



City of Ashland
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: 11/16/2022
Contact: Boone County Commission Office
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Please see the below information released by Boone County regarding two community surveys. The Boone County Commission is requesting that every Boone County resident take the time to complete both surveys. Not only are these survey results important to Boone County, but they are also important to the City of Ashland and our residents.

Thank you for your time and assistance.

Respectfully,

Kyle Michel, MPA
City Administrator
City of Ashland, MO

Boone County Commission Seeking County Resident Input Via Surveys

October 20, 2022 – The Boone County Commission is seeking input from Boone County residents via two online surveys. One survey is focused on collecting feedback regarding the community’s desired prioritization of the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding. The second survey is seeking to collect data about internet services and availability throughout Boone County, Missouri, in order to accurately map internet service availability across the county. The surveys are open to all Boone County residents.

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (“ARPA”) was signed into law on March 11, 2021. This Act provides funding to state and local governments that must be allocated

for pandemic rescue and recovery efforts. Guidelines for eligible uses of the funding are provided by the U.S. Treasury. Boone County, in an effort to be a good steward of these funds, is seeking input to learn what priorities our community members hold regarding their distribution.

As a result of the pandemic, one of the many lessons learned was the essential nature of reliable internet accessibility. Prior to the pandemic, it was apparent that a need existed throughout Boone County for more reliable internet connections. However, as community members came to rely upon their home and business internet for school, work, and medical treatment, the vast differences of internet availability and accessibility throughout Boone County shifted from apparent to clearly inequitable. The Boone County Commission is working toward finding solutions for this issue. Information gathered through this survey will provide objective data regarding the most substantive areas of need in order to guide the efforts to find solutions.

To access the ARPA Survey, visit <https://arcg.is/00mOfL> or scan



To access the Broadband Survey, visit <https://arcg.is/1X1DKi> or scan



Individuals who are unable to complete these surveys electronically may request paper copies at the Boone County Commission Office, located at 801 E Walnut St, Room 333, Columbia, MO 65201.