



Jan. 20, 2016

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Weatherford accepting applications for Citizen University

WEATHERFORD (CITY OF WEATHERFORD), Texas — The City of Weatherford is currently accepting applications for its new citizen engagement program entitled Citizen University.

Weatherford Citizen University (WCU) is an opportunity for residents to learn about the structure and activities of their local City government. Students will experience the decision making processes and see actual operations. The program offers students the opportunity to learn about the financial budgets set for the City, tour various City facilities, and see behind-the-scene functions of the Police and Fire Departments. Students will also meet animals from the Weatherford Parker County Animal Shelter and meet with City leaders to learn how various departments serve citizens.

“Engaging our citizenry is very important to our city council and city staff,” said city manager Sharon Hayes. “Citizen University is our first program that offers Weatherford citizens the opportunity to learn about how we operate on a daily basis. Our citizens are important to the future of Weatherford and we look forward to having an open dialogue during the Citizen University program. This is one of many new programs we are launching to engage our growing community. Basically, it is our invitation to citizens to come learn about us.”

Weatherford Citizen University is a 10 month program with evening classes being held once a month. Each session will last approximately two and a half hours. Sessions will begin promptly at 6 p.m. and will end at approximately 8:30 p.m. Citizens who are interested in Citizen University must be a resident of Weatherford for at least one year, be at least 18 years of age or older, not hold a local political office or be running for a local political office during the program and must be a registered voter within the City of Weatherford. Each participant must complete a minimum of eight sessions of the 10 sessions to graduate.

“It is no secret that our community is growing at a rapid rate,” said assistant city manager James Hotopp. “We know that as we continue to experience this growth, we must listen and learn together with our citizens. Citizen University is a great way for Weatherford citizens to become more knowledgeable about our operations within the city and learn more about the decision we make to help the city flourish.”



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All Weatherford Citizen University students will be selected via an open application process. Interested citizens can complete an online application by visiting the City of Weatherford website or complete a paper application at City Hall, located at 303 Palo Pinto St. The application must be received no later than 5 p.m. Feb. 15 for consideration.

To learn more about Weatherford Citizen University, please visit www.weatherfordtx.gov/cu. For questions, please contact public relations manager Blake Rexroat at 817-598-4209 or brexroat@weatherfordtx.gov.

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More information on the City of Weatherford: www.weatherfordtx.gov

More information on the City of Weatherford Youth Advisory Council: www.weatherfordtx.gov/cu

****City of Weatherford****

Weatherford, Texas is a service oriented, yet still “small town” community that upgrades its infrastructure, celebrates and shares its rich history, and fosters quality economic growth – in a fiscally-responsible, even revenue-generating fashion.