



PLANTING SEEDS
FOR A **BRIGHTER**
FUTURE



JASPER COUNTY
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



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FOR A **BRIGHTER**

FUTURE



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COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



with assistance from



Adopted by the
Jasper County Board of Supervisors
on October 13, 2020
by Resolution 20-74





Acknowledgments

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Executive Summary

This Comprehensive Plan serves as the blueprint for Jasper's Bright Future. Each chapter in this plan provides valuable details and insight relevant to Jasper County as it prepares for the next 20 years. Public Feedback and Planning Best Practices are also included in each chapter to provide rationale for the content and goals and objectives listed at the end of the chapter.

Due to the timeframe and multitude of subjects, a comprehensive, 20-year-long plan is necessarily filled with numerous goals, objectives, and action statements.

To manage the bulk of information, County leaders should keep in mind the overall vision statement and 9 goal statements. The objectives specify ideas that can lead to achieving the goals. The action statements can be thought of as a "tool box" for achieving each objective.

The Vision Statement: *Jasper County will combine prosperity and preservation and be a community where people can put down roots to grow towards a brighter future.*

The public feedback across focus groups and the online survey showed a few subject areas rising to the top (not necessarily in this order):

1. Transportation
2. Economic Development
3. Conservation, Parks and Recreation
4. Public Health and Safety

To achieve the goals and objectives that fall within these categories, some of the other goals and objectives also play a role. For example, economic development tends to follow residential development, so housing is also an important factor.

An assessment of the "most important take-away" for each of the goals are summarized below to help Jasper County focus its short-term efforts. These recommendations should be vetted with local leaders and partners and re-evaluated on an annual basis.

Overall Take-Aways

Marketing and Communication:

Throughout the planning process, the need for marketing and communication was discussed along with many of the other subjects. This was needed to let the public know what great things the county has to offer, spread the word about the various special events, establish a positive agricultural image, promote economic development, address public safety issues, and let people know of the numerous programs and resources available to address a variety of needs (e.g. farming, housing, economic development, and conservation).

Fulfillment of these marketing and communication efforts would need to come from different sources with expertise in each subject area. This leads us to the second overall take-away.

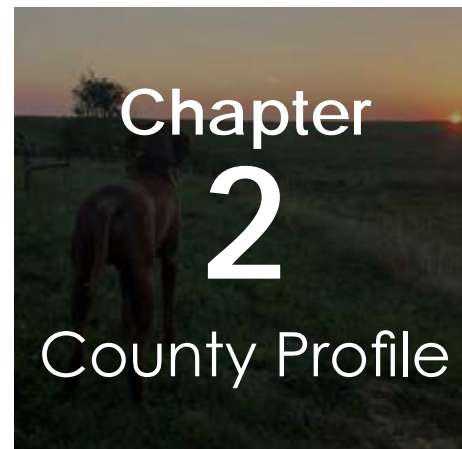
Collaboration:

Iowa's first Smart Planning Principle is Collaboration. The county's comprehensive plan is not limited to issues that are solely addressed by the county government alone. While this may seem to complicate implementation, it simplifies the overall vision. The vision for the county encompasses many aspects of life. To address this broad vision, numerous entities need to be used as resources and partners.

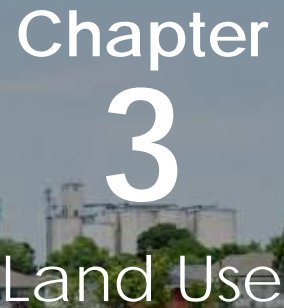


The Introduction describes the purpose of the Comprehensive Plan: Guide for Decision Makers, Legal Basis for Land Use Regulations, and the Community's Vision for the Future.

The Introduction also summarizes Iowa's Smart Planning Principles and the public engagement and planning process.



The Community Profile chapter summarizes the regional context and demographics of the county. The population projections indicate a change in population from 37,147 per the 2018 Census Bureau estimate to between 34,525 and 40,148 in 2040.



Chapter 3 Land Use

Land Use Goal: Preserve the rural atmosphere while promoting responsible growth.

Land Use Objectives:

- ☀ LU-1: Improve communication between the county and cities regarding land use decisions
- ☀ LU-2: Promote the efficient layout and highest and best use of land

Most important take-away – Improve communication and collaboration between the cities and county. By working together, many of the other goals in this plan can be achieved.



Chapter 4 Transportation

Transportation Network Goal: Develop and maintain a complete transportation system to benefit residential, agricultural, and economic purposes.

Transportation Network Objectives:

- ☀ TN-1: Ensure that the transportation network is safe and efficient
- ☀ TN-2: Use the street design to establish a character for the county, villages, and cities

Most important take-away – Establish a protocol to determine when a gravel road should be paved or other improvements are necessary. Gravel road maintenance was a recurring issue during the planning process. Rural residents are dependent upon this network being safe and functional for their daily transportation needs and farm operations.

Mobility Goal: Provide mobility options for all ages and abilities.

Mobility Objectives:

- ☀ MO-1: Develop non-motorized connectivity for transportation purposes
- ☀ MO-2: Support motorized travel without individual motorized vehicle ownership

Most important take-away – These issues are likely to become more significant in the future as the population continues to age and as the trail system expands. In the meantime, support DART's programs for vanpool and HIRTA. When roads are paved, also pave the shoulder for people biking since this improves safety and provides connections between towns and the developing trail system. Paved shoulders also improve pavement edge durability.

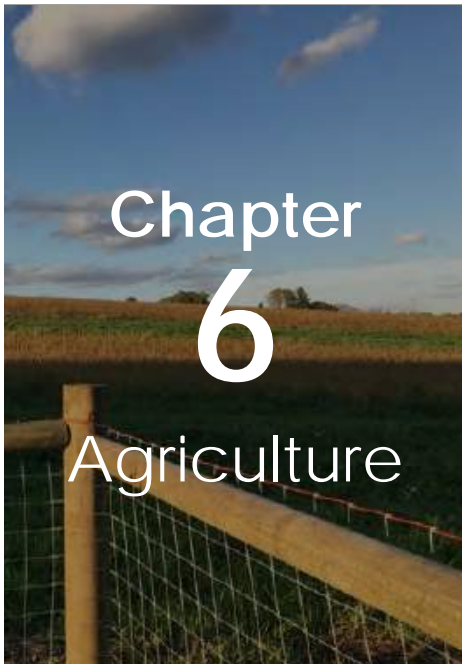


Housing Goal: Provide a variety of attractive housing options, accommodating all income levels in all stages of life.

Housing Objectives:

- ☀ HS-1: Allow innovative and creative housing designs that accommodate the public's changing needs and preferences, while maintaining the county's character
- ☀ HS-2: Increase the availability of housing targeted toward households earning more than the County's median income
- ☀ HS-3: Ensure the housing stock is safe and attractive
- ☀ HS-4: Promote, incentivize, and facilitate housing development opportunities

Most important take-away – The development of the Jasper County Local Housing Trust Fund (LHTF) can lead many of the actions that fall under these objectives. The County and cities should collaborate with the LHTF to help achieve those actions.

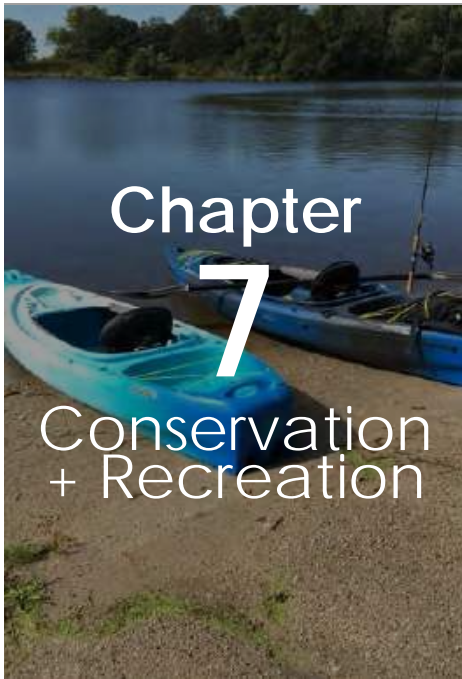


Agricultural Goal: Ensure the future of agriculture as a vibrant part of Jasper County's identity and economy.

Agricultural Objectives:

- ☀ AG-1: Support agricultural prosperity through educational, infrastructure, and marketing resources
- ☀ AG-2: Improve the public image and understanding of the role of agriculture in the county
- ☀ AG-3: Protect Jasper County's natural resources through environmentally sensitive farming methods

Most important take-away – Maintain a database of programs and resources (listed in the plan) that are designed to assist farmers and make this list available on the county's website. There are several existing programs from both private and public sources that can help to address several of the issues that were identified through the public engagement process. Also, the agricultural sector will need to be resilient and adaptable to withstand unpredictable and potentially disruptive changes in regional, national, and global forces.



Conservation + Recreation Goal: Maintain and enhance natural resources and conservation land.

Conservation + Recreation Objectives:

- ☀ CR-1: Protect wetlands, prairies, stream corridors, and other wildlife habitat
- ☀ CR-2: Foster community connection, access and awareness of natural resources through wildlife parks, trails, and programs

Most important take-away – Invest in county conservation and recreation, including parks, greenspace, and trails. A conservation system master plan should be a next step to guide funding toward the most important improvements. Since these amenities are provided at no or low cost to residents, this is one of the most important factors for improving quality of life for all residents, plus it attracts visitors, providing an economic boost.



Economic Goal: Attract, retain, and expand a variety of businesses.

Economic Objectives:

- ☀ EC-1: Create and attract an educated and skilled workforce
- ☀ EC-2: Establish a business friendly environment
- ☀ EC-3: Use county-wide marketing to promote tourism and local businesses
- ☀ EC-4: Seek new businesses that will diversify and strengthen the local economy
- ☀ EC-5: Encourage entrepreneurship and support of local businesses development

Most important take-away – JEDCO can be a leader for many of these objectives and actions. The County and cities should collaborate with JEDCO and provide support as needed.

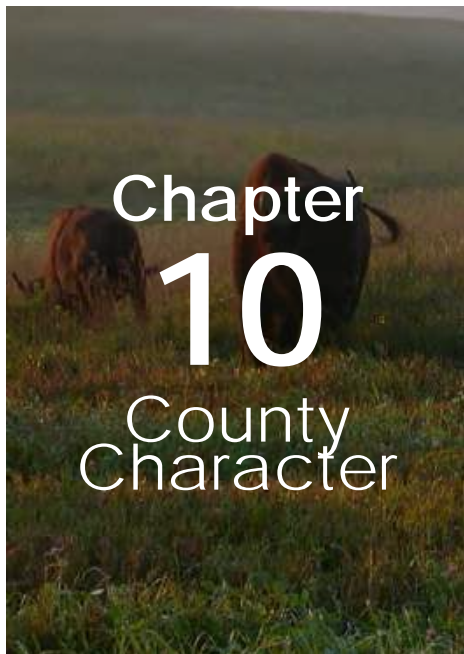


Public Health and Safety Goal: Maintain high level of service for public health and safety.

Public Health + Safety Objectives:

- ☀ PH-1: Ensure adequate and effective sheriff patrol and public outreach
- ☀ PH-2: Minimize injuries and loss of life and property due to impacts of natural hazards (JCEMP)
- ☀ PH-3: Maintain a high level of communication with residents
- ☀ PH-4: Ensure that the health needs, both physical and mental, of all residents are being met

Most important take-away – In addition to ongoing compliance with the Jasper County Emergency Management Plan, effective communication with the public due to hazards and emergencies will be the most important aspect of this element. The Jasper County Health Department should also be enabled to continue to fulfill their mission.



County Character Goal: Establish a county character that is family friendly, evokes a rural feel, and celebrates the unique attributes of the county.

County Character Objectives:

- ☀ CC-1: Support and expand special events and festivals showcasing locations throughout the county
- ☀ CC-2: Create a unique identity for the county and its towns and villages
- ☀ CC-3: Be an environmentally-conscious leader

Most important take-away – To attract and retain residents, special events, historic sites, and public art can establish a positive character for the county. The parks and recreation system also plays a role in this effort, and is addressed in the conservation and recreation element of the plan.



The Implementation Plan will serve as the guide to decision-making and initiatives in the county. It lists partners and resources that may be available to help implement the plan. Partnerships and collaboration will be the key to implementing the plan goals.

Each year, the Planning and Zoning Commission should develop a work plan for actions to prioritize that year and assess accomplishments of the prior year.



The appendix documents all of the public engagement details, including presentations and the full responses to the MetroQuest online survey. It also summarizes the relevant plans and provides the detailed population projections.



CHAPTER

1

Introduction

Purpose of a Comprehensive Plan

What is a Comprehensive Plan?

A Guide for Decision Makers

A comprehensive plan is a long-range policy guide to direct decisions about the physical development of a community. A plan does not provide a detailed design for development of specific sites; instead, it sets out broad policy directions for growth, development, and character. A comprehensive plan is the backbone of the community providing consistent direction over time with valuable information and predictability for residents and developers.

This plan analyzes and incorporates a wide variety of components including land use and growth management, agriculture, economic development, natural resources and conservation, transportation, and rural housing and unincorporated villages. As a result, this comprehensive plan provides a vision of Jasper County's future, helping to guide the growth of the community.

Since the plan is primarily a guidance document, additional changes to policies, programs, and ordinances are needed to establish authority for its recommendations. The plan includes an implementation strategy that will help elected officials and staff achieve the goals of the county.

A Legal Basis for Land Use Regulations

Under Section 414 of the Code of Iowa, zoning regulations must be established in accordance with a comprehensive plan. These regulations are designed to promote the health, safety, morals, or general welfare of the community and determine how land is developed within a jurisdiction.

A Community's Vision for the Future

A successful comprehensive plan represents the community's vision for the future and is therefore heavily dependent upon public participation. Residents, businesses, and county staff work together to identify the assets, opportunities, issues and challenges facing the community and collaborate on developing a vision of the community in the future. Then they prioritize those items and develop a plan of action to achieve that vision.

Evaluation + Amendments

The time frame of this comprehensive plan for the future vision identified in this plan is an approximately twenty-year period. Each year, the Planning and Zoning Board and county staff should review the implementation plan and provide a report of accomplishments and recommend amendments, if necessary. Amendments are likely as external forces and conditions change, however, they should not be taken lightly or approved in contradiction to the overall goals that were identified during the public planning process. Any major changes to the comprehensive plan should be carefully prepared and evaluated with ample opportunity for public input, as was the case with this plan. Needed amendments could be made in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Zoning Ordinance.

Iowa's Smart Planning Principles

The Iowa Smart Planning Principles were signed into law on April 20, 2010 as State Code Chapter 18B: Land Use – Smart Planning. The chapter states, “State agencies, local governments, and other public entities shall consider and may apply the following principles during deliberation of all appropriate planning, zoning, development, and resource management decisions....” Each of these principles has been considered throughout the development of this Comprehensive Plan.

The Iowa Smart Planning Principles include:

1. Collaboration

Governmental, community, and individual stakeholders, including those outside the jurisdiction of the entity are encouraged to be involved and provide comment during deliberation of planning, zoning, development, and resource management decisions and during implementation of such decisions. The state agency, local government, or other public entity is encouraged to develop and implement a strategy to facilitate such participation.

2. Efficiency, Transparency, and Consistency

Planning, zoning, development, and resource management should be undertaken to provide efficient, transparent, and consistent outcomes. Individuals, communities, regions, and governmental entities should share in the responsibility to promote the equitable distribution of development benefits and costs.



3. Clean, Renewable, and Efficient Energy

Planning, zoning, development, and resource management should be undertaken to promote clean and renewable energy use and increased energy efficiency.

4. Occupational Diversity

Planning, zoning, development, and resource management should promote increased diversity of employment and business opportunities, promote access to education and training, expand entrepreneurial opportunities, and promote the establishment of businesses in locations near existing housing, infrastructure, and transportation.

5. Urban Revitalization

Planning, zoning, development, and resource management should facilitate the revitalization of established town centers and neighborhoods by promoting development that conserves land, protects historic resources, promotes pedestrian accessibility, and integrates different uses of property. Remediation and reuse of existing sites, structures, and infrastructure is preferred over new construction in undeveloped areas.

6. Housing Diversity

Planning, zoning, development, and resource management should encourage diversity in the types of available housing, support the rehabilitation of existing housing, and promote the location of housing near public transportation and employment centers.

7. Community Character

Planning, zoning, development, and resource management should promote activities and development that are consistent with the character and architectural style of the community and should respond to local values regarding the physical character of the community.

8. Natural Resources and Agricultural Protection

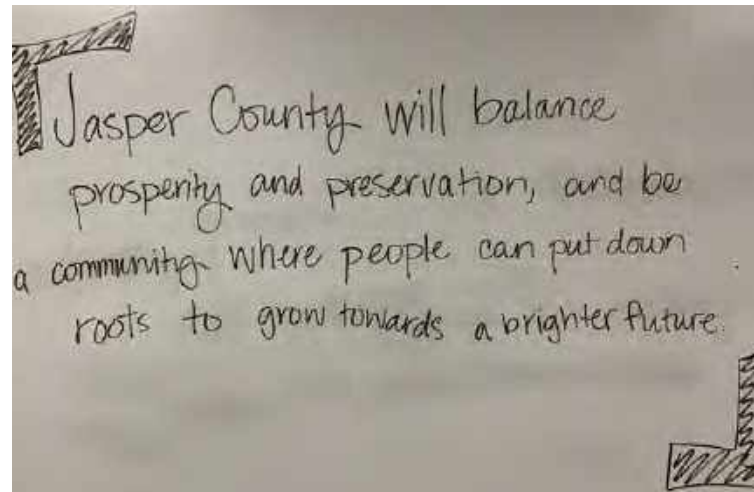
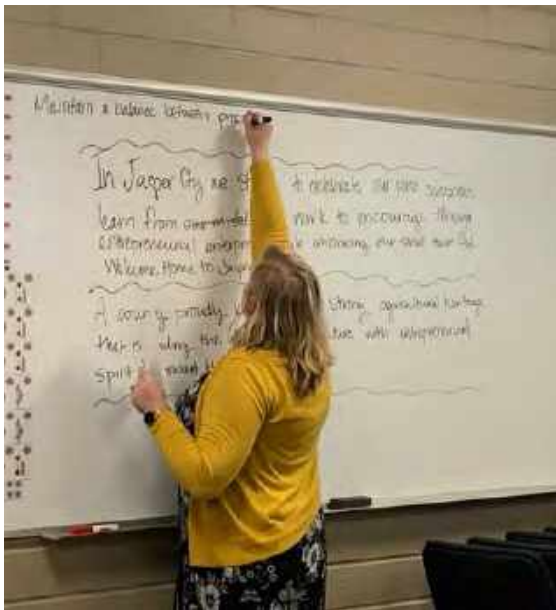
Planning, zoning, development, and resource management should emphasize protection, preservation, and restoration of natural resources, agricultural land, and cultural and historic landscapes, and should increase the availability of open spaces and recreational facilities.

9. Sustainable Design

Planning, zoning, development, and resource management should promote developments, buildings, and infrastructure that utilize sustainable design and construction standards and conserve natural resources by reducing waste and pollution through efficient use of land, energy, water, air, and materials.

10. Transportation Diversity

Planning, zoning, development, and resource management should promote expanded transportation options for residents of the community. Consideration should be given to transportation options that maximize mobility, reduce congestion, conserve fuel, and improve air quality.



Vision Statement Work Session on 9-10-2019



Vision Statement

The vision statement was developed by the Project Review Committee and based off of the public engagement feedback.



The Planning Process

The planning process began with a review of related planning documents, summarized in the Appendix, and a county-wide assessment of demographic and economic data. A project website was created, www.jaspersbrightfuture.com, to create a simple way for the public to stay informed, along with a customized logo to brand the project. The substantial public engagement process is described below.

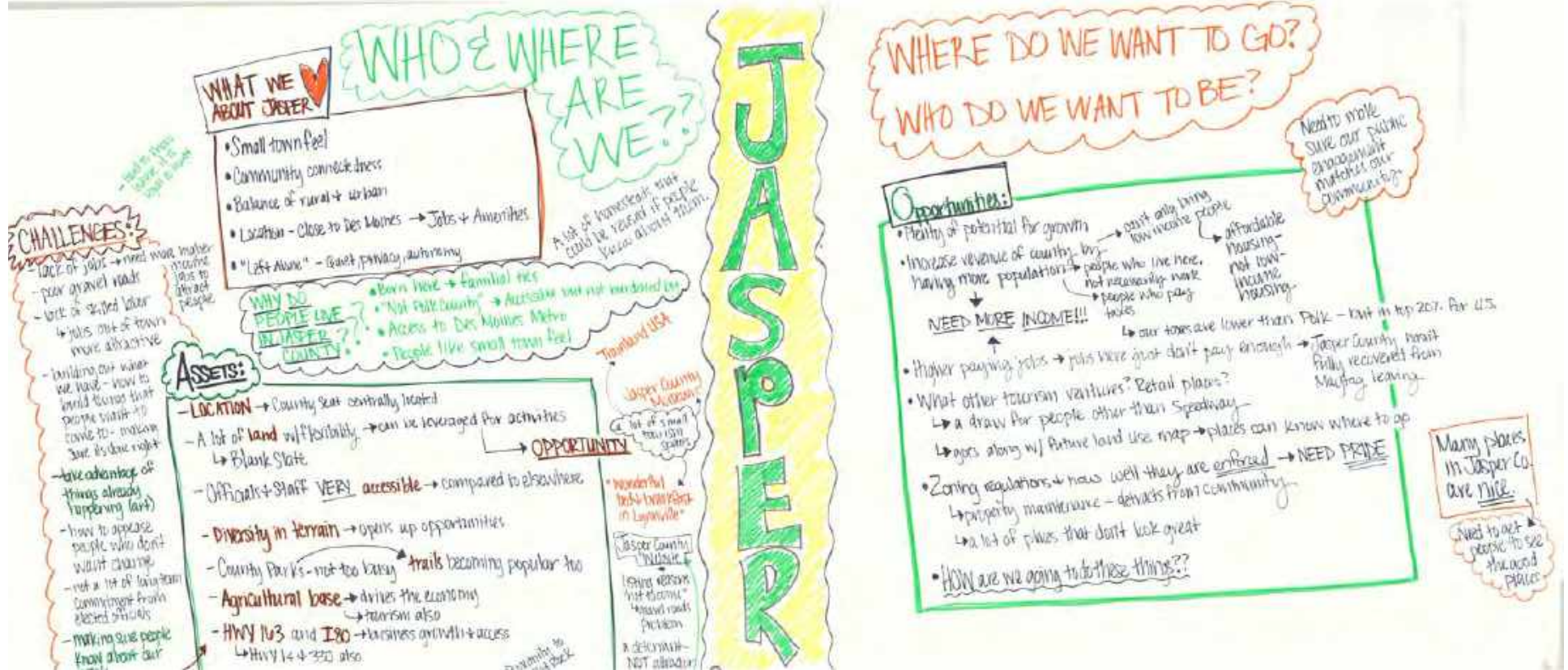
Project Review Committee

The Project Review Committee met three times throughout the planning process. The committee reviewed maps of existing conditions as well as future condition maps for transportation, parks and trails, and land use. The committee helped plan focus groups, special events, and provided direction for the public survey. The committee reviewed the draft text and exhibits for each chapter of the Comprehensive Plan and made suggestions for refinement before recommending that the plan be approved by the Board of Supervisors.

Meeting #1 – June 17, 2019:

The agenda for the first Review Committee Meeting included:

1. Introductions
2. What is a Comprehensive Plan?
 - a. Process and Schedule
3. Where and Who are We?
 - a. Census Data
 - b. Existing mapping
4. Where do you want to go? Who do you want to be?
 - a. Advancing existing plans



Mind Map from Project Review Committee on 6-17-2019

5. How can we get there together?
 - a. Public Engagement Plan
 - b. What Defines Success

Throughout the evening, a mind-mapping exercise was completed, asking committee members questions about the strengths and weaknesses of the county. The group reviewed existing data and compared it to the comments brought forward by the committee. These questions and concerns are the basis for the remainder of the planning process.

Meeting #2 – September 10, 2019:

The agenda for the second Review Committee Meeting included:

1. What we heard
 - a. Project Review Committee Meeting #1
 - b. Focus Groups
 - c. Community Events
 - d. MetroQuest Survey
2. Vision Statement Drafting
3. Future Conditions Maps
4. What's Next?

At this Project Review Committee meeting, Snyder & Associates presented the findings from the public outreach process that had taken place since June. Two major themes from the outreach were that rural transportation needed to be improved and that the county should expand economic development opportunities. The Review Committee agreed that these themes should be priorities for the future of Jasper County.

The remainder of the meeting was used to draft a vision statement for this plan. Committee members worked in pairs to create their own vision statements and then regathered as a group to combine all of the ideas into one overall vision statement.

Meeting #3 – November 6, 2019:

Before Snyder & Associates presented at this meeting, Professor William Stewart from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, gave a presentation to the Committee about his report, *A Study of Growth and Change in Jasper County, Iowa*. The study includes many similar themes to this comprehensive plan and primarily focuses on conservation, wildlife, and growth in the County. It pays particular focus to the bison population in the county.

The agenda for the third Review Committee Meeting included:

1. Population Projections
2. Future Conditions Maps
3. Draft Goals & Objectives
4. What's Next?

The majority of this Project Review Committee was spent reviewing the Goals, Objectives, and Actions from the Implementation Plan. The Committee broke out into three groups each addressing two to three sections of the Implementation Plan, providing edits, suggestions, and local knowledge on the items in the Plan.

The Committee was also presented with a draft version of the full Comprehensive Plan at this meeting to help make edits and suggestions for the entirety of the document.

Focus Group Meetings

County Staff Focus Group - June 17, 2019:

County staff discussed the strengths and weaknesses of the county, along with what county staff can do to plan for the next 20 years. Nineteen committee members were in attendance. Mind-mapping exercises were used for this meeting. The results of the County Staff Focus Group meeting can be found in the Appendix.

Agricultural Focus Groups

1st Meeting - July 30, 2019:

Solutions in the Land facilitated an agriculture forum with Jasper County farmers. The group discussed current struggles, new technologies, and what they would like to see for agriculture in the future for Jasper County.

Detailed notes from this discussion can be found in the Appendix.





Photos from Ag Focus Groups on 7-30-2019, 9-10-2019, and 11-06-2019

5. Adverse Climate Conditions - Threats to agriculture due to climate breakdown

Detailed notes from this discussion can be found in the Appendix.

3rd Meeting - November 6, 2019:

At the third meeting, Solutions in the Land presented the implementation steps for the topics discussed at the prior two meetings. They facilitated conversation on the following implementation strategies:

☀ Farming Preservation

- ☀ Build relationships between the farming & non-farming community
- ☀ Demonstrate Jasper County's commitment to agriculture
- ☀ Facilitate land-use planning discussions to further the preservation of farmland in the county
- ☀ Expand local leadership
- ☀ Support for young & beginning farmers

☀ Farmer led Programs

- ☀ Collaborating with regional organizations/agencies on conservation
- ☀ Develop farmer-led groups to address areas of environmental concern
- ☀ Making conservation visible in the county

☀ Connect the County

- ☀ Increase visibility of agricultural activities
- ☀ Promote access to technical assistance events
- ☀ Support events that demonstrate Jasper County agriculture

The presentation from this discussion can be found in the Appendix.



Incorporated Areas Focus Group - August 27, 2019:

The Incorporated Areas Focus Group consisted of eight participants including city staff and elected officials from Newton, Colfax, and Prairie City. Jasper Hometown Prides was also represented. The agenda for this meeting included:

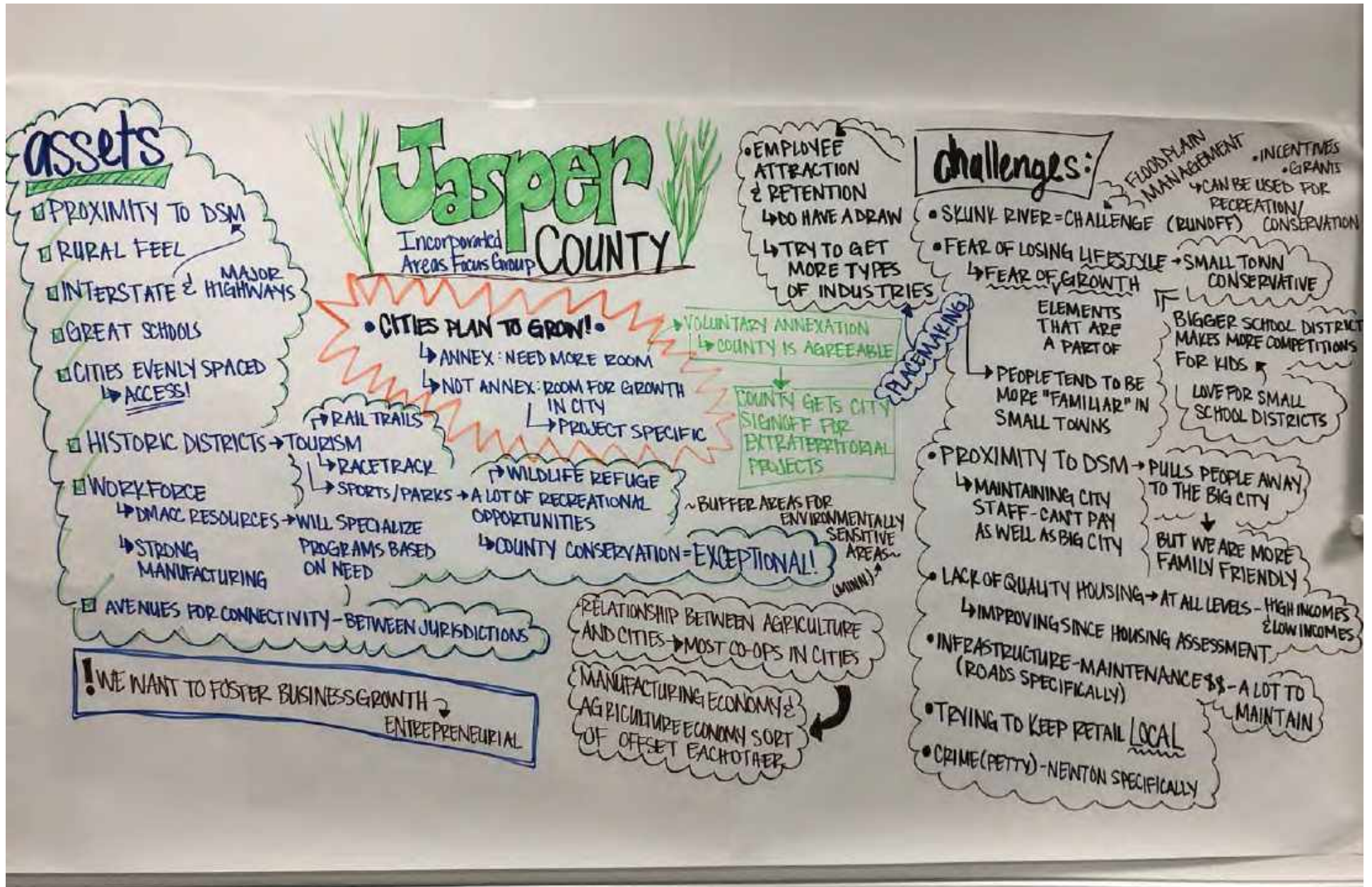
1. Introductions
2. What is a Comprehensive Plan?
3. Iowa Code – City Zoning 414.23 – Extraterritorial Review/Jurisdiction
4. Process and Schedule
5. Census Data
6. Cities' Comp Plans
7. Group Exercise
8. Small Group Map Discussion

The group spent most of the time discussing the current and desired relationship with the county and reviewing the land use maps presented to make sure they accurately reflected land uses around incorporated areas currently.

Business Owners Focus Group - September 30, 2019:

Snyder & Associates held a focus group for business owners within Jasper County. The agenda for this meeting included:

1. Introductions
2. What is a Comprehensive Plan?
3. Process and schedule
4. Census data
5. What we heard
6. Small group exercise



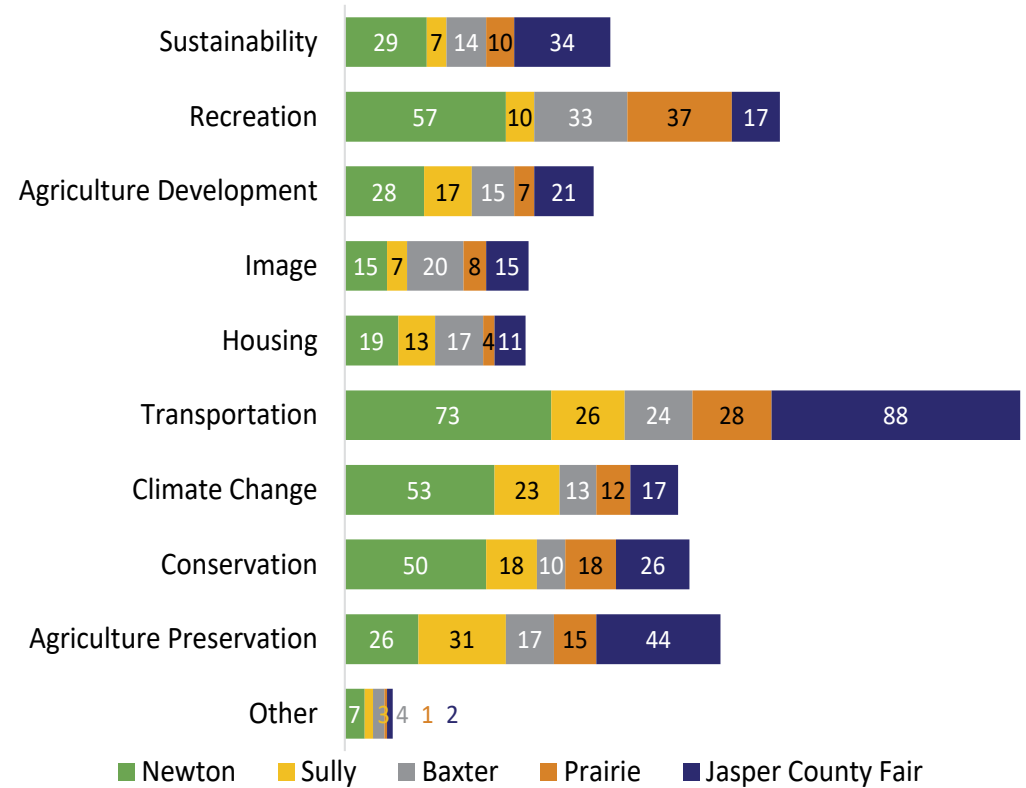
Mind Map from Incorporated Areas Focus Group held on 8-27-2019

The participants broke up into three small groups, each with a business development-related topic and discussion questions for guidance. The topics included Business Resources, Physical and Regulatory Infrastructure, and Workforce. The presentation and results of these discussions can be found in the Appendix.

Community Events

During the summer, a number of community events were held around Jasper County. Snyder & Associates and County staff attended many of the events to gain community input on issues facing Jasper County. For each community event, a booth was equipped with numerous jars corresponding to various issues relating to the future of Jasper County. Booth visitors were asked to drop five marbles into the jars that they felt most passionate about in regards to planning for the future.

- ☀️ Prairie Days - June 1, 2019
- ☀️ Newton Fest - June 8, 2019
- ☀️ Sully 4th of July Celebration - July 4, 2019
- ☀️ Baxter Fun Days - July 13, 2019
- ☀️ Jasper County Fair - July 21 + 22, 2019
- ☀️ Monroe Old Settlers Days - August 3, 2019 (Data is not available for this event)



Online Survey

An online survey through MetroQuest was open from July 12th to August 30th. During that time a total of 600 participants responded to the survey garnering a total of over 20,000 data points to help create this plan.

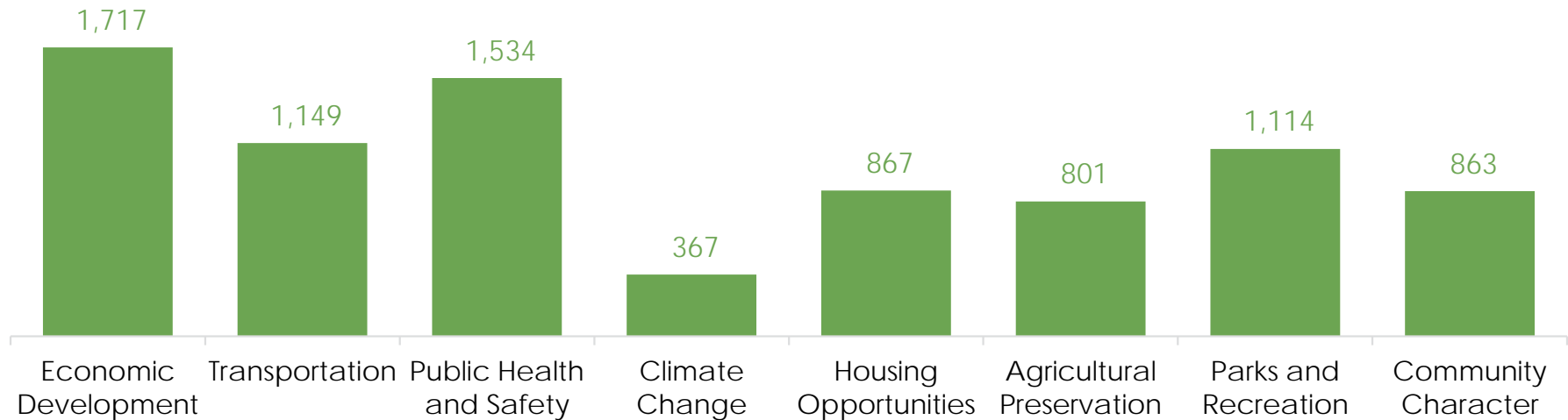
The survey was distributed on the project website, Facebook, emails, and flyers. Complete survey results are in the Appendix.

What's Most Important?

The first task in the survey was to identify which of the issues (Housing Opportunities, Climate Change, Transportation, Community Character, Agricultural Preservation, Economic Development, Public Health and Safety, Parks and Recreation) were most important for the future of Jasper County. The participants were able to rank up to 5 of the issues as priorities.

The graph below shows the weighted responses. We took the average ranking of the issue (in this scenario, 5 being highest ranking, 1 being lowest) multiplied by the number of times the issue was included in the top 5.

Online Survey: What's Most Important?



Public Open House - February 10, 2020

An open house was held at the Newton High School from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. This time overlapped with a basketball game, so some people attending the game also viewed the Open House exhibits. There were 11 display boards describing the planning process and plan elements. Copies of the draft plan were available for review. Approximately 35 people attended the Open House. Images of the display boards are included in the Appendix.

Zoning Commission - March 10, 2020

Snyder & Associates presented a summary of the plan document, including important “take-aways” for each plan element. The presentation is included in the Appendix.

CHAPTER

2

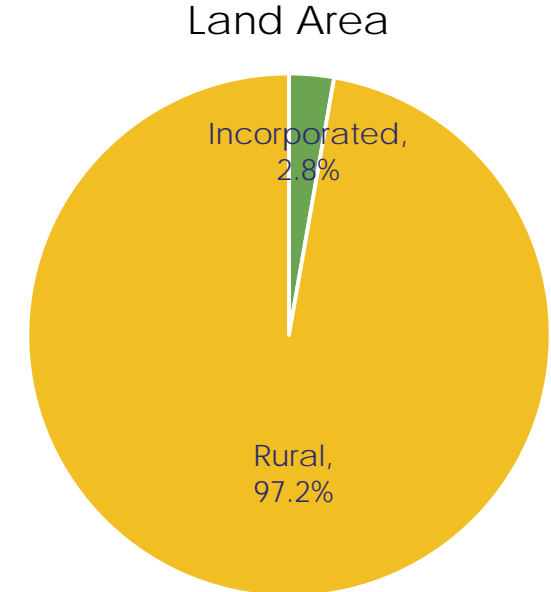
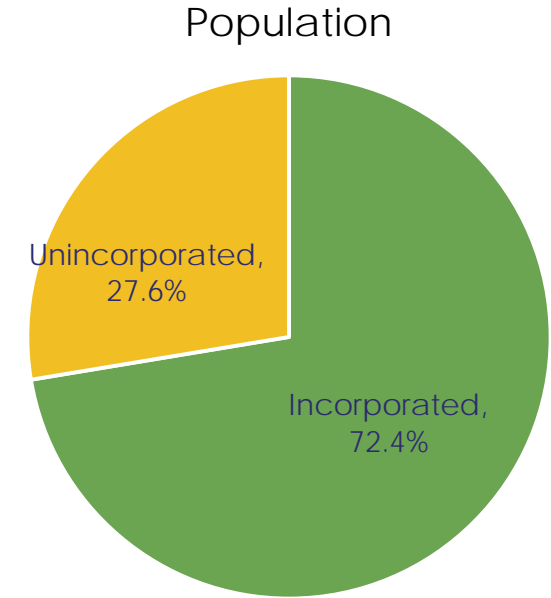
County Profile

Introduction

Understanding the demographics of Jasper County is an essential component to understanding the needs of its residents. Demographic trends can indicate changing needs for specific types of housing, schools, parks, or economic development. The information in this chapter is used to inform the goals and objectives presented in later chapters.

Regional Context

Jasper County is at a crossroads: quiet, unobtrusive, rural landscape to the east and suburban sprawl to the west. Jasper County enables its residents to live a quiet, bucolic life while still having access to the amenities that the Des Moines metro provides. It also has a number of small incorporated cities providing local services.



Unincorporated Jasper County

Jasper County, like many other counties in Iowa, is primarily rural. Of the 732.6 square miles in Jasper County, 712.3 square miles, or 97.2%, is unincorporated. Although nearly all of the land in Jasper County is unincorporated, less than one-third of the population lives in unincorporated areas.

Cities in Jasper County

Jasper County is home to 14 incorporated cities totaling nearly 25,000 in population.

	1870	1880	1890	1900	1910	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2018
Newton	1,983	2,607	2,564	3,682	4,616	6,627	11,560	10,462	11,723	15,381	15,619	15,292	14,799	15,579	15,254	15,209
Colfax		620	957	2,053	2,524	2,504	2,213	2,222	2,279	2,331	2,293	2,234	2,462	2,223	2,093	2,069
Monroe		982	952	917	800	936	936	1,015	1,108	1,366	1,389	1,875	1,739	1,808	1,830	1,874
Prairie City		591	684	808	764	780	793	831	834	943	1,141	1,278	1,366	1,365	1,680	1,729
Baxter				427	527	571	569	623	618	681	788	951	938	1,052	1,101	1,138
Sully					282	393	362	402	452	508	685	828	841	904	821	836
Kellogg		772	700	653	610	603	580	648	670	623	607	654	626	606	599	592
Lynnville		296	261	347	370	461	426	427	406	411	381	406	393	366	379	395
Mingo					246	324	313	290	227	260	260	303	252	269	302	307
Lambs Grove										234	239	228	212	225	172	169
Oakland Acres												139	152	166	156	160
Reasnor						226	229	221	227	224	284	277	191	194	152	155
Valeria						70	57	79	57	76	96	80	69	62	57	59
Mitchellville*		745	704	768	869	752	702	769	906	957	1,341	1,530	1,670	1,715	2,254	2,303
Total Incorporated	1,983	5,868	6,118	8,887	10,739	13,495	18,038	17,220	18,601	23,038	23,782	24,545	24,040	24,819	24,596	24,692
Percent Incorporated	9.0%	22.6%	24.5%	32.9%	39.7%	48.4%	54.8%	54.7%	57.6%	62.3%	67.1%	67.4%	69.1%	66.7%	66.8%	66.5%
Total Unincorporated	20,133	20,095	18,825	18,089	16,295	14,360	14,898	14,276	13,704	12,244	11,643	11,880	10,755	12,394	12,246	12,455
Percent Unincorporated	91.0%	77.4%	75.5%	67.1%	60.3%	51.6%	45.2%	45.3%	42.4%	34.7%	32.9%	32.6%	30.9%	33.3%	33.2%	33.5%
Jasper County	22,116	25,963	24,943	26,976	27,034	27,885	32,936	31,496	32,305	35,282	35,425	36,425	34,795	37,213	36,842	37,147

Demographics

Demographics tell a story about who the community is as a whole and how it has changed over time. When looking to promote further growth in a community, it is important to acknowledge its current demographic profiles. The demographics examined in this section are population, age, education, average household and family size, race and ethnicity, and projected population growth.

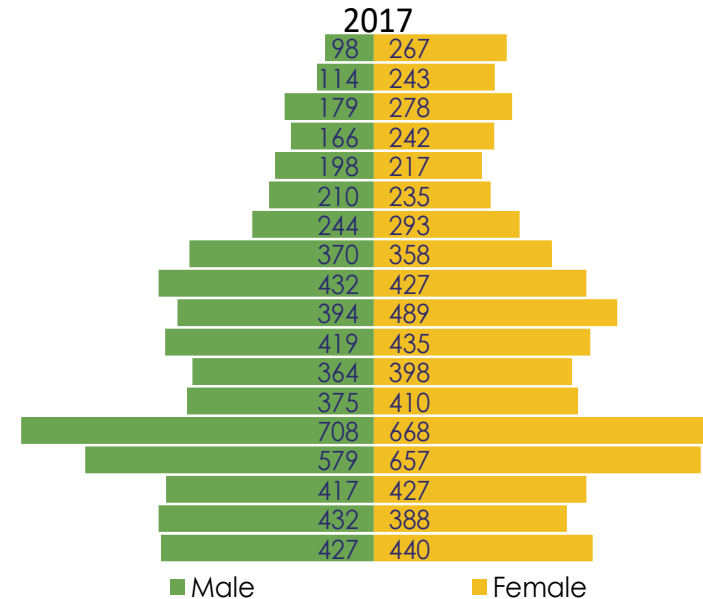
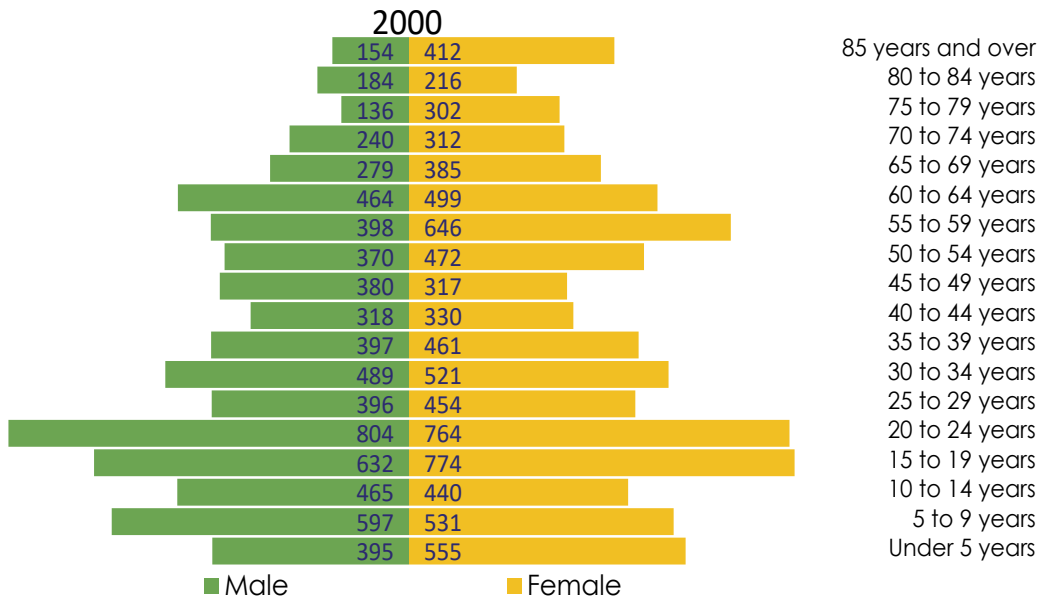
People

Age + Sex

The US Census Bureau shows that 37,213 people lived in Jasper County in 2000. Of those people, 50.4% were male and 49.6% were female. The median age in Jasper County in 2000 was 38.5 compared to 36.6 and 35.3 for Iowa and the United States as a whole, respectively. The median age for males in Jasper County was 37.1 in 2000 and the median age for females was 40.0.

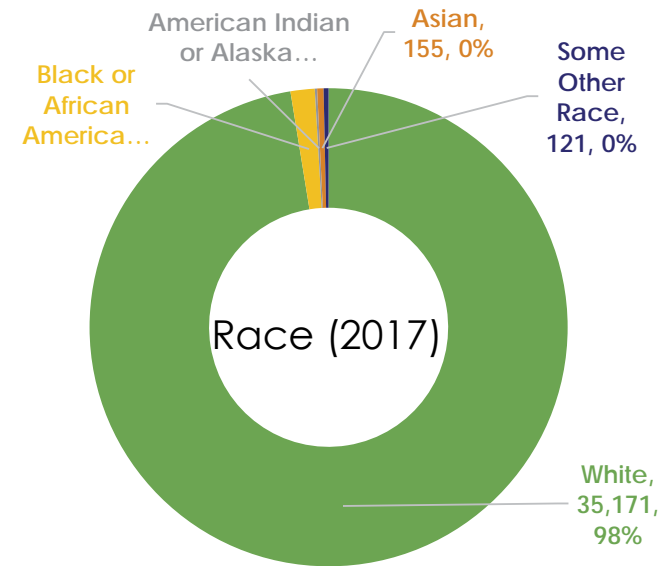
The US Census Bureau Estimates Program shows that 37,147 people lived in Jasper County in 2018. Of those people, 51.1% were male and 48.9% were female. The median age in Jasper County in 2018 was 41.5 compared to 38.2 for both Iowa and the United States as a whole, showing that populations overall have aged since 2000. The median age for males in Jasper County was 40.0 in 2018 and the median age for females was 43.6.

Age Bracket	2000	2010	2017 est.	% change 2000-2010	% change 2010-2017	% change 2000-2017
Under 5 years	2,313	2,162	2,147	-6.5%	-0.7%	-7.2%
5 to 9 years	2,607	2,394	2,048	-8.2%	-14.5%	-21.4%
10 to 14 years	2,607	2,370	2,613	-9.1%	10.3%	0.2%
15 to 19 years	2,442	2,285	2,082	-6.4%	-8.9%	-14.7%
20 to 24 years	1,961	1,788	2,040	-8.8%	14.1%	4.0%
25 to 34 years	4,639	4,367	4,339	-5.9%	-0.6%	-6.5%
35 to 44 years	5,989	4,727	4,298	-21.1%	-9.1%	-28.2%
45 to 54 years	5,127	5,889	5,233	14.9%	-11.1%	2.1%
55 to 59 years	1,880	2,535	2,700	34.8%	6.5%	43.6%
60 to 64 years	1,685	2,236	2,503	32.7%	11.9%	48.5%
65 to 74 years	3,046	3,076	3,634	1.0%	18.1%	19.3%
75 to 84 years	2,114	2,098	2,297	-0.8%	9.5%	8.7%
85 years and over	803	915	855	13.9%	-6.6%	6.5%



Race

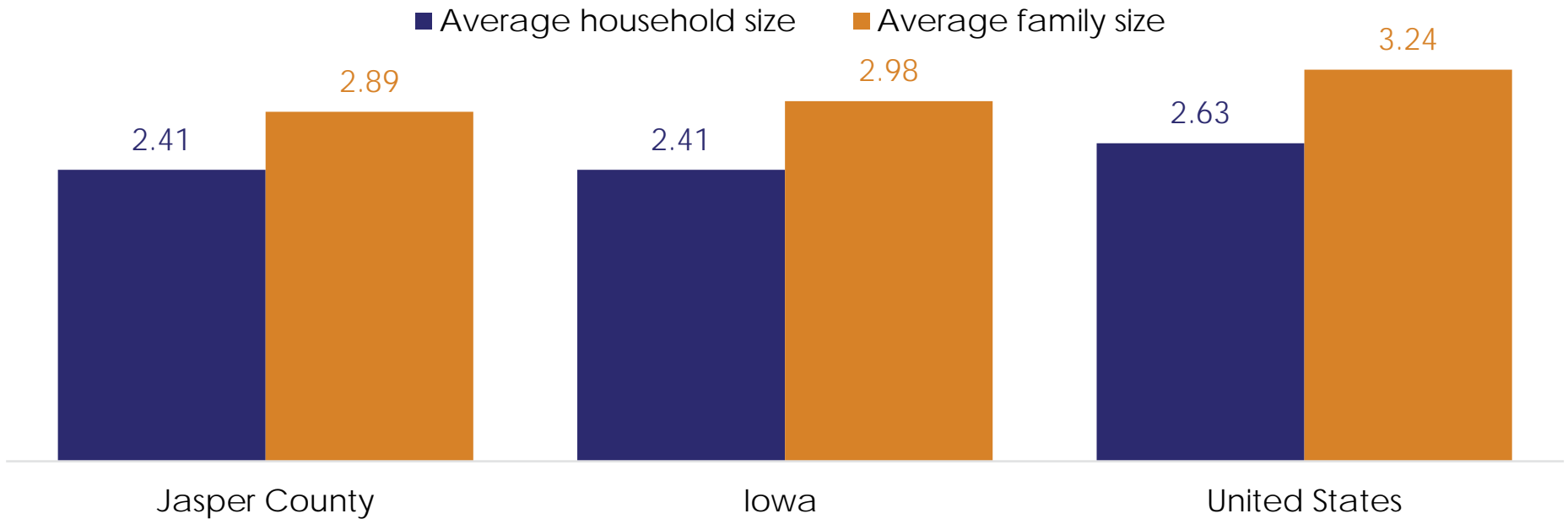
From the same 2017 American Community Survey, the figure on the next page shows that a total of 35,171 (95.6%) of Jasper County’s residents were “White,” 590 (1.6%) were “Black or African American,” and the remaining 958 (2.8%) were some other race including: “American Indian or Alaska Native,” “American Indian,” “Asian,” “Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander,” and “Some Other Race.” Jasper County, much like Iowa as a whole, is a very homogeneous population with more than 90% of residents being white.



Housing

Household + Family Size

The average household size in Jasper County according to the 2017 American Community Survey was 2.41 people and the average family size was 2.89 people. The figure below shows Jasper County's average household and family size as compared to those of Iowa and the United States. Generally, Jasper County's average household and family sizes are characteristic of Iowa and the United States.



Population Trends + Projections

When planning for communities, one of the best ways to understand what the future of the community holds is to look at how it has grown over time and project forward based on that historic growth.

Jasper County population change over time

Since 1850, when the first Decennial Census was taken for an incorporated city in Jasper County, the population has grown from 1,280 to reach 37,147 in 2018 according to US Census Bureau estimates. During that time, growth has happened in the incorporated cities in Jasper County as the rural population has seen a decrease from 20,133 in 1870 to 12,455 in 2018.

The Census estimates the population living within incorporated areas as 24,692 people. Therefore, 12,455 people, or 33.5% of the county population live within rural Jasper County.

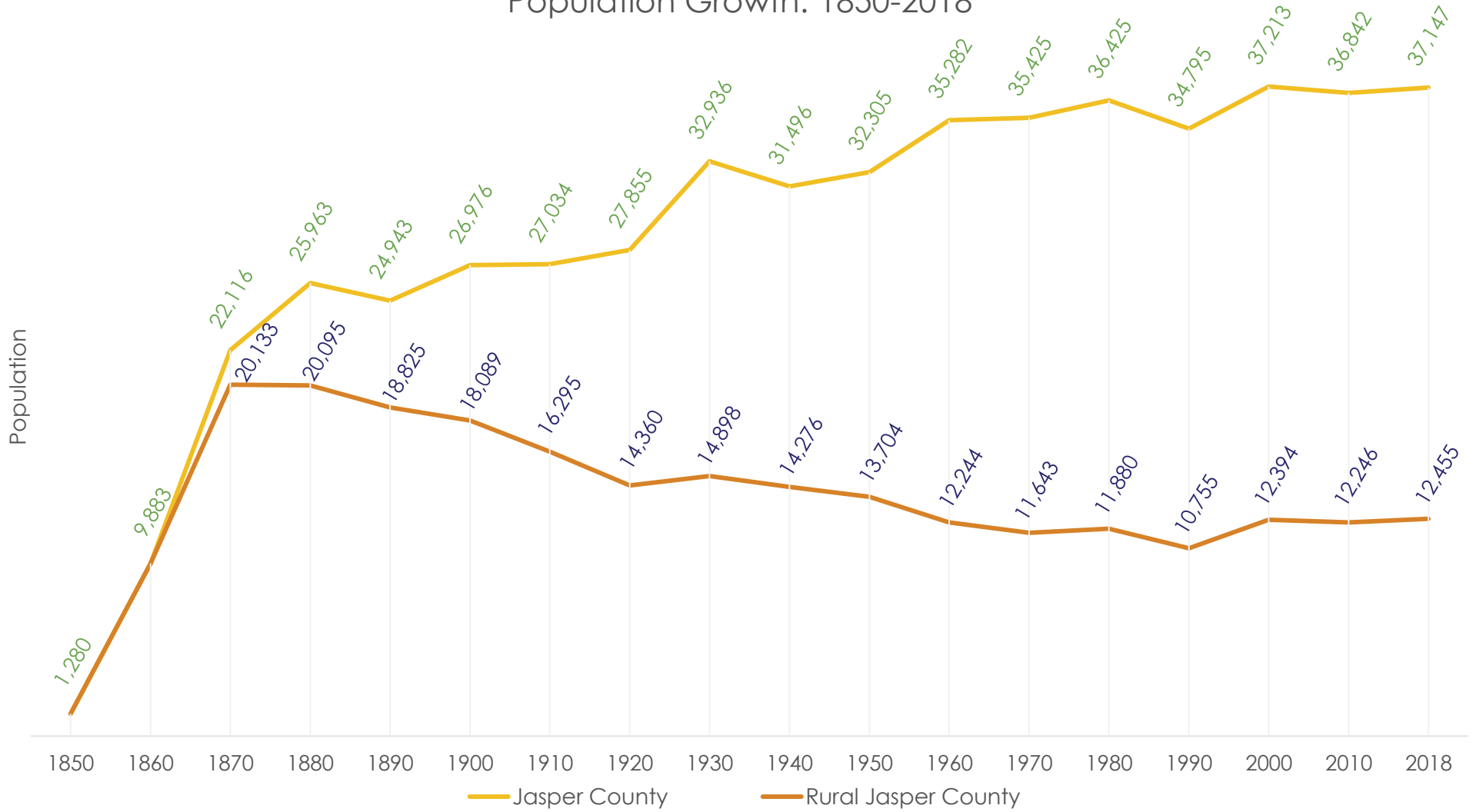
Projection Methods

The following projection methods are using population data from 1850-2010 and calculating the population change to 2040. Projections are prepared with an incremental update every five years.

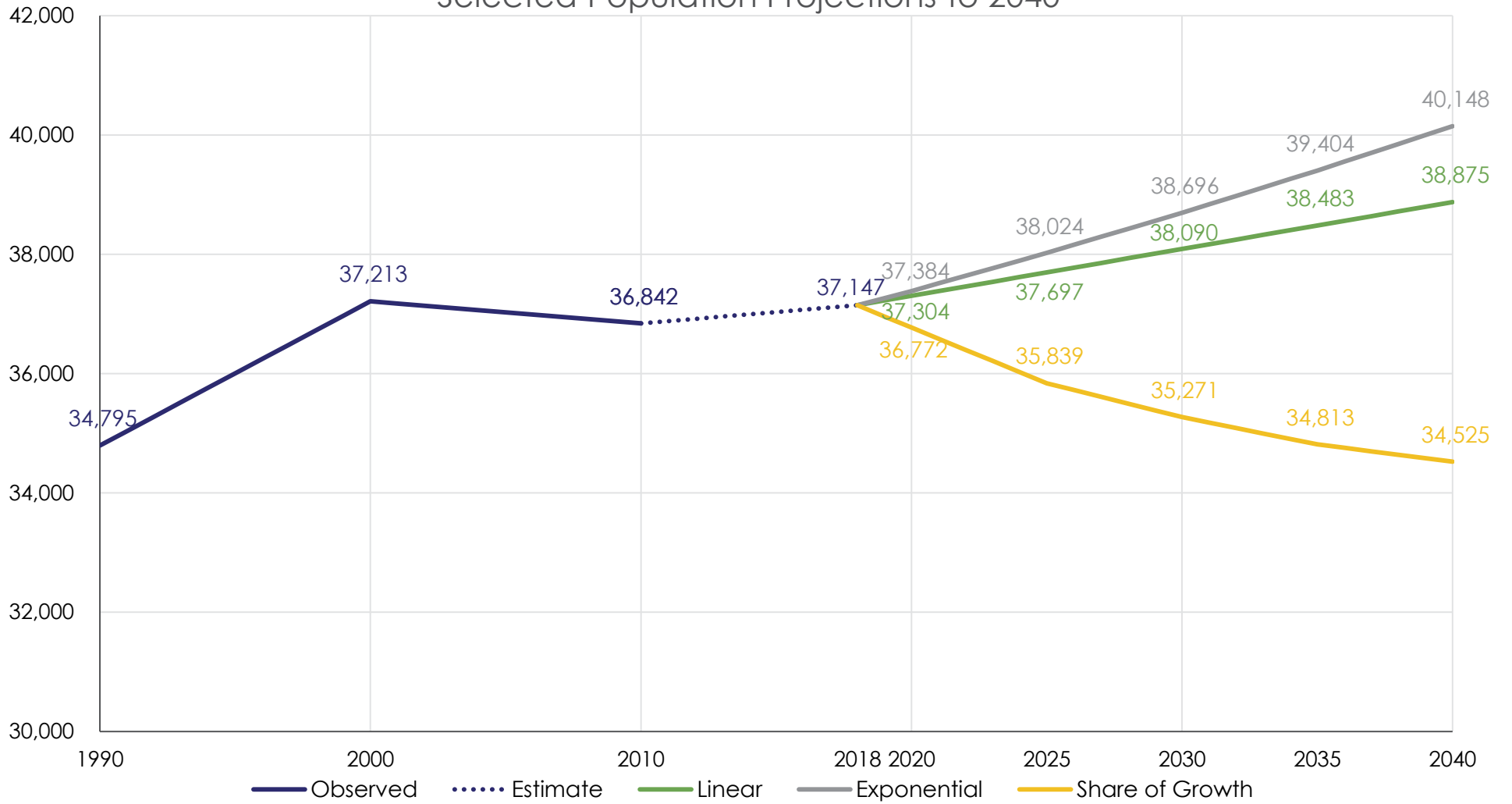
Due to the drastically different growth rates between incorporated and rural Jasper County, projections were done separately and then combined to get ideally more accurate population projection estimates. Both incorporated and rural Jasper County were projected using six methods: Linear Curve Projection, Geometric Curve Projection, Exponential Curve Projection, Constant Share Curve Projection, Share of Growth Curve Projection, and Shift Share Curve Projection. More details about how the projections were calculated can be found in the Appendix.

Three methods were selected indicating distinct ranges: low, medium and high projection. Using the alternatives to develop a growth range gives decision-makers and planners tools to use for future development assessments. Choosing an appropriate population projection range is extremely important. Selecting a range that is too high or too low can lead to challenges when developing land, housing, and infrastructure. Underestimating the rate of population growth can lead to shortages of infrastructure and land, while overestimating can result in unnecessary upgrades and money spent. All alternatives were considered and the selected range in population projections is approximately 34,525 to 40,148 people by 2040. Alternative methods were selected as low, medium, and high projections.

Population Growth: 1850-2018



Selected Population Projections to 2040



Low Projection

Alternative 5 (Share of Growth) of 34,525 people was selected as the low alternative due to its actual observed growth trends within the community. This projection shows a slow decrease in rural population over time, as has been observed with historical trends.

Medium Projection

Alternative 1 (Linear) of 38,875 people was selected as the medium projection. This method assumes a linear growth pattern for the two population groups in the county.

High Projection

The high projection was selected from Alternative 3 (Exponential). The population was projected at 40,148. This is not the highest projection, however the higher projections seem unlikely given past trends.

The spread between the three projections varies in terms of the average annual population growth rate after 2018, with the low projection assuming a -0.32% annual average growth rate, the medium projection assuming 0.21%, and the high projection assuming 0.37%.

CHAPTER

3

Land Use

Introduction

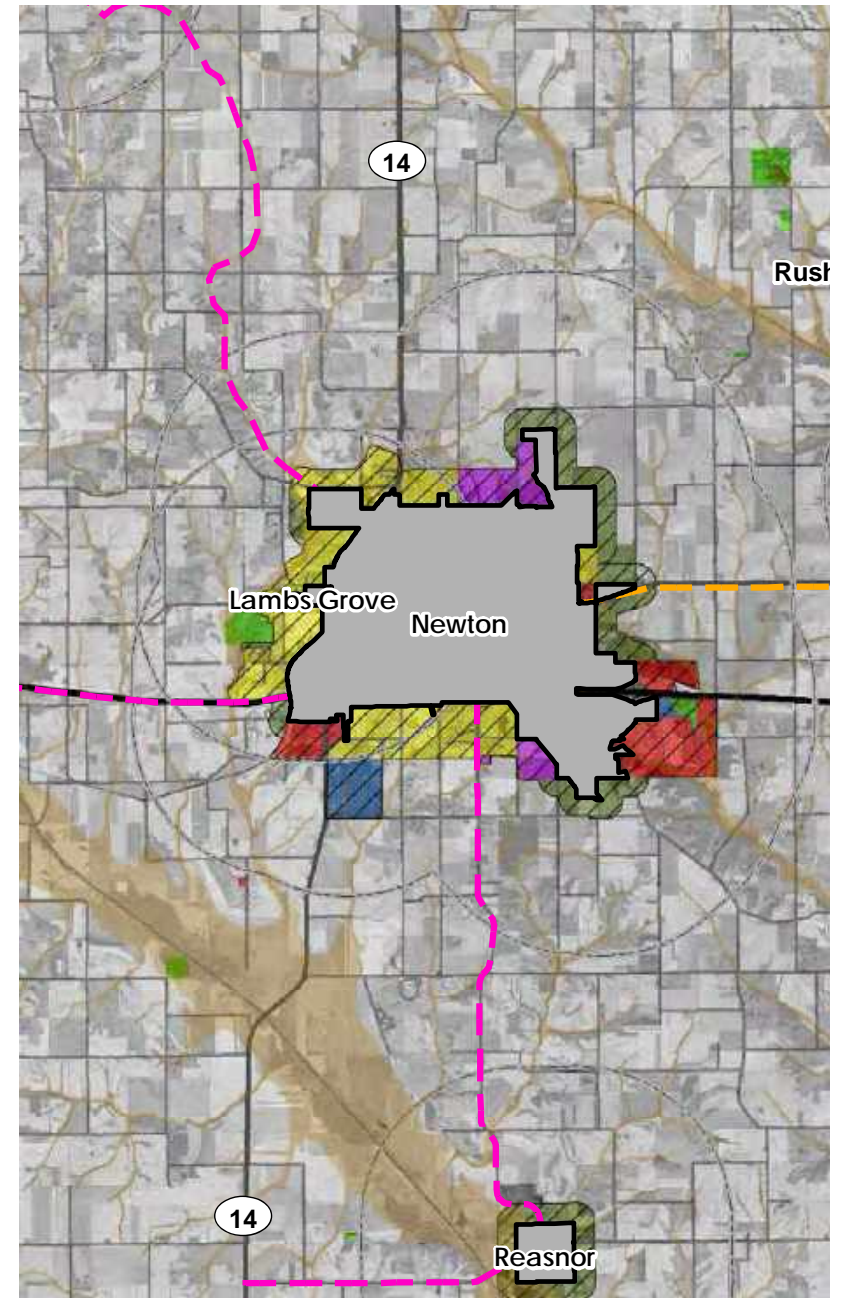
This chapter contains background information on historic land use patterns and recent development trends. The purpose of this inventory is to identify areas, intensities, and timing for potential future development as well as long-term preservation. This chapter also provides a snapshot of the existing land uses and proposed future land uses to manage growth and guide land use decision-making.

Extraterritorial Jurisdiction

Each city's right to regulate zoning within an extraterritorial area is granted by Iowa Code Section 414.23 stating *"The powers granted by this chapter may be extended by ordinance by any city to the unincorporated area up to two miles beyond the limits of such city, except for those areas within a county where a county zoning ordinance exists."*

The State Code does not address the authority for a city to designate future land use outside their boundary, but this would be implied by the right to regulate zoning, since zoning must be based upon a comprehensive plan (Iowa Code 414.3). Therefore, many cities create future land use designations outside its jurisdiction, but they have no enforcement ability codified by the state.

Jasper County does have zoning within the extraterritorial planning areas of the cities in the county, so each city may not zone this area. However, since the cities may be impacted by development within the extraterritorial planning area and the city may want to annex properties within this area in the future, the city and county may create an agreement in which the city is allowed to review developments in the extraterritorial planning area for compliance with this comprehensive plan.



Land Consumption + Conversion

Farmland Conversion

A 2018 study by the American Farmland Trust shows that development around small towns across the Midwest has contributed nearly as much to the loss of agricultural land since 1992 as urban sprawl. Among the reports key findings:

1. Between 1992 and 2012, almost 31 million acres of farmland were lost, equal to all the farmland in Iowa.
2. 11 Million of those acres were among the best farmland in the nation
3. Development disproportionately occurred on agricultural lands, with 62% of all development occurring on farmland
4. Expanding urban areas accounted for 59% of the loss. Low-density residential development, or the building of houses on 1 to 20 acre parcels, accounted for 41%.

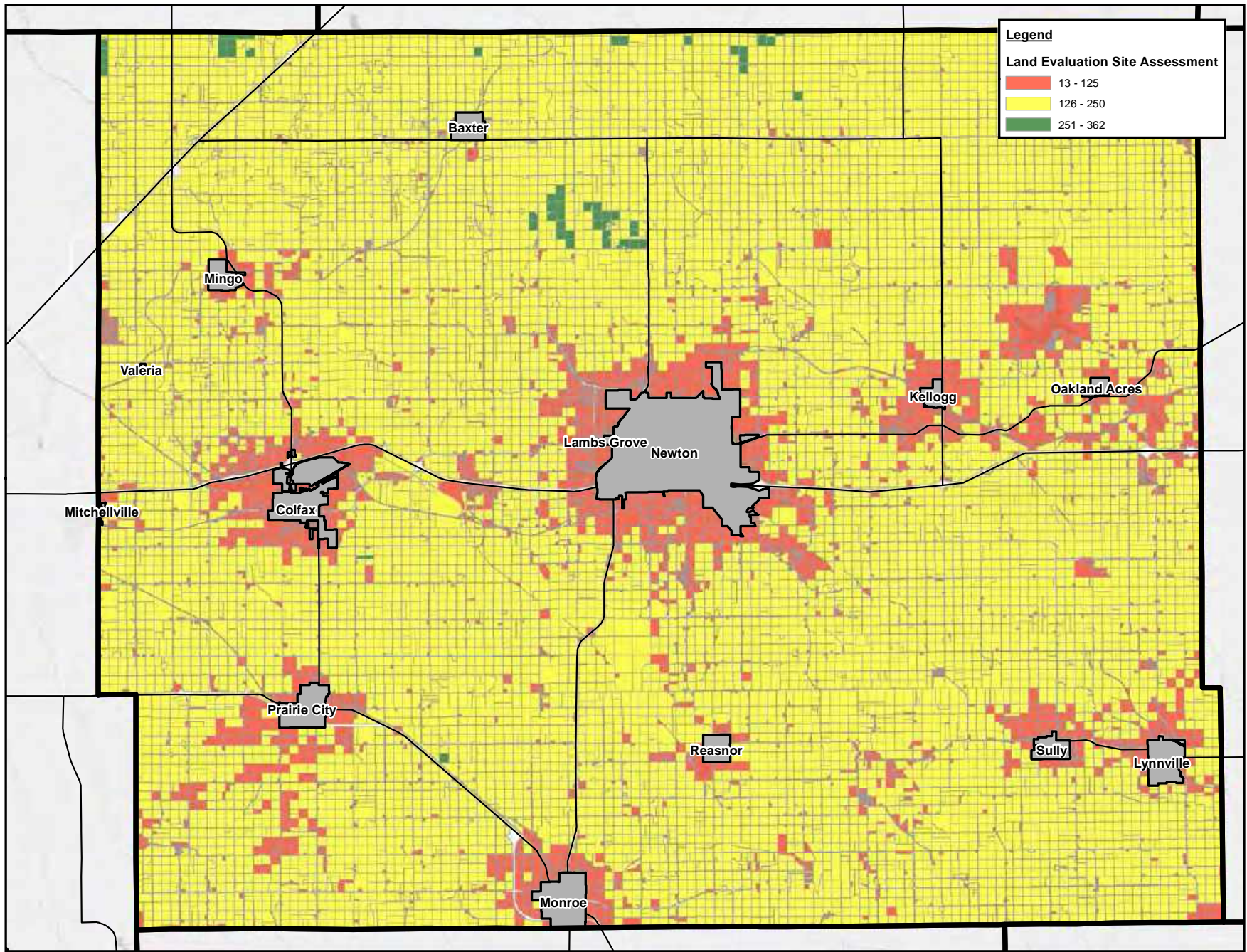
Although it is unsure what the exact impact of development has been on farmland, Jasper County is not resistant to this phenomenon. Its proximity to the metro and important transportation corridors create development pressure on the area.

The Land Evaluation Site Assessment (LESA) is a tool that can be used to assess the value of a particular piece of land for agricultural use. The first part of the criteria evaluates the soils of the site while the second part evaluates the location of the site and its proximity to developed areas and infrastructure. Jasper County currently implements a version of the LESA analysis on a site by site basis as part of their development review process. The same criteria, with the addition of criteria #3 (Land in Agriculture adjacent to site), were used for the purposes of this plan. All analysis was completed using GIS analysis tools. The following variables were used, along with their weight factor.

Scoring is based on a 300 point scale with the following categories:

- ☀ Low Ag Value- Scores less than 125 points
- ☀ Average Ag Value – Scores from 125-250 points
- ☀ High Ag Value – Scores higher than 250 points





Land Evaluation		Points	Weight Factor	LE Score
1	Average Site Value	100 max	1	100
Site Assessment		Points	Weight Factor	LE Score
2	Percent of Area in Ag within 1 mile of site	10	3	30
3	Land in ag adjacent to site	10	3	30
4	Viability of Site for Agricultural Use	10	4	40
5	Distance to State Regulated Livestock Production Facility	10	3	30
6	Distance from Access to Paved Road	10	3	30
7	Distance to Urban Built-Up Area	10	2	20
8	Distance to Municipal (common) water system	10	1	10
9	Distance to municipal (common) sewer system	10	1	10
Total				300

Environmental Constraints

The following areas are generally not suitable for development and are identified on the Environmental Constraints Map. These areas were taken into consideration when developing the Future Land Use Plan and are identified by the Environmentally Sensitive Areas overlay district.

1. Flood Hazard Areas - Flood hazard areas associated with the South Skunk River and North Skunk River and their tributaries are designated on the map as 100-year floodplains and floodways. The floodplain map is based on the FEMA DFIRM report. Flood areas are generally not suitable for development purposes. Some limited development in these areas may be acceptable if it is properly mitigated. For example, in flood fringe areas, recreational facilities may be permitted. Development should not increase the extent of the floodplain, increase erosion, or damage other improvements along the waterways.
2. Wetlands - Wetlands provide important ecological functions including accommodating storm water during high rainfall events, slowing storm water runoff rates, reducing erosion and turbidity, filtering impurities from urban and agricultural storm water runoff, and providing habitat for many species of plants and animals. Wetlands recognized by the National Wetlands



Inventory and the Waters of the U.S. are denoted on the map; however, not all wetlands have been identified. Where wetlands are present or suspected to be present, a wetland delineation should be conducted prior to development. If wetlands will be disturbed by development, permitting may be required under the Federal Clean Water Act. Mitigation may be required depending upon the significance of the disturbance.

3. Severe Slopes - The rolling terrain and significant water routes throughout the county comprises areas of extreme slopes that are generally unsuitable for development. The areas of primary concern are those which have slopes greater than 10%. These areas are generally located adjacent to waterways and woodlands. Since areas having severe slopes typically require more extensive grading in order to develop the site, erosion is a concern.

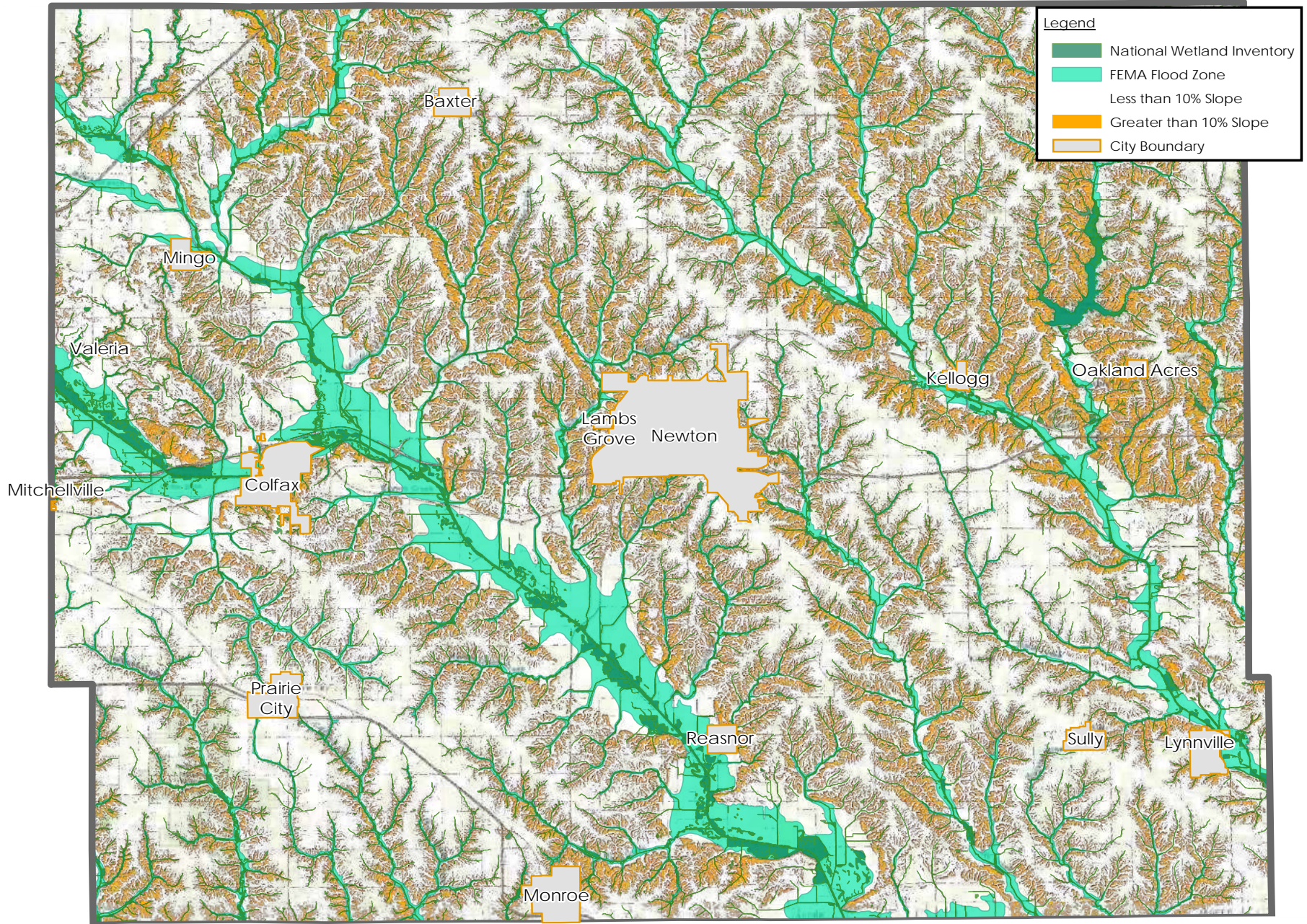
Existing Land Use

Existing Land Use Map

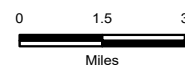
The county encompasses 441,438 acres, or 690 square miles of land area. The county is divided into 19 townships and includes 14 municipalities. Interstate 80 bisects the County from west to east through the center of the county. Most urban development has occurred north of Interstate 80 around the City of Newton.

Jasper County is primarily comprised of agricultural and single-family rural housing with pockets of commercial and industrial uses. Existing land uses of Jasper County are illustrated on the Existing Land Use Map. Percentage of land use in each category can be found in the table below. Each category was identified using the county parcel data and its tax code. The existing land use is categorized into several categories, including agriculture, single-family residential, multi-family residential, commercial, industrial, and exempt. Publicly-owned conservation land typically fall under the Exempt category per the County Assessor, and has been separated into its own category for planning purposes.

Land Use Classification	Acres	Square Miles	Percent
Agriculture	415,610	649.39	94.16%
Single-Family Residential	9,834	15.36	2.22%
Multi-Family Residential	87	0.13	0.02%
Commercial	1,581	2.47	0.35%



Environmental Constraints



Land Use Classification	Acres	Square Miles	Percent
Industrial	287	0.44	0.07%
Exempt	14,039	21.93	3.18%
Conservation	15,117	26.62	3.42%

Agriculture

Agricultural land use and areas otherwise not classified include vacant property, farmsteads, roadways or rights-of-way, and undeveloped or farmed land. This type of land is typically represented beyond the perimeter of an incorporated city to be farmed or developed as part of municipal planning areas. Within the unincorporated areas of Jasper County, this classification accounts for 415,610 acres or about 94% of the land area. Adjacent to corporate limits, these agricultural land areas may offer potential growth through annexations; they may represent areas considered difficult to develop because of floodplain, wetlands, steep slopes; or they may be areas that are ideal for farming and agricultural purposes.

Residential

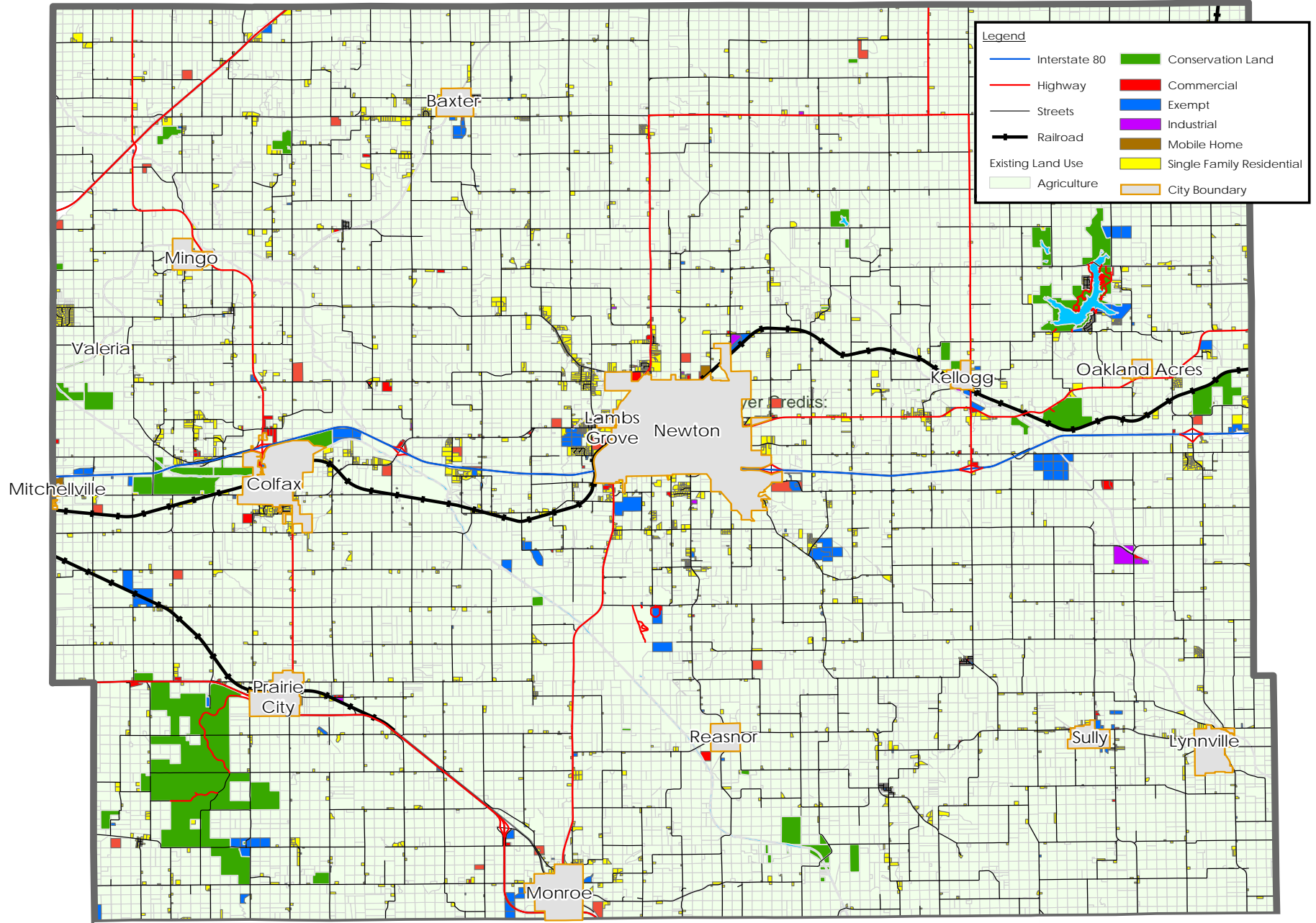
Residential property represents approximately 2.24% of the existing land use within the unincorporated Jasper County. Development types found throughout the county consist of large-lot single-family residential farmsteads, mobile homes, and single-family rural subdivisions located adjacent to urban areas. Jasper County has approximately 4,606 dwelling units within the unincorporated areas. The majority of these homes are characterized by homes built from 1970 or earlier.

Commercial

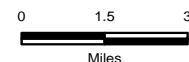
Commercial land use is categorized by wholesale/retail sales and office land use, which relates to professional services and business activities. These are located sparingly throughout the County. Commercial land use in unincorporated Jasper County comprises of 1,581 acres or 0.35% of the total land use.

Industrial

Industrial land use comprises of 0.07% of Jasper County's unincorporated existing land use, covering 287 acres.



Existing Land Use



Exempt

Exempt land uses make up approximately 3.18% of the unincorporated land use in Jasper County, or 14,039 acres. These lands consist primarily of government-owned property, utilities, places of worship, and other civic or institutional land uses.

Conservation

Conservation land consists of wildlife management areas, historic sites, wildlife preserves, recreational areas, and trail corridors. This land is generally classified as exempt by the county assessor, and is shown to provide a comparison of exempt property to parks and conservation land.

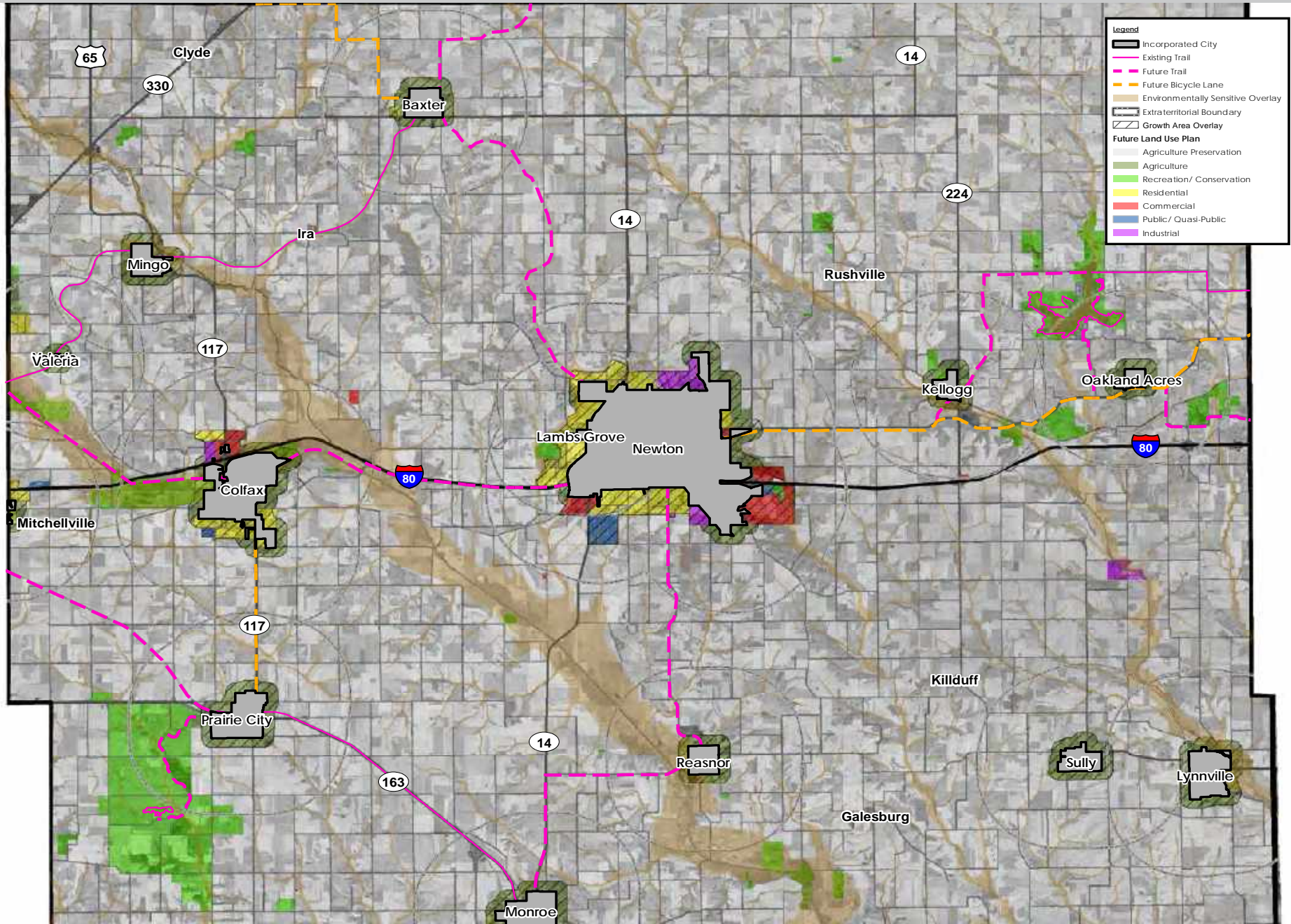
Future Land Use

Identifying future land use categories outlines where investments and resources should be placed to accommodate the projected growth in the county while meeting the Comprehensive Plan goals and objectives. This plan establishes a general direction to allow flexibility in the location, while mitigating conflicts and preserving prime agricultural land throughout the county.

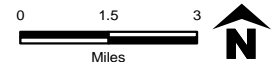
The Future Land Use Plan strives to avoid creating new areas of incompatibility between adjoining land uses, primarily through incorporating transitional land uses which reduce the degree of incongruity. Where incompatibility exists, design techniques may be applied to minimize negative impacts to less intensive uses. These techniques may incorporate the use of buffers, landscaping, opaque fencing, decorative walls, park-like open space, or a combination thereof.

Each site plan application should be reviewed for compatibility with adjacent land, both developed and undeveloped. Undeveloped land shall be assumed to have future development according to the Future Land Use Plan for determining the buffering needs. Further, any mixed use development should be reviewed with respect to internal compatibility through the site plan review process.

Future commercial and industrial uses should be reviewed carefully to ensure that adequate services are available concurrently with development and to mitigate potential negative impacts on surrounding uses. Uses that generate or attract substantial amounts of vehicular traffic, particularly heavy truck traffic, should locate along the major highway corridors in the county. Uses producing potentially hazardous materials should be monitored and located properly.



Future Land Use



The Future Land Use Plan aligns with the applicable municipal Future Land Use Plans and maps where possible.

The definition of future land use designations shown on the Future Land Use Map are:

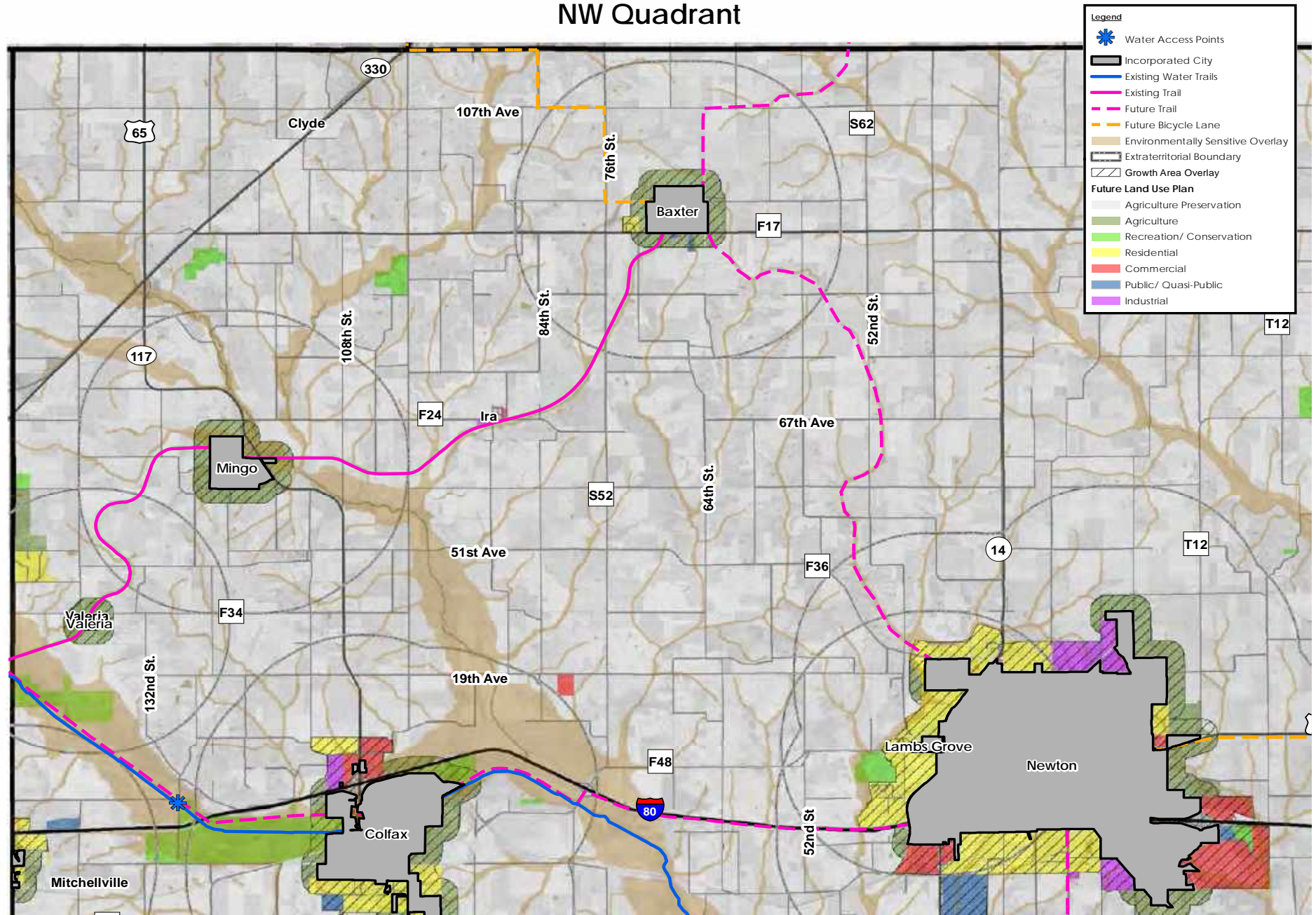
Land Use	Description / Permitted Use
Environmentally Sensitive Overlay	<p>Consists of 100-year floodplain, slopes of 10% or more, wetlands, and waterways including a 100-foot wide buffer on each side of the stream or creek</p> <p>Restricts development to that which can be compatible with the environmental challenges of the area.</p> <p>This overlay shall not supersede Floodplain Development Regulations.</p>
Growth Area Overlay	<p>Agricultural land or open space that received a LESA score of less than 125 and is within ¼ mile of a corporate boundary or does not have an agricultural or open space future land use designation by an incorporated area's adopted future land use plan</p> <p>Due to the LESA score and proximity to incorporated areas, this overlay designates preferred areas for future development.</p> <p>Acceptable future land uses, if not otherwise specified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agriculture and related uses - Rural Residential - Civic / Public - Parks / Recreation / Conservation - Commercial - Industrial - Innovative / non-traditional single family forms may be allowed in conformance to an approved Master Plan and Governing Plan
Recreation / Conservation	<p>Parks and open space</p> <p>Recreational facilities</p> <p>Conservation areas</p> <p>Trails and trailheads</p> <p>Golf courses</p>

Land Use	Description / Permitted Use
Agriculture Preservation	<p>Agricultural land that received a LESA score of 125 or more and is more than ¼ mile from a corporate area boundary.</p> <p>Conversion to other land uses is discouraged.</p> <p>Acceptable future land uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agriculture and related uses - Rural Residential - Parks / Recreation / Conservation - Innovative - non-traditional single family forms may be allowed in conformance to an approved Master Plan and Governing Plan
Agriculture	<p>Agricultural land that received a LESA score of less than 125 or is within ¼ mile of a corporate boundary.</p> <p>Conversion to other land uses is acceptable.</p> <p>Acceptable future land uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agriculture and related uses - Rural Residential - Parks / Recreation / Conservation - Innovative / non-traditional single family forms may be allowed in conformance to an approved Master Plan and Governing Plan
Residential	<p>Single-family detached dwellings</p> <p>Accessory dwelling units (not included in density calculations)</p> <p>Innovative/non-traditional single family forms may be allowed in conformance to an approved Master Plan and Governing Plan</p> <p>Civic uses and places of worship may be allowed if compatibility standards are met through a conditional use review</p> <p>Parks, open spaces, and trails</p>

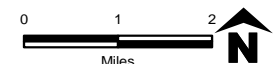


Land Use	Description / Permitted Use
Public / Quasi-Public	<p>Governmental offices and related (City and County administration, police, fire, water, wastewater, State of Iowa)</p> <p>Museums, performing arts, and similar</p> <p>Libraries, community centers, and similar</p> <p>Schools, institutions, and educational buildings</p> <p>Parks, open space, and trails</p>
Commercial	<p>Low/medium density residential uses</p> <p>Includes retail, office, restaurants, bars, personal and business services, and similar commercial uses</p> <p>Overnight accommodations</p> <p>Automobile-oriented uses may be allowed if compatibility standards are met though a conditional use review</p> <p>Civic uses and places of worship may be allowed if compatibility standards are met through a conditional use review</p> <p>Parks, open space, and trails</p>
Industrial	<p>Includes office / warehouse buildings</p> <p>Manufacturing and other industrial uses</p> <p>Accessory / support uses, such as restaurants only to serve the adjacent office park</p> <p>Outdoor storage or operations must be screened from public rights-of-way and adjacent properties</p> <p>Parks, open space, and trails</p>

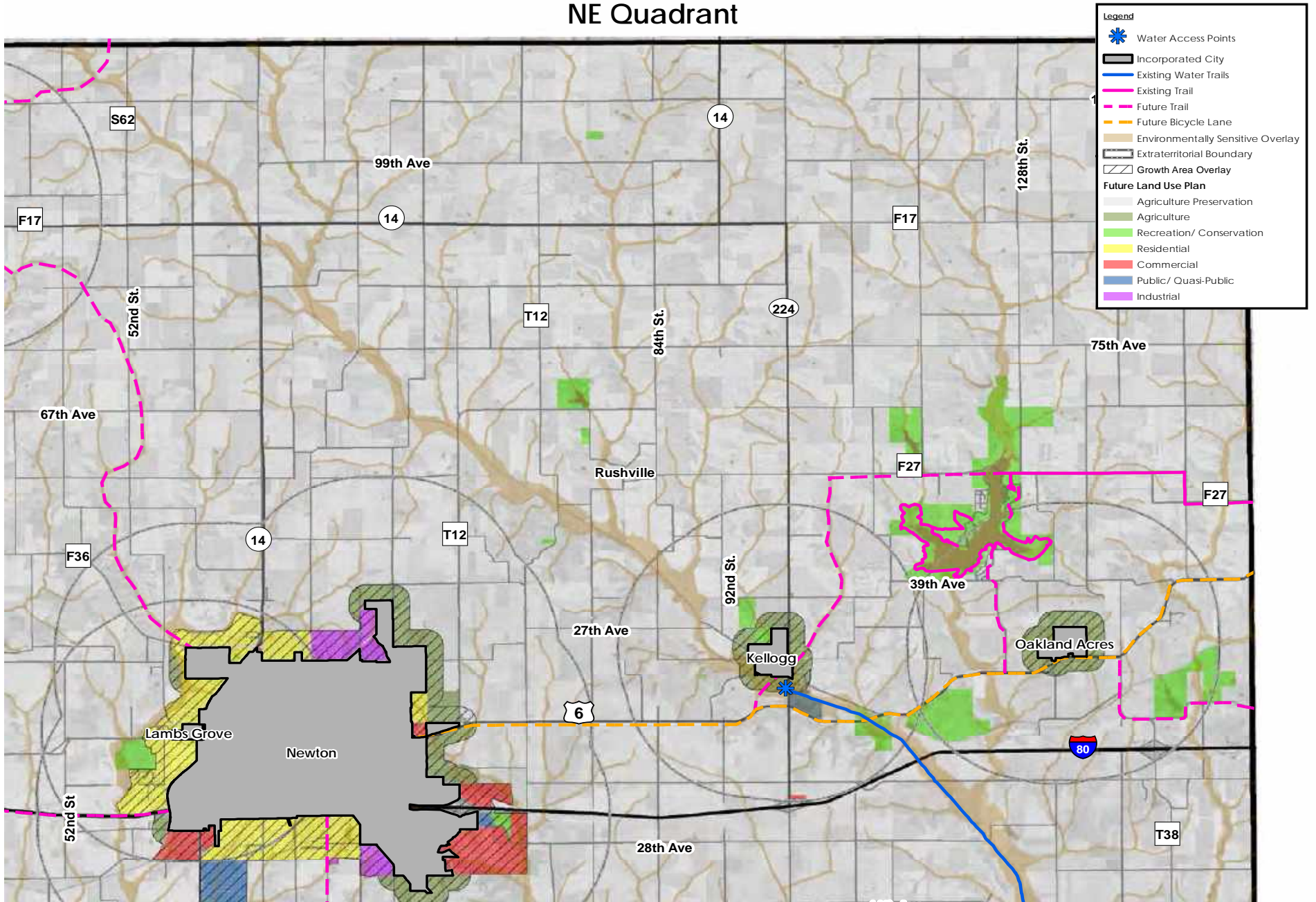
NW Quadrant



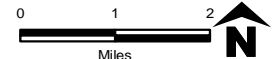
Future Land Use

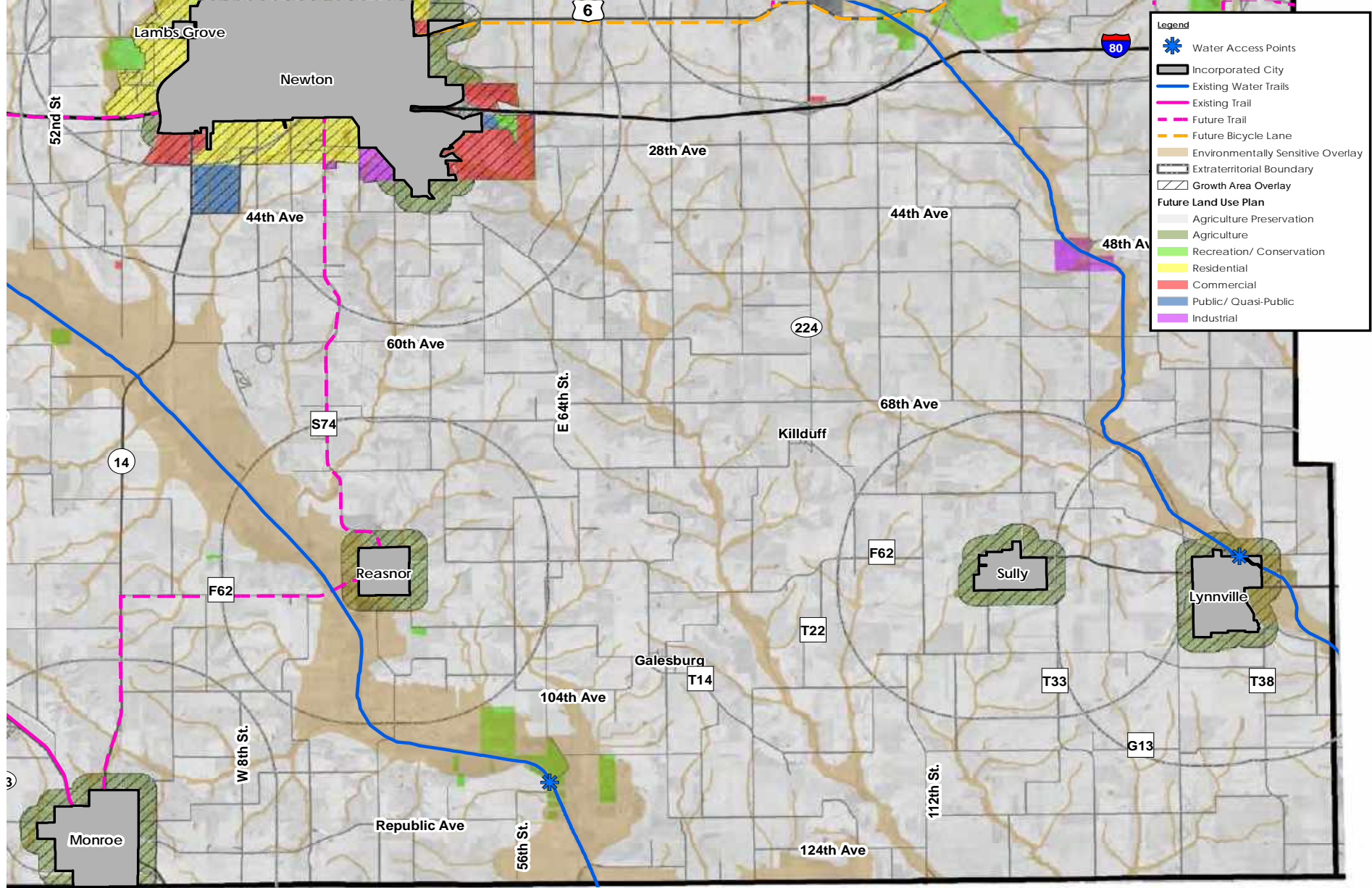


NE Quadrant



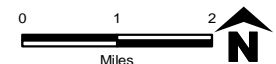
Future Land Use

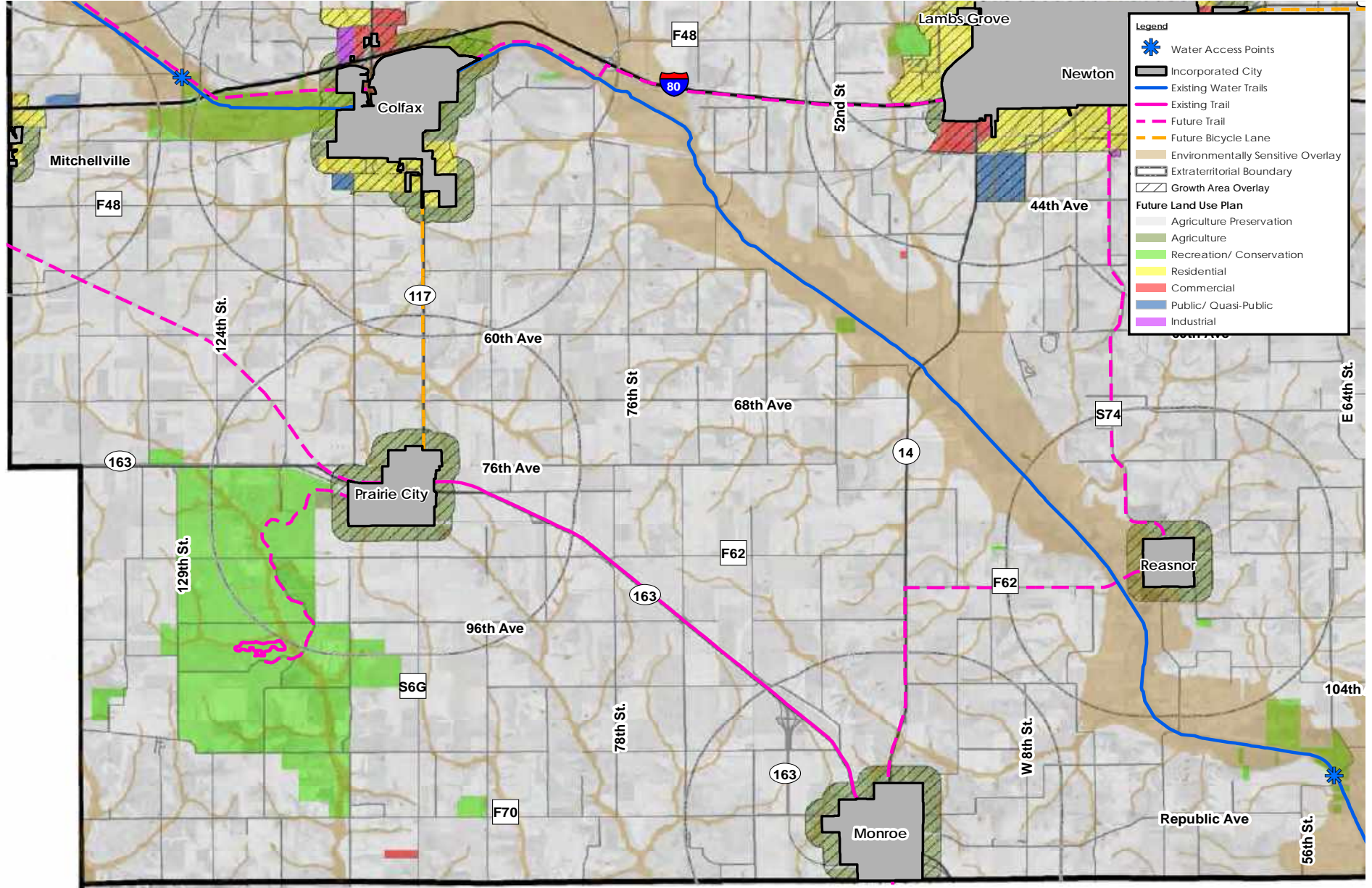




Future Land Use

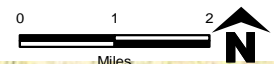
SE Quadrant





SW Quadrant

Future Land Use



Relationship to the 2018 *A Study of Growth and Change in Jasper County*

This study identified the following highest ranking themes for a regional sense of place:

1. Agricultural pride and fertile farmland
2. Outdoor living and associated activities to enjoy open spaces
3. A county that cares about the uniqueness of each of its small towns
4. A county that values prairie conservation

Residents felt that such qualities in a regional landscape enhance their emotional connection to Jasper County. The top priority for future planning was to keep unemployment rates low, with secondary priorities tied to increasing residential growth, and protecting both prairie and farmlands.

Moving forward, regional planning for Jasper County could provide incentives for continuing farming as a way of life, continue to expand recreational trails to connect towns that in turn may further distinguish their unique appeal, and to continue to promote the development of native landscapes.

These findings are generally consistent with the results of the public engagement process for this comprehensive plan and have been incorporated into the goals, objectives, and action statements.

Public Feedback + Best Practices

The online public survey asked participants to prioritize eight elements (housing opportunities, climate change, transportation, community character, agricultural preservation, economic development, public health and safety, parks and recreation). Each one of these areas has a relationship to the existing and future land use in the county. The survey questions and comments



reveal a general sentiment of the values of the community. By reviewing this information, the Project Review Committee developed the vision statement for the county, which focuses on balancing prosperity and preservation, while being a place where people can grow toward a brighter future. This vision is obtained, in part, by land use and growth management practices.

Land use best practices call for directing development toward existing incorporated areas and prioritizing redevelopment and infill over greenfield or agricultural development. Communities should be designed so that residents can be healthy, active, engaged, and able to age in place. This means developing mixed use, mixed density, and mixed income neighborhoods, such that daily needs are within walking or biking distance, including schools, parks, shopping, and employment centers. These elements lead to a high quality of life that is attractive to residents, which leads to attraction and retention of businesses.

For rural areas, best practices focus on protecting native ecosystems, ensuring clean air and water, reducing soil erosion, and providing recreational opportunities. Agricultural uses should be both environmentally and fiscally sustainable. Transportation systems should support the agricultural uses with safe and efficient routes to towns and interstate highways.

The following chapters of this Comprehensive Plan set forth the goals and objectives to fulfill the county's vision for the future through planning best practices. Specific action steps are added in the Implementation Plan.

Goals + Objectives

Goals

LU: Preserve the rural atmosphere while promoting responsible growth

Objectives

LU-1: Improve communication between the county and cities regarding land use decisions

LU-2: Promote the efficient layout and highest and best use of land

CHAPTER

4

Transportation

Introduction

Transportation is one of the main infrastructure items that is a critical element to every jurisdiction. The street network is intimately related to the Future Land Use Plan as it forms the means of connection between residences, employment, shopping, and recreation. Concern about safety, access, and mobility of people, farm equipment, and freight must be balanced with available funds and longterm sustainability.

The design of a street plays a significant role in establishing the character of an area. Gravel roadways may suffice for low volume and low speed traffic while establishing a rural character. A wider and faster paved street, with large building setbacks, typically establishes an area where vehicular efficiency is most important. A narrower, lower speed road, with sidewalks, landscaping, and close building frontage typically establishes an area where walking and viewing the adjacent land uses is most important.

This plan does not proposed any future streets as part of the county's network; however, as new development takes place, road improvements, road extensions, and roads in new subdivisions will be needed. Future streets will form the transportation network and character of future development. Therefore, it is important to recognize the function current streets provide and also plan for future streets that can provide continuity, mobility, access, and the desired character for future development.

Connection to Major Transportation Network

Regional Transportation System

Jasper County is fortunate to be located along several major US and State roadway systems. The county is bisected from east to west by US Interstate 80. Interstate 80 sees approximately 36,000 vehicle trips daily. The county is bisected from north to south by Highway 14 from Laurel to Monroe. This roadway sees 3,000 to 5,000 vehicle trips daily. Other major roadways in the county include Highway 6 from Newton to Grinnell (3,000 to 4,000 AADT), Highway 163 from Prairie City to Monroe (12,000 AADT), and Highway 65/330 at the northwest corner of the County (8,000 to 10,000 AADT).

Jasper County is located adjacent to Polk County and the Des Moines Metro. Therefore, the county is in a prime location making transportation to, from and through the county, imperative. Regional and statewide travel is projected to increase concurrently with the growth of the Des Moines metro and statewide. According to the American Community Survey, about 9,173 people live and work in Jasper County. Approximately 7,872 workers live in the county but commute elsewhere for work, primarily the Des Moines Metro. That leaves only 68 workers that commute to Jasper County for work from the surrounding region. Over time, this commuting pattern may change with additional employment opportunities in the county, resulting in fewer county residents commuting to other jurisdictions and more people entering the county for employment.

Existing Roads + Highways

Roadway Functional Classification

Major Arterials

Major arterials serve centers of metro areas, provide a high degree of vehicular mobility, and can also provide vehicular mobility through rural areas. They are generally wide, have high speed limits, and have limited access along the route to allow travel to and through an area. These roads are regional in nature and link interstate, intrastate, and regional activity centers. They are built to accommodate the highest traffic volume and longest travel routes. The existing transportation network in Jasper County contains 80 miles of major arterials, consisting of Interstate 80, Highway 65/330, Highway 14, and Highway 163.

Minor Arterials

Minor arterials provide service for trips of moderate length, serve geographic areas that are smaller than their higher arterial counterparts, and offer connectivity to the higher arterial system. Minor arterials should be identified and spaced at intervals consistent with population density, so that all developed areas are within a reasonable distance of a higher level arterial. Highway 117, Highway F17, Highway 224 and Highway 6 make up the minor arterials in Jasper County, totaling 53 miles.



Collectors

Collectors are responsible for gathering vehicular traffic from local roads and funneling them to the arterial network. Collector streets prioritize access to property over mobility, and are more locally oriented. Most of the remaining paved county roadways are currently classified as collectors in Jasper County. A total of 152 miles are classified as major collectors and 245 miles of minor collectors hold this classification.

Local Roads

Locally classified roads account for the largest percentage of all roadways in terms of mileage. They are not intended for use in long distance travel, except at the origin or destination end of the trip. They are often designed to discourage through traffic. Local roads usually have frequent controlled intersections. Compared to other roadway types, local streets are narrower with slower speeds through areas such as residential neighborhoods and are friendlier to bicycle and pedestrian travel. The rural gravel roadways in Jasper County are classified as local roads.

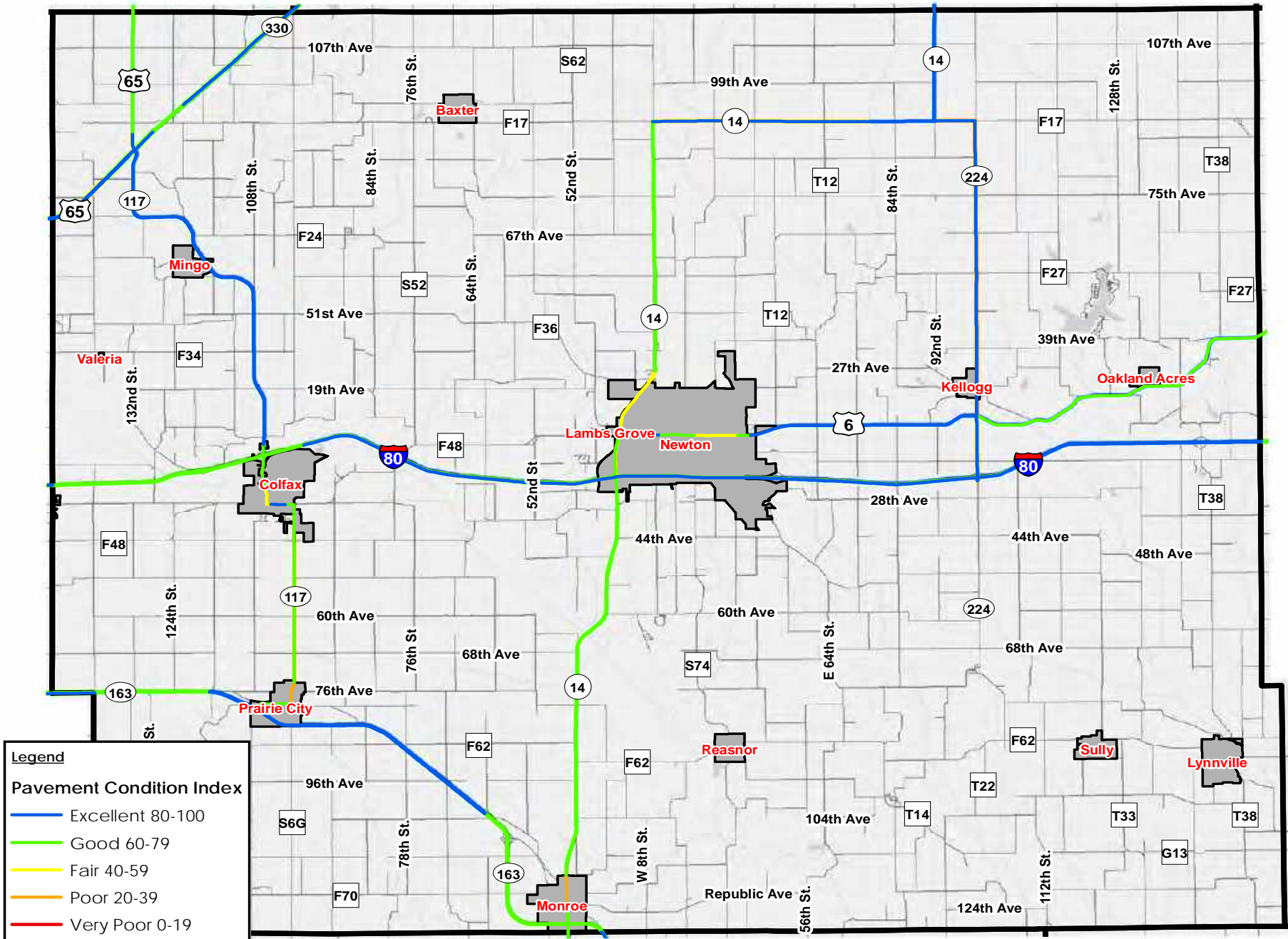
Condition of Existing Roadways

Jasper County maintains almost 1,200 miles of roadway, but private roads that are maintained by associations serve some rural properties. There are some county roads that are not maintained by the county. Jasper County identifies a gravel roadway that drives “well” as a road that has a balance of being too wet (mud, ruts, slippery) and being too dry (potholes, washboards, corrugations and dust). The condition of the road can go from good to bad in a matter of a few hours depending on rain, snow, temperature, and traffic.

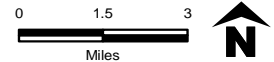
Jasper County, like many rural counties, have experienced poor rural road conditions due to weather-related factors. In 2019, Jasper County allocated \$1.75 million to County Highway and gravel road maintenance. This number has been amended twice to provide additional funds and will continue to increase in years to come.

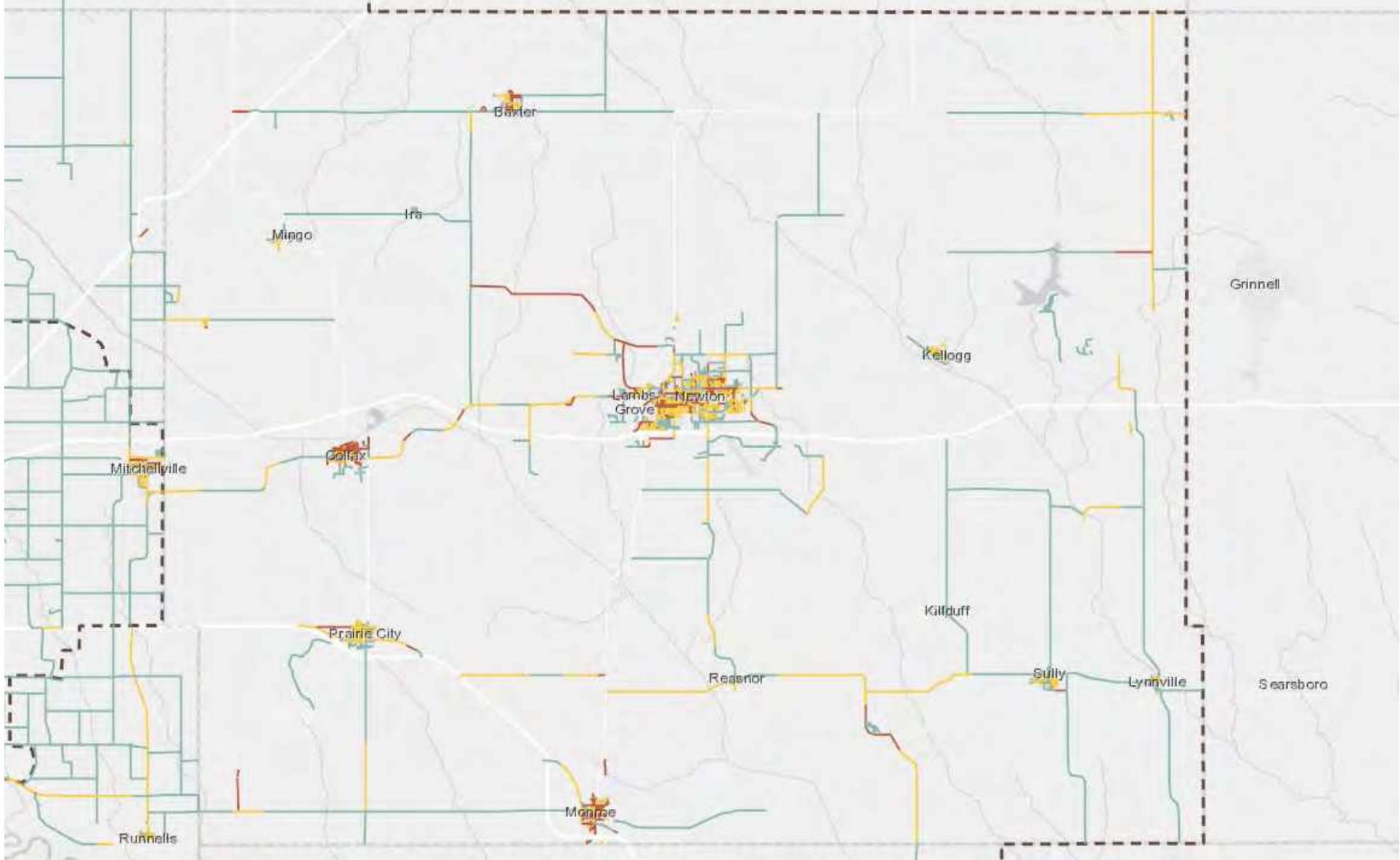
Iowa DOT Pavement Condition Index

The Iowa DOT measures pavement conditions on a 0-100 scale using the Pavement Condition Index (PCI). The PCI is a numerical index developed by the United States Army Corps of Engineers used to indicate the condition of pavement. The survey process involves breaking the pavement section into sample units; and recording the extent and severity of



Pavement Condition Index (2017)





distress based on age, percent of life used, cracking, International Roughness Index, durability, thickness, friction value, patching, asphalt depth and base thickness. The Pavement Condition Index helps officials make decisions on funding needs and pavement improvement needs. Of the roadways that were studied in 2017, Jasper County has approximately 49.13 miles in the excellent category (rating of 80 or higher), 74.23 miles in the good category (rating of 60-79), 3.61 miles in the fair category (rating of 40 -59), 1.53 miles in the Poor category (rating of 20-39) and zero miles in the very poor category.

CIRTPA 2017 Pavement Conditions

In addition to the Iowa DOT Pavement Condition Index, CIRTPA also created a 2017 Pavement Conditions map. This map categorizes road conditions into Good & Excellent, Fair, and Poor & Very Poor. This data was obtained from the Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Institute for Transportation at Iowa State University (InTrans). This map shows pavement condition data for different roadways than the Iowa DOT PCI map, so the two maps should be used in conjunction when determining road repairs.

Relationship to CIRTPA Long-Range Transportation Plan

CIRTPA's Long-Range Transportation Plan is intended to provide a blueprint for the development of the area's transportation system over the next 20 years.

The goals identified in the plan were:

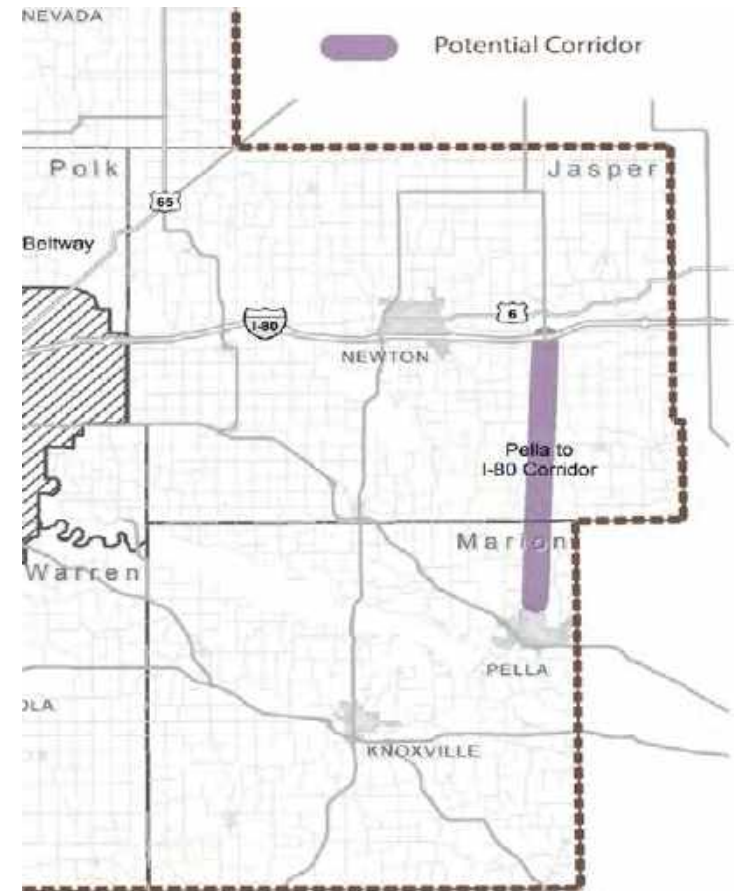
1. Maintain our existing transportation system
2. Provide a safe transportation system
3. Promote livability
4. Protect the environment and conserve resources

The plan also calls attention to transit ridership in Jasper County. In 2012, there were an average of 99 people riding to or from Jasper County via DART per day, and 1,436,968 rides provided by HIRTA between 2006 and 2012. This number continues to increase and indicates a demand for such mobility alternatives.

The LRTP also brings to light potential future corridors. In relation to Jasper County, the plan identifies a Pella to I-80 Corridor for future consideration. Jasper County no plans to allocate any funds to the Pella to I-80 Corridor project.

Public Feedback + Best Practices

Transportation Options ranked third out of eight options on the online public survey. Within that topic area, Road Maintenance was ranked as the most desired strategy. Road safety and paving were also high on the list. Multi-use trails and Ride Share/Transit options were viewed as relatively split on the preference scale. When asked to distribute the county's hypothetical capital improvement budget, respondents allocated most funding to road maintenance and expansion. The survey comments strongly supported maintaining the rural roadways, particularly the gravel roads; some comments were in favor of paving the gravel roads. There was also strong support for improving bridges and providing affordable public transportation options, particularly for seniors to and from Des Moines. There were also comments supporting more paved trails for biking and walking, with one example of connecting the county's cemeteries, while other comments were not in favor of creating a paved trail system. The public feedback from community events clearly identified the rural transportation network as the most important area for the county to focus its attention.



Transportation-related best practices advocate for expanded transportation options for all ages and all abilities. Consideration should be given to transportation options that maximize mobility, reduce congestion, conserve fuel, and improve air quality. Demographic factors such as the aging population have an impact on transportation needs. According to the 2017 American Community Survey, there are over 6,786 individuals aged 65 and older and nearly 5,000 individuals with disabilities in the county. These trends indicate the need for a variety of mobility options. Changes in technology may also have an impact on future needs with increasing options for shared-use transportation and the future of vehicle automation.

Recognizing the relationships between the transportation network and land use and between street design and community character is also a best practice. A grid roadway network is considered to be a best practice since it disperses traffic on parallel roadways, provides for alternative routes should one route become blocked, and creates a predictable network and simpler land development. Cul-de-sacs, dead-end roads, and looped roadways are generally not considered to be part of a grid network and should only be used when natural or historical features prohibit a more connected transportation network.

The transportation network must be designed with consideration not only to transportation safety and efficiency, but also to protection of natural resources, agricultural land, and cultural and historic landscapes; and promotion of equitable mobility, walkability, and bikeability. As a highly visible element of the county, streets play a role in establishing character through placemaking.

An emerging best practice is the use of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) (aka Smart Transportation), which integrates technology to improve the transportation system. This may include a wide range of applications such as navigation systems, use of cameras to enforce traffic control laws, real-time feedback on traffic conditions (e.g. crashes, hazards, congestion) and provision of alternate routes, locations of available parking spaces, or updated transit times. It may even allow a transit bus or emergency vehicle to have priority at signalized intersections by turning the signal green upon approach or change a speed limit based upon current conditions.

Goals + Objectives

Goals

TN: Develop and maintain a complete transportation system to benefit residential, agricultural, and economic purposes

Objectives

TN-1: Ensure that the transportation network is safe and efficient

TN-2: Use street design to establish a character within cities and villages

MO: Provide mobility options for all ages and abilities

Objectives

MO-1: Develop non-motorized connectivity for transportation purposes

MO-2: Support motorized travel without individual motorized vehicle ownership





CHAPTER

5

Housing

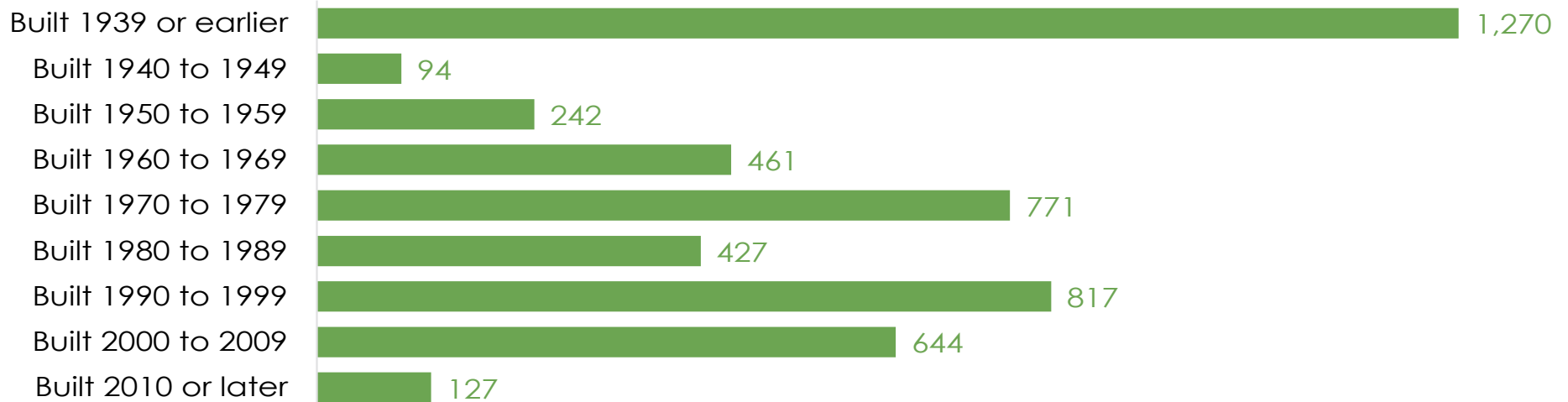
Introduction

The housing element of the comprehensive plan outlines current housing conditions and future housing needs in Jasper County for the 20-year planning period. The future housing needs are estimated using population projections and the 2017 Jasper County Housing Assessment.

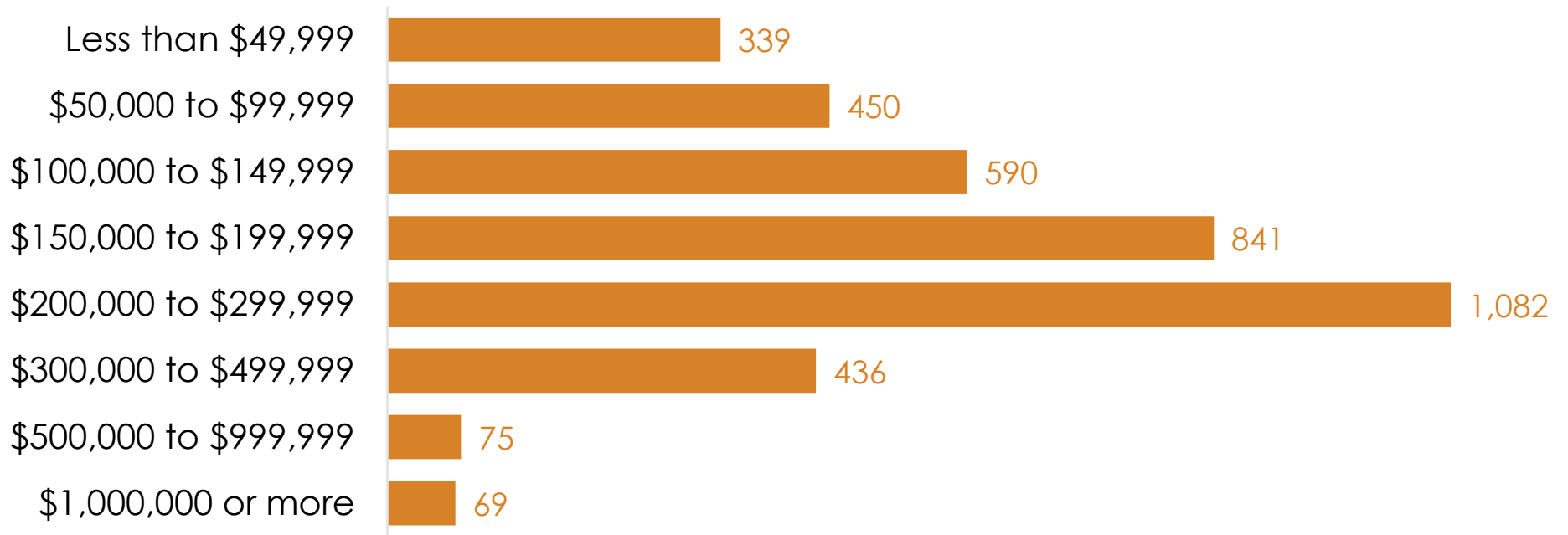
Jasper County has several housing-related challenges, including the need for a variety of housing types and the need for more affordable housing for low-income households. This section provides policy direction for Jasper County to address these challenges.

Existing Housing

Jasper County's age of housing stock is relatively old. Roughly 16% of the total housing units were built after 2000, 26% between 1980 and 2000, 25% built between 1960 and 1980, and 33% built prior to 1960.



The median home value in Jasper County was \$122,800 in 2017. At that time, 37% of the housing stock was valued between \$100,000 and \$199,999. An additional 28% was valued between \$200,000 and \$299,999 and 16% valued at more than \$300,000.



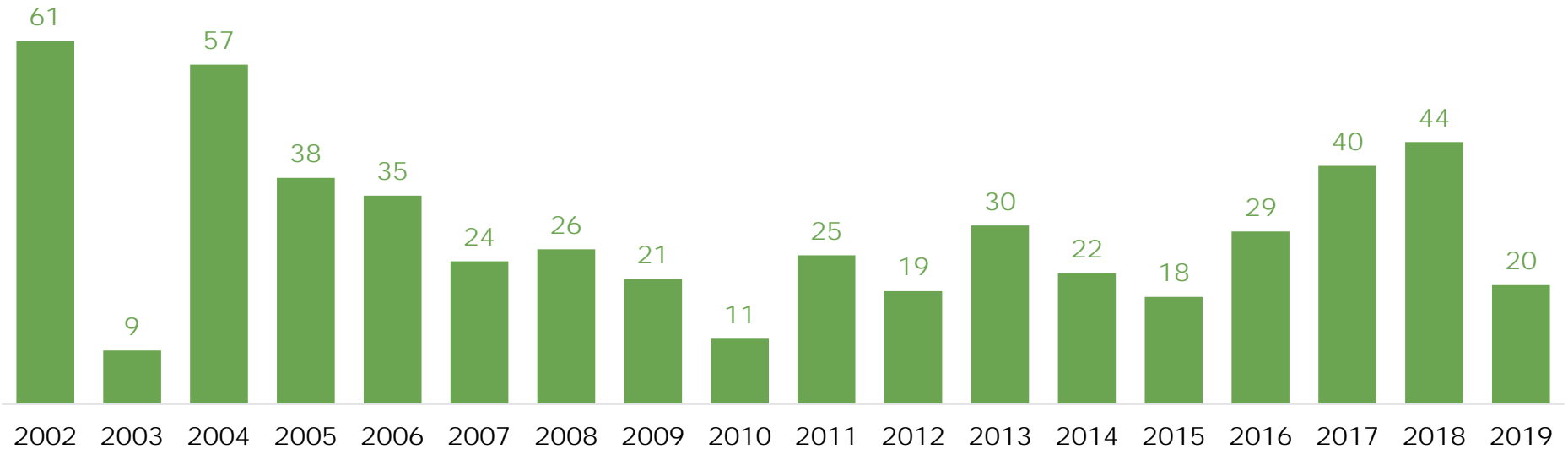
The typical housing unit in Jasper County is an owner-occupied, single-family detached dwelling. Of the county’s 4,925 housing units, 3,882 (78.8%) are owner occupied, 664 (33.5%) are renter occupied and 307 (6.2%) are vacant. The average household size is 2.48 individuals while the average family size is 2.98. There are a total of 4,250 single-family detached units in Jasper County, 17 single-family attached units, 6 duplexes, 34 multi-family units and 546 mobile homes.

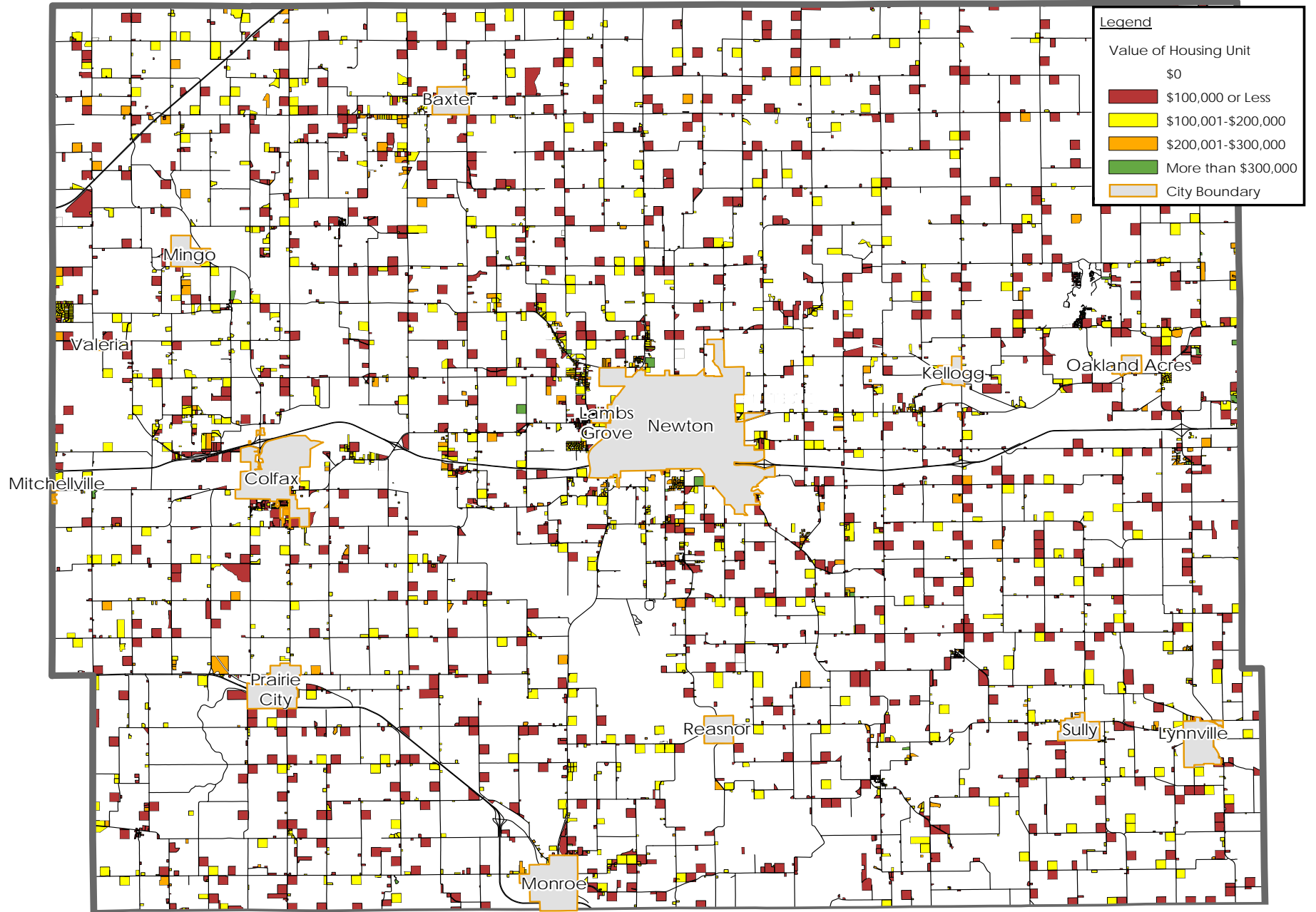
Building permits in Jasper County have varied historically since 1990. Permits were issued at a fairly high rate prior to the recession of 2008 and again have increased since 2013 with the improved economy. The average residential building permits issued per year was 30.

Jasper County (2013-2017)				
Total Housing Units	4,925	100.0%		
Owner Occupied	3,882	78.8%		
Renter Occupied	664	13.5%		
Vacant	307	6.2%		
Housing Units by Type			Other Information	
Total Housing Units	4,925	100.0%	Median Home Value	\$122,800
Single-Family, Detached	4,250	86.3%	Median Monthly Rent	\$696
Single-Family, Attached	17	0.3%	Average Household Size	2.48
Two Units / Duplex	6	0.1%	Average Family Size	2.98
Multi-Family	34	0.7%		
Mobile Home	546	11.1%		

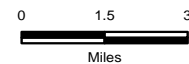
Source: 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Annual Building Permits





Housing Value



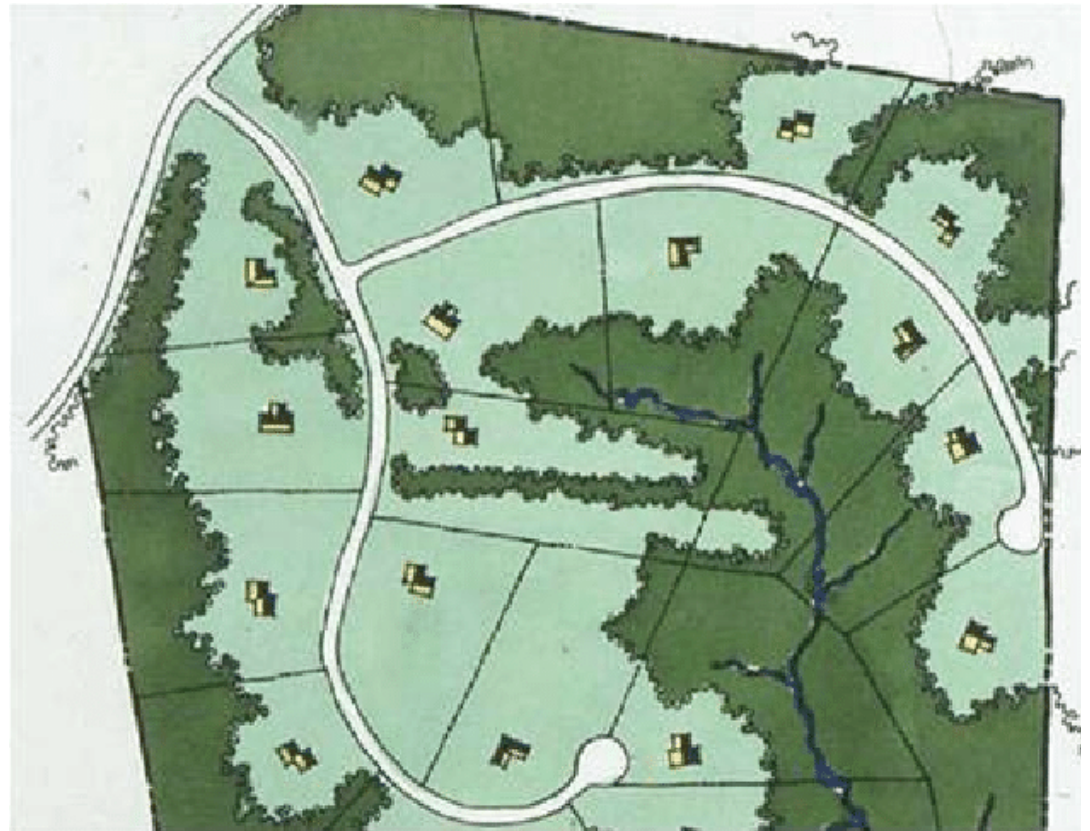
Housing Needs

The average annual building permits issued in Jasper County since 2000 is approximately 30 units. If this average number of building permits is extrapolated to 2040, it can be determined that Jasper County will need 920 new housing units by 2040.

As the county takes steps to accommodate the housing needs of residents outlined above, the vitality of existing housing stock and rural character also needs to be considered. New development should be high quality and compatible in character to existing uses, traffic patterns, public facilities, and environmental areas. Jasper County prides itself on rural, scenic, and quiet areas. The County should protect these characteristics through development regulations which provide standards for density, open space, height, and impacts on the natural environment. Parks, open spaces, and trails also contribute to the rural character.

Non-traditional Housing Types

A variety of housing types will be needed to accommodate the anticipated population growth. Providing a variety of housing types also improves the housing market, making the county welcoming to all income levels while providing economic benefits countywide. Rural housing developments that may be considered include:



Cluster Subdivision



Cluster Housing

Cluster housing refers to a development in which homes are situated in groupings relatively close together, while larger areas of open space within the development form a buffer to adjacent uses. Benefits of cluster developments include:

1. Grouping homes together reduces the initial investment in roads, utilities, and maintenance and replacement costs.
2. Open spaces are good practice either for conservation and wildlife habitat, or for agriculture preservation.
3. Relatively close proximity to neighbors means that residents are more likely to get acquainted with neighbors and develop a sense of place and community.

Agrihoods

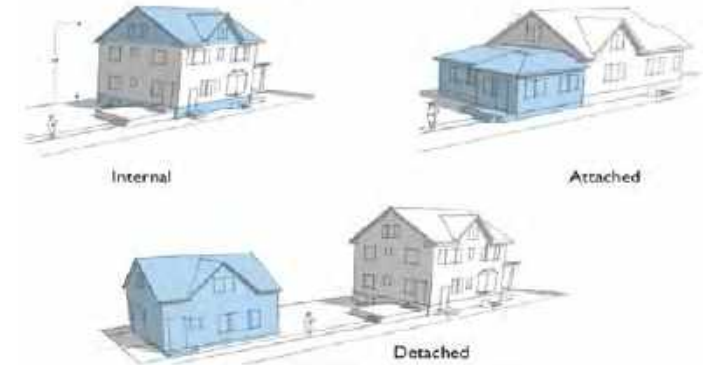
An agrihood is a housing development centered on community farming. The concept can be rural, suburban, or urban with housing built around existing farmland. The presence of greenspaces like community gardens, can provide food, generate employment, increase social recreation, and promote neighborhood growth. Agrihoods also provide homebuyers with both practical and emotional benefits such as health, wellness and access to local food production. Portions of the farm are generally open to the public providing an educational component to those not familiar with the farming community, and training opportunities for entrepreneurs or start-up farmers.



Cohousing / Accessory Dwelling Units

Cohousing is a concept of a cluster development of single-family attached or detached homes that have shared amenities. Shared amenities may include a large kitchen, laundry, open space and recreation and often times have shared meals, events and activities. Cohousing communities were intended for families who wanted to be closer to each other and raise their children together. This has evolved into housing communities being developed for individuals who are 50 and over and other similar demographics. Cohousing can be a solution for older individuals who desire social interaction and wish to age in place.

Cohousing can also be addressed through the use of accessory dwelling units. Accessory dwellings are small, self-contained units located on the same lot as an existing single-family home. These units can be attached, detached, or conversions of a garage, basement or second story.



Eco-friendly Housing

An eco-friendly home is a design with low-impacts to the environment and is built using materials and technology that reduces the carbon footprint of the home and lowers its energy needs. Eco-friendly homes are built with materials that grow without toxic pesticides or herbicides, products made from recyclables, and products that are biodegradable. Other features include wind or solar power systems, low-flow water fixtures, energy-efficient lighting, increased insulation, and design and orientation to maximize natural light and resources. Tiny housing is often viewed as an eco-friendly housing option due to the small footprint and minimal use of energy and resources.

Pic Sources: Limestone Post + Washington County Oregon + St. Johns Insurance Company

Relationship to 2017 Jasper County Housing Assessment

A 2017 Jasper County Housing Assessment identified housing affordability ranges in Jasper County. These ranges were compared with the availability of housing stock within the county that are affordable to various income groups. The study revealed there is a shortage of housing for those households making less than \$25,000 and those making more than \$100,000. This indicates that residents are competing for rental units priced below \$800 a month or for housing priced over \$125,000. Providing residential development in these price ranges would help address the shortage while providing various housing options to accommodate all income ranges.

The Housing Plan developed the following strategic objectives and are incorporated into the goals and objectives of this plan.

1. Increase the lot supply
2. Increase the number of rental units
3. Expand the diversity of housing
4. Share risks to meet needs that the private market cannot satisfy alone
5. Preserve existing housing
6. Promote sites with existing infrastructure
7. Match lot sizes and infrastructure maintenance

Housing Affordability Ranges: Jasper County

Income Range	Households in those income ranges	Affordable Range for Owner Units	Number of Owner Units	Affordable Range of Renter Units	Number of Renter Units	Total Units	Balance
\$0-24,999	2,099	\$0-49,999	921	\$0-399	888	1,809	-290
\$25K-49,999	3,820	\$50,000-124,999	3,360	\$400-799	2,494	5,854	2,034
\$50,K-74,999	2,018	\$125,000-199,999	2,327	\$800-1249	418	2,745	727
\$75,K-99,999	1,723	\$200,000-249,999	2,022	\$1250-1499	33	2,055	332
\$100,K-149,999	3,590	\$250,000-300,000	1,343	\$1500-1999	26	1,369	-2,221
\$150,000+	1,187	\$300,000+	570	\$2000+	35	605	-582

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015; RDG Planning & Design

- Jasper County has a shortage of housing for those households making less than \$25,000 and more than \$100,000.
- This means a lot of residents are competing for rental units priced below \$800 a month or for housing priced over \$125,000



Public Feedback + Best Practices

On the county-wide survey, Housing Opportunities ranked sixth out of eight options as an item of importance for the county. Generally, small lot single family options were the most desirable housing type, while large lot single family were the least preferred housing type. This is the only category of housing that received more “disagree” answers than favorable. Eco-Friendly Housing ranked as the second most desirable housing type followed by Mixed Use Developments. Non-traditional housing types such as co-housing and tiny housing also had a favorable voting outcome. The feedback also indicated a concern for low and medium income housing availability, property upkeep, and attracting builders to the county.

Planning best practices indicate that a variety of housing options and development types for all income levels should be available to meet the needs of the community. The housing needs assessment indicates that higher income and low income housing is currently lacking. Diverse housing options for all incomes should be distributed in or near incorporated areas throughout the county, with higher densities located near incorporated areas and places of employment.

Environmental sustainability was also a concern throughout the county. Providing eco-friendly and co-housing options will help protect the county's prime farmland, environmentally-sensitive areas and help address the need for elderly housing types. The goals and objectives on the next page are intended to address the identified issues by following planning best practices.

Goals + Objectives

Goals

HS: Provide a variety of attractive housing options for residents, accommodating all income levels and all stages of life

Objectives

HS-1: Allow innovative and creative housing designs that accommodate the public's changing needs and preferences, while maintaining the county's character

HS-2: Increase the availability of housing targeted toward households earning more than the county's median income

HS-3: Ensure the housing stock is safe and attractive

HS-4: Promote, incentivize, and facilitate housing development opportunities





CHAPTER

6

Agriculture

Introduction

This chapter addresses the agricultural environment and economy of Jasper County. Agriculture plays a significant role in creating the scenic and rural character of the county. Jasper County heavily relies on its agribusiness sector of the economy.

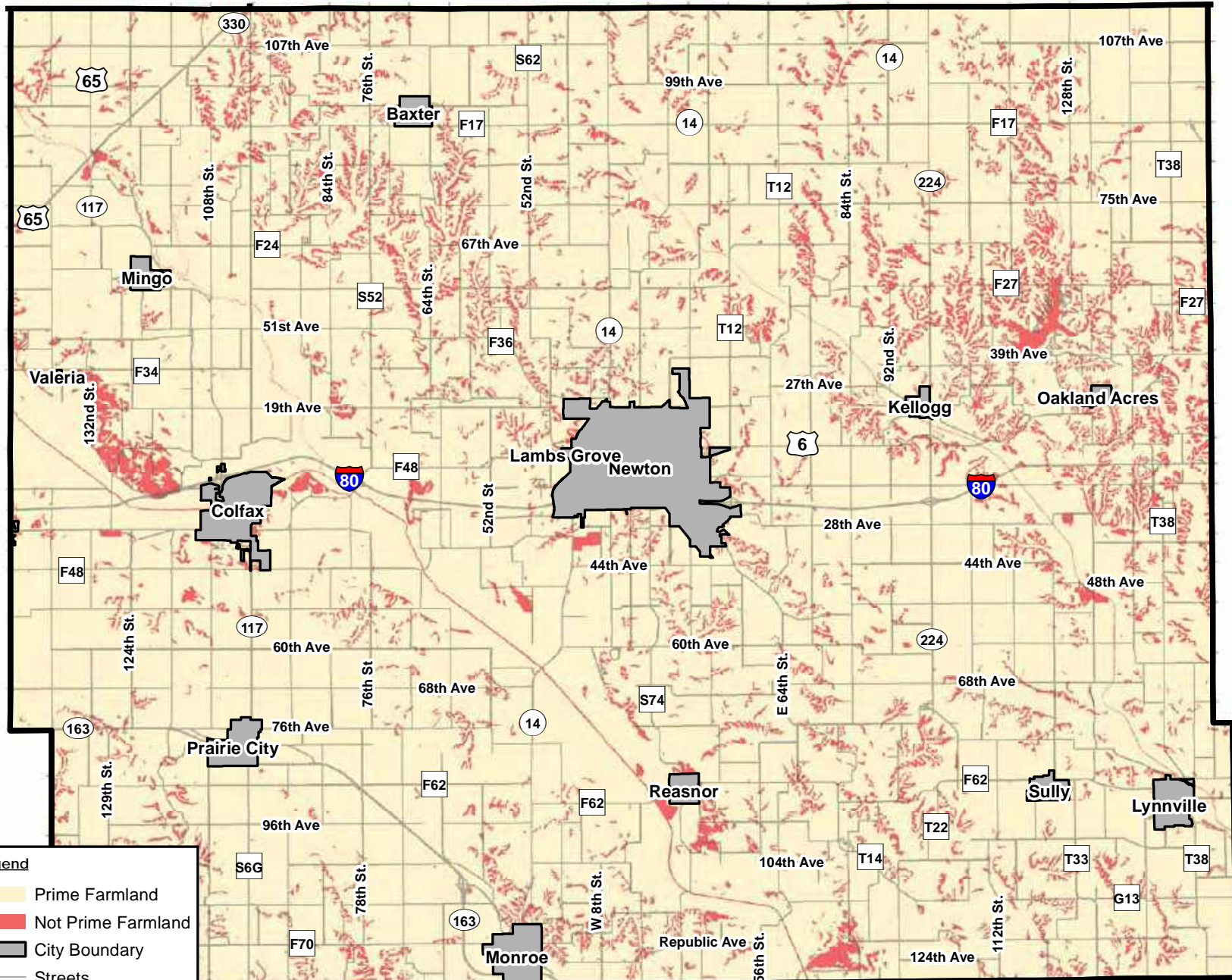
This chapter explores methods for preserving agriculture as a vibrant part of the county's character and economy. This chapter was developed by Solutions in the Land, consultants in farm planning and sustainable agriculture.

Agricultural Land and Trends

Ninety-four percent of the land in Jasper County is used for agriculture. These 400,000 acres of farmland consist of row crops and active grasslands used for grazing, pasture, and forage. The major agricultural products as outlined by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) 2017 Census of Agriculture are grains, oilseed, dry beans and peas (corn and soybeans, major crops for the county, are included in this category), and livestock (primarily cattle and pigs).

The USDA identifies prime farmland as land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops. It includes soil quality, moisture, and sufficient growing season to be able to sustain a quality crop. Prime farmland has a dependable water supply from precipitation or irrigation, favorable temperature during the growing season, and acceptable nutrient content. Prime farmlands are not excessively erodible or saturated with water for a long period of time and they either do not flood frequently or are protected from flooding. Jasper County has approximately 388,140 acres, or 90.9 percent of soil identified as prime farmland based on typical soil type.

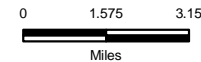
The 2017 Census of Agriculture provides the following snapshot of agriculture in Jasper County. The number of farms in Jasper County has steadily decreased since 2007. Acreage of land in farms decreased between 2007 and 2012, then increased slightly between 2012 and 2017. The average size of farms decreased over the first period, but increased between 2012 and 2017 to larger than the 2007 acreage. Similar trends are observed across the State of Iowa, which saw a decrease in the number of farms, but increase in average size while land in farms held steady from 2012 to 2017. These numbers indicate a trend of farmland consolidation, which is also occurring statewide.



Legend

- Prime Farmland
- Not Prime Farmland
- City Boundary
- Streets

Prime Farmland



Natural Resources

Rich soils and an abundance of fresh water are Jasper County's most valuable natural resources. Agriculture as a primary land use in Jasper County, has a significant role in protecting or degrading these resources. Residents and businesses of Jasper County, as well as other Iowa communities connected by the landscape, are impacted by the stewardship of these resources.

Landscape

Jasper County is located within U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Ecoregion Level 4 Landscape, Rolling Loess Prairies (with the exception of a small portion of the northwest corner of the county, which is located in the Des Moines Lobe/Prairie Potholes), a subsection of the Western Corn Belt Plains. The EPA publication, *Ecoregions of Iowa and Missouri*, describes the landscape as such:

Loess deposits on well drained plains and open low hills characterize the Rolling Loess Prairies ecoregion. Loess deposits tend to be thinner than those found in the Steeply Rolling Loess Prairies to the west, generally less than 25 feet in depth except along the Missouri River where deposits are thicker. Potential natural vegetation is a mosaic of mostly tallgrass prairie and areas of oak-hickory forest. Although cropland agriculture is widespread, this region has more areas of woodland and pasture than the areas to the west.

The ecoregion of the county is one lens through which to understand the area's natural features and resources, and how Jasper County's landscape may be similar or unique in relation to neighboring counties.

Watershed + Water Quality

The South Skunk River is the largest watershed in Jasper County, followed by the North Skunk River in the northeastern corner of the county, Lake Red Rock in the southwestern corner, and the Middle Iowa Watershed, which drains a very small percentage of the northeast corner.

The Skunk River is a priority watershed in the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy (INRS). The INRS 2017-18 *Annual Progress Report*, prepared by the Iowa Departments of Agriculture and Land Stewardship and Natural Resources, with Iowa State University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, outlined agriculture's contributions to nutrient loading in Iowa watersheds,

emphasizing nitrates/nitrites as a top concern. The NRCS conservationist for Jasper County estimated that a 30% to 40% reduction in nutrient runoff is still needed in the watershed.

Agriculture is located in proximity to many surface waters and captures the majority of rainfall in the county. As a result, agricultural practices have a profound effect on the watershed. They can either disrupt natural drainage and contribute sediment, nutrients, and bacteria to surface waters, or preserve the functions of the watershed by detaining and retaining water, filtering runoff, protecting riparian areas and ecosystems and providing the values of open space to the region. These practices affect the watershed within and downstream from Jasper County.

Soils

The May 2008, South Skunk River Watershed - Rapid Watershed Assessment prepared by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) gives a snapshot of the soil properties in the watershed, including Jasper County. Upland soils are mostly highly erodible land (HIL) by water, typically well-drained and non-hydric. Land in river and creek basins/floodplains is often hydric, not as well drained, but minimally sloped and not rated as HIL. NRCS Iowa soil maps distinguish between soils in the northern two-thirds of the county (loess ridges and sideslopes) and the southern third (loess ridges and glacial till of southeast Iowa).

Per the NRCS conservationist for Jasper County, soil health and loss is a primary concern, as well as a national and state initiative. Healthy soils are a benefit to farms and nature; they lower production risks and improve environmental outcomes. According to *Unlock the Secrets in the Soil: Basics and Benefits*, by the NRCS, healthy soils increase production (improving drainage, structure, and nutrient availability), improve profits (requiring less tillage and optimizing inputs), and protect other natural resources (holding more water and increasing biodiversity).

Sloping fields and ample rainfall make these soils vulnerable to erosion. Soil erosion is harmful to a farm's health by increasing vulnerability to drought, impairing soil structure and function, and resulting in expensive input losses. Soil erosion also negatively affects surface waters, carrying nutrients and sediment that impair water bodies.

Adaptability + Resilience

Agriculture in Jasper County is influenced by regional, national, and global forces. These include commodity markets, economic pressures, shifting consumer tastes, regional environmental concerns, climate disruption, and state and national agricultural



policy. While these forces are complex, vulnerability to these forces can be summarized as a lack of resilience in the food and farming systems present in the county.

Shifting national and international market trends, tightening commodities markets, and increasing cost of inputs pose challenges to the modern farmer. These factors boil down to a nearly universal challenge: profitability. Two common methods for bringing more dollars back to the farm are scaling up or broadening scope. Scaling up can increase profitability via an economy of scale; however, scaling up is limited by availability of land and credit, and does not always reduce risk. Broadening scope can include diversification, adding value to products, organic production, and participation in conservation programs. These techniques could incur additional costs and require education and support to begin operations; however, they may provide resiliency against economic and environmental challenges.

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (Iowa DNR) has identified impacts of climate change in Iowa:

☀ Increased Precipitation

- ☀ Increased frequency of precipitation extremes that lead to flooding.
- ☀ Increase of 8 percent more precipitation from 1873 to 2008.
- ☀ A larger increase in precipitation in eastern Iowa than in western Iowa.

☀ Higher Temperatures

- ☀ Long-term winter temperatures have increased six times more than summer temperatures.
- ☀ Nighttime temperatures have increased more than daytime temperatures since 1970.
- ☀ Iowa's humidity has risen substantially, especially in summer, which now has 13 percent more atmospheric moisture than 35 years ago as indicated by a 3 - 5 degree F rise in dew-point temperature. This fuels convective thunderstorms that provide more summer precipitation.

Risks to agriculture from climate change could include market disruption, changing insurance rates, unpredictable weather patterns, increased magnitude and frequency extreme weather events, greater amounts of precipitation and humidity, and increased or changing pest and disease pressure. Some of these risks lead into other issues; increased or intense precipitation may lead to flooding, increased soil erosion, or issues with manure management.

Per the 2014 National Climate Assessment, prepared by a team of more than 300 experts guided by a 60-member Federal Advisory Committee, which was extensively reviewed by federal agencies and a panel of the National Academy of Sciences, a key issue for the future of agriculture is as follows:

In the next few decades, longer growing seasons and rising carbon dioxide levels will increase yields of some crops, though those benefits will be progressively offset by extreme weather events. Though adaptation options can reduce some of the detrimental effects, in the long term, the combined stresses associated with climate change are expected to decrease agricultural productivity.

Jasper County should position itself to be resilient and adaptable as climate and economic forces change.

Farmer Advisory Committee

Though there are many agriculture- and conservation-oriented groups active in the region, agriculture currently does not have formal representation within the county government or a locally-organized group for collaboration. A farming advisory committee could be used to represent the farming community and advise the county government on the interests of the agricultural community. This committee may also include promoting agricultural business development, connecting county residents to appropriate agricultural resources, and facilitation of communication between different groups within the farming community. These meetings would be a space for farmers to discuss their ideas or concerns, share resources, and develop locally-driven solutions to some of the challenges described in this chapter. The agricultural forum participants should reconvene to discuss the opportunities and structure of a FAC.

Public Feedback + Best Practices

County officials explained that both rural and incorporated area residents take a great deal of pride in the agricultural nature of the county. One threat to agriculture is that many large-scale agricultural land owners are reaching retirement age and county officials are concerned that those tracts of land may be purchased by large corporations, which may diminish the local agricultural economy, push smaller farmers out of business, and be less responsible stewards of the land. To help combat that threat and preserve agricultural land overall, county officials posed this list of issues to consider during this planning process:

- ☀ Support innovative agricultural-based business and agricultural diversity
- ☀ Support business niches that are appropriate for rural areas, e.g. farm stands, orchards, wineries, and breweries
- ☀ Support beginning farmers and smaller farms of 10 to 40 acres, particularly those that are oriented to the local foods industries



- ☀️ Strengthen agricultural relationships with the County government, while maintaining farmer autonomy in their land use decisions.
- ☀️ Protect the county's natural resources.

The public engagement survey ranked Agricultural Preservation seventh out of 8 options. Supporting small scale and first generation farms received the most votes (210) of support, with the use of zoning tools falling close behind. Agricultural enhancement (e.g. farm stands, tours, cabins, etc.) and innovating agricultural models (collaborate, integrated, organic, etc.) fell in the middle, with conservation easements receiving the least supportive votes (160) and the most disagreement votes (54). With only 70 of the 600 respondents indicating they live in unincorporated Jasper County, it is likely that most respondents do not have a close connection to agriculture or a sense of issues that the agricultural community might be facing. This survey data supports the focus group's concern that non-farmers are not aware of the farming community's practices and struggles, and may even have a negative opinion of the farming community.

The series of three focus groups allowed Solutions in the Land to work with farmers to identify the agricultural-related issues specific to Jasper County and develop goals and objectives. The details of these focus groups are in Chapter 1, Introduction, which summarizes the public engagement process. The meeting presentations and notes are found in the Appendix. Solutions in the Land conducted interviews to refine these ideas. These issues included:

- ☀️ Non-agricultural residents' perception of agriculture
 - ☀️ Forum participants and community interviews expressed a desire to improve the image of agriculture within the county. Communication between the farming and non-farming communities would need to increase, explaining how farmers produce food and the role that agricultural lands play in the landscape.
- ☀️ Farmer to Farmer Communication
 - ☀️ Forum participants described a loss of local meeting places and no centralized space for farmers across the county to interact.
- ☀️ Farmland preservation
 - ☀️ Forum participants expressed concern about conversion of high quality farmland for residential, commercial, and industrial development. The future land use plan addressed these concerns by emphasizing contiguous development and infill.

☀ Land ownership trends

- ☀ Community members expressed concerns about land ownership trends in the county as farm size increases and the number of farms decreases. Several ideas for protecting the future of agriculture were discussed with members of the community, including supporting beginning and/or young farmers, supporting small scale and integrated operations, market development, and expanding access to educational/informational resources.

☀ Natural Resources

- ☀ The top concerns highlighted by the NRCS county conservationist were soil health and water quality. Feedback from the agricultural community varied in acknowledging these two challenges. In particular, forum participants were concerned about their lack of representation in conversations about environmental issues, especially water quality. It is important to understand the complex decision making employed by producers in order to understand how conservation and agriculture can partner to improve the health of farms without negatively impacting a farmer's bottom line. The principal objective resulting from the natural resources discussion is to include agricultural stakeholders as part of the conversation, both accountable for their contributions and partners in stewardship of the soils and waters of Jasper County.

Farmer-led initiatives or those with strong farmer involvement resolve the lack of representation in conversation about environmental concerns, allow farmers to innovate and work together to address these concerns, and support the preference expressed by forum participants for voluntary compliance. In order for voluntary programs to be successful and the privilege of voluntary compliance to continue, there needs to be community engagement and support for these programs.

Watershed planning could establish the relationship between impairments in the county's surface waters and agriculture, and highlight the potential areas for partnership with farmers to steward watersheds. Countywide efforts to share information regarding practices that reduce soil erosion and protect water quality can be effective. Strengthening partnerships between farmers and initiatives that may share conservation goals, like recreation, hunting, and county conservation could prove beneficial to both parties.

The best management practices for Jasper County Farmers may include in-field practices that maintain soil cover and reduce disruption, edge of field practices that buffer sensitive ecosystems from runoff, and thorough nutrient management strategies. Resources like Clean Water Iowa and the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy Decision Support Tool can assist producers in finding the practices that will be most economical in addressing their unique resource challenges.

The public input survey ranked Climate Change as least important of the eight topics. Supporters of addressing climate change were most interested in allowing for and promoting alternative energy options (96 votes) followed by using green design



and practices and land conservation of natural areas and systems (92 votes each). Mitigation Planning and Natural Disaster Recovery were the least supported (90 votes and 89 votes respectively), however there was very little opposition on any of the five options (total of 14 votes against among all 5 options).

☀ Adaptability + Resilience

- ☀ Increasing the farming community's adaptability, diversification, and resilience is the best strategy for reducing risk related to changes in economic and climatic trends. Smart land use planning, through efforts such as protecting soils, wetlands, and floodplains, can help to develop a landscape that recovers quickly after flooding or heavy rainfalls. The farming community's ability to support that landscape will also help to create resiliency. Local discussions about risk reduction strategies and diversification techniques can help to address these trends as they specifically pertain to Jasper County.

Several resources are available to address the issues identified by the focus groups and interviews. These resources are listed at the end of this chapter. The following objectives focus on leveraging the numerous existing resources and minimizing the burden on county government while taking steps to assist the agricultural community.

Goals + Objectives

Goals

AG: Ensure the future of agriculture as a vibrant part of Jasper County's identity and economy.

Objectives

AG-1: Support agricultural prosperity through educational, infrastructure, and marketing resources

AG-2: Improve the public image and understanding of the role of agriculture in the county

AG-3: Protect Jasper County's natural resources through environmentally-sensitive farming methods

Jasper County Partnerships Organizations

Agency Name	Funding Available	Grant Partner	Policy	Lobby Work	Research	Conservation	Online Resources	Field Days	Events/Conferences	Technical Assistance	Market Assistance	Local Food	Farmland Preservation	Soil Health	Watershed Level Work	Water Quality
Conservation Districts of Iowa www.cdiowa.org				X		X	X		X				X			
Iowa Agriculture Water Alliance www.iowaagwateralliance.com		X			X	X	X		X	X				X	X	X
Iowa Environmental Council www.iaenvironment.org		X	X	X		X	X	X	X							X
Iowa Farmers Market Association www.iafarmersmarkets.org		X					X		X	X		X				
Iowa Learning Farms www.iowalearningfarms.com		X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Iowa State University: Extension www.extension.iastate.edu		X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Iowa Water Center: Iowa State University www.water.iastate.edu		X			X	X	X		X	X				X	X	X
Practical Farmers of Iowa www.practicalfarmers.org		X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Iowa Organic Association iowaorganic.org		X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X		
Iowa Farmers Union www.iowafarmersunion.org			X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Iowa Farm Bureau Federation www.iowafarmbureau.com			X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X					

Production Associated Organizations

Agency Name	Funding Available	Grant Partner	Policy	Lobby Work	Research	Conservation	Online Resources	Field Days	Events/ Conferences	Technical Assistance	Market Assistance	Local Food	Farmland Preservation	Soil Health	Watershed Level Work	Water Quality
Iowa Corn Growers Association www.iowacorn.org			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X		
Iowa Soybean Association www.iasoybeans.com			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X		
Iowa State Dairy Association www.iowadairy.org			X	X			X	X	X	X	X					
Iowa Pork Producers Association www.iowapork.org			X	X		X	X			X	X					
Iowa Sheep Industry Association www.iowasheep.com							X	X	X	X	X					
Iowa Cattlemen's Association www.iacattle.org			X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X			

Government Agencies

Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship www.iowaagriculture.gov	X			X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Iowa Department of Natural Resources www.iowasdnr.gov	X			X			X			X					X	X
Jasper County Soil & Water Conservation District idals-farms.iowa.gov/index.php/programInfo	X					X		X		X	X		X	X		
United States Department of Agriculture (USDA): Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) www.nrcs.usda.gov	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

CHAPTER

7

Conservation + Recreation

Introduction

Jasper County is graced with abundant natural resources and recreational opportunities. These resources are highly valued for their natural beauty, wildlife habitat, the recreational opportunities they provide, and their contribution to the economy of Jasper County. Great parks and recreation systems lead to great communities with high quality of life. While other parts of the landscape may change with new development, the conservation and recreation system should be preserved and enhanced, providing an enduring source of value. This section outlines an existing inventory of parks, trails, and conservation areas, and develops goals and objectives to help promote, maintain, and enhance these areas.

Conservation + Recreation Areas

Existing Conservation, Parks, and Trails

Jasper County has 38 conservation and recreation areas. Thirty one of these areas are owned and maintained by Jasper County and offer amenities such as picnicking areas, restrooms, camping, hiking and biking trails, water access, fishing, public hunting, horseback riding, snowmobiling, and wildlife watching. Five recreational areas with amenities such as camping, shelters, restrooms, hiking trails, water access, fishing, and hunting are located in Jasper County. Hunting is allowed on 17 forest and wildlife management areas along with six additional preserves. There are also six state areas located in Jasper County including Rock Creek Game Area, Rock Creek Wildlife Area, Rock Creek State Park, Kellogg Game Area, Colfax Game Area and the Richet Unit of Stephens Forest.

The county has one federal land area in the 5,600 acre Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge, which is a premier draw for tourists. The refuge is home to a small herd of bison on a 700 acre enclosure. The area offers auto tour routes, trails and a visitor center among many other nature and conservation benefits.

Park + Conservation Areas

Ashton Wildwood Park

This 113-acre park, composed of upland oak-hickory woods, is located in the northwestern corner of the county. Many of the large oak trees in the park predate the arrival of the pioneers by hundreds of years. Walking trails down

the forested slopes provide a view of a wide variety of spring wild flowers. There is a self-guided ½ mile trail that is interpreted by a brochure found at the trailhead. Picnicking, primitive camping, a playground, and modern bathroom and shower facilities are available. An astronomical observatory is open for free public programs. There is a stage for public performances and a glow-in-the-dark mural depicting the night sky on the north outside observatory wall. Future plans for Ashton Park include updated restrooms and shelter houses and cabins or yurts around the central loop of the park.

Jacob Krumm Nature Preserve

This 450-acre park and nature preserve is located ¼ mile north of the Lynnville exit, off of Interstate 80. Within the preserve are two modern solar-powered restrooms and shelter houses; one is equipped with a wood stove and removable walls for both winter and summer use. On the rolling terrain of the preserve are prairies, savanna, woodlands, a 25-acre lake, a marsh, ponds, and wildlife plantings. There are seven miles of hiking and cross-country skiing trails and two observation towers that offer excellent views of a variety of native wildlife species and habitats. At “Uncle Jake’s Sugar Shack,” county staff prepare maple syrup each February after collecting sap from trees throughout the preserve. A large sand pit allows naturalists to host archaeological digs with local students. Each September, the annual “Off the Beaten Path” 6K Trail Race and 3K Fun Run is held along with a Fall Festival. Future plans include updated signage, a bird feeding station, and a Native American lodge for educational programs.

Mariposa Recreation Area

This 151-acre outdoor recreation area is located northeast of Newton. A 17-acre lake, a 5-acre pond, and another 1.5-acre pond lie among the pine-tree covered hills. Amenities include a primitive camping area, playground, shelter houses, and a ½-mile nature trail. A 2019 lake restoration and water quality improvement project deepened the lake, created fish habitat, constructed a jetty, added a boat and canoe ramp, installed interpretive signage, and established an ADA-compliant hiking trail. Future plans include resurfacing the road into the park and adding a modern campground including electric sites, shower and restroom facilities, and possibly cabins. A nature playscape is also being constructed by staff and volunteers.

Wagaman Mill

This mill, also known as the Old Mill, was constructed in 1848 and is on the National Register of Historic Places. The mill is located on the north edge of Lynnville and has been used as a saw mill, carding mill, flour mill, feed mill, and as a generating station for electricity. Complete interior restoration and interior interpretation of the wheel house is available for public viewing during the summer months. A picnic shelter and foot bridge across the North Skunk River



allows visitors to enjoy the mill exterior and dam. The mill is open each Sunday, Memorial Day to Labor Day, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Wagaman Mill is part of the Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area.

Uhlenhopp Arboretum

This 250-acre preserve is located adjacent to Jacob Krumm Nature Preserve. The area has hundreds of varieties of trees, a restored prairie, several miles of mowed trails, and seven ponds named for each day of the week. A cabin will be available for overnight rental. Future plans include a picnic shelter, signage, and addition rental cabins.

Trails

Chichaqua Valley Trail

The Chichaqua Valley Trail begins near the I-80 and I-235 interchange near Des Moines and extends 26 miles northeast to the town of Baxter. The trail is paved and follows an abandoned rail bed. The trail is a key part of the Central Iowa Trail System.

Rock Creek Recreation Bike Trail

This four-mile, asphalt trail begins at Rock Creek State Park and ends in Grinnell, in Poweshiek County. The trail consists of challenging terrain nestled in the scenic beauty of the Rock Creek Lake watershed. It is used for biking, jogging, walking, and cross country skiing in the winter.

Red Rock Prairie Trail

The first phase of this paved trail will be constructed in 2020 between Prairie City and Monroe, following an abandoned railroad right-of-way. Future phases are planned to connect to The Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge, Mitchellville, and Pella.

Natural Surface Trails

Jacob Krumm Nature Preserve and Clear Creek Wildlife Area have mowed trails that may be used for hiking, running, cross country skiing, and snowshoeing. In addition, Mariposa Park and Ashton Wildwood Park have interpretive hiking trails that provide users with a valuable learning experience.

Birding Trails

The South Skunk Birding Area includes the JCCB-managed parcels South Skunk, Carpenter, Pheasants Forever Unit of South Skunk, Kish-Ke-Kosh, Foreman, and Machin. This area is made up of 610 acres (370 acres under NRCS wetland easement) with 162 identified species, located in the south central part of the county. The area contains a wide range of habitats such as native prairie remnants, riparian woodlands, oak/hickory woodlands, river and wetlands and also has a river access near it for birding and exploring the South Skunk River.

South Skunk River Water Trail

The South Skunk River has two main access points: Oswalt Bridge in Colfax and Beyers Bridge near Reasnor. Both areas have parking available and are managed by Jasper County Conservation. The South Skunk River is a designated water trail by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in Story and Polk Counties and in Jasper County to the City of Colfax. South of Colfax the river is navigable, but not state-designated as a water trail.

North Skunk River Water Trail

Water trail accesses in Jasper County include Holmdahl Park in Kellogg (the start of this water trail) and Wagaman Mill in Lynnville. Holmdahl Park is owned by the City of Kellogg and provides parking, picnicking facilities, a playground, tennis courts, and a walking trail. The Wagaman Mill access is managed by Jasper County Conservation and provides parking and picnicking facilities, as well as overnight accommodations across the river at the Fox Trace Inn Bed and Breakfast. A portage path around the low head dam in Lynnville was constructed in the fall of 2007. In the fall of 2008, an improved portage access was constructed in Kellogg with funds from the Iowa DNR Water Trails Program; however, the trail was not officially designed as such by the DNR due to a change in planning processes and signage standards.

Environmental Awareness Programs

The Jasper County Conservation Board offers an array of programs for all ages throughout the year.

- ☀ 15+ various summer camps for kids that span over 35 days
- ☀ Older, Wiser, Livelier Seniors (OWLS) programs monthly
- ☀ Canoe and kayaking
- ☀ Cross-county skiing and snowshoeing (multiple events with varied target audiences)



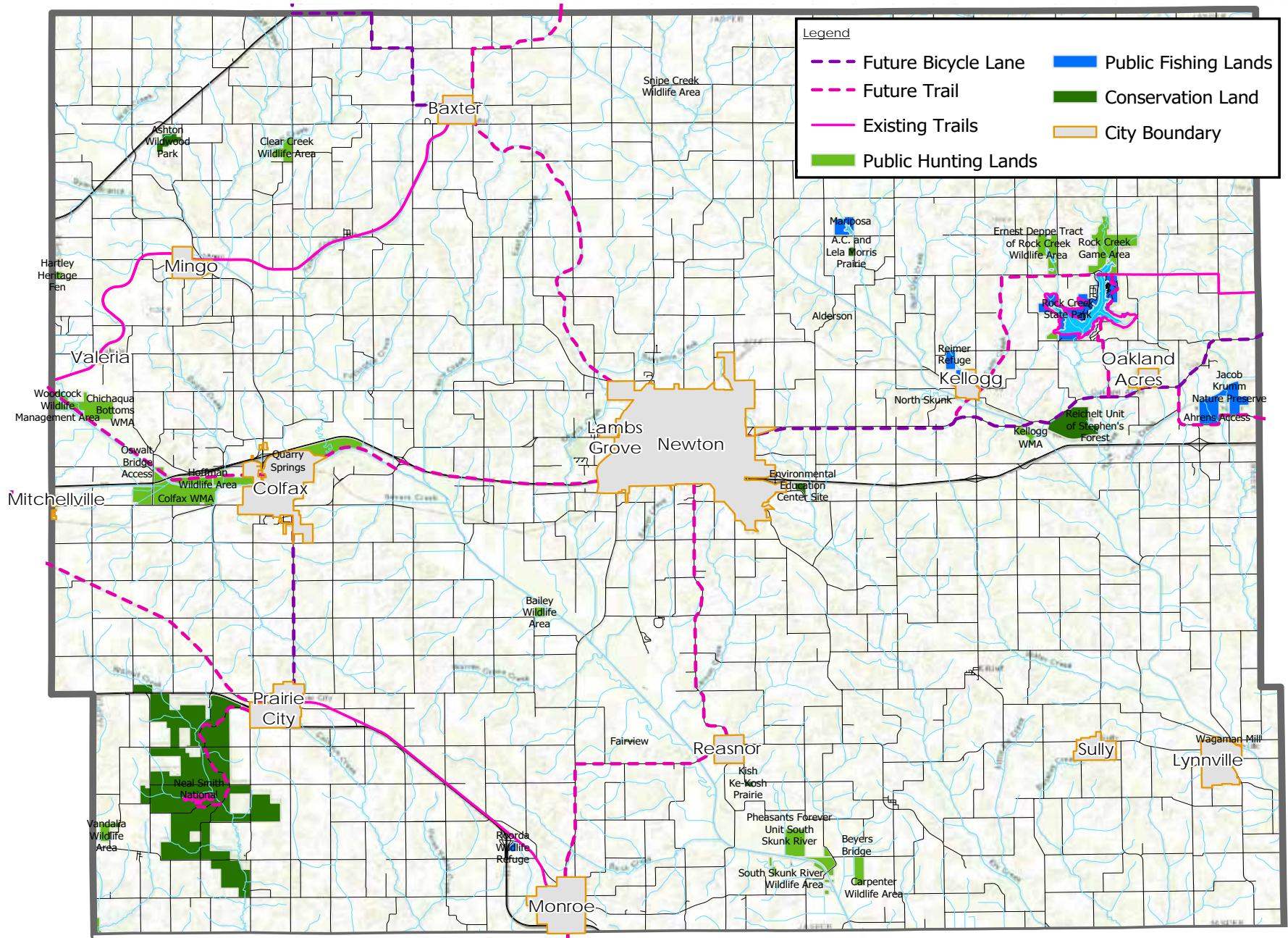
- ☀ Ice fishing clinics
- ☀ Wildflower/spring hikes
- ☀ Sugar Shack tours/open houses
- ☀ Wagaman Mill tours (presented by the Lynnville Historical Society)
- ☀ Public prairie burn at Krumm Preserve
- ☀ Free public viewing nights at Ashton Observatory (presented by the Des Moines Astronomical Society)
- ☀ Hunter education certification courses
- ☀ Mentored youth hunts
- ☀ Off the Beaten Path Trail Race
- ☀ Fall Festival
- ☀ Halloween Hike

County Conservation staff meets with Jasper County elementary teachers at the beginning of each school year to hand out program packets. Teachers may choose up to five programs per class per year. Conservation staff also works with many middle and high schools. All schools participate in the “Woodlands and Me” fifth grade field trips at Ashton Park and the seventh grade “Watershed Investigation” field trips at Mariposa.

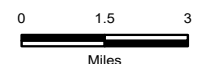
During 2019, the Jasper County Environmental Awareness Program provided over 650 scheduled programs, field trips, educator training, and programs to the public and schools of Jasper County and to the residents of Iowa living outside of Jasper County. Included in these numbers are programs which were presented at the Ashton Astronomical Observatory by the Des Moines Astronomical Society (DMAS) and tours of Wagaman Mill by the Lynnville Historical Society.

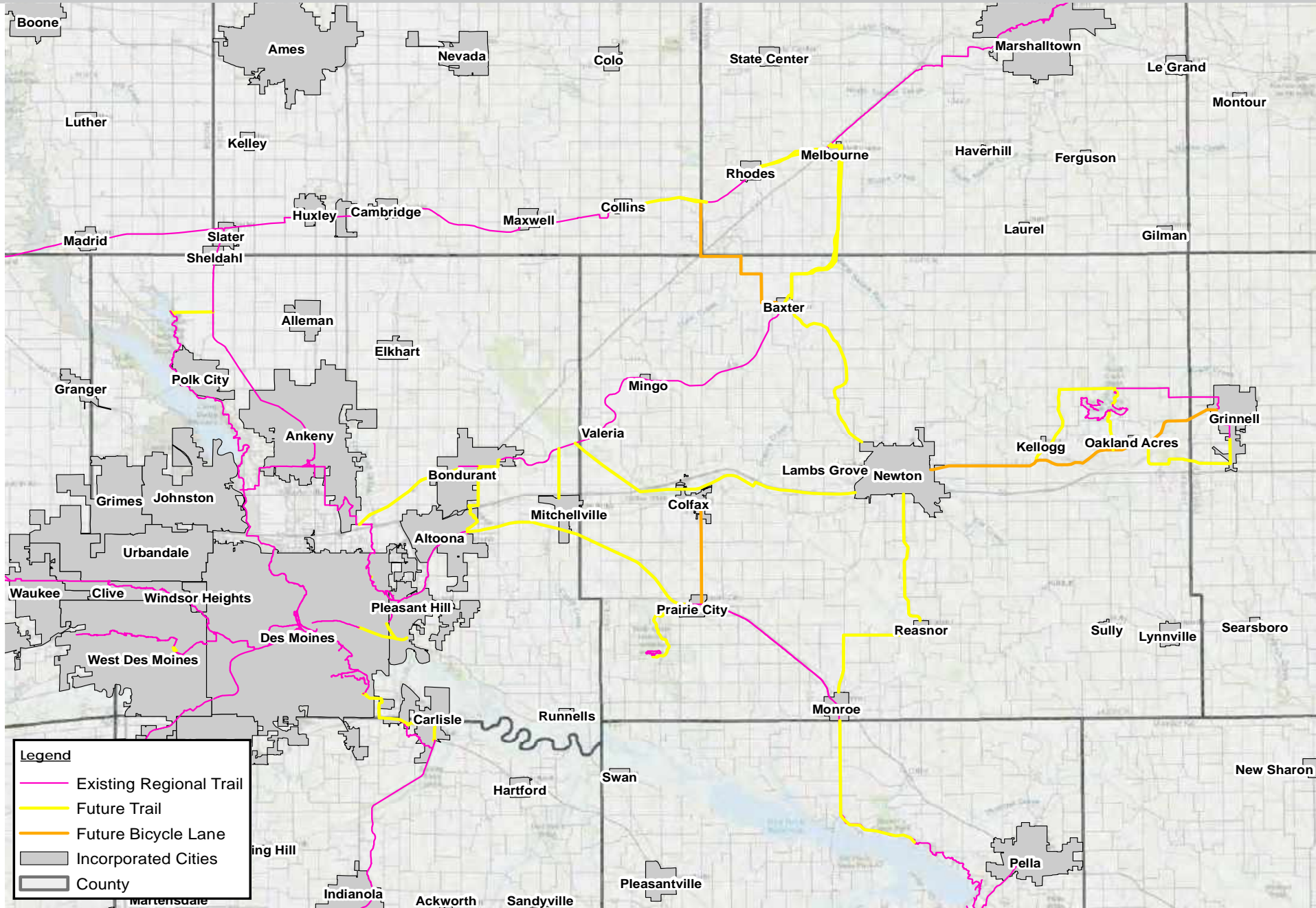
The following is a breakdown of the number of events and approximate number of people attending programs offered by Jasper County Conservation:

383 school programs, classes, and lectures given to schools	8,246
102 school field trips and nature hikes	2,151
92 programs for civic organizations, scouts, libraries, special events, and the public	2,673
49 regular observing sessions and special sessions at Ashton Observatory led by DMAS	1,457
33 tours of the Wagaman Mill by Lynnville Historical Society	356
659 TOTAL PROGRAM SESSIONS	TOTAL PARTICIPANTS
	14,883

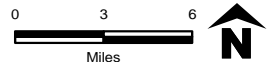


Future Parks and Recreation





Regional Trail Map



Future Parks and Trails Map

The Future Parks and Trails map identifies the existing parks and conservation areas, existing trails, and planned future trail connections. No future conservation or parks areas have been identified for the county.

Relationship to Conservation + Recreation Plans

Connect Plan - Central Iowa Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Action Plan 2020 - Central Iowa Transportation Planning Alliance (CIRTPA)

The Connect Plan is a regional action plan for making bicycle and pedestrian activities safe and enjoyable for individuals, groups, and families. The plan guides projects, programs and policies on bicycle and pedestrian transportation for the entire CIRTPA and Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization planning areas, including all of Jasper County. The plan includes a few planned bicycle lanes and planned trails that have been integrated into the future trails plan in this Comprehensive Plan.

2016 Jasper County Multijurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

The Hazard Mitigation Plan discussed alternatives related to natural resource protection. These alternatives would work to preserve and restore the functions of natural systems such as erosion control, watershed management, and stream restoration. These actions have been incorporated into this Comprehensive Plan.

Relationship to Four County Trail Plan - Iowa Heartland RC&D

Iowa Heartland RC&D received two grants from the National Parks Service in October of 2014. The purpose of the grants was to develop a trail master plan for Jasper, Madison, Marion and Warren Counties, with the end goal of linking to the Central Iowa Trail network.

The resulting map (found in the Appendix) is a combination of soft and hard trails, with prioritization rank for reach proposed route. The Comprehensive Plan future trails map incorporates some of these connections, but prioritizes three paved trail routes that the County should focus on in the next 20 years. These three routes will optimize the trail system in the county and will provide the most benefit to the County. This is in addition to local trails each community plans to pursue.

Public Feedback + Best Practices

In the online public survey, respondents ranked parks and recreation as the fourth most important topic out of eight categories. There was strong support for maintaining and expanding water and land trail systems. Motorized Recreation, such as ATV, snowmobile and motorbike trails received the least amount of support. Camping, Hunting and Fishing options also received a favorable rank. However, when asked to allocate the county's hypothetical capital improvement budget, conservation ranked last out of five options, receiving 15.1% of allocated funds.

Comments from the survey reflected a desire to add additional access points to the South Skunk River, capitalizing on water trails on the North and South Skunk Rivers, maintaining existing trails and conservation areas, and the development of more trails throughout the county. Some respondents noted the need to better market the tourism opportunities that the county already offers.

Conservation best practices include protection of open spaces and maintenance and rehabilitation of native habitats. Natural resources may be protected by decreasing or ceasing annexation, directing development to within existing city boundaries, and governmental acquisition of sensitive lands. Transfer of development rights and conservation easements are two effective tools that can be used to fulfill these best practice objectives. Fostering a community connection to natural resources by



providing abundant recreational areas, accessible to all residents for various uses, increases stewardship and support of natural resource protection.

Conservation areas also play a role in hazard mitigation, specifically as it relates to flooding and erosion. The County's conservation system sustains green spaces with native habitats that can infiltrate and filter stormwater and reduce the impacts of flooding; some lands may be able to accommodate stormwater retention basins. Conservation lands along waterways can accommodate floodwaters to reduce flood damage and streambank restoration projects can improve water quality.

Goals + Objectives

Goals

CR: Maintain and enhance natural resources and conservation land

Objectives

CR-1: Protect wetlands, prairies, stream corridors, and other wildlife habitat

CR-2: Foster community connection, access and awareness of natural resources through wildlife parks, trails, and programs

CHAPTER

8

Economy

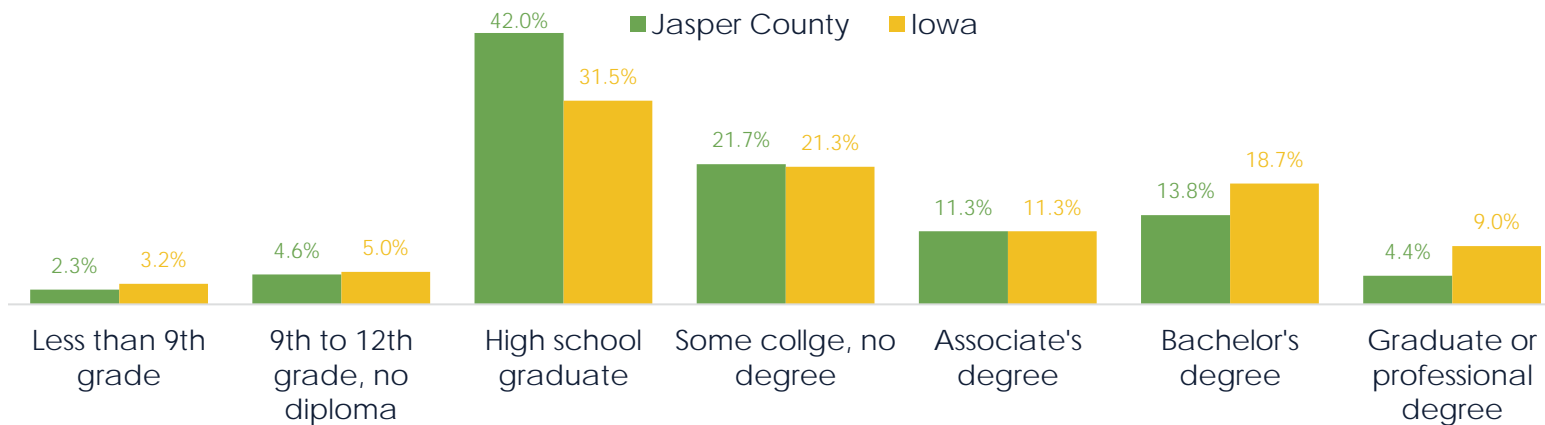
Introduction

When planning for economic development, the goal is to create and maintain a strong, vibrant local economy. The county strives to create a positive business climate by attracting and retaining a diversity of businesses and entrepreneurs. The economic chapter provides a comprehensive overview of the economy, sets policy recommendations for non-agricultural economic growth, and identifies strategies, programs and projects to improve the non-agricultural economy.

Economic Characteristics

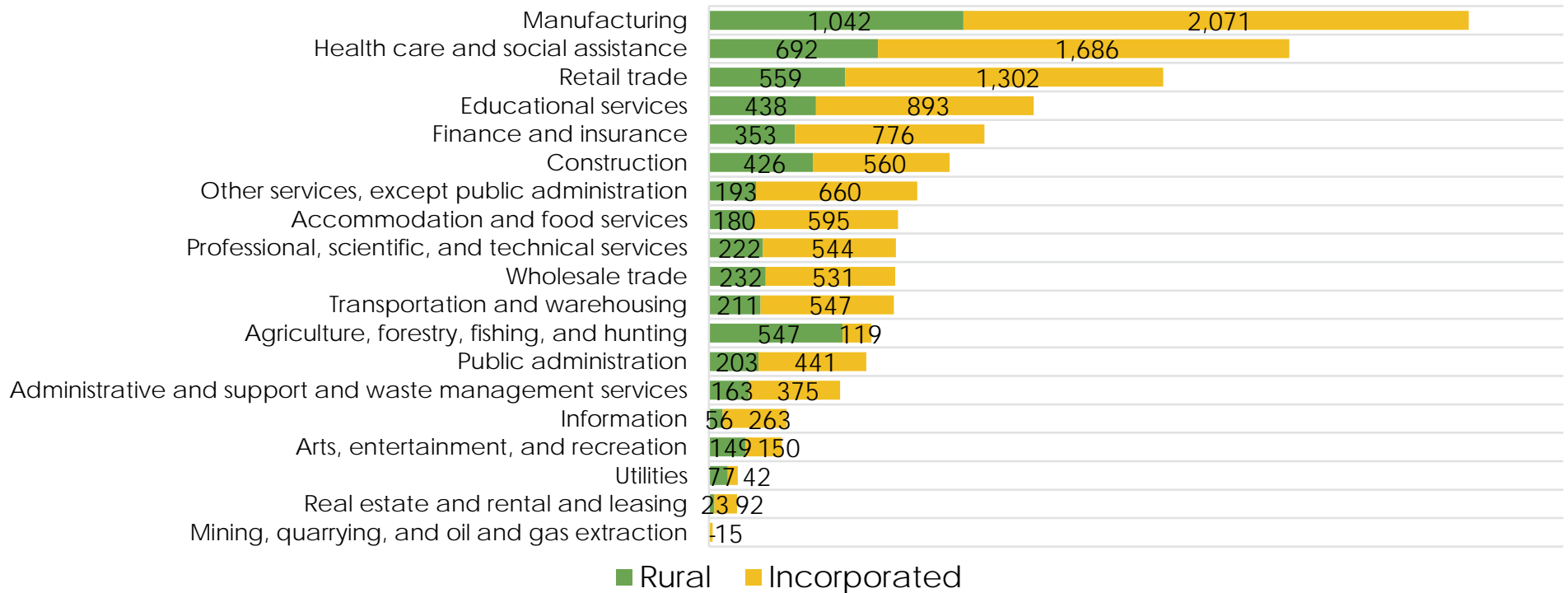
Educational Attainment

Understanding a community's education levels helps us to understand the community as a whole. The 2017 American Community Survey shows that 6.9% of the population aged 25 years and over have obtained less than a high school diploma, compared to 8.2% of lowans in the same age bracket. A large proportion, 63.7%, of Jasper County residents over the age of 25 have attained a high school degree (or equivalent) but have not obtained any higher level degree. The proportion of Jasper County residents with this level of educational attainment is higher than that of Iowa at 52.8%. Finally, 29.5% of Jasper County residents have received some level of college degree compared to 39.0% of lowans.



Industries

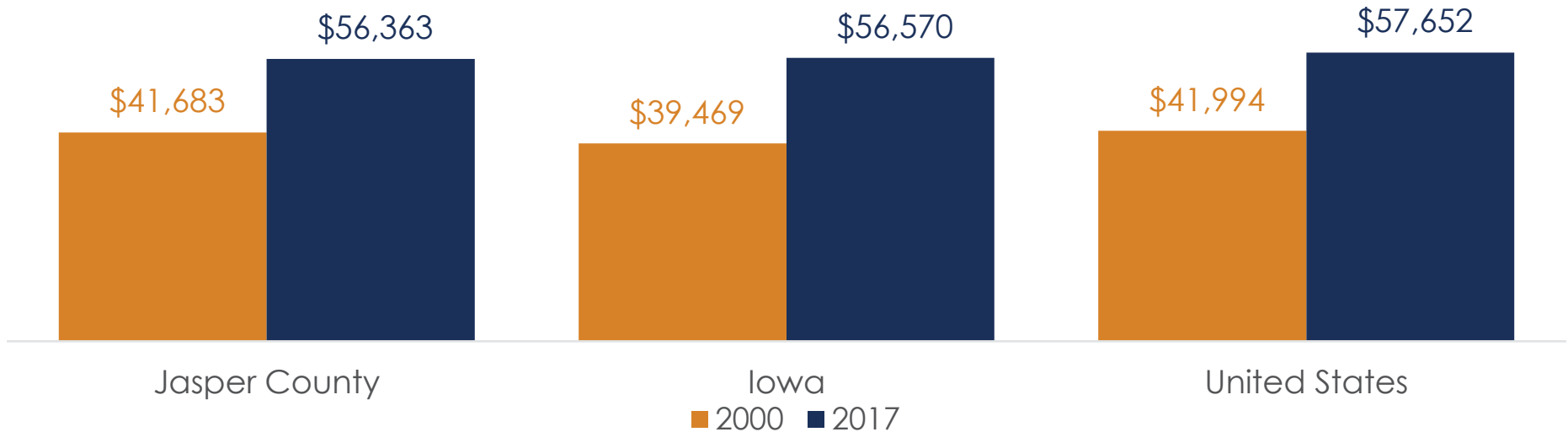
The main employment industry in Jasper County is manufacturing according to the 2017 American Community Survey, with roughly two-thirds of manufacturing jobs being located within incorporated city limits. The next three industries with the highest employment are health care and social assistance, retail trade, and educational services providing over 5,000 jobs in Jasper County. Roughly two-thirds of all jobs in Jasper County are located within cities.



Household Income

The median household income for Jasper County in 2000 was \$41,683, which was slightly more than that of Iowa but slightly less than that of the United States at \$39,469 and \$41,994 respectively. In 2017, the American Community Survey estimated that the median household income in Jasper County had grown to \$56,393, a 35.2% increase. During that same time, Iowa's median household income increased at a greater rate of 43.3% to \$56,570, surpassing the median household income of Jasper County. The United States median household income increased at a similar but slightly greater rate (37.3%) to Jasper County's, with an estimated 2017 median household income of \$57,652.

Median Household Income



Public Feedback + Best Practices

In the county-wide survey, Economic Development was chosen as the most important thing for the county to focus its attention. Because of the significance of this element, a Business Focus Group session was conducted. As one business focus group participant stated, “The lack of employment opportunities] is one of the main reasons that people leave small towns.” The focus group’s feedback revealed the county’s needs related to the workforce, business development resources, and infrastructure, which are reflected in the objectives on the next page and the actions identified in the Implementation Plan.

In several focus group sessions, the proximity to Des Moines was mentioned as a benefit due to the ease of access to the city’s many resources and amenities but also a challenge particularly for economic development since many businesses would choose to locate in Des Moines rather than in Jasper County.

When asked to distribute the hypothetical county budget, funding for economic development fell in the middle of five options. Transportation and public safety were the top two choices, which reflects that while economic development is seen as the area needing the most attention, residents feel that public dollars should be prioritized to basic governmental services before incentive programs. Respondents also recognize a connection between a safe and efficient transportation system and the ability to operate a business that relies upon that transportation system.

The need for a diversified economy was noted in the survey comments, along with the need to develop a quality workforce, attract high-paying jobs, and ensure that new industrial development is properly located in or near developed areas with compatible adjacent land uses. Respondents noted a need for more full-service restaurants and more retail shopping options.

For educational opportunities, the public comments noted the need to fund the library system and support the resources they provide to the communities. There was also support for the Des Moines Area Community College.

Economic best practices relate to occupational diversity and promote education, training, and access to employment areas. “Buy local” is a popular theme for maximizing the economic impact of one’s spending while reducing the negative environmental impacts of purchasing goods that are produced elsewhere and shipped.

Goals + Objectives

Goals

EC: Attract, retain, and expand a variety of businesses

Objectives

EC-1: Create and attract an educated and skilled workforce

EC-2: Establish a business-friendly environment

EC-3: Use county-wide marketing to promote tourism and local businesses

EC-4: Seek new businesses that will diversify and strengthen the local economy

EC-5: Encourage entrepreneurship and support of local business development

CHAPTER

9

Public Health + Safety

Introduction

The County's public services covered in this chapter are related to the health, safety, and general welfare of its residents. Residents look to these essential services for assistance in times of emergencies and need. These services also influence the quality of life in the community by providing a sense of safety, peace of mind, and improving the community image.

Health + Safety Governmental Services

Community Services

The Jasper County Community Services office offers emergency assistance with rent and utilities, assistance with determining eligibility for funding of mental health services, and information and referral for mental health services.

Emergency Management

The Jasper County Emergency Management agency responsible for coordinating the response to disasters that occur within the county and works to reduce vulnerability to anticipated hazards. The agency maintains the Multijurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Health Department

Under the Jasper County Board of Health, the Jasper County Health Department protects and improves the health of residents in the county. The focus on protecting and improving health through healthy lifestyles and injury prevention. They provide programs including home care aides and Jasper County Safe Kids, an injury-prevention program including child safety car seats and bike helmets.

Sheriff's Office

The Jasper County Sheriff's Office protects the innocent and preserves peace with honor and integrity. They provide 911 and dispatch services for emergencies, distribute weapon permits, and maintain a sex offender registry. There are also five police department offices in Baxter, Colfax, Monroe, Newton, and Prairie City.

Relationship to Relevant Plans

2016 Multijurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

The Hazard Mitigation Plan discussed issues related to preparing for and responding to emergencies. Several of the recommendations related to minimizing injury and loss of life and property due to natural disasters have been included in this plan. More detail about this plan can be found in the Appendix

Community Health Needs Assessment

The Jasper County Health Department's Community Health Needs assessment showed that mental health, substance abuse, and violent/abusive behaviors were the top three topics that needed to be addressed in the county. Access to health care facilities was noted as a strength.

Public Feedback + Best Practices

In the online public survey, respondents ranked Public Health and Safety as the second most important topic out of eight categories. Support for the Sheriff's Department was the strongest, followed closely by Emergency Management, Communication, Health Services, and Quality of Life. When asked to distribute the County's hypothetical Capital Improvement Program budget, public health and safety was number four out of five options.



Some comments noted a need to fix old water lines, provide support for elderly, homeless, and mentally ill; and combat drug usage and crime. Some requested additional police presence and outreach. For communications, an improved text alert and phone alert system is needed. Radio and social media is needed. For health care, some respondents felt that health services were fine, while others felt that mental health services and trauma-informed care were lacking.

Planning best practices indicate that comprehensive plans should incorporate hazard mitigation, public safety, and community health into their goals and objectives. Further, improving quality of life in a community will also reduce crime, promote community cohesion, and improve overall public health.

Goals + Objectives

Goals

PH: Maintain a high level of service for public health and safety.

Objectives

PH-1: Ensure adequate and effective sheriff patrol and public outreach

PH-2: Minimize injuries and loss of life and property due to impacts of natural hazards (JCMMP)

PH-3: Maintain a high level of communication with residents

PH-4: Ensure that the health needs, both physical and mental, of all residents are being met

CHAPTER

10

County Character

Introduction

The character of the county is established by all of the elements of the previous chapters of this Comprehensive Plan. This chapter supplements that bucolic character with special events and amenities that create a sense of pride in county residents.

Special Events + Amenities

Jasper County Fair

This week-long event attracts hundreds of Jasper County residents to show livestock, crafts, and enjoy family friendly activities and entertainment.

Small Town Festivals

Community festivals are an important way to bring together the community and often celebrate the community's history. Local festivals include Prairie Days, Newton Fest, Sully 4th of July Celebration, Baxter Fun Days, and Monroe Old Settlers Days.

Iowa Speedway

This 7/8-mile paved oval motor racing track in Newton is owned by NASCAR. It has over 25,000 permanent seats as well as a unique multi-tiered recreational vehicle viewing area along the backstretch. The facility also offers the Rusty Wallace Racing Experience and The Formula Experience, where visitors have the opportunity to experience the speedway from behind the wheel of a race car.



Jasper County Historical Museum

This museum preserves and exhibits the agricultural, commercial, industrial, and societal history of the county. The museum campus includes the Agricultural Building, 1875 Barn, Blacksmith Shop, Smokehouse, and the Engine House which houses a Minneapolis Steam Engine.



Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge

The Refuge protects, restores, and reconstructs the tallgrass prairie, oak savanna, and sedge meadow within its 5,600 acres. It provides environmental education and outdoor recreation. It also conducts research of the native ecosystems.

Public Feedback + Best Practices

The public ranked Community Character as the sixth most important area out of eight options in the online public survey. There was generally consistent support for all strategies including improved property maintenance, growth management, county-wide special events, historic preservation, and public art. In the comments, there was support for making the community attractive to newcomers. This included property maintenance and general clean up, entertainment, festivals, and libraries. Comments noted a need to have more family-friendly events and to spread them to seasons beyond just the summer. Support for historic preservation was dependent upon the expense of the restoration if funded with public dollars.

Regarding the small town or rural feel of the community, some respondents noted that they feared the desire to maintain a rural feel would prohibit progress, and that development was necessary to provide a strong tax base. Comments also noted that they preferred responsible growth strategies to limit sprawled development and maintain a distinction between the towns and the countryside.

Planning best practices encourage communities to leverage their assets to create a unique sense of place. This requires growth management and development polices as well as special events and celebrations that bring people together and foster community cohesion. This chapter incorporates the goals and objectives necessary to address the remaining influencing factors of community character for the county.

Goals + Objectives

Goals

CC: Establish a county character that is family-friendly, evokes a rural feel, and celebrates the unique attributes of the county.

Objectives

CC-1: Support and expand special events and festivals showcasing locations throughout the county

CC-2: Create a unique identify for the county and its towns and villages

CC-3: Be an environmentally-conscious leader

CHAPTER

111

Implementation

Introduction

Implementation of the comprehensive plan occurs gradually over the 20-year timeframe. It will require multiple resources in terms of people, funding, and time. It should be integral to the daily operations of the county and the residents should be well aware of its vision and goals.

Leadership, Partners, + Resources

This plan is for the entire community, not only to guide the county's governmental functions. Much of the implementation will be led by county staff, and appointed and elected officials. However, some elements are most suited to be led by businesses and business organizations, non-profit organizations, community groups, property owners and managers, or developers. The county, when not the leader, should provide support as necessary. Below is a list of potential partners and resources for implementation of this plan. The partners and resources listed in the implementation tables are suggestions for initial outreach to explore the ability to and benefit of partnering on the particular action statement. As the responsible parties continue to implement each action, they may find a need or source for additional partners and resources.

Countywide

- ☀ Jasper County Board of Supervisors (Supervisors)
- ☀ Jasper County Board of Health (JCBH)
- ☀ Jasper County Community Services (JCCS)
- ☀ Jasper County Conservation Board (JCCB)
- ☀ Jasper County Emergency Management (JCEM)
- ☀ Jasper County Engineering (JCE)
- ☀ Jasper County GIS (JCGIS)
- ☀ Jasper County Health Department (JCHD)
- ☀ Jasper County Planning & Zoning (JCP&Z)
- ☀ Jasper County Sherriff's Office (JCSO)
- ☀ Jasper County Habitat for Humanity (Habitat)
- ☀ Jasper Community Foundation (JCF)
- ☀ Jasper Conservation Connection (JCC)
- ☀ Jasper County Local Housing Trust Fund (LHTF)

- ☀ Jasper County Economic Development Corporation (JEDCO)
- ☀ Jasper County Soil and Water Conservation District (JCSWCD)
- ☀ Young Professionals of Jasper County (YPJC)
- ☀ Farmers/Farmer Advisory Committee (FAC) (to be developed)
- ☀ City/Village/County Residents (Residents)
- ☀ Private Land Developers (Developers)

Cities

- ☀ City Governments (Cities)
- ☀ School Districts (Schools)
- ☀ Hometown Pride (HP) (9 town committees)
- ☀ Newton Chamber of Commerce (Chamber)
- ☀ Newton Development Corporation (NDC)

Region

- ☀ Central Iowa Regional Transportation Planning Alliance (CIRTPA)
- ☀ Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority (DART)
- ☀ Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC)
- ☀ Iowa Heartland Resource Conservation & Development (IHRC&D)
- ☀ CICS (fka Central Iowa Community Services) (CICS)
- ☀ Greater Des Moines Partnership (GDMP)
- ☀ Impact – Community Action Partnership (Impact)
- ☀ Tallgrass Prairie Audubon Society (TPAS)
- ☀ Farming Cooperatives (Farm Co-ops)
- ☀ Heart of Iowa Communications Cooperative (Comm Co-op)

Statewide

- ☀ Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship (IDALS)
- ☀ Iowa Department of Education (IDE)



- ☀ Iowa Department of Human Services (IDHS)
- ☀ Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR)
- ☀ Iowa Department of Transportation (Iowa DOT)
- ☀ Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA)
- ☀ Iowa Rural Development Council (IRDC)
- ☀ IASourceLink (IASource)
- ☀ Iowa Workforce Development (IWD)
- ☀ State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)
- ☀ University of Northern Iowa Center for Business Growth and Innovation (UNI-Bus)
- ☀ Center for Rural Affairs (CRA) (Midwestern)
- ☀ Iowa Environmental Council (IEC)
- ☀ Iowa Farm Bureau (IFB)
- ☀ Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation (INHF)
- ☀ Keep Iowa Beautiful (KIB)
- ☀ Practical Farmers of Iowa (PFI)
- ☀ Iowa State University Extension and Outreach (ISU-EO)

Funding + Assistance Resources

Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship (IDALS) - various funding programs

- ☀ Buffer Initiative
- ☀ Iowa Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)
- ☀ Cost Share
- ☀ State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF)
- ☀ Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) - Soil and Water Enhancement Account (SWEA)

Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) - various funding programs

- ☀ Community Development Block Grant (Downtown, Revitalization, Housing, Community Facilities and Services, Water And Sewer, Disaster Recovery) (CDBG)
- ☀ Career Link Employment Transportation Program (CLET)
- ☀ Workforce Housing Tax Credit (WHTC)

- ☀ Disaster Resilience Grant (DRG)
- ☀ Empower Rural Iowa (Empower)
- ☀ Endow Iowa (Endow)
- ☀ Enhance Iowa – Community Attraction and Tourism (CAT)
- ☀ Historic Preservation Tax Credit (HPTC)
- ☀ Iowa Reinvestment Districts (IAREinvest)
- ☀ Nuisance Property and Abandoned Building Remediation Loan Program (RemLoan)
- ☀ Redevelopment Tax Credits for Brownfield and Grayfield Sites (Brown/GrayTC)
- ☀ Community Catalyst Building Remediation (ComCatGrant)
- ☀ Main Street Iowa (Main Street) (technical assistance only; not funding)

Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) - various assistance programs

- ☀ Future Ready Iowa
- ☀ Registered Apprenticeship – Earn and Learn
- ☀ Home Base Iowa
- ☀ Adult and Dislocated Workers
- ☀ Employment and Disability
- ☀ Ex-Offender Initiative
- ☀ Federal Bond Program
- ☀ Migrant and Seasonal Farm Worker
- ☀ PROMISE JOBS
- ☀ Skilled Iowa
- ☀ Trade Act Assistance
- ☀ Veterans Employment Services
- ☀ Work Opportunity Tax Credit
- ☀ Youth and Young Adult Services

Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) - various funding programs

- ☀ Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG)
- ☀ Traffic Engineering and Assistance Program (TEAP)
- ☀ Transportation Alternative Program (TAP)
- ☀ State Recreational Trails (SRT)
- ☀ Federal Recreational Trails (FRT)
- ☀ Revitalizing Iowa's Sound Economy (RISE)



Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) - various funding programs

- ☀ Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP)
- ☀ Education Grants (EG)
- ☀ Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)
- ☀ Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund (NROR Trust) (not currently funded)
- ☀ State Revolving Fund (water quality) (SRF)
- ☀ Watershed Improvement Grants (WIG)
- ☀ Water Trails Program (WTP)
- ☀ Wildlife Diversity Program Grant (WDP)

Tax Increment Financing (TIF)

Existing Plan Resources

- ☀ Jasper County Housing Assessment (JCHA)
- ☀ Jasper County Hazard Mitigation Plan (JCHMP)
- ☀ Iowa Energy Plan (IEP)

Best Practice Resources

- ☀ Iowa Statewide Urban Design and Specifications (SUDAS)
- ☀ Iowa Energy Office, IEDA (IA Energy)
- ☀ Model Communities, IEDA (Model)
- ☀ American Planning Association (APA)
- ☀ Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP)
- ☀ National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA)
- ☀ National Complete Streets Coalition (NCSC)
- ☀ League of American Bicyclists (Bike League)
- ☀ Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities, American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO Bike)
- ☀ Small Town and Rural Multimodal Networks, Federal Highway Administration (Rural Bike)
- ☀ Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS)
- ☀ Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)

- ☀ US Green Building Council (USGBC)
- ☀ Smart Growth America (SGA)
- ☀ Trust for Public Land (TPL)
- ☀ Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE)
- ☀ US Department of Transportation (US DOT)
- ☀ Iowa Learning Farms
- ☀ US Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- ☀ Iowa’s Smart Planning Principles

Type of Action

The action statements generally fall into one of the following three categories:

- ☀ Policy and code amendments - Indicate official adoption of a code or policy by the county for regulatory or administrative processes.
- ☀ Tasks - Items which may be one-time or recurring by the county or other members of the community.
- ☀ Capital Improvement Program - Public or utility investments that will implement the physical features of the plan.

Timeline + Review

This plan has a 20 year timeframe for the future vision.

A time frame has been indicated for implementing each of the actions. Short-term indicates implementation should occur within five years, medium-term within five to ten years, and long-term within ten to twenty years. In some cases, the recommendations are on-going over the planning period. Some items in this implementation plan should be completed soon, such as zoning and policy amendments, since they directly impact future development, while others, such as new trails or paving of gravel roads, should be longer-term and concurrent with public need.

Each year, the Planning and Zoning Commission should develop a work plan to program actions for that year. Additionally, the plan maintenance process should evaluate the plan on a yearly basis in relation to the accomplishments of the prior year. The review should include an explanation of why certain programmed actions did not move forward, such as a change in priorities, or a lack of resources.



The future conditions of land use, streets, and parks and trails constitute the adopted maps in this plan. The goals and objectives constitute the adopted text. These items may only be changed through a public meeting of the Planning and Zoning Commission and adoption by the Board of Supervisors.

Land Use (LU) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal LU: Preserve the rural atmosphere while promoting responsible growth.

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
LU-1: Improve communication and coordination between the County and cities	LU-1-A: Establish an electronic data sharing system that includes land use, zoning, utilities, ordinances, development proposals, and other relevant information.	Short	Task	JCP&Z, Cities	CRA, IRDC	Staff Time
	LU-1-B: Establish a formal protocol for sharing and reviewing land use proposals within each city's extraterritorial area.	Short	Task	JCP&Z, Cities	CRA, IRDC	Staff Time
	LU-1-C: Establish a recurring meeting between County Supervisors and City Council representatives.	Short/Ongoing	Task	Supervisors	Cities	Staff Time
LU-2: Promote the efficient and responsible layout and highest and best use of land	LU-2-A: Ensure that land development regulations require necessary utilities, infrastructure, and services to be available concurrent with new development	Short	Policy/Code	JCP&Z, Cities	CRA, IRDC	SGA
	LU-2-B: Direct new development to the Growth Area Overlays indicated on the Future Land Use Plan, with priority toward those closest to existing development, infrastructure, utilities, and services.	Ongoing	Policy/Code	JCP&Z, Cities	CRA, IRDC	SGA
	LU-2-C: Revise the LESA criteria for the county to also address road classification, internet service, and rural water service.	Short	Task	JCP&Z	Cities	Staff Time

Transportation Network (TN) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal TN: Develop and maintain a complete transportation system to benefit residential, agricultural, and economic purposes.

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
TN-1: Ensure that the transportation network is safe and efficient	TN-1-A: Provide adequate local funding and staff to maintain the road network	Ongoing	CIP	Supervisors	JCE	Funding
	TN-1-B: Seek regional, state, and federal funding for road improvements as applicable	Ongoing	Task	JCE	CIRTPA, Iowa DOT	STBG, RISE
	TN-1-C: Create a pavement management plan to guide road repairs	Short	Task	JCE	Iowa DOT, CIRTPA	Funding, Staff Time
	TN-1-D: Identify problematic areas and necessary improvements	Short	Task	JCE	Iowa DOT, CIRTPA	SUDAS, TEAP
	TN-1-E: Establish criteria for when a gravel roadway should be paved, include proximity to towns	Short	Code/Policy	JCE	JCP&Z	SUDAS

Transportation Network (TN) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal TN: Develop and maintain a complete transportation system to benefit residential, agricultural, and economic purposes.

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
TN-1: Ensure that the transportation network is safe and efficient	TN-1-F: Establish development regulations indicating when transportation systems need to be improved to meet the needs of new development	Short	Code / Policy	JCE	JCP&Z	SUDAS
	TN-1-G: Consider Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) to improve the transportation network where applicable	Ongoing	Task	JCE	Iowa DOT, CIRTPA	Funding, Staff Time
	TN-1-H: Require all streets in new subdivisions to be connected in a grid-type pattern whenever feasible (natural features and the built environment may necessitate cul-de-sacs or looped roadways)	Ongoing	Code/ Policy	JCE, Cities	JCP&Z	SUDAS, SGA
	TN-1-I: Adopt access management plans for the existing and future arterial streets to maintain the capacity of those streets	Medium	Task	JCE	JCP&Z	SUDAS

Transportation Network (TN) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal TN: Develop and maintain a complete transportation system to benefit residential, agricultural, and economic purposes.

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
TN-2: Use street design to establish a character within cities and villages	TN-2-A: Bury utilities with all new development and with redevelopment whenever possible	Ongoing	CIP	Comm Co-op	Developers	SUDAS
	TN-2-B: Follow tree planting guidelines to ensure that street trees will not interfere with utilities, sidewalks, or the adjacent roadway	Ongoing	Code / Policy	Cities	Developers , Residents	SUDAS
	TN-2-C: Plant street trees adjacent to all publicly-owned properties whenever possible	Ongoing	Task	Cities	JCCB	SUDAS
	TN-2-D: Develop and use complete streets and traffic calming policies and design guidelines for new streets and rehabilitation of existing streets in developed areas	Ongoing	Code / Policy	Cities	CIRTPA	NCSC

Transportation Mobility (MO) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal MO: Provide mobility options for all ages and abilities

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
MO-1: Develop non-motorized connectivity for transportation purposes	MO-1-A: Adopt a complete streets policy to balance the needs of all users of all modes of transportation	Short	Code/Policy	Supervisors	JCE, JCP&Z	NCSC
	MO-1-B: Pave wide shoulders for use by bicyclists when repaving roadways	Ongoing	CIP	JCE	JCCB	SUDAS, AASHTO, Rural Bike
	MO-1-C: Develop trails that separate bicyclists and pedestrians from the roadway and connect trip ends to commercial, residential, educational, and recreational destinations	Ongoing	CIP	JCCB	JCE, Cities	TAP, SRT, FRT
	MO-1-D: Evaluate the bicycle and trail network for gaps, with focus on connections to commercial, residential, educational, and recreational destinations and recommend improvements	Medium	Task	JCCB	JCE, Cities	SUDAS, AASHTO, Rural Bike

Transportation Mobility (MO) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal MO: Provide mobility options for all ages and abilities

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
MO-2: Support motorized travel without individual motorized vehicle ownership	MO-2-A: Create a county licensing system to enable transportation network companies to provide on-call transportation services (e.g. ride share)	Short	Code/Policy	JCP&Z	Supervisors	Staff Time
	MO-2-B: Revise the zoning code to establish licensing requirements and specify parking areas for car-share programs	Short	Code/Policy	JCP&Z	JCE	Staff Time
	MO-2-C: Advertise the option of DART's RideShare Vanpooling program and provide a park and ride location(s)	Ongoing	Task	Supervisors, Cities	DART, JEDCO	Staff Time
	MO-2-D: Coordinate with DART to extend the Heart of Iowa Regional Transit Agency (HIRTA) operating hours to include the evenings and weekend	Short	Task	Supervisors, Cities	DART	Funding
	MO-2-E: Coordinate with DART to evaluate the potential of bus service to Des Moines	Short	Task	Supervisors, Cities	DART	Funding

Housing (HS) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal HS: Provide a variety of attractive housing options, accommodating all income levels in all stages of life.

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
HS-1: Allow innovative and creative housing designs that accommodate the public's needs and preferences, while maintaining the county's character.	HS-1-A: Amend subdivision regulations and zoning codes to allow for a variety of housing types and lot sizes including mixed-use, cluster development, multi-family, co-housing, tiny housing, and eco-friendly design	Short	Code/Policy	JCP&Z	IRDC, Developers	APA, SGA
	HS-1-B: Amend the zoning code to allow accessory dwelling units on all single-family and rural residential lots	Short	Code/Policy	JCP&Z	IRDC, Residents	APA, SGA
HS-2: Increase the availability of housing targeted toward households earning more than the County's median income.	HS-2-A: Consider tax abatement for new housing over a particular price point	Short	Code/Policy	Supervisors	Developers, Residents, LHTF	APA, SGA
	HS-2-B: Consider tax abatement for renovations and upgrades to housing over a particular price point	Short	Code/Policy	Supervisors	Residents, LHTF	APA, SGA

Housing (HS) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal HS: Provide a variety of attractive housing options, accommodating all income levels in all stages of life.

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
HS-3: Ensure the housing stock is safe and attractive	HS-3-A: Establish property maintenance standards that address safety, maintenance, and aesthetics	Short	Code/Policy	JCP&Z	Habitat	Staff Time
	HS-3-B: Develop a policy for identification, notification, and required compliance timeline for properties that are in violation	Short	Code/Policy	JCP&Z	Habitat	Staff Time
	HS-3-C: Expand code enforcement, potentially through shared staff (JCHA)	Medium	Task	JCP&Z	Cities	Staff Time, Funding
	HS-3-D: Consider a forgivable loan program for safety and repair of exterior elements that could compromise the health and well-being of the occupants and those that improve energy conservation, such as roofs, windows and doors (JHCA)	Medium	Task	JCCS	IRDC, LHTF	CDBG

Housing (HS) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal HS: Provide a variety of attractive housing options, accommodating all income levels in all stages of life.

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
HS-3: Ensure the housing stock is safe and attractive	HS-3E: Implement site, building, and landscaping design standards for new residential development	Medium	Code/ Policy	JCP&Z	Developers, Residents	APA, SGA
	HS-3-F: Identify and promote programs that provide financial, labor, and technical resources to assist low income residents in maintaining or repairing their homes	Short	Task	JCCS	Habitat, LHTF	CDBG/ HOME
HS-4: Promote, incentivize, and facilitate housing development opportunities	HS-4-A: Develop a branding campaign to highlight the strengths and potential of the county to builders and developers.	Short/ Ongoing	Task	JEDCO	Supervisors, Cities, LHTF	Staff Time
	HS-4-B: Develop a marketing strategy to promote sites with existing infrastructure	Short/ Ongoing	Task	JEDCO	Supervisors, Cities, LHTF	Staff Time
	HS-4-C: Identify and/or develop incentive programs for developers for home and lot development (JCHA)	Medium	Task	JCCS	IRDC, CDO, LHTF	CDBG/ HOME, TIF, CDO, LHTF

Housing (HS) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal HS: Provide a variety of attractive housing options, accommodating all income levels in all stages of life.

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
HS-4: Promote, incentivize, and facilitate housing development opportunities	HS-4-D: Provide incentives to develop rental properties (JHCA)	Medium	Code/Policy	Cities	IRDC, LHTF	TIF, LHTF, Tax Abatement, Tax Credits
	HS-4-E: Develop a partnership between Jasper County and communities that creates a shared risk partnership for housing development (JCHA)	Medium	Task	Supervisors, Cities, LHTF	IRDC	Staff Time
	HS-4-F: Identify existing lot inventory for infill development and consider reduced fees for infill development (JCHA)	Short	Code/Policy	Cities, LHTF	Habitat	Staff Time
	HS-4-G: Consider governmental purchase and preparation of infill lots and those with dilapidated structures that need to be demolished (JCHA)	Medium	CIP	Supervisors, LHTF	IRDC, Habitat	CDBG

Housing (HS) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal HS: Provide a variety of attractive housing options, accommodating all income levels in all stages of life.

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
HS-4: Promote, incentivize, and facilitate housing development opportunities	HS-4-H: Develop a Purchase Rehab Resale Program (by a non-profit development corp) (JCHA)	Medium	CIP	Supervisors, Cities, LHTF	IRDC, Habitat	CDBG, Funding

Agriculture (AG) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal AG: Preserve the future of agriculture as a vibrant part of Jasper County's identity, community, and economy

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
AG-1: Support agricultural prosperity through educational, infrastructure, and marketing resources	AG-1-A: Develop a Farmer Advisory Committee (FAC) including farmers, rural landowners, a county government representative, and other relevant parties to meet periodically to discuss topics related to agriculture in the county	Short/ Ongoing	Code/ Policy	Supervisors	Agricultural forum participants, JCP&Z, JEDCO, IFB, PFI	PFI
	AG-1-B: Maintain a farming resources database that is accessible to all farmers	Short/ Ongoing	Task	JCP&Z	FAC, IFB, PFI	Comp Plan, IDALS, IFB, PFI
	AG-1-C: Create a marketing campaign to promote agricultural events taking place in the county	Short	Task	FAC	Supervisors, HP, JEDCO	Marketing Expertise
	AG-1-D: Plan new events for networking and agricultural business development	Medium/ Ongoing	Task	FAC	HP, JEDCO, IFB, PFI	IFB, PFI

Agriculture (AG) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal AG: Preserve the future of agriculture as a vibrant part of Jasper County’s identity, community, and economy

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
AG-1: Support agricultural prosperity through educational, infrastructure, and marketing resources	AG-1-E: Assist beginning farmers, small scale, niche, or other resource-challenged farms	Short/ Ongoing	Task	FAC	JCSWCD, IDALS, IFB, PFI	IFB programs, PFI prgrams, USDA
	AG-1-F: Assess resources needed to build a local food network for farmers to supply food to consumers (restaurants, schools, grocery stores, and households etc.)	Medium/ Ongoing	Task	FAC	JEDCO, Schools, Businesses, PFI	PFI, USDA
	AG-1-G: Maintain sufficient agriculture-related infrastructure (e.g. transportation, land, labor, equipment, technology, access points to the market, etc.) to support farming success	Medium/ Ongoing	CIP, Task	FAC, Supervisors	JEDCO, JCSWCD, IFB, PFI	IFB, PFI



Agriculture (AG) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal AG: Preserve the future of agriculture as a vibrant part of Jasper County's identity, community, and economy

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
AG-2: Improve the public image and understanding of the role of agriculture in the county	AG-2-A: Include agricultural information on the county's website, social media, and print marketing materials	Short/ Ongoing	Task	Supervisors	FAC	Staff Time
	AG-2-B: Create a marketing campaign to highlight agriculture's economic and cultural impact in the county (e.g. share information on specific farmers/farms, century farms, farming events, local food farmers, farmers markets, non-food products producers, conservation practices, etc.)	Short	Task	FAC, Supervisors	HP, JEDCO	Marketing Expertise
AG-3: Protect Jasper County's natural resources through environmentally-sensitive farming methods	AG-3-A: Include farmers in watershed planning	Medium	Task	JCCB	FAC, JCSWCD, IDALS, IDNR	REAP, Reference CR-1-D
	AG-3-B: Include agricultural resources and farmers in development of the County Conservation Board master plan	Medium	Task	JCCB	FAC	Reference CR-2-A

Agriculture (AG) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal AG: Preserve the future of agriculture as a vibrant part of Jasper County's identity, community, and economy

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
AG-3: Protect Jasper County's natural resources through environmentally-sensitive farming methods	AG-3-C: Provide conservation practice information to farmers in environmentally sensitive areas	Medium/Ongoing	Task	FAC	JCCB, JCSWCD, IDALS, IDNR, IFB, PFI	CREP, Iowa Learning Farms, USDA, PFI, IFB, ISU-EO
	AG-3-D: Seek funding to support environmentally-sensitive practices in agricultural environments	Short/Ongoing	Task	Landowners, FAC	JCCB, JCSWCD, IDALS, IDNR	Cost Share, Buffer Initiative, CREP, SRF, REAP-SWEA



Conservation + Recreation (CR) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal CR: Maintain and enhance natural resources and conservation land

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
CR-1: Protect wetland, prairies, stream corridors, and other wildlife habitat	CR-1-A: Create a natural resource zoning district (potentially an overlay district) to establish protection measures	Medium	Code/Policy	JCP&Z, Cities	Supervisors, Residents, Farmers	APA
	CR-1-B: Acquire environmentally sensitive land for protection	Long	Task	JCCB	INHF, IDNR	REAP, WDP
	CR-1-C: Develop conservation easement agreements with private land owners	Long	Task	JCCB	INHF, IDNR	APA
	CR-1-D: Develop watershed management plans and best practices	Medium	Task	JCCB	JCP&Z/ Cities	WIG, SRF
	CR-1-E: Provide incentives for re-development (using existing buildings) and infill over greenfield development	Short	Code/Policy	JCP&Z, Cities	IEDA	CDBG, Brown/ Gray TC, HPTC, IAREinvest, CommCat Grant

Conservation + Recreation (CR) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal CR: Maintain and enhance natural resources and conservation land

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
CR-1: Protect wetland, prairies, stream corridors, and other wildlife habitat	CR-1-F: Create a transfer of development rights program to protect open space and sensitive lands	Medium	Code/Policy	JCP&Z, Cities	IRDC	APA, SGA
	CR-2-A: Develop a County Conservation Board master plan	Medium	Task	JCCB	Supervisors	NRPA, TPL, Funding
CR-2: Foster community connection, access and awareness of natural resources through wildlife parks, trails and programs	CR-2-B: Seek grant funding for land trail development	Ongoing	Task	JCCB	Supervisors, IDNR, Iowa DOT, CIRTPA	REAP, TAP, SRT, FRT
	CR-2-C: Apply for the Iowa DNR Water Trails program for the South Skunk River to plan for improvements and official designation	Ongoing	Task	JCCB	Supervisors, IDNR	WTP
	CR-2-D: Apply for the Iowa DNR Water Trails program for the North Skunk River to plan for improvements and official designation	Short / Ongoing	Task	JCCB	Supervisors, IDNR	WTP

Conservation + Recreation (CR) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal CR: Maintain and enhance natural resources and conservation land

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
CR-2: Foster community connection, access and awareness of natural resources through wildlife parks, trails and programs	CR-2-E: Increase marketing of existing conservation resources and programs	Short/Ongoing	Task	JCCB	Supervisors	Staff Time
	CR-2-F: Support development of the planned Environmental Education Center	Short	CIP	JCCB	Supervisors	Funding

Economy (EC) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal EC: Attract, retain, and expand a variety of businesses

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
EC-1: Create and attract an educated and skilled workforce	EC-1-A: Identify workforce development needs to satisfy market demands	Short	Task	JEDCO	IWD	Staff Time
	EC-1-B: Increase training certifications and programs	Ongoing	Task	JEDCO	IWD, IDE	Staff Time
	EC-1-C: Create mentorship programs between businesses and students	Ongoing	Task	JEDCO	IWD, Schools, DMACC	Staff Time
	EC-1-D: Support the public library system for its educational and programmatic resources	Ongoing	Task	Supervisors, Cities	Residents	Funding
EC-2: Establish a business-friendly environment	EC-2-A: Develop new and expand existing relationships with economic development partners, such as colleges, school districts, non-profits, and lenders to provide resources to support business growth	Ongoing	Task	JEDCO	Schools, DMACC	Staff Time

Economy (EC) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal EC: Attract, retain, and expand a variety of businesses

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
EC-2: Establish a business-friendly environment	EC-2-B: Review site development review and business licensing procedures to identify opportunities to streamline applications and reduce review timelines	Short	Code/Policy	JCP&Z, Cities	Developers	Staff Time
	EC-2-C: Ensure that city and county review procedures are compatible and consistent for development within cities' extraterritorial jurisdiction	Short	Task	JCP&Z, Cities	Developers	Staff Time
	EC-2-D: Review land development and site plan regulations to make sure that they are up-to-date with current development best practices	Short	Code/Policy	JCP&Z, Cities	Supervisors	Staff Time, APA, SGA
	EC-2-E: Offer tax abatement and Tax Increment Financing (TIF) on building enhancements or expansions needed to support new businesses or expansion	Ongoing	Code/Policy	Supervisors, Cities	IEDA	APA, SGA

Economy (EC) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal EC: Attract, retain, and expand a variety of businesses

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
EC-2: Establish a business-friendly environment	EC-2-F: Ensure that high-speed internet service is available within the Growth Area Overlay on the Future Land Use Map	Ongoing	Task	Supervisors	Comm Co-Op	Empower
	EC-2-G: Further evaluate internet availability, technology type (fiber, satellite, cable, DSL), level of service, and needs throughout the county.	Short	Task	Supervisors	Comm Co-op	Empower
	EC-2-H: Develop architectural standards to improve building appearance	Medium	Code/Policy	JCP&Z, Cities	JEDCO, Developers	APA, SGA
	EC-2-I: Expand the Young Professionals group to include members countywide	Short	Task	YPJC	JEDCO	Member Time
	EC-2-J: Expand the existing Newton Chamber of Commerce to be countywide	Medium	Task	Chamber	County, Cities	Member Time
	EC-2-K: Create an online presence for business professionals to connect with each other	Short	Task	JEDCO	YPJC	Member Time

Economy (EC) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal EC: Attract, retain, and expand a variety of businesses

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
EC-3: Use countywide marketing to promote tourism and local businesses	EC-3-A: Develop a brand and update the logo for the county	Short	Task	Supervisors, Staff	JEDCO, YPJC, HP	Staff Time
	EC-3-B: Use the brand and logo in a marketing plan	Short/Ongoing	Task	Supervisors	JEDCO, YPJC, HP	Staff Time
	EC-3-C: Use existing services (e.g. Travel Iowa, Google Maps, etc.) to promote businesses and special events	Short	Task	Supervisors	JEDCO, YPJC	Staff Time
	EC-3-D: Promote events and places in cities on the county's website	Ongoing	Task	Supervisors, Staff	JEDCO	Staff Time
EC-4: Seek new businesses that will diversify and strengthen the local economy	EC-4-A: Designate "Certified Sites" which are ready for industrial development	Medium	Task	JCP&Z, Cities	IEDA	CDBG
	EC-4-B: Support business that relate to the Iowa Speedway and other regional draws to the county	Ongoing	Task	Supervisors	JEDCO	IEDA

Economy (EC) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal EC: Attract, retain, and expand a variety of businesses

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
EC-4: Seek new businesses that will diversify and strengthen the local economy	EC-4-C: Support businesses that cater to outdoor recreation such as along trails, near hunting areas, and near campgrounds (e.g. equipment rental, food, overnight accommodations, etc.)	Ongoing	Task	Supervisors	JEDCO, HP	IEDA
	EC-4-D: Attract more full-service restaurants and retail stores	Medium	Task	JEDCO	IEDA	IASource
	EC-4-E: Encourage reuse of vacant spaces rather than focusing on new development	Medium	Policy	Cities	JEDCO, IEDA	IASource
EC-5: Encourage entrepreneurship and support of local businesses development	EC-5-A: Establish grant and loan programs that can assist with local business startups and expansion	Medium	Task	JEDCO	IEDA, IWD	Staff Time, Funding
	EC-5-B: Establish a business incubator with co-working space	Medium	Task	JEDCO	YPJC	IEDA, IASource

Economy (EC) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal EC: Attract, retain, and expand a variety of businesses

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
EC-5: Encourage entrepreneurship and support of local businesses development	EC-5-C: Modify zoning regulations to allow for home-based business	Short	Code/Policy	JCP&Z	Supervisors, Residents	Staff Time
	EC-5-D: Establish educational, mentorship, networking, and business collaboration programs	Short	Task	JEDCO	YPJC	IASource
	EC-5-E Provide workshops for educating new business owners and managers on business-related topics such as taxes, legal requirements, and marketing tips	Short	Task	JEDCO	YPJC	UNI-Bus, IASource

Public Health + Safety (PH) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal PH: Maintain high level of service for public health and safety

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
PH-1: Ensure adequate and effective sheriff patrol and public outreach	PH-1-A: Continue public outreach programs, such as with schools and public events	Ongoing	Task	JCSO, Police	Residents	Staff Time, Funding
	PH-1-B: Periodically evaluate patrol needs	Ongoing	Task	JCSO, Police	Residents	Staff Time
PH-2: Minimize injuries and loss of life and property due to impacts of natural hazards (JCMMP)	PH-2-A: Ensure evacuation routes are identified and safe for travel	Ongoing	Task	JCEM	JCE	Staff Time
	PH-2-B: Ensure that emergency shelters are available and prepared, including tornado shelters (JCMMP)	Ongoing	Task	JCEM	Supervisors /Cities	Funding
	PH-2-C: Prepare medical response teams with training, supplies, and equipment	Ongoing	Task	JCEM	JCHD	Staff Time, Funding

Public Health + Safety (PH) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal PH: Maintain high level of service for public health and safety

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
PH-2: Minimize injuries and loss of life and property due to impacts of natural hazards (JCMEMP)	PH-2-D: Educate the public on what to do before, during, and after extreme weather events (tornados, high winds, lighting, hail, winter storms, ice, flood, extreme heat, and drought) (JCMEMP)	Ongoing	Task	JCEM	JCSO, JCHD	Staff Time
	PH-2-E: Review, update, and enforce floodplain ordinances (JCMEMP)	Short	Code/Policy	JCP&Z, Cities	JCEM	Staff Time
	PH-2-F: Encourage green design techniques to manage stormwater on site and use alternative energy sources to enable faster recovery from power outages	Ongoing	Code/Policy	JCP&Z, Cities	IDNR, IEDA	SRF, AERLP, USGBC
	PH-2-G: Install flood gates where necessary (JCMEMP)	Short	CIP	JCEM	IDNR	DRG
	PH-2-H: Install emergency sirens to ensure coverage to all residents (JCMEMP)	Medium	CIP	JCEM	Supervisors	Funding

Public Health + Safety (PH) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal PH: Maintain high level of service for public health and safety

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
PH-3: Maintain a high level of communication with residents	PH-3-A: Provide proactive and transparent communication, easy-to-access information and materials about government activities and policies	Short/Ongoing	Task	All Depts, Cities	Residents	Staff Time, Funding
	PH-3-B: Revise the County's website and maintain current information	Short/Ongoing	Task	All Depts, Cities	Residents	Staff Time, Funding
	PH-3-C: Improve urgent communication systems (phone, text, radio)	Short	Task	JCEM	Supervisors	Staff Time, Funding
	PH-3-D: Improve government's social media presence	Short/Ongoing	Task	All Depts, Cities	IEDA	IASource
PH-4: Ensure that the health needs, both physical and mental, of all residents are being met	PH-4-A: Expand and market mental health services	Ongoing	Task	JCHD	JCBH	Staff Time, Funding

Public Health + Safety (PH) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal PH: Maintain high level of service for public health and safety

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
PH-4: Ensure that the health needs, both physical and mental, of all residents are being met	PH-4-B: Provide common medical services locally	Ongoing	Task	JCHD	JCBH	Staff Time, Funding
	PH-4-C: Meet the needs of all demographics	Ongoing	Task	JCHD	JCBH	Staff Time

County Character (CC) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal CC: Establish a county character that is family-friendly, evokes a rural feel, and celebrates the unique attributes of the county.

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
CC-1: Support and expand special events and festivals showcasing locations throughout the county	CC-1-A: Create a countywide event committee	Short	Task	HP	Supervisors, Cities, Residents	Staff Time, Funding
	CC-1-B: Host at least one special event each month, in varied places throughout the county	Medium/Ongoing	Task	HP	Supervisors, Cities, Residents	Staff Time, Funding
	CC-1-C: Develop a shared marketing campaign for special events and places of interest, including print, radio, and social media	Short	Task	HP	Supervisors, Cities, Residents	Staff Time, Funding
CC-2: Create a unique identity for the county and its towns and villages	CC-2-A: Consider developing a grant program for restoring historic sites and buildings	Medium	Code/Policy	JCP&Z, Cities	SHPO, IEDA	HPTC

County Character (CC) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal CC: Establish a county character that is family-friendly, evokes a rural feel, and celebrates the unique attributes of the county.

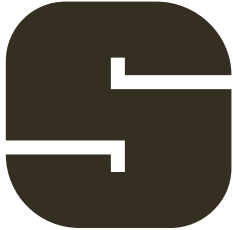
Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
CC-2: Create a unique identity for the county and its towns and villages	CC-2-B: Consider developing programs to assist with deferred maintenance issues	Medium	Code/Policy	JCP&Z, Cities	Supervisors	RemLoan, IAReinvest
	CC-2-C: Install public art on public properties	Long	Task	Supervisors, Cities	HP, IEDA - Main Street	Funding
	CC-2-D: Provide incentives for private development to incorporate art visible to the public	Medium	Code/Policy	JCP&Z, Cities	IEDA - Main Street	Staff Time
CC-3: Be an environmentally-conscious leader	CC-3-A: Update ordinances to allow for alternative energy production	Short	Code/Policy	JCP&Z, Cities	IEDA - Energy Office	IEP
	CC-3-B: Complete energy audits on all public buildings to determine baseline for improving carbon footprint	Medium	Task	JCP&Z, Cities	IEDA - Energy Office	IEP

County Character (CC) Goal, Objectives + Actions

Goal CC: Establish a county character that is family-friendly, evokes a rural feel, and celebrates the unique attributes of the county.

Objective	Action	Timeline	Type	Responsible Party	Partner(s)	Resource
CC-3: Be an environmentally-conscious leader	CC-3-C: Improve energy efficiency and reduce the carbon footprint of public buildings and operations	Long	Task	JCP&Z, Cities	IEDA - Energy Office	IEP
	CC-3-D: Provide incentives to design green infrastructure and buildings	Short	Code/Policy	JCP&Z, Cities	IEDA - Energy Office	IEP





SNYDER
& ASSOCIATES



Appendix

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Outreach + Engagement

Project Review Committee

Attendance

Committee Member	Connection to Jasper County	Meeting 1 - June 17, 2019	Meeting 2 - September 10, 2019	Meeting 3 - November 6, 2019
Nick Fratzke	Jasper County Community Development Director	X	X	X
Jamie Elam	Jasper County Community Development	X	X	
Brian Briles	Monroe, former City Council member / Mayor	X	X	X
Cathryn Dunsberger	Sully, City Economic Development		X	X
Doug Gumm	Southwest county, retired IT	X		X
Larry Ladd	Northwest county, retired IBM	X	X	X
Thad Nearmyer	Monroe, farmer	X	X	X
Danielle Rogers	Newton, City Community Marketing Manager		X	X
Sandy Schwarz	Newton, Emerson Antemation	X	X	
Marcy Simbro-Woodhouse	Reasnor, City Council, Horticulturist		X	X
Derrick Terpstra	Newton, business owner - Terpstra Plumbing, Heating and Electric		X	



Meeting #1 - June 17, 2019

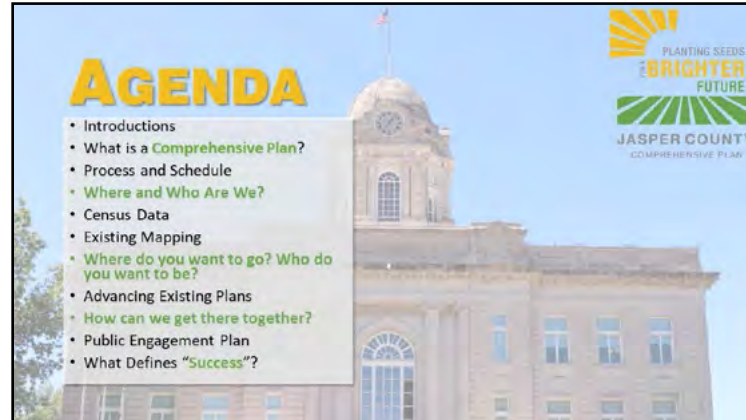
Presentation



PLANTING SEEDS FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE
JASPER COUNTY
 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Project Review Committee Meeting #1
 June 17

S SNYDER ASSOCIATES
 SOLUTIONS IN THE LAND



AGENDA

- Introductions
- What is a **Comprehensive Plan**?
- Process and Schedule
- **Where and Who Are We?**
- Census Data
- Existing Mapping
- **Where do you want to go? Who do you want to be?**
- Advancing Existing Plans
- **How can we get there together?**
- Public Engagement Plan
- What Defines "Success"?

PLANTING SEEDS FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE
JASPER COUNTY
 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

WHAT IS A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN?

- A Long-range plan (~20 years) for the future of **Jasper County**
- It presents **goals** and **policy guidance** for all county activities such as:
 - Land Use and Growth Management
 - Transportation
 - Housing
 - Nature and Agriculture
 - Recreation, Parks, and Trails
 - Economics
- It provides **the basis for zoning** and other regulations
- *Through public dialogue, citizens express a collective vision for the future*



GUIDING QUESTIONS



Where and who are we?

Collect

- Demographics
- Employment
- Economics
- Land Use
- Infrastructure
- Status of Plans
- Strengths/Challenges

Where do we want to go? Who do we want to be?

Engage & Envision

- Community Values
- Community Character
- Emerging Trends
- Imminent Changes
- Desired Future

How can we get there together?

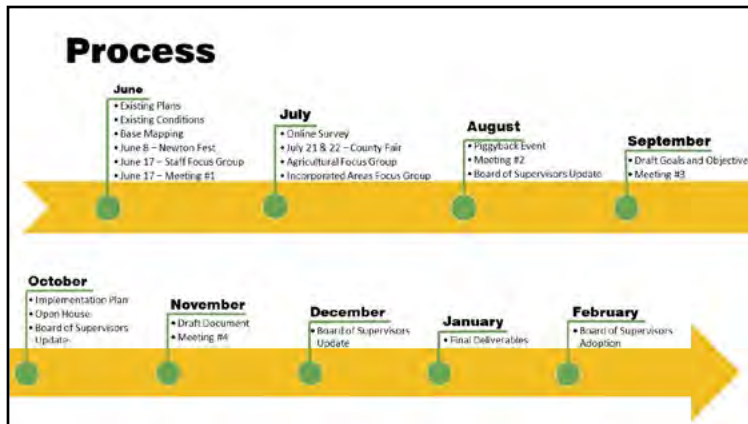
Implement

- Goals
- Measurable Objectives
- Policies
- Infrastructure to support the Vision



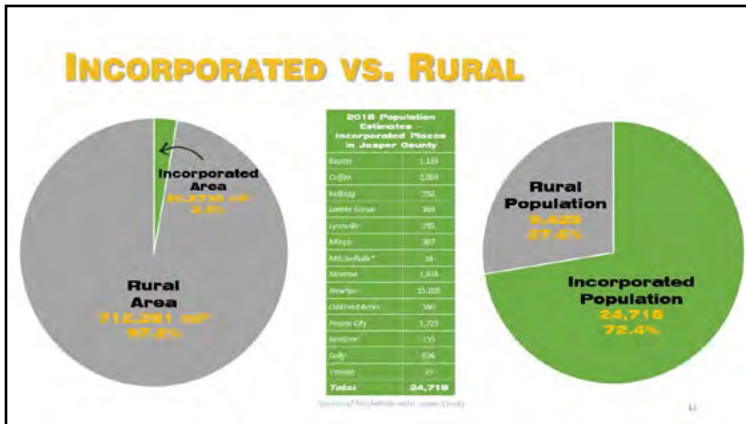
TOPICS IDENTIFIED

- Land Use and Growth Management
- Transportation
- Rural Housing and Unincorporated Villages
- Natural and Agricultural Environment
- Recreation, Parks, and Trails
- Economy
 - Farmland preservation, Farmland consolidation by corporations, Incentives for small scale and integrated options, Diversification of agricultural practices and products, Alternative to current farming practices within landowner/operator autonomy, and Environmentally sustainable operations related to soil erosion and water quality



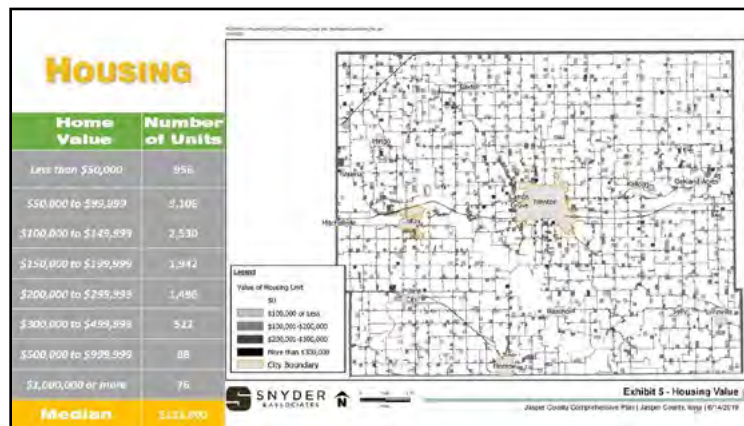
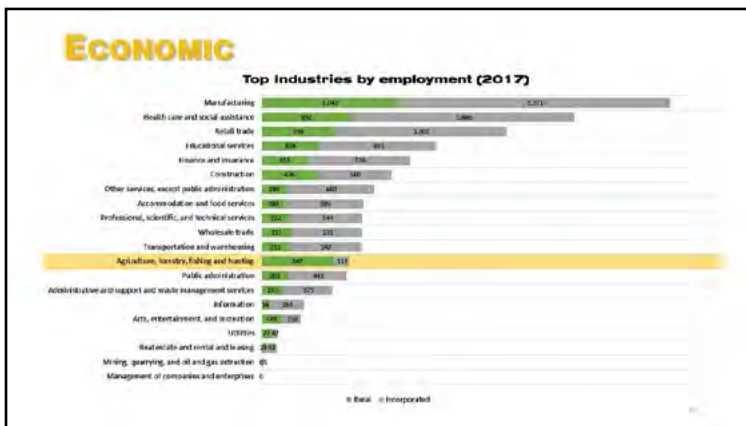
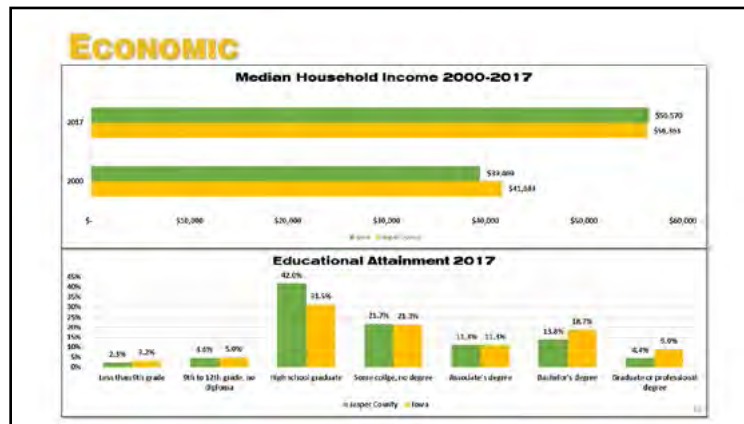
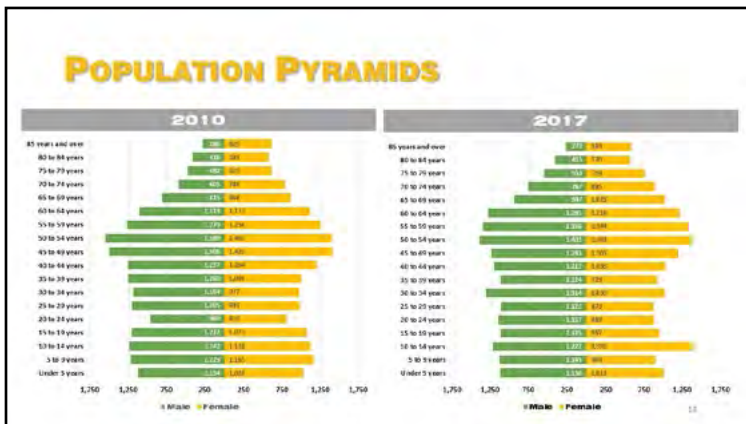
POPULATION CHANGE - COMPARISON

	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2018 est	Census Data - Jasper County		
	Year	Population	% Change from Decade						
Jasper	35,425	36,425	34,795	37,213	36,842	34,147	1970	22,116	
Polk	286,130	303,170	327,140	374,601	430,640	487,204	1980	23,363	27.4%
Warren	27,432	34,878	36,033	40,671	46,225	51,056	1990	34,341	-3.9%
Marion	26,352	29,669	30,001	32,052	33,309	33,407	1900	26,976	0.2%
Mahaska	22,177	22,867	23,542	22,345	22,381	22,000	1910	27,034	3.0%
Poweshiek	18,803	19,306	19,033	18,515	18,514	18,609	1920	27,855	-4.4%
Tama	20,147	19,533	17,419	18,104	17,767	16,904	1930	32,934	2.6%
Marshall	41,076	41,652	38,776	39,311	40,648	39,981	1940	31,490	9.2%
Story	62,783	72,326	74,252	79,981	85,542	98,105	1970	35,425	0.4%
							1980	36,425	-2.8%
							1990	34,795	-4.5%
							2000	37,213	5.9%
							2010	36,842	-1.0%
							2018 est	34,147	-7.3%

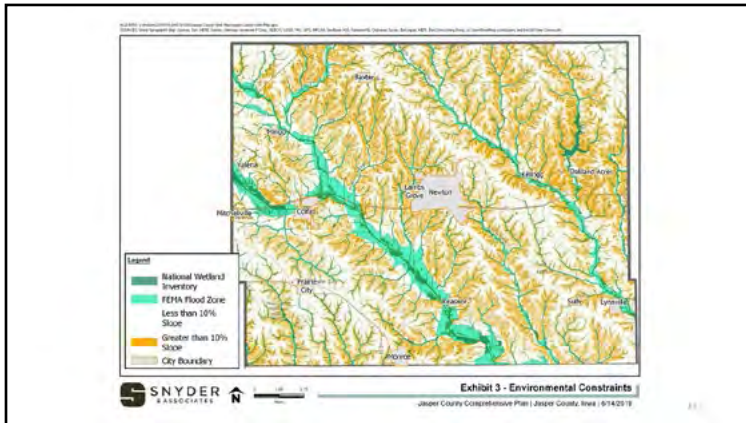
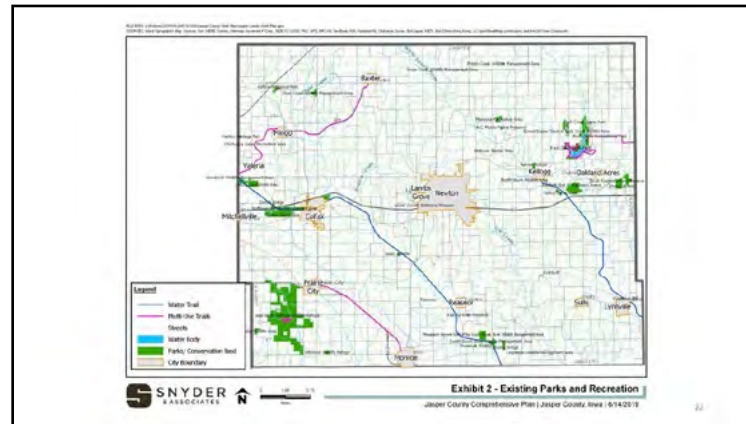
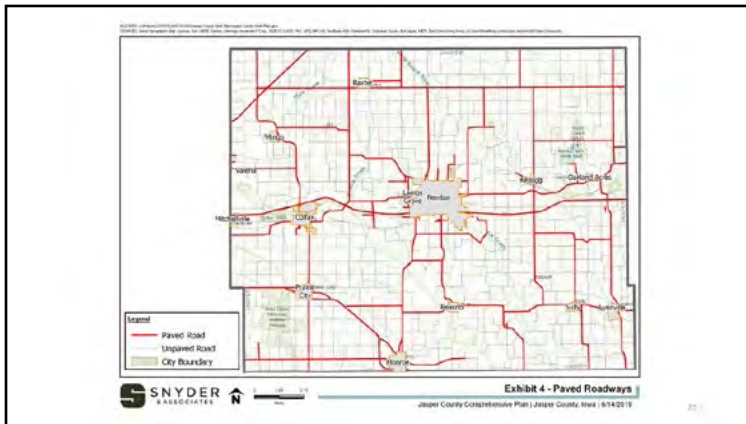
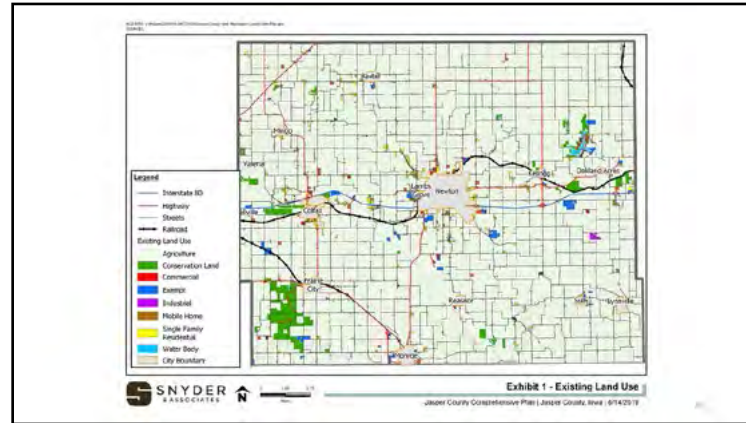


POPULATION CHANGE - AGE GROUPS

Age Bracket	2000	2010	2017 est.	% change 2000-2017
Under 5 years	2,313	2,162	2,147	-7.2%
5 to 9 years	2,607	2,394	2,048	-21.4%
10 to 14 years	2,607	2,370	2,013	0.2%
15 to 19 years	2,442	2,785	2,087	-14.7%
20 to 24 years	1,961	1,788	2,040	4.0%
25 to 34 years	4,639	4,367	4,339	-6.5%
35 to 44 years	5,989	4,727	4,298	-28.2%
45 to 54 years	5,127	5,880	5,233	2.1%
55 to 59 years	1,880	2,535	2,700	43.6%
60 to 64 years	1,685	2,236	2,503	48.9%
65 to 74 years	3,046	3,076	3,634	19.3%
75 to 84 years	2,098	3,076	2,297	9.5%
85 years and over	803	915	955	6.3%



Existing Conditions - Mapping



ADVANCING EXISTING PLANS

- Small Town Comprehensive Plans
- CIRTPA Long-Range Transportation Plan
- 2016 Jasper County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan
- 2017 Jasper County Housing Assessment
- Jasper County Health Department's Community Health Needs Assessment
- Four County Trail Plan – Iowa Heartland RC&D

CIRTPA LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN- 2016

GOALS

- Maintain existing transportation system
 - PCI, Bridge rating system
- Provide a safe transportation system
 - Crash data- severity
- Promote livability
 - Miles of trails, on-street bicycle facilities, system gaps
- Protect the environment and conserve resource
 - Green infrastructure, electric vehicles, emission levels

JASPER COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN- 2016

GOALS

- Minimize injuries and loss of life due to impacts of natural hazards
- Reduce or eliminate damages to property due to natural hazards
- Manage response operation with or without state/ federal assistance
- Help ensure timely resumption of business operations
- Return to pre-disaster conditions in a timely and pre-planned manner

JASPER COUNTY HOUSING ASSESSMENT - 2017

Goals

- Increase lot supply
- Increase rental units
- Expand diversity
- Share risks to meet needs that private market cannot satisfy alone
- Preserve existing housing
- Promote sites with existing infrastructure
- Match lot sizes and infrastructure maintenance

Housing Affordability Ranges: Jasper County

Income Range	Percentage of Households	Affordable Range for Owner Units	Number of Owner Units	Affordable Range for Renter Units	Number of Renter Units	Total Units	Balance
\$0-24,999	2,099	\$8-49,999	521	\$0-799	682	1,803	-292
\$25K-49,999	3,820	\$9,000-124,999	3,360	\$400-799	2,454	5,814	2,034
\$50K-74,999	2,819	\$125,000-199,999	2,327	\$800-1249	158	2,485	727
\$75K-99,999	1,723	\$200,000-249,999	2,022	\$1250-1499	33	2,055	332
\$100K-149,999	3,586	\$250,000-500,000	1,343	\$1500-1999	26	1,369	-2,221
\$150,000+	1,187	\$500,000+	576	\$2000+	35	611	-581

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010, with projected 2016 data
 * Jasper County has a shortage of housing for those households making less than \$25,000 and those earning \$100,000.
 ** This means a lot of residents are competing for rental units priced below \$500 a month or for housing priced over \$1,250,000.

COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT - 2019

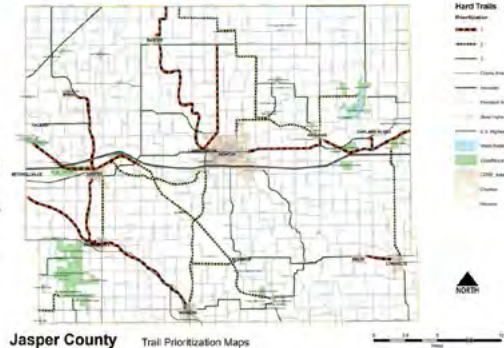
Jasper County CHNA Town Hall - "Community Health Areas of Strengths"

Jasper County - Community Health Strengths	
#	Topic
1	Access to Hospital Specialty Clinic, Urgent Care, OP Care, Prenatal Care / OB
2	Available Health Resources
3	Community Involvement
4	Dentists and Eye Doctors
5	EMACC Nursing Program
6	Emergency Preparedness
7	EMS - Emergency Responders
8	Mobile Crisis Response Team
9	Public Health Services
10	School Teachers / Nurses
11	Substance Abuse Coalition with Mental Health
12	Youth Programs (YMCA, 4H, Schools)

CHNA Wave #3		Jasper Co. N=200		
#	Topic	Votes	%	Trend RANK
1	Mental Health / Behaviors	147	90.7%	1
2	Substance Abuse	125	77.2%	2
3	Violent / Abusive Behaviors	66	40.7%	7
4	Child Abuse / Neglect	61	37.7%	3
5	Child Obesity	59	36.4%	5
6	Transportation	56	34.6%	6
7	Wellness / Nutrition	54	33.2%	8
8	Access to Therapies	50	30.9%	4
9	Healthy Homes	50	30.9%	9
10	Dental Care	46	28.4%	10
11	Tobacco Use	45	27.8%	11
12	Public Health	37	22.8%	12
13	Immunization Costs	13	8.0%	14
14	Radon-testing	12	7.4%	15
15	Fall-related Injuries	11	6.8%	13
16	Childhood Lead Levels	3	1.9%	16

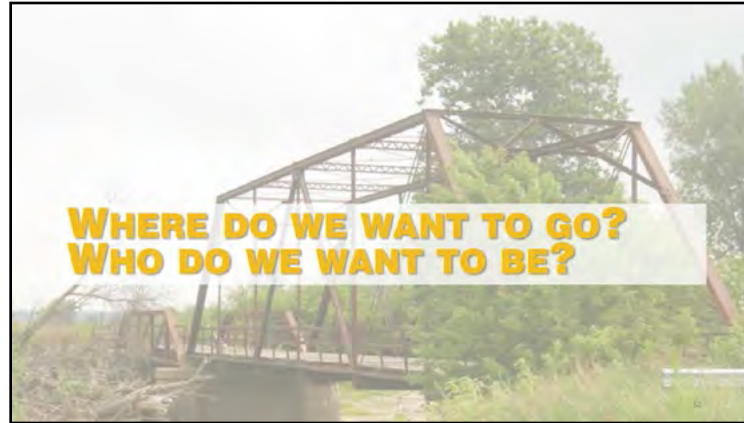
FOUR COUNTY TRAIL PLAN - 2015

- 2015 received two grants to develop trail master plan for Jasper, Madison, Marion and Warren Counties
- End goal to link to Central Iowa Trail Network



UPDATE

- Create a clearer future trails plan
- Review comprehensively with the future Transportation network



Visioning Exercise

HEADLINE EXERCISE

What headlines would you want to read about Jasper County in 15-20 years?



10 American Cities Lead the Way With Urban Agriculture Ordinances

These Cities Have the Best Public Schools in America

A Red City Goes Green: The Renewable Energy Partnership of Georgetown, Texas and Southwestern University

The Top 5 States for Tiny Homes

Resilience in North Carolina After Flooding from Hurricanes Florence and Matthew

Washington sets example at top of sustainable city ladder

'A giant dorm for grownups': Cohousing developments on the rise in Madison

EMMETT COUNTY NAMED THE BEST PLACE TO RETIRE IN MICHIGAN

Iowa may get first 'agrihood' in small town near Des Moines

HEADLINE EXERCISE

What headlines would you want to read about Jasper County in 15-20 years?

- You may work with a partner
- List up to 3 headlines (1 per Post-It note)
- Post the Post-Its under the appropriate heading



ENGAGEMENT

- Project Website – www.jaspersbrightfuture.com
- County Website
- Des Moines Register
- Jasper County Tribune
- City News Sources
 - Newton Daily News, Sully Hometown Press, Monroe Legacy, Prairie City News, Weekly Clipper (Colfax)
- Social Media
 - Facebook, Twitter, Instagram
- MetroQuest - Survey

ONLINE ENGAGEMENT - METROQUEST

- Welcome
- Priority Ranking
- Scenario Ranking
- Visual Preference
- Image Rating
- Map Maker
- Project Selection
- Budget Allocation
- Funding Balance
- Vision Statement
- Tradeoffs
- Strategy Rating
- Standard Survey
- Wrap Up

FOCUS GROUP SESSIONS

County Staff

- County-wide strengths and weaknesses

Agricultural Interests

- Agricultural trends and issues
- Solutions In The Land

Incorporated towns

- Relationships between cities and county growth areas

County Staff Focus Group

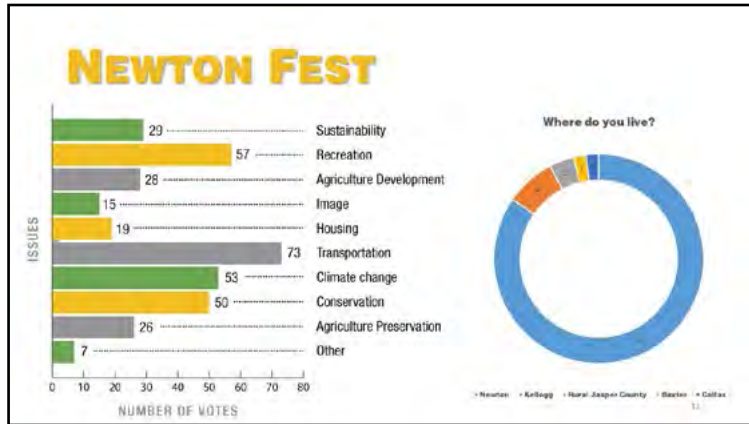
19 participants

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low cost of living / affordability • Proximity to metro • Access to jobs • Community cohesion • Resilient • Parks, trails, and recreation • Communication • Education • Safe and quiet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation to Des Moines • Falling infrastructure/road maintenance • High property taxes • Stagnant growth • Communication with public • Lack of jobs / low wages • Workforce • Budget constraints • Housing diversity • Farm consolidation • Aging population • Housing

COMMUNITY EVENT - PIGGYBACK

June – August

- Newton Fest
- Jasper County Fair #1
- Jasper County Fair #2
- TBD?



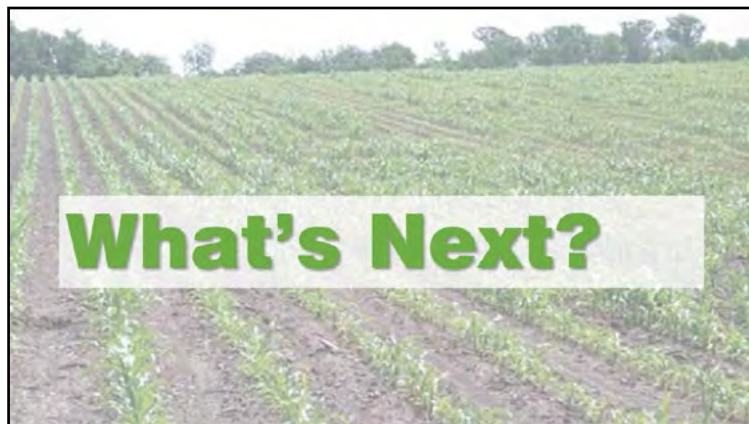
PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

- Near end of project (October)



WHAT DO YOU NEED AT THE END OF THIS PROCESS TO CALL IT ALL A SUCCESS?

- Who do we need to engage?
- What topics do we need to cover?
- What does the plan need to do for the county?
- What qualities does the plan need to have?
- What part of the process is most important to you?



WORK TO DO

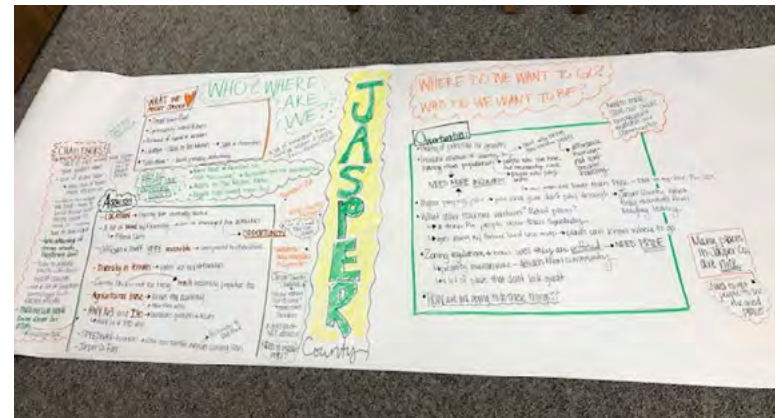
- Schedule Focus Group Meetings
 - Agricultural Interests
 - Incorporated Areas
- Develop Survey Questions
 - Review with committee via email
 - Distribute Survey – WITH YOUR HELP!!
- Committee Meeting #2
 - Review data collection and analysis
 - Discussion of goals that could result from data

Results

Strengths

- ☀ Location
- ☀ Land is a blank slate
- ☀ Accessible county officials/staff
- ☀ Diversity in terrain
- ☀ County parks and trails
- ☀ Agricultural base + tourism
- ☀ Interstate and highway access
- ☀ Tourism
 - ☀ Speedway
 - ☀ Museum
 - ☀ Trainland
 - ☀ Neal Smith Wildlife
- ☀ Jasper County Fair
- ☀ Small town feel
- ☀ Community connectedness
- ☀ Balance of rural/urban
- ☀ Privacy/autonomy

Weaknesses



- ☀ Lack of higher income jobs
- ☀ Lack of skilled labor
- ☀ Road maintenance
- ☀ Resistance to change
- ☀ Marketing of assets
- ☀ Need long-term commitment from elected officials
- ☀ Need community pride/property maintenance
- ☀ Need affordable housing
- ☀ Need more retail

Meeting #2 - September 10, 2019

Presentation



Project Review Committee Meeting #1 – June 17, 2019

- Strengths & Weaknesses Analysis
- Existing Data
- Public Engagement Strategy



Project Management Team #1

5 members + 2 staff

Strengths

- Location
- Land is a blank slate
- Accessible county officials/staff
- Diversity in terrain
- County parks and trails
- Agricultural base + tourism
- Interstate and highway access
- Tourism – Speedway, Museum, Frankford, Neal-Smith Wildlife
- Jasper County Fair
- Small town feel
- Community connectedness
- Balance of rural/urban
- Privacy/autonomy

Weaknesses

- Lack of higher income jobs
- Lack of skilled labor
- Road maintenance
- Resistance to change
- Marketing of assets
- Need long-term commitment from elected officials
- Need community pride/property maintenance
- Need affordable housing
- Need more retail

Focus Groups

- County Staff Focus Group
 - June 17, 2019
- Agricultural Focus Group #1
 - July 30, 2019
- Incorporated Areas Focus Group
 - August 27, 2019
- Agricultural Focus Group #2
 - September 10, 2019
- Local Business Focus Group
 - September 30, 2019

County Staff Focus Group

19 participants

Strengths

- Low cost of living / affordability
- Proximity to metro
- Access to jobs
- Community cohesion
- Resilient
- Parks, trails, and recreation
- Communication
- Education
- Safe and quiet

Weaknesses

- Transportation to Des Moines
- Falling infrastructure/road maintenance
- High property taxes
- Stagnant growth
- Communication with public
- Lack of jobs / low wages
- Workforce
- Budget constraints
- Housing diversity
- Farm consolidation
- Aging population
- Housing

Agricultural Focus Group #1

5 breakout groups

- Farmland consolidation and preservation
- Young and beginning farmers
- Future of agriculture: innovation
- Natural resources
- Agricultural relationships



Incorporated Areas Focus Group

- County-City relationships
- Future Land Uses



Incorporated Areas Focus Group

7 city representatives (Newton, Prairie City, Colfax, Hometown Pride)

- Cities plan to grow
- Want to foster business growth

Strengths

- Proximity to metro/interstate
- Rural feel
- Great schools
- Spacing of cities & connectivity
- Workforce – manufacturing
- Tourism – historic racetrack, wildlife refuge

Weaknesses

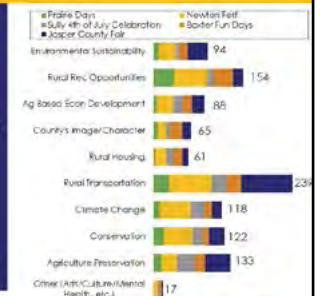
- Floodplain management
- Fear of growth/loss of lifestyle
- Loss of employees to Des Moines
- Infrastructure maintenance (roads specifically)
- Quality housing at all levels

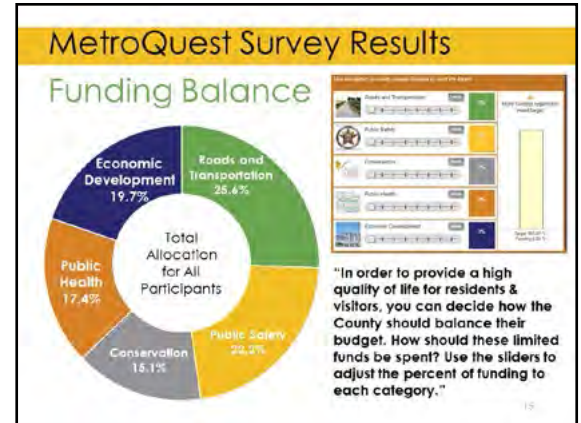
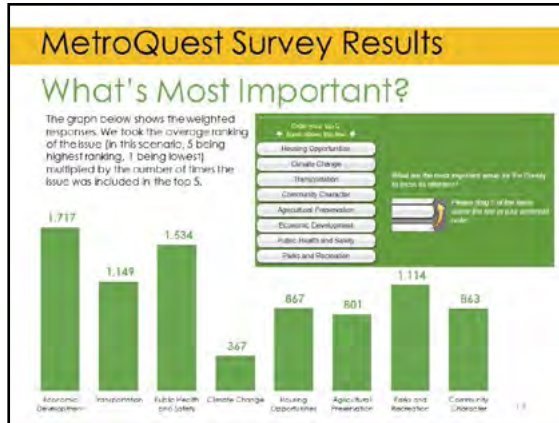
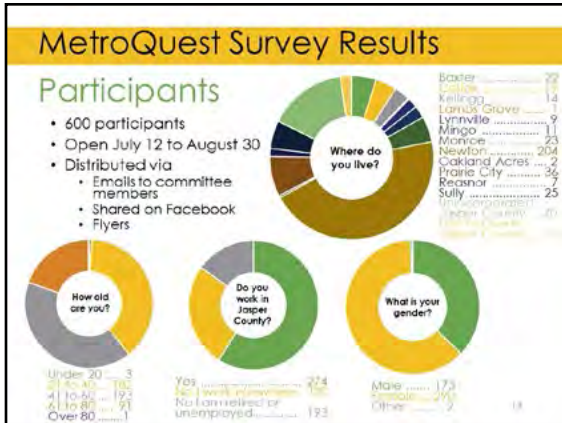
Community Events



Community Events

- Prairie Days
 - June 1, 2019
- Newton Fest
 - June 8, 2019
- July 4th of July Celebration
 - July 4, 2019
- Baxter Fun Days
 - July 13, 2019
- Jasper County Fair
 - July 21 & 22, 2019
- Monroe Old Settler's Days
 - August 3, 2019





Vision Statement Definition

Declare where your community wants to be in the future, framed in an aspirational, forward-thinking manner.

- Should be creative and ambitious
- Should:
 - Inform strategic planning
 - Inspire while still being achievable
 - Highlight what's unique about your community
 - Align with community's values

Vision Statement

Part 1 - Theme
e.g. leadership; small/rural/simple life; growth and prosperity; connectivity; agriculture; pursuit of dreams; peace and beauty

Part 2 - Intro

1. We envision a Jasper County in which / with / where...
2. Jasper County will be known for...

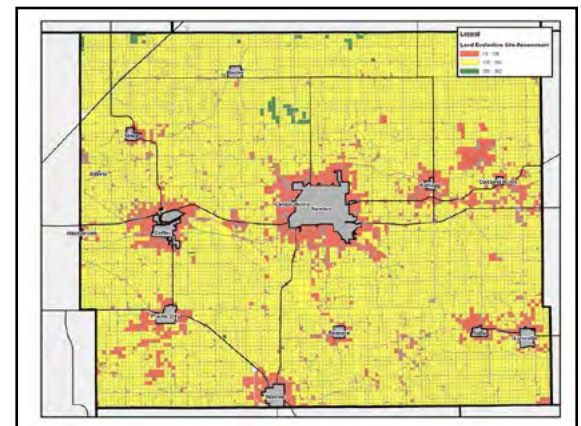
Part 3 - Some Detail

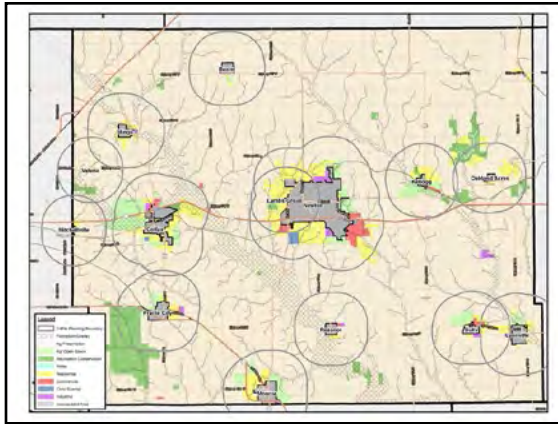
Economic	Health/Safety	Transportation	Parks/Recreation
Business flourish	Residents feel safe	Safe and efficient road network	High quality recreational experiences
Local business success	Residents care about one another	Support mobility for all individuals and businesses	Enlivening amenities
Agricultural preservation and diversification	Encourage healthy lifestyle	Provides reliable connections between towns / to the metro	Places to connect to nature
Opportunity to succeed in entrepreneurial endeavors	Access to health and safety services	Maintained infrastructure	Recreation and nature attraction



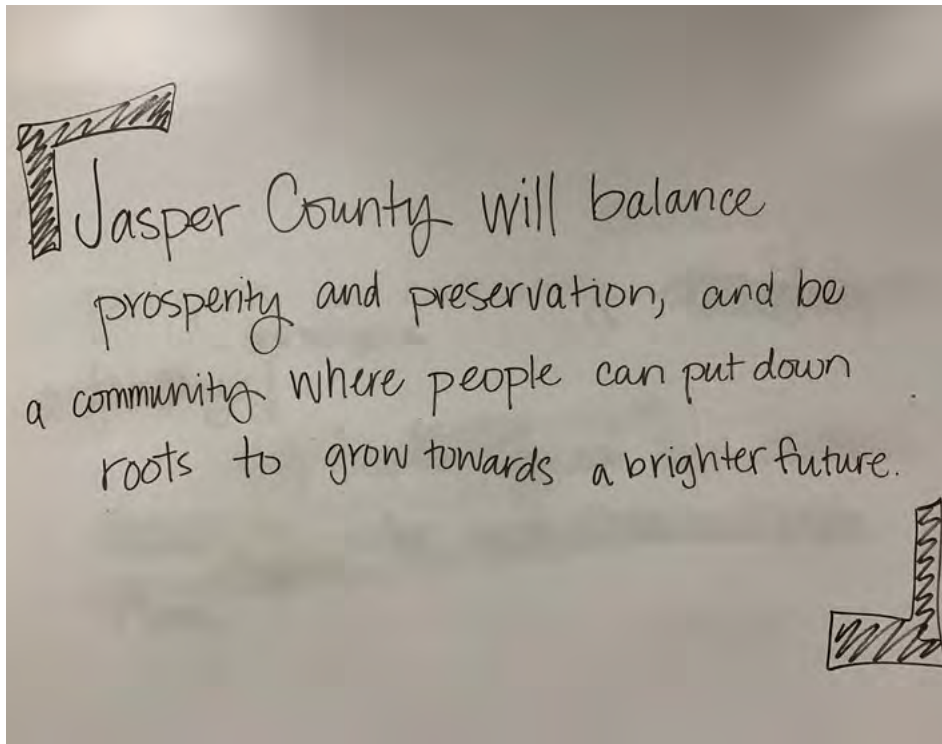
Land Evaluation and Site Assessment (LESA)

Land Evaluation	Points	Weight Factor	LE Score	Value
1. Average Site Value	100 max	1	100	Low Ag Value Less than 125 points
Site Assessment				
2. % of Area in Ag within 1 mile of site	10	3	30	Average Ag Value 125 - 250 points
3. Land in Ag adjacent to site	10	3	30	
4. Visibility of Site for Agricultural Use	10	4	40	
5. Distance to State Regulated Livestock Production Facility	10	3	30	
6. Distance from Access to Paved Road	10	3	30	High Ag Value Greater than 250 points
7. Distance to Urban Built-up Area	10	2	20	
8. Distance to Municipal (Common) Water System	10	1	10	
9. Distance to Municipal (Common) Sewer System	10	1	10	
Total			300	





Photos



Maintain a balance between progress & preservation that grows economic prosperity while protecting the valuable natural resources that define Jasper Co.

In Jasper Cty we strive to celebrate our past successes rise to meet challenges & work to encourage thriving economic/business entrepreneurial enterprises while embracing our small town feel. Welcome Home to Jasper County.

A county proudly built upon our strong agricultural heritage that is leading the way into the future with entrepreneurial spirit & forward thinking.

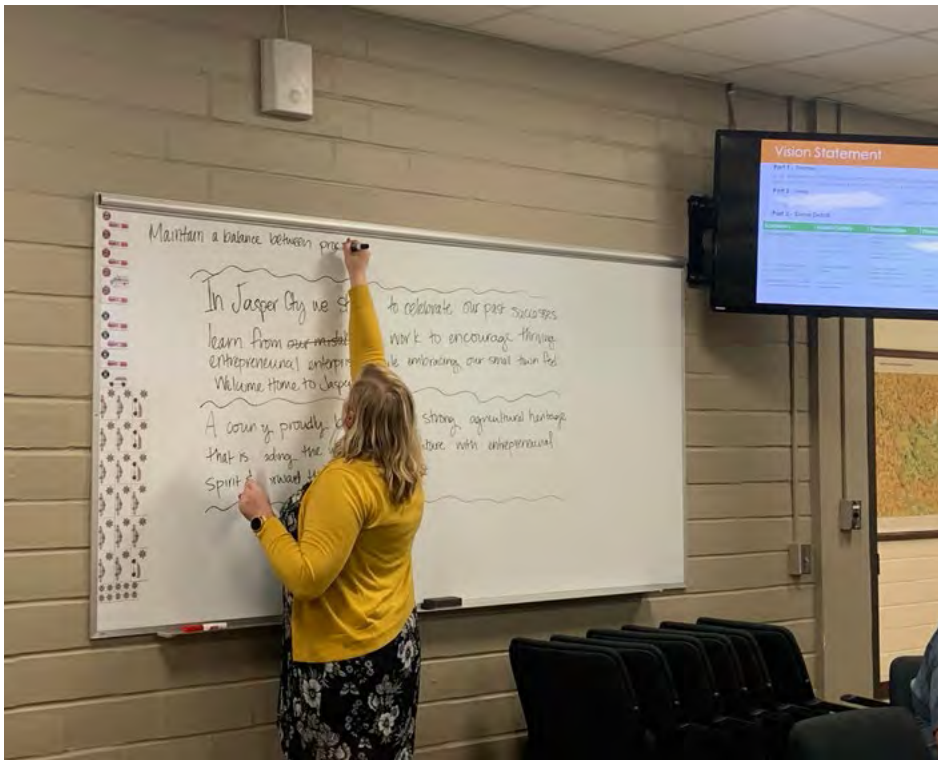
Jasper County will

- Support opportunities to succeed in entrepreneurship & economic endeavors;
- Encourage preservation and enhancement of our communities and lands;
- and seek an enriching quality of life no matter where your road takes you.

JC will be known for being full of simple life pleasures and big goals with responsible & sustainable growth for the enjoyment for those who live or visit

Encouraging growth by embracing our heritage & progress on a solid foundation.

Where people can put down roots and find nourishment for a bright future.

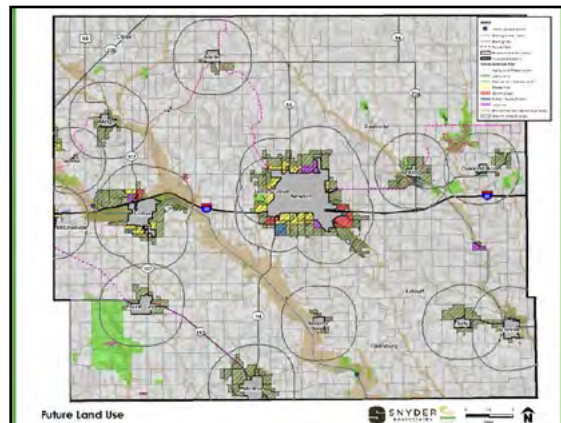
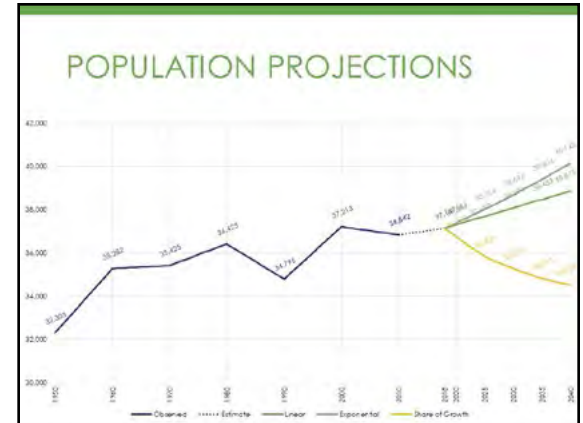
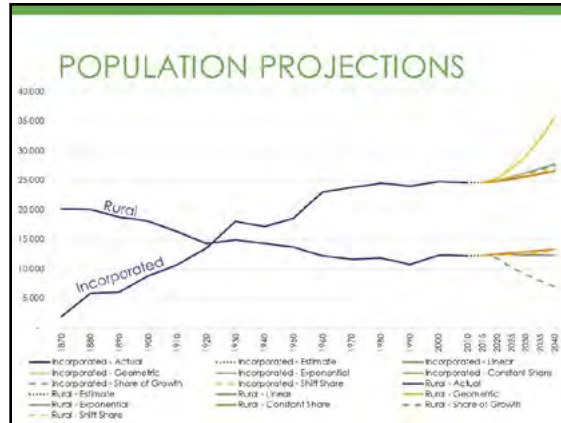
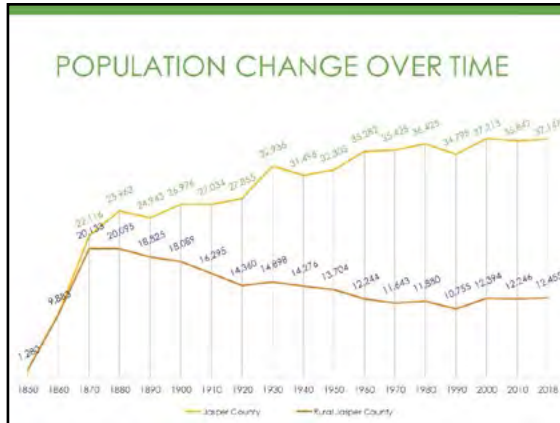




Meeting #3 - November 6, 2019

Presentation





VISION STATEMENT

The vision statement was developed by the Project Review Committee and based off of the public engagement feedback.

"Jasper County will balance prosperity and preservation and be a community where people can put down roots to grow towards a brighter future."

- ### PLAN OUTLINE
1. Introduction
 2. County Profile
 3. Land Use
 4. Transportation
 5. Housing
 6. Agriculture
 7. Conservation & Recreation
 8. Economy
 9. Public Health + Safety
 10. County Character
 11. Implementation Plan
- Chapters 3-10 will have Goals + Objectives that will be accompanied by actions in Chapter 11*



WHAT'S NEXT

- November - Complete Agricultural Section
- November - In-Depth Review
 - Planning Committee
 - County Department Heads
 - Cities
 - Focus Groups (business and agricultural)
- December - Public Review and Comment
- January - Open House
 - Updated with comments from In-Depth and Public Review
- February - Board of Supervisors Adoption
- March - City Councils – receive and file

SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY – IMPLEMENTATION PLAN REVIEW

- Break Into Three Groups**
- **Group 1**
 - Land Use, Conservation & Recreation, Transportation
 - **Group 2**
 - Economy, County Character
 - **Group 3**
 - Housing, Public Health & Safety
- Review Goal Statement(s)** – do you agree?
- Review Objectives** – do you agree?
- Review Actions** – These can change each year as the plan is re-evaluated.

3. LAND USE

- Goal:**
Responsible Growth – Preserve the bucolic atmosphere while promoting responsible growth.
- Objectives:**
1. Improve communication between the County and Cities regarding land use decisions.
 2. Promote the efficient layout and highest and best use of land.

4. TRANSPORTATION

- Goal:**
Network – Provide a safe and efficient transportation network for all users.
- Objectives:**
1. Ensure that the transportation network is safe and efficient.
 2. Promote development of a grid roadway network.
 3. Use the street design to establish a character for the county and villages.

4. TRANSPORTATION

- Goal:**
Mobility – Provide mobility options for all ages and abilities.
- Objectives:**
1. Develop non-motorized connectivity for transportation purposes.
 2. Support motorized travel without individual motorized vehicle ownership.

5. HOUSING

- Goal:**
Housing Variety – Provide a variety of attractive housing options for residents, accommodating all incomes and all stages of life.
- Objectives:**
1. Allow innovative and creative housing designs that accommodate the public's needs and preferences, while maintaining the county's character.
 2. Increase the availability of housing targeted toward households earning more than the County's median income.
 3. Ensure the housing stock is safe and attractive.
 4. Promote, incentivize, and facilitate housing development opportunities.

6. AGRICULTURE

- Goal:**
Preservation + Enhancement – Preserve prime agricultural land and provide opportunities for enhancing agricultural operations, services, and products.
- Objectives:**
1. Keep land in agricultural use in a sustainable way
 2. Encourage enhancement of agricultural operations, services, and products

7. CONSERVATION + RECREATION

- Goal:**
Conservation – Maintain and enhance natural resources and conservation land
- Objectives:**
1. Protect wetlands, prairies, stream corridors, and other wildlife habitat
 2. Foster community connection, access and awareness of natural resources through wildlife parks, trails, and programs

8. ECONOMY

- Goal:**
Economic Development – Attract, retain, and expand a variety of businesses
- Objectives:**
1. Create and attract an educated and skilled workforce
 2. Establish a business-friendly environment
 3. Use countywide marketing to promote tourism and local businesses
 4. Seek new businesses that will diversify and strengthen the local economy
 5. Encourage entrepreneurship and support of local businesses development

9. PUBLIC HEALTH + SAFETY

Goal:
Level of Service – Maintain a high level of service for public health and safety.

Objectives:

1. Ensure adequate and effective sheriff patrol and public outreach
2. Minimize injuries and loss of life and property due to impacts of natural hazards (JCMEPP)
3. Maintain a high level of communication with residents
4. Ensure that the health needs, both physical and mental, of all residents are being met

10. COUNTY CHARACTER

Goal:
Establish Character – Establish a county character that is family-friendly, evokes a rural feel, and celebrates the unique attributes of the county.

Objectives:

1. Support and expand special events and festivals showcasing locations throughout the county
2. Create a unique identity for the county and its towns and villages
3. Be an environmentally-conscious leader



Focus Groups

County Staff Focus Group - June 17, 2019

Attendance

- ☀ Nick Fratzke - Jasper County Community Development Director
- ☀ Becky Pryor - Jasper County Health Department
- ☀ Brandon Talsma - County Supervisor
- ☀ John Halferty - Jasper County Sheriff's Office
- ☀ Keri VanZante - Jasper County Conservation
- ☀ Kurt Jackson - Veterans Affairs
- ☀ Jeff Davidson - Hometown Pride, JEDCO
- ☀ Ryan Eaton - Jasper County IT



- ☀ Tracy DeJong - County Assessor
- ☀ Jamie Elam - Jasper County Community Development
- ☀ Doug Bishop - County Treasurer
- ☀ Denniss Parrott - County Auditor
- ☀ Helen Kaldenlerg - Jasper County Community Development

Presentation

The same presentation was used for Project Review Committee #1 and the County Staff Focus Group.

Results

Strengths

- ☀ Low cost of living / affordability
- ☀ Proximity to metro
- ☀ Access to jobs
- ☀ Community cohesion
- ☀ Resilient
- ☀ Parks, trails, and recreation
- ☀ Communication
- ☀ Education
- ☀ Safe and quiet

Weaknesses

- ☀ Transportation to Des Moines
- ☀ Failing infrastructure/road maintenance
- ☀ High property taxes
- ☀ Stagnant growth
- ☀ Communication with public
- ☀ Lack of jobs / low wages
- ☀ Workforce
- ☀ Budget constraints
- ☀ Housing diversity
- ☀ Farm consolidation
- ☀ Aging population
- ☀ Housing

Incorporated Areas Focus Group - August 27, 2019

Attendance

- ☀ Joe Bartello - City Administrator / Chief of Police, Prairie City
- ☀ Wade Wagoner - City Administrator, Colfax
- ☀ David Mast - Mayor, Colfax
- ☀ Matt Muckler - City Administrator, Newton
- ☀ Jeff Davidson - Jasper Hometown Pride
- ☀ Erin Chambers - Newton
- ☀ Brian Dunkelberger - Newton
- ☀ Brandon Talsma - County Supervisor

Presentation



WHAT IS A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN?

- A long-range plan (~20 years) for the future of Jasper County
- It presents goals and policy guidance for county activities
- It provides the basis for zoning and other regulations



Through public dialogue, citizens express a collective vision for the future.



GUIDING QUESTIONS

Where and who are we?

Collect

- Demographics
- Employment
- Economics
- Land Use
- Infrastructure
- Status of Plans
- Strengths/Challenges

Where do we want to go? Who do we want to be?

Engage & Envision

- Community Values
- Community Character
- Emerging Trends
- Imminent Changes
- Desired Future

How can we get there together?

Implement

- Goals
- Measurable Objectives
- Policies
- Infrastructure to support the Vision

Process

June

- Existing Plans
- Existing Conditions
- Base Mapping
- 8 - Rawson Road
- 17 - Staff Focus Group
- 17 - Meeting #1

July

- 4 - Subj Celebration
- 12 - Survey Opens
- 13 - Backe Farm Days
- 21 & 22 - County Fair
- 27 - Prairie Days
- 30 - Agricultural Fair/Session

August

- 3 - Monroe Old Settler Days
- Incorporated Areas Focus Group
- 30 - Survey Closes
- Board of Supervisors Update

September

- 10 - Meeting #2
- Business Focus Group
- Draft Goals and Objectives

October

- Implementation Plan
- Open House
- Meeting #3
- Board of Supervisors Update

November

- Draft Document
- Meeting #4

December

- Board of Supervisors Update

January

- Final Deliverables

February

- Board of Supervisors Adoption

SPECIFIC TOPICS IDENTIFIED

- Land Use and Growth Management
- Transportation
- Rural Housing and Unincorporated Villages
- Natural and Agricultural Environment
- Recreation, Parks, and Trails
- Economy
 - Farmland preservation
 - Farmland consolidation by corporations
 - Incentives for small scale and integrated options
 - Diversification of agricultural practices and products
 - Alternative to current farming practices within landowner/operator autonomy
 - Environmentally sustainable operations related to soil erosion and water quality

IOWA CODE – CITY ZONING 414.23

"The powers granted by this chapter may be extended by ordinance by any city to the unincorporated area up to two miles beyond the limits of such city, except for those areas within a county where a county zoning ordinance exists."

"A municipality, during the time its zoning jurisdiction is extended under this section, shall increase the size of its planning and zoning commission and its board of adjustment each by two members. The planning and zoning commission shall include a member of the board of supervisors of the affected county, or the board's designee, and a resident of the area outside the city limits over which the zoning jurisdiction is extended... The additional members of the board of adjustment shall be residents of the area outside the city limits over which the zoning jurisdiction is extended."

"Whenever a county in which this power is being exercised by a municipality adopts a county zoning ordinance, the power exercised by the municipality and the specific regulations and districts thereunder shall be terminated within three months of the establishment of the administrative authority for county zoning, or at such date as mutually agreed upon by the municipality and county."

IOWA CODE CITY ZONING 414.23 - IN A NUTSHELL

The city can zone 2 miles outside its boundary

- If the county doesn't have zoning there
- The city must add 2 more people to its P&Z and BOA
 - The P&Z must include the relevant county supervisor (or designee) and a resident of the area,
 - The BOA must include residents from the area.
- If the county decides to adopt zoning, then the city must stop their zoning review.
 - Within 3 months – or whenever the city and county agree to.

AND ... zoning must be designated in accordance with a comprehensive plan (Iowa Code 414.3)

THEREFORE...

Cities can create future land use designations outside their jurisdiction, but they have no power codified by the State.

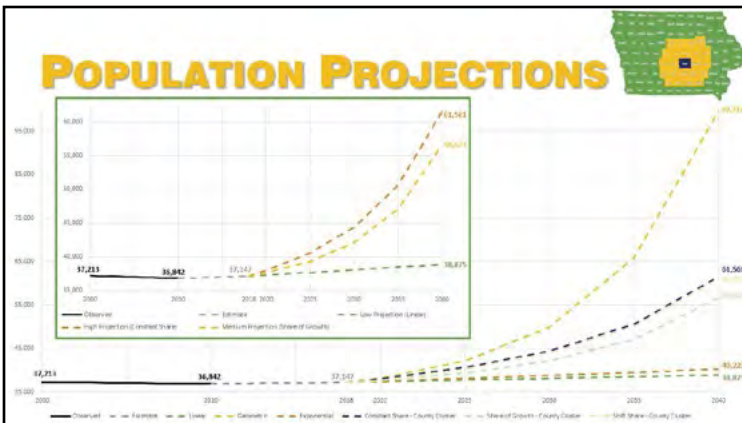
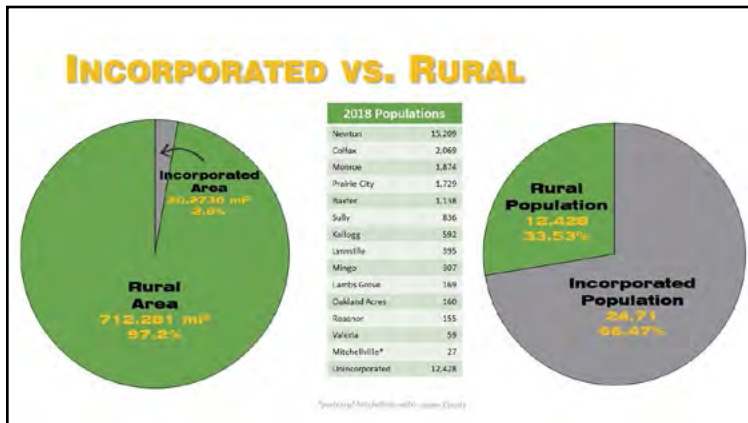
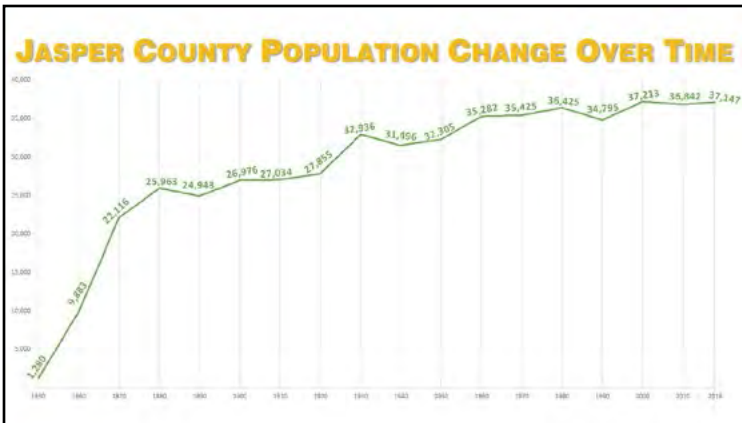
The county may create a policy, or the city and county may create an agreement, for the city to review developments for compliance with their local comprehensive plans.

Considerations:

1. Does the city want to grow?
2. Are there agricultural or natural features that should be protected?
3. Do you want to review development outside your boundary?



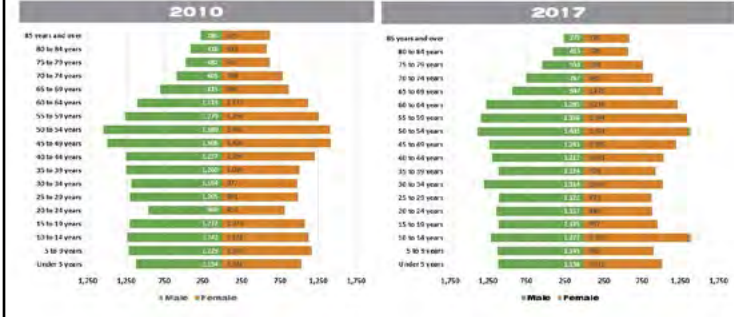
Census Data



POPULATION CHANGE – AGE GROUPS

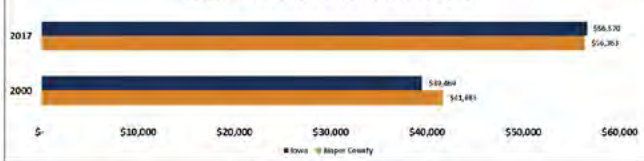
Age Bracket	2000	2010	2017 est	% change 2000-2017
Under 5 years	2,313	2,162	2,147	-7.2%
5 to 9 years	2,607	2,394	2,048	-21.4%
10 to 14 years	7,607	7,370	7,513	0.2%
15 to 19 years	7,442	7,285	7,082	-14.7%
20 to 24 years	1,961	1,788	2,040	4.0%
25 to 34 years	4,639	4,367	4,339	-6.5%
35 to 44 years	5,989	4,727	4,298	-28.2%
45 to 54 years	5,327	5,889	5,233	2.1%
55 to 59 years	1,880	2,535	2,700	43.6%
60 to 64 years	1,685	2,236	2,503	48.3%
65 to 74 years	3,046	3,076	3,534	16.3%
75 to 84 years	2,098	3,076	2,747	9.5%
85 years and over	803	915	855	6.3%

POPULATION PYRAMIDS

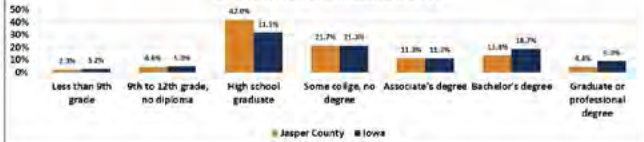


ECONOMIC

Median Household Income 2000-2017

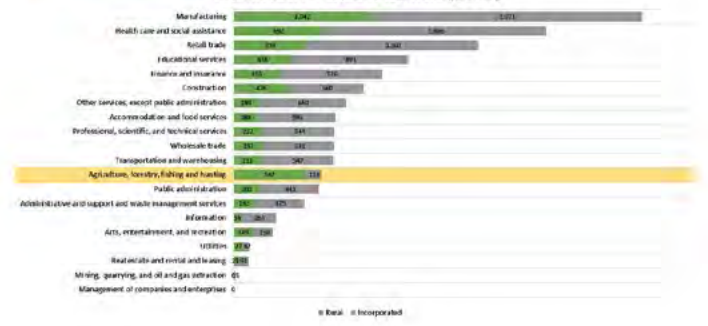


Educational Attainment 2017



ECONOMIC

Top Industries by employment (2017)



HOUSING

Home Value	Number of Units
Less than \$50,000	856
\$50,000 to \$99,999	3,106
\$100,000 to \$149,999	2,530
\$150,000 to \$199,999	1,942
\$200,000 to \$299,999	1,496
\$300,000 to \$499,999	522
\$500,000 to \$999,999	88
\$1,000,000 or more	76
Median	\$122,800

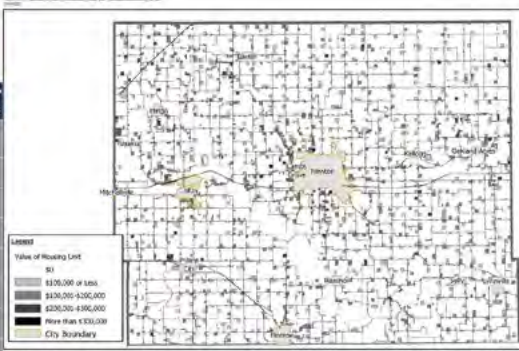


Exhibit 5 - Housing Value
SNYDER ASSOCIATES
Jasper County Comprehensive Plan | Jasper County, Iowa | 10/2019

JASPER COUNTY HOUSING ASSESSMENT - 2017

Goals

- Increase lot supply
- Increase rental units
- Expand diversity
- Share risks to meet needs that private market cannot satisfy alone
- Preserve existing housing
- Promote sites with existing infrastructure
- Match lot sizes and infrastructure maintenance

Housing Affordability Ranges: Jasper County

Income Range	Households % Base Income Change	Affordable Range for Owner Units	Number of Owner Units	Affordable Range of Rental Units	Number of Rental Units	Total Units	Total Balance
\$0-\$24,999	2,099	\$0-\$9,999	921	\$0-\$391	682	1,603	-292
\$25K-\$49,999	2,020	\$0-\$19,999	2,360	\$0-\$799	2,454	5,814	2,034
\$50K-\$74,999	2,018	\$10,000-\$19,999	2,321	\$0-\$1,299	418	2,739	722
\$75K-\$99,999	1,723	\$20,000-\$29,999	2,020	\$1,200-\$1,499	33	2,053	332
\$100K-\$149,999	3,560	\$30,000-\$39,999	1,343	\$1,500-\$1,999	76	1,419	-2,221
\$150,000+	1,187	\$300,000+	570	\$3,000+	38	608	-582

Jasper County Comprehensive Plan | Jasper County, Iowa | 10/2019
*This means a lot of residents are competing for rental units priced below \$300 a month or for housing priced over \$125,000.

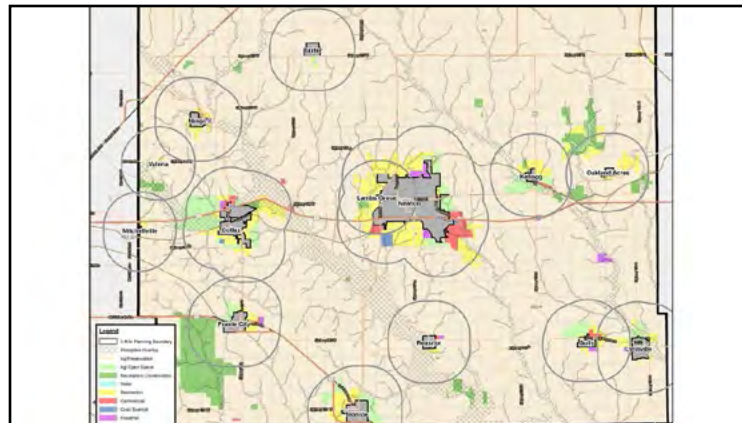
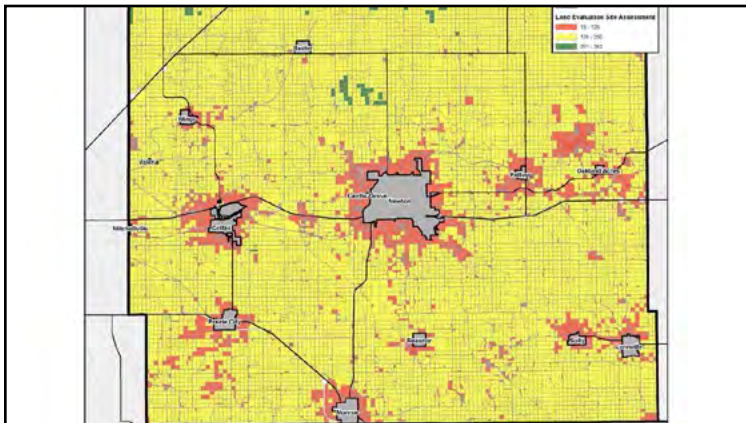


FUTURE LAND USE DESIGNATIONS

1. Aligns with Incorporated Area Future Land Use Plans
2. Land Evaluation Site Assessment Analysis (LESA)

Land Evaluation	Points	Weight Factor	LF Score
Average Site Value	100	max	100
Site Assessment:			
1. % of Acre in Ag within 1 mile of site	10	3	30
2. Land in Ag adjacent to site	10	3	30
3. Viability of Site for Agricultural Use	10	4	40
4. Distance to State Regulated Livestock Production Facility	10	3	30
5. Distance from Access to Paved Road	10	3	30
6. Distance to Urban Built Up Area	10	2	20
7. Distance to Municipal (Common) Water System	10	1	10
8. Distance to Municipal (Common) Sewer System	10	1	10
	Total		300

- Low Ag Value
Less than 125 points
- Average Ag Value
125 - 250 points
- High Ag Value
Greater than 250 points



MIND MAPPING EXERCISE

QUESTIONS

What are the County's biggest assets?

What are the County's biggest issues?

What do you want to keep the same?

What do you want to change?

TOPICS

Land Use/Growth Management

Transportation

Housing

Economics

Agriculture

Conservation

Recreation

Health/Well-being

City/County Relationships



Results

Strengths

- ☀ Proximity to metro/Interstate
- ☀ Rural feel
- ☀ Great schools
- ☀ Spacing of cities & connectivity
- ☀ Workforce – manufacturing
- ☀ Tourism – historic, racetrack, wildlife refuge

Weaknesses

- ☀ Floodplain management
- ☀ Fear of growth/loss of lifestyle
- ☀ Loss of employees to Des Moines
- ☀ Infrastructure maintenance (roads specifically)
- ☀ Quality housing at all levels

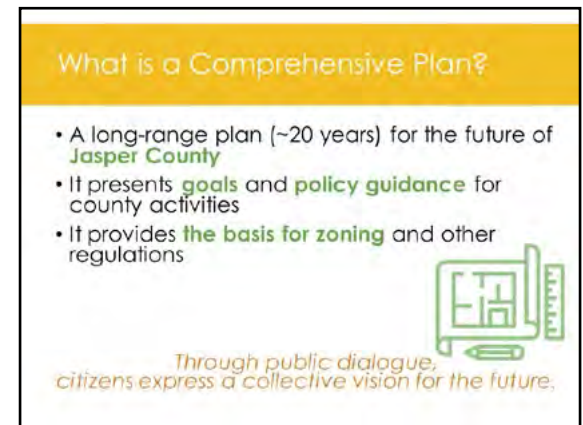
Business Focus Group - *September 30, 2019*

Attendance

- ☀ Wes Breckenridge - State Representative
- ☀ Chris Braunschweig - Newton Daily News
- ☀ Mitch Seiberling - Edward Jones

- ☀ John Halferty - Jasper County Sheriff's Office
- ☀ Brandon Talsma - County Supervisor
- ☀ Regina Frahm - Esther & Co, LLC
- ☀ Randy Frahm - Esther & Co, LLC
- ☀ Michelle Spohnheimer - Buzzed Bee Meadery
- ☀ Shirley Hanson - retired
- ☀ Larry Ladd - retired
- ☀ Doug Cupples - DC Sports + County Supervisor
- ☀ Jeff Davidson - Jasper County Hometown Pride / JEDCO
- ☀ Sue Ponder - Prairie City Public Library, Prairie City Hometown Pride
- ☀ Rick Roush - business owner
- ☀ Julia Prendergast - business owner
- ☀ Nick Fratzke - Jasper County Community Development

Presentation





Guiding Questions

Where and Who are We?

Collect

- Demographics
- Employment
- Economics
- Land Use
- Infrastructure
- Status of Plans
- Strengths
- Challenges

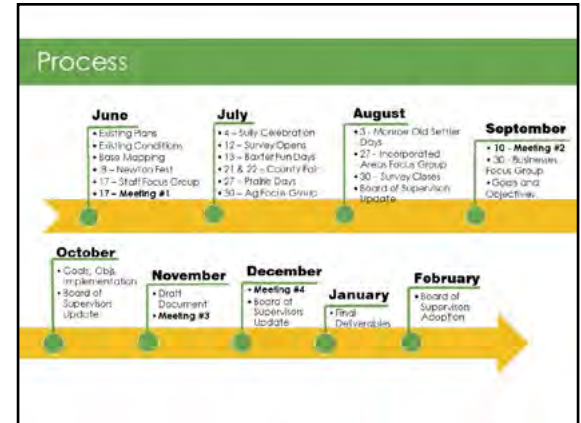
Engage & Envision

- Community Values
- Community Character
- Emerging Trends
- Imminent Changes
- Desired Future

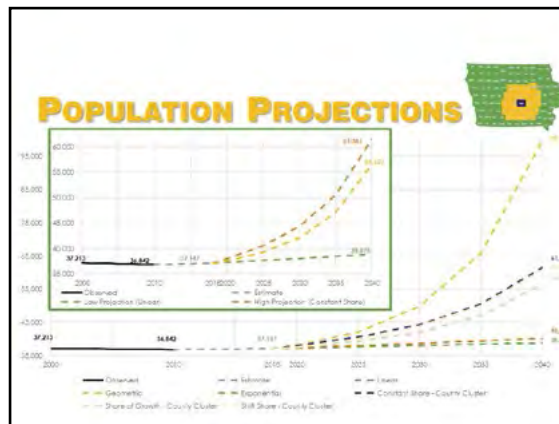
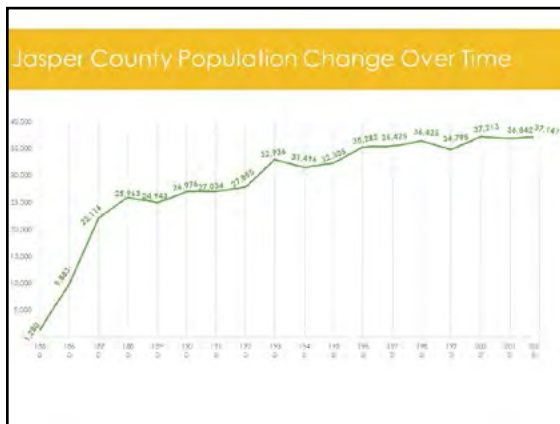
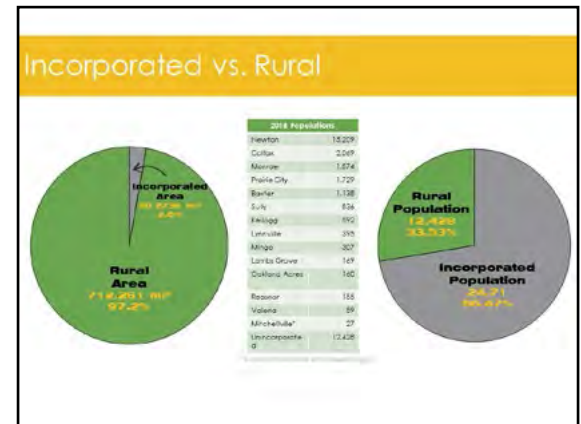
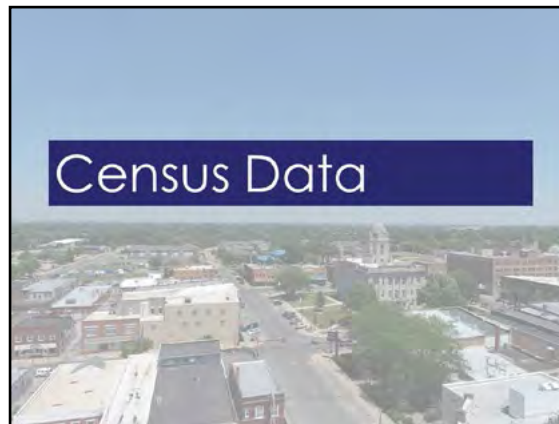
How can we get there together?

Implement

- Goals
- Measurable Objectives
- Actions
- Infrastructure to support the Vision

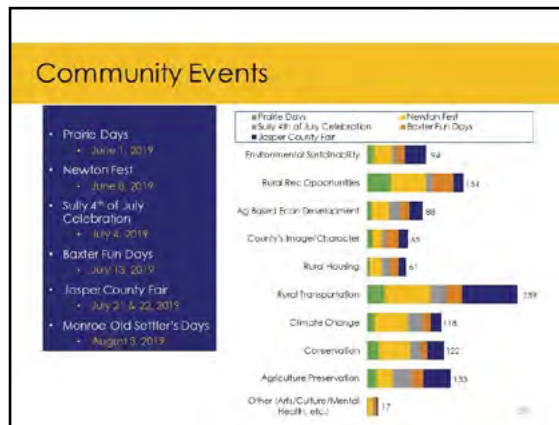
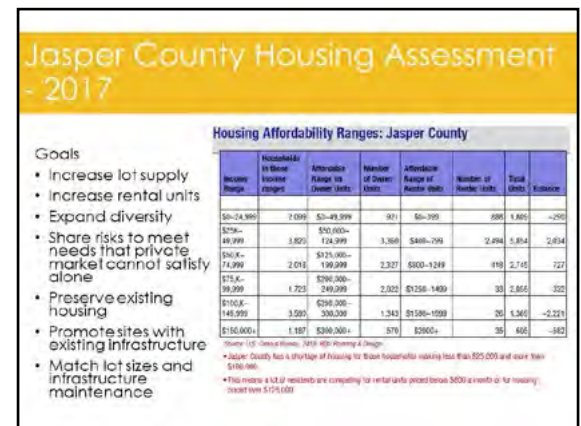
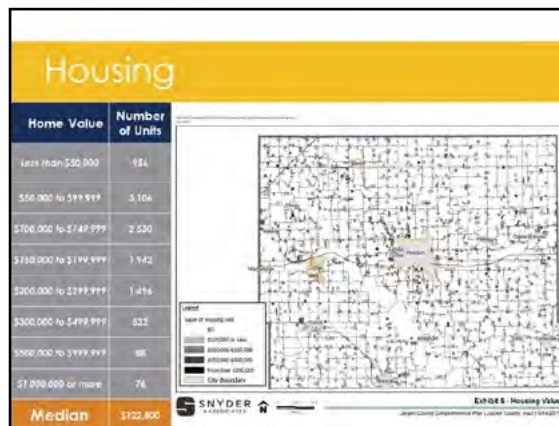
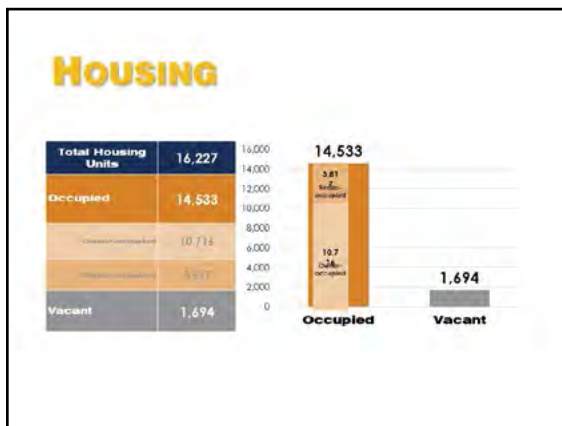
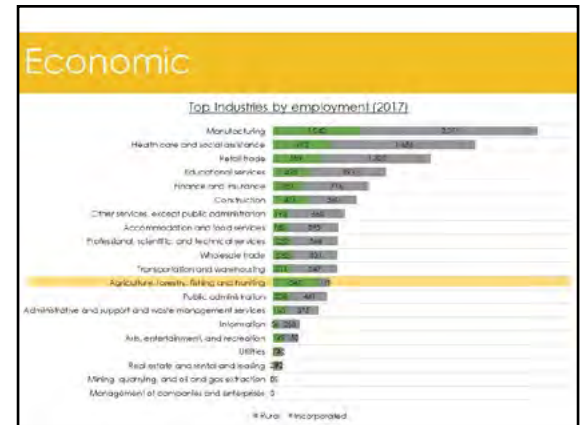
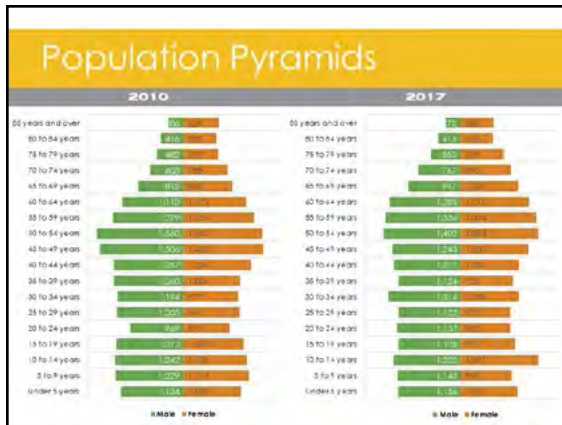


- ### Specific Topics Identified
- Land Use and Growth Management
 - Transportation
 - Rural Housing and Unincorporated Villages
 - Natural and Agricultural Environment
 - Recreation, Parks, and Trails
 - Economy
 - o Farmland preservation
 - o Farmland consolidation by corporations
 - o Incentives for small scale and integrated options
 - o Diversification of agricultural practices and products
 - o Alternatives to current farming practices with landowner/operator autonomy
 - o Environmentally sustainable operations related to soil erosion and water quality



Population Change - Age Groups

Age Bracket	2000	2010	2017 est	% change 2000-2017
Under 5 years	2,315	2,162	2,147	-7.2%
5 to 9 years	2,007	2,374	2,048	-31.4%
10 to 14 years	2,607	2,370	2,613	0.2%
15 to 19 years	2,442	2,285	2,082	-14.5%
20 to 24 years	1,961	1,708	2,040	4.0%
25 to 34 years	4,439	4,567	4,339	-5.3%
35 to 44 years	5,989	4,727	4,798	-18.2%
45 to 54 years	5,127	5,889	5,233	7.1%
55 to 59 years	1,880	2,333	2,700	43.6%
60 to 64 years	1,865	2,236	2,503	33.5%
65 to 74 years	3,046	3,076	3,634	19.3%
75 to 84 years	2,098	3,076	2,297	9.5%
85 years and over	801	915	855	6.3%



- ### Focus Groups
- County Staff Focus Group - June 17, 2019
 - Agricultural Focus Group #1 & #2 - July 30, 2019, September 10, 2019
 - Incorporated Areas Focus Group - August 27, 2019
 - Local Business Focus Group - September 30, 2019

Project Management Team #1

5 members + 2 staff

Strengths

- Location
- Land is a blank slate
- Accessible county officials/staff
- Diversity in terrain
- County parks and trails
- Agricultural base + tourism
- Interstate and highway access
- Tourism - Speedway, Museum, Ireland, Neal Smith Wildlife
- Jasper County Fair
- Small town feel
- Community connectedness
- Balance of rural/urban
- Privacy/autonomy

Weaknesses

- Lack of higher income jobs
- Lack of skilled labor
- Road maintenance
- Resistance to change
- Marketing of assets
- Need long-term commitment from elected officials
- Need community pride/property maintenance
- Need affordable housing
- Need more retail

County Staff Focus Group

19 participants

Strengths

- Low cost of living / affordability
- Proximity to metro
- Access to jobs
- Community cohesion
- Resilient
- Parks, trails, and recreation
- Communication
- Education
- Safe and quiet

Weaknesses

- Transportation to Des Moines
- Failing infrastructure/road maintenance
- High property taxes
- Stagnant growth
- Communication with public
- Lack of jobs / low wages
- Workforce
- Budget constraints
- Housing diversity
- Farm consolidation
- Aging population
- Housing

Incorporated Areas Focus Group

7 city representatives (Newton, Prairie City, Colfax, Hometown Pride)

- Cities plan to grow
- Want to foster business growth

Strengths

- Proximity to metro/interstate
- Rural feel
- Great schools
- Spacing of cities & connectivity
- Workforce - manufacturing
- Tourism - historic race track, wildlife refuge

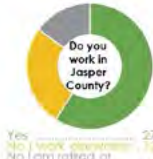
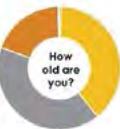
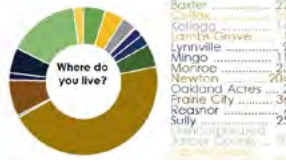
Weaknesses

- Floodplain management
- Fear of growth/loss of lifestyle
- Loss of employees to Des Moines
- Infrastructure maintenance (roads specifically)
- Quality housing at all levels

MetroQuest Survey Results

Participants

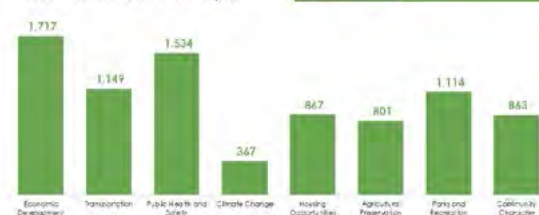
- 600 participants
- Open July 12 to August 30
- Distributed via
 - Emails to committee members
 - Shared on Facebook
 - Flyers



MetroQuest Survey Results

What's Most Important?

The graph below shows the weighted responses. We took the average ranking of the issue (in this scenario, 5 being highest ranking, 1 being lowest) multiplied by the number of times the issue was included in the top 5.



MetroQuest Survey Results

Funding Balance

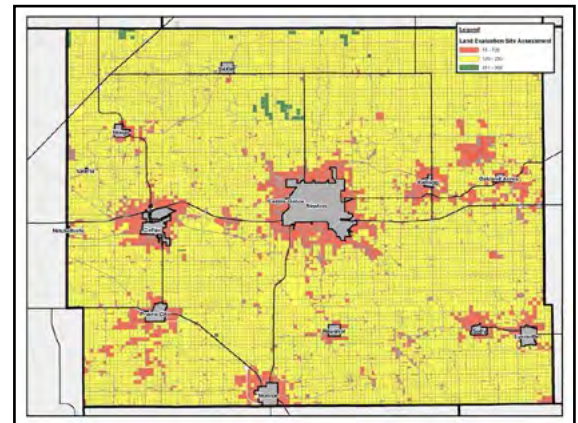


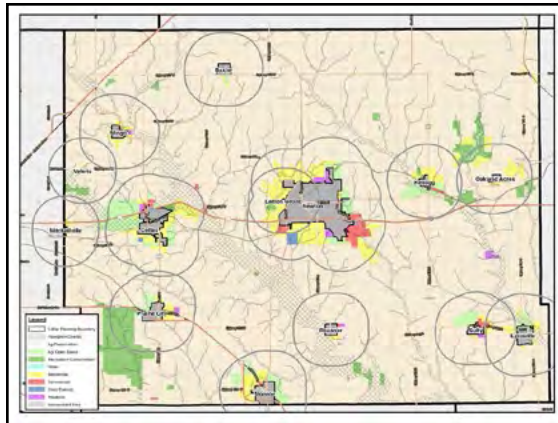
Future Land Use Designations

1. Aligns with incorporated Area Future Land Use Plans
2. Land Evaluation Site Assessment Analysis (LESA)

Land Evaluation	Points	Weight Factor	LS Score	
Average Site Value	100	max	1	100
Site Assessment				
% of Area in Ag Within 1 mile of site	10	3	30	
Land in Ag adjacent to site	10	3	30	
Viability of Site for Agricultural Use	10	4	40	
Distance to State Regulated Livestock Production Facility	10	3	30	
Distance from Access to Paved Road	10	3	30	
Distance to Urban Built-Up Area	10	2	20	
Distance to Municipal (Common) Water System	10	1	10	
Distance to Municipal (Common) Sewer System	10	1	10	
Total			300	

- Low Ag Value: Less than 125 points
- Average Ag Value: 125 - 250 points
- High Ag Value: Greater than 250 points





Draft Vision Statements

Jasper County will balance prosperity and preservation, and be a community where people can put down roots to grow towards a brighter future.

Jasper County will be a place that sustains systems of community education and well-being, safety, housing, retail, recreation, arts and culture, and infrastructure, in which development complements our natural resources, agronomy and environment.



Business Resources

<p>Local</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jasper County Economic Development • Young Professionals of Jasper County 	<p>Statewide</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iowa Economic Development Authority • Iowa Workforce Development • Iowa Sourcelink • Future Ready Iowa <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employer Innovation Fund • Earn and Learn
--	---



Results

Business Development + Resources

1. In the county-wide survey, Economic Development was chosen at the most important thing for the County to focus its attention. Why do you think that is?
 - ☀ It's needed. Business growth is essential. It is the reason people leave small towns.
2. What business resources have you used in the past?
 - ☀ Small business admin

- ☀ SBDC (Small Business Development Corporation)
 - ☀ Easy access to small loans
 - ☀ Chamber (Newton) and their affiliation with the Greater DSM Partnership
3. What business resources are you aware of, but haven't used?
- ☀ (Blank)
4. What additional business resources are needed?
- ☀ Small business start-up loans.
 - ☀ County workshops for small business needs (taxes, marketing, legal aid, etc.)
5. What are the current business attraction and retention efforts in the county? Can any of the existing entities be expanded to provide that service?
- ☀ None that we are aware of
6. How can the county support an innovation culture that leads to entrepreneurship and business growth?
- ☀ Support free resources like libraries.
 - ☀ Offering workshops or supporting those entities that do.
 - ☀ Networking opportunities through volunteering
 - ☀ Offer any county-level business collaboration opportunities
 - ☀ JEDCO – support existing businesses
 - ☀ JEDCO – should have the resources to do that
7. What type of incentives would assist with attracting investment?
- ☀ People/customers to be able to sustain businesses
 - ☀ Tax abatements or grants

- ☀ Elimination of hurdles to bringing businesses here.

8. What do we need to prepare for in the future? What trends are likely to impact the economy in the next 10-20 years?

- ☀ Grow the educational opportunities for job placement

- ☀ Education – business partnerships

- ☀ Focus not only on large businesses but also your entrepreneurs

- ☀ Telecommuting is growing

- ☀ Fiber

Business Development & Workforce

9. Where are the current jobs (industry & geography)? What are the typical wages?

- ☀ Manufacturing – TPI, Trinity, Gates, Cline Tool, Thomberts

- ☀ Healthcare facilities

- ☀ County workers

- ☀ Retailers (Walmart, Hy-Vee)

- ☀ Farming/Ag-Rel.

10. How can we attract talent to the county?

- ☀ Improve Quality of Life

- ☀ Amenities

- ☀ Curb appeal

- ☀ Parks & recreation

- ☀ Safety (crime is an issue)

☀ Schools

11. How do we build an employer-ready workforce?

☀ (Blank)

12. How should we manage existing talent and workforce skills?

☀ (Blank)

13. What do we need to prepare for in the future? How can we help our workforce be "future ready"?

☀ College/trades – how do we get youth interested in skilled trades?

☀ Guide youth

☀ Mentorship program

Quality of life issues:

☀ Offer hip social areas

☀ Good examples - Monroe/Prairie City/Baxter

☀ Colfax – housing issues

☀ East end development issues

Business Development & Infrastructure

1. Where are the most desired locations for additional economic development (new development or revitalization)?
2. What physical infrastructure is needed and where (e.g. roads, water, sewer, fiber, etc.)?
3. Have local zoning regulations or review and approval process ever presented an unreasonable barrier to business development? How could the process have been improved to be more reasonable?
4. Has the lack of regulations or review processes ever allowed for the development of a nuisance property or use (e.g. pollution, noise, aesthetics, traffic, etc.)?

5. How could the process be improved to ensure that this doesn't happen again?
6. What other local issues do businesses take into consideration when making decisions to start or expand their business (e.g. housing, quality of life, schools, entertainment, etc.)?

Discussion:

- ☀ Workforce availability (training at DMACC?)
- ☀ Cooperation with incorporated areas
 - ☀ Sewer, water, etc.
 - ☀ Fringe area agreements
- ☀ Communication between cities and county
- ☀ At an advantage with rural water available
- ☀ Attract small business in rural county
 - ☀ Internet is key (rural broadband)
 - ☀ Empower Rural Iowa
- ☀ Incentives to attract small businesses
 - ☀ Younger generation
- ☀ Investment from public sector to encourage expansion from private sector
- ☀ Grow existing small businesses
- ☀ Proximity to major arteries that lead to metro as an advantage
- ☀ County marketing strategy (lack thereof)

Large Group Discussion

County Regulations

- ☀ Road paving requirements – when should a new development be responsible for paving the accessing the development? Rules need to be consistent and reasonable.
- ☀ Home-based businesses
 - ☀ Concern about business promotion/signage
 - ☀ Hobbyist movement
- ☀ Impacts of confinement operations on other businesses
 - ☀ State regulation of agriculture
 - ☀ Self-contained
 - ☀ Landscape buffering

Other Topics

- ☀ Future farming grant (young farmers)
- ☀ Co-working space for small business/start-ups
- ☀ Business development network – consisting of classes, mentoring, etc.
- ☀ Local Resources: Jasper County Economic Development; Young Professionals of Jasper County
- ☀ State resources: Iowa Economic Development Authority, Iowa Workforce Development, Iowa Sourcelink, Future Ready Iowa (Employer Innovation Fund, " Earn and Learn
 - ☀ How do make these locally known and accessible??
- ☀ Trail development can lead to economic development along trail system
- ☀ Success of Hometown Pride can be a model for other successes – brings people together to have discussions and creates a network of support

Photos



Agricultural Focus Groups

Forum #1 - July 30, 2019

Attendance

- ☀ Jamison Vos
- ☀ Larry Jones
- ☀ Arlyn Van Zante
- ☀ Shirley Hanson
- ☀ Bev Clark Floss
- ☀ Thad Nearmyer



- ☀ Roger + Pam Zaabel
- ☀ Rich Roorda
- ☀ Greg Padget
- ☀ Sherry Ford

Agenda

7pm

- ☀ Introduction: Snyder & Associates (5 minutes)
- ☀ Introduction: Solutions in the Land (5 minutes)
- ☀ Goals & outcomes of the forum and explanation of the meeting format (5 minutes)

7:15pm

- ☀ Participants self-select their own groups and select a spokesperson to present their findings
- ☀ Discussion and writing (15 minutes) **Opportunity to rotate groups**
- ☀ Discussion and writing (15 minutes)

7:50pm

- ☀ Groups share their findings (5 minutes each)

8:15pm

- ☀ Questions and comments
- ☀ Opportunity to fill out comment cards

Group Topics

1. Farmland in Jasper County (Solutions in the Land facilitating)

- ☀ Farmland preservation
- ☀ Development pressure
- ☀ Consolidation

2. Future of Agriculture (Solutions in the Land facilitating)

- ☀ Integrated operations
- ☀ Innovation
- ☀ Diversification

3. Opportunities in Agriculture (Snyder & Associates facilitating)

- ☀ Beginning farmers
- ☀ Small scale farming

4. Natural Resources (Solutions in the Land facilitating)

- ☀ Soil quality
- ☀ Water quality

5. Agricultural relationships in the community (Snyder & Associates facilitating)

- ☀ Landowner & operator
- ☀ Business community
- ☀ Connecting farming and non-farming communities




Presentation



WHAT IS A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN?

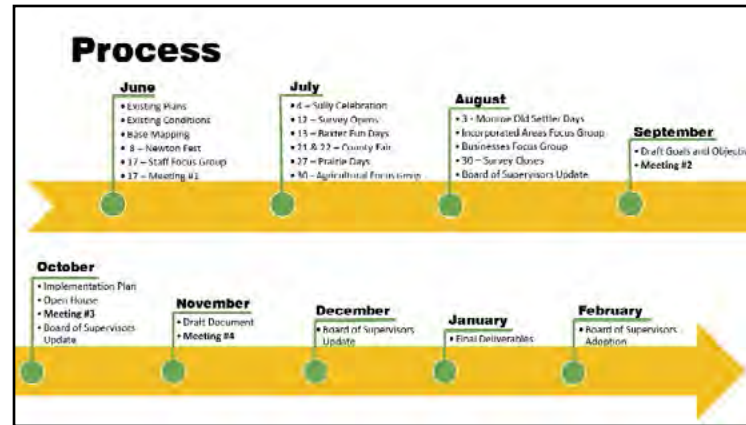
- A long-range plan (~20 years) for the future of **Jasper County**
- It presents **goals** and **policy guidance** for county activities
- It provides **the basis for zoning** and other regulations

Through public dialogue, citizens express a collective vision for the future.




SPECIFIC TOPICS IDENTIFIED

- Land Use and Growth Management
- Transportation
- Rural Housing and Unincorporated Villages
- Natural and Agricultural Environment
- Recreation, Parks, and Trails
- Economy
 - Farmland preservation
 - Farmland consolidation by corporations
 - Incentives for small scale and integrated options
 - Diversification of agricultural practices and products
 - Alternative to current farming practices within landowner/operator autonomy
 - Environmentally sustainable operations related to soil erosion and water quality



Results

Farmland Consolidation + Preservation

1. Questions

- ☀ What development pressures exist in Jasper County
- ☀ What current agricultural business development is taking place
- ☀ What are the agricultural needs of Jasper County



- ☀ What are the agricultural resources of the county
- ☀ What are the county level programs that encourage small scale and new farmers

2. Areas of concern

- ☀ Barriers for beginning farmers
- ☀ Narrative for preserving farmers autonomy
- ☀ Protecting farms; specific farms threatened by village development
- ☀ Narrative of succession planning resources available in the county

3. Strategies Proposed

- ☀ Land use planning
 - ☀ No one size fits all plans, more targeted approach
 - ☀ Economic development zones
 - ☀ Targeting specific areas for development outside of prime agricultural land
 - ☀ Agricultural Business zones/Farmland Preservation
 - ☀ Farmland and farms are protected
 - ☀ Regulations at the county level to protect farmers autonomy
 - ☀ Transition zones
 - ☀ Areas of agriculture that can be slowly transitioned to development over 15-20 years.
- ☀ Communication about county, state and national programs for beginning farmers
- ☀ More access to closer markets, specifically grain.

Young + Beginning Farmers

1. Questions

- ☀ How to start a farm from scratch
- ☀ What resources are currently available to beginning farmers
- ☀ What education is being done about available markets
- ☀ Watershed associations in Jasper County
- ☀ Is technology currently accessible to beginning farmers

2. Areas of concern

- ☀ Many people want to farm but there isn't a clear direction on how to start
- ☀ Financially how to young people make it
- ☀ Loan payback
- ☀ Protection needed to stop land consolidation
- ☀ Protection needed to limit land bought as investment
- ☀ What support exists to participate in specialty markets
- ☀ Networks needed for farmers to support each other
 - ☀ Education
 - ☀ Communication
- ☀ Affordable technology
- ☀ Cultural stigma

3. Strategies Proposed

- ☀ Larger farms split into smaller parcels
- ☀ Relocating farms to the county, making the county attractive to beginning farmers
- ☀ Identify strategies that can be used to reach potential new markets



- ☀ Farmers markets
- ☀ Small grains
- ☀ CSAs
- ☀ Direct to consumer meat
- ☀ Shared equipment sets
- ☀ Shared infrastructure
- ☀ County regulations to support markets
- ☀ County level incentives to bring back farmers

Future of Agriculture: Innovation

1. Questions

- ☀ What marketing assistance is currently available
- ☀ Involvement from the extension
- ☀ How do we add value while reducing cost

2. Areas of concern

- ☀ Collective awareness of county level issues with markets
- ☀ High costs of inputs

3. Strategies Proposed

- ☀ Farm to Table
- ☀ Branding the agricultural region

Natural Resources

1. Questions

- ☀ Is a voluntary adoption plan needed for water quality
- ☀ Myths that exist in the county regarding conservation programs
- ☀ What programs are currently available and the most popular

2. Areas of concern

- ☀ Water quality is controversial, how to target this with the community
- ☀ Ag needs more of a voice in water quality conversations
- ☀ County conservation board is focused on parks not agriculture
- ☀ Cover crops are still underutilized
- ☀ Conservation and agriculture are sometimes at odds
- ☀ Landowners aren't always on board for BMP
- ☀ Losing farmer autonomy, voluntary versus mandatory
- ☀ Farmland development, once it's gone it's gone
- ☀ Wildlife protection

3. Strategies Proposed

- ☀ Non-confrontational conversations for water quality concerns
- ☀ Local producers, county and state need to work together

4. Ag centered programming

- ☀ Field days
- ☀ Educational programs
- ☀ Targeting specific watershed: South Skunk River
- ☀ Acknowledge good land and water management



- ☀ County level incentives
- ☀ Tax abatement

Agricultural Relationships

1. Questions

- ☀ How do we attract a younger population
- ☀ Can social media be used for communication

2. Areas of concern

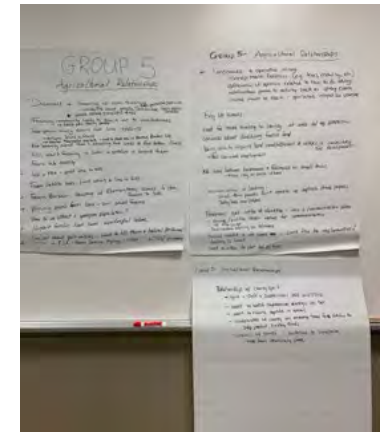
- ☀ Disconnect between farming and non-farming communities
- ☀ Food grown locally isn't feeding the community
- ☀ Lack of food knowledge
- ☀ Kids aren't farming
- ☀ Farms are lacking diversity
- ☀ Farm liability laws
- ☀ Healthy ecosystem concerns
- ☀ Management tensions
- ☀ Land is needed adjacent to villages for development
- ☀ Communication
 - ☀ Lack of community papers
 - ☀ Businesses for the farming community to meet at closing, especially in Monroe

3. Strategies Proposed

- ☀ Encouraging small scale farming

- ☀ Migrant families
- ☀ Among Americans
- ☀ Accessing places where farmers are already meeting
- ☀ Elevator
- ☀ Diners/coffee shop

Photos



Forum #2 - September 10, 2019

Attendance

- ☀ Arlyn Van Zante
- ☀ Shirley Hanson
- ☀ Bev Clark
- ☀ Thad Nearmyer
- ☀ Rich Roorda
- ☀ Sherry Ford
- ☀ Roger Zylstra
- ☀ Patrick Gannon

Presentation

Recap of July 30th Ag. Forum

- Determined key areas of planning
- Determined goals to support agriculture in Jasper County.
 - Land-use planning for changing environment/climate
 - Farmland protection
 - County level organization for farmers and farmland
 - County level incentives
 - Reliable information for business decisions
 - Marketing assistance
 - Economic opportunities
 - Market availability
 - Accessibility to resources for farmers
 - Farming that is economically sustainable
 - Effective messaging to non-farming community
 - Strong farming community ties
 - Conservation & agriculture working together
 - Demographic changes to the farming community
 - Timely information

Planning Process

The Agricultural Comprehensive Plan will highlight the issues facing agriculture in Jasper County and recommend a course of action for each of the topic areas.

- **Farmland preservation**
- **Communication**
- **Natural resources**
- **Marketing assistance & support**
- **Adverse climate conditions**

Planning Components

"Preserving Jasper County's agricultural community & resources"



Farmland Preservation

Supporting on-going active agriculture in the county

Goals

- Minimize nonagricultural development on "prime" agriculture land
- Planning for contiguous farmland
- Support for beginning & young farmers

Planning

- Farming Preservation Board
 - Make up of the board
 - Active farmer representatives
 - Community representatives
 - Active member of city/township governing body
 - Commercial industrial/residential building contractor
- Purpose of developing a preservation board
 - Ability to reach goals and objectives for land preservation
 - Address concerns within the farming and non-farming community on land-use, planning and preservation
 - Provide opportunists for young & beginning farmers entering the county

Community Questions/Comments

Communication

Relationships & information sharing

Goals

- Demonstrate Jasper County's commitment to its agricultural community through messaging and branding campaign
- Increase visibility of agriculture on county website
- Expand local leadership to identify & establish resources for farmers
- Provide educational events for Jasper County farmers

Planning

- *Connect to the County*
 - Farming Fact Sheet: Technical & financial assistance fact sheet
- Determine the focus for Jasper County branding
- Access to professionals for technical assistance

Community Questions/Comments

Natural Resources

Soil, water & wildlife

Environmental considerations in the county

- Erosion specifically: sheet, rill, ephemeral and gully
- Organic matter depletion
- Nutrients and sediments in surface waters
- Pathogens & chemicals in surface water
- Lowered plant productivity & health

Goals

- Collaborate with organizations, agencies and regional groups on restoration and conservation
- Educate the public on how farming conservation practices improve business economics and quality of life
- Develop model to address land use and areas of environmental concern
- Make conservation visible in the county



Planning

- Agricultural centered programming: "Connect the County"
 - Field days
 - Educational programs for farming & non-farming community
 - Water quality, wildlife protection, economic benefits of conservation
- Watershed level programming
- Farmer led conservation compliance programs
 - Voluntary programs
 - Farmstead, cropping, livestock, forest, wetland & habitat systems

Community Questions/Comments

Market Opportunities & Support

Building resilient farms

Goal

- Support market development
- Resilient farmland in the county
 - Economic
 - Environmental

Planning

- Utilize Farming Preservation Board
 - Identify appropriate diversification, specific markets and infrastructure needs
- "Meet the Buyer" events

Community Questions/Comments

Adverse Climate Conditions

Threats to agriculture due to climate breakdown

Goals

- Discourage incompatible use of land while encouraging conservation of productive agricultural lands
- Retain & encourage open space
 - Define open space
- Advance understanding of:
 - Risk reduction strategies
 - Mitigation strategies
 - Resiliency building

Planning

- Farmer led conservation compliance program
- New and existing crop strategy planning
 - Mixed varieties and maturities

Community Questions/Comments

Next Steps

- Upcoming draft plan review of fall
- For further comment
 - Stacy Cushenbery: cushenbery@solutionsintheland.com
 - Hope Hellmann: hellmann@solutionsintheland.com
- Thank you Jasper County

Photos



Forum #3 - November 6, 2019

Attendance

- ☀ Thad Nearmyer
- ☀ Arlyn Van Zante
- ☀ Richard Roorda
- ☀ Bev Clark Floss

- ☀ Randy Frahm
- ☀ Regina Frahm
- ☀ Shirley Hanson
- ☀ Greg Padget

Presentation



Forum 3: Implementation
November 6th, 2019



20506 Beaverton Rd.
Peplor Grove, IL 61065
info@solutionsintheland.com
solutionsintheland.com

Welcome

- Introductions
- Purpose of a county comprehensive plan

Format of our plan

- Introduction
- Larger context
- Topics of concern: Forum 1
- Opportunities & challenges: Forum 2
- Implementation: Forum 3

The plan focuses on building resiliency for agriculture in the county through:

- Risk reduction & mitigation strategies
- Smart land-use planning
- Availability to education and expertise
- Expanding local leadership to promote Jasper County agriculture




Implementation Process

Implementation includes

- Specific strategy description
- Objectives
- Options for partnerships
- Potential action items & time-line


Highlighting collaborate with:

- Organizations
- Federal and state programs
- Regional groups
- Member of the non-farming community



Farming Preservation Board

- **Objectives**
 - Build relationships between the farming & non-farming community
 - Demonstrate Jasper County's commitment to agriculture
 - Facilitate land use planning discussions to further the preservation of farmland in the county
 - Expand local leadership
 - Support for young & beginning farmers
- **Partnerships**
- **Action Items**
 - Formation of voluntary board
 - Comprised of farming, non-farming & business community
 - Develop mission statement
 - Launch messaging and branding campaign for Jasper County agriculture



Farmer-led Programs

- **Objectives**
 - Collaborating with regional organizations/agencies on conservation
 - Develop farmer-led model to address areas of environmental concern
 - Making conservation visible in the county
- **Partnerships**
- **Action Items**
 - Voluntary programs
 - Farmer led watershed council
 - South Skunk River Water Quality Initiative
 - Farmer led conservation compliance program
 - Farmstead, cropping, livestock, forest, wetland & habitat systems
 - Crop strategy planning
 - Mixed varieties and maturities



Education: Connect the County

- **Objectives**
 - Increase visibility of agricultural activities
 - Promote access to technical assistance events
 - Support events that demonstrate Jasper County agriculture
- **Partnerships**
- **Action Items**
 - Petition for field days, workshops and forums to be located in Jasper County
 - Meet the buyers events
 - Increase county website events page
 - County website www.co.jasper.ia.us
 - Educational materials

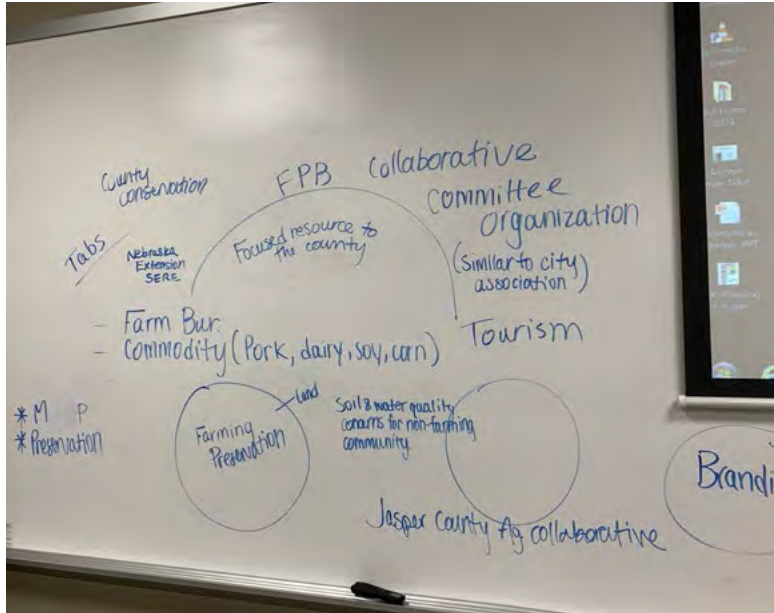


Next Steps

- Upcoming draft plan will be submitted to Synder & Associates November 2019
- For further comment
 - Stacy Cushenbery: cushenbery@solutionsintheland.com
 - Hope Hellmann: hellmann@solutionsintheland.com
 - Ron Doetch: doetch@solutionsintheland.com
- Thank you Jasper County



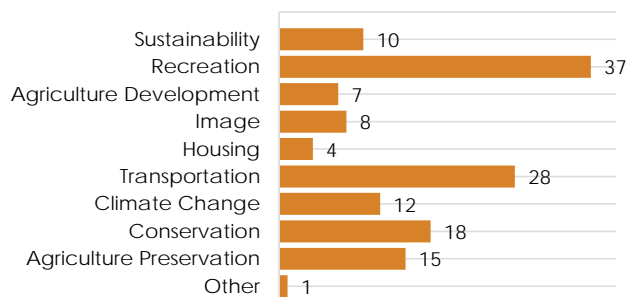
Photos



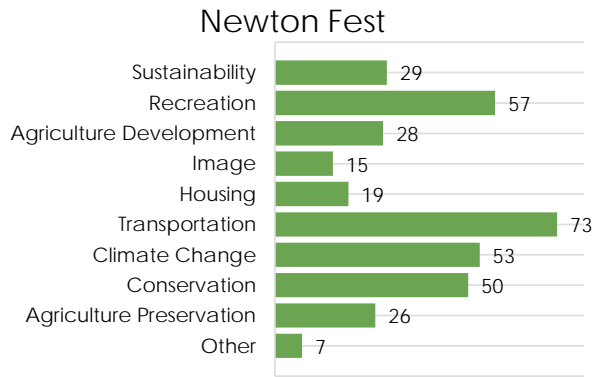
Community Events

Prairie Days - June 1, 2019

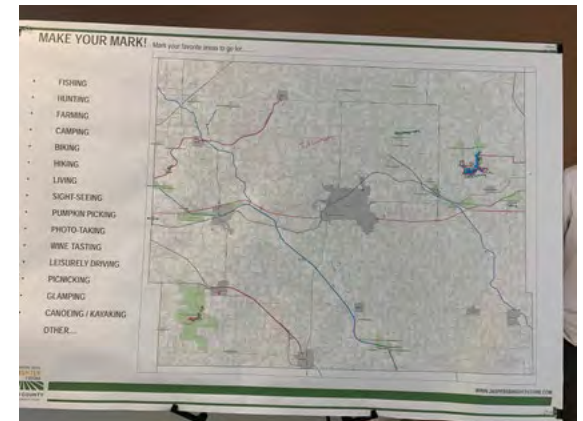
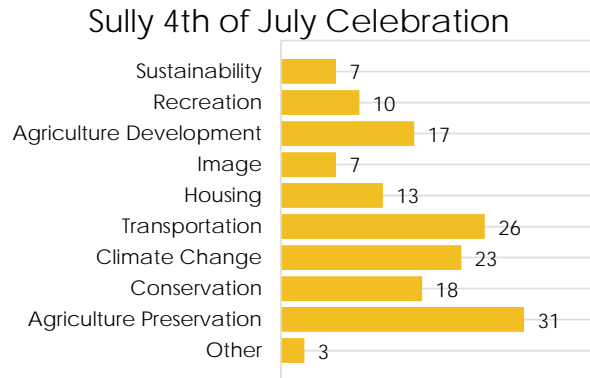
Prairie Days



Newton Fest - June 8, 2019

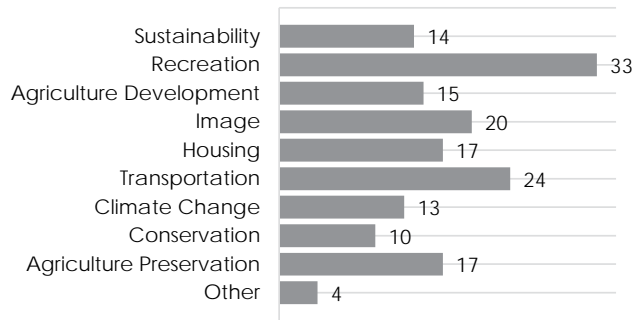


Sully 4th of July Celebration - July 4, 2019

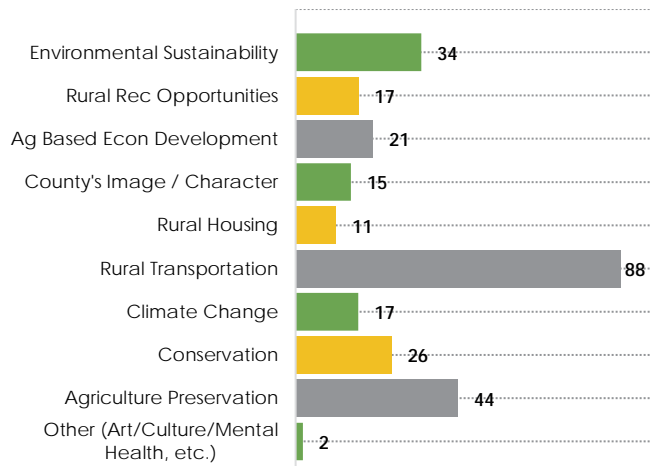


Baxter Fun Days - July 13, 2019

Baxter Fun Days



Jasper County Fair - August 3, 2019



Online Survey

MetroQuest Survey open July 12 to August 30.

Distributed via:

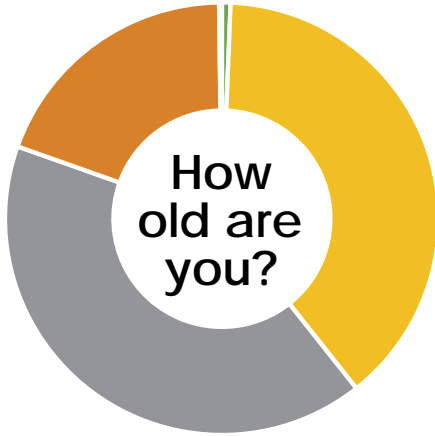
- www.jaspersbrightfuture.com
- Facebook
- Flyers
- Email

Total of 600 participants.

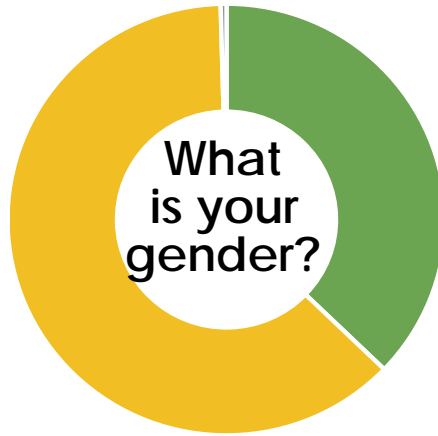
Participants

In order to fully understand and appreciate the significance of the results of this survey, it is first important to gain an understanding of the participants who completed the survey. The following demographics were collected as part of the survey:





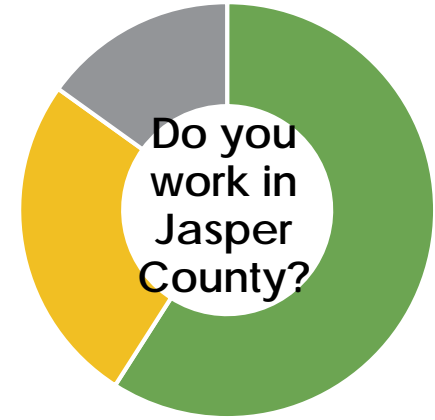
under 20	3
21 to 40	182
41 to 60	193
61 to 80	91
over 80	1



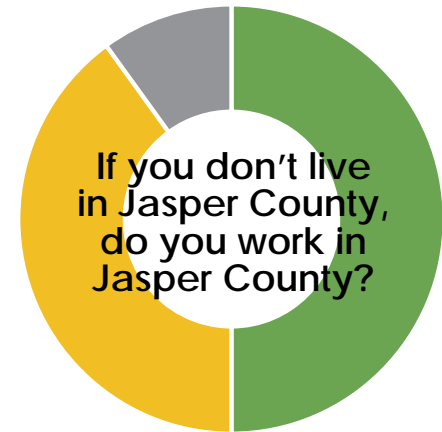
Male	173
Female	290
Other	2



Baxter	22
Colfax	19
Kellogg	14
Lambs Grove	1
Lynnvile	9
Mingo	11
Monroe	23
Newton	204
Oakland Acres	2
Prairie City	36
Reasnor	7
Sully	25
Unincorporated Jasper County	70
I do not live in Jasper County	10



Yes	274
I work elsewhere	120
I am retired or unemployed	70



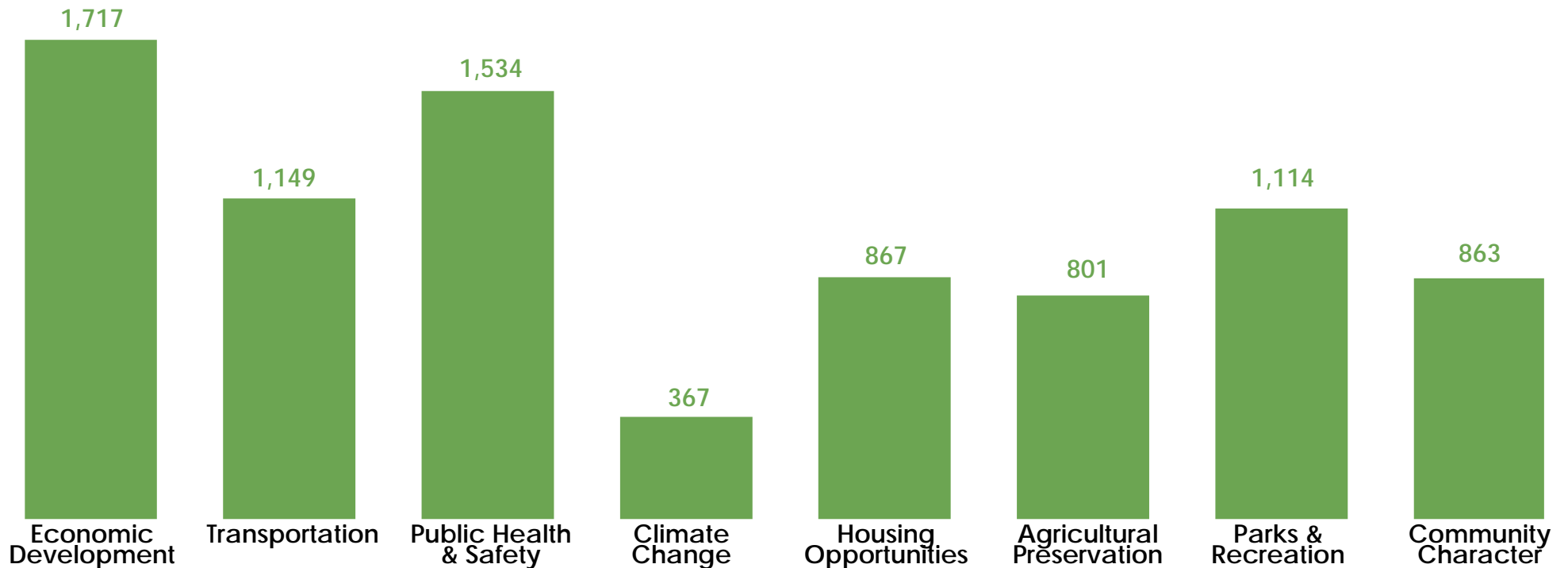
Yes	5
I work elsewhere	4
I am retired or unemployed	1

Because we want to make sure that the participants of this survey are true stakeholders of the community, we analyzed the results of the questions relating to living and working in Jasper County to determine if the people who do not live in the county work in the county. The results of that analysis are shown in the above graph.

What's Most Important?

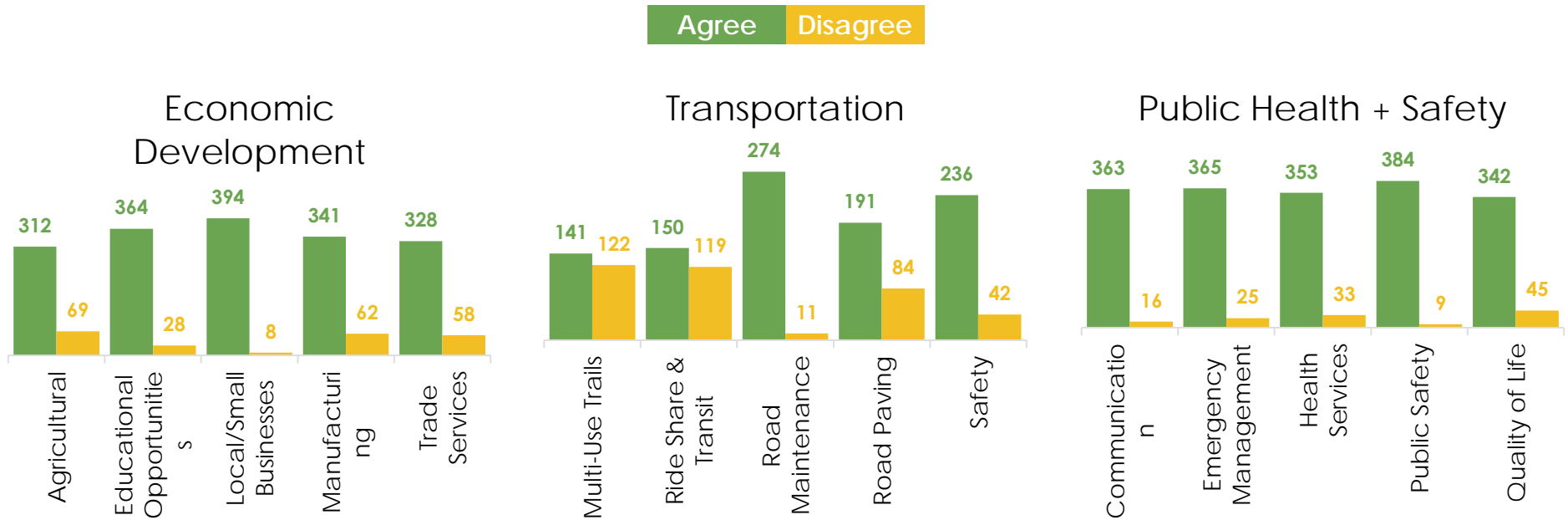
The first task in the survey was for the participants to identify which of the above issues (Housing Opportunities, Climate Change, Transportation, Community Character, Agricultural Preservation, Economic Development, Public Health and Safety, Parks and Recreation) were most important to them for the future of Jasper County. The participants were able to rank up to 5 of the issues as priorities.

The graph below shows the weighted responses. We took the average ranking of the issue (in this scenario, 5 being highest ranking, 1 being lowest) multiplied by the number of times the issue was included in the top 5.



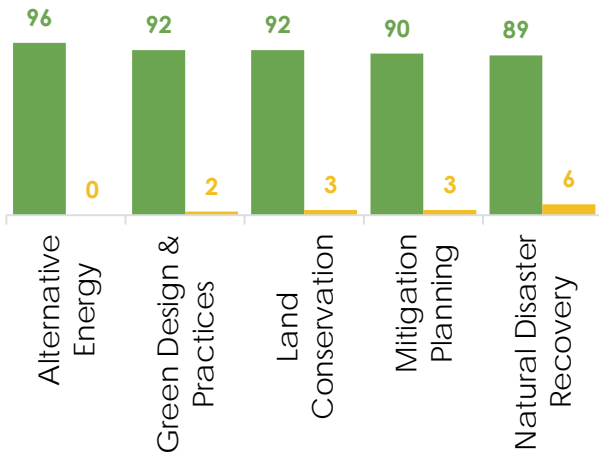
Strategies

For each priority chosen in the previous section (What's Most Important), several strategies were presented. The participants of the survey decided if they agreed or disagreed with each of the strategies for each of the topics as shown in the following graphs.

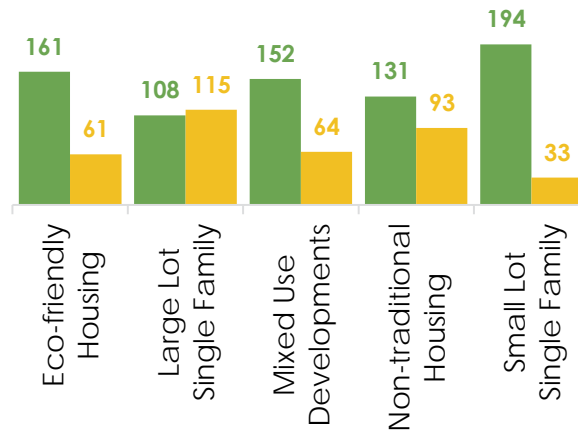


Agree Disagree

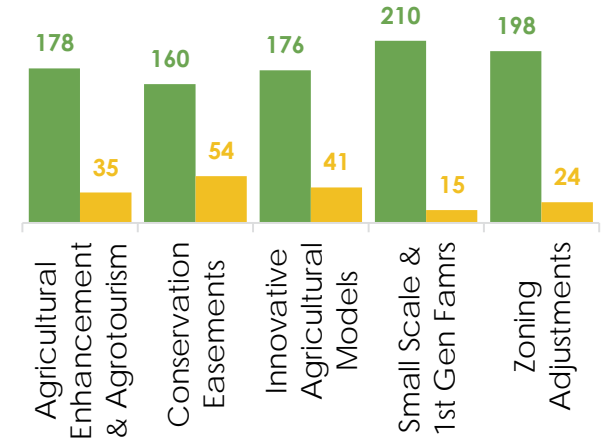
Climate Change



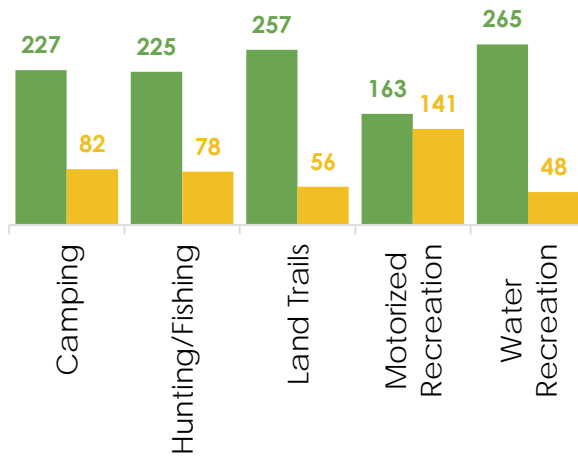
Housing Opportunities



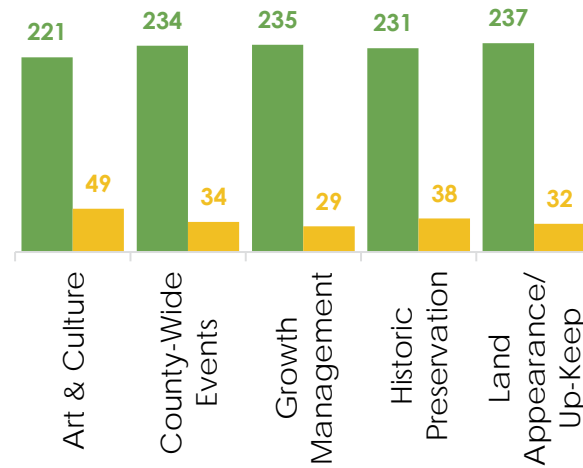
Agricultural Preservation



Parks + Recreation



Community Character



Economic Development

Agricultural

Identify/encourage opportunities for enhancing agricultural businesses and agri-tourism.

Educational Opportunities

Increase training, certifications and programs.

Local / Small Businesses

Encourage entrepreneurship and support of local, small businesses.

Manufacturing

Attract industrial and manufacturing businesses.

Trade Services

Attract businesses that cater to outdoor recreation (e.g. equipment rental, food, accommodations, etc.).

Transportation

Multi-Use Trails

Expand existing and develop new paved or unpaved trails.

Ride Share + Transit

Expand transportation options to the metro and throughout the county.

Road Maintenance

Increase funding and maintenance of existing gravel and paved roadways and bridges.

Road Paving

Pave existing gravel roadways and construct new roads.

Safety

Improve safety along roads and intersections (e.g. shoulders, sight triangles, signs, railings, etc.).

Public Health + Safety

Communication

Improve communication of emergency situations, including reliability.

Emergency Management

Ensure evacuation routes, emergency shelter and basic needs, and medical response.

Health Services

Provide access to health related services, accommodate all age and demographic needs.

Public Safety

Ensure adequate and effective sheriff patrol and public outreach.

Quality of Life

Improve citizens' feelings of happiness, security, and overall wellbeing.

Climate Change

Alternative Energy

Allow for and promote solar, wind, or other clean energy production.



Green Design + Practices

Improve energy efficiency and reduce carbon footprint of county buildings, and operations.

Land Conservation

Improve land conservation and restoration of natural areas and systems.

Mitigation Planning

Develop mitigation policies for wetland, prairie, woodland, and natural resource loss.

Natural Disaster Recovery

Ensure compliance with the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan in response to natural disasters.

Housing Opportunities

Eco-friendly Housing

Explore use of sustainable materials, conservation-based lot layouts, or off-grid development.

Large Lot Single Family

Develop traditional large-lot housing developments of 5 acres or more.

Mixed-Use Developments

Explore mixed use options such as "agrihoods" including agriculture, commercial, and residential.

Non-traditional Housing

Explore options for alternative housing such as group, cohousing, and tiny housing.

Small Lot Single Family

Develop traditional small lot housing developments 1 acre or less.

Agricultural Preservation

Agricultural Enhancement + Agritourism

Expand farms to offer products or experiences (e.g. farm stands, tours, produce-picking, cabins, etc.).

Conservation Easements

Voluntary agreement that permanently limits the development of a piece of land.

Innovative Agricultural Modes

Provide support to varied farming methodologies (e.g. collaborative, integrated, organic, etc.).

Small Scale + 1st Generation Farms

Provide support to small scale and new farm operations.

Zoning Adjustments

Consider zoning districts to protect prime agricultural land or support agricultural businesses.

Parks + Recreation

Camping

Increase camping options and amenities throughout the county.

Hunting + Fishing

Expand public hunting and fishing land and opportunities.

Land Trails

Expand the paved and unpaved multi-use trail system for non-motorized uses.

Motorized Recreation



Develop ATV, snowmobile, and/or motorbike trails and parks.

Water Recreation

Implement water trails for canoeing, kayaking, and tubing options.

Community Character

Art + Culture

Encourage public art, festivals, and cultural gatherings.

County-wide Events

Offer events & festivals showcasing locations throughout the county.

Growth Management

Preserve the rural feel; develop responsible growth strategies.

Historic Preservation

Preserve and celebrate historic sites, buildings, and structures.

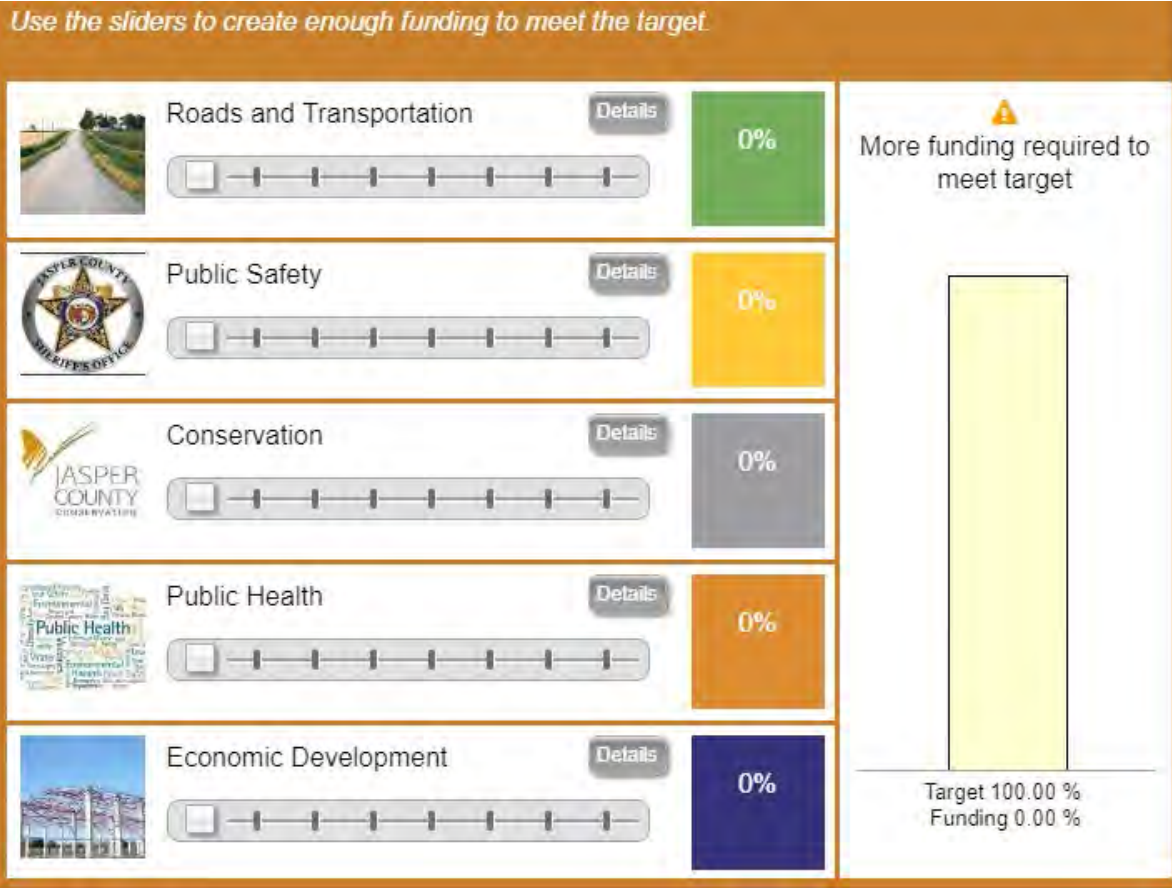
Land Appearance / Up-keep

Increase efforts for property up-keep and "curb appeal".

Funding Balance

The last section of the survey gave the participants the following directions:

"In order to provide a high quality of life for residents & visitors, you can decide how the County should balance their budget. How should these limited funds be spent? Use the sliders to adjust the percent of funding to each category."



Total Funding Balance allocated to each category for all participants



Roads and Transportation	25.6%
Public Safety	22.2%
Conservation	15.1%
Public Health	17.4%
Economic Development	19.7%

Roads and Transportation

Maintenance, repair, and improvement of the county highway system including construction of new roads and bridges. This includes providing options for biking, walking, and transit.

Public Safety

Funding for services related to emergency management and law enforcement.

Conservation

Construction, maintenance, or provision of outdoor recreation facilities and programs, wildlife management areas, conservation areas, and environmental educational opportunities.

Public Health

Funding for services related to physical, mental, and environmental health.

Economic Development

Funding for programs to support new businesses and business expansion, commercial/industrial property improvements, and job creation.

The results from the Money to Spend allocation are shown to the right as the Total Budget Allocated to Each Category for All Participants.

Comments

Each section of this survey offered the participants the opportunity to provide comments. The following pages contain the list of all of the comments received from participants of this survey.

That's Important

Economic Development

- ☀ More better paying jobs. Incentives to get businesses in Jasper County. Expansion of Speedway Activities
- ☀ But not at the cost of other property or business owners.
- ☀ We should foster existing businesses and encourage bedroom communities poised to work within a 40 mile radius in addition to bringing new business here.
- ☀ per my library suggestion... A good bit of our homeschool community are rural dwellers. Please keep the library and ALL of it's services affordable (meaning FREE) and accessible to all of our residents of Jasper County.

- ☀ Need more retail and manufacturing for employment and shopping
- ☀ The city has made a very good start with this, let's keep the momentum rolling.
- ☀ Market and promote also, tourism, industrial and commercial development, sustainability, and perhaps offer some certified sites in the county.
- ☀ I am including Libraries and access to libraries into my "Parks and Recreation" bubble at level 2 importance.
- ☀ Economic development will come once we focus on making our towns, safe, clean, and appealing. Business want their employees to have access to the best possible environment and amenities. Let's start by building on our county's natural beauty and get some tourism flowing.
- ☀ Provide better or more shopping options such as more variety .
- ☀ Some see economic development as attracting large scale companies. Since Maytag has closed there have been various employees that went on to create their own small business. Some of those fill a small need by these larger businesses. How can these smaller businesses be helped? Many of the smaller ones could use grants to improve their businesses but do not want to go the route of common government assistant. What can be done besides providing faster broadband to assist these small rural businesses. Another issue small businesses encounter is the cost of leasing. This is especially hard when local retail/service business opens up. They want a strategic location but that often comes at a high price. Offer start up businesses rental assistance for a year to help them get on their feet. And stop letting Birkenholtz Realty control all the commercial property for sale or lease as they are over priced and often sit stagnant for 2 or more years with the overall condition of the property declining in that time.
- ☀ This applies for the whole county; not just Newton.
- ☀ Newton needs to expand on businesses that come in. I've heard plenty of times businesses and ant to come to newton but for some reason they don't Newton needs to fix that
- ☀ Improved roads would attract biz development

Transportation

- ☀ More paved bike and walking trails please! Let's connect ALL of the towns and give people a different way to get around.

- ☀ Everyone knows the gravel roads need work and that it will take time to fix. The difficulty will be folks staying patient if we have another spring like 2019.
- ☀ We have so really bad roads that should have been fixed years ago.
- ☀ Repair all the bridges and re gravel the country roads, they all are in sad shape
- ☀ The roads are pretty good in pc
- ☀ Our road needs fixed
- ☀ Terrible roads here, poorly maintained or enough money allocated. Poor weed control, mowing in county, even by the drive-in which draws attention.
- ☀ Like the new bike racks uptown!!
- ☀ Fix the rural roads!!!!
- ☀ Including public transportation options for seniors, etc. across the county.
- ☀ They should build an urban bike path and maybe a few rural ones. They could build a path connecting some of the rural cemeteries and call it The Boneway.
- ☀ How about somebody who knows what it takes to maintain a gravel road properly. Roads were lost a couple years ago with pazz poor maintenance.
- ☀ How about we take a look at the snow removal situation? I know these guys worked hard this past winter, but improvement is needed.
- ☀ An urban bike trail would be awesome. Or county wide, maybe a trail that connects Jasper County's rural cemeteries. You could call it The Boneway Bike Trail.
- ☀ No. 1 priority: improve rural roads, esp. gravel. Find \$\$ to hard surface rural roads.
- ☀ Public transportation is almost non existent
- ☀ It seems to me that the roads to access anything in the county or to have services is a priority as it will be difficult to attain some of the other important items without this! :)
- ☀ Repair and upkeep county roads before considering bike trails.

- ☀ The rural roads need lots of work but it wont happen over night. Make the Engineer separate from the manager of roads. Use more electronic tracking for roads.
- ☀ Request: conduct an evaluation of all county bridges to determine the repair and replacement schedule. Please post this for all to see. valuation.
- ☀ Conduct an evaluation of the condition of ALL county bridges and a repair and replacement schedule. Post this on the Jasper County website for all to see.
- ☀ It would be so great to have more affordable public options.
- ☀ Country roads are horrible during rain/snow. Paving the roads would be great
- ☀ To foster economic development requires more paved roads. Bike trails are big costs to maintain in the summer. We should prioritize people moving here over biking here from Des Moines. No economic benefit to Jasper.
- ☀ Jasper County Comprehensive Plan | MetroQuest Survey Results | 8
- ☀ gravel roads are a mess
- ☀ Roads here are terrible and need maintenance.. gravel roads are absolutely terrible
- ☀ Improve streets and roads, Inforce driving laws. Stop signs are not yeald signs, speed, noise.
- ☀ Bike trails and good roads are necessary as well as transportation for the elderly to meet their needs.
- ☀ Need to keep roads safe and bridges updated.
- ☀ The gravel roads in Jasper County make it seem like the 1940's. Can't go to town on a muddy day and don't dare take a semi down the road unless it is frozen solid.
- ☀ Climate Change is a hoax.

Public Health & Safety

- ☀ Give the sheriff the resources and staff he needs. #1 priority.
- ☀ Does this include water management? If not it should. Many small towns in jasper country are struggling to update broken and old water lines and simply dont have the tax base to fix them.... is the county going to step in at some point and fix this?

- ☀ Better help for mental agencies
- ☀ More sheriffs deputy's to patrol our roads
- ☀ Does this include fixing the water issues that small towns are having across jasper county? Many small towns are struggling with outdated and unsafe main water lines and simply dont have the tax base to fix them. Everyone in the county has a right to clean water. When is the county going to step up and help solve this problem?
- ☀ Protecting the citizens from harm and a clean, safe environment is #1.
- ☀ We are not able to walk our dogs on leashes around our neighborhood due to all the loose running or not fenced or leashed dogs. Seems to be all over town and nothing is done about it.
- ☀ Please pay special attention to the elderly. They need these services very much.
- ☀ We need to take care of our elderly
- ☀ Develop plan for homeless, mentally ill, theft and drug issues to make it a safer community.
- ☀ My emphasis here is specifically on mental health - NOT more policing. Or not more policing as it's been going now. I dont want a mini military - I want cops that know how to see people as human and in need of help and who are properly trained in how to help and de-escalate without causing more burden on the individual or their family. And police that see themselves in the community - not as better than.
- ☀ A close second to transportation; however ensures the health and safety for all in the county regardless of where you live and how much you make. Benefits all!
- ☀ Law enforcement is always important. More presence in schools. Lots of community collaboration for mental health and substance abuse. Need better building for social service programs. Promotion of Live Well Center. Focus more on healthy living such as walkability, exercise, and healthy eating.
- ☀ Crime rate down
- ☀ Need a better building with handicap access. More injury prevention in the county.

Climate Change

- ☀ How about the noise pollution that the speedway makes? That is disturbing.

- ☀ Think about communities becoming “Tree City U.S.A.s”--plant more trees, especially on Main Streets where it’s so hot and sunny. Install rain gardens on public spaces to help with storm water runoff. Tax credits for those who install rain gardens on their business or home properties. Recycle more, investigate the use of wind or solar for public buildings, use energy efficient light bulbs and street lights.
- ☀ They should get an electric vehicle charging station. They could add it to the parking lot behind PJ’s Deli.
- ☀ Not passionate about this
- ☀ Keep our air, lakes and rivers clean! We can build off of this and use them to create more tourism for local economies.
- ☀ When you dig up a ditch, don’t leave it bare to grow up in weeds and run off into the creeks. Seed it with prairie grasses. Little things help

Housing Opportunities

- ☀ Currently, we are considering moving out of state as we feel the condition or value of houses do not match pricing demands.
- ☀ I would like to see the smallest communities in Jasper county get help with attracting prospective builders. These small communities don’t have the financial ability or staff to pursue this on their own. A collaboration between the communities that can provide information at one location that prospective builders can look at and compare across the board may be helpful. Some of the smaller communities may have property owners that have land for potential development but the community itself may not have the ability to develop it.
- ☀ People that show interest and want to move need to have affordable housing options for all demographics.
- ☀ It would be great if the county would help small communities fix up and build out the apartments above all the little shops. I think this needs to happen first to help renters, plus it would help with historic preservation. I think this would benefit the county more if it were to happen first. Before building out new homes, and apartment complexes that would create a larger carbon footprint.
- ☀ Clean up the low housing areas and penalize slum landlords that are not maintaining properties.
- ☀ Could we have nice mid income apartments. Many have concerns about moving into “affordable” housing mixed with unsubsidized units.

- ☀ Improved roads would increase rural housing, up tax base
- ☀ More places for seniors like new places on e 4th st n. Ground lev walk ins
- ☀ There is too much low income housing or income restricted housing not enough for middle class families the people we need in Newton
- ☀ But not to bring illegal immigrants or people from low income, over crowded cities where crime is prevalent.
- ☀ affordable housing options
- ☀ Clean up and get rid of property and apartments, bad landlords attracting wrong people.
- ☀ More medium income housing.
- ☀ Emphasis on all income levels - meaning not just giant houses.

Agricultural Preservation

- ☀ I think this will happen no matter what the County does in the plan.
- ☀ Would love to see more than the traditional agricultural that is everywhere. Why dont we do more experimenting with permaculture? Why dont we turn an old apple orchard into a profitable food forest? Let's capitalize on Agritourism. Let's be the first in the state to create profitable, replicable models.
- ☀ Stop the pollution of our rivers and lakes.
- ☀ Would love to see more than the typical agricultural we have now. What about permaculture? Or how about turning an old orchard into a profitable food forest?

Parks & Recreation

- ☀ Would love to see more drop-off/unloading zones to get more recreational use out of the south skunk river. I think this would help promote tourism and the economy. Would also like to see more bike paths connecting parks and small towns together.
- ☀ There is lots of natural beauty in jasper county that isnt being utilized to its fullest. Jasper county could have an amazing tourist economy if they simply capitalized on it. Why dont we add more access point to the South Skunk River? How about having one at every town? Then people could float from town to town, get out, have

lunch, and float to the next town, spend the night in a hotel, and continue the next day. I've seen this work Amazing well to stimulate small town the economies in other states... How about we add more paved bike and walking trails. It would be cool to connect one from Newton, to Colfax, and then down to the one that is going through the Neal Smith wildlife refuge.

- ☀ Let's encourage more people to use our county's natural assets. This could stimulate the economy and encourage more people to move here
- ☀ We need to maintain what we have before we build more. This survey seems to be geared/worded/grouped, in such a way so as to come to a foregone conclusion.
- ☀ For 45 years I have worked with climatologists to plan our growing season. Climate change is all political!
- ☀ People are now staying for the experience. If you create community around activities that also draws individuals to jasper county.
- ☀ Not every area of Jasper county is suitable for bike trails. How can those areas be developed to provide recreation? With Colfax developing the quarry area along the Skunk River, perhaps it should be looked into developing a water trail down the river with the trail ending by Reasnor. There is potential for a seasonal canoe/tubing business there if access points are developed.
- ☀ Create synergy between existing parks and developments to improve quality of life for families rather than foster suburb monotony.
- ☀ The condition of the roads in Jasper County are horrible. This includes gravel. You are not going to attract people to live in our communities if you can't keep up with road maintenance.
- ☀ We have lots of parks. I feel like it is hard to maintain the numerous County properties and this should be addressed. Maybe the County should sell some properties for housing developments. More camping facilities. More marketing of County land and options to draw people to Jasper County such as hunting.
- ☀ Jasper County does an amazing job on Parks , but it needs to stay in the fore front to remain a positive influence in our communities.
- ☀ Newton had great parks and recreation areas. Just for other's to wreck them.
- ☀ Better places for families
- ☀ Don't waste any money on that climate change nonsense.

Community Character

- ☀ We need to appeal to businesses, individuals, etc. first to create interest. That way we have interest to start other projects and people to participate.
- ☀ Make newton appeal to people - now it seems to not help attract go down 1st ave there's housing that looks run down crappy unkept ! They need to get ride of those eye sores
- ☀ Better restaurants, family entertainment, build up art culture vs. rather than biker culture. Use speedway for big name music, Christian bands.
- ☀ The county as a whole should take pride in a neat appearance and work to eliminate junk sites.
- ☀ Please keep our communities' character at the forefront. We are a hidden jewel county with our beautifully kept parks, our scenic countryside, our community festivals and fairs
- ☀ Need more promotions on what we do well. Welcome to Jasper County signs, website. I feel like Newton does a good job with " Get to Know Newton".
- ☀ Encourage (tax credits or loans to people that they don't have to pay off until they sell their homes?) people to clean up their properties--haul off junk or keep it behind a fence, out of sight. Encourage people to paint their homes, do some landscaping. Paint murals on empty buildings showing early residents (big wigs) or what the building looked like originally and what business it housed. These are just a few ideas.
- ☀ Our libraries are critical to the health of our communities!
- ☀ Attracting is one issue and retention another. Quality of education a concern because of so many needs of students.
- ☀ Need more people to shop in Jasper county. Clothing and home improvement opportunities.
- ☀ I'm not sure what attracts people to want to live in pc
- ☀ The county needs to support its smaller towns and communities more. Help us have safe and secure water supplies, attract tourists, and create identities. Small towns can only do so much when they have a very limited tax base and no funding to employ a full time grant writer. I think once the county is perceived better more businesses and people will want to move here. There is so much natural beauty that the county isn't taking advantage of.

- ☀ Our roadside ditches are a mess. Public dumping makes us look like a community of rednecks. KEEP THE 4 WHEELERS OFF THE COUNTY ROADS!!!
- ☀ Create a cleaner image, better litter campaign (starting back up in schools educating do not litter campaign) and more volunteering, enforcement, especially in rural areas. Designate non-smoking areas and enforcement. Better marketing and drawing in of the arts and foodie atmosphere, rather than being known for ALL biker, dirty town. Bring big name bands (some Christian Bands) to Speedway.
- ☀ The county needs to help our small towns keep and preserve their history as much as possible. And every town needs help formulating a distinct identity to help draw tourists and encourage economic growth.

Suggest Another

- ☀ Tax Reduction
- ☀ Gravel Road Conditions
- ☀ Conservation
- ☀ Improved Library systems
- ☀ Libraries
- ☀ Reduce property taxes
- ☀ Fix the gravel roads.
- ☀ Lower Property Taxes
- ☀ Paid County EMS
- ☀ Education
- ☀ IMPROVE THE SECONDARY ROADS
- ☀ Paved roads in and around Colfax!
- ☀ Current manufacturers in Jasper County treat their employees like drones not human beings and that needs to change to attract new people to the area

- ☀ nothing else
- ☀ Trails
- ☀ Roads are terrible
- ☀ More opportunities for children
- ☀ Less gov. intrusions, not more.
- ☀ Expanding and providing for public libraries
- ☀ Building more prairie flower areas to save Butterflies and bees
- ☀ Library services for rural users.
- ☀ Libraries
- ☀ Make our rural roads gravel roads again with real rock that doesn't break down. We can't continue with dirt/mud roads that were impassable.
- ☀ We need more community events that attract younger people
- ☀ Library and Literacy Promotion
- ☀ Library
- ☀ Public outreach through the Library
- ☀ Educational programming through Library
- ☀ Quit trying so hard NOT to spend money. Invest in the future. Grow the county's economic base.
- ☀ Public libraries. Properly funded to serve everyone, not just city residents
- ☀ Better broadband connectivity
- ☀ Preservation and protection of family, NOT CORPORATE, farms.
- ☀ Attention to the unincorporated towns

- ☀ Better roads. Clean up weeds and all the litter. Start litter campaign in schools.
- ☀ Request: the bridge due west out of Colfax on old Highway 6 is unsafe as it sits on this curved road. Check the history regarding the # of deaths occurring on Jasper Co. County bridges. Where does this bridge fall? One of the worst, I bet. Colfax may be annexing and expanding to the west. This bridge will not safely handle increased traffic.
- ☀ Support of the educational and cultural opportunities in the County.
- ☀ Gravel Road improvement
- ☀ The 1st bridge due west out of Colfax on old Highway 6 is dangerous and needs replaced. Review the # if deaths that have occurred on this bridge. Does this bridge have the most deaths if any Jasper County bridge
- ☀ ? With possible annexation and growth with a housing development on the west side of Colfax, this bridge will not make for safe traveling given increased traffic.
- ☀ Quality education and libraries
- ☀ The Newton public library
- ☀ Safety and accountability by city and county officials needs to be addressed. Too many times drug dealers and users are being allowed to abuse the system by getting out of a charge in exchange for information. This allows the problems to continue as they continue to deal and use making our community unsafe.
- ☀ Animal Shelter
- ☀ County Image
- ☀ Protecting citizens and the environment from the scientifically proven harmful effects of 5G radiation. www.5Gcrisis.com On Facebook: lowans for Responsible Technology or Americans for Responsible Technology

Strategies

Economic Development

Manufacturing

- ☀ Get into regenerative agriculture. Nurturing the environment, returning nutrients back to the soil to have healthier food. Stop unhealthy industrial manufacturing.
- ☀ If Newton and the county had not been so focused on Maytag for years, the area would not have felt as much of a blow as it did when Maytag left. I think the county should encourage several manufacturers to come in. I would hope, though, that the county would do its part to ensure safe work practices and not hand over taxpayer money to a company that will put workers in health hazardous situations.
- ☀ I support attracting manufacturing. However, we need to be sure their methods of production aren't detrimental to the quality of life to those who live nearby or to the employees who work there.
- ☀ Well known companies that pay
- ☀ This isn't a glamorous sounding option but we need more and better jobs
- ☀ Care should be given to foster synergy with existing manufacturing. It is easier to help existing business grow that convince new business to relocate.
- ☀ This really is a city/town issue, not county. I do not want the county to be a "city". County, is supposed to be "country".
- ☀ Need more upper paying employers to raise our tax base.
- ☀ concentrate on racing related manufacturing near the open land near speedway
- ☀ This has the potential to bring down the demographic of a community depending on the industry/maker one would bring in.
- ☀ Until we can provide a workforce, this is not a priority. The manufacturing companies here now cannot fill their open positions due to applicants unable to pass background screenings and drug tests. Those who do get hired are often unreliable. It's incredibly frustrating for current businesses trying to hire.

- ☀ Get away from the wind industry. It's not sustainable and will ruin agricultural land and communities. I don't believe they have kept their end of the bargain in several areas though (county? city?) gave them \$ to get started. Make sure we research before something comes in. Just because someone promises jobs doesn't mean it will be good for the community.
- ☀ We have lost almost all manufacturing in Newton

Agricultural

- ☀ Jasper county is a farming community and is our strong suit (like it or not). So lets flex our muscles and do best at what were best at.
- ☀ Ag is well established here. We need to diversify
- ☀ This needs to be in concert with Story County and Iowa State agri corridor. We can't compete with them.
- ☀ No more hog confinements though. If the owners of them cannot live within 500 feet of the confinement then they shouldn't be allowed to build it. Every fall we have the manure hauled through our town to be applied to a field just outside of city limits. You cannot open your windows because of the stink and there often is a trail left through town as they can be sloppy when connecting and disconnecting to the tanks.

Educational Opportunities

- ☀ Having DMACC located centrally in the county provides an excellent opportunity to offer more training.
- ☀ This could help attract young people. Need to help DMACC create focus areas with Newton specialties identified and advertised.
- ☀ DMACC does a good job.
- ☀ Not gov. responsibility.
- ☀ Education and training for whom? I'm not sure I understand this question. JEDCO or local economic development committees or organizations? Main Street Iowa helps provide positive technical assistance to communities participating.
- ☀ Need to be more specific...increase training and certifications for WHO?
- ☀ This is a state/industry/educational system issue.

- ☀ Educational Opportunitites are offered at your libraries, whom you wish to take funds away from. They have adatabases available to assist patrons in finding jobs, high-speed Internet needed to apply for jobs, trained Librarians to assist in tech/computer help, and plenty of books, programs, and networking events that assist in career development and training opportunities.
- ☀ Organic or near organic certification. Community gardens Sharing knowledge for gardening

Trade Services

- ☀ Encourage racing related businesses near speedway
- ☀ Again, a city/town issue.
- ☀ We need other businesses
- ☀ Family restaurants NOT fast food
- ☀ Holiday Inn Express would be nice. More sit down restaurants. More food options on Speedway exit.
- ☀ Get biz to develop outdoor recreation instead of using county \$\$
- ☀ Not sure Jasper has a big enough pull with small lakes and bike traffic spasmodic. Not a great business opportunity.

Local / Small Businesses

- ☀ There should be a resource for small businesses to sound ideas. A Collaboration Center where people can incubate ideas-perhaps an off shoot of DMACC campus.
- ☀ Giving breaks for dreamers wanting to start up a local business there's to much red tape
- ☀ Bring more quality restaurants to Newton. That was promised with the worthless race track, haven't seen it yet.
- ☀ Make it easier for small businesses to get started. Streamline and improve the permitting process. Make sure only necessary regulations are followed and be very clear on what those regulations are and how to fulfill them
- ☀ If only gov. truly followed this. Local business will make it if they are customer oriented, even at a slightly higher price.

- ☀ Explore Targeted Small Business Certification for small businesses that qualify.
- ☀ Small businesses are the backbone of a community. We need to increase incentives and lower barriers such as needless regulation from employees of various local governments
- ☀ Must shop at and encourage new businesses in county
- ☀ We need other stores in our community other than WalMart.
- ☀ I agree with this only if it is done by reducing obstacles such as zoning ordinances and other regulations pertaining to uses of one's own property.
- ☀ give these businesses the tax breaks & incentives instead of corporate welfare to large corporations
- ☀ That sure dont happen now
- ☀ I think small businesses should be helped similar to what is offered to the big guys that everyone offers incentives to to build in their community.
- ☀ Use closed up businesses as a delivery drop off (lockers) for online orders of food coops and or retail goods or any other store (Amazon,Target, etc).

Suggest Another

- ☀ How about spending resources to grow what we have in addition to bring in new.

Transportation

Road Maintenance

- ☀ Use more of the money in your budget to address this problem. Don't take more money from citizens.
- ☀ This should be priority number one. Years of neglect has created a disaster
- ☀ Attention and funding needs to be directed to bridge repair within the county. The bridge on N 4th Ave E has been closed for 2 years. Unacceptable.
- ☀ You wanna raise our [expletive] taxes but our roads are still [expletive]. Get it together

- ☀ Bridges in Jasper county, like on 11065 W 36th St S, Monroe, IA, where the bridge can provide immediate access to the property on the other side of the creek and the school bus doesn't tear up the drive by using it as a turn around point several months of the year.
- ☀ double edge sword for this question, I would like to see more funding towards paving current gravel roads. I am sure the save the planet types could go for the reduced particulate dust that it would prevent.
- ☀ Proper training and regular maintenance is key and part of the reason why we have such a problem now. Need to keep infrastructure current and safe, etc.
- ☀ These rural roads can become a nightmare when it is extremely wet. Very hazardous, so I am glad you are looking at that.
- ☀ Not sure spending more is the answer. Perhaps doing the maintenance right the first time.
- ☀ Maintenance should be done as existing gravel roads are being paved. A schedule should go along with this to keep all roads maintained.
- ☀ Farmers need to be more mindful about using heavy equipment on the roads.
- ☀ Our little town need a lot of road work
- ☀ The country roads in this county have never been worse. There is no excuse for this.
- ☀ Need to pick key areas to create housing developments. This will increase tax revenue to help pay. Also need to increase sales tax. Roads are the stumbling block for getting new people to come here.
- ☀ I would like to see improvement of what we currently have and look to paving the gravel roads.
- ☀ Existing gravel roads in my area are more like dirt roads. Almost impassable after large rain events.
- ☀ It is going to take a bond or increase in levi rate and folks just need to be explained how much is needed, for what purpose and that oversight will be tight to prevent misuse of funds.
- ☀ Any kind of maintenance to the gravel roads would be very nice. 1st of all more gravel would help a lot. Paving or asphalt would be even better. If paving or asphalt isn't a option, then the roads need to be redone because many of the roads do not have a crown anymore.

- ☀ Need training on how to maintain the roads by putting a crown back in the middle of roads for water run off to eliminate potholes. Use quality rock to prevent repeat applications resulting in higher expenses.
- ☀ Our gravel roads are unsafe and our county should be ashamed at how they have been maintained the last 5 years or more.
- ☀ I neither agree or disagree with this and am more middle of the road. I grew up in the country and KNEW I needed a vehicle that could get me safely to and from town in a blizzard, downpour, etc. I think society has been babied and maybe they need to rethink their vehicle choices and plan ahead. Regular road maintenance and upgrades are expected but laying gravel every time the snow thaws is impractical.
- ☀ There is plenty of money. It is not being spent where we need it.
- ☀ Do not need more money, just existing money spent where it is needed.
- ☀ Maintenance of the roads needs to be improved through ALL the seasons.
- ☀ The gravel roads in Jasper are absolutely horrible. Shame on the supervisors for letting it get this bad!
- ☀ Our travel roads are slowly improving, but are still very dangerous.
- ☀ What is our funding dollar amount today and how does it compare to other counties?
- ☀ As someone who has lived on various gravel roads in Jasper County most of my life, this last Spring confirmed that the current condition is not acceptable. They were in poor condition prior to the rain, which made them outright hazardous. It was beyond difficult to get our kids to and from daycare.
- ☀ Many of our students missed school because of the horrible gravel road conditions. Also, the elderly people that live on gravel had a very hard time getting out.

Road Paving

- ☀ I think the roads that are currently paved need to be repaired. All farm to market roads need to be built to support the traffic and weight they are being subjected to presently and in the future.
- ☀ Sometimes this is feasible to do, sometimes not. This has to be evaluated objectively on a continual basis.
- ☀ If gravel roads aren't going to be maintained properly then I'm in favor of paving to avoid sliding in mud deeper than the bottom of my vehicle.

- ☀ Sure if its feasible and makes sense
- ☀ We do not need more paved roads. We need maintained roads and gravel is perfectly fine.
- ☀ Maybe a road here and there, but paving is too costly for the miles of roads we have. If you live on gravel you know what to expect, but more part time folks for maintainers in the winter would be great.
- ☀ This would be amazing! I can't begin to count the amount of money I've spent keeping my vehicles clean, repairs due to crappie gravel road maintenance etc.
- ☀ Although paving all the gravel roads would be very expensive, but in the long run, if you think about the amount of money spent on gravel, and workers trying to keep them maintained over the years... I think it would pay for itself. Less complaints from rural residents as well. It wouldn't have to be spectacular, but concrete or asphalt instead of gravel would be very nice!
- ☀ No new roads! If anything pave what we have.
- ☀ Pavement on east 60th Street North and down n 27th Ave East to kellogg
- ☀ Key economic zones need to be created to focus our paving dollars.
- ☀ Some of the gravel roads could be paved to reduce maintenance costs but not all of them. Creating new roads doesn't seem wise when we can't maintain our existing ones.
- ☀ The more paving that is complete, the less maintenance over the years to come.
- ☀ Gravel road will never be paved in my lifetime.
- ☀ Our paved roads we have now are in disrepair, our gravel roads need so much help. Don't need to pave gravel roads, just fix them, and put that money to repaving the roads we have now
- ☀ E. 8th St N is paved only to the Dairy Farm. Because of TPI, that gravel road is HEAVILY traveled. Please consider expanding the pavement.
- ☀ Perhaps as more revenue comes in. Paving some major gravel roadways with housing development would help increase tax base.
- ☀ This is one of the few things I can agree with gov. on as it relates to environment. Paving the gravel roads would cut down on dust particulates and save money, in the long run, through reduced maintenance issues.

(although maint. has been severely lacking for several years). I do not think we need additional roads built, however. I think the roads that are currently paved need to be repaired. All farm to market roads need to be built to support the traffic and weight they are being subjected to presently and in the future.

Multi-Use Trails

- ☀ Pave the ones we can as they will get the most use by a long shot.
- ☀ I do not agree with expansion because it seems that we always build without regard to future costs of maintenance, ultimately leading to more taxes and less quality maintenance.
- ☀ Much of our park service hours are spent maintaining existing trails. Can't afford to focus on this until more people have moved here.
- ☀ I really like the info I've been reading online and in the newspaper regarding development of 30 Acre Park. Keep that project going!
- ☀ I do not like expanding things which do not have funding for maintenance after the initial funding goes away.
- ☀ Why waste money on more bike trails when they aren't being used. Hwy f36 (Newton) Isaac Walton League road has sign beware of walkers and bikers. No, that's what the results were made for.
- ☀ I think this is the least of our worries as a county right now when people can't even get out of their homes to get to their jobs because the roads are impassable when it rains.
- ☀ We can't afford to maintain our roads but let's build trails? Makes sense
- ☀ It would be nice to have some horse trails, not all bike trails
- ☀ Safety
- ☀ Good to do but lower priority
- ☀ Use discretion. This is not county wide but rather only areas that need it.
- ☀ For years there should be deer signs on the curves on F24. The intersection where F24 and S52 meet up is sometimes dangerous because half the time you have to guess because the county takes their merry little mowing this way and you can't see if there are vehicles coming. The best option is to widen the shoulder of the highway of S52.

- ☀ I am not aware of any particular problems.
- ☀ Safety is in the operator, not the county. Incompetent people are the problem not our standards.
- ☀ It is very difficult to see bicyclists on Hwy S74 S (reasnor road). I am committed to sharing the road, but when I come up over a hill, have a car coming at me from the other side, even though I am going the speed limit there is no way to give cyclists the room they need for safety. It is TOO DANGEROUS for cyclists to be on that road with regular road traffic until a path is built for them. Also would like to see/hear of cops enforcing traffic laws for cyclists. It's frustrating to see kids and adults being careless-not stopping at stop signs, riding all over the road, not signalling, etc. I hope officers start to pull over these people and give them a ticket for their own safety.

Ride Share + Transit

- ☀ I don't think JC should find this. If a company wants to come in because it would be profitable then great.
- ☀ While it would be nice to have a bus between Newton and Colfax and Des Moines- a first priority would be to get people relocating here with money to improve the tax base. Not expand services for a group that pays little in support of the county
- ☀ Rideshares are a great step in the "green" direction an could help a lot of economically disadvantaged residents. However, if you are looking at a ride-share program, also think about rides to the library where residents can use the high-speed internet that they can't get at home, or to the hospital, grocery store, etc. A bus route in addition to ride sharing.
- ☀ We need uber/Lyft
- ☀ People can figure out their own transportation. Let's worry about our roads.
- ☀ Yess!!
- ☀ Waste of money unless it is just parking areas, but then those areas must have some security or they will not be utilized.

Suggest Another

- ☀ Gravel roads need to be gravelled and maintained on a regular basis, not just when there is a crisis in the spring! Compare how many tons of gravel we are putting on per miles of gravel roads in 2018 vs. how many per mile of gravel road in past history, say in about 1970?
- ☀ Fix the problem the county created by cutting down trees along gravel roadways and NOT treating the stumps. It's unbelievable we wasted time and money to make the problem worse. Please cut the trees again and apply a treatment to the stump to keep the trees from growing back!

Public Health + Safety

Emergency Management

- ☀ All these are vague concepts - any specific plans on them to either day yes/no?
- ☀ Make sure EM does not become a self perpetuating beauracracy.
- ☀ Absolutely! This should be an area of primary concern
- ☀ Sheriff is great. EMA needs to be more visible with more Commmunity events and training.
- ☀ Volunteer EMS in this County is dying. And isn't sustainable under the current system.
- ☀ MercyOne needs to have Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners on-call or at hospital at all times. Too many patients who have been sexually assaulted are being told to go to Mercy or Methodist in Des Moines. This is not trauma-respectful of victims and is damaging to public safety.

Public Safety

- ☀ With the sheriff's office filing in for smaller communities as their police protection or when they aren't adequately staffed, I feel they need more funding to hire more officers.
- ☀ Currently Prairie City " Does not have a 24 hour police service" (according to the chief of police). They also spend a large amount of time on 163 pulling over speeders. In town cops on duty at all times seems to be needed.

- ☀️ Law enforcement is a vital part of our community. The courts are as well. Too many unnecessary plea bargains are taking place. I would also like to see an emphasis on transformative justice in Jasper County. This can also help with promoting community.
- ☀️ Need more sheriff patrols in the lesser populated. areas of the county
- ☀️ Drug control please
- ☀️ #1 priority for Jasper County.
- ☀️ Sheriff has a great department.
- ☀️ They leave out the small towns already and we get maybe one pass through a month. But the towns that have police the Sheriff departments will patrol or they are all in the same part of the county. I don't understand how they can't be split up. Small unincorporated towns shouldn't have to wait an hour to almost three hours for them to respond to a call even if they do. Have the time they just call back to say there's nothing they can do. How reassuring is that?
- ☀️ We need more than one deputy on duty at a time!
- ☀️ More focus on public outreach and serving the public - not patrolling. What is the department doing to fix problems BEFORE they become a problem?
- ☀️ Law enforcement should have more of a public image because they are so important.
- ☀️ Crime high, consequences too few
- ☀️ The police in this town do not do anything about theft nor drug use. They continually let the same people off in exchange for information which then allows these people to continue to use, distribute and steal. The entire situation has gotten ridiculous.
- ☀️ Hopefully the sherriff patrolling is prepared to do the job hired for while not turning a blind eye to the crime and drug use in this community.

Communication

- ☀️ Does the county have a text alert system for which the public can register? I know Marion County does.

- ☀ Your current emergency notification is horrible. I receive missing texts, partial texts, or alerts way after they have been sent.
- ☀ Keep us informed consistently. Example-got a call that a missing child was found but no call that they were missing!!
- ☀ I feel well-informed already. How could this be improved? I think you are already doing a great job.
- ☀ City and county need same radio system. More information to residents about situations. More social media presence.
- ☀ You can't rely on the Sheriffs department to show up. Hell you can't even even get them to patrol unincorporated towns.

Quality of Life

- ☀ Too much crime to be at peace
- ☀ It's not the county's responsibility to improve citizens' feelings of happiness, and overall well-being. They should provide security especially in areas outside of the communities.
- ☀ The more we focus on this, the safer and healthier our communities will be.
- ☀ One's happiness is up to him/herself. I don't think it's wise to invest money in feelings.
- ☀ Very nebulous. This needs to be done through expanded medical and social services
- ☀ This is not a government responsibility to make people "feel good".
- ☀ explore "Nature Deficit Disorder". Get people back into nature and they will be happy.
- ☀ I think this comes from cooperation as a community and so not likely something that the gov't can provide, but a strong sn engaged gov't is part of.
- ☀ We've become such a sensitive country. Its not the county's job to improve someones mental health
- ☀ The government can only do so much to ensure someone feels this way
- ☀ I don't think this is up the County. We as citizens need to do this for each other

- ☀️ A large part of Quality of Life is access to a community center, high-speed Internet, educational programs, reading material and information, all of which is available at our libraries. If you are putting an importance on Quality of Life, also put an importance on your libraries in the County.
- ☀️ I was born and raised in Newton for 64years. We are considering moving out of Newton due to over taxation on our house in a year or two
- ☀️ That's up to the individual not the county.

Health Services

- ☀️ Improved and increased quality of healthcare in the county. Skiff has improved, but there's still a lot of room for improvement. Physical/Occupational therapy available in some of the smaller towns in the county also.
- ☀️ Healthcare is not a right.
- ☀️ Already do a pretty good job of this.
- ☀️ There is sufficient access already.
- ☀️ More education and awareness of how to work with people who have been victimized by crimes. More trauma-training is needed for professionals.
- ☀️ Bring an iowa clinic to jasper county
- ☀️ I'm not sure why mercy one (skiff) transports an increasingly high number of patients to DSM on a daily basis. This leaves me to believe they aren't staffed or equipped to handle what a community hospital should be able to and appears to be a huge overburden on our EMS system.
- ☀️ Preventive health and injury prevention will save tax payers money. More collaboration with County offices.
- ☀️ Mental Health services are lacking.
- ☀️ Need more holistic related practitioners. Functional medicine doctors, Integrative doctors, whole health wellness.

Suggest Another

- ☀️ The county has zip for spirit and unity. More like 36,000 individuals. That would go a long way to get the much needed volunteers for fire/ambulance, etc.

- ☀ Mental Health Services need to be improved & a Shelter for Youth brought back

Climate Change

Alternative Energy

- ☀ Let's take a leadership role here. It is time.
- ☀ All for it!
- ☀ consider Geothermal too
- ☀ Not a fan of wind energy expanding any further than it already has. Its eye and ear noise, it is ruining our state.
- ☀ Explore more cost effective options for homeowners as well.

Natural Disaster Recovery

- ☀ Not familiar enough with this to have an opinion.

Land Conservation

- ☀ Very important to expand what we have.
- ☀ Increasing rain and increasing flooding means we have to examine land uses and determine where changes in uses can have the most positive impacts and work with landowners to help them implement them.

Green Design + Practices

- ☀ Strongly agree with this. County should be a leading example!

Mitigation Planning

- ☀ Identifying some of our sensitive natural resources in the county would be a needed first step.
- ☀ We have so much less wildlife habitat than we used to. Everything is tiled, drained and mowed. We need to compensate for some of these ag trends. Thankful for farmers who utilize buffer strips



- ☀ Those were always my favorite science lessons in school - is there a way to get the community more actively involved in this?

Housing Opportunities

Large Lot Single Family

- ☀ I think that would offer a lot, but the County does not need to subsidize such projects, other than ensuring there is infrastructure in place to accommodate it.
- ☀ We have plenty of larger lots. We need developments targeting home owners who want a rural setting with city-sized lots
- ☀ Need medium income apartments and homes. Have a lot of expensive and low income. Need to help people of medium income more
- ☀ Far better to locate near existing parks and eliminate excessive mowing for each family
- ☀ Acreages are popular and the County could do more to facilitate expanded opportunities for them.

Small Lot Single Family

- ☀ This works best if there is common area or close proximity to parks.
- ☀ I know this and the 5 acre lots are still popular right now... but I'm just not sold that it is going to continue to be... or that it's the best thing to explore considering other options. I wouldn't mind seeing some of these in with other options - but not exclusively these types of lots.

Non-traditional Housing

- ☀ If someone wants to put in that kind of development, government's role is to provide infrastructure for it. I don't think money should be waste actively seeking it.
- ☀ Affordability and community.
- ☀ We need more diversity in housing options
- ☀ If this includes homes for the elderly, this is important to me.

- ☀ I think Jasper County needs to explore the tiny housing movement more. Tiny houses can fulfill multiple needs. A program like Cass Community Social Services Tiny Homes in Detroit Michigan would be awesome. For what people are paying for rent in an apartment, they could be applying that money towards owning a small home. That equity then can be applied towards a larger home on down the road freeing up the tiny house for someone else. A look needs to be taken into the way the younger people of today want to live. Do they want the large homes or would they rather have a smaller manageable home that allows them to have more disposable income to spend on life experiences or invest.
- ☀ Keep high standards for development, use
- ☀ I don't want to see low income apartments.
- ☀ Cities may find new types of apartments desirable for young people-small apartments with loss of common areas.

Mixed Use Developments

- ☀ Love to see this- especially to attract larger income families. This could give Jasper an edge over more traditional mass growth of Polk and Story Counties.
- ☀ I mean... this is basically creating a town. I'd more like to see Jasper work with the existing towns to collaborate on this potential.
- ☀ Absolutely. I think there is great opportunity for this if the county can move past its own zoning ordinance and let people use their land as they see fit.

Eco-friendly Housing

- ☀ Don't turn it away, but don't waste money seeking it. Most developers and homeowners already try to find ways to be environmentally friendly these days anyway.
- ☀ As housing developments are designed, I think more care needs to be put into the way water is shed. There needs to be more thought given to the water runoff issues by creating more water retention areas in these developments. More flooding has occurred along the Skunk River since the flood of 1993. The landscape has changed but also since that time there has been a considerable amount of housing and industrial development in Ames without consideration of all the runoff water that would be going into the river and flooding downstream.

- ☀ We have one land we are living on; let's treat it well for ourselves and future generations to come.
- ☀ We need to support builders who provide this environmentally friendly housing
- ☀ LOVE this idea as it goes with the climate change issue. No idea what the off grid stuff would be like, but it sounds very intriguing and I'd like to hear more. I feel like it could be popular.

Suggest Another

- ☀ More apartments for Seniors. This will provide starter homes for young people.
- ☀ 55 & older communities with huge property tax breaks

Agricultural Preservation

Conservation Easements

- ☀ Need more info
- ☀ I think areas along rivers and streams that often flood should have those areas pursued to be placed in such programs.
- ☀ I agree with some caveats. The land should be low quality ground or already established as prairie or timber.
- ☀ Absolutely not.
- ☀ Stop spraying the milkweeds! Protect the pollinators. Encourage residents to be able to grow native plants on their property. Encourage residents to stop spraying their lawns with pesticides. Plant more wildflowers in areas to provide food for pollinators.
- ☀ Key word: voluntary

Zoning Adjustments

- ☀ Find nonzoning solutions instead
- ☀ Emphasis on "consider".
- ☀ Need more info

Agricultural Enhancement + Agritourism

- ☀ Have our local groceries and farm stores etc start selling more or only local products
- ☀ Organic and non GMO farm to table food would be great.

Small Scale + 1st Generation Farms

- ☀ Absolutely agree. We need to keep the small farmers supported over the large multi-acre farming.
- ☀ Disagree, all small businesses fall & pick themselves back up, or not. Why support only farms?
- ☀ This is a demographic that is dwindling as well as losing our younger generations. Offering resources or networking events may convince more young farmers to buy or take up the family business.

Innovative Agricultural Methods

- ☀ Farming operations will diversify based on what works for their land and personal operation structure. This is not something the county should spend resources on.
- ☀ Conservation education needs to come 1st. They wont do what they dont understand
- ☀ More CSA foods

Suggest Another

- ☀ Conservation setbacks, buffered waterways, and things like precision agriculture that take marginal ground out of production and make areas for the ring necked pheasant (recreation) and pollinators.

Parks + Recreation

Camping

- ☀ Smaller tent only campgrounds with a real camping experience would be more ideal for low income families.
- ☀ Other nearby counties have far superior parks with large lakes. This project should come after we grow the base.
- ☀ Not a priority. We're well served with a variety of camping



- ☀ Good for revenue and supporting local economic development (businesses, etc.) Neal Smith Center is an asset, Quarry Springs, Speedway, etc. Take advantage of these tourism opportunities and market, market, market!
- ☀ Need to maintain what we already have.
- ☀ I think there's a market for it.

Land Trails

- ☀ The biking trail that attaches Slater, Madrid, and the High Tressle Trail have high traffic. It would be awesome to implement a nice trail like that in our community!
- ☀ We need to fix our current system of roads and trails and not add more. More = more maintenance costs in the future.
- ☀ This is what many young families desire! Middle age as well!
- ☀ Trails are a waste of taxpayer money.
- ☀ Trails, especially bike trails will be a draw for our communities and encourage young families to move to our cities. Yes, maintenance is an expense, but it is a worthwhile investment long-term for the county's vitality.
- ☀ Duluth, Minnesota has amazing trails even within the city. It's a city well-respected for biking and hiking. It brings the community together and brings visitors/\$. I think we can emulate this.
- ☀ I would love to connect the bike trails so we don't have to drive to Baxter!

Water Recreation

- ☀ Good idea, however, will be difficult to maintain accesses. For instance with so much flooding on the skunk, the likelihood of having to rebuild regularly is high and would be costly.
- ☀ I don't think there are any ideal bodies of water in Jasper County to accommodate those things.
- ☀ Yes!!! We are trying to find some safe places to kayak a river but can't find any nearby.
- ☀ No need.

- ☀️ A splash pad a wading pool would be awesome
- ☀️ Splash park in the downtown area
- ☀️ I think Jasper County has more options for water trails with its terrain than bike trails as most bicyclists don't want to climb hills. Between the South Skunk and North Skunk, different types of water trails could be offered.

Motorized Recreation

- ☀️ Already have enough of these. We need to encourage non-motorized facilities
- ☀️ The snowmobile registration fees should be used towards small marking signs in the ditches like many other counties do. Prioritize the safety of snowmobilers.
- ☀️ And horse trails
- ☀️ There may be a new ATV/UTV Ordinance that the Comp Plan may want to look into.
- ☀️ Allow atv's on roadways only.
- ☀️ There is greater chance for revenue to local businesses through the purchase of equipment like that.
- ☀️ I go to parks to get away from noise.

Hunting + Fishing

- ☀️ Improve upon the fishing opportunities we have. Many counties are banning lead shot from county public hunting areas to protect from lead poisoning and contamination.
- ☀️ Undecided but seems like this could be inexpensive compared to many other options.
- ☀️ Absolutely there should be more places to hunt and fish.
- ☀️ More areas for people to hunt, hike and recreate will be good for the county. Brings revenue into the county from both inside and outside the county.

Suggest Another

- ☀️ Libraries are key to many of our communities. There is a lot of foot traffic and some pretty amazing programs. We have some great library programs in the county, and we should not step backwards.



Community Character

Land Appearance / Up-keep

- ☀ Colfax should actually enforce their own city codes. Half this town is junk.
- ☀ I have lived in a townhome association, so let me stress that I don't feel everyone should have the exactly same front lawn. However, there should be some regulations as to what is allowed and not allowed for public viewing as people pass by.
- ☀ Provide incentives. Teach kids "clean" values
- ☀ This is a never ending task. People who rent do not care about their property's.
- ☀ Absolutely a top priority. When our community looks nice, it will draw the right kind of people here.
- ☀ No. I relish the old times when nobody paid any attention. What you do on your side of the fence should not matter. This isn't Beverly Hills. Less Gov.= less stressful living and better health.
- ☀ Consider passing ordinance that prohibits mowing of ditches until After the pheasant hatch (August 1)
- ☀ Agree, but difficult to enforce. Maybe increase roadside prairies which offer pretty drives in the summer and fall. But would need to curb recreational spraying of ditches.
- ☀ Keep properties well kept as lawn mowed trash pick up around houses.
- ☀ Really? Curb appeal is a city/town issue. County needs to stay out of it. A person's property ought to be theirs to do with what they please. This smells of overreach. "Good fences make good neighbors". Roads are what needs to be focused on. We have historical pictures of homesteads with broken down equipment and old buildings that we cherish, country life is not about curb appeal. "Curb appeal " is merely another tool to "control" residents via a rule or regulation and subjective and dependent on the "enforcer's" opinion. Leave people alone and don't go here.
- ☀ Newton and rural Newton is dirty and litter dumped every where. Clean up/tear down dilapidating structures. Code enforcement of junk on properties. Weed control, and beautification of rural areas, county management and better maintenance of roads (terrible here) and weeds mowed.

- ☀ Get more community involvement!! Churches and businesses should be willing to help with this!! Reach out to them for funds and volunteers.
- ☀ efforts to increase property appearance only leads property tax increases is what I here from many residents
- ☀ Too many people in town think they live in a rural area. No junkyards in our neighborhoods would be great.
- ☀ Need a County "Pride" campaign that doesn't stop after 6 months!

County-wide events

- ☀ Low cost family activities are needed
- ☀ The more we can highlight/create "things to do" in Jasper the better.
- ☀ Partnering is great but don't think it should be a focus.
- ☀ Leave this to municipalities.

Art + Culture

- ☀ Public art and festivals are always good to bring people and money to the community. I don't feel out community is large enough to have separate ethnic celebrations, however it would be nice to have an ethnic festival to celebrate and share and experience foods of various ethnicities all at the same festival.
- ☀ Sculpture festival could be expanded. Mason City has a designated route--Could offer a competition each year to attract new talent and visitors.
- ☀ can this be done without exorbitant fees and permits that curtail participation to vendors?
- ☀ And family friendly. Not all Biker related. Work with DMACC culinary for an eatery. Also bring in better quality restaurants with a Prairie Canary feel and a real Steakhouse farm to table (like Big Steer / Trellis type foods), offer cooking / baking classes for kids and families. Attract more artists and showcase the Arts more here.
- ☀ Some cities do very well on this, but we can expand
- ☀ This should remain a municipality responsibility.

- ☀️ These are sooo vital to communities. They bring people together, promote community involvement and care, show visitors a love of community and brings them to visit, and overall shows a respect for humanity and the beauty of various cultures.
- ☀️ Encourage art and culture, but beyond having public services available for traffic control, parking, etc., I think the bigger role is to attract private sponsors to bring these to Jasper County.
- ☀️ Not just in summer when its too hot to attend!
- ☀️ Art and culture is about more than festivals. We need restaurants, museums, community spaces and libraries to become vibrant community that people WANT to call home.

Historic Preservation

- ☀️ As long as my taxes don't have to pay for it.
- ☀️ Hotel Maytag and the Maytag Plaza are awesome!
- ☀️ This, this, this, and more this!
- ☀️ Historic preservation should be a low priority. It's important to honor the past, but taxpayer dollars have more urgent demands than old buildings and sites.
- ☀️ While history can be interesting to learn, let's focus on the here and now. We need money to filter to projects that help people in the present, not spend lots of money on the past.
- ☀️ City/town responsibility.
- ☀️ Newton has been pro-active in this. We need to do more
- ☀️ Yes as long as it is a discriminating list. Just because it is old it may not be worth preserving.
- ☀️ This depends on the expense that goes along with preserving. If the expense out-weighs the benefit, then by all means a new building should be considered. The expense to maintain a new building would be much less and common sense should be used to make that decision.
- ☀️ I support historic preservation but also feel that common sense has to be involved also. There comes a point when a building is in such need of repairs that if there isn't a functional and practical use for it besides "saving" it then money should be used on other structures that will fulfill a purpose. I would also like to see

the Red Bridge south of Reasnor be moved as soon as possible to the quarry at Colfax. This structure will fulfill a purpose and add character.

Growth Management

- ☀ Jasper county can not afford to preserve the rural feel because that means dusty roads and run down farm buildings too close to urban expansion. That would produce stagnation of this county.
- ☀ Rural preservation is a must! Wind farms are not the answer. Data against them and impact on a community is devastating.
- ☀ Rural feel is over-rated but it seems to help our community. We're not that rural
- ☀ I only agree because, if left alone, it is preserved without government interference.
- ☀ Make sure we protect ourselves adequately from livestock confinement issues.
- ☀ Rural feel can be important, but again, we need to focus on people and community in order to heal and bring people together.
- ☀ There are those of us who like the small town living. We work in another town and don't necessarily need to have the grocery store and restaurants. We enjoy our kids being able to ride their bikes freely on the side streets and know that while they are out playing with other kids in town that someone always has an eye out for their safety. When looking at housing needs remember the smaller communities have lost growth also and need to expand their tax base to be sustainable.
- ☀ Let the free market determine Jasper County's growth.
- ☀ I agree with this partially; I want Jasper County to grow responsibly but I don't want the need to preserve the rural feel to stunt our growth as a community.
- ☀ Don't try to merge town and country.
- ☀ No housing developments, keep this county a farming community. I do not want to be like Polk County

Suggest Another

- ☀ Support the local libraries!

- ☀ Housing incentives- specifically for some of the houses in Newton. Curb appeal is terrible, which in turn attracts terrible home owners. I could care less if these houses were given away to investors to then rebuild them (to certain qualified specs) in turn building up remodeled homes bringing up the community and its people whom live in it.

Suggestions

- ☀ Senior housing in the smaller towns
- ☀ Build a community center that individuals and organizations can use to offer classes
- ☀ Having nice libraries
- ☀ Provide adequate funding for Library Services
- ☀ More advance widespread notice of activities is desired. Better info= better attendance
- ☀ Libraries are a crucial component of quality of life!
- ☀ Jasper Cty needs to get tough on crime & retire the judges who give all criminals probation or dismissal.
- ☀ Provide adequate funding for Library Services
- ☀ Make us the friendliest city in Iowa. Hospitality training for everyone - competition for "friendliest" businesses - "miles of smiles" walking paths- smiles on a stick for advertising.
- ☀ Continue buying out ran down condemned houses & tearing them down.
- ☀ Bring back neighborhood watch program to help residents feel safer.

Wrap Up: Final Thoughts

- ☀ As social service funding across the state has decreased and the concerns about children's time spent on electronics increase, now is NOT the time to cut funding for libraries. Libraries are so important to the fabric of a strong community. It is wrong, when those services are being offered to ALL Jasper County residents, that the county should be pushing additional funding responsibilities onto the city governments. I realize everything is expensive and projects have been pushed down the road, and now we are "down the road". Things cost money. Services cost money. I don't understand why we wouldn't expect our taxes to increase as costs increase. It's just math.

Libraries are SO important to the low income families of our county. Please consider restoring the library funding to an appropriate level. Thank you.

- ☀ Currently live off gravel and roads are terrible. Directly affected by double bridge closure on Hwy 6 and extremely unhappy with how it's been handled.
- ☀ The survey did not allow me the opportunity to answer first two questions in completion.
- ☀ Thank you for allowing for our input.
- ☀ Jasper co needs more industry. More jobs creates more tax revenue.
- ☀ Property taxes have gotten totally out of hand. The assess value of our home in Mon roe rose from 90,000 to 170,000 this past year. We may have to downsize or move to an apartment to continue living here. This should not be an option for any senior citizen living in Jasper County.
- ☀ Jasper County is a well-hidden secret and for those of us who live here, we'd like to keep it that way. However, we need businesses and growth that truly fits the vision for the county. People who live in large cities want to move to places like JC allowing them to commute to work easily, yet come home to a slower-pace in life. We have an opportunity to build upon this by building the infrastructure needed to attract the types of small and mid sized businesses that are unique and compliment our county, not be an eye-sore.
- ☀ We need to limit and stop the growth of hog confinements. We need to cap wind turbines. We need to promote more natural areas that do not involve motorized vehicles.
- ☀ People want things to do, create or highlight things to do and people will come.
- ☀ Please clean up our town of dilapidated housing, messy lots and restore buildings like they did the Maytag Hotel. Increase activities for kids.
- ☀ There is so much potential here! I love to think of outside of the box ideas and I'd love to see all of us in Jasper County work together more. I know that this has been great for the Fire Departments - or as far as I know anyway. :)
- ☀ I also think it is our responsibility to make sure we are being thoughtful about how we use our land and not just throw up housing or businesses without thinking about what is best for the land. I would love to have Jasper County known for being good stewards to where we live.
- ☀ I am mostly concerned about crime & the leniency in punishment. It harms the whole community.

- ☀ We need to increase housing opportunities for new young families, provide outdoor living such as improvements in parks and trails. We also need better/ affordable transportation throughout Jasper County for all populations such as Uber/Lyft. Many elders in the county do not have access to transportation.
- ☀ We definitely need to focus on roads. Keep funding for things like elderly nutrition
- ☀ Add a bike trail on Hwy S74 S.
- ☀ Newton is aging rapidly and solutions should be built for the next generation. Invest in and grow small businesses. Tech education and opportunities, especially for start-ups
- ☀ We need to fix our gravel roads and highways.
- ☀ I live on the County line and have a business which adds to the economic and tourism impact in Jasper County.
- ☀ Gravel and county roads need repaired and upkept better. This is step one to taking care of all other issues. If our roads are crappy our county looks poor, and crappy to any visitors or potential new businesses.
- ☀ Preserving our farmers and land are the most important to me. Stop Urban sprawl.
- ☀ Looking good! I like the options and the initiative
- ☀ In Newton particularly which is the county seat we need to gain control of the drug problem. We have too many users and too much theft for people outside of our community to want to live into the community. We need city and county officials who will not turn a blind eye, participate in the crime and who will bring in the DCI FBI or whatever public state officials are needed to get a grip on this situation.
- ☀ Need more stores. Sick of Walmart
- ☀ We need higher wage jobs to compete with employment opportunities outside Jasper Co.
- ☀ Jasper County has a big task ahead of them to pull their heads out of whatever hole they put them in. Their needs to be less concern about "attractions" and more concern about the county's infrastructure. Quit trying to compete with Polk County and their trails and parks and worry about spending our limited funds on our roads.
- ☀ Fix our roads!!!!
- ☀ The county really needs to start paving more gravel roads.

- ☀ I think the county is in a predicament of keeping up with Polk county and being our own entity. I think a lot of people look to the west and see them, but if they would look south, east or west a different perspective might be had. We are doing a good job with limited funding streams. More funding is necessary to “keep up with the Joneses”. Have to increase that tax base to make it happen.
- ☀ Love it here but it seems like the city only cares about making money.. 2 meter maids yet not 1 officer can stop thieves around town.. roads are also terrible
- ☀ Need harsher juvenile penalties. More services for out of control teens. More services for mentally unstable juveniles that refuse help and the justice system wont do anything about it.
- ☀ No more factories. If we do they need to be high paying, all we are doing is attracting low income single people that work in factories.
- ☀ Look into offering property tax credits for home improvements that boost curb appeal. (Roof, siding, exterior painting)
- ☀ Fix roads and create opportunities for new growtg
- ☀ Stagnation unless we get some leadership willing to invest in the future. Look at all the development from our neighboring counties on both sides of the county. No reason we shouldn't have that.
- ☀ How about including Ira in the options another way the county overlooks ira
- ☀ We need to focus on recreation and bringing and supporting small business - retail (especially clothing) and dining (especially casual of a higher scale than we currently have). Manchester is a great example and I'd like to see our city learn from them.
- ☀ I love the small town feel but jasper county needs to upgrade to the times. Shopping is very sparse and a lot of economy goes to Polk county.
- ☀ Keep the small town feel
- ☀ Need to seriously address homeless people, drug trafficking and theft problems in our community.
- ☀ The county as a whole is heading in the right direction.

- ☀ PLEASE fix the bridge that is owned by the city and the county on N. 4th Ave. in Newton. Want to improve the lives of residents? Please prioritize fixing a bridge that is violating a city ordinance and fire code, affecting school district buses, trash pick-up, and inconveniencing 16 property owners (city and county) for an extended period of time.
- ☀ Rural development will never progress with deteriorating gravel roads. Wake up and smell the roses. Our roads are a mess
- ☀ Hopefully the vulgar tax income misappropriation gets fixed soon so I don't have to constantly fix my vehicle cause the roads are [expletive]. Also would be nice if the cops did their jobs and busted rapists and drug dealers instead of ticketing people for exhaust noise and window tint
- ☀ I would like to see the epidemic of meth and opioid use and proliferation dealt with in a way that works. I have known people who have moved here from other central Iowa communities that were shocked at how bad the problem really is.
- ☀ The focus will always be the bigger towns. The unincorporated towns always get screwed so I am sure this was a waste of time to do.
- ☀ We need to continue to fund needed projects, not raise taxes. Utilities have increased this year in all areas so they need to show us that the increase also increases the services.
- ☀ Quit being petty Administrators and actually listen to the calls and feedback you get instead of catering to the people you like or your own designs instead of the collective designs of the majority.
- ☀ There is a lot of work to be done!
- ☀ This is a great place to live but I think in order to attract additional families, we need to focus on our roads. If potential residents see difficulty in travel, they won't move here.
- ☀ I think jasper county, specifically newton, is a great place to live in. I think it will continue to only get better and we look forward to the future.
- ☀ There is a lot of drug use in this town that needs to be addressed. The more drugs, the more crime--thefts, robberies, etc.
- ☀ Need to have options for people who want to live in the country but closer to a certain school district. We have been trying to move up to Baxter but everything we find wont let me park my semi at home.

- ☀ I think it is important to keep libraries available so all children have access.
- ☀ Library was left out of the budgetary options. Considering recent and intended cuts, this doesn't look promising for the county's intentions toward lifelong learning.
- ☀ I'm really disappointed in how little support our libraries and community centers are receiving. Libraries in particular, are lifelines to residents who do not have access to internet, job searching assistance, youth development opportunities, and many other resources. Children, seniors, and the economically depressed are especially dependent on libraries and you hurt our communities when you rip away resources from these groups.
- ☀ Should be kid and education geared otherwise wasting our time to separate our county to other counties who doesn't want to be at a place with the best schools and parks geared toward youth
- ☀ Newton needs to bring in more business . Menards, craft store (hobby lobby), restaurant's on the east side. I'm tired of driving 5 miles across town to a restaurant and then 5 miles back to shop.
- ☀ Make Jasper the county that people who want to get away from the polk County, call home!
- ☀ Let's make this the best county in Iowa
- ☀ Keep ATVs off county roads. They do not have the proper safety equipment, or insurance. The damage they do is not worth opening up our roads to pleasure riders. Please fund our libraries! Without continued funding for our public libraries, services will suffer.
- ☀ Going to sell and move to Polk County - closer to work and many more family activities and restaurants
- ☀ Cut down on crime and fix the road. Please.
- ☀ Fix the gravel roads!!!
- ☀ Keep it simple, maintain transparency, limit government involvement, let the private sector do the heavy lifting!
- ☀ It would be nice to see the county spend money on substance abuse treatment for county residents at county businesses.
- ☀ Personally, I am tired of the high taxes and the money being spent unwisely.

- ☀ Stop moving in factories. Low paying job draw low paying people. Crime rate and drug use is out of control in Newton and Colfax. Small business breaks are what we need. No more factories unless they can pay what Maytag used to and has the same long term benefits.
- ☀ We need to get a handle on the drug abuse, more things to do, and better paying jobs.
- ☀ Jasper County is primarily an ag community and should stay that way. The little housing developments that pop up in the middle of farmland should be kept to a minimum.
- ☀ I would love to see some changes in road development and maintenance as well as parks and rec development. Public health and safety is always a concern so making sure the community is taken care of is important as well. I have faith we'll see good changes coming soon!
- ☀ good survey
- ☀ I would like to see, Jasper as a mi-stop between Iowa City and DSM offering larger city amenities while maintaining small town appeal. I think Newton can attract several outside community citizens here with the right business and attractions building more revenue and creating jobs for local residents.
- ☀ I believe that we'll find an emphasis on funding infrastructure because of the current state of roads, bridges, etc. Over time, with the right amount of initial funding, the percentage going to infrastructure should go down or hold steady against some of the other areas.
- ☀ Young families want an area where they can work and play. Currently both those options are found more elsewhere than in Jasper county. I think the outlook and opportunity of the county is great, we just need to focus on the key areas of development.
- ☀ We need follow through and implementation to progress. People need to be open to change to grow our community.
- ☀ County needs to get its act together and be touch more progressive. This is, after all, the new century and the counties around us are cleaning our clocks economically and residential.
- ☀ 2 easiest ways to grow are economically well located housing developments and helping existing companies grow. This takes money spent now to get more people. This is not the time to be frugal.
- ☀ I would love to see a bike trail from Newton to Kellogg

- ☀ It's paramount to ensure funding for school systems and Library systems.
- ☀ DON'T FORGET to prioritize library funding. Rural dwellers need library services just as much as city dwellers.
- ☀ Iowa as a whole has a good future, Jasper Co. Should do more to take advantage of their proximity to Polk Co. On a side note, the water quality in this state is awful.
- ☀ Obviously after the spring we have had, our roads are in bad shape. Something needs to get figured out! And please stop spraying the ditches!
- ☀ We better paying jobs!! And job opportunity!!! Our roads need improved. We need things for kids can do to keep them out of trouble.From Going down the wrong path.
- ☀ Good paying jobs. Most of Newton works out of town so they spend their money out of town
- ☀ I appreciate the county is taking time and initiative to get input from the community and their opinions so matter so much. Thank you.
- ☀ I want the integrity of this county to be preserved in its rural roots. I do not want the farm land to be destroyed. I enjoy the peace and beauty of this state.
- ☀ Economic development Climate change
- ☀ I live on a gravel road and I know everyone talks about how bad they are...some are I think we need to find a better solution to what we place on the roads with cost in mind. we understand everyone has a budget and everyone wants to talk bad about something but are unwilling to put up the money through taxes to fix it. Many of the roads in town are really beat up the city has done a great job taking down the old broken houses to make our town look so much better. The town is growing with new small and large businesses. We need to find ways to attract young families back into our community. Our crime rate scares the crap out of me with a 2 year old granddaughter growing up here. Thank you for all the thought and hard work you put into place to make our town a better place!
- ☀ Clean up Newton
- ☀ Jasper County has fallen behind in many ways, in roads, jobs, housing. As a County we need to work harder. The roads need so much work.
- ☀ Glad to see start of change. Long overdue.

- ☀ Allow wind turbines to be used in Jasper county.
- ☀ It's an exciting time with all kinds of opportunity!
- ☀ Need to increase economic development efforts across the county to keep moving in the right direction. Take advantage of local assets and coordinate works working together more closely to market regionally. Close proximity to Red Rock is also a plus in addition to many items mentioned. We need to be working to attract as many young families as possible, which means we also need quality employers, housing, etc. We also need senior housing options in our local communities to free up residential homes for those first time home buyers, etc. Supporting quality schools and safety are also important.
- ☀ Don't get too big for yer britches, can't do everything at once, pick 1 or 2 and do those well. ROADS ROADS ROADS.
- ☀ While the County does not have a Library directly that they run, I am disgusted that libraries were kept completely off of the questionnaire. Also, that Parks & Recreation were only mentioned once. A high quality of life is directly proportionate a resident's ability to improve their life improve their education/training, and feel part of the community. While Public Safety and road maintenance are important they barely scrape the surface of a person's true quality of life. Why did you not ask about services to the economically disadvantaged? Anything about senior citizens and how they can make their doctor's appointments? Where a person can go to use high-speed Internet to apply for a job, check email from family, or find people to converse with. This survey was very one-sided and clearly put emphasis on the few subjects that the County deemed important and not it's residents.
- ☀ I want our community to grow and bring higher paying jobs to the county. Incentives to shop and businesses to locate in Newton
- ☀ Seems like it is becoming a town for the elderly
- ☀ Its not looking good with the people moving in more crime rate and more trash more drugs. Need to quit giving away housing and attracting good people back to newton
- ☀ County will be fine without alot of these proposals/wants.
- ☀ if you do not fix the roads this plan will not work. I think the county has to many employees compared to other countys
- ☀ We love Jasper County and are excited to continue to see it grow and thrive!

- ☀ Need to have good roads and sports complexes to attract good people. Also good jobs good housing options and things to do. City and county have to work together on making this a better county!
- ☀ Need more restaurants.
- ☀ This is a good place to live. We need to work to maintain our community and improve it.
- ☀ newtons population and growth has not changed in the past 70 years and I dont see any changes in near future
- ☀ Would rather you keep my taxes down and do nothing than raise my taxes for anything other than roads.
- ☀ Grant our libraries more funding they are an important piece to pc!
- ☀ Change is needed. Sad to be know as a rough, dirty town and crime here on news. Clean up, improve roads, properties and attract others here. Bring in some foodies, emphasize arts, more family friendly areas, activies. Better sportsmanship. Become a little more classy with quaintness, not all biker, smoker, drug town. Check out Weston, MO.
- ☀ Jasper County is a great place to live and raise a family.
- ☀ I think Jasper county is a great county, however I think lately we've attracted some individuals who likely to cause issues, I.E. bring in families of prisoners causes those individuals to stay in the area and drugs are become a bigger issue.
- ☀ Lots of potential!!
- ☀ 40 yrs old
- ☀ Lots of caring peoplein Jasper County
- ☀ Are roads need major attention
- ☀ Lots of potential for the county, the more we continue to try and engage folks the better. This plan is a great start!!
- ☀ Bike trails should be a part of the conservation budget not roads.
- ☀ Farming
- ☀ The county needs to concentrate on necessities not niceties
- ☀ Action plans, mission statements and the like are hollow rhetoric without a system of realistic implementation

- ☀ Roads are completely unsafe through alot of Jasper county, needs to be priority.
- ☀ I am hoping that some of the roads can get fixed better and there will soon be more affordable housing for low income family and more help with it as well
- ☀ Jasper County is well positioned to have a bright future! Being located in close proximity to Des Moines gives Jasper County the chance to become a high-quality haven for sustainable growth. Recreation and other quality of life amenities could be the leading strategy for attracting more people and commerce to the area.
- ☀ Question 3 did not work and was just a blank grey area. I think Jasper county needs to focus on fixing the utilities within all of the small towns before it focuses on expanding and building more homes. It is ridiculous that so many small towns have old and unsafe water lines. Or slow to no internet. My husband and I work from home and we know many people who would move to Jasper county (or any town) if it has a Fiber internet connection. And they would do so in a heart beat. If Jasper county worked on building and providing this asset I think the county would see a massive amount of people move here. Jasper county also has some amazing beauty that it is not capitalizing on. Let's focus on our natural assets, and keep our rivers, lakes and air clean. I think creating more tourism could go a long way to building our economy and attracting younger people who work via the internet like we do.
- ☀ IMPROVE THE SECONDARY ROADS. WE LIVE IN THE COUNTRY AND PAY TAXES FOR THE ROADS AND THEY ARE IN HORRIBLE SHAPE.
- ☀ Need to seek collaborative items with Pella and Grinnell. Need improved road from I-80 to Pella.
- ☀ If you have more wholesome outdoor activities, quality of life goes up and crime goes down.
- ☀ All towns in Jasper County need to work together to give everyone a better future.
- ☀ I believe economic development and housing should be strongly supported. More paved roads are needed, which would open up areas for housing!
- ☀ Need to make sure ALL areas of the county are equally represented; not just large cities such as Newton.
- ☀ I think that we need to place a higher priority on our County Attorney's Office so that they can spend more time on more cases that come before their office. These efforts would help keep our community safe. I would also like to see more Jasper County support for public libraries within our community. Public libraries are an important way to provide learning opportunities for our residents.

- ☀ It looks good, we're trying to stay on a productive path. We could entertain some new companies, paying good wages, to help build our communities.
- ☀ we need to improve our public lands and recreational opportunities in order to attract people and businesses to visit and then stay here.
- ☀ The man that put this together needs a raise...
- ☀ I would like to see an emphasis on public safety and conservation which will make the job of promoting (economic development) much easier to potential future employers considering Jasper County.
- ☀ I think we need to make the rural areas of our county more appealing to all demographics. That way, money is put back into those areas to help them thrive.
- ☀ Rural roads must become a priority as well as public safety and law enforcement in rural areas
- ☀ Build some houses. People can't move here without them. Differentiate Jasper County from the metro. We have a lot to offer. Build on the budding success of Quarry
- ☀ Springs. Build bike trails
- ☀ All though trails are good for some they do not belong next to roadways nor should Jasper County fund them with roadway funds.
- ☀ affordable house is a real issue. home builders won't build a \$150 to \$200k home but this what people can afford.
- ☀ Quit playing politics. Get to work.
- ☀ Great County would love more funds for library system.
- ☀ Need to address the gravel road system & explore paving these roads, because I don't see it getting better in the future if we continue on with just gavel surfaces. The more gravel roads that get paved, the more potential for rural development - whether that be housing or ag/commerical.
- ☀ Keep going after businesses to come to the newton area. We have done a great job at getting jobs to Newton now we need to find a way to keep the jobs here and keep businesses open and being profitable and attract more big box retail stores
- ☀ Cant wait for more bike trails!

- ☀ Gravel roads are in desperate need of work. Newton is a very unattractive looking town.
- ☀ Connect hike and bike trails to others and outside county. Support the Conservation Center.
- ☀ thanks for what you do
- ☀ Fix the roads
- ☀ The roads need repaired. Marion County are 75% better than Jasper.
- ☀ Roads in Jasper County need addressed, some roads are impassable in spring and fall. Our tax dollars should be put to work.
- ☀ Please connect the hike/bike trails to the system accessing the metro area so that we may have a usable central Iowa interconnect.
- ☀ I live in Jasper County, and am self-employed and work in Jasper as well as other counties. I would love to see Jasper County pave their farm to market roads, and get hi-speed internet in rural areas. I would love to see Jasper Co. help attract IT jobs and business to rural small towns to help spark the towns growth.
- ☀ I'd suggest better housing, more diversity and enforcing laws
- ☀ Great potential, and progress, but still got room to grow.
- ☀ Lookong bright!! #thebeard
- ☀ Keep in mind that Jasper County includes all of the county--not just Newton.
- ☀ Volunteer EMS in Jasper Co and statewide for is failing and not sustainable under the current system.
- ☀ Fix the roads! Shut down the tweakers! Fire the mayor and the council! Fire the veterans affairs rep Jackson in Newton he is worthless!
- ☀ Jobs, jobs, jobs
- ☀ There was no good reason to disagree on any of the strategies. Should have been rated instead
- ☀ We need more jobs that people can make a living doing. 10 bucks an hour in Newton don't pay your bills. Newton is expensive for middle class people.

- ☀ Forget bicycle paths for the very minority of Jasper Co. Citizens. Black top all dirt-gravel roads"
- ☀ Need to get the people that have been making the rules for years out and get some new and fresh ideas going.
- ☀ Bring more jobs to the country and construction will follow.
- ☀ The county is in desperate need of real mental health services. Capstone and Optima are doing a disservice to the county with med-driven solutions paid for by pharmaceutical companies that don't address problems adequately. MercyOne has some solutions, but needs encouragement from the county to continue providing real solutions for mental health that do not include dangerous and untested pills.
- ☀ I think a lot of Jasper county's problems are the poor roads. Once this is under control I think a lot the other things mentioned will also improve.
- ☀ Ask Marion county and Monroe county about their secondary road plans. Both are incredibly better condition than Jasper
- ☀ Law enforcement and roads need to see more funding. Removed from welfare programs.
- ☀ put term limits on the board of supervisors
- ☀ I really think we need to focus on conservation and preserving natural land. I appreciate agriculture but I feel that we do not need to keep expanding on it or else our future generations will have nothing. I also feel that the road systems and maintenance really need to be focused on. One can tell when they are crossing in and out of the county not by physical signs but by how bad Jasper County roads are...
- ☀ It's a great county I was born and raised here I would like to see more things on the ATV / Ranger on the roads do u have to have a license??
- ☀ I can't wait to see what the future holds for Jasper County!
- ☀ hopeful for a bright future
- ☀ I think with the number of smaller communities of Jasper County, there is a lot of potential for small businesses and homes that can make Jasper County unique. We all don't have to be Polk County as there are still a great deal of us that like the simple, small town, rural way of life. We just need the yuppies money to sustain us!
- ☀ You should have given an option on funding balance. I only used 85 percent as I believe the budget can be cut. Jasper County's future is best determined by the free market and not by County taxpayers subsidizing every one

of them to a degree. The County should know its role, recognize the struggle current businesses and residents have, and provide the infrastructure to make the county attractive to investors. I don't care for bribing people to invest in our county with dollars people are forced to pay in. "

- ☀ Reduce property taxes. Fix the gravel roads. Don't waste our money on Global Warming, it is a lie.
- ☀ Lower property taxes. Fix the gravel roads.
- ☀ Lower taxes.
- ☀ Our gravel roads are a disaster!

Relationship to Other Plans

Before beginning to draft this Comprehensive Plan, a number of plans affecting Jasper County were considered to ensure that this Comprehensive Plan's goals and actions mirrored those of other area entities to ensure that everyone is working towards one collective vision. Nine area plans were looked at in depth and are summarized in this section.

Central Iowa Regional Transit Planning Alliance (CIRTPA) Long-Range Transportation Plan

Goals:

- ☀ Maintain existing transportation system
 - ⊗ PCI, Bridge rating system
- ☀ Provide a safe transportation system
 - ⊗ Crash data- severity
- ☀ Promote livability
 - ⊗ Miles of trails, on-street bicycle facilities, system gaps
- ☀ Protect the environment and conserve resource
 - ⊗ Green infrastructure, electric vehicles, emission levels

Jasper County Multijurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

Jasper County (unincorporated) and Jasper County's incorporated cities and school districts met to identify and profile hazards that pose a risk to the county and assess the area's vulnerability to those hazards. From there, the committee developed a mitigation strategy to reduce the impacts of such hazards.

Goals:

- ☀ Minimize injuries and loss of life due to impacts of natural hazards
- ☀ Reduce or eliminate damages to property due to natural hazards
- ☀ Manage response operation with or without state/ federal assistance
- ☀ Help ensure timely resumption of business operations
- ☀ Return to pre-disaster conditions in a timely and pre-planned manner

2017 Jasper County Housing Assessment

Goals:

- ☀ Increase lot supply
- ☀ Increase rental units
- ☀ Expand diversity
- ☀ Share risks to meet needs that private market cannot satisfy alone
- ☀ Preserve existing housing
- ☀ Promote sites with existing infrastructure
- ☀ Match lot sizes and infrastructure maintenance

Jasper County Health Department's Community Health Needs Assessment

CHNA Wave #3		Jasper Co N=200		
Past CHNAs health needs identified		Ongoing Problem		Pressing
#	Topic	Votes	%	Trend
1	Mental Health / Behaviors	147	90.7%	Red
2	Substance Abuse	125	77.2%	Red
3	Violent / Abusive Behaviors	66	40.7%	Red
4	Child Abuse / Neglect	61	37.7%	Yellow
5	Child Obesity	59	36.4%	Yellow
6	Transportation	56	34.6%	Yellow
7	Wellness / Nutrition	54	33.3%	Yellow
8	Access to Healthcare	50	30.9%	Yellow
9	Healthy Homes	50	30.9%	Yellow
10	Dental Care	46	28.4%	Yellow
11	Tobacco Use	45	27.8%	White
12	Public Health	37	22.8%	White
13	Immunization Costs	13	8.0%	White
14	Radon-testing	12	7.4%	White
15	Fall-related Injuries	11	6.8%	White
16	Childhood Lead Levels	3	1.9%	White

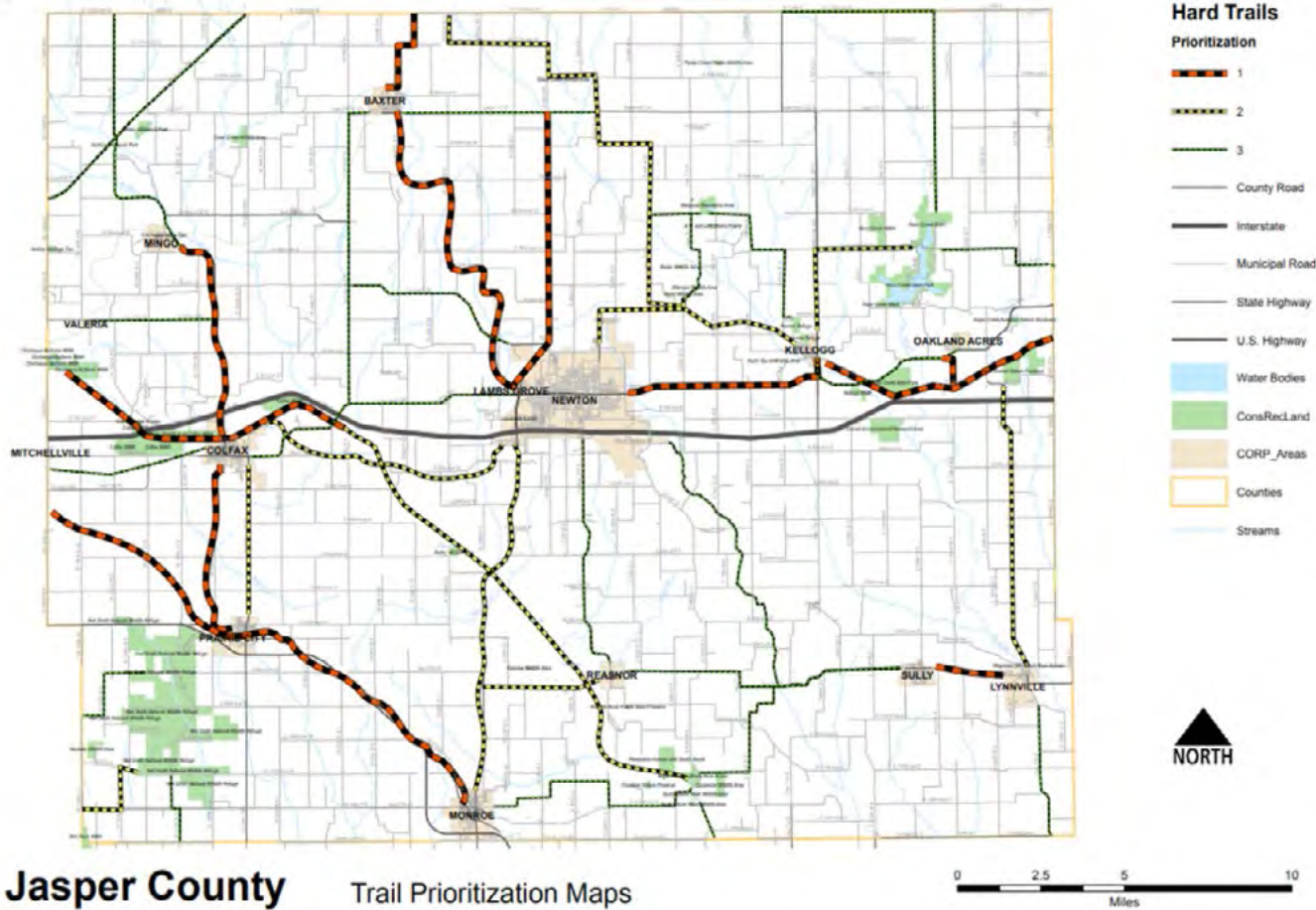
Jasper County CHNA Town Hall - "Community Health Areas of Strengths"

Jasper County - Community Health Strengths			
#	Topic	#	Topic
1	Access to Hospital Speciality Clinic, Urgent Care, OP Care, Prenatal Care / OB	7	EMS - Emergency Responders
2	Available Health Resources	8	Mobile Crises Response Team
3	Community Involvement	9	Public Health Services
4	Dentists and Eye Doctors	10	School Teachers / Nurses
5	DMACC Nursing Program	11	Substance Abuse Coalition with Mental Health
6	Emergency Preparedness	12	Youth Programs (YMCA, 4H, Schools)

Four County Trail Plan - Iowa Heartland RC&D

- ☀ 2015 received two grants to develop trail master plan for Jasper, Madison, Marion and Warren Counties
- ☀ End goal to link to Central Iowa Trail Network





Growth and Change in Jasper County Report

The Parks and Environmental Behavior Research Group partnered with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2018 to create a study of growth and change in Jasper County, Iowa. The study was a five-year research project to understand “sense of place” and peoples’ preferences for growth and change. The purpose of the study was derived from development changes that put pressure on ecosystems including water and air pollution, as well as impact wildlife habitat affecting the

resilience of the system. Jasper County was chosen for their position as a rural county adjacent to a larger metro area, and for having a large conservation area that offer tourism opportunities.

The plan identified the following highest ranking themes for a regional sense of place:

1. Agricultural pride and fertile farmland
2. Outdoor living and associated activities to enjoy open spaces
3. A county that cares about the uniqueness of each of its small towns
4. A county that values prairie conservation

Residents felt that such qualities in a regional landscape enhance their emotional connection to Jasper County. The top priority for future planning was to keep unemployment rates low, with secondary priorities tied to increasing residential growth, and protecting both prairie and farmlands.

Moving forward, regional planning for Jasper County could provide incentives for continuing farming as a way of life, continue to expand recreational trails to connect towns that in turn may further distinguish their unique appeal, and to continue to promote the development of native landscapes.

City Comprehensive Plans

The various comprehensive plans for cities within Jasper County are essential to consider for Jasper County's Comprehensive Plan as they impact overlapping parts of the Jasper County community. Four cities within Jasper County have updated Comprehensive Plans included for consideration. The City of Monroe is in the process of developing a comprehensive plan.

Colfax Comprehensive Plan

The City of Colfax adopted their current Comprehensive Plan in 2018, making the goals and actions within the document still highly relevant to the City of Colfax.

The Plan uses goals outlined in their 2017 Strategic Plan as the framework to build their Comprehensive Plan on. The following is the list of goals identified in the Plan.

1. Grow the Property Tax Base
2. Enhance the School System
3. Increase economic Development
4. Increase Livability
5. Management of the Floodplain

Many of the goals and strategies included in the City of Colfax's Comprehensive Plan align with the goals outlined for this plan and will thus be incorporated into this document.

Mitchellville Comprehensive Plan

The City of Mitchellville's updated Comprehensive Plan was adopted in January 2018. While Mitchellville's population is mostly within Polk County, not Jasper, several of the intended growth areas for the City are within Jasper County and is therefore why it is being considered for this plan.

The Plan identified goals and actions for each of the chapters in the plan: Planning Process, Community Character, Economic Development, Housing, and Land Use & Infrastructure. The Plan identifies the following goals. More detail about the strategies and actions relating to these goals can be found in the Appendix.

☀ Chapter 2: Planning Process

1. Leadership Development / Capacity Building
2. Early and consistent participation opportunities
3. Improve Communication with ICIW
4. Improve Dissemination of Information

☀ Chapter 3: Community Character

1. Fill in Gaps in Community Resources
2. Adopt Design Standards

☀ Chapter 4: Economic Development

1. Create an Economic Attraction to Mitchellville
2. Support both sustainable commercial and industrial growth
3. Take advantage of federal and state financial support options
4. Beautify Main Street and the downtown corridor

☀ Chapter 5: Housing

1. Encourage the development of a mix of housing types
2. Encourage the development of more senior housing options
3. Encourage the use of housing related grants, loans, and other funding sources available to homeowners and developers

☀ Chapter 6: Land Use & Infrastructure

1. Land Use - Plan for a mix of uses between the northern/northwestern edges of the city and I-80
2. Land Use - Revise city zoning code to account for specific uses allowed in different zones
3. Land Use - Create special use zones for senior housing and manufactured housing
4. Land Use - Provide space for residential development to accommodate future population growth
5. Annexation - Outline an approach for future annexation
6. Utilities and Transportation - Update the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)
7. Utilities and Transportation - Improve existing transportation infrastructure using the Complete Streets Model
8. Parks and Trails - Create a variety of park spaces that appeal to a wide range of ages
9. Parks and Trails - Increase Mitchellville's connectivity to the existing parks and trails system in the area

Many of the goals and strategies included in the City of Mitchellville's Comprehensive Plan align with the goals outlined for this plan and will thus be incorporated into this document.

Newton Comprehensive Plan

The City of Newton's Comprehensive Plan was adopted in late 2012 and reviewed and revised in 2014, 2016, 2018, and anticipates another revision in 2020. Newton intends to adopt a new comprehensive plan in 2022.

Newton's Comprehensive Plan has four key themes:

1. Grow Newton's population, specifically targeting young families
2. Increase employment opportunities
3. Improve the City's curb appeal
4. Fill vacant buildings and increase local shopping options

And nine Guiding Principles:

1. Red Pride: Newton will be an attractive community with unique character, quality neighborhoods, and a clear sense of place. Newton will promote a high standard of private property up-keep, quality construction, enforcement of property maintenance regulations, and concentration on City gateways.
2. Newton Community Schools: Newton will support our schools and do whatever it takes to ensure that our children learn to think, innovate, and achieve their full potential.
3. Tourism Sector: Newton will continue to focus development efforts that encourage the growth of a tourism sector, paying particular attention to the Newton Downtown, attractions like the Jasper County Museum and public art, and the available development area surrounding the world-class Iowa Speedway. (Newton city staff notes that "Project Fastpitch," a 16-field tournament softball complex on the southeast edge of town, is planning to begin construction in 2019 and opening in 2020. This would be a significant contribution to the tourism sector.)
4. Higher Education: Newton will encourage growth of the Des Moines Area Community College Campus, grow local occupational training options, and build a college campus atmosphere in the community.
5. Health and Healthcare: Newton will encourage healthy choices and continue to grow recreation opportunities in the community. Newton will support the local hospital and recognizes that maintaining the presence of Skiff Medical Center is of utmost importance for the community.

6. Local Products: Newton will continue to support and grow locally made products and goods as symbolized by the world-famous Maytag Blue Cheese.
7. Economic Development: Newton will build on its manufacturing and entrepreneurial heritage and be recognized as a top community in which to open a new business. (Newton city staff note that needs have changed since this principle was adopted.)
8. Green Community: Newton will be recognized as a cutting edge “green community” through its continual growth of green energy industries and sustainable approach.
9. Parks and Trails: Newton will be a community where citizens have access to safe, high-quality parks and trails.

Prairie City Five Year Strategic Plan

☀ Council / Staff Driven: meaning decisions and implementation come directly from Council

☀ Priority 1: Health and Safety

☀ Health and safety poses the most immediate impact to residents, businesses, and visitors. Working toward actions to address issues in this category should be a focus over other priorities.

☀ Priority 2: Economic Development

☀ Economic development is vital to the growth and prosperity of Prairie City. Actions for this priority are very important to attract and retain both commercial and industrial organizations as well as residents. Economic development requires the collaborative efforts of public and private entities, and the support of the community overall.

☀ Priority 3: Quality of Life

☀ Quality of life is the most important factor to retain current residents and attract future residents. It also key to economic vitality. Every aspect of the community from city services such as waste water treatment to available park space in walking distance for a home owners is a determining factor in the overall perception of the quality of life.

☀ Count Directed Priorities: meaning tasks / actions directed to the appropriate affiliated organization for action that will come back to council for a decision and / or implementation follow up

☀ Priority 4: Affiliated Organizational Support

- ☀ There are actions in this strategic plan that require the responsibility of an affiliated organization to take action and implement steps to address these issues and opportunities. The Council should direct these organizations to address the action steps and follow up with the council as needed to support the activity and move implementation forward.

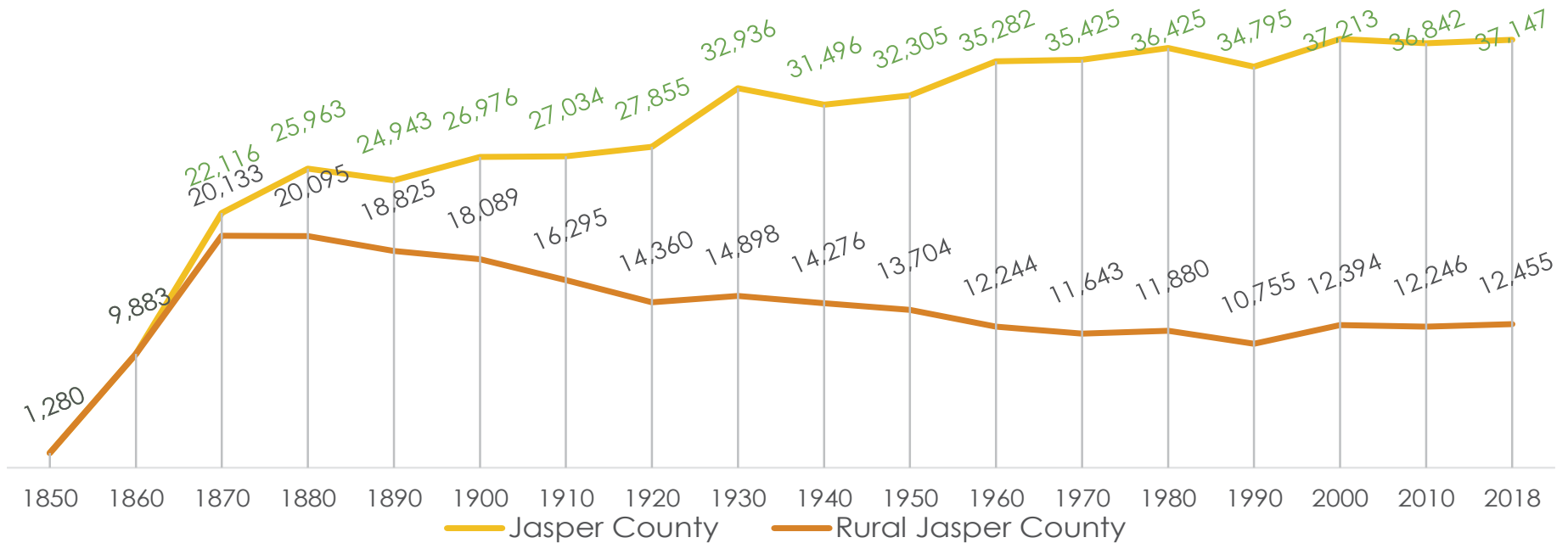
Population Projections

Jasper County Historic Population

In 1850, at the time that the first decennial census was taken in Jasper County, it had a population of 1,280. By 2018, that population had grown to 37,147.

As in most counties in Iowa, cities have been seeing an increase in population over time whereas rural areas have been seeing a decrease in population. For that reason, the population projections for Jasper County were done separating out the incorporated population from the rural population.

For each population projection method, the 2040 population was calculated for incorporated Jasper County and rural Jasper County and then added together to get the final projection values. This section details how the projections were calculated.



Incorporated Jasper County Projections

Alternative 1: Linear Curve Projection

The Linear Curve Projection assumes that the future population will change by the same absolute number over a given period of time, as occurred during the base period. The average change in population per year based on the absolute population change between 1850 and 2018 was calculated using the following formulas:

$$\text{Growth Rate} = r = (PL - PF) / (YL - YF)$$

$$\text{Future Population} = PL + r * yp$$

where: *PL* = Population in last year of period; *PF* = Population in first year of period; *YL* = Last year of the period; *YF* = First year of the period; *yp* = number of years projecting forward

Using this formula, the 2040 Incorporated Jasper County population is projected to be 26,576.

Alternative 2: Geometric Curve Projection

The geometric alternative is a calculation that assumes that the future population will change by the same percentage rate over a given increment of time, as occurred during the base period. The average rate of change in population between 1850 and 2018 was calculated using the following formulas:

$$\text{Growth Rate} = r = ((PL - PF) / PF) / (YL - YF)$$

$$\text{Future Population} = PL * (1 + r)^{yp}$$

where: *PL* = Population in last year of period; *PF* = Population in first year of period; *YL* = Last year of the period; *YF* = First year of the period; *yp* = number of years projecting forward

Using this formula, the 2040 Incorporated Jasper County population is projected to be 35,632.

Alternative 1: Linear Curve Projection - Incorporated						
$r = (\text{PopLast} - \text{PopFirst}) / (\text{YearLast} - \text{YearFirst})$		2020 Proj	2025 Proj	2030 Proj	2035 Proj	2040 Proj
		=PopLast+2r	=2020Proj+5r	=2025Proj+5r	=2030Proj+5r	=2035Proj+5r
1850-2018	146.98	24,986	25,721	26,456	27,191	27,925
1860-2018	156.28	25,005	25,786	26,567	27,349	28,130
1870-2018	153.44	24,999	25,766	26,533	27,300	28,068
1880-2018	136.41	24,965	25,647	26,329	27,011	27,693
1890-2018	145.11	24,982	25,708	26,433	27,159	27,884
1900-2018	133.94	24,960	25,630	26,299	26,969	27,639
1910-2018	129.19	24,950	25,596	26,242	26,888	27,534
1920-2018	114.26	24,921	25,492	26,063	26,634	27,206
1930-2018	75.61	24,843	25,221	25,599	25,977	26,356
1940-2018	95.79	24,884	25,363	25,842	26,321	26,799
1950-2018	89.57	24,871	25,319	25,767	26,215	26,663
1960-2018	28.52	24,749	24,892	25,034	25,177	25,319
1970-2018	18.96	24,730	24,825	24,920	25,014	25,109
1980-2018	3.87	24,700	24,719	24,738	24,758	24,777
1990-2018	23.29	24,739	24,855	24,971	25,088	25,204
2000-2018	-7.06	24,678	24,643	24,607	24,572	24,537
2010-2018	12.00	24,716	24,776	24,836	24,896	24,956
average rate	85.66	24,863	25,292	25,720	26,148	26,576
AVG		24,863	25,292	25,720	26,148	26,576



Alternative 2: Geometric Curve Projection - Incorporated						
r=((PopLast-PopFirst)/PopFirst)/(YearLast-YearFirst)	2020 Proj	2025 Proj	2030 Proj	2035 Proj	2040 Proj	
	=PopLast*(1+r)^2	=2020Proj*(1+r)^5	=2025Proj*(1+r)^5	=2030Proj*(1+r)^5	=2035Proj*(1+r)^5	
1850-2018						
1860-2018						
1870-2018	0.08	28,661	41,604	60,391	87,662	127,247
1880-2018	0.02	25,853	29,001	32,532	36,493	40,937
1890-2018	0.02	25,877	29,095	32,713	36,781	41,355
1900-2018	0.02	25,442	27,418	29,547	31,842	34,315
1910-2018	0.01	25,290	26,848	28,502	30,258	32,123
1920-2018	0.01	25,112	26,193	27,321	28,497	29,724
1930-2018	0.00	24,899	25,426	25,963	26,512	27,072
1940-2018	0.01	24,967	25,670	26,392	27,134	27,897
1950-2018	0.00	24,930	25,536	26,157	26,793	27,445
1960-2018	0.00	24,753	24,907	25,061	25,217	25,373
1970-2018	0.00	24,731	24,830	24,929	25,029	25,129
1980-2018	0.00	24,700	24,719	24,739	24,758	24,778
1990-2018	0.00	24,740	24,860	24,981	25,102	25,224
2000-2018	-0.00	24,678	24,643	24,608	24,573	24,538
2010-2018	0.00	24,716	24,776	24,837	24,898	24,958
average rate	0.01	25,281	26,816	28,443	30,170	32,002
AVG		25,289	27,021	29,195	31,982	35,632

Alternative 3: Exponential Curve Projection

The exponential alternative is similar to the geometric method, but views change as occurring continuously rather than at discrete intervals. It uses the natural logarithm (ln) of 2.71828 to calculate the exponential growth annually. The rate of change in population between 1850 and 2018 was calculated using the following formulas:

$$\text{Growth Rate} = r = \ln(PL / PF) / (YL - YF)$$

$$\text{Future Population} = PL * e(r * yp)$$

where: *PL* = Population in last year of period; *PF* = Population in first year of period; *YL* = Last year of the period; *YF* = First year of the period; *yp* = number of years projecting forward; *e* = Euler's number = 2.71828

Using this formula, the 2040 Incorporated Jasper County population is projected to be 27,778.

Alternative 4: Constant Share Projection

Alternative 4 assumes that the smaller area's share of the larger population is held constant at a level observed during the base period and that small areas will grow at the same rate as the larger area. The larger area used was the entirety of Jasper County.

It is estimated that incorporated Jasper County's population was 66.5% of Iowa's population in 2018. The rate of change in population between 1850 and 2018 was calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{Future Population} = (PL / PCL) * PCPR$$

where: *PL* = Population in last year of period; *PCL* = Population in whole county in the last year of the period; *PCPR* = Projected population in whole county for the same year incorporated Jasper County is projecting to

Using this formula, the 2040 Incorporated Jasper County population is projected to be 26,515.

Alternative 3: Exponential Curve Projection - Incorporated						
$r = \ln(\text{PopLast}/\text{PopFirst}) / (\text{YearLast} - \text{YearFirst})$		2020 Proj	2025 Proj	2030 Proj	2035 Proj	2040 Proj
		= PopLast *e^(2r)	=2020Proj *e^(5r)	= 2025Proj *e^(5r)	=2030Proj *e^(5r)	=2035Proj *e^(5r)
1850-2018						
1860-2018						
1870-2018	0.017	25,548	27,820	30,294	32,988	35,922
1880-2018	0.010	25,212	26,559	27,978	29,474	31,049
1890-2018	0.011	25,236	26,650	28,143	29,719	31,384
1900-2018	0.009	25,123	26,235	27,396	28,608	29,874
1910-2018	0.008	25,076	26,061	27,085	28,150	29,256
1920-2018	0.006	24,998	25,781	26,588	27,420	28,279
1930-2018	0.004	24,869	25,317	25,772	26,236	26,708
1940-2018	0.005	24,921	25,504	26,100	26,710	27,334
1950-2018	0.004	24,899	25,423	25,958	26,504	27,062
1960-2018	0.001	24,751	24,899	25,049	25,199	25,350
1970-2018	0.001	24,731	24,828	24,925	25,023	25,121
1980-2018	0.000	24,700	24,719	24,739	24,758	24,778
1990-2018	0.001	24,739	24,858	24,977	25,096	25,217
2000-2018	-0.000	24,678	24,643	24,608	24,573	24,538
2010-2018	0.000	24,716	24,776	24,837	24,897	24,958
average rate	0.005	24,945	25,590	26,251	26,929	27,625
AVG		24,946	25,604	26,294	27,018	27,778

Alternative 4: Constant Share Projection - Incorporated					
	2020 Proj	2025 Proj	2030 Proj	2035 Proj	2040 Proj
	$\frac{=(PopLast/JCPopLast)}{*JC2020Proj}$	$\frac{=(PopLast/JCPopLast)}{*JC2025Proj}$	$\frac{=(PopLast/JCPopLast)}{*JC2030Proj}$	$\frac{=(PopLast/JCPopLast)}{*JC2035Proj}$	$\frac{=(PopLast/JCPopLast)}{*JC2040Proj}$
1850-2018	25,339	27,049	28,901	30,912	33,097
1860-2018	25,198	26,517	27,922	29,418	31,014
1870-2018	24,871	25,322	25,781	26,246	26,720
1880-2018	24,822	25,150	25,482	25,816	26,155
1890-2018	24,849	25,244	25,644	26,050	26,461
1900-2018	24,828	25,169	25,515	25,864	26,216
1910-2018	24,839	25,210	25,585	25,965	26,349
1920-2018	24,839	25,208	25,582	25,960	26,343
1930-2018	24,760	24,929	25,100	25,271	25,444
1940-2018	24,797	25,061	25,326	25,594	25,864
1950-2018	24,794	25,049	25,307	25,567	25,828
1960-2018	24,736	24,846	24,956	25,067	25,178
1970-2018	24,741	24,863	24,986	25,110	25,233
1980-2018	24,718	24,781	24,845	24,909	24,974
1990-2018	24,808	25,098	25,391	25,686	25,984
2000-2018	24,687	24,675	24,663	24,651	24,638
2010-2018	24,743	24,871	24,999	25,127	25,256
AVG	24,845	25,238	25,646	26,071	26,515



Alternative 5: Share of Growth Projection

The Share of Growth projection technique or apportionment, assumes the smaller areas share of the percent change in population in the larger area will be the same over the projection horizon, as occurred during the base period. The same larger population was used for these projections.

The rate of change in population between 1850 and 2018 was calculated using the following formulas:

$$\text{Growth Rate} = r = (PL - PF) / (PCL - PCF)$$

$$\text{Future Population} = PL + r * (PCPR - PCL)$$

where: *PL* = Population in last year of period; *PF* = Population in first year of period; *PCL* = Population in whole county in the last year of the period; *PCF* = Population in whole county in the first year of the period; *PCPR* = Projected population in whole county for the same year incorporated Jasper County is projecting to

Using this formula, the 2040 Incorporated Jasper County population is projected to be 27,501.

Alternative 6: Shift Share Projection

The Shift Share alternative is designed to deal with changes in population shares. It modifies the constant share method by adding a shift term to account for differences in population variables and characteristics; for example, population could shift between urban and rural areas. The same larger populations are used for these projections.

The rate of change in population between 1850 and 2018 was calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{Future Population} = PCPR * (PL / PCL + (yp / (YL - YF)) * (PL / PCL - PF / PCF))$$

where: *PL* = Population in last year of period; *PF* = Population in first year of period; *YL* = Last year of the period; *YF* = First year of the period; *yp* = number of years projecting forward; *PCL* = Population in whole county in the last year of the period; *PCF* = Population in whole county in the first year of the period; *PCPR* = Projected population in whole county for the same year incorporated Jasper County is projecting to

Using this formula, the 2040 Incorporated Jasper County population is projected to be 26,864

Alternative 5: Share of Growth Projection - Incorporated						
r=(PopLast-PopFirst)/ (PopCountyLast- PopCountyFirst)		2020 Proj	2025 Proj	2030 Proj	2035 Proj	2040 Proj
		=PopLast+r* (JC2020 Proj -JCPopLast)	=PopLast+r* (JC2025 Proj -JCPopLast)	=PopLast+r* (JC2030 Proj -JCPopLast)	=PopLast+r* (JC2035 Proj -JCPopLast)	=PopLast+r* (JC2040 Proj -JCPopLast)
1850-2018	0.69	25,362	27,133	29,052	31,134	33,397
1860-2018	0.91	25,381	27,179	29,092	31,131	33,306
1870-2018	1.511	25,098	26,124	27,166	28,225	29,300
1880-2018	1.683	25,022	25,852	26,691	27,539	28,396
1890-2018	1.522	25,051	25,956	26,872	27,801	28,741
1900-2018	1.554	25,009	25,808	26,615	27,431	28,256
1910-2018	1.380	24,998	25,768	26,547	27,335	28,132
1920-2018	1.205	24,958	25,628	26,305	26,991	27,684
1930-2018	1.580	24,853	25,256	25,662	26,069	26,479
1940-2018	1.322	24,901	25,425	25,954	26,487	27,023
1950-2018	1.258	24,885	25,368	25,856	26,347	26,842
1960-2018	0.887	24,751	24,897	25,044	25,192	25,340
1970-2018	0.528	24,731	24,828	24,926	25,024	25,122
1980-2018	0.204	24,700	24,719	24,739	24,759	24,778
1990-2018	0.277	24,740	24,861	24,983	25,107	25,231
2000-2018	1.924	24,678	24,643	24,607	24,572	24,537
2010-2018	0.315	24,716	24,777	24,837	24,898	24,959
average rate	1.103	24,946	25,597	26,275	26,980	27,716
AVG		24,931	25,542	26,174	26,826	27,501



Alternative 6: Shift Share Projection - Incorporated					
	2020 Proj	2025 Proj	2030 Proj	2035 Proj	2040 Proj
	=JC2020Proj*(PopLast/ JCPopLast+(2/(YearLast- YearFirst))*(PopLast/ JCPopLast-PopFirst/ JCPopFirst)	=JC2025Proj*(PopLast/ JCPopLast+(5/(YearLast- YearFirst))*(PopLast/ JCPopLast-PopFirst/ JCPopFirst)	=JC2030Proj*(PopLast/ JCPopLast+(5/(YearLast- YearFirst))*(PopLast/ JCPopLast-PopFirst/ JCPopFirst)	=JC2035Proj*(PopLast/ JCPopLast+(5/(YearLast- YearFirst))*(PopLast/ JCPopLast-PopFirst/ JCPopFirst)	=JC2040Proj*(PopLast/ JCPopLast+(5/(YearLast- YearFirst))*(PopLast/ JCPopLast-PopFirst/ JCPopFirst)
1850-2018	25,641	27,854	29,761	31,832	34,082
1860-2018	25,516	27,356	28,805	30,349	31,996
1870-2018	25,161	26,062	26,534	27,014	27,500
1880-2018	25,060	25,752	26,091	26,434	26,780
1890-2018	25,094	25,866	26,276	26,692	27,113
1900-2018	25,040	25,707	26,060	26,416	26,777
1910-2018	25,024	25,680	26,062	26,449	26,840
1920-2018	24,976	25,557	25,936	26,319	26,707
1930-2018	24,859	25,179	25,351	25,524	25,698
1940-2018	24,910	25,346	25,614	25,885	26,158
1950-2018	24,891	25,296	25,556	25,818	26,082
1960-2018	24,751	24,884	24,994	25,105	25,216
1970-2018	24,731	24,838	24,960	25,083	25,207
1980-2018	24,700	24,737	24,800	24,864	24,928
1990-2018	24,738	24,921	25,212	25,505	25,801
2000-2018	24,678	24,652	24,640	24,628	24,615
2010-2018	24,716	24,803	24,930	25,059	25,187
AVG	24,970	25,558	25,976	26,410	26,864

Rural Jasper County Projections

Alternative 1: Linear Curve Projection

The Linear Curve Projection assumes that the future population will change by the same absolute number over a given period of time, as occurred during the base period. The average change in population per year based on the absolute population change between 1850 and 2018 was calculated using the following formulas:

$$\text{Growth Rate} = r = (PL - PF) / (YL - YF)$$

$$\text{Future Population} = PL + r * yp$$

where: *PL* = Population in last year of period; *PF* = Population in first year of period; *YL* = Last year of the period; *YF* = First year of the period; *yp* = number of years projecting forward

Using this formula, the 2040 Rural Jasper County population is projected to be 12,299.

Alternative 2: Geometric Curve Projection

The geometric alternative is a calculation that assumes that the future population will change by the same percentage rate over a given increment of time, as occurred during the base period. The average rate of change in population between 1850 and 2018 was calculated using the following formulas:

$$\text{Growth Rate} = r = ((PL - PF) / PF) / (YL - YF)$$

$$\text{Future Population} = PL * (1 + r)^{yp}$$

where: *PL* = Population in last year of period; *PF* = Population in first year of period; *YL* = Last year of the period; *YF* = First year of the period; *yp* = number of years projecting forward

Using this formula, the 2040 Rural Jasper County population is projected to be 12,382.

Alternative 1: Linear Curve Projection - Rural						
r=(PopLast-PopFirst)/(YearLast-YearFirst)		2020 Proj	2025 Proj	2030 Proj	2035 Proj	2040 Proj
		=PopLast+2r	2020Proj+5r	=2025Proj+5r	=2030Proj+5r	=2035Proj+5r
1850-2018	66.52	12,588	12,921	13,253	13,586	13,918
1860-2018	16.28	12,488	12,569	12,650	12,732	12,813
1870-2018	-51.88	12,351	12,092	11,832	11,573	11,314
1880-2018	-55.36	12,344	12,067	11,791	11,514	11,237
1890-2018	-49.77	12,355	12,107	11,858	11,609	11,360
1900-2018	-47.75	12,360	12,121	11,882	11,643	11,405
1910-2018	-35.56	12,384	12,206	12,028	11,851	11,673
1920-2018	-19.44	12,416	12,319	12,222	12,125	12,027
1930-2018	-27.76	12,399	12,261	12,122	11,983	11,844
1940-2018	-23.35	12,408	12,292	12,175	12,058	11,941
1950-2018	-18.37	12,418	12,326	12,235	12,143	12,051
1960-2018	3.64	12,462	12,480	12,499	12,517	12,535
1970-2018	16.92	12,489	12,573	12,658	12,743	12,827
1980-2018	15.13	12,485	12,561	12,637	12,712	12,788
1990-2018	60.71	12,576	12,880	13,184	13,487	13,791
2000-2018	3.39	12,462	12,479	12,496	12,513	12,530
2010-2018	26.13	12,507	12,638	12,769	12,899	13,030
average rate	-7.09	12,441	12,405	12,370	12,334	12,299
AVG		12,441	12,405	12,370	12,334	12,299

Alternative 2: Geometric Curve Projection - Rural						
r=((PopLast-PopFirst)/PopFirst)/(YearLast-YearFirst)	2020 Proj	2025 Proj	2030 Proj	2035 Proj	2040 Proj	
	=PopLast*(1+r)^2	=2020Proj*(1+r)^5	=2025Proj*(1+r)^5	2030Proj*(1+r)^5	=2035Proj*(1+r)^5	
1850-2018	0.05	13,783	17,757	22,875	29,470	37,966
1860-2018	0.00	12,496	12,599	12,703	12,808	12,914
1870-2018	-0.00	12,391	12,232	12,075	11,921	11,768
1880-2018	-0.00	12,386	12,217	12,049	11,884	11,722
1890-2018	-0.00	12,389	12,226	12,066	11,907	11,750
1900-2018	-0.00	12,389	12,227	12,066	11,908	11,751
1910-2018	-0.00	12,401	12,266	12,133	12,001	11,871
1920-2018	-0.00	12,421	12,337	12,254	12,171	12,089
1930-2018	-0.00	12,409	12,293	12,179	12,066	11,954
1940-2018	-0.00	12,414	12,313	12,213	12,113	12,015
1950-2018	-0.00	12,422	12,339	12,256	12,174	12,093
1960-2018	0.00	12,462	12,481	12,499	12,518	12,537
1970-2018	0.00	12,491	12,582	12,674	12,766	12,859
1980-2018	0.00	12,487	12,566	12,647	12,727	12,809
1990-2018	0.01	12,596	12,956	13,325	13,706	14,097
2000-2018	0.00	12,462	12,479	12,496	12,513	12,530
2010-2018	0.00	12,508	12,642	12,778	12,914	13,053
average rate	0.00	12,522	12,691	12,863	13,037	13,213
AVG		12,447	12,428	12,411	12,395	12,382



Alternative 3: Exponential Curve Projection

The exponential alternative is similar to the geometric method, but views change as occurring continuously rather than at discrete intervals. It uses the natural logarithm (ln) of 2.71828 to calculate the exponential growth annually. The rate of change in population between 1850 and 2018 was calculated using the following formulas:

$$\text{Growth Rate} = r = \ln(PL / PF) / (YL - YF)$$

$$\text{Future Population} = PL * e(r * yp)$$

where: *PL* = Population in last year of period; *PF* = Population in first year of period; *YL* = Last year of the period; *YF* = First year of the period; *yp* = number of years projecting forward; *e* = Euler's number = 2.71828

Using this formula, the 2040 Rural Jasper County population is projected to be 12,370.

Alternative 4: Constant Share Projection

Alternative 4 assumes that the smaller area's share of the larger population is held constant at a level observed during the base period and that small areas will grow at the same rate as the larger area. The larger area used was the entirety of Jasper County.

It is estimated that incorporated Jasper County's population was 66.5% of Iowa's population in 2018. The rate of change in population between 1850 and 2018 was calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{Future Population} = (PL / PCL) * PCPR$$

where: *PL* = Population in last year of period; *PCL* = Population in whole county in the last year of the period; *PCPR* = Projected population in whole county for the same year rural Jasper County is projecting to

Using this formula, the 2040 Rural Jasper County population is projected to be 13,374.

Alternative 3: Exponential Curve Projection - Rural						
$r = \ln(\text{PopLast}/\text{PopFirst}) / (\text{YearLast} - \text{YearFirst})$		2020 Proj	2025 Proj	2030 Proj	2035 Proj	2040 Proj
		=PopLast* e^(2r)	=2020Proj* e^(5r)	=2025Proj* e^(5r)	=2030Proj* e^(5r)	=2035Proj* e^(5r)
1850-2018	0.01	12,797	13,148	13,509	13,880	14,261
1860-2018	0.00	12,492	12,528	12,565	12,602	12,639
1870-2018	-0.003	12,374	12,294	12,215	12,136	12,057
1880-2018	-0.003	12,369	12,284	12,199	12,114	12,031
1890-2018	-0.003	12,375	12,295	12,216	12,138	12,059
1900-2018	-0.003	12,376	12,298	12,221	12,144	12,067
1910-2018	-0.002	12,393	12,332	12,270	12,210	12,149
1920-2018	-0.001	12,419	12,383	12,347	12,311	12,275
1930-2018	-0.002	12,404	12,354	12,304	12,254	12,204
1940-2018	-0.002	12,411	12,368	12,325	12,282	12,239
1950-2018	-0.001	12,420	12,385	12,350	12,316	12,281
1960-2018	0.000	12,462	12,470	12,477	12,484	12,492
1970-2018	0.001	12,490	12,525	12,560	12,596	12,631
1980-2018	0.001	12,486	12,517	12,548	12,580	12,611
1990-2018	0.005	12,586	12,719	12,853	12,988	13,125
2000-2018	0.000	12,462	12,469	12,475	12,482	12,489
2010-2018	0.002	12,508	12,561	12,614	12,668	12,721
average rate	0.000	12,460	12,465	12,470	12,475	12,480
AVG		12,437	12,420	12,403	12,386	12,370



Alternative 4: Constant Share Projection - Incorporated					
	2020 Proj	2025 Proj	2030 Proj	2035 Proj	2040 Proj
	$\frac{=(\text{PopLast}/\text{JCPopLast})}{*\text{JC2020Proj}}$	$\frac{=(\text{PopLast}/\text{JCPopLast})}{*\text{JC2025Proj}}$	$\frac{=(\text{PopLast}/\text{JCPopLast})}{*\text{JC2030Proj}}$	$\frac{=(\text{PopLast}/\text{JCPopLast})}{*\text{JC2035Proj}}$	$\frac{=(\text{PopLast}/\text{JCPopLast})}{*\text{JC2040Proj}}$
1850-2018	12,781	13,644	14,578	15,592	16,695
1860-2018	12,710	13,376	14,084	14,839	15,644
1870-2018	12,545	12,773	13,004	13,239	13,478
1880-2018	12,521	12,686	12,853	13,022	13,193
1890-2018	12,534	12,733	12,935	13,140	13,347
1900-2018	12,523	12,696	12,870	13,046	13,224
1910-2018	12,529	12,716	12,906	13,097	13,291
1920-2018	12,529	12,715	12,904	13,095	13,288
1930-2018	12,489	12,575	12,661	12,747	12,834
1940-2018	12,508	12,641	12,775	12,910	13,046
1950-2018	12,506	12,635	12,765	12,896	13,028
1960-2018	12,477	12,533	12,588	12,644	12,700
1970-2018	12,480	12,541	12,603	12,666	12,728
1980-2018	12,468	12,500	12,532	12,565	12,597
1990-2018	12,513	12,660	12,808	12,957	13,107
2000-2018	12,453	12,446	12,440	12,434	12,428
2010-2018	12,481	12,545	12,610	12,674	12,739
AVG	12,532	12,730	12,936	13,151	13,374

Alternative 5: Share of Growth Projection

The Share of Growth projection technique or apportionment, assumes the smaller areas share of the percent change in population in the larger area will be the same over the projection horizon, as occurred during the base period.

The same larger population was used for these projections.

The rate of change in population between 1850 and 2018 was calculated using the following formulas:

$$\text{Growth Rate} = r = (PL - PF) / (PCL - PCF)$$

$$\text{Future Population} = PL + r * (PCPR - PCL)$$

where: *PL* = Population in last year of period; *PF* = Population in first year of period; *PCL* = Population in whole county in the last year of the period; *PCF* = Population in whole county in the first year of the period; *PCPR* = Projected population in whole county for the same year rural Jasper County is projecting to

Using this formula, the 2040 Rural Jasper County population is projected to be 7,023.

Alternative 6: Shift Share Projection

The Shift Share alternative is designed to deal with changes in population shares. It modifies the constant share method by adding a shift term to account for differences in population variables and characteristics; for example, population could shift between urban and rural areas. The same larger populations are used for these projections.

The rate of change in population between 1850 and 2018 was calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{Future Population} = PCPR * (PL / PCL + (yp / (YL - YF)) * (PL / PCL - PF / PCF))$$

where: *PL* = Population in last year of period; *PF* = Population in first year of period; *YL* = Last year of the period; *YF* = First year of the period; *yp* = number of years projecting forward; *PCL* = Population in whole county in the last year of the period; *PCF* = Population in whole county in the first year of the period; *PCPR* = Projected population in whole county for the same year rural Jasper County is projecting to

Using this formula, the 2040 Rural Jasper County population is projected to be 13,025.

Alternative 5: Share of Growth Projection - Rural						
$r = \frac{\text{PopLast} - \text{PopFirst}}{\text{PopCountyLast} - \text{PopCountyFirst}}$		2020 Proj	2025 Proj	2030 Proj	2035 Proj	2040 Proj
		=PopLast+r* (JC2020 Proj-JCPopLast)	=PopLast+r* (JC2025 Proj-JCPopLast)	=PopLast+r* (JC2030 Proj-JCPopLast)	=PopLast+r* (JC2035 Proj-JCPopLast)	=PopLast+r* (JC2040 Proj-JCPopLast)
1850-2018	-0.04	12,420	12,328	12,229	12,121	12,004
1860-2018	-0.36	12,179	11,460	10,694	9,878	9,007
1870-2018	-1.339	12,095	11,185	10,261	9,323	8,369
1880-2018	-1.797	12,103	11,217	10,321	9,416	8,501
1890-2018	-1.543	12,091	11,174	10,245	9,304	8,351
1900-2018	-1.778	12,092	11,178	10,254	9,320	8,376
1910-2018	-1.611	12,098	11,199	10,289	9,369	8,437
1920-2018	-1.545	12,114	11,255	10,386	9,507	8,618
1930-2018	-3.538	12,095	11,191	10,283	9,371	8,454
1940-2018	-2.526	12,056	11,054	10,044	9,026	8,001
1950-2018	-2.830	12,022	10,933	9,836	8,731	7,618
1960-2018	-6.565	12,022	10,935	9,846	8,753	7,657
1970-2018	-6.761	11,958	10,712	9,462	8,208	6,950
1980-2018	-16.454	11,823	10,242	8,659	7,072	5,483
1990-2018	-4.573	11,660	9,661	7,647	5,615	3,568
2000-2018	187.788	11,079	7,640	4,203	766	0
2010-2018	-40.151	9,379	1,671	0	0	0
average rate	5.552	13,733	17,014	20,424	23,975	27,680
AVG		11,840	10,296	9,098	7,987	7,023

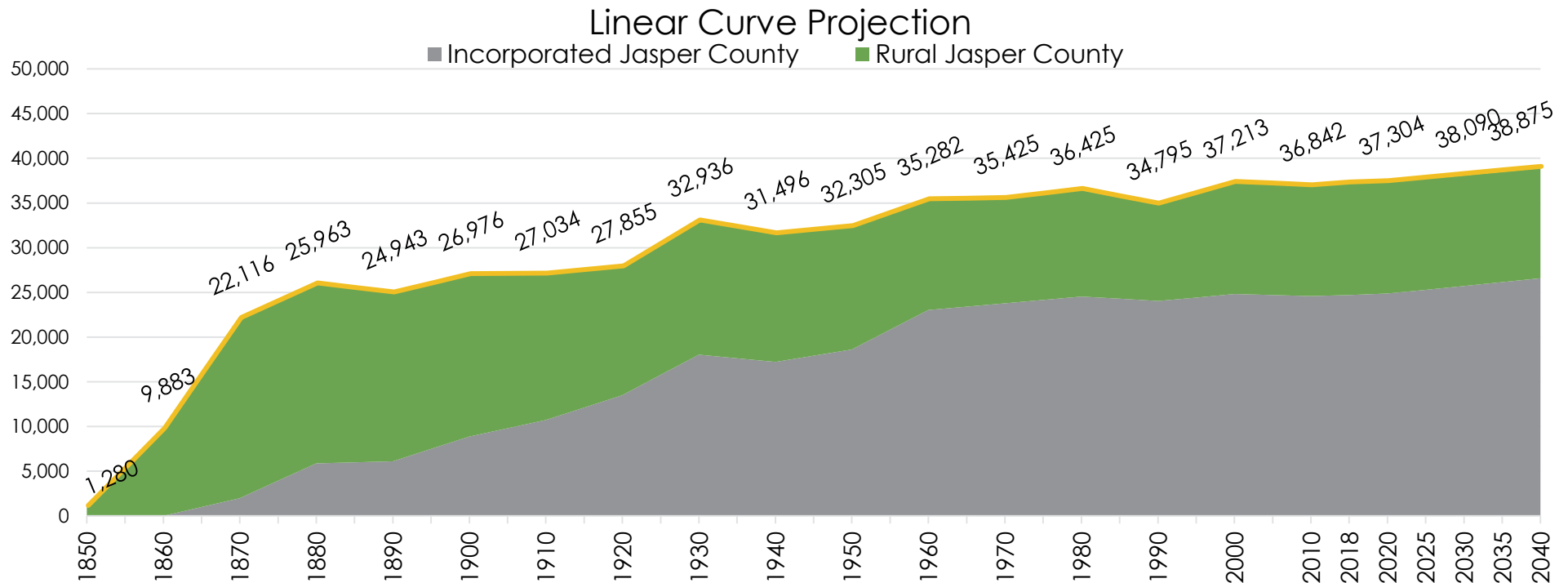
Shift Share Projection - Rural					
	2020 Proj	2025 Proj	2030 Proj	2035 Proj	2040 Proj
	=JC2020Proj*(PopLast/ JCPopLast+(2/(YearLast- YearFirst)))*(PopLast/ JCPopLast-PopFirst/ JCPopFirst)	=JC2025Proj*(PopLast/ JCPopLast+(5/(YearLast- YearFirst)))*(PopLast/ JCPopLast-PopFirst/ JCPopFirst)	=JC2030Proj*(PopLast/ JCPopLast+(5/(YearLast- YearFirst)))*(PopLast/ JCPopLast-PopFirst/ JCPopFirst)	=JC2035Proj*(PopLast/ JCPopLast+(5/(YearLast- YearFirst)))*(PopLast/ JCPopLast-PopFirst/ JCPopFirst)	=JC2040Proj*(PopLast/ JCPopLast+(5/(YearLast- YearFirst)))*(PopLast/ JCPopLast-PopFirst/ JCPopFirst)
1850-2018	12,480	12,839	13,718	14,672	15,710
1860-2018	12,391	12,536	13,200	13,908	14,662
1870-2018	12,254	12,033	12,251	12,472	12,697
1880-2018	12,283	12,085	12,244	12,405	12,567
1890-2018	12,289	12,111	12,303	12,498	12,695
1900-2018	12,311	12,158	12,325	12,493	12,664
1910-2018	12,344	12,247	12,429	12,614	12,800
1920-2018	12,392	12,367	12,550	12,735	12,923
1930-2018	12,390	12,325	12,410	12,494	12,580
1940-2018	12,395	12,356	12,487	12,619	12,752
1950-2018	12,409	12,389	12,516	12,645	12,774
1960-2018	12,462	12,495	12,550	12,606	12,662
1970-2018	12,490	12,567	12,629	12,692	12,754
1980-2018	12,486	12,545	12,577	12,610	12,642
1990-2018	12,583	12,836	12,986	13,137	13,290
2000-2018	12,462	12,469	12,463	12,457	12,451
2010-2018	12,508	12,613	12,678	12,743	12,808
AVG	12,408	12,410	12,607	12,812	13,025

Total Population Projection

Alternative 1: Linear Curve Projection

Linear Curve Projection					
	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040
AVG Incorporated Projection	24,863	25,292	25,720	26,148	26,576
AVG Rural Projection	12,441	12,405	12,370	12,334	12,299
Total Projection (sum of AVGs)	37,304	37,697	38,090	38,483	38,875

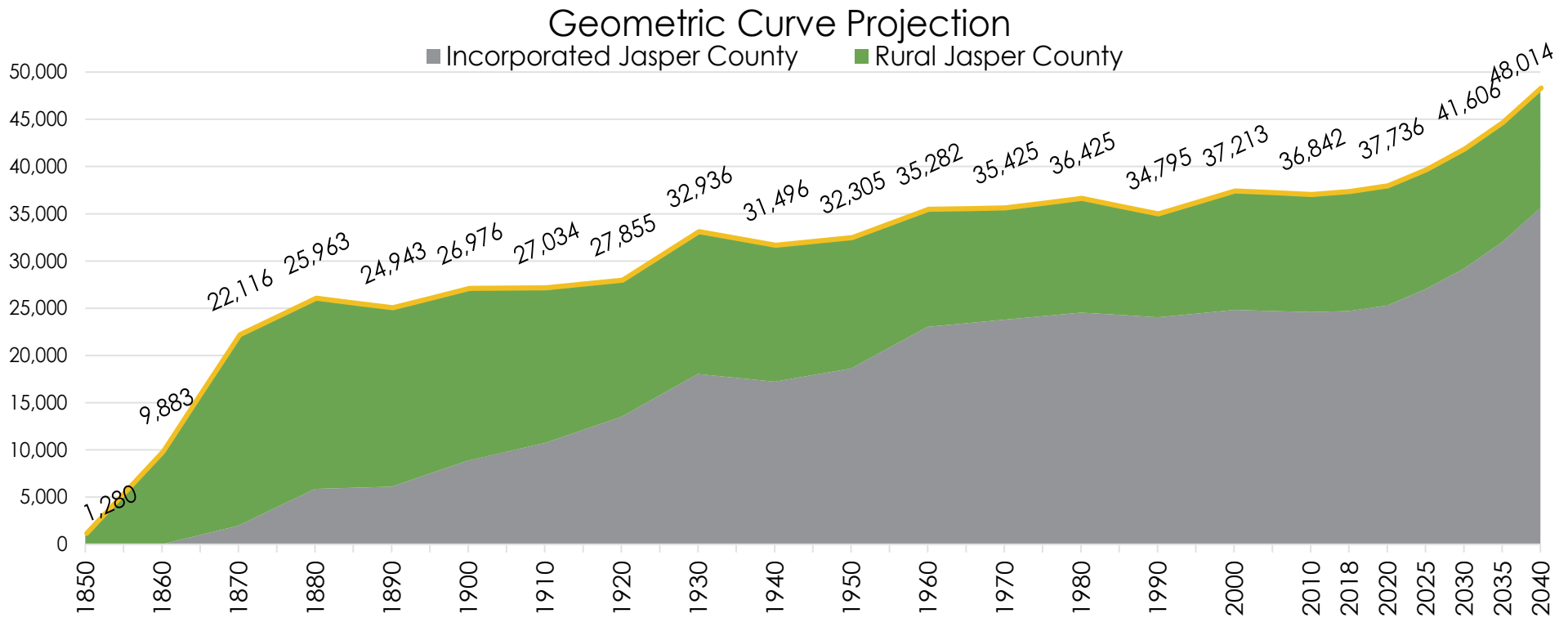
Adding the Incorporated and Rural Projections, the Total 2040 Jasper County population is projected to be 38,875.



Alternative 2: Geometric Curve Projection

Geometric Curve Projection					
	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040
AVG Incorporated Projection	25,289	27,021	29,195	31,982	35,632
AVG Rural Projection	12,447	12,428	12,411	12,395	12,382
Total Projection (sum of AVGs)	37,736	39,449	41,606	44,378	48,014

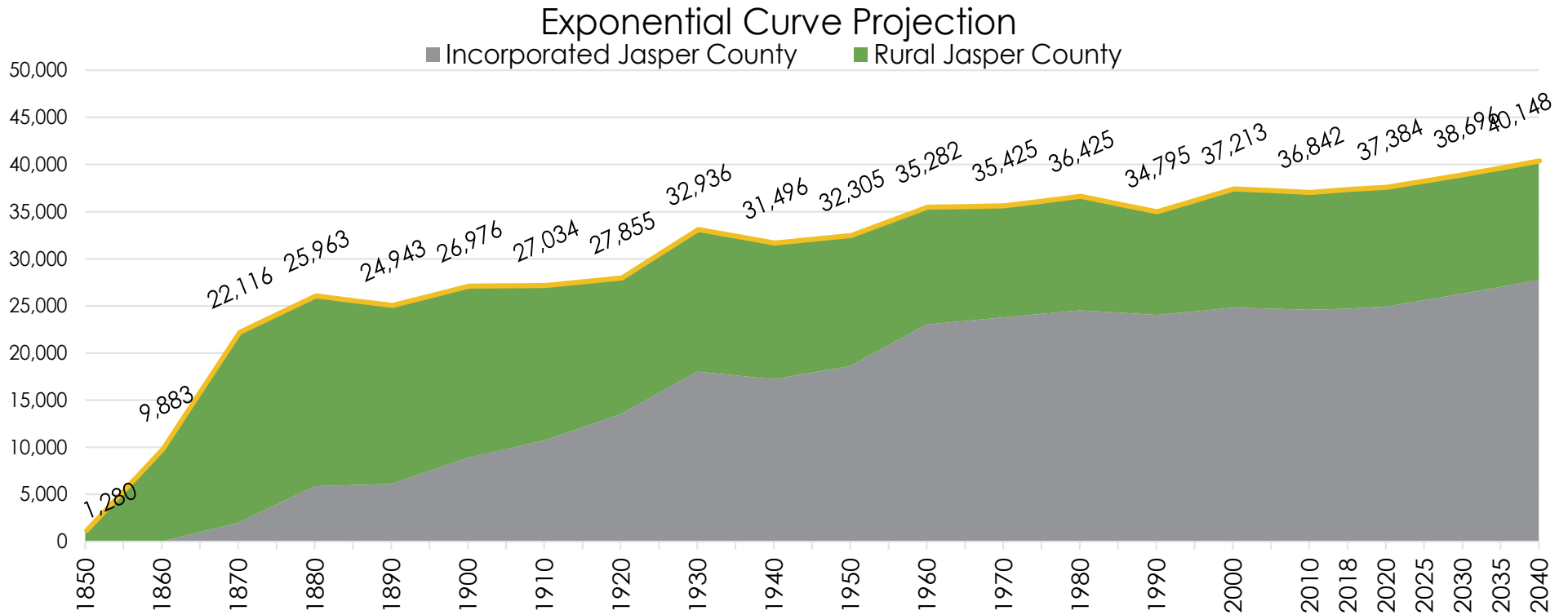
Adding the Incorporated and Rural Projections, the Total 2040 Jasper County population is projected to be 48,014.



Alternative 3: Exponential Curve Projection

Exponential Curve Projection					
	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040
AVG Incorporated Projection	24,946	25,604	26,294	27,018	27,778
AVG Rural Projection	12,437	12,420	12,403	12,386	12,370
Total Projection (sum of AVGs)	37,384	38,024	38,696	39,404	40,148

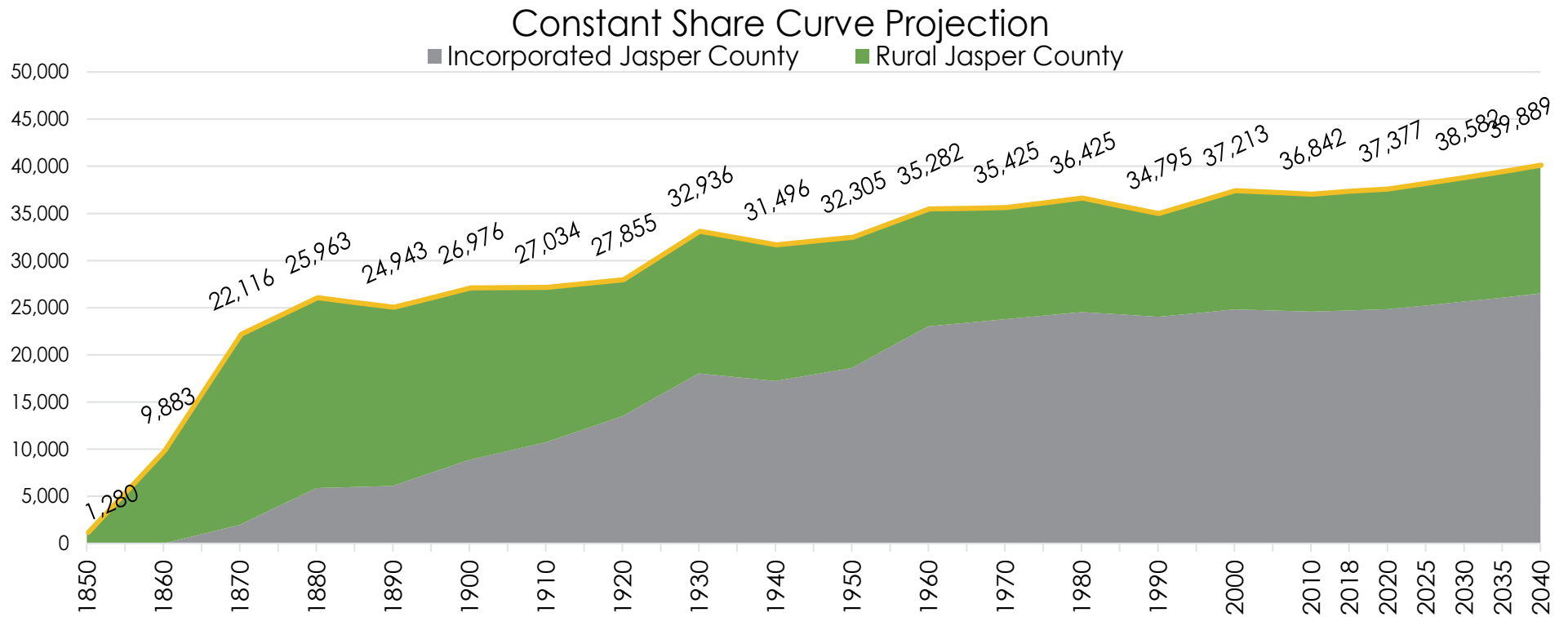
Adding the Incorporated and Rural Projections, the Total 2040 Jasper County population is projected to be 40,148.



Alternative 4: Constant Share Projection

Constant Share Projection					
	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040
AVG Incorporated Projection	24,845	25,238	25,646	26,071	26,515
AVG Rural Projection	12,532	12,730	12,936	13,151	13,374
Total Projection (sum of AVGs)	37,377	37,968	38,582	39,222	39,889

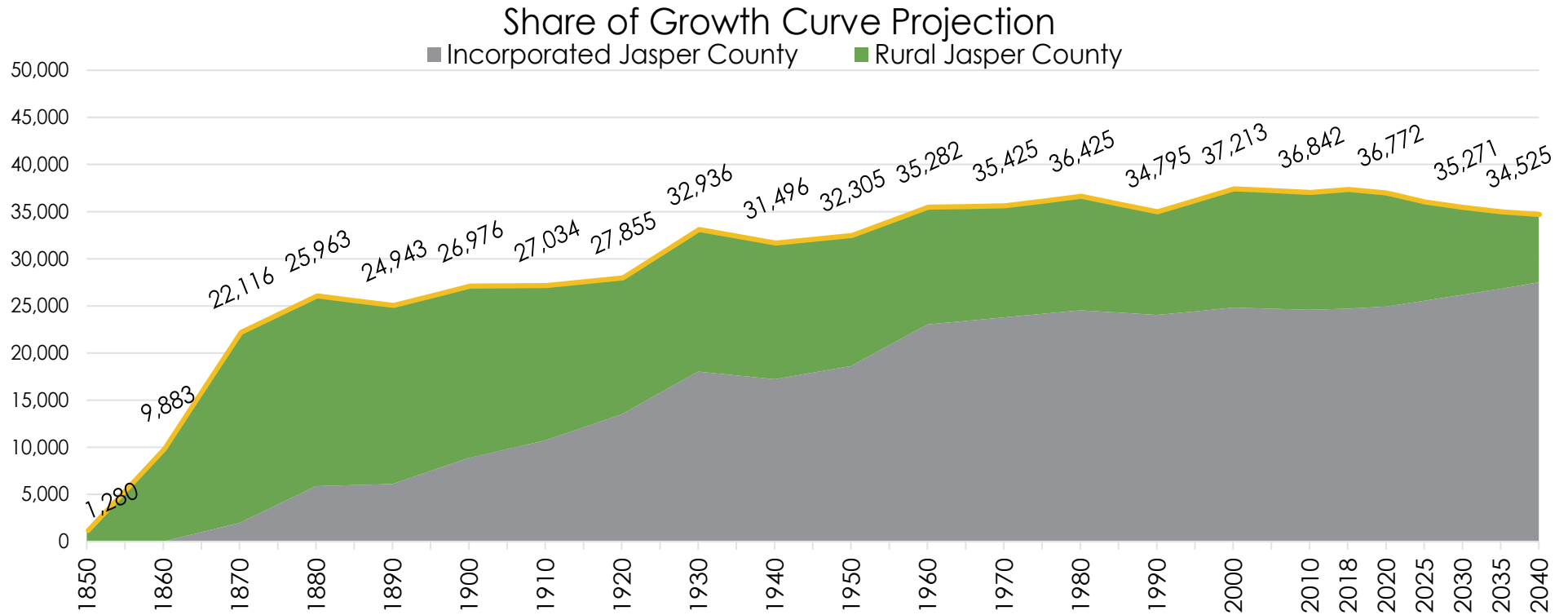
Adding the Incorporated and Rural Projections, the Total 2040 Jasper County population is projected to be 39,889.



Alternative 5: Share of Growth Projection

Share of Growth Projection					
	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040
AVG Incorporated Projection	24,931	25,542	26,174	26,826	27,501
AVG Rural Projection	11,840	10,296	9,098	7,987	7,023
Total Projection (sum of AVGs)	36,772	35,839	35,271	34,813	34,525

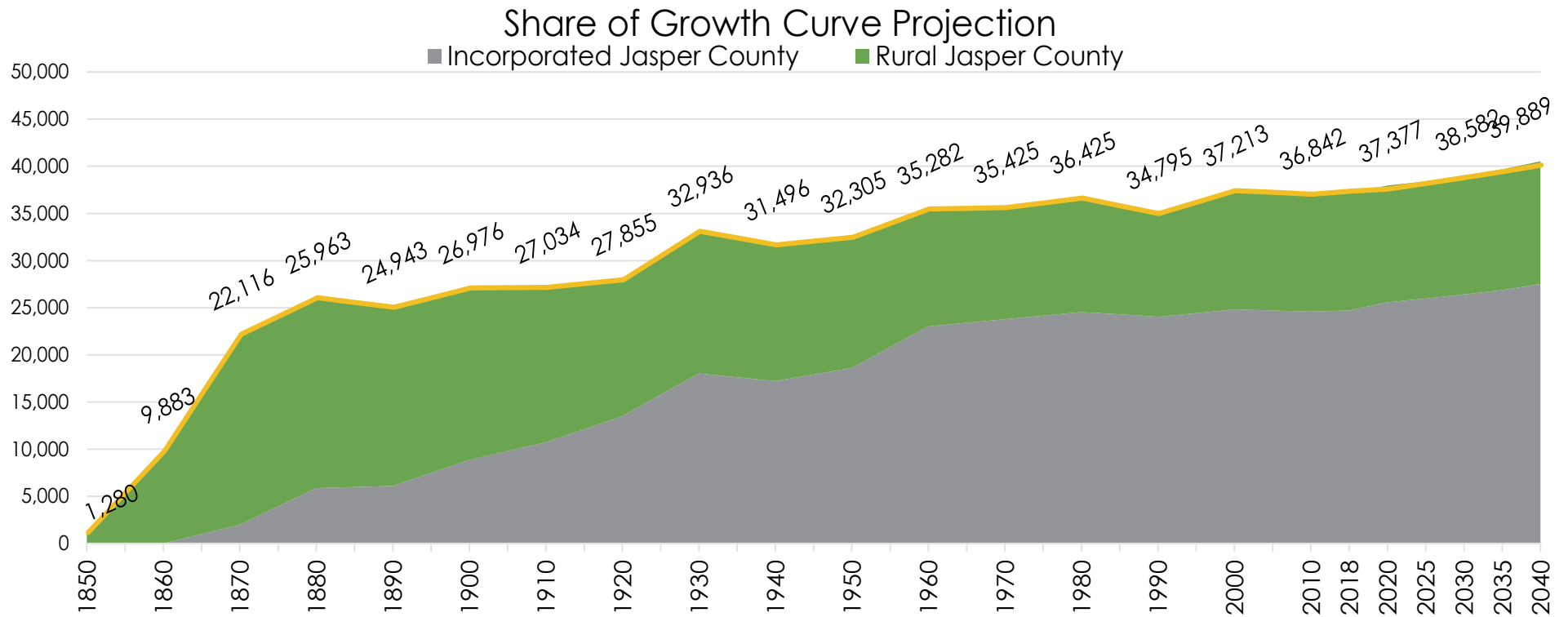
Adding the Incorporated and Rural Projections, the Total 2040 Jasper County population is projected to be 34,525.



Alternative 6: Shift Share Projection

Shift Share Curve Projection					
	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040
AVG Incorporated Projection	24,970	25,558	25,976	26,410	26,864
AVG Rural Projection	12,408	12,410	12,607	12,812	13,025
Total Projection (sum of AVGs)	37,377	37,968	38,582	39,222	39,889

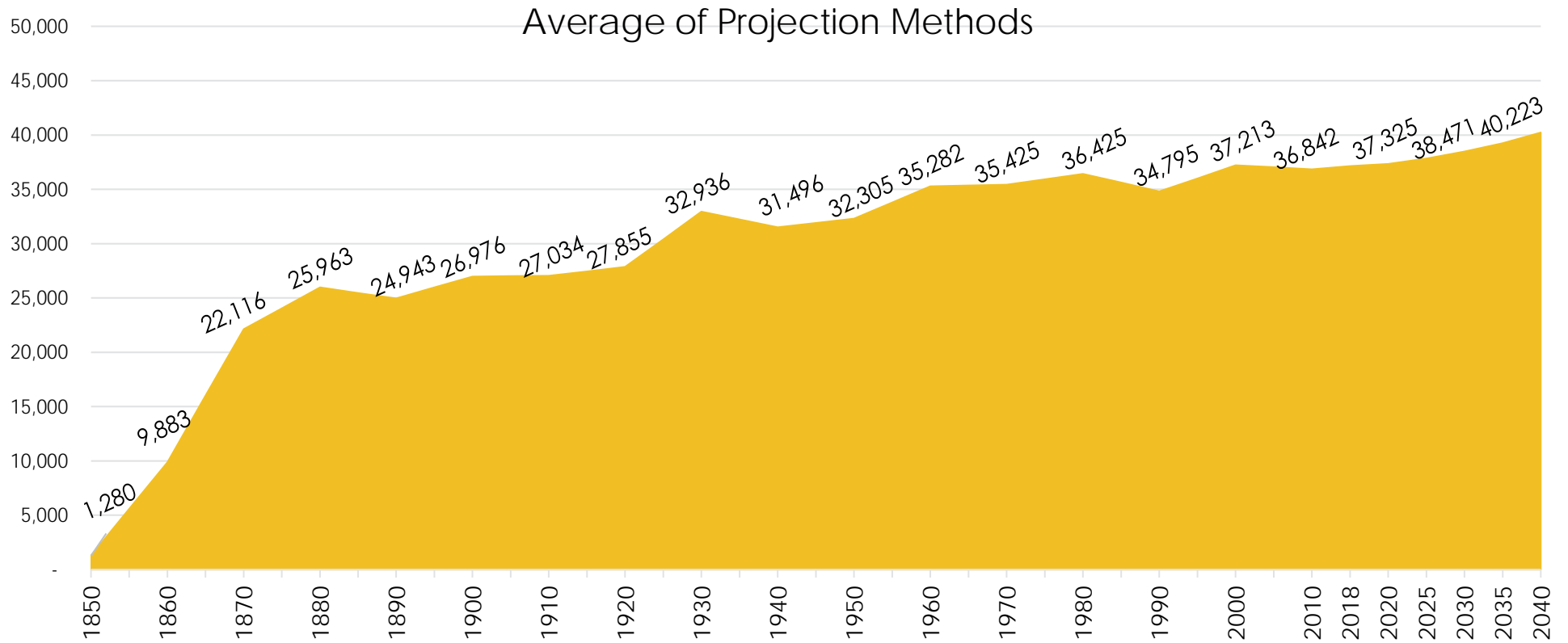
Adding the Incorporated and Rural Projections, the Total 2040 Jasper County population is projected to be 39,889.



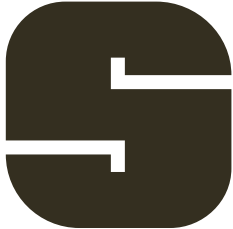
Alternative 7: Average of Projection Methods

	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040
Average of All Projections	37,325	37,824	38,471	39,254	40,223

This projection method found the average of the six previous projection methods. Using this method, the 2040 Total Jasper County population is projected to be 40,223.







SNYDER
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