

**News Release** 

For Immediate Release Date: Thursday, September 16, 2021 Contact: Gabrielle Torina, Communications Specialist Email: gtorina1@planning.org | Office: 815-319-4457

## **R1 Hosts Virtual Public Engagement Meeting & Survey on Solid Waste**

**ROCKFORD, IL** — R1 has released a public participation survey regarding solid waste management. The community input provided from this survey will inform the Planning Council's decisions regarding solid waste management in the community and directly impact the **Regional Solid Waste Management Plan** currently in progress. R1 will also host an online public meeting to learn more about the issues and needs to related to waste management. Community input is critical, and although this meeting is virtual due to the pandemic, R1 remains steadfast in its commitment to engaging the lived experience from each community member.

**PURPOSE:** Winnebago and Boone Counties are partnering to update their Solid Waste Management Plans. As planning consultant, Region 1 Planning Council is working with these stakeholders to develop a **Regional Solid Waste Management Plan** that establishes a robust and sustainable waste management system. The planning process will include several opportunities for public input and a Solid Waste Advisory Committee of key public and private stakeholders to provide collaboration and expert advice.

The Regional Solid Waste Management Plan is a later iteration of the comprehensive solid waste management plan required under the Illinois Solid Waste Planning and Recycling Act of 1990. This act required all counties with a population of 100,000 or more to create and adopt an approved solid waste management plan that addresses the management of municipal waste within its boundaries. The **Regional Solid Waste Management Plan** will address key topics around waste reduction, recycling, current and proposed waste management practices, and an implementation plan for further action.

**SURVEY:** The digital survey is available <u>here</u>, or by emailing <u>info@r1planning.org</u> to request a link. Public comments can also be left on the <u>R1planning.org</u> website.

**PUBLIC MEETING:** A public engagement meeting will also be held online Thursday, September 23, 2021 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The virtual public meeting is encouraged for residents of Boone and Winnebago County and can be accessed via Zoom Meeting ID: 829 0128 2114 or by clicking <u>here</u>.

The public comment period is from September 10, 2021 to September 30, 2021.

**CONTACT FOR INTERVIEW:** Shelby Best, Region 1 Planning Council: <u>sbest@r1planning.org</u>

**ABOUT R1**: Region 1 Planning Council (RPC) is a special-purpose, regional government agency. Regional councils are public organizations comprised of local elected officials that promote collaboration among local governments, working across the jurisdictional silos of states, counties, and municipalities.

For more information, visit <u>www.r1planning.org</u>

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## **Virtual** Public Engagement Meeting

**R1** encourages your participation in a public forum discussing **Solid Waste Management** in Boone and Winnebago County.

THURS, SEPT 23, 2021
6:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

## Zoom ID: 829 0128 2114 Dial in: 312-626-6799

If unable to attend, please email your comments to **info@R1planning.org** by September 30, 2021.

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