



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City Seeks to Empower Neighborhoods *Warwood Community Selected First for Assessment Program*

Wheeling, WV – Members of the City of Wheeling Planning Commission and Warwood community are seeking input through the Warwood neighborhood survey – an online survey open from April 1-30, 2016. The survey is available at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/26003>.

The City's current comprehensive plan – Envision Wheeling – calls for a neighborhood assessment program. The goal is to develop strategies for incorporating Wheeling's unique neighborhoods into the fabric of the city and its development. The Envision Wheeling Implementation Committee, led by Chairman Howard Monroe, formed the Neighborhood Working Group (NWG) to assess the quality of life, safety, infrastructure, and community involvement within various sections of the city.

To complete the assessment, the NWG is partnering with neighborhood organizations to conduct citizen surveys. The process will review one area at a time to determine ways that Wheeling can better serve its neighborhoods as well as how the communities can become more connected city-wide.

The NWG evaluated several neighborhoods and selected Warwood as the first community to assess. The survey is open to adults and children who live, work, or spend time in the Warwood neighborhood, and it can be completed by multiple members of the same household. Volunteers in the Warwood community are implementing the survey and will analyze the results after the survey closes on April 30. The volunteers will then work with community organizations to address the issues and ideas presented.

Beyond assessing the neighborhoods, the NWG hopes to empower the community. Many residents benefit from some type of community organization – a neighborhood association, crime watch, or service group, for example. The goal is to empower each neighborhood to form or strengthen these networks and become active in the growth and revitalization of our city as a whole.



“The survey analysis will show how many of the ideas can be implemented at the neighborhood level,” explained Tom Dailer, Chairman of the Neighborhood Working Group.

“The Warwood Terrace Association completed a similar process last year and determined that the community could contribute by helping elderly neighbors with grass-cutting and engaging in crime watch meetings, while issues with traffic lights and roadway signs could be addressed by the City.”

If your neighborhood doesn’t have an established network, this is great opportunity to work with your neighbors to create one. Questions about forming neighborhood groups or about the Warwood community survey can be directed to Tom Dailer (304-639-6474). Interested participants can also contact Mr. Dailer to request hard copies of the survey.

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