbey from 4:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Keeping you informed of important decisions and activities in Columbia is important to me. Each year you receive four Columbia Quarterlies. In between mailings, I invite you to follow the City of Columbia on our social media channels, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. You'll find them using the handle @KnowColumbia. View live City Council meetings on Facebook on the first and third Mondays of every month or stop in at a meeting in the Council Chambers. I look forward to seeing you soon!

Lock Your Doors!

Keep your Stuff

The Columbia Police Department is reminding residents to lock their vehicles as well as remove valuables from inside their vehicles. Columbia has seen a recent increase of vehicle burglaries in the early morning hours. The suspects have been seen canvassing neighborhoods for unlocked vehicles. They attempt to lift the vehicle's door handle and if unlocked they will go into the vehicle looking for items to steal. If the vehicle is locked they typically move on. Columbia is a very safe town and the Police Department is determined to keep it that way. The CPD is being very proactive and "saturating" the neighborhoods in the early morning hours. We need your help however to not make it easy on these criminals – lock your doors and remove your valuables. Please do not hesitate to call the CPD immediately if you hear or see anything out of the ordinary.



PROTECT YOUR CAR FROM THEFT



Welcome New Businesses!

Alambda Systems, LLC

207 N. Main St., Rm.

103C

Alambda.com

Beauty Boss

Hair Studio

207 N. Main St. Ste.

104A

Bloom Hair Co.

207 N. Main St. Ste.

108A

Columbia APT

816 S. Main St.

Altonpt.com

EmpowerMe

Rehabilitation, LLC

480 Dd Rd.

Empowerme.com

EventOPS, LLC

808 S. Main St.

Goliathtech of St. Louis

LLC

1005 S. Main St., Ste. C

Goliathtechstl.com

Greenridge Global LLC

104 E. Locust

Greenridgeglobal.com

HR Block

311 Wedgewood Square

HRBlock.com

Invictus Counceling, LLC

207 N. Main St., Ste.

104B

KL Crayne

Clothing & Home, LLC

207 N. Main St., Ste.

104C

KLCrayne.com

Mid America

Oral Surgery

220 Admiral Trost Rd.

Ste. B

Midamericaoms.com

SWK Hair Salon

111 W. Locust St.

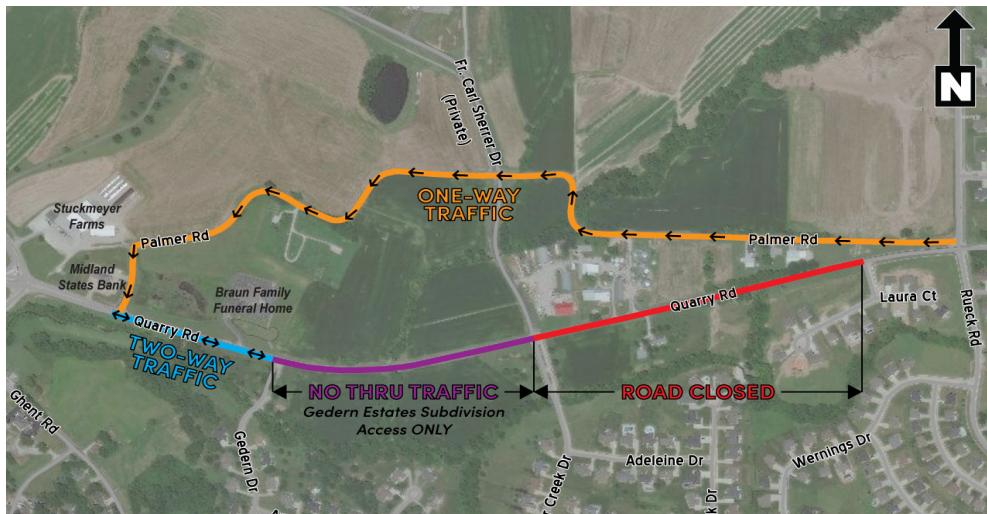
The Row Group, PLLC

808 S. Main St., Ste. D

Quarry Road Roundabout

Phase 2 Construction and Road Closure

The second phase of the Quarry Road roundabout and resurfacing project will bid in early March. The project will consist of a roundabout at the intersection of Quarry Rd. and Palmer Creek/Father Carl Scherrer Dr. and includes patching, resurfacing, and a shared use path on the south side of Quarry Rd, from the roundabout to Rueck Rd. Quarry Rd. will be closed at times to facilitate construction. During closures, residents and motorists shall use alternate routes such as Rueck, Ghent, etc. Palmer Rd. will be signed as a one way street from Rueck Rd. to Palmer Dr. As always your cooperation and patience are greatly appreciated.



Yard Waste Removal



RELIABLE SANITATION

Phone 939-3333

Place sticker at a visible location on trash bag, or adhere sticker to handle of trash can

Notice: 30 Gallon Container/Bag Limit

Curbside yard waste removal takes place every Tuesday beginning March 1 and continues through November 29. Please set biodegradable yard waste bags out at the curb by 6:00 a.m. One Reliable Sanitation sticker is needed on each bag. Stickers can be purchased at Columbia's Ace Hardware and the City Clerk's office.

Register Your Yard Sales

Planning to have a yard sale during the city-wide yard sale event on April 22 & 23 or maybe some other time this year?

Here's what you'll need to know:

- Register your sale via the City's online registration portal at www.columbiaillinois.com/yardsales at least five days prior to the date of your sale. Shoppers will then be able to view your sale details at the same link.
- One sign only may be placed at the location of the sale. Signs may not be erected elsewhere in the City per the City of Columbia sign code.
- Three sales are allowed per year (including participation in the city-wide yard sale) for a duration of not more than two days, when held at the same premises occupied by the same family.



Did You Know...

The City offers paperless billing and direct debit with no extra costs associated? When you sign up for paperless billing, you are provided with your bill the same day it's generated! No more waiting for the mail to come or wondering if your neighbor received your bill instead of you.

Sign up for paperless billing by visiting www.municipalonlinepayments.com/columbiaill or call the Clerk's office at 618-281-7144 ext. 100.

Avoid a convenience fee for re-occurring ACH debit payments by setting up your payments in person at City Hall. Customers choosing this option must bring a voided check and completed application which can be found at www.columbiaillinois.com/directdebitapplication.

Comp Plan

continued from page 1

What We've Heard

We have 110 registered participants at Columbia Conversations – are you one of them??? Here's what your friends and neighbors who have participated thus far have to say:

Columbia's top 3 strengths:

- Our K-12 public schools
- Our neighborhoods
- Our safe community

Columbia's top 3 weaknesses:

- Business growth
- Entertainment, retail, and restaurant Options
- Parks and recreation amenities

Agree? Disagree? Provide your input today!

Contact Us

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Columbia, IL 62236

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Know Columbia



Upcoming Events & Services



March 31 **Community Meeting:** Your input is needed to help plan the future of Columbia. Main Street Abbey, 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

April 4 - April 8 **Spring Limb Pick-Up:** Limbs out by 6 a.m. on Monday, April 4

April 15 **City Offices Closed:** in observance of Good Friday

April 22 **Rotten Egg Hunt:** www.mymainstreetcolumbia.com

April 22 **City-Wide Yard Sale:** Over 100 sales. See www.columbiaillinois.com/yardsales to register a sale or view and print a list of sales

April 23

May 24 **Large Item Curbside Removal** - Tuesday trash customers. Place items by curb by 6:00 a.m.

May 27 **Large Item Curbside Removal** - Friday trash customers. Place items by curb by 6:00 a.m.

May 30 **City Offices Closed** in observance of Memorial Day

June 26 **Music at Metter:** 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. at Metter Park. Waterloo German Band, Doggie Mac's food truck and strudel!

For more specific details, visit www.columbiaillinois.com/citycalendar or call 281-7144



Hours:
M-Th, 9 am-8 pm
Fri, 9 am-5 pm
Sat, 9 am-4 pm
281-4237

Details at: www.columbialibrary.org

I-CASH Event (Adults)
Tuesday, March 22, 1-4 p.m.

DIY Mosaic Flower Pot Workshop (Teen/Adult)** March 28 & 30; 6:30 p.m.

Self Defense Class w/Sen Sei Trout (Teen/Adult)** March 31; 7 p.m.

Celia and Friends Show (Family)
April 9; 10 a.m.

Big Cinn Cinn-a-fun Fundraiser
May 7 - June 5. Supports Friends of the Library. Purchase online**

Summer Reading Kickoff & Registration
Saturday, June 11; 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Coffee & Cakes with Local Authors
Saturday, June 11; 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Breakfast fundraiser for Friends of the Library while hosting local authors.

**Register at www.columbialibrary.org or call 281-7144.