



## Advisory Group Member Guide

Thank you for serving on the Designing De Soto Advisory Group! As an Advisory Group member, your input will help guide decision-making regarding De Soto's future for the next 20 years and beyond. This guide is designed to help you be an effective participant in this important community effort.

### Introduction & What's Happening

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With significant new development ahead of us, De Soto is mapping out its future. We're creating a strategic plan for the City built on a shared community vision and a commitment to responsible growth.

De Soto will soon be home to the Flint Commerce Center and a Panasonic electric battery facility, a \$4 billion investment. The battery facility is just one part of the Astra Enterprise Park (formerly known as Sunflower Army Ammunition Plant.)

Developing that area will bring jobs, additional growth – and significant change.

The planning process will involve establishing current conditions, implementing a robust public engagement process, developing strategies to identify trends and priorities that will impact De Soto, and recommending local policies. The final result will be a plan that reflects the Advisory Group's feedback on strategies and goals that are widely supported by the community.

### Advisory Group Membership

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The Advisory Group is a working group representative of diverse interests, demographics, various sectors, and individuals from different geographic areas of the community. The Advisory Group consists of people who:

- Are open-minded & willing to discuss key issues with other group members.
- Can think about the entire community - not just about one issue or geographic area.
- Are committed to the success of De Soto and its current and future residents.
- Are willing to commit their time to advisory meetings and occasional pre and post work up to one year from selection.

## Member List:

- Abby Baker
- Andrew Leehy
- Chantee Redding
- Charles Meddock
- Clark McCracken
- David Burns
- Debbie Thompson
- Diana Zwahlen
- Dominic Saiki
- Hayden Knott
- Heather Callaway
- Inga Nordstrom-Kelly
- James Doscher
- Jamie Malmstrom
- Jill Lavenburg-Moler
- Lorri Kelley
- Marie Caldwell
- Mark Martinez
- Matthew Logan
- Mitra Templin
- Nathan Shrout
- Nicole Graves
- Patsy Lucas-Allenbrand
- Regina Clarke
- Rose Burgweger
- Ryan Carson
- Sherelle Witt
- Steve Marcotte
- Teri Scott
- Zachary Bradley

While the Advisory Group membership was designed to reflect a balance of interests, you are encouraged to think about all sides of the issues. We will provide an opportunity for discussion and deliberation on all topics. Through the process, we will develop a shared understanding of the issues, consider alternatives, and create a set of recommendations.

## Advisory Group Commitment

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The Advisory Group will meet three (3) times from February 2023 to May 2023, in addition to the final presentation to the Planning & Zoning Commission. Advisory Group members are expected to attend all meetings.

Your commitment will include the following schedule:

### Advisory Group Meeting #1:

Tuesday, February 21, 2023      6:00pm – 8:00pm      In-Person

### Advisory Group Meeting #2:

Tuesday, April 18, 2023      6:00pm – 8:00pm      In-Person

### Advisory Group Meeting #3:

Late May or Early June 2023      6:00pm – 8:00pm      In-Person

## Effective Participation Tips

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To be an effective participant, it is important to read materials in advance of meetings, come to the meeting ready to ask questions, and participate in all discussions.

Meeting agendas and background information will be provided in advance of meetings. The project team is always available to answer questions.

During the meetings, we ask that you follow these simple ground rules:

- Share your best thinking.
- Share and explore differences.
- Agree to disagree, don't be disagreeable.
- Be respectful of other's perspectives by listening first for understanding and then speaking so that your perspective is understood.
- Think about what is best for your entire community beyond your own interests.

## Open Meetings

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Kansas is committed to open, accessible government. As an appointed Advisory Group, your work is subject to the Kansas Open Meetings and Records Law (Sunshine Law). All Advisory Group meetings, records, and actions will be open to the public. We ask that you **do not** conduct the business of the Advisory Group outside of its scheduled meeting times or through email, text, or phone.

If you have any questions, please contact City staff.

## Community Engagement

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Community engagement will play an integral role in decision-making processes. Some engagement methods and tools that will be used throughout the planning process are highlighted below, and further outlined in the Community Engagement Plan:

- [City Project Page – Designing De Soto](#)
- Quick Polls + Surveys
- Yard Signs
- Social Media
- Newsletters
- Pop-Up Events
- Elected Officials and City Staff Planning Workshops

**We want to keep you in the loop!**

Designing De Soto Website  
<https://www.desotoks.us/305/Designing-De-Soto>

Scan Here →

Sign-up for weekly City e-newsletter

Join our Community Pulse Panel for quick polls and activities

<https://www.desotoks.us/FormCenter/Administration-9/Newsletter-Pulse-Panel-67>

Please follow and share City social media posts to help keep the public informed and promote community involvement. Use the hashtag **#DesigningDeSoto**.

## Project Team Contacts

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### City of De Soto



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Director of Communications

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