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News Release

Arkansas City set to launch new community surveying program

Citizens asked to opt in to FlashVote system; may receive signup texts, too

ARKANSAS CITY, Kan. (February 22, 2021) — Do you have one to two minutes each month to help to make Arkansas City a better community? If so, we want to hear from you!

The City of Arkansas City is pleased to announce the debut of its new FlashVote citizen surveying system. Among other uses, these quick surveys will be used to develop its new Comprehensive Plan.

The first survey will go live at **11 a.m. Tuesday**. City staff will be encouraging residents to sign up all through the winter and spring through a multitude of different online and offline communication methods.

Residents can learn more by viewing this video: <http://bit.ly/flashvotearkcity>. They then can sign up at www.flashvote.com/arkcity or from a link on the City of Arkansas City website, www.arkansascityks.gov.

The City and FlashVote are working together to make regular civic participation more accessible and simple for the Ark City community. The City has entered into a contract with FlashVote, a cutting-edge survey provider that will collect timely resident feedback on current municipal topics of concern.

The City invites interested residents who want to have their voices heard — but perhaps don't have the time to attend meetings or public hearings — to sign up to take short surveys on an as-needed basis.

FlashVote will help the City to hear from residents more frequently about an array of different topics.

Resident input on issues of importance is essential to the City's decision-making process. Residents who join the City's new FlashVote community will find that civic participation has never been easier.

These surveys will take a minute or two to complete and there is no fee to sign up. The surveys will be anonymous and infrequent, and residents' personal information will be protected by FlashVote.

The surveys will work on any computer, phone or mobile device. An added benefit to residents is that they will receive the full, anonymous results as soon as the 48-hour survey period ends.

For immediate release

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Residents also may receive an invitation to sign up via a text message on their cell phones.

The City cannot view individual survey responses, only aggregated data from all respondents.

Interested Arkansas City residents are encouraged to sign up online and learn more at www.flashvote.com/arkcity or call Public Information Officer Andrew Lawson at [\(620\) 441-4415](tel:6204414415).

Fast feedback

Join your Arkansas City friends and neighbors by signing up to make sure your voices are heard. It's free, fast and fun — and FlashVote makes your feedback completely anonymous.

FlashVote creates a series of one-minute surveys about timely City issues that residents from all areas of the community may choose to receive by email, phone call or text message, depending on the method the participant chooses. These surveys will cover a wide range of topics, such as public safety concerns, parks and recreation, streets, upcoming City events, input on the budget, and much more!

With FlashVote, residents sign up to receive surveys of no more than five questions that should take no more than a minute or two to complete. At maximum, residents would receive 12 surveys per year.

Because of the ease of the surveys, FlashVote gives residents who typically don't interact with the City at meetings, or through other means, a greater opportunity to provide feedback to elected officials.

You'll even get to see the full results at the end of each one-minute survey, just 24 hours later!

Sign up for FlashVote

To sign up, visit www.flashvote.com/arkcity. Registration requires that users create a unique login ID and password. All results are anonymous. FlashVote will not share your personal information with anyone.

Residents also can sign up with their Facebook, Google or Twitter account, if they have one already.

All that is required to register is an email address, first and last name, gender, and year of birth.

Although it is not required, many users provide their home address, which will help the City to better analyze data by looking at specific parts of the City and filtering out nonresidents as needed.

After users' registrations are submitted, they will receive an email containing a link they must click to activate the registration.

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After residents sign up to be part of the survey pool, they will quickly receive a notification whenever a survey is launched by the City of Arkansas City. Participants will have up to 48 hours to complete the survey before it closes. Once the survey closes, FlashVote immediately tabulates all of the responses, and then provides the results to City staff, the City Commission, the Planning Commission and the public.

Choose how to receive surveys

- Participants can choose to receive their surveys via email, text message, telephone call or by logging onto an internet browser from any device. Users can customize their method of delivery and the time of day they will receive survey notifications.
- Surveys are open for 48 hours and residents can review citywide results 24 hours after a survey is closed.
- Residents who choose to participate also can opt out at any time.
- User information is not shared with other organizations!

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