

PRESS RELEASE Wednesday, March 17, 2021 Media Contact(s): L. Lamor Williams, APR | (o) 501 371 4421 | <u>Ilwilliams@littlerock.gov</u>

City Housing, Neighborhood Programs Department Seeks Public Input for Five-year Community Development, Infrastructure Plan

LITTLE ROCK – The City of Little Rock is currently developing a five-year plan for housing, community development, and infrastructure. The plan will help guide policy and actions over the next several years and will rely heavily on the opinions and experiences of people who are knowledgeable about housing community development in Little Rock.

As part of this process, the City is also evaluating barriers to fair housing choice. The goal of the research is to identify whether barrier and adverse policies exist in a variety of housing arenas such as rentals and sales, lending, insurance, and the public sector. Part of the study also includes collecting the opinions and experiences of people who are involved in the housing industry, including housing consumers.

In the coming days, residents will have several opportunities to share thoughts related to Little Rock's housing industry. Residents may complete this survey <u>https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HFZ5QWQ</u> or join virtual meetings March 18 through March 22 to make comments. Dates, times and registration links are below:

• Fair Housing Forum, Thursday, March 18, 2 p.m.

CST https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2128407534377961231

- Public Input Meeting, Thursday, March 18, 12 p.m.
- CST https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8254279393927193871
- Public Input Meeting, Thursday, March 18, 7 p.m.

CST https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8848230077693788687

• Public Input Meeting, Monday, March 22, 6 p.m.

CST https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5369628175085242636

Western Economic Services LLC will handle registration, facilitate the focus groups and will prepare a required report. The virtual focus group forum and public meetings will be through GoToWebinar. After registering, each attendee will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. For additional information or questions, contact Beverly Arbor at <u>barbor@littlerock.gov</u> or 501-371-6898.

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About the City of Little Rock's Response to COVID-19

Residents may visit LittleRock.gov/covid19 for all information about the City's efforts related to COVID-19, including the newly created Small Business Emergency Assistance Program. Volunteers are needed to assist with the grab-and-go feeding efforts for vulnerable populations, including students and seniors. Sign up at LittleRock.gov/volunteer. The Little Rock Cares Emergency Relief Fund benefits the grab-and-go feeding effort and the purchase of personal protective equipment (PPE). Donations of PPE are also accepted. Donate here or visit LittleRock.gov/covid19 and click on the Little Rock Cares Emergency Relief Fund button. Follow the City of Little Rock on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @CityLittleRock.