



For immediate release

Pipestone Residents Encouraged to Participate in Electronic Survey on Community's Future

Pipestone residents are being encouraged to share their vision for the community and ideas for its future in an electronic survey, the results of which will inform a community-wide planning initiative.

Pipestone Forward, a volunteer group that has formed a nonprofit organization to plan, advocate and help implement a community strategic plan, has joined forces with the City of Pipestone in this long-term planning initiative.

"Pipestone has tremendous assets to build upon for an even brighter future," said Mayor Laurie Ness. "As we plan to create that brighter future, we want to ensure that all residents contribute their insights, hopes and dreams to it."

Dale Roemmich, president of First Farmers and Merchants National Bank and chair of Pipestone Forward, also encouraged residents to participate in the survey. "Planners need to have a solid understanding of the priorities of Pipestone residents," he said. "The survey is designed to give everyone a voice in this planning process."

The survey is the second of three opportunities for community members to provide input into the planning initiative. In May, 25 residents from across the community engaged in one-on-one telephone interviews; themes from the interviews were identified and compiled into a document called an Environmental Scan that was shared with planners.

In addition, consultants assisting in the planning effort will conduct a Community Conversation on Thursday, August 18, from **7 p.m. to 9 p.m.** at the Hiawatha Lodge in Hiawatha Pageant Park. Residents are encouraged to attend and provide additional insight and input into the process.

The survey is available online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8NCKDGL> through Monday, August 1, and should take no more than five to 10 minutes.

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