

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Board of County Commissioners

November 1, 2022



Okaloosa County 2022 Community Survey Opens to all Residents

Okaloosa County, Fla. – Okaloosa County is pleased to announce that the comprehensive quality of life survey, previously offered to randomly selected residents living in unincorporated areas of the county, is now open to all residents living in Okaloosa County. The open participation survey, found at <https://polco.us/okaloosa22op> and runs November 1 – 15, 2022.

We ask that, if residents received a mailed survey invitation, please respond via that survey link instead of the open participation survey. For those who have already responded to that survey, please do not participate in this one as well; the survey questions are identical, and your responses have been noted.

“We are excited to be conducting this survey,” says Okaloosa Board of County Commissioners Chairman Mel Ponder. “This survey will help Okaloosa County staff and board identify priorities for the community and improve the quality of life in Okaloosa County.”

The survey instrument, known as The National Community Survey™, allows the County to compare results and benchmark residents’ opinions against other communities across the country. The survey will include questions about quality of life, important characteristics of community, services provided by Okaloosa County and priorities for the future. The survey will not ask for any personally identifiable information and all responses will remain anonymous. The survey will be available online in English and Spanish.

The City of Destin is engaging residents in a POLCO survey, available at cityofdestin.com, not to be confused with the Okaloosa County Community Engagement Survey found at myokaloosa.com.

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About The National Community Survey™ (The NCS™): The NCS was among the first scientific surveys developed to gather resident opinion on a range of community issues, and has been used in more than 350 jurisdictions across 46 states. The NCS is a cost-effective survey of resident opinion and an important benchmarking tool that allows for comparison among communities. Communities using The NCS have reported that the tool improved service delivery, strengthened communications with community stakeholders and helped leaders identify clear priorities for use in strategic planning and budget setting. The NCS is the only resident survey endorsed by the International City/County Management Association and the National League of Cities.

About Polco: (www.polco.us) Polco was developed to quickly deploy and analyze surveys online, providing the agility to gather critical information from community stakeholders throughout the nation. We have created tools for governments, economic development organizations and nonprofits to measure community livability. Respondents to The NCS are asked to join the community’s Polco panel to see the survey results and continue to engage with the community on future research.

OKALOOSA COUNTY OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION APRIL SARVER OR NICK TOMECEK
(850) 585-7059 | OCPIO@MYOKALOOSA.COM