Express Yourself

The freedom to express ourselves and have our opinions valued by our county is how we create the change we want to see. Surveys are one way for communities to discover its shared aspirations so positive change can occur.

Sarasota County recently released its 27th citizen satisfaction survey. Sarasota County began its annual survey of residents in 1992, making it one of the first counties in the state to utilize surveys to solicit citizen input.

It details its methodology, and provides clarity into the respondents, questions related to quality of life, county engagement, Sarasota County in the future, and the county budget.

According to the Sarasota County 2018 Citizen Opinion Survey, 24% of the survey respondents identified "population growth/new development" as the County's most important issue.

Other considerations included
- crime (10%),
- traffic/transportation (5%),
- economy/jobs (4%),
- affordable housing" (3%),
- government and elected officials (3%)
- health care (3%)
- public schools (3%), and
- stormwater/drainage/flooding (3%)

Explore the survey HERE.

If you missed the opportunity to share your opinion, there is a long-term transportation survey near the bottom of this newsletter. Age-Friendly Sarasota encourages your participation.
Surveys help drive the County budget, and the County Commission recently approved several items:

- a pilot program to open two county libraries on Sundays beginning next year,
- a workshop to discuss affordable housing,
- an economic development incentive program,
- and more.

The next budget workshop will be held August 21. Follow along live at scgov.net. Use the keywords Meetings on Demand.

Questions?

Call Sarasota County at 941.861.5000
transportation survey that will affect Sarasota, Manatee, and surrounding areas, including Venice, Palmetto, etc. Watch this short video to learn more about the process, then take the 5-minute survey here.

(total time: 5 minutes)

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**LOCAL**

**Hurricane Preparedness Special Edition**

We are in Hurricane Season, June 1-November 30, and the peak of the season will begin the first week of September. As part of Age-Friendly Sarasota's disaster planning and preparedness, we've compiled a list of safety precautions that will help our community if we are faced with a dangerous storm.

GET PREPARED HERE

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**Age-Friendly Sarasota Facebook Page**

Enjoy mini, age-friendly tidbits daily by visiting Age-Friendly Sarasota on Facebook.

Glimpse upcoming events, motivational quotes, participate in current surveys, learn how to reframe aging by changing the language we use, catch up on the Herald-Tribune's Aspirations Journalism articles, and more.

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To share news or information, contact the editor at ssternberg@thepattersonfoundation.org.