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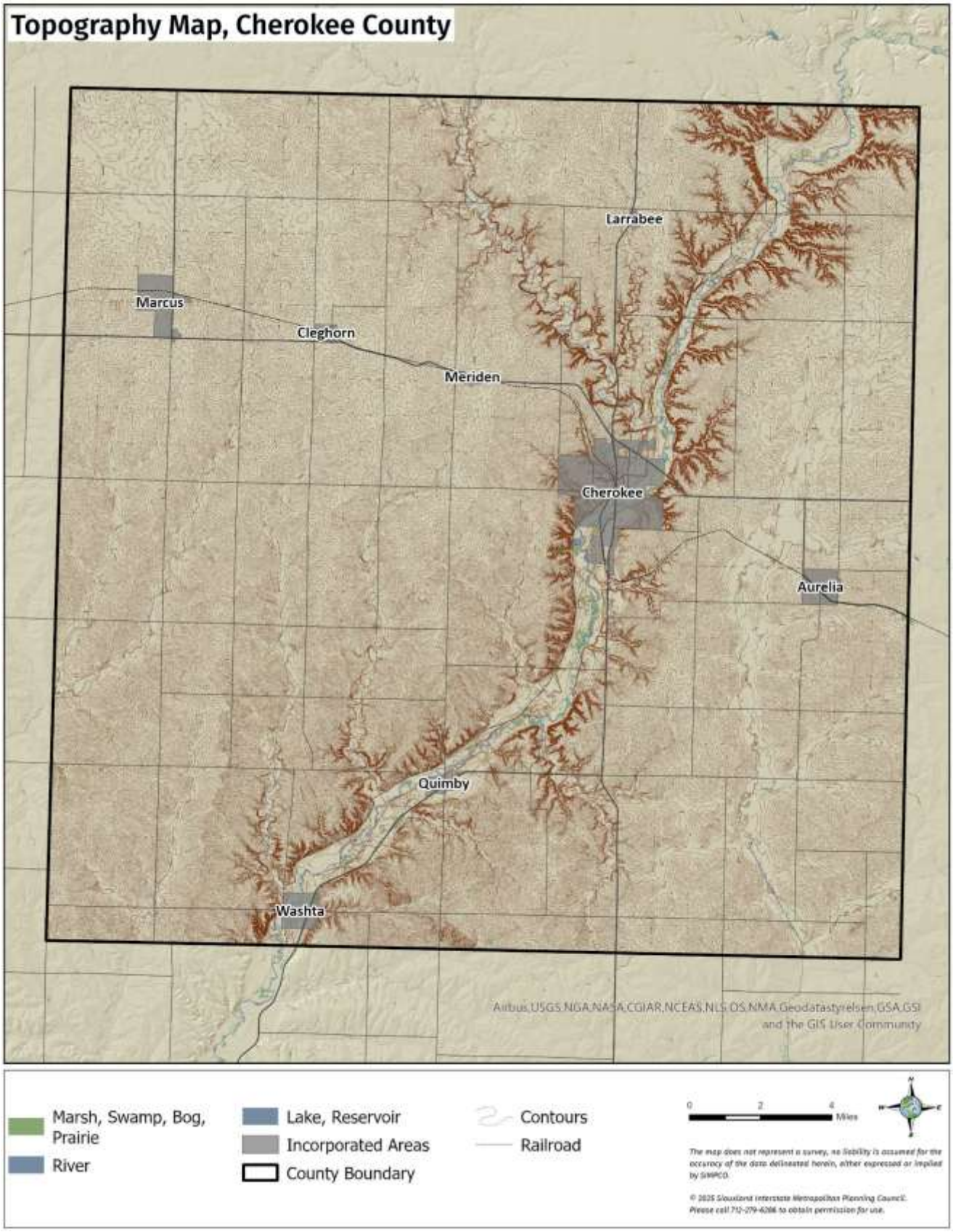

Marsh, Swamp, Bog, Prairie
River
Lake, Reservoir
Incorporated Areas
County Boundary
Contours
Railroad

0 2 4 Miles

N W E S

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IV. Counties & Cities Participating as Jurisdictions

A. Cherokee County

Profile – Unincorporated Area & County

Cherokee County is centrally located in the northwest quarter of Iowa. The County is bordered by O'Brien County to the north, Buena Vista County to the east, Ida County to the south, and Plymouth County to the west. Cherokee County is approximately 577 square miles.

Cities within Cherokee County include Aurelia, Cherokee, Cleghorn, Larrabee, Marcus, Meriden, Quimby, and Washta.

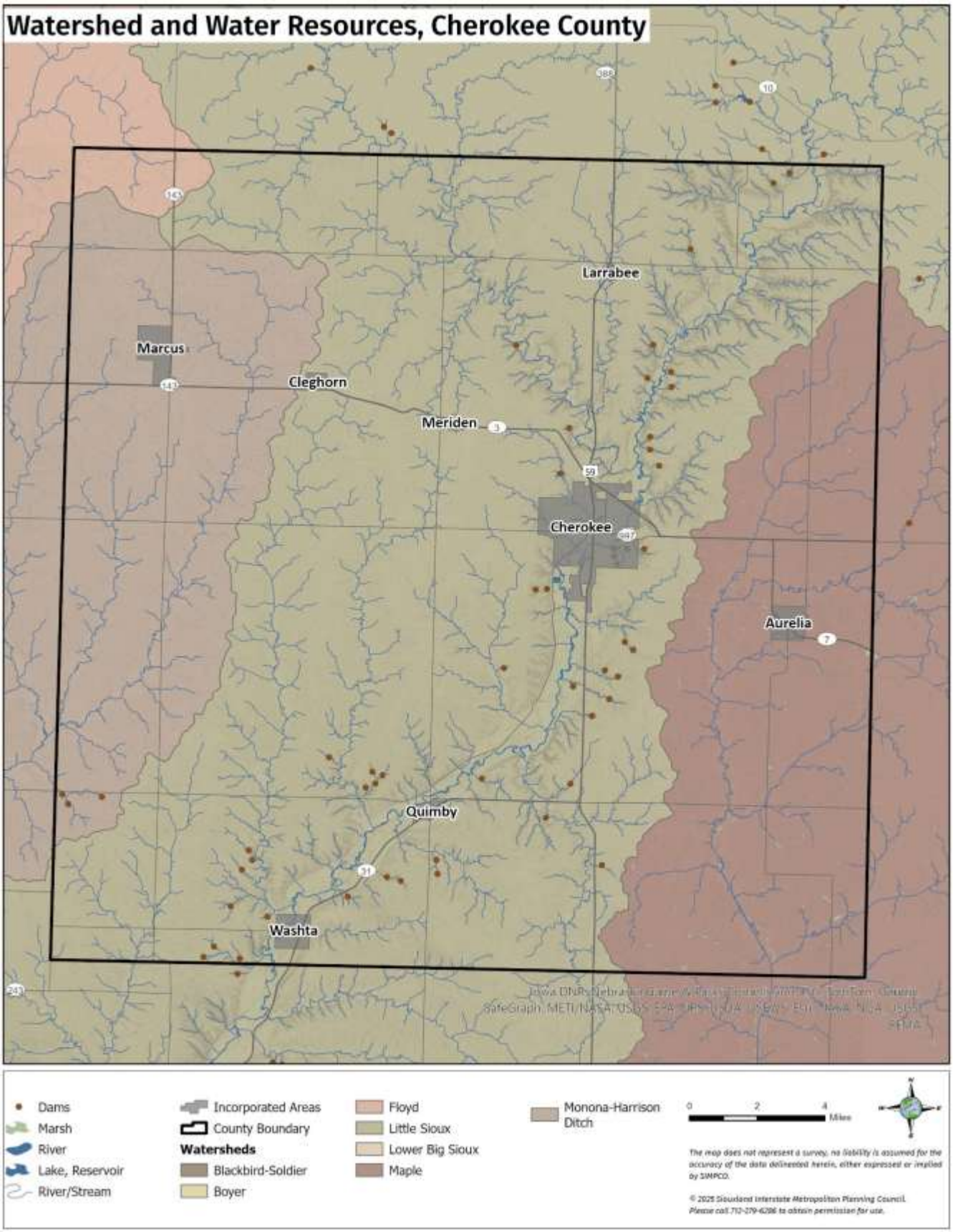
Rivers & Watersheds

The Little Sioux River runs diagonally from northeast to southwest through the County. While this is the only significant river, there are a number of smaller creeks including Perry Creek, Stratton Creek, and Pierson Creek.

There are three (3) primary watersheds within the County that drain storm water and snow melt into streams and lakes, wetland areas, or into groundwater reserves. These watersheds are Little Sioux Watershed, Monona-Harrison Ditch Watershed, and Maple Watershed. The following map shows sub-watersheds for Cherokee County. Regional breakdown for watersheds is provided in *Planning Area* information. The following map depicts the sub-watersheds within those as listed above. Subwatersheds are determined based on hydrologic unit code (HUC) level 12, which includes more detail including tributary data.

Landform Regions & Geology

Some resources (such as Iowa Landscapes in Google Maps) indicate that Cherokee County is composed entirely of a single geological landform region, the Northwest Iowa Plains. The Northwest Iowa Plains are marked by rolling hills, which are the result of the manipulation of glacial sediment deposits, by glacial melt and streams. Other resources reference presence of Southern Iowa Drift Plain as well (https://www.iihr.uiowa.edu/igs/southern-iowa-drift-plain/).


Watershed and Water Resources, Cherokee County
Larrabee
Marcus
Cleghorn
Meriden
Cherokee
Aurelia
Quimby
Washta
Dams
Marsh
River
Lake, Reservoir
River/Stream
Incorporated Areas
County Boundary
Watersheds
Blackbird-Soldier
Boyer
Floyd
Little Sioux
Lower Big Sioux
Maple
Monona-Harrison Ditch
0 2 4 Miles
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Transportation Network

U.S. Highway 59 and State Highways 3, 7, 31, and 143 are all included in the County's transportation network.

The County's secondary road system is composed of 1,004.35 miles. Within this category, Farm-to-Market roads make up 311.07 miles, while Area Service roads account for 693.28 miles. Gravel or earth surface types account for 780.10 miles of the secondary road system. The remaining 217.02 miles are composed of bituminous, asphalt, or PCC surface types.

County Governance & Supports

The county seat is located in the city of Cherokee, which is just northeast of the center of the County. Its jurisdiction covers all unincorporated portions within county boundaries. A five (5)-person Board of Supervisors governs Cherokee County. The Board acts as the legislative body for the County. Additional offices include the following departments:

- Assessor
- Attorney
- Auditor
- Community Services
- Conservation
- Emergency Management
- Engineer
- Environmental Health
- General Relief
- GIS – Mapping
- Recorder
- Secondary Roads
- Sheriff
- Technology/Website Admin
- Treasurer
- Veterans Affairs
- Zoning

The Cherokee County's Emergency Management Agency is responsible for the development and maintenance of relevant planning documents, coordinates plans and facilities, and sponsors training opportunities for emergency responders, partner agencies, and the public. The Cherokee County Sheriff's Office provides law enforcement to all rural portion of the County including towns of Larrabee, Meriden, Cleghorn, Quimby, and Washta. The office is staffed by a sheriff and seven (7) additional employees.

County Facilities

Storage	405 1/2 Coombs Dr	Aurelia

Storage	118 N Main	Larrabee
Radio Equipment	118 N Main	Larrabee
Law Enforcement Center	111 N 5th	Cherokee
Courthouse	520 W Main	Cherokee
War Memorial Bldg	520 W Main	Cherokee
Conservation Office; Storage	629 River Road	Cherokee
Martin Access, County Park	SE 1/4 NW 1/2 Sec 32-91-40	Cherokee
Work Activity Center	322 Lake St	Cherokee
Garage	322 Lake St	Cherokee
Offices; Shop; Bldgs	5074 Hwy 3 W	Cherokee
LEC Radio Equip	5074 Hwy 3 W	Cherokee
Storage	406 E 4th St	Quimby
Storage	408 W Sanford	Washta
Storage	601 W Cedar	Marcus
Radio Equipment	601 W Cedar	Marcus
Storage	409 W 1st	Meriden
E911 Radio Equip	113 S Lewis St	Cleghorn
E911 Radio Equip	1880 570th St	Cherokee
Cabins	5494 Martin Access Rd	Cherokee
Park Equip	5494 Martin Access Rd	Cherokee
Siren	5494 Martin Access Rd	Cherokee

Education

Educational attainment in Cherokee County differs in several ways from the state of Iowa as a whole. More residents in Cherokee have completed high school or earned an associate's degree compared to the state average, indicating a strong foundation in basic and technical education. However, the county sees fewer individuals pursuing or completing bachelor's and graduate degrees, highlighting a gap in higher education. The level of residents without a high school diploma is roughly in line with the state, suggesting comparable access to early education. Overall, while Cherokee County maintains solid rates of high school and associate-level education, it falls behind in advanced educational attainment.

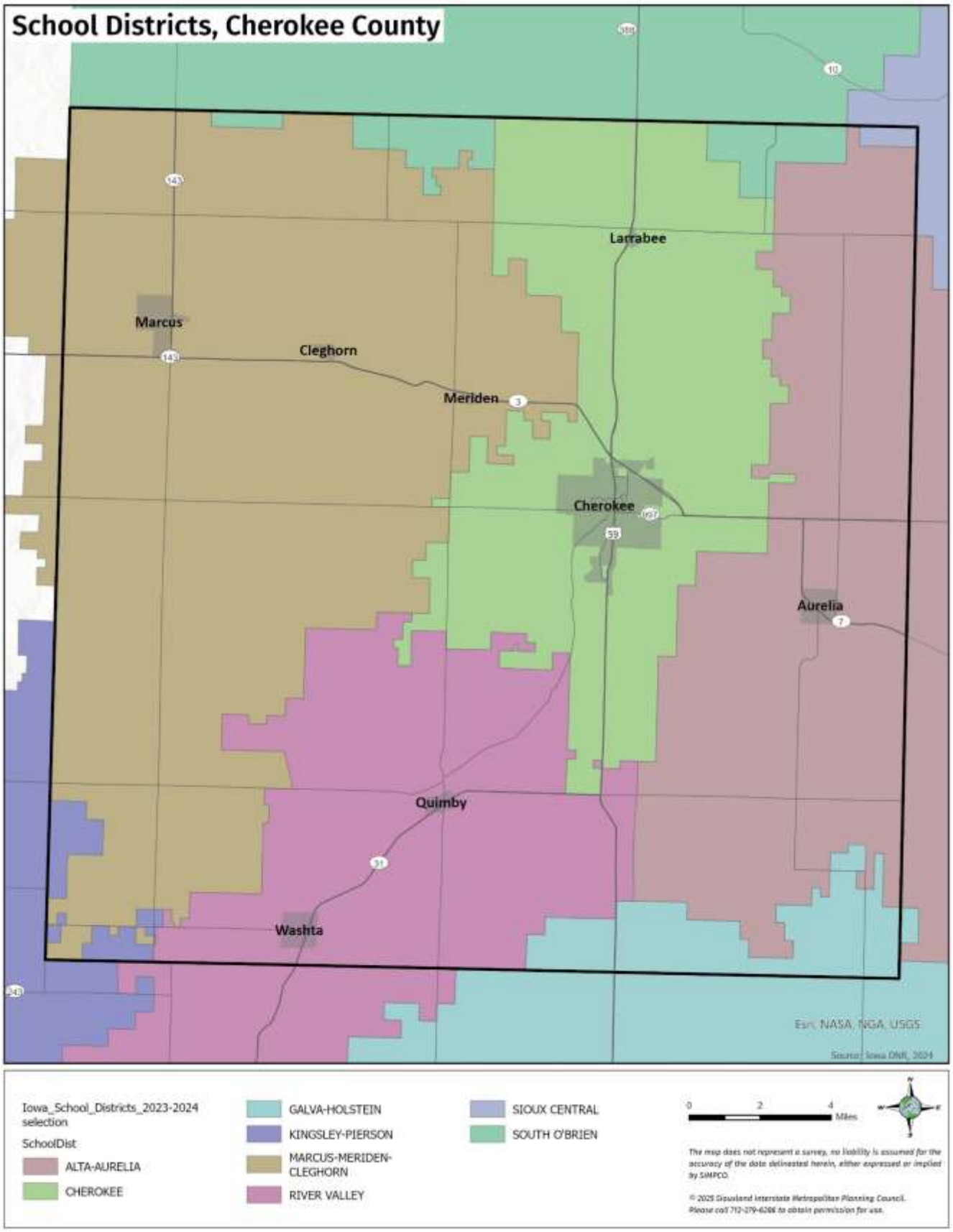
Level of Education	*Cherokee*	*Iowa*
No high school diploma	6.9%	6.7%
High school degree (includes equivalency)	38.4%	29.9%
Some college, no degree	18.8%	19.6%
Associate's degree	13.1%	12.2%
Bachelor's degree	14.3%	20.9%
Graduate or professional degree	7.3%	10.7%

Local enrollment numbers for public schools are included within the statistics and data presentation for each district. In Cherokee County, there are 10 public schools serving four (4) school districts. District listing and facilities table follow.

- Alta-Aurelia Community Schools
- Cherokee Community School District
- Marcus-Meriden-Cleghorn-Remsen Community School District
- River Valley Community School District

Educational Facilities	
Alta-Aurelia Elementary/Middle School	300 Ash Street, Aurelia
Cherokee Community Schools	600 W Bluff, Cherokee
Cherokee Middle School	200 E Indian Street, Cherokee
Early Childhood Learning Center	929 N Roosevelt, Cherokee
Marcus Meriden Cleghorn Jr. Sr. School	400 E Fenton St, Marcus
Marcus Meriden Cleghorn Primary	500 E Fenton St, Marcus
Marcus-Meriden-Cleghorn East Elementary School	200 Campbell St, Cleghorn
River Valley Community School	100 S 5th St, Washta
Roosevelt Elementary School	929 N Roosevelt, Cherokee
Washington High School	600 W Bluff St, Cherokee
Western Iowa Tech Community College (Chke Co Campus)	200 Victory Dr, Cherokee

There are three (3) private schools located within the County. While there are not public or private standalone universities located within Cherokee County, Western Iowa Tech Community College (WITCC) does have a small campus in the city of Cherokee. WITCC is a public two-year college.


School Districts, Cherokee County
Larrabee
Marcus
Cleghorn
Meriden
Cherokee
Aurelia
Quimby
Washta
Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS
Source: Iowa DNR, 2024
Iowa_School_Districts_2023-2024 selection
SchoolDist
ALTA-AURELIA
CHEROKEE
GALVA-HOLSTEIN
KINGSLEY-PIERSON
MARCUS-MERIDEN-CLEGHORN
RIVER VALLEY
SIOUX CENTRAL
SOUTH O'BRIEN
0 2 4 Miles
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Population

CensusReporter.gov 2023 estimates show Cherokee County[1] has a population of 11,605, showing a slight decline from 11,658 in 2020. The county contains 5,082 households, with a median household income of $64,478—falling below the statewide median of $73,147. Population projections indicate a continued decline over the coming decades, with estimates for 2040 ranging from just under 8,000 to nearly 11,700 residents, depending on future growth rates. The county also includes a significant portion of vulnerable populations: nearly 25% of residents are aged 65 and older, while 15.2% live below the poverty level. Additionally, 7.2% of the population lives with a disability, and 4.9% are children under the age of five. These demographic trends highlight the need for thoughtful planning around economic development, aging services, and support for low-income and at-risk residents.

Community Characteristics	
Population (2023)	11,605
Population (2020)	11,658
Total Households	5,082
Median Household Income	$ 64,478
Median Household Income – Iowa	$ 73,147

Vulnerable Populations	*Count*	*Percent*
5 years and younger	568	4.9%
65 years and older	2,845	24.6%
Below the poverty level	1,717	15.2%
Living with a disability	1,335	7.2%

Healthcare Facilities

Name	*Address*	*City*	*Assisted Living*	*Skilled Nursing*
Careage Hills	725 N. 2nd St.	Cherokee, IA 51012	No	Yes
Accura Healthcare	921 Riverview Dr	Cherokee, IA 51012	Yes	Yes
Heartland Care Center	604 E. Fenton	Marcus, IA 51035	Yes	Yes
Accura Healthcare	401 W 5th St	Aurelia, IA 51005	No	Yes

[1] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/05000US19035-cherokee-county-ia/

Cherokee Specialty Care	1011 N. Roosevelt Ave	Cherokee, IA 51012	No	Yes
The Beck Senior Living Apartments	333 Sioux Valley Dr	Cherokee, IA 51012	Yes	No
The Gardens	1610 Hwy 3	Cherokee	No	No

Housing

Cherokee County offers relatively affordable housing, with a median home value slightly higher than the state average and median rent slightly below. The county has a total of 5,551 housing units, the majority of which are occupied. Most occupied homes are owner-occupied, while a smaller portion are rented. A modest number of housing units remain vacant, indicating a reasonably stable housing market. These figures suggest that homeownership is the dominant form of housing in Cherokee County, and rental options are available but limited.

Housing Characteristics		
Value	Cherokee	Iowa
Median Home Value	$145,100	$137,200
Median Rent	$711	$740
Availability	Count	Percent
Total Housing Units	5,551	-
Occupied	5,373	90.5%
Owner-occupied	4,064	71.5%
Renter-occupied	1,309	28.5%
Vacant	549	9.5%

Income & Economics

Cherokee County's civilian workforce, made up of individuals aged 16 and older, totals around 4,049 people. The largest number of residents are employed in education, health care, and social assistance, followed by manufacturing and retail trade. Agriculture, including forestry, fishing, and mining, also represents a key part of the local economy. Other notable sectors include construction, wholesale trade, public administration, and professional services. Smaller portions of the workforce are employed in areas such as finance, information, transportation, and the arts and hospitality industries. Overall, the employment landscape reflects a strong presence of both traditional industries and essential community services.

Industry for the Civilian Employed Population 16 and over		
Civilian employed population (16 and older)	4,049	-
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	400	9.9%
Construction	346	8.5%
Manufacturing	645	15.9%
Wholesale trade	189	4.6%
Retail trade	619	15.3%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	115	2.8%
Information	44	1.1%
Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing	51	1.3%
Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services	165	4.1%
Education services and health care and social assistance	842	20.1%
Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services	130	3.2%
Other services except public administration	187	4.6%
Public administration	182	4.5%

Cherokee County identifies the following as leading employers:

- Hy-Vee Distribution
- Cherokee Regional Medical Center
- Cherokee Mental Health Institute
- Cherokee Community School District
- Civil Commitment Union for Sexual Offenders
- Cherokee County
- RJ Thomas Manufacturing
- Christensen Brothers, Inc.
- City of Cherokee
- American Natural Processors
- Schoon Construction/Warehouse
- First Coop Association (Cherokee)
- Mongan Painting

- Foundation Analytical Labs
- Screenbuilders
- Grundman Hicks Construction
- Cloverleaf Cold Storage
- Haselhoff Construction

Additional notable employers in the county include:

- AgReliant
- Corteva
- Fareway
- Hy-Vee Grocery
- Little Sioux Corn
- Lopez Foods, Inc.
- Marcus Lumber
- Simonsen Industries
- Staples Promotional Product

Valuation of County Assets

Total Blanket TIV	$	23,108,274
Building	$	19,442,963
Personal Property	$	3,692,503
Miscellaneous Property Scheduled	$	8,692,349
Miscellaneous Property Unscheduled	$	664,929
Total TIV	**$**	**32,492,744**
APD TIV	**$**	**4,692,268**
Grand Total TIV	**$**	**37, 185,012**

Participation

Facilitated by SIMPCO, a planning meeting was held at the County EMA office on January 17, 2025 with the following in attendance.

- Justin Pritts, EMA Coordinator
- Bill Anderson, Economic Development (CAEDC)
- Joel Ehrig, Assessor

- Laura Jones, Conservation Board Director
- Tom Ryherd, Superintendent – Cherokee Community Schools
- Derek Scott, Sheriff

Public input was collected through the primary survey with 61 of 251 respondents indicating Cherokee as county of residence. Comments and concerns are included for discussion under Capabilities and Risk Assessment sections as applicable.

Capabilities

Factors improving community capabilities include warning sirens at county parks – Silver Sioux and Martin Access. The sheriff's office has a generator.

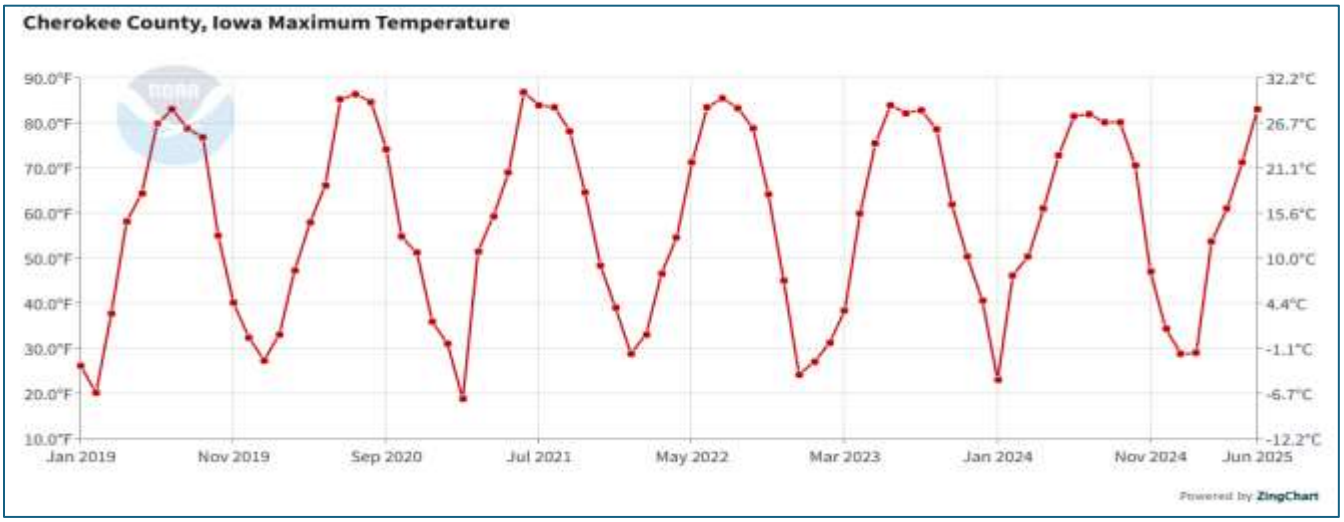
Cherokee County is a participant in NFIP, CID # 190854A. The County Zoning Administrator serves as Floodplain Administrator. As a county, its unincorporated areas have zero RL/SRL properties.

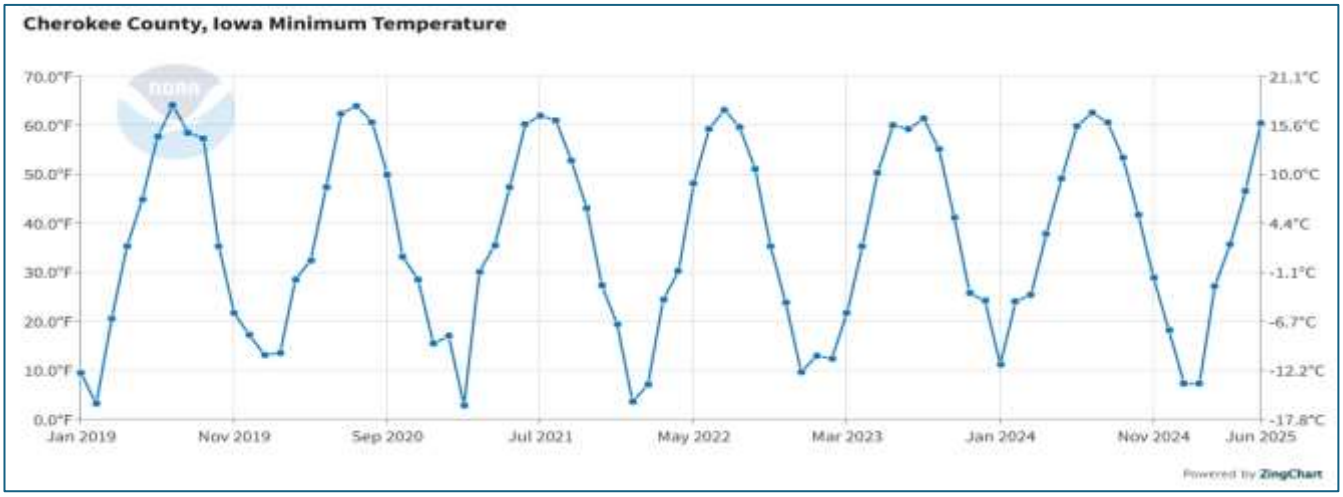
Cherokee County Resources	
Emergency Management Agency & Programming	Emergency Management Coordinator County Recovery Plan Local/County Emergency Plan
Law Enforcement	Cherokee County Sheriff's Office
Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan	
Economic Development Plan	Cherokee Area Economic Development Corporation
Iowa Wetlands and Riparian Areas Conservation Plan	Cherokee County Conservation Board

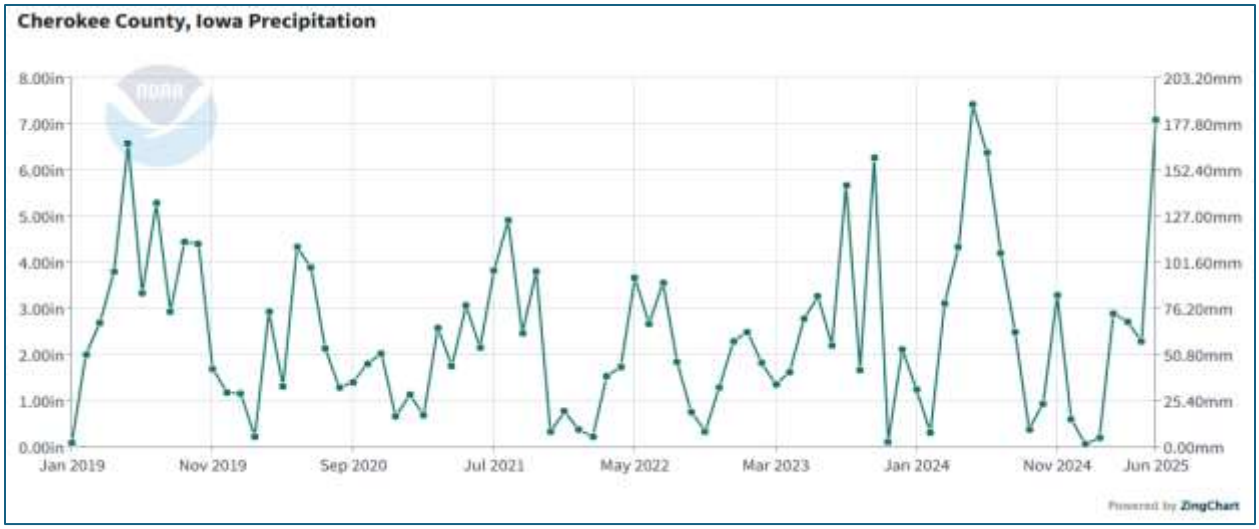
Review of Actions Taken

communication /education		
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Cherokee County	2020: Two trailer-mounted generators to facilitate county response efforts *County EMA* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Cherokee County	**Update**. 1 in place 100kw unit owned by the state is housed at the EMA offices. 2nd unit as well as other generator needs are carried into the 2026 HMP.

Generator & Related Projects	Cherokee County	2020: On-site permanent generator for Courthouse; *County EMA* (County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Cherokee County	**Update**. Not implemented as funding has not been dedicated to project. Still needed and carries over to 2026 HMP.
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		
development		







Risk Assessment

Cherokee County Flood Hazard maps[2] as produced through the Iowa DNR are now categorized as *Effective*. The Land Use and Floodplain map as provided is based on current available information from the DNR and the County, with more detail visible when zooming in on a specific area rather than the full county. Regardless of mapped depiction of floodways, Cherokee County is intersected diagonally by the Little Sioux River and again to the center of its northern border by its Mill Creek tributary. Development particularly for the cities of Cherokee, Quimby, and Washta is therefore highly subject to flood patterns. Other geographical and weather-based vulnerabilities are consistent with those of the region as a whole. The following charts provide a look at county averages[3] for maximum temperature, minimum temperature, and precipitation for November 2019 through December 2024.

Ethanol production and transport is a key consideration in determining risk, as are the presence of bulk ammonia tanks outside the cities of Marcus and Aurelia.

The Trivium Life Services work activity facility in the city of Cherokee is noted to have shelter specifications, though details are not immediately available. School facilities in Cherokee

[2] Source: https://ifis.iowafloodcenter.org/ifis/maps/hazard/
[3] www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/monitoring/climate-at-a-glance/county/time-series/IA

County have designated tornado protocol and refuge areas, though none are certified. In recent years, state programming has enabled the addition of some generators for use by County departments and facilities.

Gov. Kim Reynolds issued a disaster declaration that weekend for 21 Iowa counties affected by the nearly unimaginable amount of flood water inundating those areas.

-Photo by Karen Schwaller
Much of northwest Iowa received nearly a year's worth of rainfall before 2024 was even half over, with approximately 11 inches falling in a short period of time in the month of June. That resulted in historic flooding, which devastated hard-hit Iowa communities like Rock Valley, Spencer, Sioux Rapids, Cherokee, Correctionville, Hawarden, and points further south. Here the water flows from the field and over the roadway.

www.messengernews.net/progress-2025/progress-2025-agriculture/2025/02/2024-floods-northwest-iowa-recovers *2024 Floods: Northwest Iowa recovers*. Feb 22, 2025 Karen Schwaller editor@messengernews.net (June 9, 2025)

Frequency of extreme weather, especially flooding and heavy storms, has resulted in an increase of power outages due to downed powerlines. As contributing factors are widespread affecting many communities at the same time, county and locally supplied portable generators are insufficient to maintain operations simultaneously.

A review of reports in the NOAA Storm Event database provides 134 records within Cherokee County between 11/01/2019 and 12/31/2024.

Summary

Number of County/Zone areas affected:	2
Number of Days with Event:	113
Number of Days with Event and Death:	0
Number of Days with Event and Death or Injury:	0
Number of Days with Event and Property Damage:	2
Number of Days with Event and Crop Damage:	20
Number of Event Types reported:	15

Property damage estimates as reported: $ 2,445,000

Crop damage estimates as reported: $ 12,734,000

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	11/26/2019	15:00	Winter Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	11/28/2019	22:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	1/17/2020	7:00	Blizzard		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	1/18/2020	15:00	Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	1/22/2020	0:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	2/12/2020	22:30	Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	2/19/2020	3:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	3/19/2020	18:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	4/12/2020	8:00	Winter Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CLEGHORN	6/4/2020	22:43	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE MUNI ARPT	6/4/2020	23:09	Hail	1.25 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	7/28/2020	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	1.100M
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	8/1/2020	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	1.100M
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	9/1/2020	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	50.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	10/1/2020	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	55.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	10/25/2020	5:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	11/1/2020	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	37.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	11/9/2020	22:00	Ice Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	12/1/2020	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	12/23/2020	11:00	Blizzard		0	0	0.00K	0.00K

CHEROKEE (ZONE)	1/1/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	1/14/2021	23:00	Blizzard		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	1/23/2021	8:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	1/25/2021	18:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	2/1/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	2/4/2021	3:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	2/14/2021	2:00	Extreme Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	2/21/2021	6:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	3/1/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	3/15/2021	0:00	Winter Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	4/1/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	5/1/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	20.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	6/1/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	270.00K
WASHTA	6/22/2021	17:42	Hail	1.25 in.	0	0	0.00K	191.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	7/1/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	214.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	8/1/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	250.00K
WASHTA	8/20/2021	17:22	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MARCUS	8/27/2021	0:46	Thunderstorm Wind	52 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	50.00K
CHEROKEE	8/27/2021	1:05	Thunderstorm Wind	52 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	9/1/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	10.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	10/1/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	11/1/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	5.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	12/10/2021	13:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
FIELDING	12/15/2021	16:46	Thunderstorm Wind	74 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MARY HILL	12/15/2021	16:53	Thunderstorm Wind	83 kts. EG	0	0	15.00K	0.00K
MERIDEN	12/15/2021	16:56	Thunderstorm Wind	83 kts. EG	0	0	30.00K	0.00K
MARCUS	12/15/2021	16:56	Thunderstorm Wind	70 kts. EG	0	0	50.00K	0.00K
AURELIA	12/15/2021	16:59	Tornado	EF1	0	0	1.000M	0.00K
AURELIA	12/15/2021	17:00	Tornado	EFU	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
AURELIA	12/15/2021	17:02	Thunderstorm Wind	87 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
AURELIA	12/15/2021	17:02	Thunderstorm Wind	87 kts. EG	0	0	20.00K	0.00K
AURELIA	12/15/2021	17:02	Thunderstorm Wind	78 kts. EG	0	0	30.00K	0.00K
AURELIA	12/15/2021	17:03	Thunderstorm Wind	78 kts. EG	0	0	30.00K	0.00K

LARRABEE	12/15/2021	17:05	Tornado	EF1	0	0	250.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	12/15/2021	20:40	High Wind	39 kts. MS	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	1/1/2022	1:30	Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	1/6/2022	4:00	Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	1/14/2022	3:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	2/21/2022	16:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	2/22/2022	19:30	Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	3/5/2022	13:30	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	3/25/2022	10:00	Strong Wind	31 kts. MS	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	4/14/2022	7:20	High Wind	35 kts. MS	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	4/23/2022	10:45	High Wind	38 kts. MS	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MARCUS	5/30/2022	14:55	Hail	0.88 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	6/14/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	1.130M
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	7/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	1.800M
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	8/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	1.750M
FIELDING	8/18/2022	18:35	Thunderstorm Wind	53 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CLEGHORN	8/27/2022	16:18	Thunderstorm Wind	70 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	9/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	1.120M
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	10/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	11/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	11/29/2022	6:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	12/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	12/8/2022	17:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	12/12/2022	17:00	Ice Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	12/22/2022	3:00	Extreme Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	12/22/2022	10:30	Blizzard		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	1/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	1/2/2023	20:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	1/18/2023	17:00	Winter Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	1/28/2023	1:00	Winter Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	2/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	2/15/2023	1:30	Strong Wind	29 kts. MS	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	3/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K

CHEROKEE (ZONE)	3/8/2023	13:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	3/22/2023	22:30	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	4/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CLEGHORN	4/19/2023	18:43	Hail	1.50 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	4/30/2023	8:00	Strong Wind	39 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	5/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	6/20/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	7/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
AURELIA	7/3/2023	16:53	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	110.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	7/26/2023	10:00	Excessive Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	8/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	8/19/2023	13:30	Excessive Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	8/21/2023	11:00	Excessive Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	9/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	10/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	3.470M
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	10/28/2023	12:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	12/25/2023	2:00	Ice Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	1/8/2024	15:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	1/11/2024	18:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	1/12/2024	15:00	Blizzard		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	1/12/2024	18:00	Extreme Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	1/18/2024	9:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	1/19/2024	22:00	Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	2/27/2024	16:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
FIELDING	4/26/2024	11:30	Hail	1.25 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CLEGHORN	4/26/2024	11:47	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
LARRABEE	5/2/2024	18:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MARCUS	5/8/2024	15:31	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
LARRABEE	5/20/2024	19:50	Hail	1.25 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
AURELIA	5/20/2024	20:30	Hail	1.50 in.	0	0	0.00K	2.00K
LARRABEE	5/22/2024	2:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WASHTA	6/21/2024	1:00	Flood		0	0	1.020M	0.00K
LARRABEE	6/21/2024	1:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K

CLEGHORN	6/22/2024	6:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
LARRABEE	7/1/2024	0:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	7/13/2024	12:00	Excessive Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
QUIMBY	7/29/2024	23:21	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MARCUS	7/29/2024	23:22	Thunderstorm Wind	65 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE	7/29/2024	23:37	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
AURELIA	7/29/2024	23:45	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	7/31/2024	11:00	Excessive Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	8/2/2024	12:00	Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	8/5/2024	12:00	Excessive Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	8/25/2024	12:00	Excessive Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	10/29/2024	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	11/1/2024	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	12/4/2024	11:00	Strong Wind	36 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE (ZONE)	12/19/2024	12:00	Strong Wind	26 kts. MS	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Estimates as provided are intended to imply a base valuation only. It is important to note that estimates are from on reported amounts. As NOAA is a public-sourced database, events are recorded in real time but follow up of adding costs associated with events is often incomplete. Local EMA offices are better equipped to provide such details. Even then, final numbers may not be totaled for several years after recovery efforts have been completed.

A compilation of State disaster declarations and presidential disaster declarations are included in the Region Risk Assessment section of this plan.

Priority Hazards

The county identifies the following as primary hazard concerns.

- Flood
- Tornado / Windstorm
- Drought

Also noted as concerns are

- Animal / Plant / Crop disease and
- Terrorism (Active Shooter)

Among Cherokee County respondents to the survey, Tornado/Windstorm (33/61), Severe Winter Storm (27/61) and Flood – Flash and Riverine (24/61) have the highest frequency of Very Concerned indicated. When asked what they consider the top three hazards, respondents provided: Tornado/Windstorm (37/61), Severe Winter Storm (23/61) and Thunderstorm with Hail & Lightning (20/61).

Most surveys completed were on paper which allowed for level of concern for each hazard and space for general comments. The online survey was longer with more prompts for open-ended responses. Below are some notable concerns/mentions regarding overall community awareness of hazards and preparedness.

What personal impacts have you experienced due to any of the hazards identified above?

- [Sure!] Good! Need info on what's available during/after disaster - to know what to do
- To be informed of dam and levy failure
- (1) Ongoing community only about risks and risk migration measures (2) Department meetings in the subject yearly reviewing plans
- Dust and noise from elevator
- flood
- Have had to miss work because couldn't travel because of floods and snow.

What have you done to reduce the impacts of likely occurring hazards (i.e. installed sump pump to keep basement from flooding)

- All that I can do
- nothing
- Built on a hill

Are there any mitigation projects you would like to see implemented to reduce the impact of hazard/disastrous events in the Jurisdiction you are representing?

- Dam release from Lakes are[a] can affect our County.
- More security in schools-SRO's-Metal detectors etc.
- Flood mitigation- expanding watershed project

Mitigation Actions, Strategies, & Projects

The full list of planned mitigation actions, strategies, and projects follows.

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Cherokee County	**New**. Enhance education materials and communications on water conservation and responsible use during drought; red flag warning awareness during dry conditions; winter weather safety; lightning safety; Extreme heat safety; flood safety. County EMA, IA DNR. (No funds needed). HIGH PRIORITY
Assessment/Study	Cherokee County	**New**. A study of several tributaries is need to assess options for collection, redirection, diversion. Waterways include Mill Creek, Little Sioux River, Railroad Creek. County will support study of others as collaborative project. *EMA, County Board, affected cities, Conservation Board, DNR, ACE, Secondary Roads*. (Scoping project-PDM funds as may be available, local funds from participating entities) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Cherokee County	**Carry over**. trailer-mounted generator needed to facilitate county response efforts *County EMA* (Local funds – not yet allocated, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Cherokee County	**New**. On-site generator needed for EOC/EMA for continuity of operations extreme weather events and other disasters. Estimated cost @ $350,000. *County EMA* (Local funds – not yet allocated, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Cherokee County, Cherokee CSD	**New**. generator to facilitate use of High School as refuge / shelter location. Generator addresses reduction in loss of life in power outage conditions (tornado, flood, wind, lightning, ice, etc.) by ensuring shelter and communication links. *County EMA, School Superintendent / Board, City of Cherokee* (Local general budget funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Cherokee County	**Carry over**. On-site permanent generator for Courthouse; *County EMA* (County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Relocate critical facilities	Cherokee County	**New**. Relocation of Conservation Department necessitated by floodplain expansion. Current office now in compromised area. Facility needs office space as well as storage. There is potential to collaborate with Secondary

		Roads to share storage space. Estimates range from $.5M - $.75M. Ideally, new location will be in one of the parks, River Oaks Conservation Area is being considered. *County Board, Conservation Dept, Secondary Roads, IDNR, State Conservation* (County and state funds as available, PDM/FMA as appropriate, other TBD) HIGH PRIORITY
development		
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

Other projects with potential mitigative impact include but are not limited to the following.

- Cherokee County has several road projects listed for consideration in the near future, many of which are increasing in implementation priority due to the accelerated deterioration effects of frequent weather extremes. Among these are collaborative projects with cities, state funded roadways, and watershed improvements.
- The ability to maintain function of County operations during and after a hazardous event or disaster is essential to appropriating response.
- The county is looking at expanding the assessor's office space, addressing in part vehicle storage.
- Several road repair projects to perform routine maintenance, some with extensive repairs

Jurisdictions

1. Aurelia

a. Profile

The city of Aurelia is located close to the eastern border of Cherokee County, just 8 miles southeast of the City of Cherokee. The IA-7 Highway is the main road that goes through the city and connects Aurelia to surrounding communities, running northwest/southeast through the city.

City Governance & Community Supports

Aurelia is governed by a 5-person elected council and the Mayor. Offices in addition to Mayor and Council include City Clerk, Deputy City Clerk, Public Works, Streets, Waterworks, Electric, Fire Chief and Police Chief. City Hall houses the Council chambers, police department, and city staff offices. Aurelia City has a volunteer Fire Department in place. The Department staffs 22 volunteer firefighters with 7 having Emergency Medical Service certifications. The Aurelia Fire Department serves the city and rural surrounding community, approximately 105 sq. miles. The department operates as at EMT level service for medical emergencies. City Council meets the third Monday each month at 6:30 PM.

The city pursues economic development with several community partners. After a lapse in activity, the Aurelia Economic Development Corporation's (AEDC) has resumed. Its mission is to economically promote and sustain the quality of life in Aurelia by assisting local businesses, residents, and actively promoting new opportunities to grow the City of Aurelia. Eight Board members lead the AEDC.

The Aurelia Commercial Club (ACC) is much like a traditional chamber of commerce with the exception that anyone may be a member. Aurelia Commercial Club's mission is to promote Aurelia's local business, ag industry and the economic and social health of the community. The Friends of Aurelia group is a community organization that contributes to economic development issues in Aurelia.

Tornado - AURELIA
Cherokee/Buena Vista County

Date	Dec 15, 2021
Time (Local)	4:59 PM - 5:12 PM CST
EF Rating	EF-1
Est. Peak Winds	110 mph
Path Length	18.1 miles
Max Width	250 yards
Injuries/Deaths	0/0

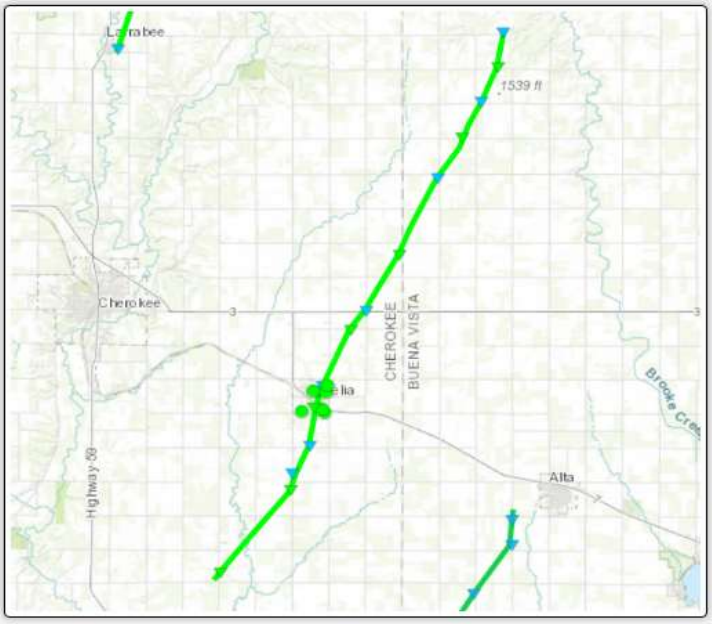
Summary:

The tornado touched down near the intersection of T Avenue and 610th Street and collapsed a hog barn. It tracked northeast toward Aurelia and intermittently damaged roofs and siding of nearby houses and farm outbuildings.

The tornado entered the south side of Aurelia near Main Street and 560th Street. It damaged the grain elevator and snapped numerous tree limbs and trunks throughout the city, including at the golf course. Other non-tornadic wind damage included three tipped over empty rail cars, leaning power poles, and a storage garage near the elementary school.

The tornado continued to the northeast, destroying a barn and three outbuildings along 535th Street. Additional damage occurred to a machine shed and trees along the Cherokee and Buena Vista County line. Damage continued to the northeast, and trees befo south of the B Park.

Track Map



EF0 EF1 EF2 EF3 EF4 EF5 TSTM UKN

Downloadable KMZ File

Source: Historic December Severe Weather Outbreak Brings Damaging Winds and Tornadoes to Northwest Iowa, www.weather.gov/fsd/20211215-Tornado-nwia (June 9, 2025)

(Courtesy: NWS Survey)

(Courtesy: NWS Survey)

(Courtesy: NWS Survey)

(Courtesy: NWS Survey)

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

It is important to note that a local survey indicates a higher population than indicated by census estimates of 968 (2020 decennial census). The local survey was distributed to less than the full population and results still exceed value assigned by the Census Bureau. For consistency in review of data, the census total is used herein.

This small community is composed of approximately 430 households. It boasts a median household income that slightly surpasses the Cherokee County average, indicating a relatively

stable economic foundation. Despite its modest size, the community has notable demographic trends. Nearly 30% of residents are aged 65 or older, significantly higher than both the county and state averages, highlighting a strong presence of older adults. In contrast, the percentage of young children is lower than regional and state figures. The community also reports a lower poverty rate and a comparable proportion of residents living with disabilities, suggesting a need for services that cater specifically to aging residents and those with accessibility needs.

Community Characteristics	
Population (2020)	968
Total Households	430
Median household income	$68,605
Median household income – Cherokee County	$64,478

Vulnerable Populations	*Count*	*Percent*	*Cherokee*	*Iowa*
5 years and younger	44	4.5%	4.9%	6.3%
65 years and older	283	29.3%	24.6%	16.0%
Below poverty level	44	4.5%	7.2%	11.3%
Living with a disability	136	14%	15.2%	13%

Housing Characteristics	*Count*	*Percent*
Total housing units	441	
Occupied units	402	91.2%
Vacant units	39	8.8%
Mobile Homes	12	2.3%
Age of residential structure		
Built 2000 or later	10	1.9%
Built 1970 – 1999	151	28.7%
Build 1969 or earlier	366	69.4%

The local housing landscape reflects the community's deep-rooted character. Of the 441 housing units, more than 90% are occupied, showing consistent demand and a relatively low vacancy rate. Most homes were built prior to 1970, with fewer than 2% constructed since 2000. This aging housing stock suggests potential needs for renovations or infrastructure

improvements. Mobile homes make up a small portion of available housing, indicating a predominance of traditional single-family residences.

Together, these characteristics paint a picture of a well-established and stable community with a strong economic base, an aging population, and housing infrastructure that may benefit from strategic investment and long-term planning.

Leading Employers

While not hosting a large number of employees, the following businesses operate and have established a necessary presence in Aurelia.

- Alta-Aurelia Community Schools
- Accura Care and Rehab Center

Critical Facilities

City Hall	236 Main St
Water Tower	236 Main St
Community Center	235 Main St
Library	232 Main St
Municipal Electric Bldg	126 S Main St
Town Shop	126½ S Main St
Town Building	115 Myrtle St
Garbage Shop	114 Myrtle St
Fire Dept Storage	112 Myrtle
Fire Station	110 Myrtle St
City Park (Shelter House, Gazebo)	216 W 4th St
Boy Scout House	216 W 4th St (West side)
Pool Bldg & Equipment Bldg	304 W 4th St (bldgs 1 & 2)
Sewer Plant	SW ¼ of Section 10 – Pitcher Twp (bldgs 1 – 5)
Town Storage	Hwy 7
Aurelia Golf Course	601 Valor Rd

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

Accura Care and Rehab Center,	410 W 5th St
Aurelia Elementary School	300 Ash St
Alta-Aurelia Middle School	300 Ash St
Heritage Center	228 Main St
Martin Area Park	4579 Martin Access Rd (outside City Limits)
Aurelia Day Care (on-site at school, operated independently)	216 Ash St

Valuation of City Assets

Total Buildings	$	6,185,768
Total Personal Property	$	1,030,463
Total Property in the Open	$	2,378,323
Combined Total	**$**	**9,594,554**

b. Participation

Facilitated by SIMPCO, a mitigation planning meeting was held December 18, 2024 at Aurelia City Hall with the following in attendance.

- Stephanie McSparran, City Clerk
- Dustin Wieland, Maintenance
- Mark Sangwin, Public Works Director

Public input was provided by way of survey responses. Of the 61 surveys collected for Cherokee County, 2 respondents indicated Aurelia as jurisdiction of residence. A final review was completed by the same team in the initial planning stages. Upon review, the city acknowledged changes within the plan and committed to adopting it upon FEMA approval.

c. Community Capabilities

Planning Documents and Organization Supports	
Comprehensive Plan	Adopted 2018
Builder's Plan	2015IPMC and IBC)

Economic Development Plan	Cherokee Area Economic Development Corporation
Policies/Ordinance – adopted 12/26/2018	
Municipal Code of Ordinances – annual updates	
• Floodplain Ordinance (2021 via IDNR) • Subdivision Ordinance • Tree Trimming Ordinance • Nuisance Ordinance • Debris Management Plan	• Storm Water Ordinance • Drainage Ordinance • Historic Preservation Ordinance • Zoning Ordinance
Iowa Wetlands and Riparian Areas Conservation Plan	*Cherokee County Conservation Board* *Iowa DNR*
Infrastructure and Technology	
• Warning Siren • Generator at Fire Station and 1 mobile	• Alert Iowa access • Community Bulletin Board/Public Posts
Programs	
Zoning/Land Use Restrictions	*Zoning Ordinance*
Codes Building Site/Design	*Building Permits issued by clerk w/Council-approved application*
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190549A
Hazard Awareness Program	Cherokee County Hazardous Waste Pick-up
ISO Fire Rating	Aurelia Class 7 and Aurelia FD Class 7/9
Property Acquisition	Considered for dilapidated residences on a case-by-case basis
Planning/Zoning Boards	Planning and Zoning Commission
Mutual Aid Agreements	Cities of Alta, Peterson, and Galva
	Service provided to: Cherokee Regional Medical Ctr; Sioux Valley Hospital.
Staff/Department	
• Public Works Official • Emergency Response Team • Historic Preservation	• Public Works Director • City Fire and EMS Department • Aurelia Heritage Society
Non-Governmental Organizations	
Veterans Groups	American Legion Auxiliary Grashoff McManus American Legion Post 390
Community Organizations	• Aurelia Commercial Club • Aurelia Economic Development • Aurelia Women's Club • Friends of Aurelia Public Library • Kiwanis Club of Aurelia

Local Funding Availability/Eligibility	
Community Development Block Grants	
Capital Improvements funding	
Authority to levy taxes for a specified purpose	
Fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric services	
Incur debt through	• general obligation bonds • private activities • special tax bonds
Withhold spending in hazard prone areas	

The Floodplain Ordinance was adopted October 18, 2021 under resolution #21-10. The 2015 edition of the IPMC was adopted by reference with exceptions on September 2023. The city participates in the NFIP program with the City Clerk serving as Floodplain Administrator. The city has zero RL/SRL properties.

The city is working on funding a new Fire Station with a generator included in the plans. Estimated at $1.5M, the site has been determined and the project is set to go to bid in 2025. Fundraising figures prominently in planned funding sources.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Aurelia	2020: Interest in promoting Smoke Detector programs, and similar supports, when offered at County or Region levels. *City Clerk, Public Health, EMA* (for promo: No dedicated funding necessary. For detectors: Community grants, pre-disaster funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Promo/Info	Aurelia	**Update**. No action taken as program has not been made available through FD or Public Health. City wishes to carry this project over to 2026.
tools/equipment		
Equipment	Aurelia	2020: Additional equipment for Emergency Response needed in lieu of resident-owned materials. Items considered include but are not limited to ATV and Rescue Boat. *City Council, Fire & Rescue Services, Police Department* (Local funds, fundraising, community betterment funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Equipment	Aurelia	**Complete**. City added ATV to city inventory. No further action anticipated for this project.
development		
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Aurelia	2020: Improve capacity for Community Center to be designated as cooling shelter and/or refuge location for extreme weather conditions. *City Council, City Maintenance* (Local Funds, Community Betterment Funds, PDM)

		Update. City still interested in improving facility prep for use as shelter/refuge with specific project identified: add generator. **Carry over**. Project for generator added under appropriate category.
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

Addressing failing infrastructure, the city completed a water and sewer mains replacement project in November 2023. The work included 7 fire hydrants, covered 5 blocks, and cost approximately $900,000. Cherokee County reported that a transfer switch project was implemented at the community center following 2021 tornado. The $20,000 project was privately funded. The city would still like to have a dedicated generator for city use.

Other efforts include the removal of ash trees completed per the city's tree removal plan. Re-treeing efforts are intermittent, although Kiwanis put in a trail lined with several trees.

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

The NOAA Storm Event database provides record of 8 events specific to Aurelia, and 97 events attributed to Cherokee (Zone) affecting the whole county from 11/01/2019 through 12/31/2024.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
AURELIA	12/15/2021	16:59	Tornado	EF1	0	0	1.000M	0.00K
AURELIA	12/15/2021	17:00	Tornado	EFU	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
AURELIA	12/15/2021	17:02	Thunderstorm Wind	87 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
AURELIA	12/15/2021	17:02	Thunderstorm Wind	87 kts. EG	0	0	20.00K	0.00K
AURELIA	12/15/2021	17:02	Thunderstorm Wind	78 kts. EG	0	0	30.00K	0.00K
AURELIA	12/15/2021	17:03	Thunderstorm Wind	78 kts. EG	0	0	30.00K	0.00K
AURELIA	7/3/2023	16:53	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	110.00K
AURELIA	5/20/2024	20:30	Hail	1.50 in.	0	0	0.00K	2.00K

In addition to adverse effects of extreme weather, aging infrastructure is placing a high demand on local resources. A water systems improvement project including a new water tower and well

is in progress with engineering complete. Site testing for the well and site selection for the tower are underway. Construction is expected to begin within a year.

Naturally occurring flooding is not a primary issue, however, flash flooding can be problematic. Sewer system overload and resulting back flow is a prominent concern and is directly related to aging infrastructure that is overcapacity. It is expected that recent improvements will reduce these occurrences.

Priority Hazards

- Tornado/Windstorm
- Severe Winter Storms *(including Ice and Extreme Cold)*
- Extreme Heat

Survey respondents indicate similar priorities with Thunderstorms with Hail and Lightning ranking slightly higher than Extreme Heat. Drought and Grass and Wildland Fire are also noted concerns.

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Aurelia	**Carry over**. Seek Smoke Detector program opportunities and similar supports, when offered at County or Region levels and promote accordingly, *City Clerk, Public Health, EMA* (for promo: No dedicated funding necessary. For detectors: Community grants, pre-disaster funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Promo/Info	Aurelia	**New**. City intends to increase awareness of Alert Iowa program through promotion and registration provision on city communications. *City Clerk, County EMA* (no expense aside from staffing hours is anticipated) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Aurelia	**Carry over** (moved from **Improve Existing Facilities**). Community ctr updates to improve capacity to serve as refuge location in the event of an emergency. Transfer switch added to community center after 2021 tornado, funded privately. Dedicated generator still needed. Cost estimate provided in 2023 is $55,000. Portion of funds have been set aside. Project pending availability to cover balance. City Council, County EMA (Local general budget funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY

development
flow control
refuge
technology
natural barriers/supports

2. Cherokee

a. Profile

The City of Cherokee is situated just north and east of center in Cherokee County. It is the County's largest city and serves as the county seat. Two main highways connect the city to neighboring cities in Cherokee and neighboring Counties – US Highway 59 passes through the middle, running north/south bound, and Highway 3 passes along its northern-most border. The Little Sioux River is situated near the city's southern-most border, extending north and south of Cherokee County.

City Governance & Community Supports

The City of Cherokee is governed by a five-person elected council and Mayor. City Council meets on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 6:00 PM. Offices in addition to Mayor and Council include City Clerk, Deputy City Clerk, Administrator, Wastewater Department, Parks and Recreation, Street Department, and Public Works. The City's Fire Department consists of 25 volunteer firefighters, two paid driver/dispatchers and a chief. The department provides fire, rescue, and hazardous material services for the City and surrounding rural areas. The Department also maintains several agreements with surrounding communities to assist each other with major incidents or as needed.

Some additional detail on supports available for the City of Cherokee can be found in *Section c. Community Capabilities* later in this Chapter.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

As of 2024, the city of Cherokee has experienced modest population growth, increasing to 5,157 residents from 5,018 in 2020. There are approximately 2,290 households and 2,330 total housing

units, with a high occupancy rate, indicating steady housing demand. The median household income stands at $64,478, reflecting economic conditions consistent with the broader county average. The housing stock is predominantly older, with most residential structures built before 1970. More recent development has been limited, with a small portion of homes constructed since 2000. Mobile homes account for a minor part of the housing inventory. These characteristics point to a stable and established community, though the aging housing infrastructure may present opportunities for revitalization and investment.

Community Characteristics	
Population (2024)	5,157
Population (2020)	5,018
Total Households	2,290
Median household income	$64,478

Housing Characteristics	*Count*	*Percent*
Total housing units	2,330	-
Occupied units	2,172	93.2%
Vacant units	158	6.8%
Mobile Homes	59	2.5%
Age of residential structure		
Built 2000 or later	180	7.7%
Built 1970 – 1999	430	18.4%
Build 1969 or earlier	1,720	73.9%

Leading Employers

Economic development in Cherokee is ever-evolving with some rotation of newer businesses and/or ownership of older entities. At the writing of this Plan, the following are recognized as major or otherwise notable employers in the City of Cherokee.

- American Natural Soy* 1510 S 2nd St
- AgState Cooperative* 960 Riverview Dr
- Cherokee Mental Health Institute 1251 W Cedar Loop
- Cherokee Regional Medical Center* 300 Sioux Valley Dr

- Cherokee Community School District* 600 W Bluff St
- Cherokee Locker* 1300 S 2nd St
- NorAm Cold Storage* 1530 S 2nd St
- Fareway Food Store 205 W Bluff St
- Hy-Vee Distribution Center 1010 Riverview Dr
- Hy-Vee Food Store* 1300 N 2nd St
- Lopez Foods* 1300 Lake St

As leading employers, the respective interests of the above entities are given due consideration in all aspects of community development and planning. Those denoted with an asterisk (*) are stakeholders with direct representation through City Council and among city staff.

Critical Facilities

City Hall	416 W Main St
Fire Station	300 W Elm
Law Enforcement Center	239 W. Maple St
Streets Shop (multiple bldgs/equip)	1811 Industrial Rd
Community Center	530 W Bluff St
Library	215 S 2nd St
Cemetery (multiple bldgs/equip)	1601 W Main
Cherokee Regional Airport (multiple bldgs/equip)	1201 S 2nd
Aquatic Center (multiple bldgs./equip)	614 W Bluff
North Water Tower (#1)	Intersection of Hwy 59 & Hwy 3
Hill Street Water Tower (#2)	N 11th & Hill St
MHI Water Tower (#3)	1200 W Cedar Loop
Industrial Water Tower (#4)	1300 S Lake Rd
Industrial Wastewater Plant (multiple bldgs/equip)	1322 S Lake St
Industrial Water Plant (multiple bldgs/equip)	1201 S Lake St
Wastewater Plant (multiple bldgs/equip)	5745 River Rd
Water Plant	746 E Spruce
Siren	1400 N 2nd
Siren	936 Hill St
Central Park Walking Bridge	Central Park

RR Bridge	
Well Sites	8 Well & Well House locations
Lift Station - South	136 S 2nd St
Lift Stations - Saratoga	76 Saratoga Ave & E Main St
Sumner Street Lift Station	731 Sumner St
Valley View Lift Station	318 W View
MHI Lift Station	701 River Dr
Lift Station	1540 S 2nd St
Spruce Street Lift Station	996 East Spruce St
Beech Street Lift Station	300 E Beech Street
Lift Station	920 Riverview Dr
Storage (multiple bldgs)	339 W Beech

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, &/or Gathering Locations

City Supports & Communications Centers	
Chamber of Commerce	201 W Main
Cherokee Area Economic Development	201 W Main
Chronicle Times	111 S 2nd St
KCHE Radio	201 S 5th St
County Facilities in City Limits	
County Offices	520 W Main
Conservation Office	629 River Rd
Engineer's Office	Hwy 3 West
Cherokee County Landfill	1805 Linden St
Sheriff's Office	111 N 5th St
VA Office	228 1/2 W Main St
Education Facilities	
Cherokee Community Schools	600 W Bluff
Cherokee Middle School	200 E Indian St
Roosevelt Elementary School	929 N Roosevelt
Washington High School	600 West Bluff St
ISU Cherokee Co Extension Office	209 Centennial Dr, Suite A
Crossroads of Western Iowa	322 S Lake
Western Iowa Tech Community College	200 Victory Dr

Medical Facilities	
Cherokee Mental Health Institute/CCUSO	1251 W Cedar Loop
Cherokee Regional Medical Center	300 Sioux Valley Dr
Senior and Disabled Housing/Care/Support Facilities	
Countryside Estates	921 Riverview Drive
Cherokee Villa Nursing and Rehab	1011 N Roosevelt
Careage Hills Nursing Home	725 N 2nd St
The Gardens	1610 Hwy 3
The Beck (Senior Housing)	333 Sioux Valley Dr
Recreation/Cultural Facilities	
Cherokee County Fairgrounds	200 Linden
American Theaters	108 E Main St
Cherokee Community Theater	530 W Bluff St
Cherokee Symphony	530 W Bluff St
Sanford Museum and Planetarium	117 E Willow St
Cherokee Depot	119 S 4th St, Ste. 6
Westcott Ball Park	Highway 59 South
Spring Lake Yacht Club	606 Spring Lake Dr
Koser Spring Lake Park and Campground	808 Spring Lake Dr
Cherokee Country Club	800 N 11th
Nearby Parks	
Inkpaduta Canoe Trail	Little Sioux River
Pilot Rock (Glacial Rock)	South of Cherokee on Highway 59
Poulson Park	Euclid Ave
Treptow Mini-Park	E Main St

Valuation of City Assets

For the purpose of cost-benefit considerations, a valuation of the City's assets was compiled based on its insured properties, personal property, and facilities. The value as provided does not include private properties, equipment, or non-city funded investments that may contribute to project determinations. Separately catalogued assets and equipment may not be represented in this value.

Total Blanket TIV	$	76,009,255
Building	$	72,588,025
Personal Property	$	3,461,406
Miscellaneous Property Scheduled	$	1,265,830
Miscellaneous Property Unscheduled	$	1,178,910
Total	**$**	**62,535,835**
APD TIV	**$**	**4,443,336**
Grand Total TIV	**$**	**82,937,507**

b. Participation

A planning meeting to update the City of Cherokee's profile and projects for the 2026 HMP update was held at Cherokee City Hall on October 7, 2024. The meeting was facilitated by SIMPCO with the following in attendance.

- Sara Lucas – City Clerk
- Craig Schmidt – Mayor
- Tyler Hahn – Library
- Chris Horton – Parks & Rec
- Nate James – Police Dept
- Todd Larsen – Street Dept Supt
- Todd Miller – Water Supt
- Jeremiah Mullins – Parks & Rec

In addition to the planning meeting, survey responses were considered in determination of primary hazards. Of all survey responses, seventeen had Cherokee indicated as residence. Considerations provided in survey responses are included throughout this community profile as applicable.

A signed 2026 Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan Voluntary Participation Agreement has not been received from the City of Cherokee.

A final review of the plan including revisions and corrections was completed by City Administrator Theresa Pudenz and City Clerk Sara Lucas on February 27, 2026. Upon said review, the city acknowledges plan content and commits to adopting the Plan as approved by FEMA.

c. Community Capabilities

The City of Cherokee has a self-assessment process to monitor infrastructure and residential needs. Investments have been made to improve connectivity for residents through library and internet improvements. Among them, broadband expansions are providing more reliable access to resources for residents and local business. A municipal code update is in progress as of 2025. The city is looking at updating its local emergency response plan and its comprehensive plan in light of known and potential growth and development opportunities for Cherokee.

Training opportunities, specifically for hazardous materials response are conducted routinely, improving local response practices. Tornado siren warning procedures are well understood within the community. However, there is a need to better prepare for and issue warnings for pending or likely flood events that communicates that same "urgent action needed" effect as the tornado siren.

In-time extreme weather events resulting in power outages prompted City staff to further consider communications systems and the need for extended connections during power outages. Events occurring during the development of this plan highlighted such needs that when implemented with the full scope of need in context, enables a multi-faceted solution. In this case, a generator project has been added to resolve a breakdown in communications between emergency response and public works during power outages, while also serving to retain function operation of the city's water systems. As infrastructure becomes more automated, sustained backup power is increasingly urgent.

Cherokee adopted the 2012 IBC by reference with exceptions. Their Building Codes were implemented on February 2, 2000. The city's floodplain ordinance is included in Section 704 of their Municipal Code of Ordinances and was adopted on October 12, 2021. Cherokee participates in the NFIP program with the City Administrator serving as Floodplain Administrator. The city has 27 RL/SRL properties – all residential.

Documents/Plans	
Comprehensive Plan	Updated in 2011

Economic Development Plan	Cherokee Area Economic Development Corporation
Land Use Plan	Included in the Comprehensive Plan; Land use addressed in zoning
Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Plan & updated floodplain map	
Policies/Ordinances - last updated August 2019	
The following are included in the City of Cherokee Municipal Code of Ordinances	
• Zoning Ordinance • Building Code • Floodplain Ordinance • Subdivision Ordinance • Tree Trimming Ordinance	• Nuisance Ordinance • Storm Water Ordinance • Drainage Ordinance • Historic Preservation Ordinance • Landscape Ordinance
Zoning/Land Use Restrictions	Addressed in Comprehensive Plan and in Zoning Regulations in Code of Ordinances
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190063A
ISO Fire Rating	Class 4
Property Acquisition	Acquisition in flood areas & abandoned property
Planning/Zoning Boards	Planning and Zoning Commission
Tree Trimming Program	City managed in right-of-way and in parks
Mutual Aid Agreements	County-wide 28E Agreement
Staff/Department	
Building Code Official	City Administrator serves in this capacity; Inspections/reviews typically performed by one of two full time firemen
Development Planner	City Administrator serves in this capacity
Emergency Response Team	Cherokee Fire Department
Engineer	Project-based consultation; Primary is Beck Engineering, Cherokee office
Fire Department	Chief: Casey Carpenter; 25 Volunteers; dispatch and drivers
Historic Preservation	Historic Preservation Commission
Library	7 Staff members including Director Zach Freking
NFIP Floodplain Administrator	City Administrator serves in this capacity
Parks & Rec	Dept includes director & coordinator
Police Department	Chief: Nate James; 2 Sergeants, 6 officers; 1 admin
Public Works Director (*includes oversight of: Water, Sewer, Storm Sewer, Utility*)	
• Streets Dept	• Wastewater Dept • Water Dept
Non-Governmental Organizations	

Chamber of Commerce	Executive Director: Cory Ege
Neighborhood Associations	Varied
Veterans Groups	Veterans Affairs
	L.A. Wescott, Post 2253
Community Organizations	Cherokee Rotary Club
	Cherokee Lions Club
	Friends of the Library
Local Funding Availability/Eligibility	
Community Development Block Grants	
Capital Improvements funding	
Authority to levy taxes for a specified purpose	
Fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric services	
Ability to incur debt through	• general obligation bonds
	• private activities
	• special tax bonds
Ability to withhold spending in hazard prone areas as development restricted and guided through Floodplain Ordinance and compliance may affect spending allowance	

In addition to the charted capabilities and efforts as provided, physical implementations also contribute to mitigating loss of life and/or damage to property. The City of Cherokee has effectively addressed recurring flooding issues through completed strategies and projects as outlined in the following Review of Actions taken section. The City has established guidance procedures for new developments and has therefore managed reduction in new, preventable risks and losses.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

Cherokee has continually worked toward resiliency with implementation of community projects specific to mitigation as well as other projects where resistance to natural disasters and other hazards is an additional consideration. Below is a summary of actions taken on projects identified in the 2020 Regional Plan.

communication /education
tools/equipment

Generator & Related Projects	Cherokee (City of)	2020: Generators needed for Water Plant and Wastewater Plant; *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Cherokee (City of)	**Update**. The Wastewater Treatment Plant is in the process of being relocated due to flooding. **In progress**. Generator for the Water Plant has been purchased, installation pending. Project was funded via bond and FEMA grant (disaster declaration funds)
development		
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Cherokee	2020: Improve capacity and function of sewer system; *City Waterworks* (City funds, USDA program funds, IDNR program funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Cherokee	**Update**: The city has made some improvements, additional are still needed. Project priority remains the same.
Relocate critical facilities	Cherokee	2020: Move/raise lift station at Beech St; *City Water & Public Works Depts* (City funds, IDNR, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
Relocate critical facilities	Cherokee	**Update: Carry Over**. Cherokee is expanding project scope to include several infrastructure improvements. Project is carried into 2026 HMP.
Bridges & Roads	Cherokee	2020: Collaborate w/County and State on review of and implementation of roadway elevation improvements along Hwy 3 and/or Hwy 59; *City Administrator & Streets Dept, County Roads Dept, IDOT* (Transportation funds, City/county funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Bridges & Roads	Cherokee	**Update**. Several road/bridge projects are planned with 3 in progress and others pending. Bridges pending work: • Railroad Creek Bridge and E Cherry St Bridge. • Needed but not yet planned: Maple Street Bridge • Work on Bypass scheduled with preparation in progress. Projects as listed are carried over to 2026 HMP with HIGH PRIORITY.
flow control		
Flood protection	Cherokee	2020: Berm preventing runoff and Little Sioux Floodwaters from entering Spring Lake; *City Administrator, Parks Dept, IDNR* (City funds, IDNR Clean Water programs/Runoff control) HIGH PRIORITY
Flood protection	Cherokee	**Completed**. Project complete with construction of flood wall in 2021. Project cost & funding source not provided. However, 35' crest from 2024 flooding has presented additional concern for potential road washout. The city is interested in conducting a study to review options including but not limited to extending the wall. That is included as a new project in the 2026 HMP.
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

In flooding events since 2019, most damages incurred have been at a higher cost and more significant than usual. Through 2023, about 70 homes/properties were acquired through a buyout process, with some buildings relocated. There is potential for an additional 120 homes and properties to be considered for the property acquisition program. It seems flood response is often still in progress when the next flood event occurs, making it extremely difficult to enact more impactful mitigative measures. Discussions leading to the development of this plan included the need for monitoring and controls for tributaries as well as major rivers. Flooding stemming from the Little Sioux River can be multifaceted with each cause having a varying effect, with some reducing capacity for timely response. Local precipitation, precipitation and snow melt at source and feeder waterways, backflow from larger and other connecting tributaries and rivers are all conditions contributing to difficulties in pre-disaster planning. Each cause resulting is a different flood impact. Velocity of river flow due to flooding is also expediting erosion and meandering, changing the course of the river at an increasingly high rate. The river is encroaching on River Rd along with annual recurrence of washing out trees. The city is looking at long term solutions while continually maintaining rip rap for erosion prevention.

During the planning meeting, the community provided that there have been changes to the city's floodplain. Iowa DNR worked with several communities in the region, including Cherokee, over the past 5 years to update floodplain ordinances and flood maps. The technologies and assessment tools will ultimately replace the FEMA FIRM maps, better representing land-form improvements that reduce flood risk as well as flow changes that result in altered areas of effect.

In addition to the facilities as provided, Critical Infrastructure to be considered in the event of a natural disaster includes at least one nursing home, a Middle and Elementary School located in one facility, public water intake, water treatment plant, and a pipeline and railroad line known to transport hazardous material(s).

State officials estimate 2000 homes were damaged or destroyed during recent flooding in northwest Iowa.

After previous flooding in Cherokee, FEMA bought out 40 properties. Another 70 homes in Cherokee were destroyed in this year's flooding and Cherokee Mayor Craig Schmidt said he doesn't know where people will go.

"They're not staying if they can't find another place to live if their home is devastated," he said. "The reality of it is, and it's not comforting, but all the other towns around us are saying the same thing: 'No workers and no housing.' So, what do you do?"

Governor Kim Reynolds and FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell surveyed flood damage in Cherokee, Spencer and Rock Valley last week. Reynolds said the state needs to figure out how to combine state and local resources and get new homes built as quickly as possible. The governor told reporters she and her staff are trying to come up with some type of transitional housing plan as well as incentives for developers that build homes and apartments.

(By Sheila Brummer, Iowa Public Radio)

www.radioiowa.com/2024/07/03/70-homes-in-cherokee-destroyed-by-flooding/ *70 Homes in Cherokee Destroyed by Flooding* Radio Iowa Contributor (July 3, 2024). Resource drawn June 9, 2025

by Radio Iowa Contributor | Jul 3, 2024

Governor Kim Reynolds and FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell toured flood damage in Cherokee, Spencer and Rock Valley last week. (Photo from Iowa Governor's Office)

An historical record of events for Cherokee is detailed in the NOAA Storm Event Database and other event-based information centers. Notable occurrences specifically recorded the City of Cherokee between 11/01/20219 and 12/31/2024 are as provided. Events categorized as Cherokee "Zone" can reasonably be expected to have affected the whole county and are included under the Cherokee County profile.

NOAA Record of Storm Events 12/01/2019 – 12/31/2024

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
CHEROKEE MUNI ARPT	6/4/2020	23:09	Hail	1.25 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE	8/27/2021	1:05	Thunderstorm Wind	52 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CHEROKEE	7/29/2024	23:37	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Source: https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents

Information received from the FEMA database for flood insurance, the City of Cherokee does have repetitive loss recorded.

County	Cherokee County
Community	Cherokee
Most Recent Date of Loss	6/23/2024
# of Repetitive Loss Properties	27
Number of Losses	68
Net Building Payment	$877,346.07
Net Contents Payment	$51,682.01
Total Net Payment	$929,028.08

Priority Hazards

Determination of priority hazards is consistent between city staff perspective and resident survey respondents. There were 17 respondents via paper survey for the Cherokee. Of those responses, 16 indicated “very concerned” for FLOODING, both under “riverine” and “flash” as indicated separately. TORNADO/WINDSTORM rated next highest with 11 indicating “very concerned” and 3 at “somewhat concerned”. Other notably concerning hazards based on survey responses include infrastructure failure and drought. The city recognizes most natural hazards as listed by the State are of a significant level of concern with the following being primary in regard to risk to residents and potential impact on City operations:

- Flooding
- Tornado/Windstorms
- Infrastructure failure
- Drought

Thunderstorms - Hail/Lightning was moved lower on the list of prominent concerns faced by the city. Though still an issue, potential for catastrophic damage to the city's wells and water treatment facilities takes priority. For infrastructure failure, age is likely the greatest contributing factor, however several disaster types may contribute to such occurrence – especially flooding. An investment of at least $2M, in addition to the many projects listed would significantly improve sustainability of the above-mentioned infrastructure.

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

Mitigation actions and strategies identified by Cherokee are consistent with the goals as established for the Region. Projects included in this Plan address maintaining function of operations, communication of existing procedures and new mitigation activity, and encouraging individual accountability for personal safety and protection. Actions are reliant upon collaboration and optimizing potential of existing programs and resources.

communication /education		
Promo/Info	Cherokee	**New**. The city is committed to promoting alert systems as already available through the county and state. City Clerk, City Administrator, County EMA (No funds expected to be needed) HIGH PRIORITY.
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Cherokee (City of)	**New**. A generator is needed for the community center which serves as a refuge/shelter center during extended power outages and as needed for extreme weather or crisis events. *City Council, County EMA* (Local general budget funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Cherokee (City of)	**New**. A generator is needed for the community center which serves as a refuge/shelter center during extended power outages and as needed for extreme weather or crisis events. *City Council, County EMA* (Local general budget funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Cherokee (City of)	New. Generators are needed for Radio Repeaters that are essential for communications between the Police Department and Public Works, especially during power outages. Current backup is supplied via battery which is intended to bridge connections until a dedicated power source is (re)connected, lasting no longer than 30 minutes. Repeaters are located on • Hill Street Water tower • Main water tower at the intersection of Hwy 59 and Hwy 3 The generators would serve dual purpose, also powering the pumps and equipment at respective towers to maintain functionality of the water

		system. Public Works, County EMA (PDM funds as available, CDBG DR as applicable, Response/Communications funds as available) HIGH PRIORITY
Equipment	Cherokee	**New**. Equipment needed for various city departments includes: brush truck (FD), side-by-side to improve access during extreme weather events, and pumps for stormwater transfer. Public Works, Fire Department, Streets Dept. (Local general budget funds, emergency response funds, disaster mitigation & disaster response funds as may be available) HIGH PRIORITY
development		
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Cherokee	**Carry over**. Improve capacity and function of sewer system; *City Waterworks* (City general budget funds, USDA program funds, IDNR program funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Cherokee	**New**. City is planning ADA improvements to the Community Center to enable use as refuge/shelter in the event of a disaster resulting in residential displacement. Project includes addition of dedicated generator. *Public Works/Utilities, local responses teams*. (Local general budget, CDBG, disaster response/disaster mitigation as may be available) HIGH PRIORITY
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Cherokee	**New**. Saratoga Lift station needs improvements. Public Works (local general budget)
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Cherokee	**New**. Increase well availability and function during flood events. One control panel raising project is in progress with at least one planned. Up to 3 are being considered. City is also adding one well outside flood zone. Costs were not immediately available. *Public Works/Utilities, local responses teams*. (Local general budget, CDBG, disaster response/disaster mitigation as may be available) HIGH PRIORITY
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Cherokee, Cherokee CSD	**New**. Collaborative effort to implement ADA improvements on school campus and at access routes as applicable throughout the City. Some projects have been implemented (no detail provided). Costs will be determined by project as implemented. *Cherokee Community Schools, City of Cherokee*. (accessibility grants, local general budget funds, trail funds where applicable, wellness grants, Safe Routes to School funds as applicable, CDBG) HIGH PRIORITY.
Relocate critical facilities	Cherokee	**Carry Over**. Cherokee is expanding project scope of facility/building relocation program to include several infrastructure improvements. In addition to Beech Street, lift stations at E Sumner< Riverview, Emmet Dr (MHI), E Bluff, and Spruces need rising and/or repairs. Cost estimates not immediately available. *City Water & Public Works Depts* (City general fund, IDNR, Disaster Response/Disaster Mitigation funds as may be available) HIGH PRIORITY
Bridges & Roads	Cherokee	**Carry Over**. Collaborate w/County and State on review of and implementation of roadway elevation improvements along Hwy 3 and/or Hwy 59; *City Administrator & Streets Dept, County Roads Dept, IDOT* (Transportation funds, City general budget /county funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY
flow control		
Flood protection	Cherokee	**New**. Study to determine flood protection options including but not limited to extending existing flood barrier wall. *City Administrator, Parks Dept, IDNR* (City funds, IDNR Clean Water programs/Runoff control, Disaster mitigation funds as may be available) HIGH PRIORITY
refuge		

Shelter	Cherokee	**New**. City of Cherokee is aware of need for shelter location south of the river, serving the ball fields and surrounding parks and considering funding opportunities to support the project. A cost estimate is not immediately available as funding source may dictate size and other components affecting the cost. Priority level reflects lack of feasible funding in the near future, not the importance of the project. City parks dept., City Council, County EMA. (Local funds, fundraisers, community benefit grants, public safety initiatives) LOW PRIORITY
Shelter	Cherokee	**New**. City is assessing options for refuge locations for extreme heat/ extreme cold weather events, especially for individuals whose homes may not have air conditioning or sufficient heat systems. This would also serve to benefit those using rec areas where a brief respite may be necessary. City departments, clerk & administrator, County EMA as consult (local funds as needed) HIGH PRIORITY
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		
Stabilization	Cherokee	**New**. Lake bank stabilization. Repetitive flooding is having an impact on the lake in addition to riverbanks. The city is implementing a stabilization project intended for long term sustainability. *City, IDNR as applicable* (local funds, DNR grants as may be available, other TBD) HIGH PRIORITY
Stabilization	Cherokee	**New**. City, in collaboration with the County, is considering options in controlling flow of river to reduce meandering. Increase of intensity and frequency of high water events has resulted in accelerated meandering of the river, threatening to overtake River Road. *City, County, IDNR, USACE as applicable.* (local funds, county funds, waterway program funds as may be available, pre-disaster funds) HIGH PRIORITY

3. Cleghorn

Note: The city participated in the development of the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan, however, they have not included any specified mitigation actions, strategies, or projects. Therefore, the City of Cleghorn is not recognized as an active "Participant" in the Plan. To activate participant status, the city must process an amendment at the local level and file said amendment with Cherokee County and FEMA. Procedures to amend this plan are included in Title I. Introduction, section H. Amendments and Plan Maintenance.

a. Profile

The city of Cleghorn lies in the northwest quadrant of Cherokee County. Built on a sloping hill and without active waterways, the City does not have a floodplain within its limits. Edging the

south of town is state Highway 3 serving as the main road running east/west and connecting Cleghorn to surrounding cities. Canadian National rail line as operated by Illinois Central Railroad intersects the City diagonally from the west to the southeast. Historically, the railroad brought a great deal of industrial business and growth to the city.

City Governance & Community Supports

Cleghorn is governed by a five-person elected council and Mayor. Staffed positions include City Clerk and Public Works official. Fire Rescue and emergency response is coordinated through the Liberty-Sheridan-Rock Fire Association, which is independent of the City but does receive financial support. The city also contracts with the county for law enforcement and with regional medical and hazardous materials emergency response providers.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

Cleghorn, a small community with an estimated population of 274 in 2023[4], has a presumed increase from 240 residents in 2020. The town consists of 134 households and a total of 135 housing units, with a very high occupancy rate, indicating strong housing demand and stability. The median household income is $48,750, and a portion of the population lives below the poverty line, reflecting modest economic conditions. The housing stock is relatively modern, with most residents having moved into their homes in recent years. Mobile homes make up a small portion of the housing inventory, while a limited number of homes date back to before 1990. These characteristics suggest a tight-knit community with newer housing and potential opportunities for economic growth and development.

Leading Employers

The following businesses operate and have established a necessary presence in Cleghorn.

- AgState
- Wetherell Manufacturing

[4] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1914115-cleghorn-ia/

Critical Facilities, Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

City Hall	102 N. Lewis Ave
Cleghorn Community Center	102 W Grace
Meriden-Cleghorn Public Library	200 E Grace St
Post office	110 N Lewis Ave
Liberty-Sheridan-Rock Fire Department	109 N Lewis Ave
Cleghorn Central Park	Adaline St & Dixon Ct
City Pump Station	W Grace St

Valuation of City Assets

Total Blanket TIV	$	3,379,858
Building	$	3,116,300
Personal Property	$	263,558
Misc Property Scheduled	$	30,470
Misc Property Unscheduled	$	13,750
APD TIV	**$**	**35,200**
Total TIV	**$**	**3,424,078**

b. Participation

Updates to the Cleghorn profile and related projects were communicated through email and phone conversations January 2025 and March 2025. The primary contact is City Clerk, Audra Crocker. Additional information was provided by Mayor Tim Petersen, Fire Chief Dillon Mugge, and Waterworks Director Caleb Ney.

c. Community Capabilities

Plans/Guidance Documents	
Comprehensive Plan	2005 Community Builder
Policies/Ordinances	

Municipal Code of Ordinances • Zoning Ordinance • Floodplain Ordinance • Subdivision Ordinance • Tree Trimming Ordinance • Nuisance Ordinance • Drainage Ordinance	
Iowa Wetlands and Riparian Areas Conservation Plan	Cherokee County Conservation Board
Programs	
Zoning/Land Use Restrictions	Including in City Code under Zoning Ordinance
Codes Building Site/Design	Building Permits only
ISO Fire Rating	Class 8/9
Property Acquisition	Case-by-case determination
Planning/Zoning Boards	Planning and Zoning Commission
Mutual Aid Agreements	Liberty-Sheridan-Rock Fire Association Fire Department
	County-Wide 28E
Staff/Department	
Public Works Official	Public Works Official for Water/Sewer
Emergency Management Coordinator	Cherokee County EMA
Emergency Response Team	Liberty-Sheridan-Rock Fire Association Fire Department
	County-Wide 28E
Local Funding Availability/Eligibility through following Programs/Activities	
Community Development Block Grants	
Capital Improvements funding	
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric services	
Ability to incur debt through	• general obligation bonds • private activities • special tax bonds
Withhold spending in hazard prone areas as development restricted/guided through Floodplain Ordinance; compliance may affect spending allowance	

As there is not designated floodplain within city limits, Cleghorn is not a participant in NFIP. The city has zero RL/SRL properties.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

The city indicated that no action was taken on the projects included in the 2020 plan.

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Cleghorn	2020: Interest in promotion of established notification networks such as the Alert Iowa system; Promote programs as available through regional resources. *City Clerk, County EMA (*No dedicated funding necessary) HIGH PRIORITY
Promo/Info	Cleghorn	**Closed**. Update was not provided by community.
tools/equipment		
development		
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Cleghorn	2020: Improve infrastructure to better accommodate weather extremes such as heavy rain, frost/heave conditions – especially water lines and related infrastructure. *City Council, City Staff* (Local funds, capital improvement funds, DNR program funds). HIGH PRIORITY
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Cleghorn	**Update**. No specific action was taken to permanently address this concern. City will continue to implement mitigative measures within funded projects but will not continue to carry this as a priority item in the 2026 HMP.
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

Cleghorn completed a water tower project in 2020 that can generally be classified as a public health measure. Project cost was $959,840 and funded through Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, State Revolving Loan Funds, (SRF), and local funds. The city stated no other significant projects were implemented within the last five years.

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

A review of records as reported in the NOAA Storm Event database from 11/01/2019 through 12/31/2024 included five events specific to Cleghorn.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
CLEGHORN	6/4/2020	22:43	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CLEGHORN	8/27/2022	16:18	Thunderstorm Wind	70 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CLEGHORN	4/19/2023	18:43	Hail	1.50 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

CLEGHORN	4/26/2024	11:47	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CLEGHORN	6/22/2024	6:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Priority Hazards

- Tornado/Windstorm
- Severe Winter Storms
- Drought

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

The city has not identified a specific action, strategy, or project. Therefore, an amendment must be filed for FEMA and the Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management to formally recognize this jurisdiction as an eligible applicant for pre-disaster and/or mitigation funds as may be available.

4. Larrabee

Note: The city participated in the development of the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan, however, they have not included any specified mitigation actions, strategies, or projects. Therefore, the City of Larrabee is not recognized by FEMA as an active "Participant" in the Plan. To activate participant status, the city must process an amendment at the local level and file said amendment with Cherokee County and FEMA. Procedures to amend this plan are included in Title I. Introduction, section H. Amendments and Plan Maintenance.

a. Profile

The city of Larrabee is situated near the northern border of Cherokee County. The city lies south of C-16 and US Hwy 59 runs north/south through the city. One of the County's smaller cities, it occupies 0.12 square miles. Larrabee is served by the Cherokee Community School district and is within the Western Iowa Tech Community College (WITCC) region.

City Governance & Community Supports

Larrabee is governed by a five-person elected council and Mayor. Offices in addition to Mayor and Council includes Public Works, a department comprised of part time water/sewer meter reading and maintenance and a mower/snow removal team. Larrabee is on the Cherokee County Rural Water System and local services include C-M-L Telephone, cable television, garbage pick-up, and sewer. Larrabee has a Volunteer Fire Department with 11 firefighters and one (1) administrative volunteer.

American Legion Post 0670 is a significant community support, with a notable presence in the community. Larrabee growth and development is supported with local, County, and Region guidance in several plans and documents including County Recovery Plan, SIMPCO Economic Development Plan, and 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan currently in development. Some additional detail on supports available for the City of Larrabee can be found in *Section c. Community Capabilities* later in this Chapter.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

In 2023, the city of Larrabee had an estimated population of 116[5], showing a decrease from 142 residents reported in the 2020 decennial census. The community is made up of 54 households, with a median household income of $47,143, and some residents living below the poverty line. There are 63 total housing units in the city, with most of them occupied, indicating stable demand for housing. Mobile homes make up a small portion of the housing stock. Half of the homes in Larrabee were built after 2000, while others were constructed in the 1990s or earlier. These characteristics suggest that Larrabee is a small, yet stable community, with a relatively newer housing market and potential for future growth.

Leading Employers

The First Cooperative Association Feed Mill first opened in March of 1999 and established a now historical presence. Now operating independently, the Feed Mill and Cooperative remain as key businesses in Larrabee. As a small community in a rural area, the United States Postal

[5] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1943500-larrabee-ia/

Service presence in Larrabee is significant. At the time of the planning meeting, the former Juke Box restaurant was undergoing an extensive remodel. Under new ownership, this local establishment is expected to become an integral element of the community, serving as a gathering place for residents.

Critical Facilities

Larrabee Community Center; Clerk's Office	101 N Main St
Water Tower	106 N Jordan St
Pump House/Valve Bldg	Cedar & Jordan Streets
Flow Meter	S Main St
Warning Siren	106 N Main St
City Park	adjacent to Community Center
City Shed	118 N Main

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

US Post Office	116 N Main
Larrabee United Methodist Church	106 S Church St
Calvary Chapel	213 S Jordan
The Alamo (pending re-opening)	117 N Main

Valuation of City Assets

The City's Valuation of Assets through 12/2024 including buildings, personal property (as owned by the City) is provided below based on their 2024 insurance statement of values. This is provided as means of determining cost-benefit analyses for projects affecting or that may affect city property/holdings. Housing value summaries as noted in the demographics portion of this profile provide a basis for residential benefits of mitigative action.

Total Blanket TIV	$	837,962
Building	$	826,138
Personal Property	$	11,824
Miscellaneous Property Scheduled	$	11,882
Miscellaneous Property Unscheduled	$	38,324

Total TIV $ 888,168

b. Participation

A planning meeting for the 2026 regional Hazard Mitigation Plan was held at the Larrabee City Hall on September 3, 2024 at 6PM and facilitated by SIMPCO with the following in attendance.

- Tammy Roethler, City Clerk
- Dan James, Mayor
- Chuck Waggoner, Utility Supt
- Jamie Fossler, Council
- Dustin Richardson, City Council
- Jan Robinson, City Council
- Missy Thompson, Council

In addition to the in-person meeting, surveys were made available to residents as an opportunity to provide input.

A signed *Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan Voluntary Participation Agreement*, dated 09/03/2024 is on file for the city.

c. Community Capabilities

Policies/Ordinance	
Code of Ordinances • Tree Trimming Ordinance • Nuisance Ordinance	• Storm Water Ordinance • Debris Management Plan
Programs	
ISO Fire Rating	Larrabee Class 9 and Larrabee FD Class 9/10
Property Acquisition	Case-by-case
Mutual Aid Agreements	28E Agreement with all cities in Cherokee County.
Staff/Department	
Building inspector	Dave Christiansen
Mapping Specialist (GIS)	Cherokee County
Engineer	Consultant used as needed.
Public Works Official	Water Supt and Wastewater/Sewer Supt
Emergency Management Coordinator	Cherokee County EMA

Emergency Response Team	Larrabee Fire Department
Law Enforcement	Contracted through County
Regional Planning Agencies	Iowa League of Cities
	SIMPCO
Local Funding Availability/Eligibility	
Community Development Block Grants	
Capital Improvements funding	
Authority to levy taxes for specified purpose	
Fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric services	
Incur debt through	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities
Withhold spending in hazard prone areas by way of building permit	

As there is not designated floodplain within city limits, Larrabee is a non-participant in NFIP with a CID of 190353A. The city has zero RL/SRL properties.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

The city has made investments improving the city park and equipment. Larrabee has added a new message board allowing in-time mass communication to residents and is planning a major water and sewer systems improvement project.

communication /education		
Promo/Info	Larrabee	2020: Interest in developing improved means of communicating urgent information through existing networks such as Alert Iowa. Also, further develop local intercommunications tools such as texting and internal posting options. *City Clerk, City Council* (No costs associated with this project)
Promo/Info	Larrabee	**Implemented**. Additional efforts ongoing. City installed new community message board to better relay information in real time and for scheduled messaging (about $1,500). City makes use of existing informational formats such as the County website, Facebook postings, and physical postings at the post office.
tools/equipment		
development		
flow control		

refuge
technology
natural barriers/ supports

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

Recent occurrences of natural disasters with local impact were researched through the NOAA Storm Event database. City representatives stated meticulous maintenance of area ag land as a significant mitigation practice of wildfire prevention.

NOAA Record of Storm Events 12/01/2019 – 12/31/2024

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
LARRABEE	12/15/2021	17:05	Tornado	EF1	0	0	250.00K	0.00K
LARRABEE	5/2/2024	18:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
LARRABEE	5/20/2024	19:50	Hail	1.25 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
LARRABEE	5/22/2024	2:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
LARRABEE	6/21/2024	1:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
LARRABEE	7/1/2024	0:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Source: https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/choosedates.jsp?statefips=19%2CIOWA

Please note that the above listed events are as recorded in the NOAA database. Locations as indicated may be at point of occurrence or point of data collection. Therefore, related information may include statistics from extended areas while effects directly on the City of Larrabee may be negligible. Incident details can be found using their Climate Data Online tool at https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/ and via the hyperlink embedded in the community name for each event as provided.

Priority Hazards

Larrabee's physical location and topography have served favorably in reducing impacts of flooding in recent years. Though an issue in the past, other natural disasters and extreme weather have taken precedence in planning. The city recognizes the following as priority concerns.

- Tornado/Windstorm
- Thunderstorms with lightning &/or hail
- Severe Winter Storms

Thirteen survey responses with Larabee indicated as place of residence were collected. Of the 13, 100% were in agreement that the city-identified hazards are indeed of greatest concern. Despite note of ag land maintenance as fire prevention, there is lingering concern of Drought, Extreme Heat, and Grass or Wildland Fires by residents with 8 of 13 indicated being very concerned or somewhat concerned. As drought conditions persist in the region, due caution is advised with a recommendation that the community include fire prevention awareness into their public communications and social media venues.

Tornado - LARRABEE
Cherokee/O'Brien County

Date	12/15/2021
Time (Local)	5:05 pm - 5:11 pm
EF Rating	EF-1
Est. Peak Winds	105 mph
Path Length	7.7 Miles
Max Width	100 Yards
Injuries/Deaths	0

Summary:

The tornado touched down on the east side of Larrabee, where it destroyed a machine shed, chicken barn, and four silos. The tornado then moved northeast, damaging a barn and snapping some pine trees. The tornado damaged a grove of trees, destroyed another outbuilding near Highway 10 and damaged a barn roof before lifting just shy of two miles south of Sutherland.

Track Map

EF0 EF1 EF2 EF3 EF4 EF5 TSTM UKN

Downloadable KMZ File

(Courtesy: Cherokee County EM)

(Courtesy: Cherokee County EM)

(Courtesy: Cherokee County EM)

(Courtesy: Cherokee County EM)

Source: www.weather.gov/fsd/20211215-Tornado-nwia (June 9th 2025)

Also notable in survey response (each with 7 of 13) is some level of concern for Drought, Flooding (flash and riverine), and Transportation Incidents.

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

Larrabee has not identified any mitigation-specific strategies for inclusion in this Plan. However, the city is pursuing a number of projects that will improve city functions overall that directly and indirectly improve resilience. City asset valuations and census-based housing values as previously provided in this profile set a foundation for cost-benefit analyses of projects prior to implementation. A more thorough analysis will be conducted during the early engineering stage(s) of each planned or recommended project.

5. Marcus

a. Profile

The City of Marcus resides in the northwest region of Iowa, located in the heart of a vast fertile agricultural market in Cherokee County. Marcus is the second largest city in the county after the City of Cherokee. The intersection of State Highways 3 and 143 is located in the southeast corner of Marcus' municipal boundary. Long-standing train service runs across the northern part of Marcus originating October 1870 carrying passengers and freight from Sioux City to Chicago. The main line of the Canadian National Railroad skirts the north edge of town, now moving goods and commodities instead of passengers.

City Governance & Community Supports

Marcus is governed by a five-person elected council and Mayor. City Council meets the second Monday every month at 5:00 PM. Additional offices include City Clerk, Police Department, Water/Wastewater Superintendent, Street Superintendent, Economic Development, Public Works, and Chamber of Commerce. The Marcus Fire and Ambulance Rescue Department has an average of 27 volunteer staff. Staff training levels vary and include the following: Emergency Medical Technician, Fire Fighter 1, Fire Fighter 2, fire instructors, and Emergency Medical Services evaluators.

Significant support entities for the community include, Marcus Action Club, MEDCO (Marcus Economic Development Corporation), and Marcus Lions. The last Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 2019. American Legion Post 0517 facility is still in place, however the local legion is not currently active.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

With an estimated population of 1,236 in 2023[6], the city of Marcus, has seen a rise from the 1,079 estimated residents in the 2020 decennial census. The community consists of 555 households, with a median household income of $75,288, reflecting relatively strong economic conditions. Approximately 5.3% of the population lives below the poverty line. Marcus boasts a total of 626 housing units, with 89% of them occupied, indicating a healthy demand for housing. The housing stock in Marcus is relatively modern, with a significant portion of homes built after 2000. Older homes, built prior to 1990, make up a smaller share of the housing market. Notably, Marcus has no mobile homes in its housing inventory, further reflecting the area's focus on traditional single-family homes. These factors point to a community that enjoys stable housing, strong economic health, and a relatively new housing market, with potential for continued growth and development.

Leading Employers

The City of Marcus and the MMC and RU Community School Districts are notable employers for the community. The following businesses also have established a significant and necessary presence in Marcus:

- AgReliant Genetics, LLC 4765 IA-143.
- Little Sioux Corn Processors 4808 F Ave
- Marcus Lumber 409 N Locust St
- Schmillen Construction 4772 C Ave
- Staples Promotional Products 710 IA-143

Critical Facilities

City Facilities	
City Hall	222 N Main St
Marcus Community Center	319 N Main St
Marcus Public Library	108-110 N Locust St

[6] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1949350-marcus-ia/

City Park – Equipment, Structures, & Bldgs	City Park
Swimming Pool *(& related bldgs.)*	110 S Locust St
City Storage/Garage	611 Railroad
City Storage	501 W Cedar
Pump House/Water Treatment Plant *(& related)*	409 Hwy 143
Water Tower	Hwy 143
Wastewater Treatment Plant *(& related equipment)*	Sec 32 Marcus Twp
Senior Center	405 N Main
Lift stations	Golf Course, 490th St;
	Shamrock Rd & Pine St
Golf Course & Club House	

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

In addition to critical city facilities, Marcus has several churches and two daycare providers, one in-home and one school facility, noted as likely hosting a concentration of vulnerable persons during hours of operation as well as scheduled and special events. The following services or venues may at any given time host a disproportionate amount of population.

- Marcus Fairgrounds, W Fenton St (near Maple St)
- Heartland Care Center
- Marcus-Meriden-Cleghorn Community School District, 400 E. Fenton St
    - MMC & RU High School (& adjacent baseball fields)
    - MMC Marcus Elementary School

Valuation of City Assets

For the purpose of cost-benefit considerations, a valuation of the City's assets was compiled based on its insured properties, personal property, and facilities. The value as provided does not include private properties, equipment, or non-city funded investments that may contribute to project protection determinations. Separately catalogued assets and equipment may not be represented in this value. Housing values as provided in the Demographic section serve as a basis of residential values which may also be considered in determining cost-benefit analyses

of mitigation projects and relative impact. The city purchased the local golf course which is now included in city property valuations.

Total Blanket TIV	$	12,499,839
Building	$	11,328,036
Personal Property	$	1,171,803
Fine Arts	$	4,873
Miscellaneous Property Scheduled	$	272,796
Miscellaneous Property Unscheduled	$	43,375
Total TIV	**$**	**12,820,883**
APD TIV	**$**	**217,830**
Total	**$**	**13,038,713**

b. Participation

A Hazard Mitigation Planning Meeting was held at Marcus City Hall on December 11, 2024 at 09:30. The meeting was facilitated by SIMPCO with the following in attendance.

- Robin Harvey, City Clerk,
- Doug Dreckman, Water Supt
- Tanner Cronin, Public Works

Four survey respondents indicated Marcus as place of residence. In addition to discussion held with city staff, consideration of comments as provided in the survey is given in this profile.

A signed Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan Voluntary Participation Agreement has not been received from the City of Marcus.

A final review of the Marcus profile was completed February 25, 2026 by the City Clerk Robin Harvey and (now) Public Works Superintendent Doug Dreckman. Upon review, the city acknowledges all changes as incorporated since their last meeting and confirmed commitment to adopt once approved by FEMA.

c. Community Capabilities

Plans/Guidance Documents	
Comprehensive Plan	
Urban Revitalization Plan	
Policies/Ordinance	
Code of Ordinances • Subdivision Ordinance • Tree Ordinance • Nuisance Ordinance • Hazardous Material Accountability	
Zoning Ordinances	*Zoning/Land Use Restrictions*
Historic Preservation	*Historical Preservation Commission*
Iowa Wetlands and Riparian Areas Conservation Plan	*Cherokee County Conservation Board*
Programs	
Codes Building Site/Design	*Building Permits; 2018 Adoption by Reference of Int'l Building Code Standards*
ISO Fire Rating	*Marcus Class 7 and Marcus FD Class 7/9*
Property Acquisition	*Case-by-Case*
Planning/Zoning Boards	*Planning and Zoning Commission*
Staff/Department	
Building Code Official	*Zoning Administrator serves in this capacity*
Mapping Specialist (GIS)	*Cherokee County; SIMPCO*
Public Works Official	*Water/Waste Superintendent*
Emergency Management Coordinator	*Cherokee County EMA*
Emergency Response Team	*Marcus Fire Department*
Law Enforcement	*Marcus Police Department*
Historic Preservation	*Marcus Historical Society*
Non-Governmental Organizations	
Veterans Groups	*American Legion Post 0517*
Economic Development/Growth	*Marcus Chamber of Commerce*
	MEDCO (Marcus Economic Development Corporation)
Community Organizations	*Marcus Action Club*
	Marcus Lions
Local Funding Availability/Eligibility	
Fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric services	
Community Development Block Grants (HUD and Iowa EDA)	
Incur debt through • general obligation bonds	

	• private activities • special tax bonds
Withhold spending in hazard prone areas	

Changes of note since 2019 include completion of an income survey determining CDBG eligibility under the national objective of percentage of residents meeting Low-to-Moderate Income guidelines. A Municipal Code update was completed in 2023 with annual reviews scheduled to maintain compliance with state standards. Marcus added adoption of the 2021 IPMC manual by reference with exceptions as part of their building code. As there is not designated floodplain within city limits, Marcus is not a participant in NFIP. The city has zero RL/SRL properties.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

communication/education		
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Marcus	2020: Generator for Fire Department to enable use as emergency shelter. *Fire Chief, City Council, County EMA* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Marcus	**Update, in progress.** Project is in progress as an included component of a Fire Station Expansion Project. As of late 2024, the pad has been laid and a dedicated generator is planned. As of December 2024, local budget is the primary funding source with the city continuing to consider additional options. *Fire* Chief, *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, BRIC, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Marcus	2020: Generator Water Plant – maintain function during power outage; *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Marcus	**Closed**. Community will coordinate with county for mobile generator use as needed.
Generator & Related Projects	Marcus	2020: Generator at Shelter house, also for use in the event of power outage during an emergency; *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Marcus	**Update**. Action not taken due to lack of dedicated funding. Project is still needed and carries over to the 2026 HMP.
development		
flow control		
refuge		

Shelter	Marcus	2020: Interest in improvements of Fire Department to enable Safe Room designation. City Council, Fire Chief, County EMA as applicable. (Local funds, community benefit fund programs, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
Shelter	Marcus	**Implemented**. An addition to the Fire Station has been completed allowing adequate space to serve as shelter site in the event of mass displacement. An ongoing concern is coordination of supplies in the event of such disaster. City will work with county and federal/state/local response teams as appropriate to attain and allocate supplies (such as cots0 as needed.
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

Marcus has the benefit of having no designated floodplain within and immediately surrounding their corporate boundaries. The city does experience the rare occasion of pooling during extremely heavy rain events, however such events in recent years have not incurred notable damages. Land use maps with floodplain overlay are included in the Appendix for all participating cities for reference.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
MARCUS	8/27/2021	0:46	Thunderstorm Wind	52 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	50.00K
MARCUS	12/15/2021	16:56	Thunderstorm Wind	70 kts. EG	0	0	50.00K	0.00K
MARCUS	5/30/2022	14:55	Hail	0.88 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MARCUS	5/8/2024	15:31	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MARCUS	7/29/2024	23:22	Thunderstorm Wind	65 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

NOAA storm event database shows the above occurrences for Marcus between December 1, 2019 and December 31, 2024. Recorded wind and hail-induced events in part, figured into the city's decision schedule removal of dead and diseased trees from public rights of way. Marcus is in the process of planning tree replacement to substantiate natural barriers to extreme heat (via shade canopy), soil erosion, and wind as present with healthy tree population.

Additional weather impacts as experienced county-wide such as Drought, general winter weather, and extreme heat and cold are noted under the Cherokee County profile.

Priority Hazards

The City recognizes most natural hazards as listed by the State are of at least some concern. Despite reduction of even isolated flood incidents in recent years, city staff maintains the following as priority hazards in regard to risk to residents and potential impact on City operations.

- Tornado/Windstorms
- Severe Winter Weather
- Flash Flooding

Survey responses reflected highest level of concern for Severe Winter Weather, followed by Thunderstorms with Hail/Lightning, Tornado/Windstorms, and Transportation Incidents with each respondent indicating very- or somewhat concerned. Grass and Wildland Fires was also prioritized in the "top 3" section of the survey.

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

Following is the list of identified strategies expected to be addressed by Marcus within the next five years.

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Marcus	**New**. City is interested in expanding opportunity for preparedness workshops and readiness campaigns to better inform residents of potential disasters. Workshop/information would include before/after preparation including "ready bags" with medications and other necessary items, especially if urgent evacuation is issued. Additional preparedness resources would include facilitating a safe check process for aging and specialized needs neighbors (i.e. oxygen tank dependency or mobility limitations) and the implementation of a buddy system to ensure communications are thorough and complete for those not routinely using social media or cell phones. *City, local response teams, County EMA, Red Cross/United Way affiliates as applicable* (Need for dedicated funding not anticipated, use of local communications formats expected) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Warning Sirens	Marcus	**New**. Existing warning siren has aged out of serviceability and is in need of replacement. Public works. (Private funds, Pre-disaster funds as available, local and county emergency response funds, transportation funds as may be applicable) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		

Generator & Related Projects	Marcus	**Carry over**. Generator for Fire Department to enable use as emergency shelter. Project is in progress as an included component of a Fire Station Expansion Project. As of late 2024, the pad has been laid, and a dedicated generator is planned. As of December 2024, local budget is the primary funding source with the city continuing to consider additional options. *Fire* Chief, *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds general budget, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Marcus	**New**. Install transfer switch at Community Center, a critical facility as it serves a command center, refuge/shelter as needed in the event of a disaster or extreme event. Facility available for residents, students, and nearby communities as may be necessary. *Public works* (General Fund, Community Foundation grants as applicable, additional TBD) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Marcus	**Carry over**. Generator at Shelter house, also for use in the event of power outage during an emergency; *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds general budget, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
development		
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		
Trees	Marcus	**New**. Recognizing the benefits of a healthy tree population, the city is seeking funding opportunities to fortify its tree density, especially in recreation and public greenspace areas, filling gaps left by removal of dead/diseased trees. *Public Works, City Council, County Conservation as applicable* (local general budget funds, Trees Please and similar re-treeing programs, Arbor Day Foundation) MEDIUM PRIORITY

6. Meriden

Note: The city participated in the development of the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan, however, they have not included any specified mitigation actions, strategies, or projects. Therefore, the City of Meriden is not recognized as an active "Participant" in the Plan. To activate participant status, the city must process an amendment at the local level and file said amendment with Cherokee County and FEMA. Procedures to amend this plan are included in Title I. Introduction, section H. Amendments and Plan Maintenance.

a. Profile

Meriden is located just north of center in Cherokee County. One of the county's smallest cities, Meriden occupies 0.11 square miles. Situated south of state Highway 3, Canadian National Railroad passes about parallel to the city's northern boundaries. According to Cherokee County's city webpage for Meriden, the city was originally named Hazard after a railroad family. The name was changed to Meriden after the locals put in a request to the U.S. Postal Service in 1874 (*https://www.cherokeecountyiowa.com/Towns/Meriden.htm*).

City Governance & Community Supports

Meriden is governed by the Mayor and City Council. City Council meets the first Wednesday of every month .Offices in addition include City Clerk, Public Works, and Parks and Recreation. The Meriden Fire Department is independent of the city with an average of 17 volunteer firefighters. The community is very self-sufficient with residents funding public infrastructure through fundraising efforts including fire station/city hall and a multi-purpose community center. The city contracts with the county for law enforcement and has an emergency response team under Meriden Fire and Rescue.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

In 2023, the city of Meriden had an estimated population of 130[7], reflecting a decrease from 161 residents in the 2020 decennial census. The community is home to 67 households, with a median household income of $53,661, reflecting a moderate economic standing. A small portion of the population lives below the poverty line, indicating relatively stable financial conditions for most residents. Meriden has a total of 81 housing units, with most of these units occupied, suggesting a steady demand for housing. While there are a few vacant units, mobile homes make up a small portion of the housing stock. Many of the homes were built after 2000, while older homes, built before 1990, make up a smaller share of the housing inventory. These characteristics suggest that Meriden is a small, stable community with newer housing and a need for continued attention to housing growth and revitalization.

[7] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1951150-meriden-ia/

Leading Employers

Meriden's leading employers are key to the function and sustenance of the community's wellbeing.

- Cleghorn-Meriden-Larrabee Telephone
- First Farmers Coop (seasonal)
- Millwright Maintenance
- Whistle Stop Restaurant

Critical Facilities, Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

City Hall, Fire Department, City Storage Garage	105 Eagle St
Community Center, Playground	204 Eagle St

Valuation of City Assets

Building	$	1,144,929
Miscellaneous Property Scheduled	$	77,550
Miscellaneous Property Unscheduled	$	286,000
Total	**$**	**1,508,479**

b. Participation

To complete Meridien's update, mail communications were conducted between SIMPCO and Mike Loetz, City Clerk. Additional information was provided from Mayor Beau Menke (former).

A final review was completed by the current Mayor, Jim Thatcher, and Councilmembers Doug Dirks, Nicole Glassmaker, Trevor Stevenson, Cindy Ricklefs, and Michael Loetzon on April 3, 2026. Upon review, the city has acknowledged changes made to the Plan and have agreed to adopt the Plan once approved by FEMA.

c. Community Capabilities

Plans/Guidance Documents	
Comprehensive Plan	*2005 Community Builder*
Policies/Ordinance	
Municipal Code of Ordinances • Subdivision Ordinance • Tree Trimming Ordinance • Nuisance Ordinance	• Storm Water Ordinance • Drainage Ordinance • Debris Management Plan
Zoning Ordinance	Zoning/Land Use Restrictions
Building Code	Building plans are brought to Council for approval.
Programs & Commissions	
ISO Fire Rating	Meriden Class 9 and Meriden FD Class 9/10
Property Acquisition	Case-by-case
Planning/Zoning Boards	Zoning brought to County P&Z for review in lieu of local Board
Staff/Department	
Public Works Official	*Water/Sewer Superintendent (PT)*
Emergency Response Team	*Meriden Fire and Rescue*
Local Funding Availability /Eligibility	
Community Development Block Grants	
Capital Improvements funding	
Authority to levy taxes for specified purpose	
Fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric services	
Ability to incur debt through	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities
Withhold spending in hazard prone areas	

As there is not designated floodplain within city limits, Meriden is not a participant in NFIP. The city has zero RL/SRL properties.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

Meriden has not implemented any mitigation-related projects since 2019.

communication /education

tools/equipment		
development		
Bridges & Roads	Meriden	2020: Street repaving project to address washout and weather-related deterioration. *City maintenance, City Council*. (Local funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Bridges & Roads	Meriden	**Closed**. Project not completed. Some work completed to maintain function. Work will be implemented incrementally without anticipation of PDM funding supports.
flow control		
Flood protection	Meriden	2020: Interest in flood control implementation to protect lagoon at north end of town. Flooding risk with heavy rain and/or rapid snowmelt. *City Council, city staff/maintenance* (Local funds, capital improvement funds, betterment funds, DNR program funding). HIGH PRIORITY
Flood protection	Meriden	**Update**. No action taken. City stated due to lack of funding, no major projects were completed. Project removed form priority listing.
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

An assessment of NOAA Storm Event database included only one report specific to Meriden between 11/01/2019 and 12/31/2024[8]. An additional 97 events are recorded for the Cherokee (Zone) with impact to the whole county.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
MERIDEN	12/15/2021	16:56	Thunderstorm Wind	83 kts. EG	0	0	30.00K	0.00K

Priority Hazards

- Flash Flooding
- Severe Winter Weather
- Tornado/Windstorms

[8] Source: https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/eventdetails.jsp?id=1000253

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

The city has not identified a specific action, strategy, or project. Therefore, an amendment must be filed for FEMA and the Iowa Department of Homeland Security to formally recognize this jurisdiction as an eligible applicant for pre-disaster and/or mitigation funds as may be available.

7. Quimby

a. Profile

The City of Quimby lies close to the southern border of Cherokee County and occupies about 0.41 square miles. Highway 31 is the main road that connects Quimby to surrounding communities and runs diagonally from the southwest to northeast corners of the city. The Little Sioux River runs along the city's north boundary. A number of Iowa Century Farms exist in the rural areas around Quimby honoring farmers and their families that have been in the area for 100 years or more.

City Governance & Community Supports

Quimby is governed by a five-person elected council and Mayor. City Council meets on the second Monday of each month. Offices in addition to Mayor and Council include City Clerk and Maintenance Director. Quimby City has a volunteer Fire Department in place. The Department staffs 23 members, headed by the Fire Chief. Quimby's Fire and EMS-Ambulance rescue squads are trained and certified in Sioux City and Quimby. The force is made up of five certified Emergency Medical Techs, two are pending EMT training, and all are certified Fire Fighter I.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

As of 2023, Quimby had an estimated population of 246[9], reflecting a slight decrease from 249 residents in 2020 decennial census estimates. The town recognizes a higher population than reflected in database estimates. The town includes 160 households and has a median household income of $52,083, which falls below the county median of $64,478. A significant share of residents live below the poverty line, and the community has a higher percentage of

[9] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1965280-quimby-ia/.

individuals aged 65 and over compared to the county average. Additionally, many residents are living with a disability. These factors suggest that Quimby faces some economic and demographic challenges, but the town remains a small, close-knit community with potential opportunities for support and growth.

Community Characteristics	
Population (2023)	246
Population (2020)	249
Total Households	160
Median household income	$52,083
Median household income – Cherokee County	$64,478

Vulnerable Populations	*Count*	*Percent*	*Cherokee*	*Iowa*
5 years and younger	14	4.7%	10%	6.3%
65 years and older	62	33%	25%	18%
Below poverty level	62	12.5%	15.2%	11%
Living with a disability	56	18.4%	11.8%	13.2%

Quimby has a total of 180 housing units, with 160 of them occupied, indicating a stable demand for housing in the area. There are 20 vacant units, which make up a small portion of the housing stock. Mobile homes account for a small part of the housing inventory. The housing market in Quimby is relatively modern, with a significant portion of homes built after 2000. A smaller number of homes were constructed between 1990 and 1999, while older homes, built before 1990, make up a portion of the town's housing stock. These characteristics suggest a relatively new housing market, with opportunities for continued development and maintenance of the existing housing infrastructure.

Housing Characteristics	*Count*	*Percent*
Total Housing Units	180	-
Occupied units	160	89.0%
Vacant units	20	11%
Mobile Homes (potion of total)	5	3%

Age of residential structure		
Built 2000 or later	115	64%
Built 1990-1999	49	11%
Build 1990 or earlier	43	24%

Leading Employers

The following businesses operate and have established a necessary presence in Quimby.

- Simonson's Corporate Industries
- Quimby Ag Supply
- City of Quimby
- Deer Valley Mechanical
- Rendering Plant
- C+C Pesticide

Additional businesses contributing to the overall wellbeing of the City include several single-employee businesses including Joe's Food Mart, Quimby Golf Club (volunteer), Stevenson Family Tree Service, and Green Pasture Boutique. At the time of the planning meeting, a new restaurant was in the works.

Critical Facilities

City Hall	101 E 2nd Ave
Quimby Community Center	9 Main St
Library	120 N Main St
City Park	Seller St
City Maintenance Shop	11 Main St
Lift Station	N Clark St
Water Treatment System/Lagoon	C60
Pump House/Filtration Bldg, etc.	Railway Ave
Warning Siren & Tower	Railway Ave

Water tower	Off E 3rd
Quimby Golf Course	1151 Clark

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

In addition to the area's leading employers, community supports in Quimby are the Community Center Board, American Legion, Auxiliary, and Town & County.

Valuation of City Assets

Misc Property Sched	$	3,247,354
Misc Property Unsched	$	103,980
Total	**$**	**3,351,334**

b. Participation

SIMPCO facilitated a mitigation planning December 23, 2024 at Quimby City Hall with the following in attendance.

- Jeanette Beekman, City Clerk
- Donald Fiser, Councilmember, Fire Dept rep
- Willis Allbaugh, Councilmember

Additional participation by way of public input was collected through survey distribution – both paper and online. Of the total 251 responses for the primary survey, 20 respondents indicated Quimby as jurisdiction of residence.

A final review of the Kingsley profile was completed by the planning team on February 25, 206, acknowledging changes since the initial planning meeting and confirming agreement to adopt upon FEMA approval.

c. Community Capabilities

Policies/Ordinances

• Building Code • Debris Management Plan • Floodplain Ordinance	• Nuisance Ordinance • Tree Trimming Ordinance • Zoning Ordinance
Programs	
Zoning/Land Use Restrictions	Zoning Ordinance
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID # 190354A @ E status
ISO Fire Rating (not updated)	Class 7
Planning/Zoning Boards	
Tree Trimming Program	Mid-American Energy trims trees that are near power lines.
Staff/Department	
Public Works Official	Water Superintendent
Emergency Response Team	Quimby Fire and Rescue
Non-Governmental Organizations	
• Veterans Groups • Community Organizations	• American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary • Town and Country
Local Funding Availabilities & Authorities	
Apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	
Levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Collect fees for water services	
Ability to incur debt through	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities

The city participates in the NFIP program with the Mayor serving as Floodplain Administrator. The city has zero RL/SRL properties.

The fire department added a new fire truck at the cost of $480,000. Project was financed through fundraising efforts (Fire Board and firefighters), local funds, and a MRHD grant.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

Projects as included in the 2019 are updated as shown.

communication /education
tools/equipment

development		
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Quimby	2020: Wastewater infrastructure improvements needed to address increased waterflow through and near river, which has accelerated deterioration of stabilization. Redirection of wastewater lines necessary. *City Council, DNR as applicable, County departments as applicable.* (Local funds, approved loan and bond programs, CDBG) HIGH PRIORITY
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Quimby	**Complete**. Pipeline crossing river was relocated and reconstructed to pass over an area that runs straighter, reducing wear, length of exposed lines, and risk of contamination. Project included relocation of lift station to the east. Project funded in part by CDBG ($300K) and FEMA ($350K).
Relocate critical facilities	Quimby	2020: Relocation or elevation needed for Lift Station to address flooding impacts. *City Council, City maintenance/waterworks, Coordination with County EMA as applicable*. (Local funds, DNR program funds, PDM funds, approved bond and loan programs) HIGH PRIORITY
Relocate critical facilities	Quimby	**Complete**. Lift station moved east as part of line improvements as noted under *Improve existing facilities & infrastructure* category of projects.
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

Other projects improving the city's sustainability as recently completed include the following.

- Cracked sewers lined
- Lift station added at 3rd Street
- A generator has been purchased for the lagoons, though there is need for generators at additional facilities

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

Infrastructure concerns are significant for Quimby with needs far exceeding available funds. Ongoing maintenance and improvements are always in progress. Sewer lines (approximated at $59/ft) and street resurfacing are needed on a large scale to catch up to "routine" status instead of reactive to extreme wear. Drainage ditch maintenance is burdensome especially in heavier periods of rain which increases frequency of work. Lead/galvanized pipes through most of town are an urgent priority for replacement. Funding opportunities are extremely limited, slowing implementation.

A DNR Tree Survey has been completed resulting in a prioritized removal list. Trees within parks will be replaced incrementally.

A review of the NOAA Storm Event database provided one event specific to Quimby as reported. It is expected that all events noted as Cherokee (Zone) under the county profile risk assessment were experienced in town as well.

Location	Date	Time	Type	Mag	Dth	Inj	PrD	CrD
QUIMBY	7/29/2024	23:21	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Priority Hazards

Priority hazards as determined by the city are unchanged from the 2020 HMP.

- Flooding – Riverine and Flash
- Tornado / Windstorm
- Severe Winter Weather

Discussion was held regarding long term power outage that resulted in melded lines. This is in acknowledgement of the significant impact of varying types of extreme weather events and transportation incidents and potential for loss of/damage to power sources (lines, transformers).

The survey responses submitted by 20 Quimby residents provides additional context to community hazard priorities. Respondents indicated Tornado/Windstorm with the highest frequency at “Very Concerned”, followed by Severe Winter Storm. Notable for a high rate of at least “Somewhat Concerned” is Thunderstorm with Hail and Lightning. When asked to choose their top three hazards, respondents indicated Tornado/Windstorm (10/20), Severe Winter Storm (6/20), and Infrastructure Failure (5/20).

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

communication /education

Promo/Info	Quimby	**New**. PSAs - Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to Alert Iowa, Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; water conservation (drought considerations); Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. *City Clerk, County EMA* (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Quimby	**New**. Interested in generators for Fire Station and warning siren as means of maintaining operations & communication during power outages and as need in response efforts. *Fire Dept, City Council, Public Works, County EMA* (Local supports @ general budget, fundraising, response funds as may be available, PDM funds, community benefit funds) HIGH PRIORITY
development		
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Quimby	**New**. Address abandoned, vacant, and dilapidated buildings through: incentivized development, rehabilitation, and acquisition programs. Dilapidated structures are themselves at risk in extreme weather conditions, pose threat of fire, and are a general risk to public health. City is looking for programs to implement as well as funds to implement some measures as applicable (including but not limited to acquisition). *City Council. (*various funding sources depending on programs – IEDA, PDM as applicable, local general budget funds, private partnerships, IDNR Dilapidated Buildings prog) HIGH PRIORITY.
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Quimby	**New**. City is in the process of determining options to improve function of, expand, and update lagoon, sewer/wastewater system, lines and related to meet IDNR compliance standards. Needs include but are not limited to: 1. expanded capacity with potential of adding a cell pending feasibility. 2. Berm construction or raising of lift station to protect from flood infiltration, and 3. Pre-engineering to fully assess options are part of project. *City, Public Works, IDNR* (CDBG, USDA as applicable, local general budget funds, PDM as available, other sources TBD) HIGH PRIORITY
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

8. Washta

Note: The city participated in the development of the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan, however, they have not included any specified mitigation actions, strategies, or projects. Therefore, the City of Washta is not recognized as an active "Participant" in the Plan. To activate participant status, the city must process an amendment at the local level and file said amendment with Cherokee County and FEMA.

Procedures to amend this plan are included in Title I. Introduction, section H. Amendments and Plan Maintenance.

a. Profile

The City of Washta is situated near the southern-most border of Cherokee County, and occupies about 1.01 square miles. IA-31 is the main highway connecting Washta to surrounding communities, running north/south through the eastern half of its corporate boundaries. The Little Sioux River travels diagonally through its northwest quadrant with the Stratton Creek tributary branching eastward and south. Washta is known as the coldest spot in Iowa when on January 12, 1912, an official temperature of -47° F was recorded.

City Governance & Community Supports

An elected council and the Mayor govern Washta. Offices in addition to Mayor and Council include City Clerk and Public Works. Washta benefits from the services of a\n 19-member, independently operated volunteer fire department – Washta Fire and Rescue. The city contracts with the county for law enforcement and emergency management coordination. The City is served by the River Valley Community School District and hosts an elementary school facility. Information regarding mitigation actions and strategies for this and all regional public school districts can be found under Title VI: School Districts.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

CensusReporter.gov estimates the 2023 population of Washta at 171[10], down from 209 residents in 2020. The town is comprised of 89 households, with a median household income of $50,313—lower than the regional average. Around 6.4% of residents live below the poverty line, indicating some economic difficulties within the community. Despite these factors, Washta remains a small and stable town, with potential for growth and development as it continues to adapt to the needs of its residents.

[10] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1982380-washta-ia/

Washta has a total of 128 housing units, with 90 of them occupied, reflecting a moderate demand for housing. There are 38 vacant units, making up a portion of the housing stock, and mobile homes account for a small share of the inventory. The majority of homes in Washta were built after 2000, with a smaller number constructed between 1990 and 1999. A smaller portion of homes were built before 1990, indicating that the housing market in Washta is relatively modern, with opportunities for further development and improvement in the coming years.

Leading Employers

- Lange's Restaurant & Convenience Store
- River View Elementary School
- New Coop (formerly Western Iowa Coop)

Critical Facilities, Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

City Hall	206 Main St
Community Building	305 Main St
Water Treatment (& related Bldgs)	101 Sanford St
City Maintenance	103 S 3rd Ave
Water Tower	1st Ave & Sanford St

Those entities identified as leading employers are also community staples, serving as gathering locations and providing essential services.

Valuation of City Assets

Property	$	1,065,166
Misc Property - Sched & Unsched	$	84,154
Total	**$**	**1,149,320**

b. Participation

Contribution to the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan were conducted via email between SIMPCO and City Clerk, Karen Clark. Of the 61 Cherokee County surveys submitted, 5 were from Washta residents.

c. Community Capabilities

Plans/Guidance Documents, Policies	
Comprehensive Plan	
Municipal Code of Ordinances • Floodplain Ordinance • Tree Trimming Ordinance • Nuisance Ordinance • Storm Water Ordinance	
Building Permit process w/out adopted building code standards	
Programs	
ISO Fire Rating	*Class 7/9*
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant - CID #190064A	
Property Acquisition	*Case-by-case*
City Staff/Departments	
Public Works Official/Water Superintendent	
Emergency Response Team	*Washta Fire and Rescue*
Engineer	*Consultant on an as needed basis*
Local Funding Abilities	
Apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Fund projects through CIP	
Levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric services	
Incur debt through • general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities	
Withhold spending in hazard prone areas on a case-by-case basis	

The city participates in the NFIP program with the Mayor serving as Floodplain Administrator. The city has zero RL/SRL properties.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

Washta did not include any projects in the 2020 HMP. No major community projects aside from maintenance have been implemented.

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

An assessment of the NOAA Storm Event database from 11/01/2019 through 12/31/2024 shows three reported incidents specific to Washta. The city likely experienced the effects of the 97 weather incidents as recorded for Cherokee (Zone) as generalized for the area as a whole. As a border community, Ida (Zone) and Woodbury (Zone) reports may also apply.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
WASHTA	6/22/2021	17:42	Hail	1.25 in.	0	0	0.00K	191.00K
WASHTA	8/20/2021	17:22	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WASHTA	6/21/2024	1:00	Flood		0	0	1.020M	0.00K

Priority Hazards

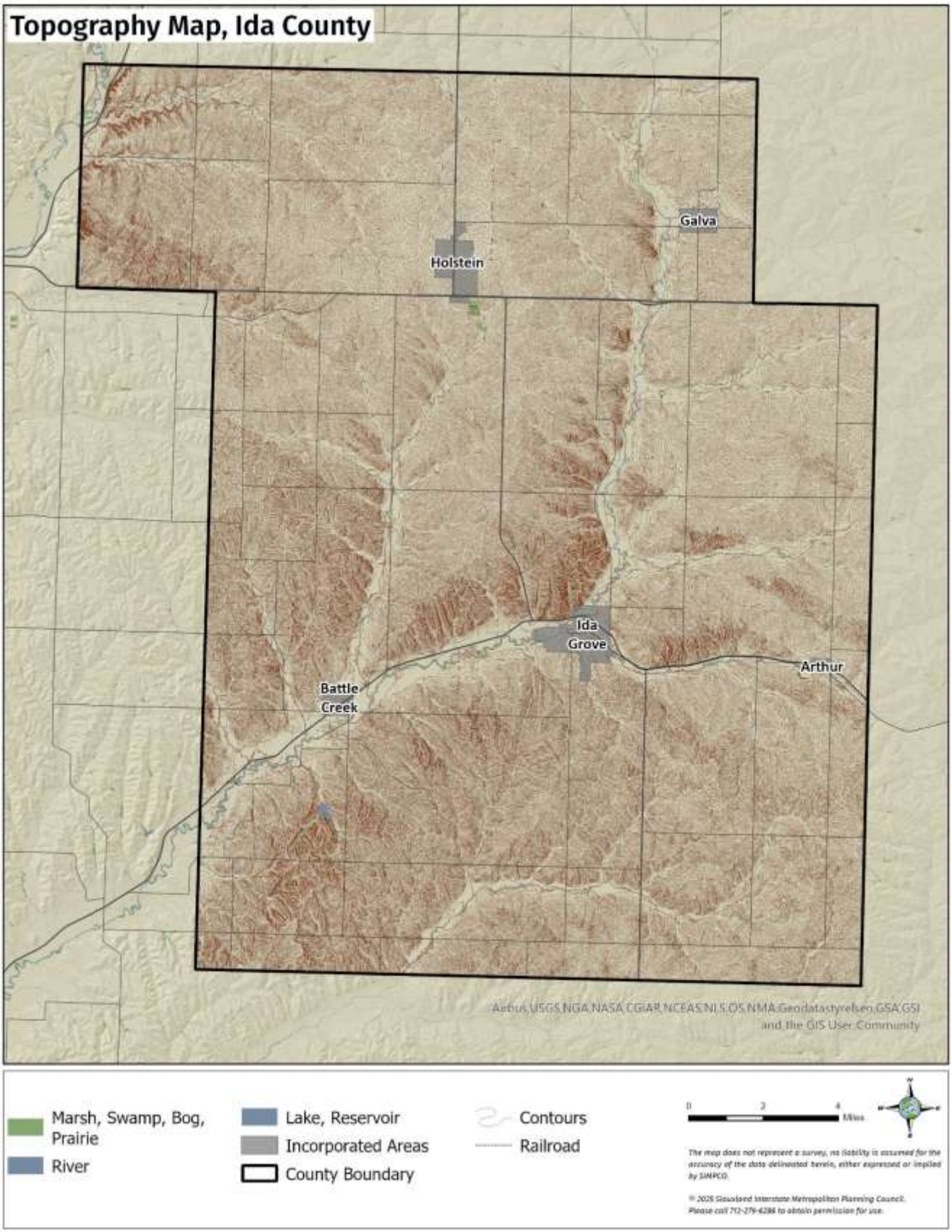
City staff indicated the following as priority hazards.

- Flooding
- Severe Winter Storm
- Tornado/Windstorm

Resident input is consistent with city assessment with one exception. Of the 5 Washta respondents, survey responses indicated the highest frequency of Very Concerned under Drought. Other notable indications of at least Somewhat Concerned include Flooding, Severe Winter Storm, and Tornado/Windstorm. When asked to choose the top three hazards, Tornado/Windstorm (4/5) had the highest frequency.

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

The city has not identified a specific action, strategy, or project. Therefore, an amendment must be filed for FEMA and the Iowa Department of Homeland Security to formally recognize this jurisdiction as an eligible applicant for pre-disaster and/or mitigation funds as may be available.


Topography Map, Ida County
Galva
Holstein
Ida Grove
Arthur
Battle Creek
Aerbus,USGS,NGA,NASA,CGIAR,NCEAS,NLS,OS,NMA,Geodatastyrelsen,GSA,GSI and the GIS User Community
Marsh, Swamp, Bog, Prairie
River
Lake, Reservoir
Incorporated Areas
County Boundary
Contours
Railroad
0
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Miles
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B. Ida County

Ida County is located in the south half of the northwest quarter of Iowa. The County is bordered by Cherokee County to the north, Sac County to the east, Crawford County to the south, and Woodbury County to the west. Ida County is approximately 432 square miles.

Cities within Ida County include Arthur, Battle Creek, Galva, Holstein, and Ida Grove.

Profile – Unincorporated Area & County

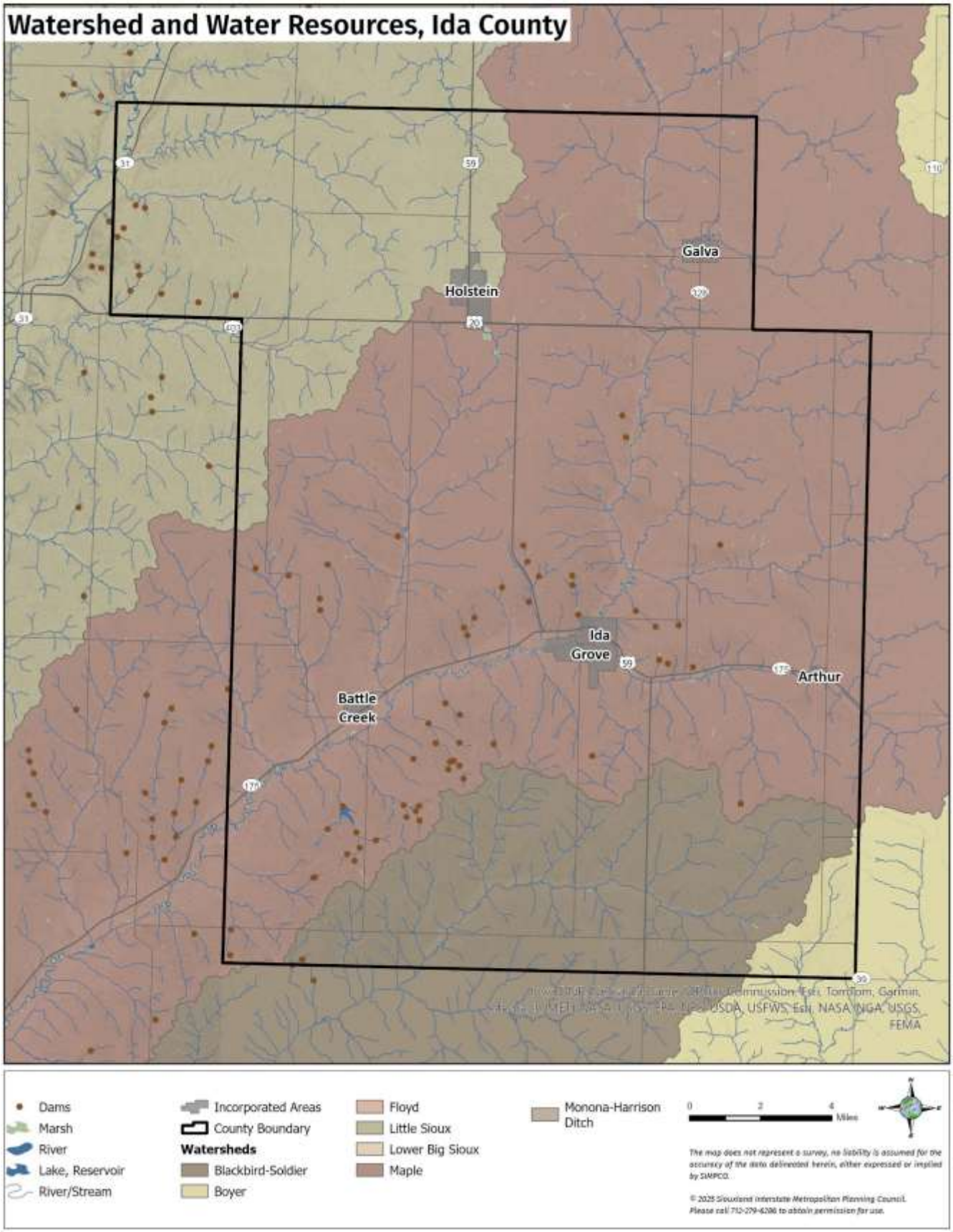
Rivers & Watersheds

The Maple River crosses through the center of the County, while the Little Sioux River crosses briefly into Ida County at the northwest corner. Other rivers include Battle Creek and Soldier River, as well as many smaller creeks and streams.

There are four (4) watersheds within the County that drain storm water and snow melt into streams and lakes, wetland areas, or into groundwater reserves. These watersheds are Blackbird-Soldier Watershed, Little Sioux Watershed, Maple Watershed, and Boyer Watershed. Regional breakdown for watersheds is provided in the *Planning Area* information section in I. Introduction, subsection B. The following map depicts the sub-watersheds within those as listed above. Subwatersheds are determined based on a hydrologic unit code (HUC) level 12, which includes more detail such as tributary data.

Landform Regions & Geology

Ida County is composed of two (2) distinct landform regions that include Northwest Iowa Plains and Southern Iowa Drift Plain. Both are marked by rolling hills – the result of the manipulation of glacial sediment deposits by glacial melt and streams.


Watershed and Water Resources, Ida County
Galva
Holstein
Ida Grove
Arthur
Battle Creek
Dams
Marsh
River
Lake, Reservoir
River/Stream
Incorporated Areas
County Boundary
Watersheds
Blackbird-Soldier
Boyer
Floyd
Little Sioux
Lower Big Sioux
Maple
Monona-Harrison Ditch
0
2
4
Miles
The map does not represent a survey, no liability is assumed for the accuracy of the data delineated herein, either expressed or implied by SIMPCO.
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Transportation Network

U.S. Highway 20 runs east to west through the northern portion of the County. This highway is intersected by U.S. Highway 59, which runs north/south through the center of the state. The transportation network also includes State Highways 31 and 175.

The County's secondary road system is composed of 731.47 miles. Within this category, Farm-to-Market roads make up 225.58 miles, while Area Service roads account for 505.89 miles. Gravel or earth surface types account for 597.96 miles of the secondary road system. The remaining 124.68 miles are composed of asphalt or PCC surface types. Planned and illustrative transportation projects under Federal jurisdiction are included in the SIMPCO SRTPA 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) – a document on a five-year update schedule coinciding with the region's hazard mitigation planning process. Funded projects are included in the annually updated SIMPCO SRTPA Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP).

County Governance & Supports

The county seat is located in Ida Grove, near the center of the County. Its jurisdictions covers all unincorporated portions within county boundaries. Ida County is governed by a three (3)-person Board of Supervisors that meets the second and fourth Tuesday each month at 9:00 AM, and additional times when posted. The Board serves as the executive and administrative branches of Ida County. Additional Offices include the following departments:

- Assessor
- Auditor
- Clerk of Court
- Conservation
- Emergency Management
- Emergency Services
- Engineer
- Public Health
- Recorder
- Sheriff
- Treasurer
- Veteran Affairs

The Ida County Emergency Management Agency provides coordination and works in partnerships with local communities, state, and federal agencies. Emergency Services Department has been added since the last HMP. The Ida County Sheriff's Office is the primary

law enforcement agency for all of Ida County and has added the position of School Resources Officer as a full-time position during the school year.

County Facilities

Critical Facilities	
Courthouse; Misc Equip	401 Moorehead, Ida Grove
Courthouse Annex; Misc Equip	401 Moorehead, Ida Grove
Garage/Shop & Related	1705 W 6th, Ida Grove
Road Mntc/Storage	377 1st, Battle Creek
Roads Storage	323 W Railroad, Holstein
	Hwy M31, Arthur
Engineer's Office/Roads Dept	1705 W 6th, Ida Grove
Landfill Dept Storage	2202 Indian Ave, Ida Grove
Landfill Dept Recycling Bldg & Related	2202 Indian Ave, Ida Grove
Park - Consrv Dept & Related	Sec 10 & 15, Corwin Twp
	Sec 9 & 10, Garfield Twp
Emergency Mgmt Communications Tower	Moorhead Ave

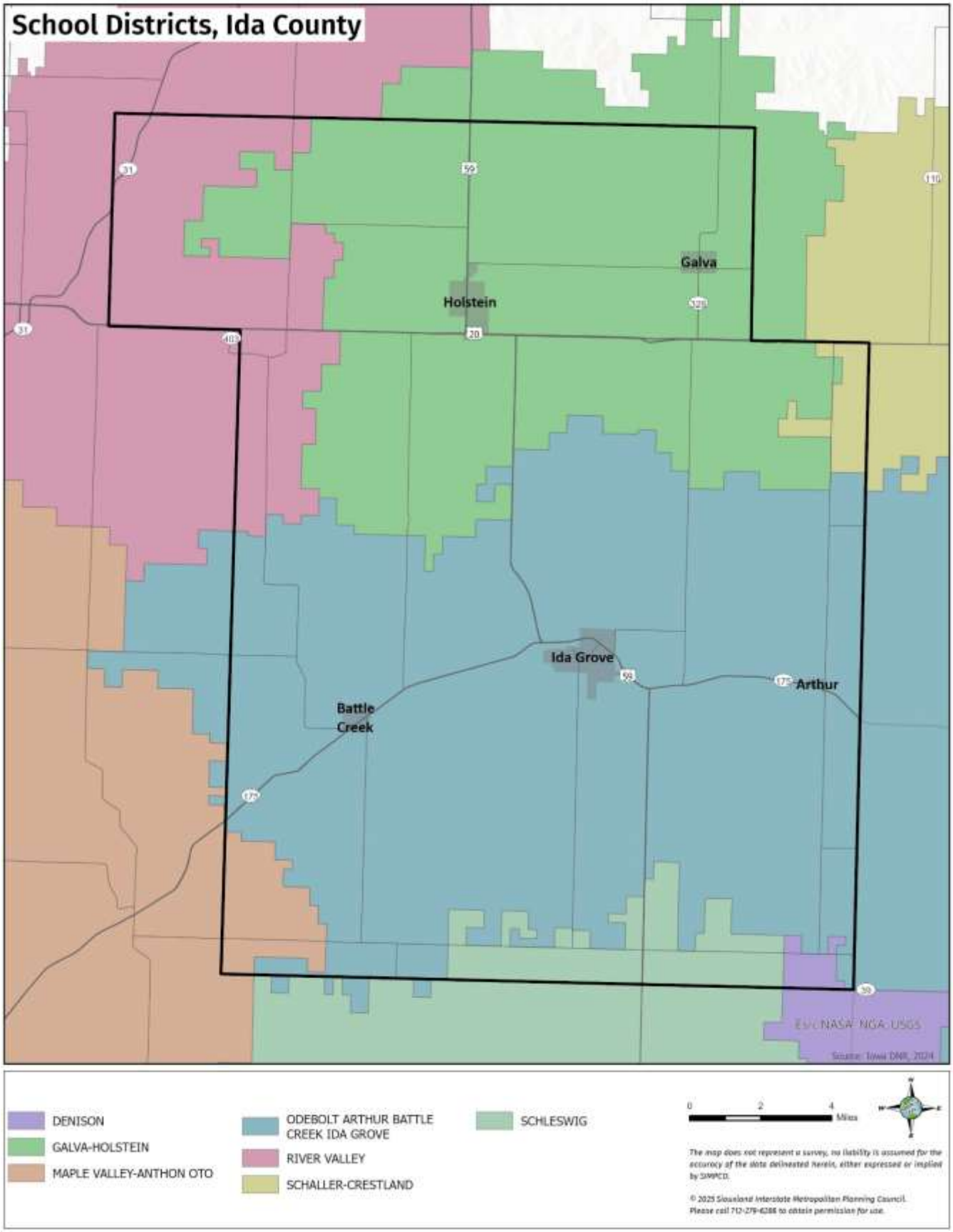
Education

Within Ida County there are eight (8) public schools divided into two (2) school districts. These districts include:

- Galva-Holstein Community School District
- Odebolt-Arthur & Battle Creek-Ida Grove Community School District

There are no colleges or universities based in Ida County, however there is an ISU Extension Office in Ida Grove.

Educational attainment in Ida Grove shows a strong emphasis on high school and associate-level education, with a higher share of residents completing these levels compared to the state average. A notable portion of the population has attended some college without earning a degree, indicating engagement with postsecondary education. However, Ida Grove trails behind the state in the number of residents holding bachelor's and graduate degrees, suggesting a gap


School Districts, Ida County
Galva
Holstein
Ida Grove
Arthur
Battle Creek
DENISON
GALVA-HOLSTEIN
MAPLE VALLEY-ANTHON OTO
ODEBOLT ARTHUR BATTLE CREEK IDA GROVE
RIVER VALLEY
SCHALLER-CRESTLAND
SCHLESWIG
0 2 4 Miles
The map does not represent a survey, no liability is assumed for the accuracy of the data delineated herein, either expressed or implied by SIMPCO.
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in higher-level academic achievement. The percentage of individuals without a high school diploma is also slightly above the state average, pointing to an area for potential improvement in early educational attainment. Overall, the data reflect a community with a solid foundation in basic and technical education but opportunities for growth in advanced degree completion.

Level of Education	*Ida*	*Iowa*
No high school diploma	11.5%	10.6%
High school degree (includes equivalency)	41.9%	30%
Some college, no degree	20.5%	19.6%
Associate's degree	16%	21%
Bachelor's degree	16.2%	20.9%
Graduate or professional degree	4.5%	10.7%

Population

Estimates through CensusReporter.org provides Ida County's 2023[11] population of 6,944, showing a consistent decline since the decennial census reported 7,089 in 2010 and 7,005 in 2020.

The County's proportion of residents aged 65 years and older is high compared to Iowa. The proportion of the population living with a disability is comparable to state levels. FEMA identifies both of these categories as vulnerable populations.

Community Characteristics	
Population (2023)	6,944
Population (2017)	6,965
Total Households	2,944
Median Household Income	$62,841
Median Household Income – Iowa	$73,147

Vulnerable Populations	*Count*	*Percent*	*Iowa*
5 years and younger	381	5.5%	5.7%
65 years and older	1,536	22.1%	18.5%

[11] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/05000US19093-ida-county-ia/

Below the poverty level	701	10.4%	11.3%
Living with a disability	885	13%	13.2%

Housing

Ida Grove offers more affordable housing compared to the state of Iowa, with a significantly lower median home value. The median rent is also slightly below the state average. The city has a total of 3,365 housing units, with an 89% occupancy rate. Of occupied units, 78% are owner-occupied. A modest number of homes remain vacant, suggesting a stable housing market. These figures highlight a community where homeownership is prevalent, and rental options are available, but limited.

Housing Characteristics		
	Ida	*Iowa*
Median Home Value	$108, 800	$195,900
	Count	*Percent*
Total Housing Units	3,365	-
Occupied	2,961	88.8%
Owner-occupied	2,624	78%
Renter-occupied	740	22%
Vacant	370	11%

Income & Economics

Data from CensusReporter.org indicates a median household income of $62,841 which is lower than both the Iowa and national estimates. County poverty estimates reflect about 10.4% of the population falls below the poverty line.

In Ida Grove, the civilian employed population aged 16 and older totals 3,533 individuals. The largest employment sectors in the city are education, health care, and social assistance, followed by manufacturing, which together employ a significant portion of the workforce. Agriculture, including forestry, fishing, and mining, also plays a key role in the local economy. Retail trade and construction are other notable sectors, while smaller portions of the population work in areas such as transportation, finance, and information services. Public

administration, arts, entertainment, and professional services account for smaller segments of the workforce. This diverse employment base reflects a community with strong ties to both traditional industries and service-oriented sectors.

Ida County identifies the following businesses and organizations as leading employers for the county.

- Cylinder Express
- Flint Hills Resources
- Galva-Holstein Community School District
- GOMACO
- GOMACO Trolley Company
- Hi-Way Products
- Holstein Manufacturing, Inc.
- Horn Memorial Hospital
- Invenergy/MidAmerican Wind Farms
- Johnson Propane, Heating, and Cooling
- Midwest Industries
- OABCIG Community School District
- Poet Bioprocessing
- Quad County Corn Processors
- Reliant Processing
- Ridge View School District
- Tiefenthaler Quality Meats
- United Bank of Iowa
- VT Industries

Industry for the Civilian Employed Population 16 & over		
Civilian employed population (16 and older)	3,533	-
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	385	10.9%
Construction	291	8.2%
Manufacturing	766	21.7%
Wholesale trade	58	1.6%
Retail trade	368	10.4%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	181	5.1%
Information	68	1.9%
Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing	131	3.7%
Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services	73	2.1%
Education services and health care and social assistance	836	23.7%
Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services	182	5.2%
Other services except public administration	129	3.7%

Public administration	62	1.8%

Valuation of County Assets

A current statement of values has not been provided. Based on the total building and personal property assessment valuation of $13,547, 928 as received from 2019 and a minimum 40% increase for other counties in the region, this plan assumes an approximate valuation of $18,967,100. This dollar amount serves as a foundation for minimum protected assets for mitigation projects affecting the county and its unincorporated areas as may be applicable in a cost-benefit analysis. A detailed valuation shall be fully considered within project parameters during project planning. Values inconsistent with this estimate may require an amendment at the county level prior to pursuit of mitigation funds as may be available.

Participation

A planning meeting was conducted at the Ida County Courthouse on December 4, 2024 with the following county representatives in attendance.

- Ed Sohm, EMA
- Wyatt Reitmeier, Conservation Board
- Traci Riessen, Treasurer
- Corey Trucke, EMS Dept.
- Julie Phillips, Recorder
- Jeff Williams, Engineer

In addition to the in-person meeting, 28 survey responses were collected from Ida County residents. Their collective responses have been considered in discussion of county response efforts, concerns, needs, and recommendations.

A review of the plan including updates and revisions was completed February 26, 2026 by the County Auditor Kristy Gilbert and Emergency Management Agency Coordinator Ed Sohm. Upon said review, the County confirmed its commitment to adopt the plan as approved by FEMA.

Capabilities

County capabilities are determined not only by physical infrastructure and equipment, but also by human resources, policy, and standards of practice. The following table itemizes supports

including procedural sources, departmental roles, formal and informal community supports, and funding sources.

Ida County does not participate in NFIP. They do however have a floodplain ordinance and administrator with the County Zoning Administrator serving that role. As a county, its unincorporated areas have zero RL/SRL properties.

Plans/Guidance	
Capital Improvement Plan *via annual budget process*	
Comprehensive Land Use Plan	
Comprehensive Plan	
Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Plan	
Local/County Emergency Plan	
Policies/Ordinance	
Zoning Ordinance	Subdivision Ordinance
Floodplain Ordinance	Tree Trimming Ordinance
Nuisance Ordinance (including *Debris Mgmt Plan*)	Floodplain Management Ordinance
Programs/Commissions	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Non-Participant	CID #190877A
Planning/Zoning Boards	Economic Development Planner
	Includes oversight of Builder's Plan (Zoning Officer)
	NFIP Floodplain Administrator (Zoning Officer as applicable for NFIP communities in Ida County)
	Zoning/Land Use Restrictions
Staff/Department	*Included responsibility*
Emergency Management Coordinator	Hazard Awareness Program
Emergency Response Team	Includes oversight of Emergency Operations Center
Engineer	
Mapping Specialist (GIS)	
Secondary Road Dept	Tree Trimming Program & Compliance
Non-Governmental Organizations	
Ida Grove Ambulance (independent of city/county operations, non-profit)	
American Red Cross	
Community Organizations (Lions, Kiwanis, etc.)	
Veterans Groups	

Local Funding Availability/Eligibility	
Community Development Block Grants	
Capital Improvements funding	
Levy taxes for specified purpose	
Fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric services	
Impact fees for new development under the Economic Development Commission	
TIF	
Potential funding through Utility earnings	
Ability to incur debt through	general obligation bonds
	special tax bonds
	private activities

It is important to note that standards of practice, whether written or implied, are based on State Code, with the most stringent taking precedence. Ida County has adapted its departmental structure and representation to best serve residents efficiently and effectively.

Review of Actions Taken

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Ida Co	2020: Actively promote available trainings; *County EMA, County Admin Staff* (no funding need anticipated) HIGH PRIORITY
		Update: County intends to continue promoting state-funded training programs as available.
Warning Sirens	Ida Co	2020: An additional warning siren would benefit Crawford Creek; *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Warning Sirens	Ida Co.	**Objective Met**. Review of available resources indicates siren is not needed. County will promote existing internet system with improved coverage capacity. The County plans to provide signage and other promotions on social media forums to promote subscriptions to alert services.
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	**All** Counties	2020: Assess availability of generators for all critical facilities, portable or permanent. Prep all critical facilities for connection to generators as applicable; *County EMA* (Varying levels of funds needed. Support may come through County, State, and Federal grant and loan programs) HIGH PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Ida County	**Completed**. Community assessments of critical facilities and generator compatibility have been completed. The Courthouse addition is ready. Transfer switches are in place where needed for City offices in Battle Creek and Holstein. Findings where more transfer switches are needed have been included as new projects as collaborative efforts between the County and applicable communities.

Equipment	Region (Initiated by Ida County)	2020: Sandbag fillers. Only 2 are available in the region and flooding often impacts several counties concurrently. Interest in accumulating a stockpile to meet multiple community needs. *County Engineer, EMA, Regional collaboration* (Collective County funds , PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
		Update. No action taken. Still interested in have available for extreme events. Carry to 2026 HMP as a Region project.
Equipment	Ida County	2020: ATV for access to levees for inspection regardless of road conditions. *County EMA* (County funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY
		Resolved. Roads Dept and Sheriff's department added side-by-sides to inventory. Anticipated availability if needed, especially for scheduled inspections.
Equipment	Ida County	2020: Additional road closure barricades are needed with consideration to be given to another trailer in order to haul to multiple locations. To accommodate approximately 80 roadways are subject to closure in the event of an emergency. *County Engineer, EMA* (County Funds, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
		Update: No action taken. Additional barricades still needed.
development		
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Ida County	2020: Waterlines are not looped at MidWest Industries, reducing the available water pressure at fire hydrants. *County engineer, Midwest Indus business manager, EMA* (County funds, private funds, Response support funds, PDM) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Ida County	**Update**. Jurisdictional oversight of need has been relegated to the City of Ida Grove. Related work is included for consideration under their new projects. While improvements specific to this site are still necessary, Project is closed at County level.
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Ida County	2020: Not all outlying shops are insulated. New project needed to add heat and insulation. Access and issues accelerating due to ice accumulation. *County Department of Secondary Roads* (County funds, Transportation facilities program funds, Building remediation funds) LOW PRIORITY
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Ida County	**Update**. Insulation and heating improvements still needed at Battle Creek shop, affecting access hindered by ice accumulation. Should funding become available, facility replacement is needed in Holstein.
Bridges & Roads	Ida County	2020: At Ida Grove: Potential for work to add shoulder along Old Hwy 59 and M15, also trap area attention. Work is needed along Jasper Ave; County Engineer, Collaborate w/City Admin (County funds, Transportation funds, PDM) LOW PRIORITY
Bridges & Roads	Ida County	**Complete**. Shoulders as provided have been rebuilt. Project cost ranged from $8-9M.
Bridges & Roads	Ida County	2020: At Ida Grove: When flooded, no access to city wells along Keystone Ave. Mapping of well needed north of 387th St, off M15. County has access road to maintenance sheds. Improvements needed. *County Engineer, Collaboration with City Streets Dept*. (County funds, City support, transportation funds, PDM) MEDIUM PRIORITY
		Update. Little progress has been made on this objective due to higher priority strategies taking precedence. Project carries into the 2026 HMP.
flow control		
Drainage projects	Ida Co	2020: At Quimby drainage ditch dredging from Quimby and establishing routine/scheduled maintenance; *County Engineer, Collaborate with City staff, IDNR* (County Roads funds, local funds) HIGH PRIORITY

		Update: Dredging has been completed for some areas, however major maintenance is still needed.
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

Risk Assessment

As with most participating jurisdictions, Ida County has implemented infrastructure investments geared toward enhancing resiliency including communications improvements and the addition of its Emergency Services Department. Other projects affecting the county, but not necessarily fully within their control includes the pending CO_2 pipeline. The County is actively considering the potential addition of the pipeline within its emergency response planning process. As potential effects related to a spill or line breakage remain relatively unclear, the County will continue to assess related training opportunities as means of maximizing preparedness should pipeline construction take place.

Driver leaves scene after railroad crash

Published by admin on Mon, 06/06/2022 - 4:53pm

An unidentified driver caused $25,000 in damage at Market Avenue and Highway 175 Saturday after running a stop sign and damaging railroad track and the driver's own vehicle.

The crash took place 2:41 a.m. when the driver was southbound on Market Avenue and did not stop at the railroad intersection for Market Avenue and Highway 175.

Running through the intersection, the driver struck the track for the railroad.

www.idacountycourier.com/content/driver-leaves-scene-after-railroad-crash *Driver leaves scene after railroad crash*. Published by Ida County Courier admin on Mon, 06/06/2022 - 4:53pm (June 10, 2025)

The County intends to adopt building code standards following state practices by reference. In doing so, the county is increasing awareness of impacts of disaster, guiding residents to make informed decisions when adding or improving structures on County and unincorporated properties. Ida County's Flood Mitigation Assistance Plan is in need of an update. As of December 2024, the county board is working with Iowa DNR to update floodplain maps and

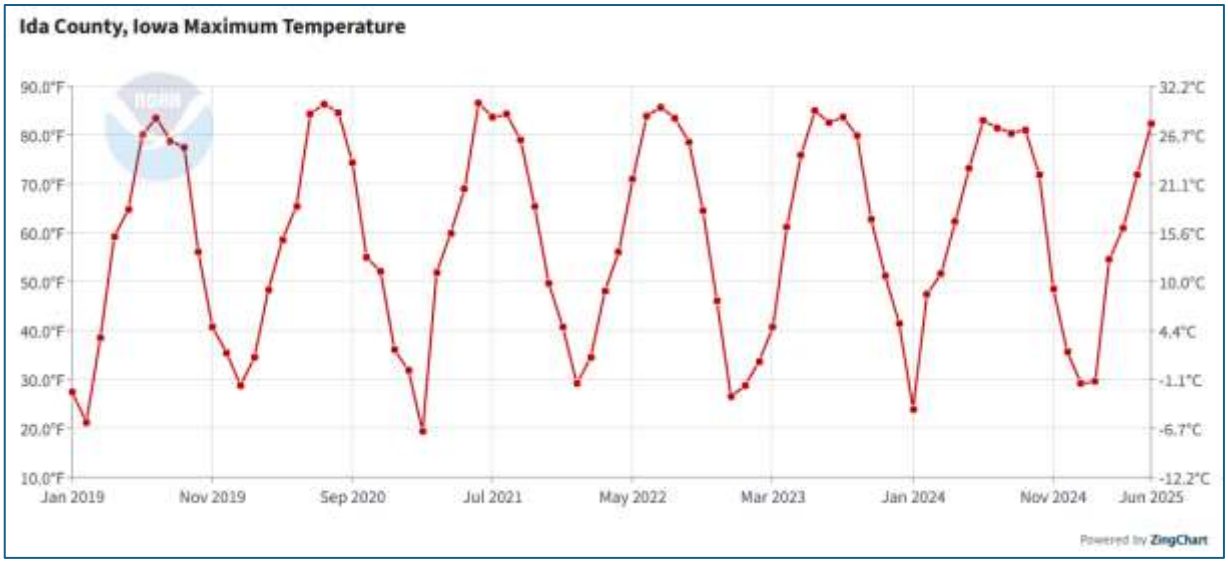
related ordinances. The county is also considering the development of a debris management plan allowing for coordinated cleanup efforts in the event of a major disaster. The county does not currently have a written Critical Facilities Plan (Mitigation/Response/Recovery). Practices are in place, and there is an anticipated course of action. A formal plan with scheduled review is recommended. Ida County does have a FIRM but is not an active NFIP participant. Floodplain in unincorporated areas does not include enough insurable structures to warrant participation.

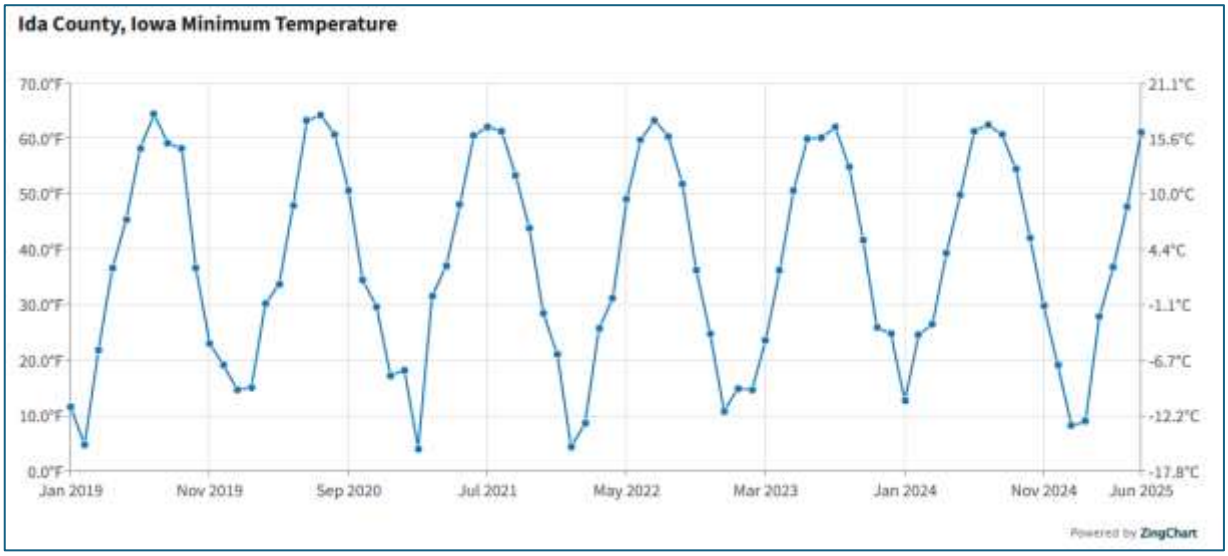
Roadways are a significant consideration in mitigation planning for Ida County. A high percentage of gravel roads alone incurs increased expense depending on weather events. Over-the-road freight is another significant detriment to all roadways as the state issues recurring exemptions for weight limits to accommodate ag and energy businesses. Road installations are engineered based on use and mandatory weight limits. When those are disregarded, even for a good cause, wear and deterioration is accelerated. Future reconstruction projects may consider accommodation for maximum potential load weights as opposed to maximum permitted.

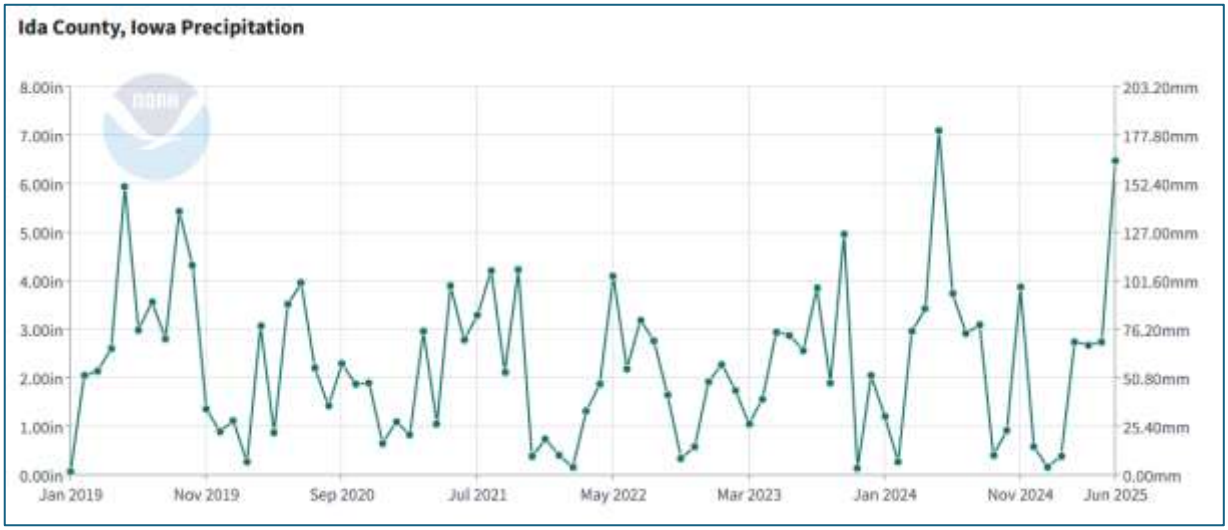
Ida County has made significant gains in connectivity throughout its communities and unincorporated areas. Efforts will continue as opportunities become available. As such, this is included as a new project for the county for the 2026 HMP.

Weather patterns contribute to Ida County's considerations in mitigation planning. For reference, the following charts depict maximum temperature, minimum temperature, and precipitation by month for the county[12] between November 2019 and December 2024.

[12] Source: www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/monitoring/climate-at-a-glance/county/time-series/IA


Ida County, Iowa Maximum Temperature
90.0°F
80.0°F
70.0°F
60.0°F
50.0°F
40.0°F
30.0°F
20.0°F
10.0°F
32.2°C
26.7°C
21.1°C
15.6°C
10.0°C
4.4°C
-1.1°C
-6.7°C
-12.2°C
Jan 2019
Nov 2019
Sep 2020
Jul 2021
May 2022
Mar 2023
Jan 2024
Nov 2024
Jun 2025
Powered by ZingChart


Ida County, Iowa Minimum Temperature
70.0°F
60.0°F
50.0°F
40.0°F
30.0°F
20.0°F
10.0°F
0.0°F
21.1°C
15.6°C
10.0°C
4.4°C
-1.1°C
-6.7°C
-12.2°C
-17.8°C
Jan 2019
Nov 2019
Sep 2020
Jul 2021
May 2022
Mar 2023
Jan 2024
Nov 2024
Jun 2025
Powered by ZingChart


Ida County, Iowa Precipitation
8.00in
7.00in
6.00in
5.00in
4.00in
3.00in
2.00in
1.00in
0.00in
203.20mm
177.80mm
152.40mm
127.00mm
101.60mm
76.20mm
50.80mm
25.40mm
0.00mm
Jan 2019
Nov 2019
Sep 2020
Jul 2021
May 2022
Mar 2023
Jan 2024
Nov 2024
Jun 2025

Also sourced from NOAA, the Storm Event database[13] provides the following record of events for Ida County.

Summary of Storm Events

Number of County/Zone areas affected:	2
Number of Days with Event:	96
Number of Days with Event and Death:	0
Number of Days with Event and Death or Injury:	0
Number of Days with Event and Property Damage:	3
Number of Days with Event and Crop Damage:	18
Number of Event Types reported:	16

Storm Events as Recorded

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
IDA (ZONE)	11/26/2019	14:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	11/28/2019	22:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	1/17/2020	5:30	Blizzard		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	1/18/2020	15:00	Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	1/21/2020	23:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	2/12/2020	23:00	Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	2/19/2020	2:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	3/19/2020	19:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	4/12/2020	9:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
ARTHUR	6/5/2020	1:02	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA GROVE	6/5/2020	0:53	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA GROVE	6/5/2020	0:57	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA GROVE	6/5/2020	0:59	Hail	2.50 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA GROVE	6/5/2020	0:59	Hail	1.50 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA GROVE	6/5/2020	1:06	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	6/9/2020	23:15	High Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	6.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	6/9/2020	23:30	High Wind	52 kts. EG	0	0	5.00K	0.00K

[13] Source: https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/

IDA (ZONE)	7/28/2020	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	2.350M
IDA (ZONE)	8/1/2020	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	1.900M
ARTHUR	8/10/2020	8:29	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	1.00K	50.00K
IDA GROVE	8/10/2020	8:20	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	1.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	9/1/2020	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	125.00K
IDA (ZONE)	10/1/2020	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	75.00K
IDA (ZONE)	10/25/2020	3:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	11/1/2020	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	240.00K
IDA (ZONE)	11/9/2020	22:00	Ice Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	12/1/2020	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	12/23/2020	10:00	Blizzard		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	12/29/2020	8:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	1/1/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	1/15/2021	0:00	Blizzard		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	1/23/2021	18:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	1/25/2021	12:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	2/1/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	2/4/2021	3:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	2/14/2021	6:00	Extreme Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	2/21/2021	5:00	Winter Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
GALVA	5/2/2021	19:37	Hail	0.88 in.	0	0	0.00K	2.00K
IDA GROVE	6/16/2021	20:52	Hail	0.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	233.00K
IDA GROVE	6/16/2021	21:00	Hail	1.25 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA GROVE	6/16/2021	21:02	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA GROVE	6/16/2021	20:34	Thunderstorm Wind	52 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	7/27/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	61.00K
IDA (ZONE)	8/1/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	2.00K
ARTHUR	8/30/2021	21:02	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
ARTHUR	8/30/2021	21:06	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	33.00K
IDA GROVE MUNI ARPT	8/30/2021	20:54	Hail	0.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	12/10/2021	13:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K

IDA (ZONE)	12/15/2021	20:30	High Wind	59 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
BATTLE CREEK	12/15/2021	16:42	Tornado	EF1	0	0	200.00K	0.00K
GALVA	12/15/2021	16:58	Tornado	EF0	0	0	75.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	1/6/2022	5:00	Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	1/14/2022	5:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	2/21/2022	17:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	2/22/2022	19:30	Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA GROVE	4/12/2022	16:57	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA GROVE	4/12/2022	16:57	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA GROVE MUNI ARPT	4/12/2022	19:02	Thunderstorm Wind	52 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	4/19/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	4/23/2022	10:45	High Wind	38 kts. MS	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
GALVA	4/23/2022	5:10	Thunderstorm Wind	52 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	5/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	36.00K
HOLSTEIN	5/12/2022	18:40	Thunderstorm Wind	70 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA GROVE MUNI ARPT	5/19/2022	22:49	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
GALVA	5/30/2022	5:40	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
GALVA	5/30/2022	5:40	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
GALVA	5/30/2022	5:42	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA GROVE	5/30/2022	5:33	Thunderstorm Wind	65 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	6/14/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	185.00K
IDA (ZONE)	7/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	704.00K
IDA (ZONE)	8/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	110.00K
IDA (ZONE)	9/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	281.00K
IDA (ZONE)	10/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	11/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	11/29/2022	6:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	12/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K

IDA (ZONE)	12/8/2022	16:30	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	12/22/2022	10:30	Blizzard		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	12/22/2022	2:00	Extreme Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	1/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	1/2/2023	18:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	1/11/2023	5:00	Dense Fog		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	1/18/2023	17:00	Winter Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	1/28/2023	0:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	2/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	3/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	3/8/2023	16:30	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	3/22/2023	21:30	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	4/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
ARTHUR	4/19/2023	18:52	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	4/30/2023	8:00	Strong Wind	43 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	5/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	6/13/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	7/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	7/26/2023	10:00	Excessive Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	8/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	8/19/2023	13:00	Excessive Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	8/21/2023	11:00	Excessive Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	9/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	10/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	10.150M
IDA (ZONE)	1/8/2024	15:00	Winter Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	1/11/2024	18:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	1/12/2024	15:00	Blizzard		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	1/12/2024	18:00	Extreme Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	1/18/2024	10:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	1/19/2024	22:00	Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	2/27/2024	17:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
ARTHUR	6/16/2024	0:10	Thunderstorm Wind	65 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

ARTHUR	6/16/2024	0:10	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	9.00K
HOLSTEIN	6/23/2024	4:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	7/13/2024	12:00	Excessive Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	7/31/2024	11:00	Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	8/2/2024	12:00	Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	8/5/2024	12:00	Excessive Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	8/25/2024	12:00	Excessive Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	10/29/2024	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	11/1/2024	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	12/4/2024	12:00	Strong Wind	40 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA (ZONE)	12/19/2024	12:00	Strong Wind	41 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Priority Hazards

Ida County recognizes the following as priority hazards.

- Drought
- Tornado Windstorm
- Severe Winter Weather
- Flood – Riverine and Flash

Using the NOAA Storm Event database, 119 events were reported between 11/01/2019 and 12/31/2024 (1888 days) in the Ida County zone with an estimated total of $288,000 in property damages and more than $16.5M in crop damages. Additional details are provided in directly affected communities where applicable. The following table is a summary of effects of those events.

Summary of Outcomes	
Number of County/Zone areas affected:	2
Number of Days with Event:	96
Number of Days with Event and Death:	0
Number of Days with Event and Death or Injury:	0
Number of Days with Event and Property Damage:	3

Number of Days with Event and Crop Damage:	18
Number of Event Types reported:	16

Occurrences per storm type			
Drought	31	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	3
Winter Weather	23	Strong Wind	3
Hail	18	Winter Storm	3
Thunderstorm Wind	12	Heat	2
Excessive Heat	6	Tornado	2
Blizzard	5	Dense Fog	1
Cold/wind Chill	5	Flood	1
High Wind	4	Ice Storm	1

Using NOAA data alone, it is no surprise that Ida County added Drought as one of its priority hazards, a change to its 2019 assessment. Other identified priority hazards are consistent with the previous Plan. Drought conditions to date have been more impactful on county properties with cities not yet experiencing extreme effects. Flooding concerns are focused on flash flood events causing washout on gravel roads and concern for lack of or ineffective runoff controls. Stabilization is included with routine maintenance, however, the county is in need of alternatives that reduce frequency of maintenance investments.

Additional projects identified by the county to improve its sustainability through severe weather disasters and occurrence of other disasters are included in the following table.

Mitigation Actions, Strategies, & Projects

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Ida Co	**New**. Improve awareness of program availability. *County EMA, emergency response teams throughout county, State program officer(s)*. (State program funds where applicable; in-kind volunteer time) HIGH PRIORITY.
Assessment/Study	Ida County	**New**. Due to excessive washout during flash flood events, enhanced by extremely dry/drought conditions, the county is seeking funds to enable an assessment of alternative practices to stabilize gravel roads. Key concern is maintaining access/exit in the event of severe weather. This may include a demonstration project to test varying applications. *County Engineer/ Secondary Roads, IA DOT, County EMA* (Road use funds, local general budget funds, USDA or DNR programs as may be available, Proj scoping funds). MEDIUM PRIORITY

tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Ida County	**New**. County is considering funding opportunities to ensure all communities are equipped with generators and/or transfer switches at City Halls/Community Centers and Fire Departments. *County EMA, City Emergency Response Department(s)*, (Varying levels of funds needed. Support may come through County, State, and Federal grant and loan programs) HIGH PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Ida County	**New**. Add generator or transfer switch capacity to each County Department to ensure continuity of operations in the event of a disaster. Consider relocation opportunities in the event of displacement during and after absence of dedicated power source. *County EMA, respective County Department Head* (PDM, Community Benefits Grants, County General Fund) HIGH PRIORITY
Equipment	Region (Initiated by Ida County)	**Carry Over**. Sandbag fillers. Increase availability for the region as flooding often impacts several counties concurrently. Interest in accumulating a stockpile to meet multiple community needs. *County Engineer, EMA, Regional collaboration* (Collective County funds , PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
Equipment	Ida County	**Carry over**. Additional road closure barricades are needed with consideration to be given to another trailer in order to haul to multiple locations. To accommodate approximately 80 roadways are subject to closure in the event of an emergency. *County Engineer, EMA* (County Funds, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
development		
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Ida County	**Carry Over**. Insulate outlying shops. *County Department of Secondary Roads* (County funds, Transportation facilities program funds, Building remediation funds) LOW PRIORITY
Bridges & Roads	Ida County	**Carry over**. · Collaborative project needed to develop west access point to City of Ida Grove to improve access to Keystone Ave wells. · Necessity of mapping of 387th is under consideration but is carried over to 2026 plan. · County shop south of town is needing access improvements – surface repairs. Grading/straightening is planned along 235th Street. Funding sources and responsibility remain as provided - *County Engineer, Collaboration with City Streets Dept*. (County funds, City support, transportation funds, FMA/Mitigation funds where applicable) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Bridges & Roads	Ida County	**New**. The County is looking to improve access to schools, particularly for young drivers. The following corridors are highly traveled gravel roads being programmed for paving. German Rd (one mile section to Hwy 20) and westward access roads including Lamp, Kastner, and Meuller. *Secondary Roads* (County funds, City collaboration where applicable, road use funds)
flow control		
Drainage projects	Ida County	**Carry over**. Areas of particular need of drainage ditch dredging include 7th Street at Rowher, Jasper, and M15. Old Hwy 59 still needs attention. Project carries over to 2026 HMP with same priority. *County Engineer, Collaborate with City staff, IDNR* (County Roads funds, local general budget funds) HIGH PRIORITY

refuge		
Shelter	Ida County	**New**. Interested in adding storm shelter at Fairgrounds. Project is primarily limited by funding but will remain on priority list for consideration when updates and other investments are planned. *County Board, County EMA, Fair Board* (Mitigation program funds, local general budget /county funds, community safety programs, local foundation and betterment grants) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Shelter	Ida Co (w/Ida Grove)	**New**. Schmidt's Addition on 6th in Ida Grove is a residential development without basements. Interest in establishing storm shelter in area. Location and scale of facility to be determined. May require preliminary study or project scoping to determine most effective option. *County EMA, County Board, Ida Grove City administration/Council, residents as applicable* (Community Safety funding opportunities, community foundation and/or betterment grants, local general budget funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY

technology		
Improve effectiveness	Ida County	**New**. Efforts will continue as opportunities become available. *County Board* (State/Federal connectivity programs as may be available, private-public partnerships) MEDIUM PRIORITY
natural barriers/supports		
Stabilization	Ida County	**New**. Spillway maintenance is ongoing and cumulatively expensive. County is interested in addressing channel stability with a long-term approach, reducing recurring expenses and substantiating infrastructure. Operations Supervisor, County Conservation. (Funding to be determined but will include county funds and pursuit of applicable grant programs) HIGH PRIORITY

Jurisdictions

1. Arthur

a. Profile

The City of Arthur lies on the eastern-most border of Ida County, and occupies 0.15 square miles. Highway 175 is the main road that connects Arthur to surrounding communities and runs east and west through the city. The city was named after the 21st president of the United Stated of American, Chester A. Arthur. City Council meets the first Monday of each month at 6:00 PM.

City Governance & Community Supports

Arthur is governed by a five-person elected city Council and the Mayor. Offices in addition to Mayor and Council include City Clerk and Superintendent. Arthur City has a volunteer Fire Department in place. The Department staff averages at about 13 members and is independent of the City. The city contracts with the county for law enforcement and emergency management coordination.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

The town of Arthur has experienced significant growth, with its population rising to 295 in 2023[14] as estimated by CensusReporter.org – up from 222 residents in 2020's decennial census reports. The community is home to 140 households, and the median household income stands at $53,750. However, approximately 17.5% of the population lives below the poverty line, highlighting some economic challenges within the town. Despite this, Arthur is a growing community with potential for further development and improvement as it continues to adapt to the needs of its residents.

Arthur has a total of 147 housing units, with 139 of them occupied, reflecting a strong demand for housing in the area. There are only 7 vacant units, indicating a low vacancy rate. The town has no mobile homes, and the majority of its homes were built after 2000, with a smaller portion constructed in the 1990s. Very few homes were built before 1990, indicating a relatively

[14] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1903115-arthur-ia/

new housing market in the town. These characteristics suggest that Arthur's housing infrastructure is modern, with a high occupancy rate and limited room for new development.

Leading Employers

Following employers include those in Arthur as well as regional employers that have a significant impact on community well-being.

- Flint Hills Resources (Ethanol Plant)
- Gomaco
- Midwest Industries
- Horn Memorial Hospital

Critical Facilities, Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

Town Hall; Fire Dept; Garage/Supplies	217 Main St
Library	224 S Main
Lift Station	Hwy 175 West
Well House	West End 2nd St
Water Tower	
City Park/Playground/Shelter House	
Recreation area & Related	

Valuation of City Assets

Building	$	2,518,371
Personal Property	$	199,788
Fine Arts	$	4,120
Misc Property Unsched	$	200,452
Total TIV	**$**	**2,922,731**
APD TIV	**$**	**607,500**
Grand Total TIV	**$**	**3,530,231**

b. Participation

SIMPCO facilitated a mitigation planning meeting via phone conference with City Clerk Paul Arbergast on February 17, 2025. A signed Voluntary Participation Agreement is on file, dated 02/14/2025. Additional input was collected via survey with two respondents indicating Arthur as jurisdiction of residence.

On February 27, 2026, a final review was completed by Paul Abergast. The review included providing corrections, acknowledging changes, and agreeing to adopt the Plan upon FEMA approval.

c. Community Capabilities

Policies/Ordinance - updated 2017	
• Building Code • Floodplain Ordinance • Nuisance Ordinance	• Subdivision Ordinance • Tree Ordinance
Programs	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	Yes, CID #190696A
ISO Fire Rating	Arthur - Class 8
Tree Trimming Program	Trim as needed
Mutual Aid Agreements	IMAC (in addition to county & planning region agreements)
Staff/Department	
NFIP Floodplain Administrator	City Mayor
Local Funding Availability	
Apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric services	
Ability to incur debt through	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds

Arthur participates in the NFIP program with the City Clerk serving as Floodplain Administrator. The city has zero RL/SRL properties.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

In addition to projects as updated below, Arthur added a mobile generator to enable continuation of operations of waterworks during power outages. The city added a warning siren in 2022 at the cost of approximately $3,000.

communication /education		
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Arthur	2020: Interest in a dedicated generator for the waterworks; *City Waterworks/Public Works Maintenance* (Local Funds, PDM, Community Benefits grants) HIGH PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Arthur	Complete. A mobile generator was added in 2020 using safety funds through insurance provider. City accrued annual allocation to help meet expense.
Generator & Related Projects	Arthur	2020: Fire Dept - generator to maintain function of doors and building during a power outage; *Fire Chief, City Council* (Department funds, Community Benefit funds, Firefighter Association supports, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
		Update. Project not completed due to lack of funds. Carry project into 2026 HMP. Department did attain mobile generator for use with the grass truck pump, but none are available for the facility. Priority based on likely funding opportunity, not need.
development		
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

A review of the NOAA Storm Event database provides seven records specific to Arthur between 11/01/2019 and 12/31/2024.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
ARTHUR	6/5/2020	1:02	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
ARTHUR	8/10/2020	8:29	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	1.00K	50.00K
ARTHUR	8/30/2021	21:02	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
ARTHUR	8/30/2021	21:06	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	33.00K
ARTHUR	4/19/2023	18:52	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

ARTHUR	6/16/2024	0:10	Thunderstorm Wind	65 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
ARTHUR	6/16/2024	0:10	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	9.00K

Arthur is met on its west and south boundaries with floodplain, including its lagoon location. Arthur Bioprocessing is located on the other side of the flood plain, though within the town's planning area. Production and storage of ethanol and anhydrous ammonia present valid concerns of potential for hazardous materials incident.

Priority Hazards

- Tornado / Windstorm
- Flood – primarily flash flooding
- Thunderstorms with Hail & Lightning

Survey respondents also indicate Severe Winter Storm and Extreme heat as priorities.

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

Snow removal is a challenge for this small community, with minimal equipment and limited funds to contract out the work.

communication /education		
Promo/Info	Arthur	**New**. Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to Alert Iowa, Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; water conservation (drought considerations); Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. *City Clerk, County EMA* (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Arthur	**Carry Over**. Fire Dept - generator to maintain function of doors and building during a power outage; *Fire Chief, City Council* (Department funds, Community Benefit funds, Firefighter Association supports, PDM) LOW PRIORITY
development		
flow control		

refuge
technology
natural barriers/ supports

2. Battle Creek

a. Profile

The City of Battle Creek is located on the west border, in Ida County's southwest quadrant. It occupies about 0.50 square miles. Highway 175 is the main road that connects Battle Creek to surrounding communities and runs northeast and southwest through the city. Maple River Flows south and east of city limits meeting Battle Creek northeast of the city. More information about Battle Creek on the city's website at https://battlecreekia.org/.

City Governance & Community Supports

Battle Creek is governed by a five-person elected council and Mayor. City Council meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM. Offices in addition to Mayor and council include City Clerk and Street Superintendent. The Battle Creek Volunteer Fire Department operates as a city department and staffs about 20 volunteers. There is a Battle Creek Fire Department Jr Firefighters program for teens 15 years of age and older. The city contracts with the county for law enforcement and emergency management coordination.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

Estimates as compiled by CensusReporter.org indicate significant growth for Battle Creek with its population increasing to 882 in 2023[15], from 700 residents in 2020. The community consists of 359 households, with a median household income of $59,519, reflecting a moderate economic standing. Approximately 8.3% of the population lives below the poverty line, indicating some economic challenges within the community. Despite this, Battle Creek is a growing town with strong housing demand and opportunities for continued development and prosperity.

[15] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1904870-battle-creek-ia/

The town has a total of 418 housing units, with 334 currently occupied, reflecting steady residential use. A portion of the housing stock remains vacant, and mobile homes represent only a small share of the overall inventory. The majority of residents live in homes built since 2000, while a smaller number of homes were constructed in the 1990s or earlier. This suggests that the town's housing market is relatively modern, with most structures being newer and offering potential for continued residential growth and stability.

Leading Employers

- Willow Dale Wellness Village
- Johnson Propane
- AgState
- Galva-Holstein School District (Holstein)
- VT Industries (Holstein)
- Gomeco (Ida Grove)
- Midwest Industries (Ida Grove)

Critical Facilities

Community Center/Library/City Hall	115 Main St
Maintenance/Ambulance Bldg; Storage Shed	408 1st St
Fire Station	Hwy 175 & Ida St
Police Station/Storage	504 1st St
Water Tower	605 7th St
Water Treatment Plant (North Wells)	502 Chestnut
Salt Shed	506 1st St
Storage Shed	403 Clara St
Treatment Plant/East Wells	100 1st St
Lift Station/Lagoon	
Warning Siren	405 1st St
Shelter	3rd & Center
Baseball Field	Hwy 175
Alumni Park	5th & Maple
Shelter House	603 5th St
Pool & Related Equip/Bldgs	Sec 26
East Park	

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

First State Bank (closing 4/2026)	502 2nd St
United Bank (opening April 2026)	500 2nd St
Christensen-Huffman Funeral Home	608 4th St
Presbyterian Church	600 3rd Street
St. John's Lutheran Church	608 5th Avenue
Fred's Place	106 Main St
Bread Box	104 Main St
BC Bakery	119 Main St
The Inn at Battle Creek (B&B)	201 Maple St
Crawford Creek Recreation Area	Co Rd L51 (Outside city limits)
Sparky's Convenience Store	660 1st St
Nutrien Ag Solutions	701 1st St

Valuation of City Assets

Total Blanket TIV	$	4,555,919
Building	$	4,078,639
Personal Property	$	502,775
Misc Property Sched	$	302,994
Misc Property Unsched	$	232,593
Total TIV	**$**	**5,117,001**

b. Participation

A mitigation planning meeting, facilitated by SIMPCO and Ida County EMA Ed Sohm, was held at Battle Creek City Hall on February 5, 2025 with the following in attendance.

- Charles Pierce, Mayor (as in office Feb 2025)
- Brian Scott, Public Works
- Jeanette Holmes, City Council
- Diane Lansink, City Clerk

In addition to the planning meeting, public input was collected by way of survey. Battle Creek was noted as jurisdiction of residence for 11 respondents.

A review of the Plan including updates and revisions was completed by City Clerk Diane Lansink and newly elected Mayor Jary Vermeys on February 26, 2026. Upon said review, the City of Battle Creek commits to adopting the plan once approved by FEMA.

c. Community Capabilities

Policies/Ordinance	
• Floodplain Ordinance • Nuisance Ordinance	• Tree Trimming Ordinance • Zoning Ordinance
Programs	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190423A
ISO Fire Rating	Class 6/6X
Planning/Zoning Board	
Staff/Department	
NFIP Floodplain Administrator	City Mayor
Non-Governmental Organizations	
Veterans Groups	Legion Post 364
Community Organizations	Lions Club Women's Club Medical Auxiliary
Local Funding Availability	
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water & sewer	
Ability to incur debt through general obligation bonds	
Ability to incur debt through special tax bonds	

The Floodplain Ordinance references FIRM Panels 19093C0203C, 19093C0204C, 19093C02011C. The City of Battle Creek is a member of the NFIP program, though residents are known to be inactive under flood insurance. The Mayor serves as Floodplain Administrator. Battle Creek has zero RL/SRL properties. The city shares a few plans with the county such as Local/County Emergency Plan and County Recovery Plan.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

communication/education		
tools/equipment		
Equipment	Battle Creek	2020: Equipment updates and additions needed for Fire Department and Ambulance Services. *City Council, Fire Chief, Ambulance Director.* (Local funds, fundraisers, community benefit funds, firefighter association funding programs). HIGH PRIORITY
Equipment	Battle Creek	**Complete**. The FD and Ambulance service added several pieces of equipment in recent years including: • 2 grass rigs & tanker ($275,000) – fundraisers, grants • Transfer switch for FD • Compressor to fill air cans • Power Cot ($30,000) • New ambulance ordered – ($287,000) fundraising, grants, service billings, donations
development		
Relocate critical facilities	Battle Creek	2020: Complications from 2019 flooding resulted in need for elevation of the city's sewer lift station. *City Council, City maintenance/waterworks, collaboration with County EMA & Engineer as applicable.* (Local funds, PDM, Bonds/Loans through approved programs) HIGH PRIORITY
Relocate critical facilities	Battle Creek	**Update**. Project was not implemented but is still needed. No estimated timeline for completion as this is highly reliant on available funding sources. Project will carry into 2026 HMP.
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

The city completed a tree inventory in 2024 with removal of dead/diseased trees from rights of way in progress.

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

A review of the NOAA Storm Event database revealed one report specific to Battle Creek between 11/01/2019 and 12/31/2024. It can be expected that Battle Creek suffered the effected of Zone categorized events for both Ida and Woodbury Counties as well.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
BATTLE CREEK	12/15/2021	16:42	Tornado	EF1	0	0	200.00K	0.00K

Priority Hazards

Planning committee discussion and survey response were aligned in determining the following as priority hazards.

- Tornado/Windstorm
- Severe Winter Storm
- Thunderstorm with Hail & Lightning

The committee further discussed severe implications locally from infrastructure failure including roadways, public works/waterworks, and railroad tunnels (coal concerns).

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Battle Creek	**New**. Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to Alert Iowa, Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; water conservation (drought considerations); Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. *City Clerk, County EMA* (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Battle Creek	**New**. Transfer switches are need for critical facilities including: Community Center, City Shed/Ambulance Shed, Lift Station, wells. This meets minimum needs in power outages enabling use of mobile generators available through county or private entities. *City Council, County EMA* (Local general budget funds, PDM, public safety funds as may be available, community benefit funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Battle Creek	**New**. Dedicated generator for lift station &/or wells. One mobile available but insufficient if several systems are cut from power. Primary use is for wells. Estimated cost $50,000. *City Council, County EMA* (Local general budget funds, PDM, public safety funds as may be available, community benefit funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Equipment	Battle Creek	**New**: New radios and operating system is needed. City needs communications improvements to better accommodate mutual aid calls. Current system does not connect with Woodbury County (on a state system) which is problematic for regional and mutual aid needs. Cost estimate not readily available. County EMS/EMA, FD, City Council (Local

		funds general budget, PDM, public safety systems, county funds as may be applicable) HIGH PRIORITY
development		
Relocate critical facilities	Battle Creek	**Carry over**. Project was not implemented but is still needed. No estimated timeline for completion as this is highly reliant on available funding sources. Past flood issues resulted in need for elevation of the city's sewer lift station. As flooding events become more frequent and more extreme, project becomes more dire. *City Council, City maintenance/waterworks, collaboration with County EMA & Engineer as applicable.* (Local general budget funds, PDM, Bonds/Loans through approved programs) HIGH PRIORITY
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

3. Galva

a. Profile

The City of Galva is situated on the northeastern-most border of Ida County and occupies 0.71 square miles. The City lies about two miles north of highway 20, which is the main road that connects to neighboring communities and runs east/west.

City Governance & Community Supports

Galva is governed by a five-person elected Council and the Mayor. Offices in addition to Mayor and Council include City Clerk/Treasurer, Maintenance Supervisor, and City Attorney. The Galva Volunteer Fire Department is managed through the Galva Fire Board, independent from the city, and staffs about more than 20 volunteers. The city contracts with the county for law enforcement and emergency management coordination.

The City of Galva is a member of the NFIP program, though residents are known to be inactive under flood insurance. The city is covered by plans from the county such as Local/County Emergency Plan and County Recovery Plan. Local and area plans as applicable to Galva are itemized under Community Capabilities.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

In 2023, the town of Galva had an estimated population[16] of 432, showing a slight decline from 435 residents in 2020. The community includes 142 households and reports a median household income of $70,714, which is relatively strong. However, despite the higher income level, about 20.6% of residents live below the poverty line, indicating a significant level of economic disparity.

Data sources provide that Galva has a total of 168 housing units, with 143 currently occupied and 25 vacant. Local records reflect a vacancy rate of less than 10 at any given time over the past two years. The town includes a small number of mobile homes, totaling five units. Most residents have moved into their homes since the year 2000, while a smaller number settled in during the 1990s or earlier, showing a blend of newer and more established households in the community. Recent community development has increased the number of homes in the community by two.

Leading Employers

While not hosting a large number of employees, the following businesses, and those as listed under Community Supports, operate and have established a necessary presence in Galva.

Quad County Corn Processors	300 E Third St
Rod's Fertilizer	117 Main St
Galva-Holstein School District	519 E Maple St, Holstein

Critical Facilities

City Hall	116 S Main
City Park/Shelter & Equipment	300 Crawford St
Water Pump House #1	107 N Main
Wastewater Plant	
Lift Station	120 N Main
Water Tower	Noll St
Library	203 S Main

[16] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1929595-galva-ia/

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

US Post Office	2nd and Main
Galva-Holstein 3rd-5th Grade School	207 Noll St.
Galva Economic Development Corporation	1681 Market Ave
United Bank of Iowa	102 Main St
St. John's Lutheran Church	406 Monona St
Legion Hall	

Valuation of City Assets

A current valuation of assets has not been made available. The city will include a valuation as part of cost—benefit analysis should they pursue funding through a mitigation program. It is understood that such assessment will be specific to a given project and may not represent protections or sustainability improvements to the community as a whole.

b. Participation

Facilitated by SIMPCO, a virtual meeting via Teams was conducted on December 12, 2024 at 11AM with Vanessa Harder, City Clerk in attendance. While 28 respondents of the survey were from Ida County, none indicated Galva as residence. Concerns noted as contributing factors are reflected under Priority Hazards.

A follow up review was completed with the City Clerk on March 26, 2026, including additional information, acknowledgement of changes, and commitment to adopt upon FEMA approval.

c. Community Capabilities

Policies/Ordinance	
• Building Code	• Subdivision Ordinance
• Floodplain Ordinance	• Tree Trimming Ordinance
• Nuisance Ordinance	• Zoning Ordinance
Programs	
Planning/Zoning Boards	

Zoning/Land Use Restrictions		
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant		CID #190424A
ISO Fire Rating (served by independent fire dept)	Galva - Class 6; Galva TS FPSA 1 & 2 Class 9/10	
Mutual Aid Agreements	IMAC (in addition to County-wide & Regional agreements)	
Staff/Department		
NFIP Floodplain Administrator	role assumed by the City Mayor	
Non-Government Organizations		
Galva Economic Development Corp		
Local Funding Availability		
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose		
Fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric services		
Ability to incur debt through general obligation bonds		
Ability to incur debt through special tax bonds		
Ability to withhold spending in hazard prone areas		

Among community supports, the Galva City Committee has disbanded and turned over any left-over funding to the Galva Economic Development Corp to use for Shelter House repairs as well as future street bands/town celebrations.

The city participates in the NFIP program with the Mayor serving as Floodplain Administrator. Galva has zero RL/SRL properties.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

Galva had several projects identified in the 2020 Regional Plan. Following is an update to each project as included.

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Galva	2020: Need for secured gate and "Restricted" signage at the sewer plant; *City Maintenance/Public Works* (Local Funds, Community benefit grants) HIGH PRIORITY
Promo/Info	Galva	**Update (In progress)**: Galva is in the process of implementing a Sewer systems project. Securing point of access is part of the project.
Promo/Info	Galva	2020: Interest in obtaining weather radio and additional communications equipment such as handheld radios for direct communication with responders; *City Council, County EMA to assist* (local funds, PDM funds, Community benefit grant funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY

		Update: Handheld radios are not in place.
tools/equipment		
development		
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Galva	2020: Wastewater Plant upgrades are pending response from Iowa DNR. *City Council, IDNR* (IDNR program funds, City funds, State/federal loan programs) HIGH PRIORITY
		Substantially **Completed**. Anticipated project closure Feb 2025. Project costs not provided.
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

In addition to planned and anticipated projects, the city initiated some actions to address tree population changes as affected by the Ash Borer Beetle. The city implemented an urban tree maintenance plan for city properties in 2024 that includes a fee collection beginning 1/1/2025. This program enables monitoring and removal of dead/diseased trees and replacement of trees in parks and other public greenspaces. As a nuisance prevention measure, trees will not be replaced in parking.

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

Record of storm events as tracked in the NOAA database (11/01/2019 – 12/31/2024) include the following incidents directly affecting Galva. In addition to these occurrences, those indicated in the county profile under Ida (Zone) generally affect all communities within the county. Such events include but are not limited to various winter weather conditions, drought, and high winds. Details on these and other storm events as recorded can be accessed online at https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
GALVA	5/2/2021	19:37	Hail	0.88 in.	0	0	0.00K	2.00K
GALVA	12/15/2021	16:58	Tornado	EF0	0	0	75.00K	0.00K
GALVA	4/23/2022	5:10	Thunderstorm Wind	52 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
GALVA	5/30/2022	5:40	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

GALVA	5/30/2022	5:40	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
GALVA	5/30/2022	5:42	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Community condition and features affect Galva's resiliency during natural disasters and other events. While not necessarily a mitigation project, roadway maintenance does directly affect function of and access to/from city operations. As indicated under the County profile, road maintenance is a considerable ongoing expense exacerbated by extreme weather events. Within and extending from Galva city limits, the county completed a seal coating project on M25/Main Street, completing scheduled segments on an annual basis. Galva's 6th Street is undergoing stage 3 of a curb gutter improvements project.

Other local improvements since 2019 include a new wastewater plant that better serves the needs of the community. These investments contribute to operational function as a city. Mitigation projects are intended to protect these and future investments.

Priority Hazards

Galva's priority natural disaster concerns are consistent with those identified in the 2020 HMP as well as the record of recent events.

- Thunderstorms w/Hail & Lightning
- Tornado/Windstorm
- Severe Winter Storm

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Galva	**Carry over**. City intends to continue seeking funds to implement project. Obtain weather radio and additional communications equipment such as handheld radios for direct communication with responders; *City Council, County EMA to assist* (local general budget funds, PDM funds, Community benefit grant funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Promo/Info	Galva	**New**. Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to Alert Iowa, Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; water conservation (drought

		considerations); Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. *City Clerk, County EMA* (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
development		
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Galva	**New**. City Hall façade improvements are in the planning stages. Estimated cost is $25,000, which will in part substantiate building integrity. *City staff, contracted services as applicable*. (Local general budget funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Galva	**New**. Shelter House and other City Park improvements. Project includes improved respite from excessive heat and from intermittent inclement weather. Estimated cost $80,000. *City staff, contracted services as applicable*. (Galva Economic Development Corp funds, community betterment funds, fundraisers, Galva Economic Development Corporation) HIGH PRIORITY
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

4. Holstein

a. Profile

The city of Holstein lies north of center in Ida County, and occupies 1.58 square miles. The City of Holstein remains the second most largest city in Ida County regarding population size and spatial area. US Highways 20 and 59 intersect at the southern portion of the city with US-59 traversing north/south through the center of town.

City Governance & Community Supports

Holstein is governed by a five-person elected council and the Mayor. Offices in addition to Mayor and Council include Deputy Clerk, City Administrator, Public Works, water superintendent, and Chamber of Commerce. The Holstein Fire and Ambulance departments are combined. Two positions lead the Ambulance and Fire Department including the Fire Chief and Ambulance Coordinator. The Department averages about 27 volunteer firefighters. In collaboration with school district trades and career readiness programs, the department may

at any time include juniors and/or cadets. Volunteer positions in general include Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT), Emergency Medical Technicians Advanced (EMTA), and Paramedics.

Governing ordinances, documents, policies, and programs are included in the Community Capabilities portion of this profile.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

In 2023, the city of Holstein had an estimated population[17] of 1,552, reflecting modest growth from 1,501 residents in 2020. The community is made up of 646 households and has a median household income of $61,625. Despite a relatively stable economic profile, about 14.7% of residents live below the poverty line, indicating that some households still face financial challenges.

Holstein has a total of 686 housing units, with 644 currently occupied and 41 vacant. The housing stock includes a small number of mobile homes, with seven in total. Most residents have moved into their homes since 2000, while others have been in their homes since the 1990s or earlier. This mix of newer and longer-term residents reflects a stable and evolving community.

Leading Employers

The following businesses, in addition to those as included in Community Supports listing, operate and/or have established a necessary presence in Holstein.

- V.T. Industries
- First Cooperative
- Galva Holstein Community School
- Good Samaritan Center

Critical Facilities

City Hall; Warning Siren	119 S Main St
Lohff-Schumann Memorial Community Center	301 Lohff-Schumann Dr
Maintenance Office	420 N Main St

[17] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1936840-holstein-ia/

Stubbs Memorial Library	207 E 2nd St,
Sports Complex & Related	
City Park	
Park/Bathhouse & Related	621 S Kiel St
Water Treatment	109 S Kiel St
Wells and Related	
Sand & Equip Storage	
Wells; Control Bldgs	Hwy 20
Water Tower	E Railroad St
Lift Station	302 N Main St
Sewage Lift Station	E 2nd St
Lagoon Lift & Related monitoring equip	German Ave
East Lift Station	11 N Lubeck

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

US Post Office	121 E 2nd St
Ida County Economic Development	101 N Main St
Ridge View High School	519 East Maple St
Galva – Holstein Elementary School	
Little Raptors Daycare and School	
Good Samaritan Society	505 W. 2nd St
Holstein Senior Living (Assisted & Independent)	1500 S Kiel St
AmVets Legion Hall	
Masonic Hall	118 N Main St
Veterans Memorial Hall	121 N Main St
Douglas School (@ Douglas County School Grounds)	135 Union Ave (north & west outside city limits)
Holstein Golf Course	400 Kofmehl Dr
Holstein Country Club	
Holstein Supermarket	109 E 1st St
United Bank of Iowa	116 N Kiel St
St. Paul Lutheran Church	310 E Second St
CrossRidge Evangelical Free Church	Lohff-Schumann Dr
United Methodist Church	208 S Kiel St

Valuation of City Assets

In addition to project updates, the city has invested in several downtown renovations, supporting local property owners through Iowa EDA's Community Catalyst program. Providing in-kind waivers for permits and technical support through architectural plans, Holstein is providing a pathway to improvements, investing not only in public infrastructure but also facilitating private investment.

Based on the city's property schedule statement of value, the city's valuation of assets is $9,283,300. This total includes but is not limited to property, facilities, building contents, vehicles, and machinery. This calculation provides a base value for cost-benefit analysis for mitigation projects likely to impact the whole city. This does not represent private properties/assets. A more in-depth review of affected properties will be conducted specific to projects that may qualify for pre-disaster or mitigation funding.

b. Participation

In an-person planning meeting was conducted at Holstein City Hall on August 6, 2024. The meeting was facilitated by SIMPCO with Tammy Nuckolls, City Administrator in attendance. Of the 28 Ida County responses to the survey, none indicated Holstein as residence.

c. Community Capabilities

Plans/Guidance Documents	
• Comprehensive Plan • Capital Improvement Plan	• Land Use Plan
Policies/Ordinance - recodification in progress (@ time of planning meeting)	
• Nuisance Ordinance • Subdivision Ordinance	• Tree Trimming Ordinance • Zoning Ordinance
Programs	
Zoning/Land Use Restrictions	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190593A
ISO Fire Rating	Class 6
Planning/Zoning Boards	

Tree Trimming Program	
Mutual Aid Agreements	IMAC (in addition to County-wide & Regional agreements)
Staff/Department	
Engineer – contracted (ISG)	
Public Works Official	
Emergency Response Team	Fire and Ambulance Department
Non-Governmental Organizations	
American Legion/AmVets	
Community Organizations	• Holstein Betterment Alliance • Holstein Chamber of Commerce • Holstein Development Authority
Local Funding Availability	
Ability to apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric services	
Ability to incur debt through	• general obligation bonds
	• special tax bonds
	• private activities

The city participates in the NFIP program with the City Administrator serving as Floodplain Administrator. Holstein has zero RL/SRL properties.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

communication/education		
Warning Sirens	Holstein	2020: Additional warning siren would benefit City - potential location near south end of town near CharMac, Ridgeview, Cobblestone Inn; *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Warning Sirens	Holstein	**Update**. Project carried over to 2026 Plan as siren is still needed. Community will continue to review grant and funding support opportunities as well as assess feasibility of fundraising to boost local fund options. Expected cost is in excess of $15,000. Project will maintain MEDIUM PRIORITY.
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Holstein	2020: Permanent, dedicated generators @ lift stations & water plant; *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY

Generator & Related Projects	Holstein	**Update**: The City has received quotes to initiate the project. Planned cost is $197,000. Support funding has not been secured. This carries over into the project list for the 2026 Plan.
Equipment	Holstein	2020: Additional snow removal equipment; *City Council, Public Works/Maintenance* (Local funds) LOW PRIORITY
Equipment	Holstein	**Completed** (pending delivery). Equipment has been purchased but item is on backorder. Expected availability May 2025.
Equipment	Holstein	**Implemented** (pending delivery). City has ordered an ambulance. Cost not provided. City council, Emergency Services. (Local funds, fundraising).
development		
flow control		
Drainage projects	Holstein	2020: Sidewalk trail at ball field and rec center with drainage project incorporated; *City Administration, Contracted services, County collaboration for trail projects* (Health & Wellness funds, Transportation Alternatives funds, Local funds, fundraisers, Walk/Bike program funds) LOW PRIORITY
Drainage projects	Holstein	**Update**. No work has been done to date. Project is still needed, but remains low priority due to lack of readily available funding supports.
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		
Stabilization	Holstein	2020: Drainage projects to stabilize dirt in areas prone to washout; *City Maintenance/Streets* (Local funds, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
Stabilization	Holstein	**Update**: **Carry over**. Efforts are ongoing with consideration being given to more long-term solutions. Determination of such action has not been made. Project will carry to 2026 Plan, retaining HIGH PRIORITY.
Stabilization	Holstein	2020: Substantiate barriers @ gateway to community; *City administration, County Engineer, EMA* (Local funds, County funds, PDM, Community benefit grant funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Stabilization	Holstein	**Project closed**. No update on this activity is available. Community is not intending further action on this project at this time.

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

Holstein is working on updating its Local Emergency Operations Plan and establishing a chain of command to be implemented in the event of a disaster. Also under consideration is the designation of a warming/storm shelter to reduce risk of exposure to residents during extreme weather events, especially during power outages. Another factor in assessing the community's capacity to prepare for and withstand disaster is the inclusion of monitoring cameras at the city pool, providing an extra level of security should an incident take place. The city has a local newsletter accessible by all residents which is often used to communicate public service

information including but not limited to disaster preparedness and promotion of subscribing to emergency notification services (such as Alert Iowa).

A review of the NOAA Storm Event database provided two incident reports specific to Holstein between 11/01/2019 and 12/31/2024 as shown in the following table. Additional detail can be found at the online NOAA website at https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/ or by clicking the embedded link in the table.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
HOLSTEIN	5/12/2022	18:40	Thunderstorm Wind	70 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
HOLSTEIN	6/23/2024	4:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Notably, 85 Ida County *Zone* events as recorded are also considered for reference (see Ida County profile for details).

Priority Hazards

Consistent with recorded storm events, Holstein has identified the following as priority hazards.

- Tornado/Windstorm
- Severe Winter Storm
- Thunderstorm w/Hail & Lightning

Flash flooding as prevalent during heavy rain events is a matter of some concern. However, such events have not resulted in disruption of services within the community nor have they incurred notable damages. It is important to note that Holstein's proximity to the US 20 corridor brings additional consideration of transportation and hazardous materials incidents. Local amenities are impacted during extreme weather events with potential influx of visitors who may otherwise just be passing through.

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

Following are Holstein's strategies to reduce the impacts of natural disasters and other hazards.

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Holstein	**New**. Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to Alert Iowa; Water conservation; Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. City Clerk, County EMA (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
Warning Sirens	Holstein	**Carry over.** Project carried over to 2026 Plan as siren is still needed. Community will continue to review grant and funding support opportunities as well as assess feasibility of fundraising to boost local fund options. Expected cost is in excess of $15,000. Additional warning siren would benefit City - potential location near south end of town near CharMac, Ridgeview, Cobblestone Inn; *City Council, County EMA* (Local general budget funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Holstein	**Carry over**. Permanent, dedicated generators @ lift stations & water plant. The City has received quotes to initiate the project. Planned cost is $197,000. Support funding has not been secured. Anticipated for completion in 026/2027 fiscal year. *City Council, County EMA* (Local general budget funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, pre-disaster/mitigation funds as available, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
development		
flow control		
Drainage projects	Holstein	**Carry over**. Sidewalk trail at ball field and rec center with drainage project incorporated; *City Administration, Contracted services, County collaboration for trail projects* (Health & Wellness funds, Transportation Alternatives funds, Local funds, fundraisers, Walk/Bike program funds) LOW PRIORITY
Drainage projects	Holstein	**New**. Drainage system improvements on Benning Dr anticipated for bid Spring 2026. Public Works (General budget, PDM as may be applicable.) HIGH PRIORITY
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		
Stabilization	Holstein	**Carry over**. Drainage projects to stabilize dirt in areas prone to washout; Efforts are ongoing with consideration being given to more long-term solutions. Determination of such action has not been made. *City Maintenance/Streets* (Local general fund, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY

5. Ida Grove

a. Profile

The City of Ida Grove is situated slightly south and center of Ida County, and occupies 2.2 square miles. Highway 175 and Highway 59 travel east and west through the northern part of Ida Grove. Maple River runs through the east and north borders of the Ida Grove. Currently the Chicago

and Northwestern Railroad travels through the center of the city, carrying product for commerce.

City Governance & Community Supports

Ida Grove is governed by a six-person elected council including the Mayor. City staff and supports include:

- City Clerk
- Deputy Clerk
- Administrative Assistant
- Library Director
- Librarian & Library Assistant
- Parks Superintendent
- Recreation Center Director
- Wastewater Superintendent
- City Crew & Foreman
- City Attorney

Ida Grove also has a Planning and Zoning Commission, Board of Adjustment, Tree Board, and several standing committees. The Ida Grove Volunteer Fire Department consists of about 25 firefighters. Ida Grove Fire Department is funded by a combination of township fire fees, city funding, and donations. The city takes part in the enhanced 911 system through the Ida County Communications Center.

The Ida Grove Ambulance service is voluntary averaging 19 crewmembers. The facility is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Ida Grove Ambulance Service response to emergencies in Ida Grove and surrounding areas. The department also provides emergent transfers from the local hospital to higher levels of care. The City of Ida Grove is a member of the NFIP program, though residents are known to be inactive under flood insurance. A Comprehensive Plan and CIP were reviewed in 2019 (estimated).

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

In 2023, Ida Grove's estimated population[18] decreased from 2,051 residents in 2020 to 1,904. The city is home to 901 households and has a median household income of $63,194. With a poverty

[18] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1938010-ida-grove-ia/

rate of 8.4%, a relatively small portion of the population lives below the poverty line, suggesting a generally stable economic environment for most residents.

Ida Grove has 1,094 housing units in total, with 897 of them occupied and 197 vacant. The town has a small portion of mobile homes within its housing stock. A large majority of residents have moved into their homes since 2000, while a smaller number have settled in during the 1990s or before, reflecting a blend of newer and older residences across the community.

Leading Employers

The following businesses operate and have established a necessary presence in Ida Grove.

- Gomaco
- Midwest Industries
- Horn Memorial Hospital
- Odebolt Arthur-Battle Creek Ida Grove Community School District
- UBI

Critical Facilities

City Hall	403 Third St
Fire Station	409 1st St
Library & Related, etc.	103 E 2nd St
Water Tower; Water Dept Related	100½ 7th St
Lift Station	88½ E Hwy 175
Lift Station	E Hwy 175
Lift Station	800 Walnut St
Maintenance Bldg (Streets)	1200 1st St
Wastewater Treatment Plant & Related Sewer Works	
Treatment Plant & Related; Wells	2375 Keystone Ave
Badger Creek Lift Station	206 Rohwer St
Zobels Lift Station	811 S Main
Moorehead Lift Station	100 Moorehead Ave
Hilcrest Lift Station	465½ Pin Oak

Oak Grove Lift Station	200½ Susan Lawrence
Pump House	403 Iowa St
Various Parks, Walking Trail & Related	
Baseball Facility & Related	901 John Montgomery Drive
City Park & Related	207 Washington St
Parks Dept, Misc	10 Washington St
Swimming Pool & Related Bldgs/Equip	101 E 2nd St
Pool & Related Bldgs, Equip	101 Barnes St
Municipal Airport	Office & related Bldgs
Rec Center/Indoor Pool	311 Barnes St
Castle Battlement	US 59 & Harold Godberson Dr
Zobels Park	Main St & Badger Creek Dr

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

OABCIG Elementary School	Ida Bowl
OABCIG High School	Ida Grove Golf and Country Club
Cobb Memorial Park	Ida Grove Skate Palace
Dewey's Bar & Grill	King Theatre
The Farmacy	Moorehead House Museum
Food Pride	Moorehead Park
Gathering Place (Event Venue)	Taco Island
Golden Horizons	Zimmy's Bar & Grill
Horn Memorial Hospital	

Valuation of City Assets

Using Ida grove's ICAP policy effective through 2025, the city's base property valuation is $26,187,926. This dollar amount sets estimated foundation for cost-benefit analysis for projects that mitigate a given disaster or other hazard that may affect the community as a whole. Complete reconstruction of City Hall was completed within the last few years removing accessibility barriers and addressing structural concerns. The new structure increases the city's base valuation and provides an additional safe space in the event of disasters or other emergency conditions.

Road infrastructure including but not limited to overlay and bridges, is not included in the valuation, nor is any private property or county facilities. A specified valuation of properties, facilities, and infrastructure within an given area of potential effect will be included in cost-benefit analysis for all projects submitted for funding requests.

b. Participation

An in-person planning meeting was held in Ida Grove on October 7, 2024. SIMPCO facilitated the meeting with the following city staff in attendance.

- Heather Sweeden, City Clerk
- Kelly Young, Deputy City Clerk
- Gerrod Sholty, Crew Foreman

The above meeting attendees included representation of interests and comments from city councilmembers. Ida Grove Councilmembers bring stakeholder involvement not only as residents and elected officials, but as professionals in local organizations and industry. Businesses specifically identified include GOMACO and Hawkeye Fabrication.

Of 28 surveys collected for Ida County, 15 indicated Ida Grove as respondent's residence. Compiled results regarding concerns related to natural disasters and other hazards are included for discussion under the community Risk Assessment section of this profile.

A final review of the Plan was completed by the City Clerk on February 25, 2026. Upon review, the City has acknowledged changes included since their last input meeting and has confirmed agreement to adopt the plan once approved by FEMA.

c. Community Capabilities

In addition to County, Region, and State supports, the city has the following resources in place.

Plans/Guidance Documents
Comprehensive Plan

Capital Improvement Plan	
Policies/Ordinance	
• Building Code • Ditch Maintenance (including restrictions) • Floodplain Ordinance • Nuisance Ordinance	• Subdivision Ordinance • Tree Trimming Ordinance • Zoning Ordinance
Programs	
Zoning/Land Use Restrictions	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190156A
ISO Fire Rating	Ida Grove FD – Class 4/4Y
Planning/Zoning Boards	
Tree Trimming Program	
Mutual Aid Agreements	Fire; IMAC (in addition to County and Region agreements)
Staff/Department	
Emergency Response Team	Fire and Ambulance Department
Non-Governmental Organizations	
Veterans Groups	
Chamber of Commerce	
Ida Grove Economic Development	
Ida County Economic Development	
Community Organizations	• Kiwanis • Ida Grove Community Foundation • Ida Grove Community Partners
Local Funding Availability	
Ability to apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Ability to fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water & sewer services	
Ability to incur debt through general obligation bonds	

The city participates in the NFIP program with the City Clerk serving as Floodplain Administrator. Ida Grove has zero RL/SRL properties. The city's floodplain ordinance was updated and adopted on May 11, 2022 by Ordinance 606 when new FIRMs were completed. The new FIRMs were effective 6/1/2022 and include the following panel numbers:

- 19093C0226C
- 19093C0227C
- 19093C0228C
- 19093C0229C
- 19093CIND0A (this is the FIRM / map index)

Active in community betterment efforts, the city's numerous actions are discussed by heading throughout this profile. Ida Grove is implementing several other strategies that reduce the risk to property and lives of its residents and visitors in the event of natural disasters. Among existing and planned actions are:

- continued use of AlertIA for boil advisories and other emergency information; program registration is promoted routinely through city website and Facebook.
- tightening of enforcement on abandoned and dilapidated buildings, including adoption of building code and property maintenance standards (SUDAS, IBC, IPMC) by reference,
- maintaining city code updates annually to address changes at the state level
- continue efforts to maintain dead and diseased trees with 300 trees scheduled for removal in city right-of-way (funding needed)
- replacement of trees in parks and public greenspace at the rate of about 20 per year over 5 years (grant received)

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

The following table provides updates to projects as identified in 2020. Other efforts to improve disaster preparedness includes some work toward hydrant assessments and replacement to optimize functionality and capacity.

communication/education		
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Ida Grove	2020: Transfer switches at all critical facilities to enable use of generators; Generators @ Critical Facilities including Waste Water Plant; *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Ida Grove	**Partially completed**. Water Tower and Well Site improvements included necessary connections. Odebolt Creek Lift Station is ready for portable

		connection. Water Plant updates included a transfer switch and plumbing of gas lines ($30,000). A generator has not been purchased for the water treatment facility. That and additional connections and generators are still needed and project will carry into 2026 Plan.
Equipment	Ida Grove	2020: Snow removal equipment needs updating. *City Streets Department* (City funds) LOW PRIORITY
Equipment	Ida Grove	**Update**. Action not taken. Project still needed. Carry to 2026 plan. **Carry over**. City in need of small tractor with can and blower on front to facilitate and improve snow removal. *City Streets Department* (City general funds) LOW PRIORITY
Equipment	Ida Grove	2020: Motor in the grader needs updating. City Streets Dept (City funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Equipment	Ida Grove	Completed. Motorgrader replaced in 2022.
Equipment	Ida Grove	2020: Larger capacity pump; *Public Works, Streets Dept* (City Funds, PDM, Community Benefit funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Equipment	Ida Grove	**Update**. Action not taken. Project still needed. Carry to 2026 plan. **Carry over**. large pump our 4" gas powered pump needs replaced. *Wastewater dept*. (Loca general fund) HIGH PRIORITY.
Equipment	Ida Grove	2020: New booster pump is needed to support fire hydrant performance. *Fire Chief, City Administrator* (City funds, Fire Dept funds, Response support funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Equipment	Ida Grove	Action not reported. Project is removed from the priority list.
development		
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Ida Grove	2020: Casements along 7th St (Badger Creek); *City Roads Dept, collaborate with County Engineer* (City funds, IDOT Program funds, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
		Update: Still needed. Action not taken due to lack of dedicated funding. Continues to be a very big issue. Cost estimates around $200,000 for mitigation.
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Ida Grove	2020: Full renovation of City Hall & attached community center/senior center, starting with roof. City project Manager, Council (Community Catalyst Building Remediation funds, Private funds, City funds, Connections Area Agency on Aging, AARP Healthy Communities funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Ida Grove	**Complete**. City Hall was completely reconstructed.
Relocate critical facilities	Ida Grove	2020: Lift station needs raising -- Hillcrest (Off 5th St); *City Water & Public Works Depts* (City funds, IDNR, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
Relocate critical facilities	Ida Grove	**Update**. Lift replacement still needed at Hillcrest Lift Station. Carry over project to 2026 HMP.
Bridges & Roads	Ida Grove	2020: Potential paving project on 6th St to improve drainage; City Streets Dept (City funds, Transportation funds, PDM) LOW PRIORITY
Bridges & Roads	Ida Grove	**Update**. Project still needed and includes drainage along with noted street repair needs
flow control		
Drainage projects	Ida Grove, OABCIG	2020: Drainage improvements are needed between the high school and Badger Creek; *City Administrator, School Board or Plant Engineering, IDNR* (Local funds, School District funds, IDNR program funds) HIGH PRIORITY

Drainage projects	Ida Grove	2020: There is interest in improving drainage at Cobb Park - raise elevation, pump to drain; *City Administrator, IDNR* (Local funds, IDNR program funds, PDM) LOW PRIORITY
Drainage projects	Ida Grove	**Complete**. Addressing some of the needs expressed in the 2 projects indicated above, the City has implemented a $200,000 drainage project, installing a 36" tube along 7th Street.
refuge		
Shelter	Ida Grove	2020: Issue formal recommendation for owners to add cement refuge shelter to trailer park to accommodate its four (4) residents; *City Administrator, Property Owner(s), Residents* (Local funds, private funds, Response support funds, PDM pending classification of facility) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Shelter	Ida Grove	Update - **Resolved**. The City has opted to designate the Rec Center as refuge/shelter location in the event of disasters. As such, a new project is added under "Generators" to substantiate use during extreme events that may include power outages.
technology		
natural barriers/supports		
Stabilization	Ida Grove	2020: Rip rap needed @ Moorhead Ave Bridge; *City administration & Streets Dept, County Engineer* (Local funds, if scheduled accordingly State/Federal Transpo funds PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
Stabilization	Ida Grove	**Update**. Bridges are inspected every 2 years. 6 bridges are receiving ongoing erosion control (rip rap). Two bridges are scheduled for major repairs within the next 5 years as noted under New Projects: Bridges & Roads.
Stabilization	Ida Grove	**Complete**. Moorhead Ave reconstruction completed in 2022 with nearly $2.24M invested. Funding sources include $1M in SWAP funding was designated for this project.

Several other projects are in the works for the Ida Grove community, including but not limited to the following.

- Completed Water Systems Improvement Project. Started in 2021, 3 phases as follows:

  1. Meter replacement (whole town) and AMI reader on the water tower
  2. Water tower sandblast and paint – interior and exterior; Added mixer
  3. Drilled a new well (#9), added generator at well site north of town, updated chlorination system.

  Project total about $2.4 million (SRF loan)

- Sewer Improvement Project. Final plans approved by council but bids far exceeded estimated costs. Need is urgent. However, local funds cannot cover balance of project.

USDA forgivable loan availability has been capped at $1M. Project was bid at $20M, with expectation that other loans and residents would cover expense. Currently not feasible. City will continue seeking viable options to improve plant. Replacement would still assume use of existing facility/building.

- Currently an RBC plant and going to aero mod plant
- Currently haul sludge, will be going to a press dry system (cakes)
- Current layout will all be moved/repurposed, updated lighting, electrical, enclosure

Ida Grove woman hit by train

Published by admin on Mon, 10/03/2022 - 10:50pm

A frightening accident occurred in Ida Grove last Monday evening when a train collided with a pedestrian at the railway crossing of Washington Street.

A railway worker reported that a woman was walking across the tracks while the train was coming. The conductor pulled the emergency brake, but the train was going too fast to stop in time.

The woman was hit and dragged several feet. The railway worker relayed that while she was injured, the woman was still conscious after the crash. Emergency crews transported her to the hospital.

https://www.idacountycourier.com/content/ida-grove-woman-hit-train *Ida Grove woman hit by train*. Published by admin on Mon, 10/03/2022 - 10:50pm (June 10, 2025)

of portion of building, etc.

- Estimated cost is about $11 million (USDA loan)
- Iowa/Washington Street: I attached some documentation of that. Stormwater runoff issue for years. Floods basement of a couple homeowners. (LOST funding)

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

Among its efforts to reduce risk and effects of natural disasters and other hazards, Ida Grove is taking steps to address abandoned and dilapidated buildings. The city also worked with Iowa DNR to complete a tree assessment.

Survey respondents indicate mixed messages on mitigation efforts and impacts of hazardous weather and other events. Several comments relate to drainage issues/concerns which reflect a noted priority for Flash Flooding. Several responses indicate an understanding of the high expense of infrastructure maintenance while still noting insufficient functionality of same. Ability to operate small business during extreme incidents and assuring access to medical services are clear priorities. There is an assumption that certain areas are better maintained than others. For this reason, a transparent schedule of maintenance is recommended within city planning efforts.

Storm events as recorded through the NOAA database include 17 measured incidents specific to Ida Grove and the Ida Grove Airport. Those occurrences are in addition to the 85 recorded events for the Ida "Zone" impacting the county as a whole.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
IDA GROVE	6/5/2020	0:53	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA GROVE	6/5/2020	0:57	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA GROVE	6/5/2020	0:59	Hail	2.50 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA GROVE	6/5/2020	0:59	Hail	1.50 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA GROVE	6/5/2020	1:06	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA GROVE	8/10/2020	8:20	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	1.00K	0.00K
IDA GROVE	6/16/2021	20:34	Thunderstorm Wind	52 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA GROVE	6/16/2021	20:52	Hail	0.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	233.00K
IDA GROVE	6/16/2021	21:00	Hail	1.25 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA GROVE	6/16/2021	21:02	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA GROVE MUNI ARPT	8/30/2021	20:54	Hail	0.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA GROVE	4/12/2022	16:57	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

IDA GROVE	4/12/2022	16:57	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA GROVE MUNI ARPT	4/12/2022	19:02	Thunderstorm Wind	52 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA GROVE MUNI ARPT	5/19/2022	22:49	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
IDA GROVE	5/30/2022	5:33	Thunderstorm Wind	65 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Priority Hazards

Maintained from the 2020 HMP, the city finds the following to be priority hazards.

- Tornado/Windstorm
- Severe Winter Storm
- Thunderstorm w/Hail & Lightning

Survey respondents noted "very concerned" at the highest rate consistent with the city's identified priority hazards. In the section requiring selection of top three concerns, Flash Flooding exceeded Thunderstorms w/ Hail & Lightning. Of the 19 categorized natural disasters and other hazards, 10 or more resident respondents indicated at least some level of concern for all but six, with the highest frequency noted for Infrastructure Failure (14 of 15). Top three as determined by survey respondents is consistent in Ida Grove and the county overall showing #1 – Tornado/Windstorm, #2 – Severe Winter Weather, and #3 – Flash Flooding.

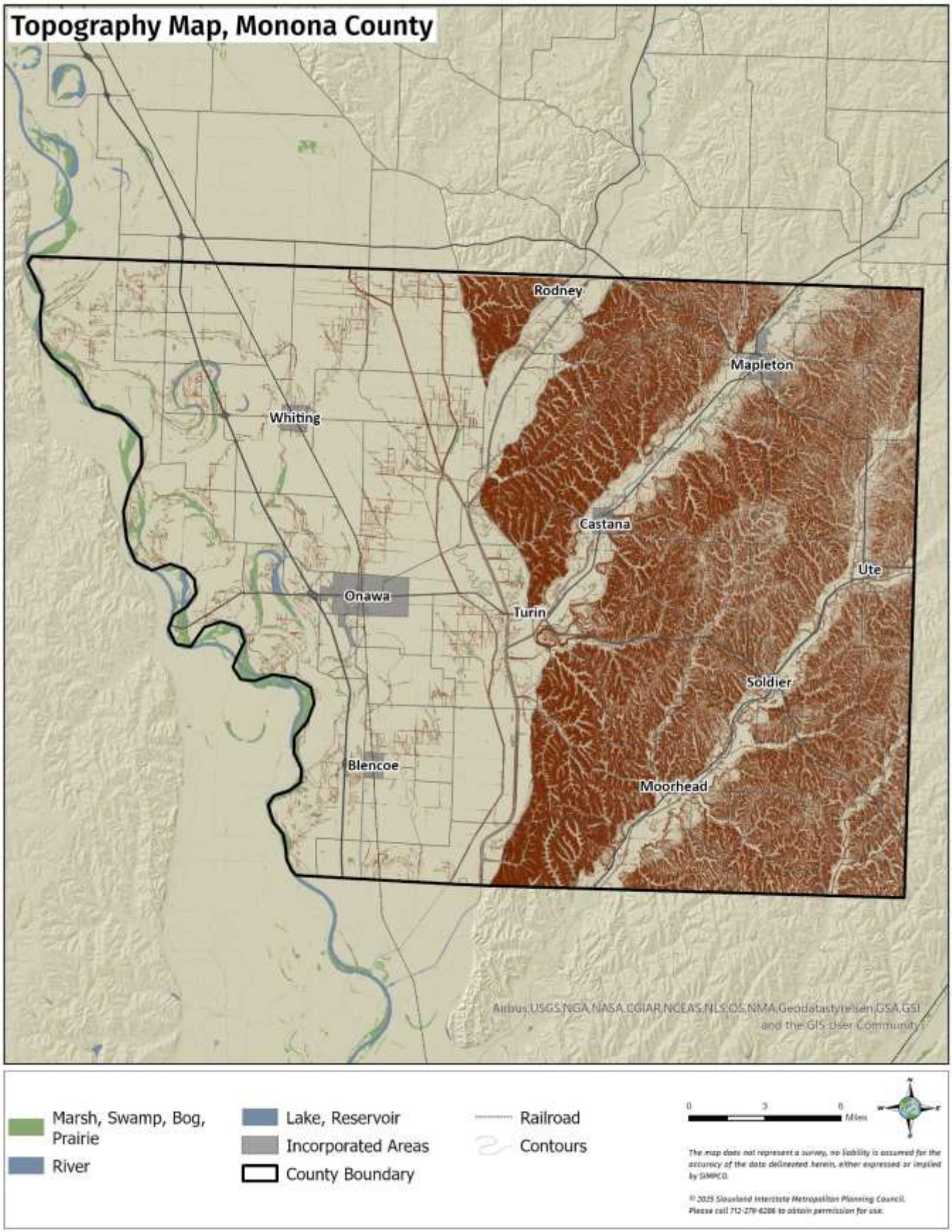
e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

Projects developed or needed to address Ida Grove's mitigation needs are provided in the following table.

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Ida Grove	**New.** City promotes county-based alerts including advisory notifications from weather to other issues such as boil advisories and additional urgent notifications requiring immediate action. City plans to increase community awareness of alert system as well as other disaster mitigation education. *City Clerk, Public Works, County EMA, other Department heads as applicable*. (Local general budget funds, safety grants, weather preparedness program funds if available) HIGH PRIORITY.
Warning Sirens	Ida Grove	**New.** The city is planning to replace or upgrade the sirens located at 4th & Moorhead Streets, 7th & Rowher Streets, and on the 600 block of N Main and N 2nd Streets. *City Maintenance Crew, County EMA*. (Local – community benefits

		grants as may be available, PDM, Emergency Response/Public Safety program funds as may be available) HIGH PRIORITY
Warning Sirens	Ida Grove	**New.** City is in urgent need of adding a 4th warning siren to serve the south side of town. Local fund availability is extremely limited. *City Maintenance Crew, County EMA*. (Local – community benefits grants as may be available, PDM, Emergency Response/Public Safety program funds as may be available) HIGH PRIORITY
Assessment/Study	Ida Grove	**New**: Interested in pursuing a study re: long term street repairs. Issues include drainage and flow control in addition to surface maintenance. Project in review stage and cost not readily determined. City Clerk, Streets Superintendent, Public Works, contracted engineering firm, regulatory bodies as may be applicable – County Roads, IA DOT. (Local funds, STBG/Road use funds as may be approved, local foundation grants). MEDIUM PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Ida Grove	**Carry over**. Dedicated generators needed at Water Treatment facility, City Hall and Moorhead Avenue. An additional portable generator is needed to serve all lift stations with that one generator dedicated to moving between stations as appropriate. *City Crew, County EMA* (Local general budget funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Ida Grove	**New**. Generator needed at Rec Center to facilitate function as refuge/shelter designation during disasters and other extreme hazard events. *City Council, Public Works, County EMA* (Local general budget funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Ida Grove	**New**. Generator needed (urgent) at Maintenance Shop to ensure access to, and function of critical equipment during disasters and other extreme hazard events. Current estimated cost is quoted at $16,500 (not including gas piping). *City Council, Public Works, County EMA* (Local contribution reliant on general fund and grant opportunities, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Equipment	Ida Grove	**Carry over**. City in need of small tractor with can and blower on front to facilitate and improve snow removal. *City Streets Department* (City general funds) LOW PRIORITY
Equipment	Ida Grove	**Carry over**. large pump our 4" gas powered pump needs replaced. *Wastewater dept*. (Loca general fund) HIGH PRIORITY.
development		
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Ida Grove	**Carry over**. Casements along 7th St (Badger Creek); *City Roads Dept, collaborate with County Engineer* (City general budget funds, IDOT Program funds, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Ida Grove	**New**. Water/Sewer Treatment Facility upgrades are in progress. System is undergoing modification from mechanical treatment to an anaerobic process. Early estimate is $11M; set for bid early 2-25. *City utilities. Public Works*. (Local general budget, Water utility fees, USDA/IDNR as may be applicable) HIGH PRIORITY
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Ida Grove	**New**. Hydrant replacements are planned citywide addressing approximately 25% of the city's hydrants, primarily located on the central and north sides of town. Priority reflects limited viability for funds for full implementation as urgently as needed. *City Maintenance, Fire Department*. (Grant options needed, Department allocations as match; Public Safety funds as may be applicable, PDM) MEDIUM PRIORITY

Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Ida Grove	**Carry Over**. Lift replacement still needed at Hillcrest Lift Station. Cost estimate not immediately available. *Public Works*. (Local general budget, Water utility fees, USDA/IDNR as may be applicable) HIGH PRIORITY
Bridges & Roads	Ida Grove	**Carry over**. Paving project on 6th St to improve drainage; Project still needed. Cost estimated at $1.4M includes drainage along with noted street repair needs. *City Streets Dept* (City general budget funds, Transportation funds, FMA/Disaster mitigation Disaster response funding as available) LOW PRIORITY
Bridges & Roads	Ida Grove	**New:** Funding has been awarded to fix Main Street bridge at $1.5M, including major repairs. *Streets Dept.* (City budget, Transportation funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Bridges & Roads	Ida Grove	**New:** Funding for Washington Street bridge is pending and anticipated within the next few years. *Streets Department, IA DOT* (City budget, Transportation funds, IA DOT) HIGH PRIORITY
Bridges & Roads	Ida Grove	**New**. City has 6 bridges requiring significant maintenance2 are shown as New Projects in the 2026 HMP. Four bridges remain as needed projects, with lower priority due to lack of known funding opportunities. *City Streets Dept.* (City general budget funds, Transportation funds, Disaster Response/Disaster Mitigation funds as available) LOW PRIORITY
Bridges & Roads	Ida Grove	**New**. Resurfacing needed on 2nd St & 6th St. Estimated cost based on recently completed similar project is $300K each. *City Streets Dept*. (Local road use funds, local general budget funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Bridges & Roads	Ida Grove	**New**. Many road repair projects throughout town are needed due to deterioration/crumbling. Damage is significant, however lack of funding may delay implementation. *City Streets Dept*. (Local general budget funds, Disaster mitigation as may be applicable, others TBD) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Bridges & Roads	Ida Grove	**New**. E. 2nd St resurfacing (including drainage improvements). Approximately ¼ of project has been completed with an estimated cost of $1M to fully implement. Project is significant in maintaining access during evacuation events, for routine transportation pathways, and for emergency services. *Streets/Roads Department*. (Local operations fund, Road use funds, additional to be determined. $300K investment. *City Streets Dept.* (Local funds).
flow control		
Flood protection	Ida Grove	**New & In Progress**. The Army Corps of Engineers is completing a Slip Lining Levee project in Ida Grove on the Moorhead Park side of the levee. Implementation date, cost, and funding sources not provided. *US ACE* (ARPA) HIGH PRIORITY
Drainage projects	Ida Grove	**New**. Storm sewers and culverts citywide need of drudging with Moorhead Ave and US 175 being highest priority. Cost estimate not immediately available. *City Streets Dept* (Local general budget funds, disaster mitigation funds as available, other funds TBD) HIGH PRIORITY
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		
Stabilization	Ida Grove	**New**. Stabilization as a project carries over to the 2026 Plan. Particular needs at Railroad St at Badger Creek. Significant erosion. Steep pitch of bank complicates stabilization. *City administration & Streets Dept, County Engineer* (Local general budget funds, if scheduled accordingly State/Federal Transpo funds PDM) HIGH PRIORITY


Topography Map, Monona County
Rodney
Mapleton
Whiting
Castana
Ute
Onawa
Turin
Soldier
Blencoe
Moorhead
Airbus,USGS,NGA,NASA,CGIAR,NCEAS,NLS,OS,NMA,Geodatastyrelsen,GSA,GSI and the GIS User Community
Marsh, Swamp, Bog, Prairie
River
Lake, Reservoir
Incorporated Areas
County Boundary
Railroad
Contours
0
3
6
Miles
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C. Monona County

Profile – Unincorporated Area & County

Monona County is located near the center of Iowa's western boundary. The County is bordered by Woodbury County to the north, Crawford County to the east, Harrison County to the south, and the state of Nebraska across the Missouri River, to the west. Monona is approximately 699 square miles in size.

Rivers & Watersheds

The western border of Monona County is the Missouri River. Other significant rivers in the County include the Maple River, Soldier River, and the West Fork of the Little Sioux River.
There are five (5) watersheds within the County that drain storm water and snow melt into streams and lakes, wetland areas, or into groundwater reserves. These watersheds are Blackbird-Soldier Watershed, Little Sioux Watershed, Monona-Harrison Ditch Watershed, Maple Watershed, and Boyer Watershed. Regional breakdown for watersheds is provided within *Region Planning Area* information. The following map depicts the sub-watersheds within those as listed above. Subwatersheds are determined based on hydrologic unit code (HUC) level 12, which includes more detail including tributary data.

In addition to the dams as provided in Title II *Hazards*, part B. *Definitions* listing, the following table shows all low hazard classification dams as on record for Monona County. All have a condition assessment of "Not Rated" and an EAP of "NR".

Dam Name	*NIDID*	*Dam Name*	*NIDID*
ANDRESEN/COBERLY DAM	IA01885	MC CALL SUBWATERSHED 1-2182	IA02763
ARCOLA SUBWATERSHED SITE 1-5084	IA02725	MC CALL SUBWATERSHED M-17070	IA02764
ARCOLA SUBWATERSHED SITE 2-3090	IA02724	MC CALL SUBWATERSHED SITE 10-2	IA00765
ARCOLA SUBWATERSHED SITE B-3000	IA02726	MC CALL SUBWATERSHED SITE 10-3	IA00764
ARCOLA SUBWATERSHED SITE B-5350	IA02727	MC CALL SUBWATERSHED SITE 30-1	IA00773
ARCOLA SUBWATERSHED STA 44+80	IA00755	MC CALL SUBWATERSHED SITE 32-1	IA00774
ARNOLD-ARMSTRONG SUBWTRSHD 64+00 #25	IA00789	MC CALL SUBWATERSHED SITE 8-1	IA00762
ARNOLD-ARMSTRONG SUBWTRSHD SITE 3A-3050	IA02728	MC CALL SUBWATERSHED SITE M-1	IA00768
ARNOLD-ARMSTRONG SUBWTRSHD SITE M-14195	IA02729	MC CALL SUBWATERSHED SITE M-2	IA00767

ARNOLD-ARMSTRONG SUBWTRSHD STA 127+05	IA00785	MC CALL SUBWATERSHED SITE M-3	IA00766
ARNOLD-ARMSTRONG SUBWTRSHD STA 171+55	IA00784	MC CALL SUBWATERSHED SITE M-5	IA00761
ARNOLD-ARMSTRONG SUBWTRSHD STA 190+78	IA00783	MC MASTERS SUBWATERSHED 2703	IA02765
ARNOLD-ARMSTRONG SUBWTRSHD STA 2+05 #3	IA00779	MC MASTERS SUBWATERSHED 3075	IA02768
ARNOLD-ARMSTRONG SUBWTRSHD STA 23+00	IA00781	MC MASTERS SUBWATERSHED 3907	IA02766
ARNOLD-ARMSTRONG SUBWTRSHD STA 243+48	IA00782	MC MASTERS SUBWATERSHED 4592	IA02767
ARNOLD-ARMSTRONG SUBWTRSHD STA 62+89 #1	IA00780	McHugh Dam	IA04180
ARNOLD-ARMSTRONG SUBWTRSHD STA 69+48	IA00787	MIKE MIKKELSON SUBWATERSHED 11-3227	IA02776
ARNOLD-ARMSTRONG SUBWTRSHD STA 76+60 #3	IA00778	MIKE MIKKELSON SUBWATERSHED 3-1630	IA02769
ARNOLD-ARMSTRONG SUBWTRSHD STA 99+95	IA00786	MIKE MIKKELSON SUBWATERSHED 5-10316	IA02770
ARNOLD-ARMSTRONG SUBWTRSHD STA27+80 #26	IA00790	MIKE MIKKELSON SUBWATERSHED 5-13484	IA02771
BAKER SUBWATERSHED SITE 1-3	IA00801	MIKE MIKKELSON SUBWATERSHED 5-18280	IA02772
BAKER SUBWATERSHED SITE 2-4	IA00799	MIKE MIKKELSON SUBWATERSHED 5-5020	IA00700
BAKER SUBWATERSHED SITE 5-3	IA00800	MIKE MIKKELSON SUBWATERSHED 9-2555	IA02773
BARBER HOLLOW SUBWATERSHED SITE 5-1	IA00727	MIKE MIKKELSON SUBWATERSHED M-10210	IA02774
BARBER HOLLOW SUBWTRSHED SITE 5-H-3865	IA02730	MIKE MIKKELSON SUBWATERSHED M-2395	IA02775
Behrendt Dam	IA04210	MIKE MIKKELSON SUBWATERSHED M-5905	IA02777
CARLSON DAM	IA00698	MONONA COUNTY ROADGRADE DAM 13-83-43	IA00763
CHARLES WOODS LAKE DAM	IA01656	MONONA COUNTY ROADGRADE DAM 23-82-43	IA02444
CLOUD DAM	IA02934	MONONA COUNTY ROADGRADE DAM 5-82-42	IA00712
CLUBINE DAM	IA03737	MOORE SUBWATERSHED SITE M-10130	IA02788
COBERLY DAM	IA00699	MOORE SUBWATERSHED SITE M-10180	IA02787
COBERLY/BUTLER DAM	IA00705	MOORHEAD DAM	IA00742
COBERLY/SWENSON DAM	IA00754	MUCKY CREEK SUBWATERSHED SITE 5-4185	IA02789
COTTONWOOD-GREEN VALLEY SUBWS 50+40 #2	IA00745	MUCKY CREEK SUBWATERSHED SITE 6-1	IA00726
COTTONWOOD-GREEN VALLEY SUBWS 75+70 #2	IA00744	MUCKY CREEK SUBWATERSHED STA 19+20	IA00753
COTTONWOOD-GREEN VALLEY SUBWS 99+50 #2	IA00743	MUCKY CREEK SUBWATERSHED STA 26+20 #3	IA00749
COTTONWOOD-GREEN VALLEY SUBWS STA 14+10	IA00746	MUCKY CREEK SUBWATERSHED STA 28+50 #2	IA00748
CROY SUBWATERSHED SITE 1-1292	IA02731	MUCKY CREEK SUBWATERSHED STA 37+80 #8	IA00750
CROY SUBWATERSHED SITE 2200	IA02732	MUCKY CREEK SUBWATERSHED STA 41+70	IA00752
CROY SUBWATERSHED SITE 22200	IA02733	MUCKY CREEK SUBWATERSHED STA 57+00	IA00751
CROY SUBWATERSHED SITE 23700	IA02734	NASS DAM	IA03222
CROY SUBWATERSHED SITE 2530	IA02735	NAURUDE DAM	IA00713
CROY SUBWATERSHED SITE A3-1050	IA02736	NEPPER SUBWATERSHED SITE 3348	IA02791
CROY SUBWATERSHED SITE A3-4908	IA02737	NEPPER SUBWATERSHED SITE M-5700	IA02790

CROY SUBWATERSHED SITE A4-2458	IA02738	NUTT HOLLOW SUBWATERSHED SITE 2-3176	IA02868
CROY SUBWATERSHED SITE A4-4572	IA02739	NUTT HOLLOW SUBWATERSHED SITE 2-6161	IA02792
CROY SUBWATERSHED SITE G3-2730	IA02740	NUTT HOLLOW SUBWATERSHED SITE 3-3075	IA01414
CROY SUBWATERSHED SITE G3-4083	IA02741	NUTT HOLLOW SUBWATERSHED SITE M-12855	IA02793
CROY SUBWATERSHED SITE G5-1890	IA02742	NUTT HOLLOW SUBWATERSHED SITE M-3650	IA01415
CROY SUBWATERSHED SITE M-10500	IA02743	NUTT HOLLOW SUBWATERSHED SITE M-6842	IA01413
CROY SUBWATERSHED SITE M-6159	IA02744	OLSON/MANN DAM	IA00798
CROY SUBWATERSHED SITE M-7500	IA02745	PHILLIPS SUBWATERSHED SITE 131	IA02799
DALY DAM	IA02321	PHILLIPS SUBWATERSHED SITE 3250	IA02803
DAVIS-BATTLE CR. WATERSHED SITE C-12-1	IA00760	PHILLIPS SUBWATERSHED SITE 5740	IA02804
DAVIS-BATTLE CR. WATERSHED SITE C-12-2	IA00759	PHILLIPS SUBWATERSHED SITE M-11985	IA02801
DAVIS-BATTLE CR. WATERSHED SITE D-1	IA00770	PHILLIPS SUBWATERSHED SITE M-17312	IA02802
DAVIS-BATTLE CR. WATERSHED SITE D-3	IA00771	PHILLIPS SUBWATERSHED SITE M-6600	IA02800
DAVIS-BATTLE CR. WATERSHED SITE D-7	IA00769	PLAGGE DAM	IA03733
DAVIS-BATTLE CR. WATERSHED SITE E-1	IA00710	REED SUBWATERSHED SITE 1-1	IA02657
DAVIS-BATTLE CR. WATERSHED SITE F-1	IA00711	REED SUBWATERSHED SITE 13C-2232	IA02808
DAVIS-BATTLE CR. WATERSHED SITE G-1	IA00729	REED SUBWATERSHED STA 37+70 #2	IA00735
DAVIS-BATTLE CR. WATERSHED SITE G-2	IA00728	REED SUBWATERSHED STA 41+45 #8	IA00736
DAVIS-BATTLE CR. WATERSHED SITE H-1	IA00731	REED SUBWATERSHED STA 45+25 #4	IA00738
DAVIS-BATTLE CR. WATERSHED SITE H-3	IA00730	REED SUBWATERSHED STA 46+55 #11	IA00737
DAVIS-BATTLE CR. WATERSHED SITE H-4-1	IA00772	REED SUBWATERSHED STA 46+80 #3	IA00740
DAVIS-BATTLE CR. WATERSHED SITE H-4-2	IA00732	REED SUBWATERSHED STA 71+10	IA00741
DAVIS-BATTLE CR. WATERSHED SITE H-4-4	IA00733	REED SUBWATERSHED STA 88+35 #2	IA00734
GALLUP SUBWATERSHED 1-1200	IA02760	REED SUBWATERSHED STA 97+82	IA00739
GALLUP SUBWATERSHED 4-3538	IA02761	REINIG DAM	IA00797
Gochenour Dam	IA04178	RODNEY SUBWATERSHED SITE 12-2	IA00701
GOSCH DAM	IA00758	RODNEY SUBWATERSHED SITE 2-1	IA02811
HABINCK SUBWATERSHED STA 93+30	IA03087	RODNEY SUBWATERSHED SITE 5-1	IA00704
HANIGAN DAM	IA03734	RODNEY SUBWATERSHED SITE 8-1	IA00703
HIEBER DAM	IA03735	RODNEY SUBWATERSHED SITE 8-2	IA00702
HUFF SUBWATERSHED 3-6069	IA02762	SAVERY/WELLIVER DAM	IA00724
HUFF SUBWATERSHED STA 122+69 #1	IA00804	SCHLIES DAM	IA03267
HUFF SUBWATERSHED STA 42+70 #1	IA00802	SCNOENJAHN DAM	IA00775
HUFF SUBWATERSHED STA 77+72 #1	IA00803	SIEVERS DAM	IA00747
HUFF SUBWATERSHED STA 94+07 #3	IA00805	SPRING VALLEY PROJECT NO. 2	IA01648

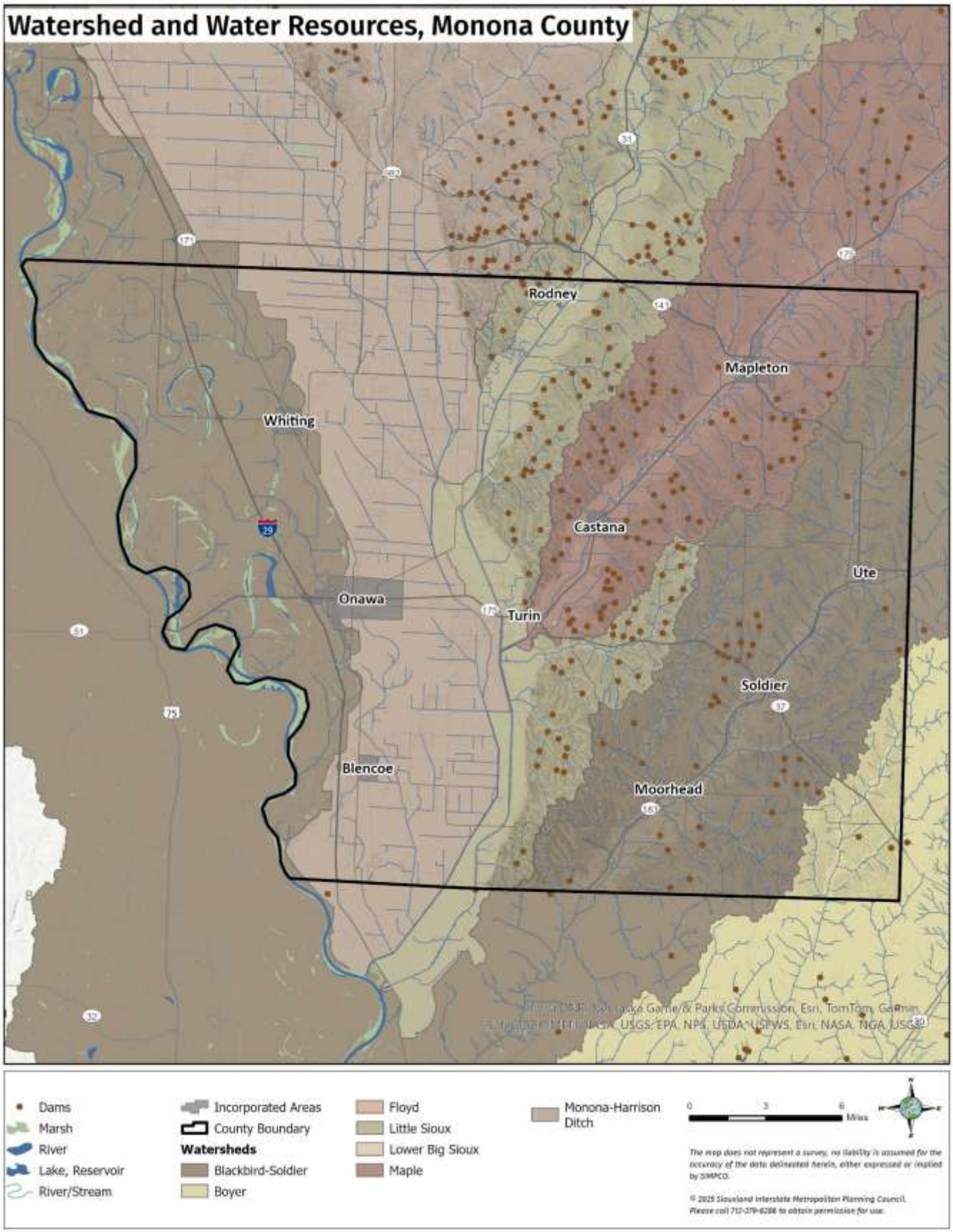
HULL/COBERLY DAM	IA00715	TOM KING SUBWATERSHED SITE 6290	IA02813
HUNDAHL DAM	IA01883	U-B SUBWATERSHED SITE 2-2	IA00777
IOWA NONAME32	IA00714	U-B SUBWATERSHED SITE 2C-1	IA00776
IOWA NONAME33	IA00723	UPPER BEAVER SUBWATERSHED SITE 15-1	IA00718
IOWA NONAME76	IA01636	UPPER BEAVER SUBWATERSHED SITE 20-1	IA00716
JOHNSON DAM	IA03736	UPPER BEAVER SUBWATERSHED SITE 4-1	IA00722
KINDER/PATTERSON DAM	IA00725	UPPER BEAVER SUBWATERSHED SITE 50-1	IA00721
LAWSON SUBWATERSHED SITE 1-1	IA00706	UPPER BEAVER SUBWATERSHED SITE 51-1	IA02814
LAWSON SUBWATERSHED SITE 2-1	IA00707	UPPER BEAVER SUBWATERSHED SITE 6-1	IA00720
LAWSON SUBWATERSHED SITE 2-2	IA00708	UPPER BEAVER SUBWATERSHED SITE M-1	IA00717
LAWSON SUBWATERSHED SITE 3-1	IA00709	UPPER BEAVER SUBWATERSHED SITE M-2	IA00719
LEECH HOLLOW SUBWATERSHED SITE C-11	IA01888	WEST BEAVER SUBWATERSHED STA 23+45 #A	IA00792
LEECH HOLLOW SUBWATERSHED SITE C-12	IA01891	WEST BEAVER SUBWATERSHED STA 33+30	IA00795
LEECH HOLLOW SUBWATERSHED SITE C-14	IA03908	WEST BEAVER SUBWATERSHED STA 40+06 #A	IA00791
LEECH HOLLOW SUBWATERSHED SITE C-2	IA01890	WEST BEAVER SUBWATERSHED STA 51+80	IA00794
LEECH HOLLOW SUBWATERSHED SITE C-5	IA01889	WEST BEAVER SUBWATERSHED STA 97+07	IA00793
LEECH HOLLOW SUBWATERSHED SITE C-6	IA01887	WOODS HOLLOW SUBWATERSHED SITE 1-2875	IA02820
LEECH HOLLOW SUBWATERSHED SITE C-8	IA03002	WOODS HOLLOW SUBWATERSHED SITE M-10450	IA02819
LITTLE SIOUX SCOUT RANCH DAM	IA02723	WOODS HOLLOW SUBWATERSHED STA 40+42	IA00796
LOWER BEAVER SUBWTRSHD STA 21+00 #2	IA00757	WOODWARD GLEN SUBWATERSHED SITE 5800	IA02821
LOWER BEAVER SUBWTRSHD STA 80+04 #7A	IA00756		

Landform Regions & Geology

Monona County is composed of three (3) distinct landform regions that include Missouri Alluvial Plain, Loess Hills, and Southern Iowa Drift Plain.

The Missouri Alluvial Plain was formed by erosion and sediment deposits resulting from the Missouri River. This landform region is characterized by backwater sloughs and oxbow lakes. There is also greater potential for flooding within this region.

The Loess Hills and Southern Iowa Drift Plain both resulted from geological processes related to ancient glaciers. The Loess Hills are unique to the region. This landform was created from


Watershed and Water Resources, Monona County
Rodney
Mapleton
Whiting
Castana
Ute
Onawa
Turin
Soldier
Blencoe
Moorhead
Dams
Marsh
River
Lake, Reservoir
River/Stream
Incorporated Areas
County Boundary
Watersheds
Blackbird-Soldier
Boyer
Floyd
Little Sioux
Lower Big Sioux
Maple
Monona-Harrison Ditch
0
3
6
Miles
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the accumulation of wind-blown silt. Today these steep hills rise up from the surrounding landscape. The Southern Iowa Drift Plains are marked by rolling hills which are the result of the manipulation of glacial sediment deposits by glacial melt and streams.

Transportation Network

On the western side of the County is Interstate 29, which generally runs north to south. State Highways 37, 141, 175, and 183 are included In the County's read network.

The County's secondary road system is composed of 1,063.89 miles. Within this category, Farm-to-Market roads make up 353.94 miles, while Area Service roads account for 709.95 miles. Gravel or earth surface types account for 860.65 miles of the secondary road system. The remaining 195.54 miles are composed of bituminous, asphalt, or PCC surface types.

Through an extremely competitive application process, Monona County was awarded $10.26M for its Port of Blencoe. Funded through the Department of Transportation's Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP), *Progressive Farmer* (via DTN online) reports that the $12.8M project will enable barge transport of ag products, saving thousands of over the road miles and staffing hours[19]. Concept for the project goes back to the 1930's but was not realized until NEW Cooperative invested in a facility to load barges and a fertilizer storage shed. The ribbon cutting was held November 3, 2023. In terms of mitigation planning, this option reduces potential Transportation Incident opportunities through implementation of a relatively low risk transport method.

County Governance & Supports

The county seat is located in Onawa, in the center of the western half of the County. Its jurisdiction covers all unincorporated portions within county boundaries. Monona County is governed by a three (3)-person Board of Supervisors. The Board has both legislative and administrative powers and is the policy-making body of Monona County government. Additional offices include the following departments:

[19] Source: https://www.dtnpf.com/agriculture/web/ag/news/business-inputs/article/2023/11/03/inland-waterway-grain-fertilizer

- Auditor / Elections
- Assessor
- Attorney
- Engineer / Roads
- Emergency Management
- Recorder
- Sheriff
- Clerk of Court
- Community Services
- Early Childhood Iowa
- Treasurer / Auto / Driver's License
- Veterans Affairs
- Zoning & Environmental Health
- 911 Services

The Monona County's Emergency Management Agency is responsible for the coordination of the emergency response activities of various law enforcement and fire departments, the Hazardous Materials Response Team, local hospitals, medical and ambulance services, as well as Red Cross, Salvation Army, and Health & Human Services agencies. The Monona County Sheriff's Office provides law enforcement to the County, which includes jail, communications, patrol, and protection services. A Sheriff, nine Deputies, and two Sergeants staff this office.

County Facilities

Equipment Garages	12008 Aspen Ave, Albaton
	400 Oak, Blencoe
Park Restroom Bldg	29998 Filbert Ave, Blencoe
Shelter House & Related	Sec 7 Twp 82 Rge 45, Blencoe
Equipment Garage	318 Pine, Castana
Shelter/Restrooms & Related	Sec 5 Twp 84 Rge 43, Castana
Shelter/Restrooms & Related; Antenna Tower	Sec 23 Twp 84 Rge 44, Castana
Maintenance/Equip Storage & Related	140 Maple, Mapleton
Shelter/Restrooms & Related; Office & Mechanic Bldg; Storage Sheds	201 S Maple, Mapleton
Equipment Garage	40 S Muckey, Mapleton
Shelter House & Related	Sec 30 Twp 85 Rge 43, Mapleton
Equipment Garage	102 Railroad, Moorhead
Museum	29508 Oak Ave, Moorhead
Law Enforcement Ctr	909 7th St, Onawa
Multiple Storage, County Shop Sheds; Related Mntc	708 20th St, Onawa
Court House; Court House Annex; Garage	610 Iowa Ave, Onawa
Conservation Office/Shop Bldg; Storage Bldgs; Shelter	318 E Iowa Ave, Onawa

Pump Houses; Restroom	Sec 3 Twp 83 Rge 45, Onawa
Shelter/Restrooms & Related	Sec 3 Twp 83 Rge 44, Rodney
Shelter/Restrooms & Related; Antenna Tower	41425 280th St, Soldier
Equip Garage; Supply Storage & Maintenance-related Bldgs	110 IA-37, Soldier
Equipment Garage	115 Wolfe, Turin
Historic Dwellings; Barn & Related	22133 Larpenteur Memorial Rd, Turin
Equipment Garage	118 W Main, Ute
Equipment Garage	103 Wells, Whiting
R.T. Reese Cabin	22171 Larpenteur Memorial Rd

Non-Government Facilities

Burgess Health Center	1600 Diamond St, Onawa

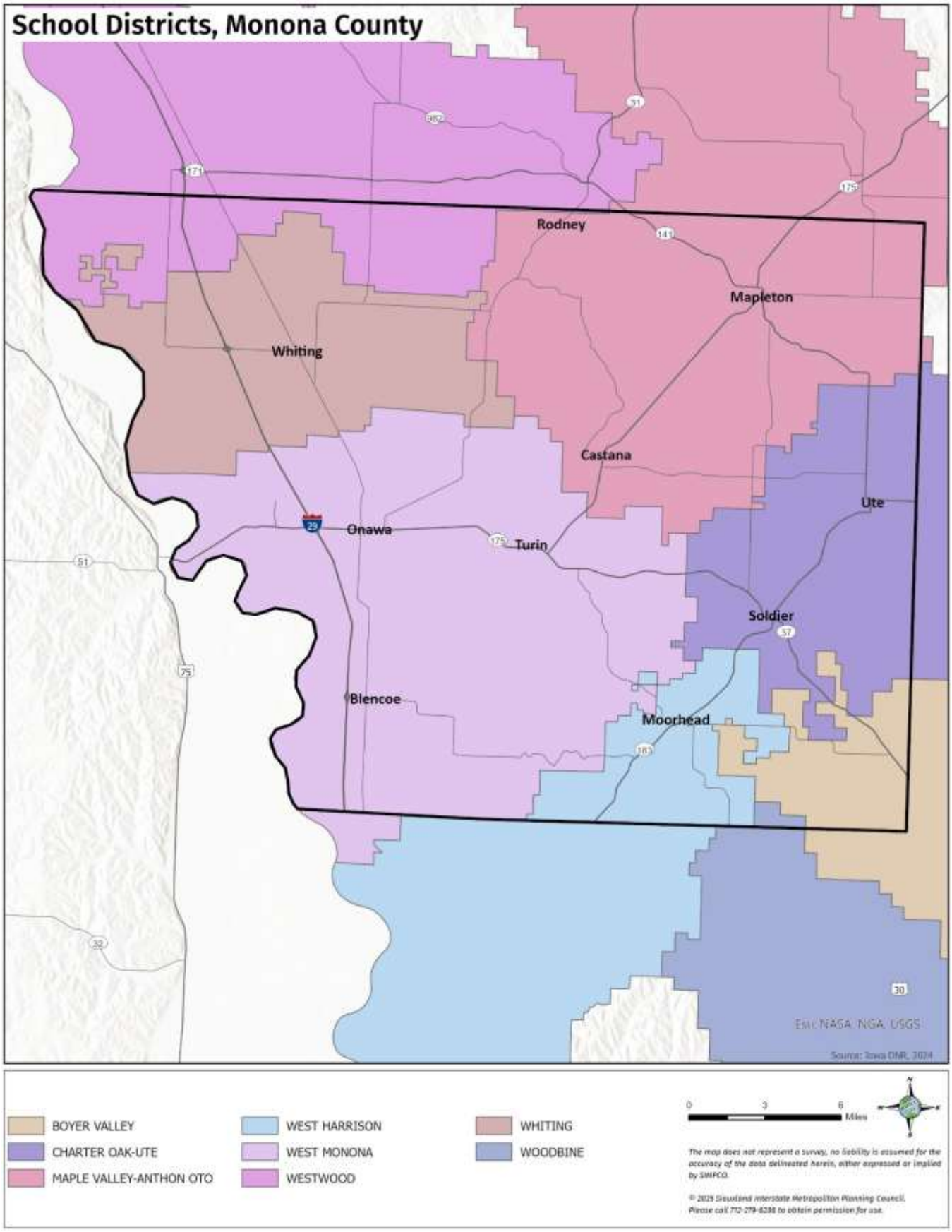
Education

Monona County is served by several school districts, with only three (3) housing facilities within county borders. A total of four (4) elementary schools and three (3) middle school/high schools represent the following districts:

- Whiting Community Schools
- West Monona Community Schools
- Maple Valley-Anthon Oto Community Schools

Though there are no colleges or universities within Monona County, however there is an ISU Extension office in Onawa.

Educational attainment in Monona County shows that a higher percentage of residents have completed high school or earned an associate's degree compared to the state average. The county also has a relatively large proportion of individuals who have attended some college without obtaining a degree. However, Monona County has fewer residents with bachelor's and graduate degrees compared to the state, indicating a gap in higher education. The percentage of individuals without a high school diploma is slightly below the state average, suggesting comparable access to basic education.


School Districts, Monona County
Rodney
Mapleton
Whiting
Castana
Ute
Onawa
Turin
Soldier
Blencoe
Moorhead
BOYER VALLEY
CHARTER OAK-UTE
MAPLE VALLEY-ANTHON OTO
WEST HARRISON
WEST MONONA
WESTWOOD
WHITING
WOODBINE
0
3
6
Miles
The map does not represent a survey, no liability is assumed for the accuracy of the data delineated herein, either expressed or implied by SIMPCO.
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Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS
Source: Iowa DNR, 2024

Level of Education	*Monona*	*Iowa*
No high school diploma	6.4%	6.7%
High school degree (includes equivalency)	39.4%	29.9%
Some college, no degree	23.8%	19.6%
Associate's degree	11.7%	12.2%
Bachelor's degree	12.7%	20.9%
Graduate or professional degree	6%	10.7%

Population

Community Characteristics	
Population (2023)	8,619
Population (2017)	8,865
Total Households	4,047
Median Household Income	$62,944
Median Household Income – Iowa	$73,147

Vulnerable Populations	*Count*	*Percent*	*Region*
5 years and younger	430	5.6%	6.78%
65 years and older	2,143	23.8%	16.01%
Below the poverty level	1,321	11.2%	12.88%
Living with a disability	1,197	13.8%	12.41%

Housing

Monona County offers more affordable housing compared to the state of Iowa, with a significantly lower median home value, though the median rent is slightly higher than the state average. The county has a total of 4,390 housing units, with the majority of them occupied. Most of the occupied units are owner-occupied, while a smaller portion are renter-occupied. A modest number of homes remain vacant, suggesting a relatively stable housing market. These figures highlight a community with a strong focus on homeownership, though rental options are also available.

Values	*Monona*	*Iowa*
Median Home Value	$122,600	$213,300

Median Rent per Zillow	$919	$740
Units	*Count*	*Percent*
Total Housing Units	4,390	-
Occupied	3,907	88.8%
Owner-occupied	3,364	78%
Renter-occupied	1,054	22%
Vacant	483	11%

Income & Economics

The table below communicates the quantity and proportion of employed individuals within each industry. The total employed population of Monona County is 4,307. The three leading industries are:

1. Education services and health care and social assistance
2. Retail trade
3. Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services.

In Monona County, the civilian employed population aged 16 and older totals 4,175 individuals. The largest employment sectors are education, health care, and social assistance, which account for a significant portion of the workforce. Retail trade and transportation, warehousing, and utilities also employ a large number of residents. Other notable sectors include manufacturing, construction, and professional services. Agriculture, including forestry, fishing, and mining, remains an important part of the local economy. Smaller shares of the workforce are involved in fields such as finance, arts, and public administration. This diverse employment base reflects a community with a mix of traditional industries, service-oriented sectors, and public services.

Industry for the Civilian Employed Population 16 and over		
Civilian employed population (16 and older)	4,175	-
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	424	10.1%
Construction	310	7.4%
Manufacturing	379	9%
Wholesale trade	69	4.6%
Retail trade	498	33.8%

Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	264	17.9%
Information	22	1.5%
Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing	202	13.7%
Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services	283	19.2%
Education services and health care and social assistance	1,077	73%
Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services	316	21.4%
Other services except public administration	189	12.8%
Public administration	142	9.6%

Valuation of County Assets

In addition to valuation of County assets as impacted by a given project, that of privately owned properties, facilities, and personal property will be considered as they may contribute to overall protected benefit when mitigation projects are planned. Each mitigation action, strategy, and/or project pursued for implementation in the next five (5) years will fully consider protections to those assets and to the residents therein. Furthermore, privately owned facilities that offer services and support during times of crisis may be specifically included in mitigation actions and/or strategies receiving municipal-funded support to maintain function and operation those structures.

Participation

SIMPCO facilitated an in-person meeting at the County EMA office December 18, 2024 with Peggy Rolph, Auditor, and Patrick Prorok, EMA in attendance. Additional input was collected via survey. Of the 251 responses to the primary survey, 19 were submitted by Monona County residents.

Capabilities

The County Zoning Administrator serves as Floodplain Administrator. As a county, its unincorporated areas have 2 Repetitive Loss /Severe Repetitive Loss residential properties.

Community	Most Recent Date of Loss	# RL Properties	# of Losses	Net Building Payment	Net Contents Payment	Total Net Payment
MONONA COUNTY	9/16/2019	2	5	$ 96,417.40	$ 11,740.38	$ 108,157.78

Plans/Guidance	
Capital Improvement Plan *via annual budget process*	
Comprehensive Land Use Plan	
Comprehensive Plan	
County Recovery Plan	
Critical Facilities Plan (Mitigation/Response/Recovery)	
Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Plan	
Economic Development Plan	(County) Economic Development Partnership for Growth
County Emergency Plan	

Policies/Ordinance

- Zoning Ordinance
- Floodplain Ordinance
- Nuisance Ordinance (including *Debris Mgmt Plan*)
- Subdivision Ordinance
- Tree Trimming Ordinance
- Floodplain Management Ordinance

Note: complete list available @ www.mononacounty.org/Ordinances

Programs/Commissions	
Historic Preservation Commission	
Mutual Aid Agreements	County-wide; SCFR HazMat Response
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190893B
Planning/Zoning Boards	Enterprise Zoning Commission (oversight of Property Acquisition Prog) Development Planner Includes oversight of Builder's Plan NFIP Floodplain Administrator Zoning/Land Use Restrictions

Staff/Department	
Emergency Management Coordinator	Hazard Awareness Program
Emergency Response Team	Includes oversight of Emergency Operations Center
Engineer	
Mapping Specialist (GIS)	Monona Co; SIMPCO
Secondary Roads Dept	Includes oversight of Tree Trimming Program & Compliance

Non-Governmental Organizations
American Red Cross
Veterans Groups

Local Funding Availability/Eligibility

Apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Capital Improvements funding	
Levy taxes for specified purpose	
Fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric services	
Impact fees for new development under the Economic Development Commission	
Ability to incur debt through:	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities

Review of Actions Taken

communication/education		
Warning Sirens	Monona Co / Rodney	2020: Additional sirens in rural recreation areas such as the Rodney Recreation Pits; *County EMA* collaboration w/Rodney *City Council,* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Warning Sirens	Monona Co / Rodney	**Update**. Not completed, still needed. Project carries over to 2026 HMP.
Warning Sirens	Monona Co	2020: Warning Siren at Lewis & Clark Lake would be beneficial to improve warning efforts in the recreation area. *County Board of Supervisors, EMA, various departments.* (County funds, PDM, community benefit fund programs) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Warning Sirens	Monona Co	**Update**. Project not implemented but siren is still needed in rec area. Project will carry over to 2026 HMP.
tools/equipment		
Equipment	Monona Co	2020: Region-shared equipment such as high capacity snow blower. *County Roads, collaboration between County Roads departments* (County funds—potentially multiple, IDOT funds) LOW PRIORITY
Equipment	Monona Co	**Update**. No action has been coordinated between counties for shared use of high-performance equipment. This project will carry over to 2026 HMP.
Equipment	Monona Co	2020: Communications Trailer. *County Board, EMA* (County funds, PDM) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Equipment	Monona Co	**Complete**. The EMS department has a fully equipped trailer that serves as a mobile response unit, training, center, and refuge/shelter location as needed.
Equipment	Monona Co	2020: Trailer designated for road barricade set-up; *County Engineer* (County funds, IDOT, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
Equipment	Monona Co	**Update**. No action taken on this item but project is still needed. Project carries over to 2026 HMP.
development		
Bridges & Roads	Monona County	2020: Bridge and tube projects needed throughout the county; improve drainage patterns, reduce rate of deterioration on bridge components/foundation; *County Roads Dept*. (County funds, Transportation funds, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
Bridges & Roads	Monona County	**Update not provided**. Several road and bridge projects were implemented with several more pending. Unless a specific drainage or access barrier is specified, such projects are not included in the mitigation plan.

flow control		
refuge		
Shelter	Monona County	2020: At Onawa: Interest in adding formal storm shelter with tornado designation at the Fairgrounds and at the Christian Camp within the State Park. *County Conservation/Parks Dept, EMA, IDNR/State Parks Dept, City administration* (County funds, IDNR Program funding, PDM, Community Benefit funds) LOW PRIORITY
Shelter	Monona County	**Update**. Project not completed as funding source has not made project feasible. Project will carry over to 2026 HMP.
Shelter	Monona County	2020: Shelter at Peters Park; *County Conservation/Parks Dept, EMA, IDNR/State Parks Dept,* (County funds, IDNR Program funding, PDM, Community Benefit funds, fundraisers, PDM) LOW PRIORITY
Shelter	Monona County	**Update**. Not implemented. County still interested in pursuing project at low priority due to lack of funding. Project will carry into 2026 HMP.
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

Several projects were implemented in addition to those included in the 2020 Plan including but not limited to the following.

- Emergency Response has been equipped with tools for CPR – AED for deputies. There is a fully equipped trailer that can serve as a shelter.
- The EMS group meets annually to coordinate planning and assess program needs.
- Roadway elevation project was completed onK45 between Whiting and Sloan.
- A new access road was added (E60) connecting the south end of Blencoe to the Port.
- A land use change was implemented to appropriate operation of Port Blencoe.

Risk Assessment

The NOAA Storm Event database includes record of 41 reported events within Monona County between 11/01/2019 and 12/31/2024.

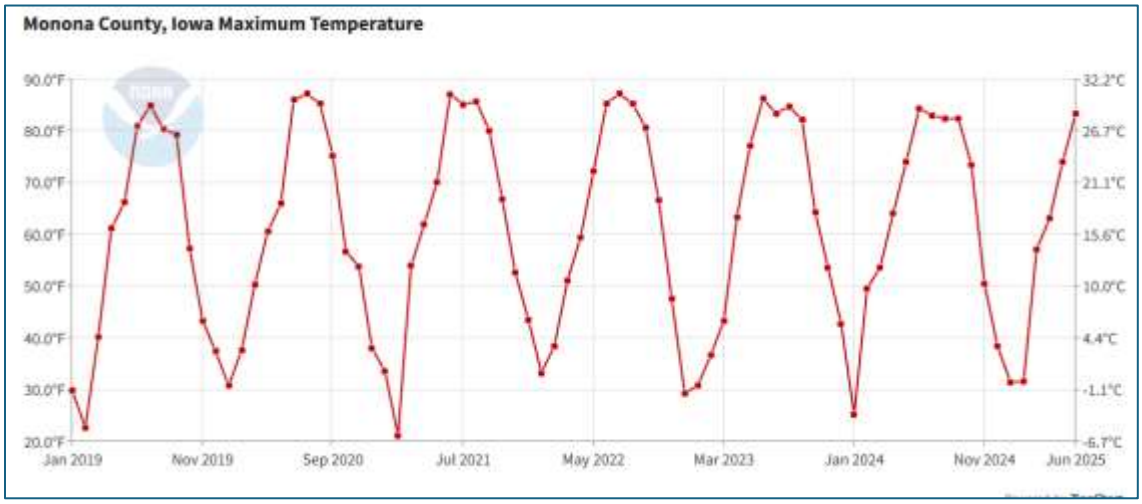
Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
MONONA (ZONE)	11/26/2019	14:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MAPLETON MUNI ARPT	6/2/2020	20:45	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
BLENCOE	7/11/2020	0:30	Thunderstorm Wind	52 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MONONA (ZONE)	11/10/2020	1:00	Ice Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MONONA (ZONE)	12/24/2020	3:00	Blizzard		0	0	0.00K	0.00K

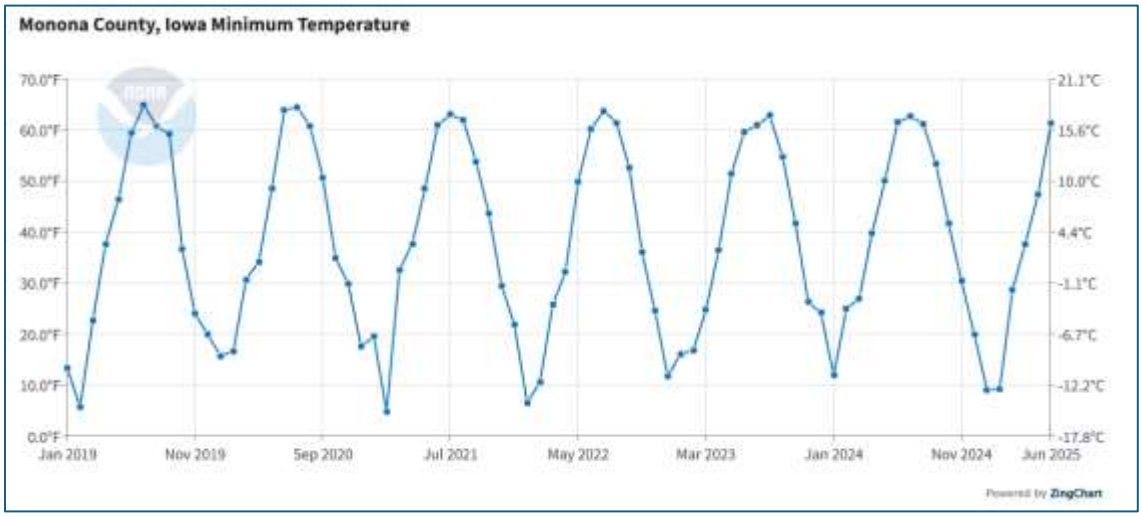
MONONA (ZONE)	1/14/2021	21:00	Blizzard		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MONONA (ZONE)	2/14/2021	5:00	Extreme Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MONONA (ZONE)	2/21/2021	4:30	Winter Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
ONAWA	7/9/2021	0:09	Hail	1.50 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WHITING	5/12/2022	18:51	Thunderstorm Wind	65 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MAPLETON MUNI ARPT	5/19/2022	22:28	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SOLDIER	7/11/2022	2:15	Thunderstorm Wind	65 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MOORHEAD	7/23/2022	19:33	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MONONA (ZONE)	12/22/2022	3:00	Extreme Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MONONA (ZONE)	1/18/2023	13:00	Winter Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MONONA (ZONE)	3/26/2023	1:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
BLENCOE	4/19/2023	17:28	Hail	1.50 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
TURIN	4/19/2023	17:10	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
UTE	4/19/2023	18:00	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MAPLETON	5/8/2023	18:29	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
BLENCOE	7/12/2023	5:00	Thunderstorm Wind	51 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MONONA (ZONE)	8/21/2023	12:00	Excessive Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MONONA (ZONE)	1/8/2024	1:00	Winter Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MONONA (ZONE)	1/11/2024	18:00	Winter Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MONONA (ZONE)	1/12/2024	21:00	Extreme Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MONONA (ZONE)	1/18/2024	11:45	Winter Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MOORHEAD	4/26/2024	16:17	Tornado	EF0	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PREPARATION	4/26/2024	16:05	Tornado	EF0	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SOLDIER	4/26/2024	16:23	Tornado	EF1	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
BLENCOE	5/21/2024	12:25	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CASTANA	5/24/2024	1:46	Thunderstorm Wind	72 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
ONAWA	6/12/2024	18:31	Hail	3.50 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WHITING	6/12/2024	17:51	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WHITING	6/12/2024	18:14	Hail	2.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
ALBATON	6/24/2024	4:35	Flood		0	0	1.000M	298.60K
RODNEY	6/25/2024	3:56	Flash Flood		0	0	100.00K	100.00K
BLENCOE	7/21/2024	17:35	Funnel Cloud		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WHITING	7/21/2024	17:02	Funnel Cloud		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WHITING	7/29/2024	23:05	Thunderstorm Wind	53 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MONONA (ZONE)	8/26/2024	12:00	Excessive Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MONONA (ZONE)	12/19/2024	12:00	High Wind	50 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

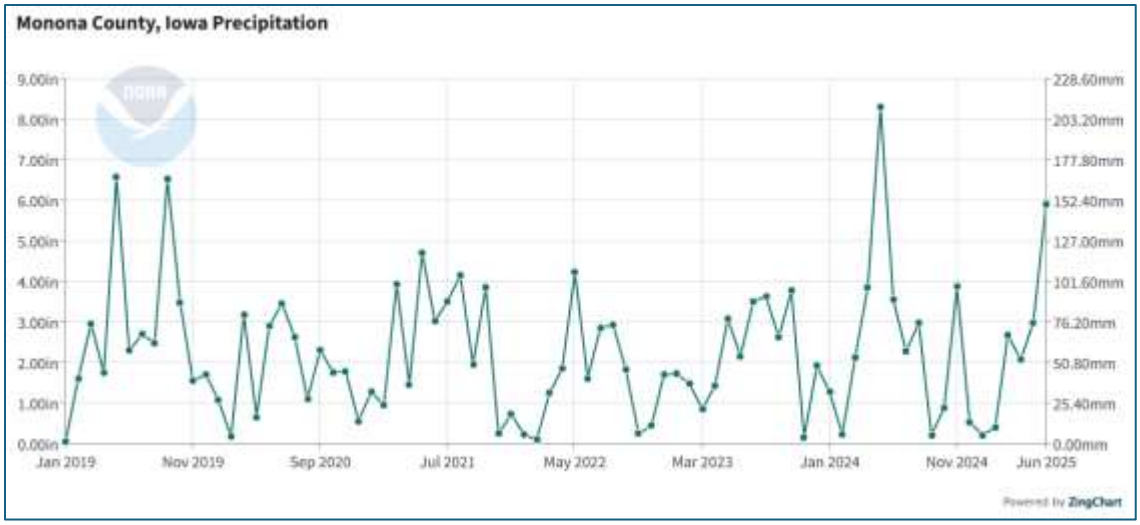
Summary of Events

Number of County/Zone areas affected:	2
Number of Days with Event:	34
Number of Days with Event and Death:	0
Number of Days with Event and Death or Injury:	0
Number of Days with Event and Property Damage:	2
Number of Days with Event and Crop Damage:	2
Number of Event Types reported:	13

Following are charts depicting Monona County's maximum temperature, minimum temperature, and precipitation by month from November 2019 through June 2025.







Other Hazard Risks

By Dean Welte
Published: Jun. 24, 2024 at 11:08 AM CDT

ONAWA, Iowa (KTIV) - Rising river levels are still being seen on the Missouri and Little Sioux Rivers in Monona County, Iowa.

According to Monona County Emergency Management, they expect the water levels will be similar to what was seen in 2019 when the area had major flooding. The Missouri River may be slightly higher at 37.3 feet compared to the 36.51 feet seen in March 2019.

Emergency management says people along the Little Sioux and Missouri should form a self-evacuation plan immediately. Water levels can change quickly, but the current predictions show the rivers should crest between June 25 and June 26. People who live along the Missouri River could lose power due to rising water.

At this time, Monona County officials say they don't expe
notice. There are currently no emergency shelters set up

Road closures may happen in the county. For the safety
Several rescues have occurred in Woodbury County due

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www.ktiv.com/2024/06/24/monona-county-remains-flood-warning-residents-should-have-self-evacuation-plan By Dean Welte *Published: Jun. 24, 2024 at 11:08 AM CDT*. (June 9, 2025)

The nuclear plant in Fort Calhoun as noted in the 2020 HMP has been deactivated. No new activity taking place. Residual matter may still have impact if catastrophic incident occurs. However, there is a greatly reduced risk from when plant was active.

Monona County does have recorded repetitive loss properties included in the FEMA NFIP flood database.

County	Monona County
Community	Monona County
Most Recent Date of Loss	9/16/2019
# of Repetitive Loss Properties	2
Number of Losses	5
Net Building Payment	$96,417.40
Net Contents Payment	$11,740.38
Total Net Payment	$108,157.78

Priority Hazards

The County has designated the following as priority hazard concerns.

- Tornado/Windstorm
- Flooding
- Severe Winter Storm
- Thunderstorm w/ Hail & Lightning

Survey respondents indicated Very Concerned for Drought (11/19), Infrastructure Failure (8/19) and Tornado / Windstorm (7/19) at the highest frequency. The same ranked highest when asked to indicate Top Three Hazards, with Thunderstorm with Hail and Lightning tying at #3 with Infrastructure Failure. Drought prevails as overlying concern for residents, though Moona County event reports do not include recorded events.

Mitigation Actions, Strategies, & Projects

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Monona County	**New.** Improve awareness of program availability. *County EMA, emergency response teams throughout county, State program officer(s)*. (State program funds where applicable; in-kind volunteer time) HIGH PRIORITY.
Warning Sirens	Monona County / Rodney	**Carry over**. Additional sirens in rural recreation areas such as the Rodney Recreation Pits; *County EMA* collaboration w/Rodney *City Council,* (Local general budget funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Warning Sirens	Monona County	**Carry over**. Warning Siren at Lewis & Clark Lake needed to improve warning efforts in the recreation area. *County Board of Supervisors, EMA, various departments.* (County funds, PDM, community benefit fund programs) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Warning Sirens	Monona County / Blencoe	**New**. City plans to initiate a collaboration with the county to install a warning siren for the NEW Cooperative Port pf Blencoe to serve the port and nearby park. *County, County EMA, City of Blencoe, Industry partners* (Private funds, Pre-disaster funds as available, local general budget and county funds, transportation funds as may be applicable) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Monona County	**New**. County is seeking opportunity to purchase mobile generator allowing flexibility to meet needs at varying locations as needed. *County EMA, County Board* (annual budget, public safety/response funds, PDM as available) HIGH PRIORITY.
Equipment	Monona County	**Carry over**. Region-shared equipment such as high capacity snow blower and sandbag fillers. *County Roads, collaboration between County Roads departments* (County funds—potentially multiple, IDOT funds) LOW PRIORITY
Equipment	Monona County	**Carry over**. Trailer designated for road barricade set-up; *County Engineer* (County funds general budget, IDOT, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
development		
flow control		
refuge		
Shelter	Monona County	**Carry over**. At Onawa: Interest in adding formal storm shelter with tornado designation at the Fairgrounds &/or at the Christian Camp within the State Park. Priority level reflects lack of funding opportunity, not level of need. *County Conservation/Parks Dept, EMA, IDNR/State Parks Dept, City administration* (County funds, IDNR Program funding, PDM, Community Benefit funds, private funds as applicable) LOW PRIORITY
Shelter	Monona County	**Carry over**. Shelter at Peters Park. *County Conservation/Parks Dept, EMA, IDNR/State Parks Dept,* (County funds, IDNR Program funding, PDM, Community Benefit funds, fundraisers, PDM) LOW PRIORITY
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

Jurisdictions

1. Blencoe

a. Profile

The city of Blencoe is located near the southwest corner of Monona County, just east of Interstate 29. County Highways E60 and K45 intersect near the center of the western boundary. Fletcher ditch runs southwest away from the city. A few miles west of Blencoe is the Missouri River, a key factor in hosting the NEW Cooperative Port of Blencoe and Huff-Warner Access Area and campground. In operation as of spring 2021, the port serves as a world market gateway for grain and fertilizer.

City Governance & Community Supports

Blencoe is governed by an elected five (5) person City Council and Mayor. City offices include City Clerk and Maintenance. Fire and rescue services for the City and surrounding area are provided by the Blencoe Volunteer Fire Department, which is partially funded by the City. Law enforcement services are contracted by the City.

The City of Blencoe is not a member of the NFIP program. The Municipal Code of Ordinances was last updated in 2024. A Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 2014.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

In 2023, Blencoe's population[20] grew to 264, up from 233 residents in 2020. The town has 107 households and a median household income of $81,705, which is higher than the median for Monona County, which stands at $62,944. Blencoe has a notably higher proportion of residents aged 65 and older compared to both the county and state averages. The town also has a smaller proportion of young children, with fewer living in the community. While the poverty rate is relatively low, there is a higher incidence of residents living with disabilities compared to the county and state averages.

Community Characteristics	
Population (2023)	264

[20] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1906940-blencoe-ia/

Population (2020)	233
Total Households	107
Median Household Income	$81,705
Median Household Income – Monona County	$62,944

Vulnerable Populations	*Count*	*Percent*	*Monona*	*Iowa*
5 years and younger	22	8.3%	5.6%	5.7%
65 years and older	90	34.1%	23.8%	16%
Below the poverty level	8	3%	11.2%	11.3%
Living with a disability	55	20.8%	13.8%	18.5%

Blencoe has a total of 114 housing units, with 107 currently occupied and 7 vacant. The community includes a small number of mobile homes, totaling three units. The housing stock is primarily older, with the majority of homes built before 1970. A smaller portion of the housing was constructed between 1970 and 1999, while only a few homes were built after the year 2000, reflecting a largely established housing market.

Housing Characteristics	*Count*	*Percent*
Total Housing Units	114	-
Occupied	107	94%
Vacant	7	6%
Mobile Homes	3	3%
Age of Residential Structure		
Built 2000 or later	3	2.8%
Built 1970 – 1999	32	29.4%
Build 1969 or earlier	74	67.9%

Leading Employers

Most residents work outside of Blencoe. Its proximity about midway between Sioux City and Omaha/Council Bluffs allows residents the convenience of access to several regional job centers. NEW Cooperative has a notable presence with development of its Port of Blencoe. The nature of its business results in high-capacity storage and transfer of volatile materials including but not limited to propane, grain, and fertilizer storage.

Critical Facilities, Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

In addition to valuation of privately owned properties, facilities, and personal property, each of Blencoe's proposed Mitigation Actions and Strategies pursued for implementation in the next five (5) years will fully consider protections to those assets and to the residents therein. Furthermore, privately owned facilities that offer services and support during times of crisis may be specifically included in mitigation actions and/or strategies receiving municipal-funded support to maintain function and operation of those structures. Those entities include the following Community Support office(s) and/or Gathering Location(s).

Critical/City Facilities	
Community Bldg & Related	413 Main St
Fire Station; Warning System, & Related	510 Main St
City Park	515 Linn St
Richardson Park	502 N Manley St
Lift Stations & Sewer Lift Stations	197 Main St
	635 Main St (@ Monona)
	502 N Manley St
2-Cell Lagoon	(East on) County Hwy 60
Shelter House; Water Tower & Related	Linn St & Main St
Water Treatment & Related	515 Linn St
Shop/Storage & Related	201 Front St
Campground	
City Maintenance Shed	201 Oak St
Community Support Facilities	
St Bernard Catholic Church	201 Main St

Private businesses and organizations play an essential role in the City's recovery efforts and communication networks and may be categorized as essential or critical facilities. The list is not exhaustive. Additional community churches, organizations, and individuals, as well as those in nearby communities, work together to ensure communication and support in times of crisis.

Valuation of City Assets

The taxable valuation of city property is $2,976,629 based on current insurance documentation. This serves as a base for cost-benefit analysis to determine project feasibility. An in-depth cost-benefit analysis will be conducted as part of a project's scope and is subject to a given project and project area.

Though not a city property, it is important to note the valuation of the investments in the NEW Coop Port of Blencoe at $10,192,535 and its parcel to the north valued at $342,110. Mitigation implementations will consider impact on the port, in addition to private, residential, and city properties/holdings. Benefits as well as potential for adverse effect will be among considerations

b. Participation

An in-person mitigation planning meeting was held at City Hall, Blencoe on October 31, 2024. Facilitated by SIMPCO, the following were in attendance.

- Janet Ryan, Mayor
- Erica Stanislav, City Clerk
- Chip Collison, Maintenance

Monona County accounted for 18 survey responses with 4 indicating residence in Blencoe.

c. Community Capabilities

The City of Blencoe has one (1) warning siren with horns facing three (3) directions. Signals can be heard from most points out of doors within city limits and beyond. Signals are sounded through the County Communications Center and can be initiated by the city through protocol in place. With the development of the Port of Blencoe and the nearby Huff-Warner Access and camping area, the city and Monona County are considering need for an additional siren in that area.

Blencoe is equipped with a water pump that enables clean water transfer from overflowing drainage ditches to areas less prone to flash flooding. The following table identifies key elements supporting community actions in the event of a disaster. Blencoe's ISO fire rating has improved since last update, likely due to improved water pressure resulting from their water systems improvements project. While the city has not adopted a standard building code, it does follow form of state code.

The city participates in the NFIP program with the Mayor serving as Floodplain Administrator. Blencoe has zero RL/SRL properties.

Plans/Guidance		
Comprehensive Plan		
Policies/Ordinance		
• Zoning Ordinance • Nuisance Ordinance • Subdivision Ordinance	• Drainage Ordinance • Storm Water Ordinance	
Programs		
Zoning/Land Use Restrictions		
Codes Building Site/Design		
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Non-Participant		CID #190705B
ISO Fire Rating	6-5x	
Staff/Department		
Public Works Official		
Planning/Zoning Boards		
Emergency Response Team	Fire Department & Contracted Services	
Non-Governmental Organizations		
Veterans Groups	American Legion Post #665 (Stevens-Kelly; limited local activity)	
Local Funding Availability/Eligibility		
Apply for Community Development Block Grants		
Capital Improvements funding via annual budget process		
Levy taxes for a specific purpose		
Fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric services		
Designation of funds through TIF		
Ability to incur debt through:	• general obligation bonds	

	• special tax bonds
	• private activities

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

communication /education		
Promo/Info	Blencoe	**Implemented**: Blencoe. Implemented promotion of existing alerts system and continues to do so.
Warning Sirens	Blencoe	2020: 2nd warning siren placement - northwest end of town; Location Simpson & Mack; *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY
		Update. Action not taken.
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Blencoe	2020: Generators; city hall/community ctr which operates as command center as needed; *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
		Update. Generators were included for lift stations in two water works project – Sewer (2022) and Wastewater Treatment Plant (2019).
development		
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

Geographic location supports priority of Blencoe's concerns regarding tornado and severe winter storm. The same geography serves to benefit Blencoe as it lies entirely outside of the floodplain, significantly reducing concerns related to riverine flooding. However, flash flooding incidents continue to rise. Drought conditions with intermittent heavy periods of rain increase effects of such flash flood events.

Prospect of train derailment, especially as tracks are impacted by recurring inclement weather conditions, remains a concern, as does the volume of potentially hazardous materials transported on via rail through town. Hazardous materials-related incidents cannot be overlooked for another reason – proximity of grain elevator and propane tanks to anhydrous

ammonia storage area, which poses further complications from an incident that may occur while volatile materials are in transport over the road, by rail, and barge.

An analysis of NOAA Strom Event Records indicated 5 recorded incidents specific to Blencoe and 16 in the Monona "Zone" affecting the county as a whole. Below are Blencoe's events as recorded between 11/01/2019 and 12/31/2024. This does not include substantial impacts as may have been reported from winter weather in February and March 2025.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
BLENCOE	7/11/2020	0:30	Thunderstorm Wind	52 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
BLENCOE	4/19/2023	17:28	Hail	1.50 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
BLENCOE	7/12/2023	5:00	Thunderstorm Wind	51 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
BLENCOE	5/21/2024	12:25	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
BLENCOE	7/21/2024	17:35	Funnel Cloud		0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Of 18 Monona County survey responses, 4 indicated Blencoe as place of residence. Survey responses specific to Blencoe indicate a high-level concern of drought, followed by at least some concern for several additional natural disasters and other hazards. Earthquake and Landslide are the only hazards with no concern indicated.

Priority Hazards

Respondents indicated Flash Flooding and Tornado/Windstorm with the highest frequency under the question asking top 3 concerns. Drought, Severe Winter Storm, Thunderstorm – Hail/Lightning, Hazardous Materials Incidents, Infrastructure Failure, and Transportation Incident also noted.

Tornado, Severe Winter Storm, and Flash Flood remain primary natural disaster concerns for the city. Extremes in both winter and summer months continue to trend, though more costly events have been in the winter. As discussed, there is considerable concern for hazardous materials incidents as well.

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

Planned strategies include the following table of projects.

communication /education		
Promo/Info	Blencoe	**New**. Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to: Alert Iowa, Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; Water conservation; Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. City Clerk, County EMA (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
Warning Sirens	Blencoe	**Carry over**. The City still needs a second warning siren to sufficiently serve its corporate boundaries and nearby rural residents. Cost is approximately $15,000. Funds have not been designated. City will pursue grant opportunities and continually review opportunities to include project in the annual budget. This project will carry as an ongoing effort with MEDIUM PRIORITY.
Assessment/Study / planning	Blencoe	**New**. Emergency Response Plan – city is interested in updating and formalizing its emergency response plan. City staff, County EMA (local funds) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Blencoe	**Carry over**. Generators as noted in 2020 are planned for city hall/community ctr which operates as command center as needed; implementation at the N Manley Lift Station, estimated cost: $35,000. *Public Works*. (Local general budget funds, pre-disaster funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Blencoe	**New**. In addition to the lift station project, generators are planned for the Community Center (to be established as Command Center) and the Fire Station (to maintain operations in the event of a disaster) at the estimated cost of $35,000 each. *Public Works*. (Local general budget funds, pre-disaster funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Equipment	Blencoe	**New**. Interest in coordinating resource attainment (such as cots) in the event of an emergency where refuge/shelter designation is necessary. No cost expected to be associated with process aside from staff time. *City, local partnering response agencies, state and federal programs such as Red Cross*. (local general budget and response funds as available/necessary) HIGH PRIORITY
Equipment	Blencoe	**New**. Mobile pumps needed for stormwater transfer. Estimated project cost is $50,000. *Public Works.* (City funds general budget, FMA, Disaster Mitigation/Disaster Response funds as available) HIGH PRIORITY
development		
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

In addition to mitigation-specific actions, the following are planned for completion by the city of Blencoe and are funded in part through TIF.

- Sewer Main lining/replacement
- Asphalt roads
- Force main to lagoon
- Storm drain intakes and force main
- Parks and playground equipment
- Housing and infrastructure
- Waterline west of K45
- Building improvements to current fire station (concrete replacement and safety bar per insurance).

Any projects as may be added to the schedule through 2025 may require an amendment to be considered for eligibility for mitigation funds through FEMA and/or Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

2. Castana

a. Profile

The city of Castana is situated near the center of Monona County. State Highway 175 runs north-south through the center of city limits. Most commercial and residential structures are located east of the highway. Maple River runs north-south along the western edge of the city and Cottonwood Creek meanders along the eastern boundary. The two bodies of water converge near the center of the northern boundary.

City Governance & Community Supports

The City of Castana is governed by a five-person elected City Council and the Mayor. The only office in addition to the Mayor and Council is that of City Clerk. At the time of preparing this profile, Castana anticipated the mayor seat to be vacated, moving the Mayor Pro Tem into the seat to serve in the interim.

Emergency services are provided by Castana Fire and Rescue, operated independent of the City, and staffed by volunteers. Ambulance service is provided through Mapleton Ambulance. Monona County provides law enforcement.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

CensusReporter.org shows an estimate of Castana's population at 157 in 2023[21], up from 107 residents in 2020. Local records indicate a significantly lower number, closer to that reported in the census estimates. As noted throughout this plan, data provides a snapshot in time estimate of populations, including anticipated projections. Serving a basis for relative comparison, the population as noted in 2023 is included for reference and context within other communities throughout the region.

The same source as noted provides that the town is home to 80 households, with a median household income of $55,833, which is lower than the Monona County median of $62,944. A notable portion of Castana's population is aged 65 or older, making up nearly a quarter of the community. The town has no residents aged 5 or younger, which is significantly lower than both the county and state averages. While the poverty rate is lower than the county and state averages, around 7.6% of residents live below the poverty line. Additionally, 17.2% of residents live with a disability, a figure slightly above the county average.

Community Characteristics	
Population (2023)	157
Population (2020)	107
Total Households	80
Median Household Income	$55,833
Median Household Income – Monona County	$62,944

Vulnerable Populations	*Count*	*Percent*	*Monona*	*Iowa*
5 years and younger	0	0.0%	5.6%	5.7%
65 years and older	38	24.2%	23.8%	16.0%
Below the poverty level	18	7.6%	11.2%	11.3%

[21] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1911530-castana-ia/

Living with a disability	27	17.2%	13.8%	18.5%

Castana has a total of 105 housing units, with 63 currently occupied and 25 vacant. The town has 13 mobile homes, making up a relatively high proportion of the housing stock. The majority of the homes in Castana were built before 1970, while a smaller number were constructed between 1970 and 1999. Notably, no residential structures were built after 2000, indicating a housing market largely consisting of older homes. Vacancy rate may be significantly higher than indicated based on local information. At the time of writing this plan, the city is initiating a complete water systems improvement, which when implemented will hopefully restore resident and home occupancy rates as projected in various estimates.

Housing Characteristics	*Count*	*Percent*
Total Housing Units	105	
Occupied	63	76%
Vacant	25	24%
Mobile Homes	13	12%
Age of Residential Structure		
Built 2000 or later	0	0.0%
Built 1970 – 1999	11	15.3%
Build 1969 or earlier	61	84.7%

Critical Facilities

City Hall/Chestnut Hall	103 Pine St
Community Building	113 3rd St
City Park & related	Willow & 4th Sts
Pump Houses	by Maple River
	by Elevator
Water Tower	South end of 2nd St
New Fire Station	321 Pine St
Old Fire Station	3rd & Pine Sts
Storage Bldgs	320 Pine St
	114 N 3rd St
Garage/Storage	202 3rd St

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

Castana Community Church	101 4th Street
Lilly Jack Saloon	301 Ash Street
Timber Ridge Ranch and Winery & Vineyard	33453 153rd St (outside city limits)

Valuation of City Assets

A valuation of city assets was not provided. However, the city will conduct a thorough cost-benefit analysis including public and private facilities and properties as may be affected by the implementation of a given project.

b. Participation

A virtual mitigation planning meeting was facilitated by SIMPCO via Teams was held on February 25, 2025 with Castana City Clerk Cristy Nelson in attendance.

c. Community Capabilities

Policies/Ordinance	
• Drainage Ordinance • Nuisance Ordinance • Storm Water Ordinance	• Subdivision Ordinance • Tree Trimming Ordinance
Programs	
Codes Building Site/Design	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Non-Participant	CID #190462B
ISO Fire Rating	Class 7
Planning/Zoning Boards	
Tree Trimming Program	Included in tree trimming ordinance
Staff/Department	
Emergency Response Team	Yes, Fire Department
Non-Governmental Organizations	
• American Legion Auxiliary • American Legion Post #507 (Grimsley-Thayer) • GFWC Iowa	• 76ers • Neighborly Pals • Thursday Club

Local Funding Availability	
Apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Capital Improvements funding via annual budget process	
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water services	
Ability to incur debt through:	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities

Castana is a non-participant in the NFIP program. The city has zero RL/SRL properties.

As corrective measures are pursued for the water systems, the city is mindful of other mitigative needs that may be included with this project and separately. Potential projects include but are not limited to the following.

- Generator/generator connections to maintain function of systems as well as communications through system technologies during power outages
- Wash out controls to stabilize gravel roadways
- Runoff controls and drainage
- Flash flood protections for new infrastructure as completed

A significant strength for the community is provision of bottled water through donations from area businesses of all sizes, showing immense local support.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

communication/education
tools/equipment
development
flow control
refuge
technology
natural barriers/supports

Stabilization	Castana	2020: Modify road overlay with "packable rock" or more stable substance to minimize washout episodes; City Maintenance (City funds, PDM) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Stabilization	Castana	**Update**. Carry over. Due to multi-faceted and severe funding constraints, action was not taken on this project. The city is interested in stabilizing the gravel roads throughout its hilly terrain to address proneness to wash out.

Castana completed an addition to the Fire Station at the cost of about $25,000. Costs were covered by local fundraising efforts.

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

A review of the NOAA Storm Event database includes one reported incident specific to Castana. As it is centrally located, it can be expected that the city experienced the effects of all 16 Monona (Zone) events affecting the whole county.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
CASTANA	5/24/2024	1:46	Thunderstorm Wind	72 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

In addition to weather events, infrastructure failure is of significant concern. At the writing of this plan, Castana cannot be discussed without acknowledging the city's dire water situation. In addition to other contaminant concerns, extremely high presence of manganese is visible in collected tap water samples. The mineral concentration is high enough to prevent effective use through washing machines and other appliances, rendering the water not only unsafe to drink, but relatively useless. No Improvement to water quality occur through boiling. The city is tirelessly seeking funding for an overhaul of their water and water treatment systems. With bottled water necessary for all residents, many have likely sought alternate living arrangements, at least temporarily. The resulting vacancies and lack of response to the census and American Community Survey requests is likely the cause for disparate population and income estimates as provided earlier for discussion.

Priority Hazards

The City recognizes the following as priority hazard concerns for Castana.

- Infrastructure Failure
- Drought
- Thunderstorm w/Hail & Lightning

With persistent drought and water availability in Castana, Grass and Wildland Fires should be given due consideration as an overriding concern. Geographical location alone requires the consideration of Tornado/Windstorm as another significant concern.

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Castana	**New**. Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to: Alert Iowa, Water conservation; Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. City Clerk, County EMA (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
development		
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Castana	**New**. Castana is actively pursuing funding to reconstruct its water systems as the water is currently unusable. Mineral content in water is so significant that it cannot be used even for laundry. *City Council, Contracted consultant/ engineer* (USDA, CDBG, Local fund match via Bond/SRLF) HIGH PRIORITY
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		
Stabilization	Castana	**Carry over**. Modify road overlay with "packable rock" or more stable substance to minimize washout episodes; *City Maintenance* (City road use funds, PDM) MEDIUM PRIORITY

Tree removal is not a prominent concern, however, activity will be addressed as needed for dead/diseased trees in the public right of way or parking.

3. Mapleton

a. Profile

The city of Mapleton is located in the northeast corner of Monona County. State Highway 175 runs through the west / northwest portion of city limits, and acts as a part of the western boundary for the section town containing the airport. This section is bound by the Maple River to the east. This river then continues west of Mapleton. Schoenjahn Wildlife Preserve is located along Maple River to the west. Heisler Creek is located north and west of Mapleton. More information can be found at the City of Mapleton's website at www.mapleton.com.

City Governance & Community Supports

Mapleton is governed by a five-person elected council and the mayor. Offices in addition to Mayor and Council include City Clerk, Public Works, Police, and Fire & Rescue. A Planning and Zoning Board also serves the City. Fire/rescue is provided by the Mapleton Fire Department, which is staffed by volunteers, and serves the surrounding area. The city hosts an ambulance service managed through Burgess. The city does have its own police department. Law enforcement services are supplemented by the Monona County Sheriff's Department.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

CensusReporter.org provides a 2023 population estimate[22] of 997 for Mapleton, reflecting a decline from 1,161 residents in 2020. Local determination of population based on utility billing and known dynamics is closer to the 2020 census at 1185. The community includes 518 households, with a median household income of $52,955, considerably low in comparison to the county and state averages. About 10.4% of the population lives below the poverty line, a clear indication of likely financial challenges.

Mapleton has an estimated total of 630 housing units, with 517 currently occupied and 113 vacant. Real estate marketplaces such as Zillow and Realtor.com indicate a15-16 homes for sale and www.apartmenthomeliving.com/mapleton-ia estimates 35 rentals available indicating a variation in actual vacancy as opposed to estimated. The housing stock includes a small number of mobile homes, with six units in total. Most residents have moved into their homes

[22] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1949170-mapleton-ia/

since 2000, while a smaller portion settled in during the 1990s or earlier. This suggests a relatively modern housing base, with a mix of newer and more established residences throughout the community.

Leading Employers

Mapleton has dozens of businesses, each employing a small staff. Leading employers in the city of Mapleton include:

- Maple Valley – Anthon Oto Community School District
- Maple Heights Nursing Home
- Monona County Iron
- NEW Coop
- The City of Mapleton

Critical Facilities

Town Hall, Police Dept, & Communications Bldg	513 Main St
Community Center	511 Main St
Fire Station	106 S 2nd St
Fire Bldg #2	48 Courtright
Ambulance, & Mntc Bldg	49 Maple St
Mapleton Public Library	609 Courtright St
City Garage	102 S 2nd St
Maintenance Bldg	109 Front St
City Shop	405 Heisler St.
City Garage/Storage	Maple St
Storage	39 Maple St
	321 Main St
	600 W Ring
Mapleton Pool & Related	551-599 Sioux St
Mapleton Park & Shelter House	Ring St & S. 7th St
Ball Field, Concessions stand, & Related	
Pocket Park	

Roadside Park	
Light Plant & Substation	103 S Front St
Sewer Plant & Related	IA-175 & W Ring St
Well Houses	Old Airport
	Willow Vale Golf Club
Water Tower	
Substation	8th & Ring Sts
Pump Station	
Water Treatment Plant	303 IA-175
Sirens	104 Maple
	Chamberlain St
Mapleton Muni Airport & Related	
Willow Vale Golf Club; Club House, & Related	300 Sioux St
Walking Trail	
Mapleton Cemetery	

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

Mapleton Elementary School	501 S 7th St
Maple Valley – Anthon Oto High School	
Burgess Family Clinic	513 S Muckey St
Medical Clinic	520 Main St
Maple Heights Nursing Home	2 Sunrise Ave
Post Office	106 S 5th St
Whiting Woods (County Park)	14858 Peach Avenue (outside City Limits)
Heights Home Health Inc.	114 North 4th St, Ste C
Museum of American History	302 S 7th St
Numerous Churches	

Private businesses and organizations play an essential role in the City's recovery efforts and communication network, and are therefore included in this itemizing of essential or critical facilities. The list is not exhaustive. Additional community churches and individuals, as well as those in nearby communities, work together to ensure communication and support in times of crisis.

Valuation of City Assets

An approximate overall valuation of city properties, facilities, and other holdings is $20,261,840. This may not include all equipment and city vehicles. A precise accounting of value will be conducted for use in cost-benefit analysis as specific to a given project.

b. Participation

SIMPCO facilitated a mitigation planning meeting at Mapleton City Hall on February 5, 2025 with City Clerk Karla Uhl in attendance.

c. Community Capabilities

Plans/Guidance Documents	
2017 Mapleton Comprehensive Plan	
Policies/Ordinance	
• Building Code • Drainage Ordinance • Nuisance Ordinance • Storm Water Ordinance	• Subdivision Ordinance • Tree Trimming Ordinance • Zoning Ordinance
Programs	
Zoning/Land Use Restrictions	
Codes Building Site/Design	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190208B
ISO Fire Rating	Class 7/7X
Planning/Zoning Boards	
Tree Trimming Program	
Staff/Department	
• Building Code Official • Building Inspector • Public Works Official	• Ambulance & EMS • Fire Department • Police Department
Non-Governmental Organizations	
American Legion Post #496 (Loren Hollister)	
Mapleton Community Development Corps	
Local Funding Availability	

Apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Capital Improvements funding	
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water, sewer, gas, and electric services	
Ability to incur debt through:	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities

The city participates in the NFIP program with the Zoning Administrator serving as Floodplain Administrator. Mapleton has zero RL/SRL properties.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

communication/education		
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Mapleton	**Correction** to the 2020 Plan stating generator was added. Additional generators are needed to maintain function of critical facilities during disastrous and other extreme events. *City Administrator, Waterworks, County EMA* (City funds, community benefit funds, IDOT program funds, PDM funds) HIGH PRIORITY
		Update. Project not completed due to lack of dedicated funding. Transfer switches were installed at light plant, equipped to handle in-the-moment outages, primarily intended for short-term.
Equipment	Mapleton	2020: Lift station for water plant; *City Water Supt* (City funds, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
		Update: Project has not been completed and carries over to the 2026 HMP.
development		
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Mapleton	2020: New motor needed to maintain operation of one of the municipal wells (Willow Vale unit) *City Water Dept., IDNR* (City funds, IDNR Clean Water/Drinking Water program funds) HIGH PRIORITY
		Complete. $30,000 project has been completed.
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Mapleton	2020: Rebuild needed for lift station @ 8th & Ring; *City Water & Public Works Depts* (City funds, IDNR, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
		Complete. Estimated project cost of $50,000 – project has been completed.
flow control		
Drainage projects	Mapleton	2020: Wetlands designation within city limit; *project led by Mapleton Community Development Corps in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture and the DNR* (Limited expense anticipated) HIGH PRIORITY
		Project Closed. Project will not be implemented as cost of maintenance if enacted is not feasible.
refuge		
technology		

natural barriers/supports

Other mitigation-focused projects not specified in the 2020 HMP as completed include the following.

- Dike improvements near the airport were implemented, replacing one section of the dike. The $400,000 project was funded using the city's reserve of annual FAA (airport) funds. Hangars were added, as was a turnaround.

- The city has adopted IBC by reference with exceptions, consistent with state code practices.

- Drainage improvements were implemented as tied to storm water runoff damages incurred in 2024. The $110,000 project was funded with Road Use tax dollars. In lieu of pavement repairs, the city added drain connections and new rocks.

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

General weather events are significantly impactful for Mapleton, especially rain and snow melt related accumulations that contribute to riverine flooding. Approximately one-third of the city is comprised of floodplain, covering its northwest cross-section. An assessment of the NOAA Storm Event database includes 3 reports specific to Mapleton and the Mapleton Municipal Airport.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
MAPLETON	5/8/2023	18:29	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MAPLETON MUNI ARPT	6/2/2020	20:45	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MAPLETON MUNI ARPT	5/19/2022	22:28	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Priority Hazards

The following have been identified as the hazards of priority concern for the City.

- Tornado / Windstorm
- Thunderstorm with Hail and Lightning
- Severe Winter Storm

Lingering effects of the 2011 EF-3 tornado and a lesser tornado in 2008 cause particular wariness for Mapleton's residents. Other historic events include significant flooding in 2019, discussed in some detail in the previous HMP. The concession stand at the city's ball fields is still in need of major renovation or replacement. Work includes modifications to better withstand extreme weather and flooding. A project addressing this issue is included under the Development section of planned projects.

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Mapleton	**New**. Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to: Alert Iowa, water conservation; Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. City Clerk, County EMA (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
Warning Sirens	Mapleton	**New**. City is seeking to replace the motor on their aging warning siren located at the park. Maintenance on existing is increasingly cumbersome with lack of replacement parts and continuous repairs needed. *Public Works, County EMA* (PDM, public safety funds as may be available, community grants, local general budget funds) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Mapleton	**Correction** to the 2020 Plan stating generator was added. **Carry over**. Additional generators are needed to maintain function of critical facilities during disastrous and other extreme events. *City Administrator, Waterworks, County EMA* (City funds general budget, community benefit funds, IDOT program funds, PDM funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Equipment	Mapleton	**Carry over**. Lift station for water plant; *City Water Supt* (City funds general budget, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
development		
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Mapleton	**New**. City is planning installation of Well House with motor at Golf Course. Budgeted for fall 2025 at an estimated cost of $51,000. Public Works (Local funds general budget, community benefits grants, other as may become available)
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Mapleton	**New**. The city is planning to replace or substantially renovate its flood-damaged concessions structure at the city's ballpark. As means of providing a layer of protection, the stand is intended to provide respite from

		extreme heat and thunderstorm/ lightning events when immediate refuge is necessary. *Parks Department* (Local general budget, fundraising, PDM as available) HIGH PRIORITY
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

4. Moorhead

a. Profile

The city of Moorhead is located in south Woodbury County, just east of center. County Highway E54 and State Highway 183 intersect in the southern portion of Moorhead. Soldier River Cutoff runs along the southeastern city boundary. Jordan Creek is located west of the City. Several miles to the southwest is Preparation Canyon State Park.

City Governance & Community Supports

Moorhead is governed by a five (5)-person elected City Council and a Mayor. City Council meets the first Monay each month at 7:00 PM. Offices in addition to the Mayor and Council include City Clerk and Fire & Rescue. Fire & Rescue services are provided to the City and surrounding area by the Moorhead Volunteer Fire Department. Monona County provides law enforcement services, and a state patrol officer is located in Moorhead.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

In 2023, Moorhead's population grew to 263, up from 199 in 2020, and the community includes 123 households. The median household income in Moorhead is $35,935, significantly lower than the Monona County median of $62,944, pointing to economic challenges for many residents. Vulnerable populations make up a notable portion of the community—children under the age of five account for a small segment, while a significant number of residents are 65 or older. About 16% of the population lives below the poverty line, and over one-fifth of residents live with a disability, both figures exceeding the county and state averages. These characteristics highlight the need for supportive services and resources tailored to the town's diverse and aging population.

Community Characteristics	
Population (2023)	263
Population (2020)	199
Total Households	123
Median Household Income	$35,935
Median Household Income – Monona County	$62,944

Vulnerable Populations	*Count*	*Percent*	*Monona*	*Iowa*
5 years and younger	5	7.6%	5.6%	5.7%
65 years and older	60	22.8%	23.8%	16.0%
Below the poverty level	159	16%	11.2%	11.3%
Living with a disability	45	21.3%	13.8%	18.5%

Moorhead has a total of 123 housing units, with 116 currently occupied and just 7 vacant, reflecting a high occupancy rate. The housing stock includes three mobile homes. The vast majority of homes in the community were built before 1970, with only a small number constructed between 1970 and 1999 or after 2000. This indicates that most of Moorhead's residential structures are older, suggesting a well-established housing base with limited recent development.

Housing Characteristics	*Count*	*Percent*
Total Housing Units	123	-
Occupied	116	94%
Vacant	7	6%
Mobile Homes	3	3%
Age of Residential Structure		
Built 2000 or later	2	1.6%
Built 1970 – 1999	1	0.8%
Build 1969 or earlier	125	97.7%

Leading Employers

Hosting a handful of small businesses, Moorhead does not have any large-scale employers in town. However, some businesses are integral to community function and overall wellbeing. Some key businesses are provided for reference.

United Bank of Iowa	124 Oak St
Hauganseven	
Bud's Bar & Grill	114 Oak St

Critical Facilities

City Hall/Community Center/Library	100-102 Oak St.
Moorhead Fire & Rescue	110 Oak St.
Post Office	116 Oak St.
Office/Gift Shop	119 Oak St
Exhibition Hall	120 Oak St
Sewage Lift Station	1st St
Garage/Storage	212 1st St
Pump House	(Block 9)
Shelter House/Band Shell	(Block 21)
Ball Field & Related	

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

Consistent with previous planning practices, each of Moorhead's proposed Mitigation Actions and Strategies pursued for implementation in the next five (5) years will fully consider protections to privately held assets (facilities, personal property, property in the open) and to the residents therein. Furthermore, privately owned facilities that offer services and support during times of crisis may be specifically included in mitigation actions and/or strategies receiving municipal-funded support to maintain function and operation of those structures. Some facilities may host vulnerable populations (children, seniors, disable persons) and are therefore significant in mitigation planning. Recreation areas outside the City's jurisdiction and/or privately owned are included among hosts of vulnerable populations. Such entities as described may include the following.

Bethesda Lutheran Church	703 Pine St

Moorhead Christian Church	
Outside City Limits	
Savery Pond	33787 Plum Ave
Loess Hills Hideaway Cabins and Campground	33774 Plum Ave
Preparation Canyon State Park	340th St
State Patrol	31880 Prepreation

Private businesses and organizations, even when not leading employers, play an essential role in the City's recovery efforts and communication network, and may therefore be included in this itemizing of essential or critical facilities. The list is not exhaustive. Additional community churches and individuals, as well as those in nearby communities, work together to ensure communication and support in times of crisis.

Valuation of City Assets

A current statement of valuation of city properties, assets, holdings has not been provided for this plan. The city will include valuations as appropriate per project should they pursue pre-disaster mitigation funds as means of defining base dollar amounts for cost-benefit analysis. Valuation for private commercial and residential properties will be included as appropriate for a given project.

b. Participation

A virtual planning meeting, facilitated by SIMPCO was held via MS Teams on November 4, 2024 with Barb Jensen, City Clerk in attendance.

As with most rural communities, local businesses help define the character and development of Moorhead. The following stakeholders are directly represented through community engagement, invitation to comment on plan development, participation on City Council, and/or representation within city staff.

- Loess Hills Hospitality Assn., tourism
- Loess Hills Cultural Assn
- Arts Moorhead
- Legion and Auxiliary Peter A Hansen Post #365
- Moorhead Outdoor Spaces Team,

- Parks & Recreation
- Bethesda Lutheran Church
- Moorhead Christian Church
- Moorhead Feed Supply, business
- Spring Valley Grain & Ag Services, business
- Hauganseven, business
- Moorhead Taxidermy, business
- Old Town Auto, used car business
- Fatboyz II Bar & Grill, business
- Guys & Gals Hair, business
- United Bank of Iowa, business
- U S Post Office
- Dunlop Storage Unit
- Bonham's Lawn Care, business
- Moorhead Fire & Rescue
- Moorhead Community Center

A final review of the plan including corrections and submitted revisions was completed by the city clerk on February 26,2026. The review resulted in acknowledgement of plan content and agreement to adopt upon FEMA approval.

c. Community Capabilities

Policies/Ordinance	
• Building Code and Unsafe Buildings Ordinance • Building Permit Ordinance • Nuisance Ordinance	• Residential Zoning Ordinance • Subdivision Ordinance • Trees Ordinance
Programs	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190783B
ISO Fire Rating	Class 7/7X
Staff/Department	
Fire Department	
Non-Governmental Organizations	
American Legion Post #365 (Peter A. Hansen)	
Local Funding Availability	
Apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Capital Improvements funding	
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water, sewer, and electric services	
Ability to incur debt through:	• general obligation bonds
	• special tax bonds
	• private activities

The Municipal Code of Ordinances was last updated in 2023 and included Building Code adoption. The city's floodplain ordinance was adopted on March 7, 2022 referencing FIRM Panel ID 19133C0386D. The city participates in the NFIP program with the City Clerk serving as Floodplain Administrator. Moorhead has zero RL/SRL properties.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

communication /education		
Warning Sirens	Moorhead	2020: Warning siren needs replacing. Existing prone to malfunction, in need of constant repair. Necessary in maximizing efforts to reduce repercussion from severe weather conditions. *City Council, County EMA*. (Local funds, County support funds, PDM, community benefit programs) HIGH PRIORITY
		Update. Project still under consideration, maintain in 2026 Plan.
Assessment/Study	Moorhead	**Added by amendment.** Still needed – Study needed to determine source/cause of sinkholes believed to be a delayed effect of extensive area flooding in 2019. City's initial assessment revealed no visible effects of that year's flood. By 2021, sinkholes appeared throughout town affecting roadways and sidewalks. It is expected that underwashing caused by high velocity runoff is the primary cause of the sinkholes, however a study is needed to confirm that. Included in the study is an review of solutions for implementation that would eliminate the cause and prevent recurrence. City public works, State Homeland Security and Emergency Management, County EMA, USDA, potentially IDNR, other state departments as may be appropriate. (FEMA BRIC/FMA technical assistance, USDA programs, local funds) HIGH PRIORITY.
		Update. Initial application was not funded (2023). City is carrying project into 2026 plan with the intent of continuing to pursue funds to determine feasible solution(s) to the sinkhole issue.
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Moorhead	2020: Generators - city hall/community ctr that operates as command center as needed; Potential partnering with County to establish Command Center capacity in the event of an emergency; *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
		Update. No action has been taken on this project due to lack of funding availability. The project is still needed and therefore will be carried over to the 2026 HMP.
Equipment	Moorhead	**Implemented**. Fire Department assed UTV to improve access to wild fires and other emergency needs not accessible by roadway. Project was funded through grants and local fundraising efforts.
development		
flow control		
Drainage Projects	Moorhead	AMENDMENT. 8/2023 – City is seeking to better address stormwater runoff. Sinkholes have been appearing throughout town. A study is needed to confirm cause and viable options for correction and mitigation. Council approved the amendment to include a scoping project and implementation plan, and re-adopted the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan as amended.
Drainage Projects	Moorhead	**Update**: Action not implemented but still needed.
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

d. Risk Assessment

Included for consideration in the community risk assessment is local perception of available resources and infrastructure. For the most part, perceived issues have been legitimized through Council calls for action and regulatory notifications. Community response in the survey accounted for 3 as included in the 248 compiled results and an additional 3 full paper surveys turned in after the summary concluded. Respondents and the city council have expressed concern over capacity of fire/rescue services, increasing concern over sinkhole situation on streets and sidewalks, stormwater drainage (again along streets and sidewalks), and water systems repairs.

The city is assessing implementation of a DNR-EPA necessitated project to replace galvanized pipes (containing lead) throughout its water systems network. This project is anticipated to effectively incorporate other improvements such as road surface repairs, sidewalk repairs, and stormwater drainage as a byproduct of underground pipeline replacements. For areas not undergoing construction, like surface/drainage improvements will still be needed.

Contributing Factors

An assessment of NOAA records of Storm Events between 11/01/2019 and 12/31/2024 shows 3 events specific to Moorhead and its extended planning area, with an implied effect of 16 additional events recorded for the Monona (Zone) impacting the county as a whole. Localized occurrences are provided in the following table for reference. Additional detail can be found at https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/.

.	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
MOORHEAD	7/23/2022	19:33	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PREPARATION	4/26/2024	16:05	Tornado	EF0	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MOORHEAD	4/26/2024	16:17	Tornado	EF0	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Priority Hazards

Identified local priority hazards are prioritized as follows, maintaining concerns from the 2020 plan and adding Sinkholes as current highest priority. Tornado and windstorm concerns are validated by the record of recent events in and around Moorhead and Monona County.

- Sinkholes
- Tornado/Windstorm
- Severe Winter Storm
- Thunderstorm w/Hail & Lightning

Extreme fluctuations between weather conditions from extreme cold to warm are continuing to perpetuate flash flooding issues and prolonged instances of standing water where none historically occurred. Heavy flooding in 2019 seems to have caused severe underwashing of the foundations beneath street and sidewalk infrastructure. This was unnoticed until sinkholes appeared throughout town at an alarming frequency beginning in 2020-2021. The city applied for a FEMA Project Scoping grant to confirm cause and develop a course of corrective and mitigative action. The project was not funded and remains an activity in the current project list.

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

communication /education		
Promo/Info	Moorhead	**New**. Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to: Alert Iowa, water conservation; Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. City Clerk, County EMA (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
Warning Sirens	Moorhead	**Carry over**. City siren needs rewiring/electrical replacement. Fire Department recommends upgrade pending fundability. *City Council, Fire Department, County EMA*. (Local general budget funds, BRIC as available if coordinated with additional projects) MEDIUM PRIORITY.
Assessment/Study	Moorhead	**Carry over**. Study needed to determine source/cause of sinkholes. Included in the study is an review of solutions for implementation that would eliminate the cause and prevent recurrence. City public works, State Homeland Security and Emergency Management, County EMA, USDA, potentially IDNR, other state departments as may be appropriate. (FEMA BRIC/FMA technical assistance, USDA programs, local general budget funds) HIGH PRIORITY.
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Moorhead	**Carry over.** Generator for fire station/Community Center as this facility is designated for refuge/shelter and command center in the event of an emergency. *Public Works, City Council, County EMA* (Local funds general budget, County supports, State/Federal response funds, BRIC, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Moorhead	**New**. A DNR notification was received during routine inspection of the lagoon that the generator in place is antiquated and presumed unreliable necessitating urgent priority for replacement. Community goal is to move to attain necessary funding

		and implement project as soon as possible. *Public Works, City Council, County EMA* (Local funds general budget, County supports, State/Federal response funds, BRIC, IDNR, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Equipment	Moorhead	**New**. City interested in acquiring UTV for general multi-departmental city use to improve access and maneuverability ranging from clean-up to pest prevention, etc. *Multi-departmental involvement*. (City funds general budget, Emergency Response funds as available, local foundation grants, fundraising) HIGH PRIORITY
development		
flow control		
Drainage Projects	Moorhead	**Carry over**. City is seeking options to improve stormwater drainage. Latent effects of 2019 floods resulted in underwashing of the city's sidewalks and streets, the presumed cause of sinkholes throughout town. The city did pursue a scoping grant through FEMA BRIC but was not awarded. A study to confirm/determine cause and development of an implementation plan is still needed. *Public Works* (Disaster Mitigation Funds as available, Local general budget Funds) HIGH PRIORITY
refuge		
technology		
Improve effectiveness	Moorhead	**New**. City is planning to increase awareness of Monona County's Alert Iowa system as effective means of communicating in-time weather events, as well as connected preparedness tools, as may be needed for residents. City Clerk, County EMA (No funds expected to be necessary beyond staff time) MEDIUM PRIORITY
natural barriers/supports		
Trees	Moorhead	**New**. City has removed dying/diseased trees from public rights of way as needed, but no schedule of removal or replacement is currently in place. City is interested in seeking funds to add trees back into parks, pending availability of funds, to serve as protection from extreme heat, soil stabilization/erosion control, and to serve as a wind barrier. *City administration* (City general budget funds, IDNR programs, UPS Tree Grants and similar community reforestation funds, private funds) LOW PRIORITY

5. Onawa

a. Profile

The city of Onawa is located in the center of the west half of Monona County. State Highway 175 runs east to west, bisecting the City and intersects with Interstate 29 just west of city limits. A few miles outside of town and west of the interstate is Lewis and Clark State Park, Middle Decatur Bend State Wildlife Management Area, Blue Lake, and the Missouri River. East of the City is the Little Sioux River. More information about Onawa can be found on the city's website at www.onawa.com.

City Governance & Community Supports

The city of Onawa is governed by a six-person elected City Council and a Mayor. Offices in addition to Mayor and Council are include the following.

- City Clerk
- Economic Development
- Onawa Fire Department
- Onawa Police Department
- Onawa Public Library
- Parks & Recreation
- Public Works
- Utilities

Fire and rescue services are provided to the City and surrounding communities by the Onawa Fire Department, which is staffed by volunteers. The City is able to provide its own law enforcement. Ambulance service is a full-time, paid service that is provided by Burgess Health Center.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

CensusReporter.org shows Onawa's population as estimated for 2023 at 2,862 – a slight decrease from the decennial census estimates in 2020. The city includes 1,267 households and has a median household income of $54,659, which is below the Monona County median of $62,944. Onawa has a relatively young population, with a higher share of children under five compared to both county and state averages. Nearly one in five residents is 65 or older, and a significant portion of the population—458 people—live below the poverty line, indicating ongoing economic challenges. Additionally, the same number of residents live with a disability, pointing to a need for accessible services and support within the community.

Community Characteristics	
Population (2023)	2,862
Population (2020)	2,906
Total Households	1,267
Median Household Income	$54,659
Median Household Income – Monona County	$62,944

Vulnerable Populations	*Count*	*Percent*	*Monona*	*Iowa*

5 years and younger	224	7.8%	5.6%	5.7%
65 years and older	565	19.7%	23.8%	16.0%
Below the poverty level	458	16.1%	11.2%	11.3%
Living with a disability	458	16.4%	13.8%	18.5%

Onawa has a total of 1,369 housing units, with 1,273 currently occupied and 96 vacant. The community includes 14 mobile homes, making up a small portion of the housing stock. Most of the residential structures were built before 1970, reflecting an older housing base. A quarter of the homes were built between 1970 and 1999, while only a small number have been constructed since 2000. This mix indicates a predominantly established housing market with limited recent development.

Housing Characteristics	*Count*	*Percent*
Total Housing Units	1,369	-
Occupied	1,273	93%
Vacant	96	7%
Mobile Homes	14	1%
Age of Residential Structure		
Built 2000 or later	83	5.6%
Built 1970 – 1999	374	25.4%
Build 1969 or earlier	1,018	69.0%

Leading Employers

There are dozens of businesses within Onawa that each employ small staff. Leading employers for the City include:

- AgriVision
- Bomgaars
- Burgess Health Center
- City of Onawa
- Crossroads of Western Iowa
- Elmwood Care Center
- Fiesta Brava
- Lewis Pharmacy
- McDonalds
- Monona County
- Subway
- Sunshine Foods

- T&R Truck Stop
- Taylor's Oil Company
- West Monona Community School District
- Westendorf Manufacturing Co.
- WIPCO Energy (& off-site Solar Field)

Critical Facilities

City Facilities

City Hall/Clerk's Office		914 Diamond St.
Streets/Cemetery Dept & Related		1519 6th St
Fire Station/City Sup't/Maintenance Bldg/Multi-use		1514 6th St
Onawa Fire Department		1025 9th St
Onawa Public Library		709 Iowa Ave
Water Treatment, Generator, Wells,& Related		900-904 8th St
Wastewater Treatment Plant, Main Lift Station & Related		1716 6th St
Sewer Lift Station		1229 8th St
Lift Stations	1200 1st St	142 Maple
	47 12th St	2300 S Blue Lake
22286 248th St	1111 28th St	2220 Iowa Ave
Sirens		20th & Pearl
		Iowa Ave & Diamond
Pump Houses & Equipment		8th & Jasper
		910 8th St
		916 8th St
Main Substation & Related		8th & Diamond
Electric Substation		12th & Emerald
		13th & Granite
		Between 3rd & 4th on Diamond
Water Tower		1720 Granite Pl (Hospital Grounds)
Electric Generation Station/Light Plant		1035 8th St
Storage Bldg		1503 10th St
Onawa Swimming Pools & related		200-227 12th St
Gaukel Park, Related Bldgs & Equip		14th & Gaukel Dr
• Blacksmith Museum • Church Museum • Depot Museum	• Firehouse Museum • Log Cabin • School House Museum	

Monona County Veterans Memorial Museum	203 N 12th St
Onawa Community Center	320 10th St
Onawa Senior Citizen Center	1017 8th St
Ropes Park & Related Equip/Shelter	1400 2nd St & Maple
Liberty Park & Related Equip/Shelter	13th & Cameo
Generator Bldg	South end of 6th St
Community Theater	910 9th St
Dog Pound & Related	1700 6th St
Skate Park & Related Equip	12th St

County Facilities (housed in Onawa)

Courthouse	610 Iowa Ave
Law Enforcement Center	909 7th St
Monona County Arboretum & Conservation Center	318 E Iowa Ave
Monona County Fairgrounds & Campgrounds	1201-1323 Gaukel Dr
Monona County Historical Museum	47 12th St

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

West Monona Middle School	1314 15th St
West Monona High School	
Lark Elementary School	611 4th
Onawa Headstart Center	307 Jasper St
Burgess Memorial Hospital & Related Facilities/Services	1600 Diamond St
Crossroads of Western Iowa	301 10th St
Dialysis Clinic Inc.	1620 Diamond St Pl
Elmwood Care Center	190 North 15th Street
Elmwood PE, LLC	190 North 15th St
Family Medicine Clinic	1614 Diamond St
Frannie's Café	Main St
Decatur Bend (SW of Onawa)	Cherry Ave & 243rd St.
Kiwanis Museum Complex	203 N 12th St
On Ur Wa RV Campgrounds	22865 Filbert Ave
Onawa Country Club	1825 235th St
Churches:	

Faith Lutheran Church	316 15th St
First Christian Church	722 15th St
St John's Catholic Church	1009 13th St
Seventh Day Adventist Church	14th Street
Evangelical Free Church	12th street
Community Christ Church	11th Street
Onawa United Methodist Church	1103 13th Street
Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses	1006 Lucas Street
United Pentecostal Church	406 Iowa Avenue

The city is mindful of its senior housing and low-income apartment complexes whose residents

Valuation of City Assets

A current valuation of assets has not been provided for this plan. For the purpose of cost-benefit considerations, a valuation of the City's assets will be compiled based on its insured properties, personal property, and facilities, as applicable to a given project. At such time, values will also include private properties, equipment, or non-city funded investments that may contribute to project determinations or as may be affected by the project.

b. Participation

An on-site mitigation planning meeting was facilitated by SIMPCO at the Onawa Council Chambers on February 14, 2025. The following were in attendance.

- Lonnie Campbell, Mayor
- Bryan Savery, Director – Public Works
- Melissa Beerman, Director – Economic Development/Parks & Rec
- Ashley Hausman, Administrative Assistant

Additional input was collected via survey and is included for discussion. Of the 18 surveys submitted for Monona County, 10 indicated jurisdiction of residence as Onawa.

c. Community Capabilities

Plans/Guidance Documents	
Comprehensive Plan	Capital Improvement Plan
Policies/Ordinances	
City Code of Ordinances including: • Drainage Ordinance • Floodplain Ordinance • Historic Preservation Ordinance • Nuisance Ordinance • Storm Water Ordinance • Subdivision Ordinance • Tree Trimming Ordinance	
Zoning Ordinance	Building Code
Programs	
Codes Building Site/Design	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190463
ISO Fire Rating: Class 4/4Y, eff. 9/1/2014	Tree Trimming Program
Planning/Zoning Board	Zoning/Land Use Restrictions
Staff/Department	
Building Code Official (Permit review)	Public Works Official
Building Inspector (State officer)	
Emergency Response	Onawa FD
	EMS
	Burgess Ambulance
	County Sheriff's Dept (contracted)
Non-Governmental Organizations	
American Legion Post #129 (David McNeill)	
Chamber of Commerce	
Kiwanis	
Local Funding Availability	
Ability to apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Ability to fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	
TIF funding allocations as appropriated	
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water, sewer, & electric services	
Ability to incur debt through:	• general obligation bonds

	• special tax bonds • private activities

The city participates in the NFIP program with the Zoning Administrator serving as Floodplain Administrator. Onawa has zero RL/SRL properties.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

communication/education		
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Onawa	2020: Additional generators; *City Administrator, Waterworks, County EMA* (City funds, community benefit funds, IDOT program funds, PDM funds) HIGH PRIORITY
		Update: Some generator work has been completed, replacing generators at 3 sites (Fire Station, Electric Building, and Waterworks) and one new generator installed at Sewer Plant. A generator is also onsite at the hospital. The community center is still in need of a generator. This will be **carried over** to the 2026 HM project list.
Equipment	Onawa	2020: Snow removal equipment; *City Streets Dept* (City funds, transportation funds) LOW PRIORITY
		In progress. A newer plow truck is added to the budget for 2026.
Equipment	Onawa	2020: Pump with greater than 6" capacity – function @ 1,000 gallon per minute; City Administrator (City funds, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
		Update. Action not taken. Portable pump is still needed and carries over to the 2026 HMP with modified priority level.
Equipment	Onawa	2020: Boat; *City Administrator, Fire Chief collaboration* (City Funds, Response support funds, PDM) LOW PRIORITY
Equipment	Onawa	**Project closed**. Action not taken. FD has not indicated dire need for new rescue boat Project removed from priority list.
development		
Bridges & Roads	Onawa	2020: Resurfacing projects that will address drainage issues and minimize the effects of inclement weather-caused deterioration. *City Streets Dept, collaborate with County Roads* (City funds, Community Benefit funds, Transportation funds) HIGH PRIORITY
		Update. No resurfacing projects have been completed. Patchwork is implemented as needed. Current projects anticipated at $50,000 are set to begin in 2025. Full resurfacing is still needed and carries into the 2026 HMP.
Policy	Onawa	2020: Review/revision of subdivision regulations to address runoff concerns resulting from displacement; *City Council, Zoning Commission, City Attorney* (Local funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY

		Update. No action taken on this item. Needs have been clarified, necessitating the inclusion of water diversion in plans. Formalizing discussed recommendations to subdivision plans is carried over to the 2026 HMP, with elevated priority.
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

Onawa added a generator to the Electric Shop, a $17,000 project financed through local funds. A comprehensive Plan is in progress, with adoption anticipated prior to Fall 2025. Onawa has spent about $10,000 per year mitigating dead/diseased trees. It is not at present a pressing issue.

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

An assessment of the NOAA Storm Event database provided two reports specific to Onawa and 41 attributed to the county overall.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
ONAWA	7/9/2021	0:09	Hail	1.50 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
ONAWA	6/12/2024	18:31	Hail	3.50 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Priority Hazards

- Flooding
- Tornado / Windstorm
- Thunderstorm with Hail & Lightning

Drought, Extreme Heat, and Severe Winter Weather were included in the discussion. Survey respondents indicated Drought with the highest frequency of Very Concerned, followed by Infrastructure Failure and Tornado/Windstorm. When asked to indicate top three concerns,

respondents chose Drought (6/10), Tornado/Windstorm (4/10), and Thunderstorm with Hail and Lightning (3/10).

By Kathryn Vlaanderen
Published: Mar. 1, 2024 at 2:38 PM CST

UPDATE:

ONAWA, IA (KTIV) - According to the Iowa State Patrol, James M. Ball was heading east on Emerald Avenue in an SUV when he stopped and failed to yield the right of way for an inbound train. The train then struck the passenger side of the vehicle where it then ended up in a ditch.

Ball was taken to MercyOne Medical Center in Sioux City for treatment.

https://www.ktiv.com/2024/03/01/car-vs-train-collision-onawa-iowa/ June 10, 2025

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Onawa	**New**. Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to Alert Iowa, Water conservation; Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. City Clerk, County EMA (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Onawa	**Carry over.** Generators needed for Community Center and Nursing Home. *City Administrator, Waterworks, County EMA* (City – general fund, community benefit funds, IDOT program funds, PDM funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Equipment	Onawa	**Carry over**. A newer plow truck is added to the budget for 2026. Additional equipment is still needed. Snow removal equipment; *City Streets Dept* (City funds general budget, transportation funds) LOW PRIORITY
Equipment	Onawa	**Carry over**. Portable pump with greater than 6" capacity – function @ 1,000 gallon per minute; City Administrator, Public Works, potential for county collaboration (City funds general budget, PDM) LOW PRIORITY
Safety/Security Equipment	Onawa	**New**. City is considering installing cameras in city buildings and parks. Recent bids estimate project cost at $20,000+. Cameras would contribute to monitoring conditions in and potentially contributing to emergency situations. *City administrator, Parks Dept., Response teams* (City general budget funds, community benefits, public safety grants as may be available) HIGH PRIORITY
development		
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Onawa	**New**. Water Treatment Plant is planned. Estimated at $17M, the new plant. *Public Works, USDA, IDNR* (Local funds-annual budget item, Bonds, Grants TBD) HIGH PRIORITY

Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Onawa	**New**. Updates to the Electrical Substation are in discussion Repair costs are currently at $100,000 mark. Project would include assessment of options including but not limited to replacement and/or repair of various components. *City council, Public Works* (local funds – general budget, others to be determined pending project scope) HIGH PRIORITY
Bridges & Roads	Onawa	**Carry over**. Resurfacing projects that will address drainage issues and minimize the effects of inclement weather-caused deterioration. *City Streets Dept, collaborate with County Roads* (City general budget funds, Community Benefit funds, Transportation funds, Disaster funds as may apply, PDM as applicable) HIGH PRIORITY
Policy	Onawa	**Carry over**. Review and formal revision of subdivision regulations to address runoff concerns resulting from displacement. *City Council, Zoning Commission, City Attorney* (Local general budget funds) HIGH PRIORITY
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

Other actions in consideration over the next five years include but are not limited to the following.

- Consideration of annexation potential to align with bike trail connections/expansion opportunities.
- Provide support for projects as may be brought forward by County Sheriff's department to enhance/improve contracted services capacity for participating communities.

6. Rodney

a. Profile

The city of Rodney is located near the center of Monona County's northern border. County Highway L12 runs from the southwest to the northeast of the City, with most commercial and residential structures located southeast of the highway. Just outside city limits to the southeast is the Rodney Pits Recreation Area. Southeast of that is the Little Sioux River.

City Governance & Community Supports

Rodney is governed by a Mayor, City Council, and City Clerk. The city does not have its own fire, police, or ambulance services, and must rely on nearby communities and related contracted services. City Council meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

CensusReporter.org estimates Rodney's population at 48 in 2023[23], showing a slight increase from 45 residents in 2020. The town includes 29 households, with a median household income of $52,188—lower than the Monona County median of $62,944. While Rodney does not currently have any residents under the age of five, about one-fifth of the population is 65 or older. The town has a very low poverty rate, with just one resident living below the poverty line. However, a significant portion of the community lives with a disability, suggesting a need for accessible services and support within this small population.

Community Characteristics	
Population (2023)	48
Population (2020)	45
Total Households	29
Median Household Income	$52,188
Median Household Income – Monona County	$62,944

CensusReporter data conflicts with local record which includes four children under age five. For the purpose of baseline data consistency, the table contains information as sourced from CensusReporter. It is important to note that such databases are routinely updated reflecting data changes as collected. The results as provided are drawn at a single point in time and documented accordingly.

Vulnerable Populations	*Count*	*Percent*	*Monona*	*Iowa*
5 years and younger	0	0.0%	5.6%	5.7%
65 years and older	10	21%	23.8%	16.0%
Below the poverty level	1	2.1%	11.2%	11.3%

[23] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1968385-rodney-ia/

Living with a disability	15	30.0%	13.8%	18.5%

Rodney has a total of 21 housing units, all of which are currently occupied, leaving no vacant homes in the community. Mobile homes make up a notable portion of the housing stock, with seven in total. The majority of homes were built before 1970, while a smaller number were constructed between 1970 and 1999, and a few have been built since 2000. This mix of older and more recent construction reflects a small but stable housing environment with a high occupancy rate.

Housing Characteristics	*Count*	*Percent*
Total Housing Units	21	
Occupied	29	100.0%
Vacant	0	0.0%
Mobile Homes	7	33%
Age of Residential Structure		
Built 2000 or later	4	13.8%
Built 1970 – 1999	10	34.5%
Build 1969 or earlier	15	51.7%

Local record based on utility billings shows 28 homes/businesses. There are five occupied mobile homes at present. More demographic and community data can be found on the US Census Bureau data site for Rodney.

Leading Employers

Most residents work outside of Rodney. However, Hamann Trucking and Hamann & Sons are prominent businesses operating in Rodney. As such, their interests as stakeholders in Rodney's planning and development are represented within this Plan.

Critical Facilities, Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

The nature of Rodney as a community necessitates an overlap of public and private entities serving as critical community facilities and gathering places.

The City Garage, City Park, and Community Center are the only listed assets as provided by city representatives in the compilation of this plan.

In addition to City-owned properties, facilities and personal property, each of Rodney's proposed Mitigation Actions and Strategies pursued/considered for implementation in the next five (5) years will take into account protections to privately owned assets and to the residents therein. Furthermore, privately owned facilities that offer services and support during times of crisis may be specifically included in mitigation actions and/or strategies receiving municipal-funded support to maintain function and operation those structures. Those entities are as follows.

- The United Church of Christ (County Highway L12 and Oak Avenue) and
- County-maintained Rodney Recreational Pit area, which falls outside city limits but still within the general scope of concern for the City.

Private businesses and organizations play an essential role in the City's recovery efforts and communication network. As such, they categorized as essential or critical facilities. The list above is not exhaustive. Additional community churches and individuals, as well as those in nearby communities, work together to ensure communication and support in times of crisis.

Valuation of City Assets

A valuation of city holdings is not readily available. A summary of values will accompany the cost-benefit analysis for proposed projects including city and private properties as may be impacted by project implementation(s).

b. Participation

A planning meeting facilitated by SIMPCO was held in Rodney's community center on October 10, 2024 with Mayor Shawn Hamann and City Clerk Marilyn Hamann in attendance. One survey was returned indicating Rodney as jurisdiction of residence.

A final review and comments were completed by Mayor Shawn Hamann and Councilmembers Sharon Yockey and Beth Ryan on February 27, 2026. Upon said review, the city acknowledges plan content including updates since their initial meeting and agrees to adopt the plan as approved by FEMA.

c. Community Capabilities

The City of Rodney is historically a small community. Recent census totals show a decrease in population of about 25%, further reducing its already negligible operating budget. Fiscal constraints prohibit opportunity to invest in maintenance and other improvements, minimizing loan availability and therefore capacity for local match. Making do with its resources, the City does have the following in place to supplement resources as available within the county and region.

Policies/Ordinance	
• Nuisance Ordinance	
Programs	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190921B
Local Funding Availability	
Apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water, sewer, and electric services	

The city participates in the NFIP program with the Mayor serving as Floodplain Administrator. Rodney has zero RL/SRL properties.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

communication/education		
tools/equipment		
development		
Bridges & Roads	Rodney	Moved to Drainage Projects section under "Flow Control" 2020: Interest in roadway drainage improvements; *City Council* (City funds, transportation funds, Community Benefit funds) LOW PRIORITY
flow control		

Drainage Projects	Rodney	Pulled from "Bridges & Roads" category.
		2020: Interest in roadway drainage improvements; *City Council* (City funds, transportation funds, Community Benefit funds) LOW PRIORITY
		Update: Some work has been done on 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and Main Streets.
refuge		
technology		
Improve effectiveness	Rodney	2020: Promote available weather alert subscription services such as Alert Iowa and storm-spotter training as available. *City Clerk* (no cost anticipated) HIGH PRIORITY
		Update: No action specific was taken to on this project, however staff would like to revisit available opportunities and share with residents
Improve effectiveness	Rodney	2020: Improved communication w/County re: warning siren test schedule; *City administration, County* EMA (no cost anticipated) HIGH PRIORITY
Improve effectiveness	Rodney	**Implemented**. Siren was fixed in 2021 and testing is uniformly conducted on a routine schedule.
natural barriers/supports		
Trees	Rodney	2020: Funding support to sustain/improve tree population; *City administration* (City funds, IDNR programs, UPS Tree Grants and similar community reforestation funds, private funds) LOW PRIORITY
		Update: No action has been taken due to lack of available funds (including local match). Community will continue to seek funding opportunities to re-substantiate its tree population.

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

The annual budget is supplemented by donations and community grant requests for even minimum maintenance of city facilities and properties. Low/no cost options are ones the City is able to entertain at present. Because routine maintenance is not always in the budget, small issues— such as potholes or cracks in the road, escalate and/or compound other concerns.

Rodney city limits do not include floodplain so flooding concerns are directly related to periods of heavy rain and resulting runoff, especially when ground is frozen or already saturated. Consequently, road deterioration is accelerating. Road repair projects are needed but not currently realistic due to budget constraints.

Following are some considerations carried over from the previous plan affecting the community's resilience.

- City representatives would like to establish a clear line of communication with the County regarding its warning siren test schedule. Sporadic testing reduces effectiveness of alerts during an actual weather event.
- The City would benefit from resident participation in storm-spotter training to improve local awareness measures.

The National Weather Service warned this is life threatening for the communities of Smithland and Rodney.

The Monona County Sheriff's Office reported the town of Rodney was evacuated as of 7:30 a.m. Town roads are closed off to the public. The sheriff's office urges people avoid the area for their safety.

Water also broke through the levee near the town of Ticonic, according to the sheriff's office.

www.ketv.com/article/levee-failure-in-northwest-iowa-causes-life-threatening-flash-flooding
by Amsley Benes, KETV Omaha. Updated: 12:22 PM CDT Jun 25, 2024. (June 9, 2025)

An assessment of NOAA Storm Events as recorded includes one event specific to Rodney between 11/01/2019 and 12/31/2024 (source: https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/; see following table). Also for consideration are 16 Monona "Zone" events as impactful county-wide. Most larger scale events are related to severe winter weather conditions. Two were categorized as excessive heat and one was high wind.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
RODNEY	6/25/2024	3:56	Flash Flood		0	0	100.00K	100.00K

Priority Hazards

One survey of 18 received for Monona County indicated Rodney as residence. Indications in that survey as well as discussion with city representatives find the following to be priority hazards.

Cost-related concerns

- Flash Flood
- Severe Winter Weather

Other conditions posing threat to the community

- Drought
- Grass and Wildland Fire
- Tornado/Windstorm

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

Again citing fiscal constraints, projects identified for Rodney are primarily no- or low-cost options, or are expected to be eligible for grant funding where applicable. Without immediately viable funding sources, most projects are identified as low priority.

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Rodney	**New**. Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. City Clerk, County EMA (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
development		
Policy	Rodney	**New**. Interest in update Municipal Code of Ordinances, pending funding opportunities. *City, Contracted services* (local general budget funds, community betterment grants, public safety/wellness grants) LOW PRIORITY
flow control		
Drainage Projects	Rodney	**Carry over**. Remaining streets throughout town still need work to improve drainage and drainage paths. Project is carried to 2026 HMP. *City Council* (City funds, transportation funds, Community Benefit funds) LOW PRIORITY
refuge		
technology		

Improve effectiveness	Rodney	**Carry over**. Promote available weather alert subscription services such as Alert Iowa and storm-spotter training as available. *City Clerk, Council, County EMA* (no cost anticipated) HIGH PRIORITY
natural barriers/supports		
Trees	Rodney	**Carry over**. Community will continue to seek funding opportunities to re-substantiate its tree population. Funding support to sustain/improve tree population. *City administration* (City general budget funds, IDNR programs, UPS Tree Grants and similar community reforestation funds, private funds) LOW PRIORITY

7. Soldier

a. Profile

The city of Soldier is located near the center of the southeast quarter of Monona County. State Highways 37 and 183 intersect just south of the center of city limits; most commercial and residential structures are located northwest of this intersection. The city is situated west of the Soldier River cutoff. Oldham Recreation Area is a few miles north of Soldier.

City Governance & Community Supports

Soldier is governed by a five-person elected City Council and a Mayor. City Council meets the second Monday of each month at 6:00 PM. Special meetings may be scheduled by the Mayor within a 24-hour notice period. Offices in addition to the Mayor and Council include City Clerk and Public Works. The city does not have a police department and relies on the County Sheriff's office to provide law enforcement services. Fire services are provided by the Soldier Fire Department, which is staffed by volunteers. Ambulance services to Soldier are provided through Moorhead's Volunteer Ambulance Service.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

CensusReporter.org estimates for 2023[24] show Soldier's population at 123, a relatively significant decline from 184 residents as noted in the 2020 decennial census. The community is home to 65 households, with a median household income of $49,375, which is lower than the Monona County median of $62,944. A notable portion of Soldier's population is 65 or older, making up 33% of the community, well above both the county and state averages. The town also has a relatively low number of young children, with only 1.6% of residents aged five or

[24] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1973785-soldier-ia/

younger. The poverty rate in Soldier is higher than the county and state averages, with 18.7% of residents living below the poverty line. Additionally, about 13.2% of the population lives with a disability, reflecting a need for accessible services and support for vulnerable groups within the community.

Community Characteristics	
Population (2023)	123
Population (2020)	184
Total Households	65
Median Household Income	$49,375
Median Household Income – Monona County	$62,944

Vulnerable Populations	*Count*	*Percent*	*Monona*	*Iowa*
5 years and younger	2	1.6%	5.6%	5.7%
65 years and older	41	33%	23.8%	16.0%
Below the poverty level	22	18.7%	11.2%	11.3%
Living with a disability	29	13.2%	13.8%	18.5%

Soldier has a total of 77 housing units, with 65 currently occupied and 12 vacant, resulting in an occupancy rate of 84%. The community does not have any mobile homes within its housing stock. The majority of homes were built before 1970, with a smaller number constructed between 1970 and 1999. There are no residential structures built since 2000, reflecting an older housing market with limited recent development.

Housing Characteristics	*Count*	*Percent*
Total Housing Units	77	-
Occupied	65	84%
Vacant	12	16%
Mobile Homes	0	0
Age of Residential Structure		
Built 2000 or later	0	0.0%
Built 1970 – 1999	30	24.6%
Build 1969 or earlier	92	75.4%

Leading Employers

- Community Bank
- Soldier Speedy Shop
- Cogdill's Grain Elevator
- Monona Co Secondary Roads Shed

Critical Facilities

City Hall/Library	108 Oak St,
Fire Department	210 IA-37
City Park (picnic shelter, playground)	200 block of Elm St
Campgrounds	
Community Building	113 1st St
Water Tower	Main St
Water Treatment (3 lagoons)	East of Co Shed
	SE Corner of Town
City Well	
Veteran's Memorial	

The city updated the playground equipment at the park and added mulch. Project was completed using local funds, a Gilchrist grant, and fundraising. The vendor offered a discount as an in-kind contribution. Equipment as added was chosen with weather extremes in mind, providing safe structures that include shade and promote physical activity for local families.

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

Each of Soldier's proposed Mitigation Actions and Strategies pursued for implementation in the next five (5) years will fully consider protections to privately held assets (facilities, personal property, property in the open) and to the residents therein. Furthermore, privately owned facilities that offer services and support during times of crisis may be specifically included in mitigation actions and/or strategies receiving municipal-funded support to maintain function and operation of those structures. Some facilities may host vulnerable populations (children, seniors, disable persons) and are therefore significant in mitigation planning. Recreation areas

outside the City's jurisdiction and/or privately owned are included among hosts of vulnerable populations. Such entities as described may include the following.

Midway Tavern	206 1st St
Sheri's Book Treasures	208 1st St
Soldier Lutheran Church	223 Lark Street
Low Income housing (12 units)	1st St

Private businesses and organizations play an essential role in the city's recovery efforts and communication network, and are therefore included in this itemizing of essential or critical facilities. The list is not exhaustive. Additional community churches and individuals, as well as those in nearby communities, work together to ensure communication and support in times of crisis.

Valuation of City Assets

Building	$	1,498,182
Personal Property	$	93,996
Property in the Open	$	285,511
Total	**$**	**1,877,689**

b. Participation

Facilitated by SIMPCO, a mitigation planning meeting was held on site at Soldier City Hall on February 19, 2025 with Melanie Mc Andrews, City Clerk in attendance.

A follow-up review of the Plan was conducted with Melanie McAndrews on March 13, 2026. The city acknowledges changes since their previous meeting and commits to adopting the Plan upon FEMA approval.

c. Community Capabilities

Policies/Ordinance	
• Nuisance Ordinance • Storm Water Ordinance • Subdivision Ordinance	• Tree Trimming Ordinance • Zoning Ordinance
Programs	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190805B
ISO Fire Rating	Class 07
Tree Trimming Program	As outlined in Trees Ordinance
Staff/Department	
Emergency Response Team	Volunteer Fire Department
Non-Governmental Organizations	
American Legion Post #462 (Soldier Valley)	
Local Funding Availability	
Apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Capital Improvements funding	
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water and sewer services	
Ability to incur debt through:	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities

At the time of Soldier's mitigation planning meeting, their municipal code update was in progress with completion set for 2026. Their Floodplain Ordinance was updated February 14, 2022 with reference to FIRM Panels 19133C0381D, 0328D, dated June 15, 2022. The city participates in the NFIP program with the City Clerk serving as Floodplain Administrator. Soldier has zero RL/SRL properties.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

communication/education
tools/equipment
development

Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Soldier	2020: Improve waterworks-related infrastructure to better sustain extreme weather conditions and extremes in temperatures resulting in damages from frost and heave activity. Specific attention to water tower and waterlines throughout City. *City Council, City maintenance/waterworks*. (Local funds, CDBG funds, approved loan opportunities) HIGH PRIORITY
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Soldier	**In progress -** The city has completed phase I of its $3.2M water tower replacement project, with expectation of going live fall 2025. Remining aspects are carried into 2026 plan.
Bridges & Roads	Soldier	2020: Road construction improvements needed to address buckling and weather-related deterioration. Specifically needed on road serving access to Ute. Additional throughout City. *City Council, Streets department, collaboration with County Roads dept & City of Ute as applicable.* (Local funds, transportation funds, approved bonding and local programs) HIGH PRIORITY
Bridges & Roads	Soldier	**Update**. Phase I of the project has been completed. Scheduled improvements will continue through Spring and Fall on a rotating basis through 2030. Process will start over with overlay. At this time, this project will be removed from the priority list with mitigative actions met. The city may amend project back in if underwashing and runoff become prohibitive to routine maintenance, requiring more developed remediation.
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

The city completed well reconstruction with an added flood barrier. There are not immediate washout/underwashing concerns for the city. Soldier replaced 3 fire hydrants using COVID funds at the approximate cost of $5000 each. They also looped the water system, improving circulation. This activity may have improved Soldier's ISO fire rating but the numbers were not readily available.

Soldier has conducted removal of dead/diseased trees on an annual basis. Every other year, the city applies with Trees Please program to support re-treeing efforts.

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

A review of the NOAA Storm Event database for 11/01/2019 through 12/31/2024 provides two reports specific to Soldier.

Location	Date	Time	Type	Mag	Dth	Inj	PrD	CrD
SOLDIER	7/11/2022	2:15	Thunderstorm Wind	65 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SOLDIER	4/26/2024	16:23	Tornado	EF1	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

With Soldier River running along the eastern and southern boundaries of the city, Soldier is fortunate to have a hilly topography, protecting its critical facilities from potential flood damage for many types of events. On the other hand, the terrain does, unfortunately contribute to runoff-related issues affecting drainage needs and maintenance.

Priority Hazards

- Tornado/Windstorm
- Thunderstorm w/Hail & Lightning
- Sever Winter Storm

Discussion included drought concerns as well.

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Soldier	**New**. Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to: Alert Iowa, Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; Water conservation; Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. *City Clerk, County EMA* (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Soldier	**New**. City is interested in having dedicated generator for critical facilities. City Council, Public Works (Local funds general budget, PDM as available, community benefit grants, public safety funds as may be available) HIGH PRIORITY.
development		
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Soldier	**Carry over**. Completion of waterworks-related infrastructure improvements are in progress, allowing infrastructure to better sustain extreme weather conditions and extremes in temperatures that would otherwise result in damages from frost and heave activity. Specific attention to water tower and waterlines throughout City. Project is in **progress -** The city with phase I of its $3.2M water tower replacement

		project completed. Expectation of going live fall 2025. Related and closing tasks carry over. *City Council, City maintenance/waterworks*. (Local general budget funds, CDBG funds, approved loan opportunities) HIGH PRIORITYI.
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Soldier	**New**. The city is seeking upgrade opportunities for its lagoon system and related lines. Established in the 1970s, it has been 32 years since the last discharge. They've undergone a preliminary engineering report and televised lines. 3-cell lagoon but only one has been used. Looking at using all 3 for treatment / discharge. *Public works, DNR* (CDBG, USDA RD, local general budget funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Soldier	**New**. Updated meters for the city's waterworks are warranted as means of improving monitoring and determining leakage or other flow problems, maintenance needs. Cost estimated at $1.5M. *Public works, IDNR as may be applicable* (local general budget funds, go bonds, CDBG, USDA as available) HIHG PRIORITY
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Soldier	**New**. City is planning to put in a new pump house. *Public works* (USDA, IDNR as applicable, local general budget funds) HIGH PRIORITY
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

8. Turin

Note: The city participated in the development of the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan, however, they have not included any specified mitigation actions, strategies, or projects. Therefore, the City of Turin is not recognized as an active "Participant" in the Plan. To activate participant status, the city must process an amendment at the local level and file said amendment with Monona County and FEMA. Procedures to amend this plan are included in Title I. Introduction, section H. Amendments and Plan Maintenance.

a. Profile

The City of Turin is located near the center of Monona County. The majority of the City is located north of IA-175. East of city limits, this highway intersects with highway IA-37. Turin is situated between the Little Sioux River to the west and the Maple River to the east. Davis Wetland and Turin Preserve are located north of city limits.

City Governance & Community Supports

Turin is governed by a Mayor, City Council, and City Clerk. The city does not have its own fire, police, or ambulance services, and must rely on nearby communities.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

Using the Census Reporter at https://censusreporter.org/, Turin recorded a population of 68 in 2023, a slight decrease from 72 residents in 2020. The town has 55 households, and its median household income is $91,602, significantly higher than the Monona County median of $62,944. Turin has a small percentage of young children, with only one resident aged five or younger. A quarter of the population is 65 or older, which is slightly above the county's average. Notably, none of the residents live below the poverty line, and only a small portion—4.1%—live with a disability, which is lower than both the county and state averages. This suggests that Turin has a relatively stable and prosperous population, with fewer vulnerable groups compared to surrounding areas.

Community Characteristics	
Population (2023)	68
Population (2020)	72
Total Households	55
Median Household Income	$91,602
Median Household Income – Monona County	$62,944

Vulnerable Populations	*Count*	*Percent*	*Monona*	*Iowa*
5 years and younger	1	.8%	5.6%	5.7%
65 years and older	16	25.0%	23.8%	16.0%
Below the poverty level	0	0%	11.2%	11.3%
Living with a disability	5	4.1%	13.8%	18.5%

Turin has a total of 55 housing units, all of which are currently occupied, with no vacant homes in the community. There are no mobile homes in the area. The majority of the residential structures were built before 1970, reflecting an older housing base. A small number of homes were constructed between 1970 and 1999, and a few homes were built after 2000, indicating a predominately established housing market with limited recent development.

Housing Characteristics	*Count*	*Percent*
Total Housing Units	55	
Occupied	55	100.0%
Vacant	0	0.0%
Mobile Homes	0	0.0%

Age of Residential Structure	*Count*	*Percent*
Built 2000 or later	23	5.9%
Built 1970 – 1999	2	5.9%
Build 1969 or earlier	30	88.2%

More demographic and community data can be found on the U.S. Census webpage for Turin (source: https://data.census.gov/).

Leading Employers

There are no large-scale employers within the City of Turin. Although a couple businesses employ a small staff, most employed residents work outside of town.

- Second Turin
- New Co-op

Critical Facilities

Community Building	115 Wolfe St
City Park	
City Well	
Maintenance Shed, Mower storage (shared property w/County)	
Well & Pump Station	btw IA-175 & Elm

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

Private businesses and organizations play an essential role in the City's recovery efforts and communication network and may be categorized as essential or critical facilities. The following

list is not exhaustive. Additional community churches and individuals, as well as those in nearby communities, work together to ensure communication and support in times of crisis.

- Turin United Methodist Church, 219 Wolfe Street

Valuation of City Assets

A comprehensive valuation of city assets has not been provided. Should Turin pursue any mitigation projects identified herein, the project preparation (and application if needed) will include a relative cost-benefit analysis incorporating affected city assets as well as private properties within the area of potential impact.

b. Participation

Facilitated by SIMPCO, an onsite planning meeting was held at Turin City Hall December 11, 2024 with Cinda Orr, City Clerk and Tony Orr, Councilmember in attendance. A Voluntary Participation Agreement, signed by Turin Mayor David Poole, 12/11/2024, is on file.

c. Community Capabilities

In addition to county, region, and state resources, Turin has implemented local supports to enable community resiliency. The city participates in the NFIP program with the Mayor serving as Floodplain Administrator. They have zero RL/SRL properties.

Policies/Ordinance – 2010	
• Building Code	• Nuisance Ordinance
• Floodplain Ordinance	• Tree Trimming Ordinance
Programs	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190951B
Staff/Department	
Fire & Rescue	Coordinated services through Castana; Onawa
EMS	Coordinated services through Onawa Ambulance; Mapleton Ambulance
Local Funding Availability	
Apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Capital Improvements funding	

Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Ability to incur debt through	• general obligation bonds
	• special tax bonds
	• private activities

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

communication /education		
Warning Sirens	Turin	2020: City needs to install 2nd warning siren to increase alert capacity during severe weather conditions. *City Council, County EMA*. (Local funds, County supports, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
Warning Sirens	Turin	**Completed**. Second warning siren was added to increase awareness of pending severe weather. Hill served as barrier to single siren effectiveness for all residents.
tools/equipment		
development		
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

A second warning siren was added to the area better serving the other side of town where hilly terrain reduced the effect of a single siren. Among activities completed by Turin in recent years, some dead and diseased trees have been removed form public rights of way as a mode of damage prevention. Additional trees were trimmed as required with a change in insurance coverage.

An assessment of NOAA's Strom Event database between 11/01/2019 and 12/31/2024 provided the following event specific to Turin.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
TURIN	4/19/2023	17:10	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Turin also experienced effects of 16 events categorized under Monona "Zone".

Priority Hazards

None of the survey responses form Monona County indicated a Turin residence. Based on cost of response and potential effect on residents, the city finds the following to be of priority concern.

- Sever Winter Storm
- Tornado/Windstorm
- Drought

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

It is necessary to note that the City of Turin has participated in the development of this Plan. However, as the City has not identified a specific action, strategy, or project, an amendment must be filed for FEMA and the Iowa Department of Homeland Security to formally recognize this jurisdiction as an eligible applicant for pre-disaster mitigation funds.

9. Ute

a. Profile

The city of Ute is located near the center of the eastern boundary of Monona County. State Highways 141 and 183 intersect near the center of town. Just outside city limits to the southwest, East Soldier River splits. These two cutoffs flow west and south of the City. Rock Creek is located south of Ute. More information can be found on the City of Ute website at http://cityofute.com/.

City Governance & Community Supports

Ute is governed by a five (5)-person elected City Council and Mayor. The Mayor appoints a Mayor Pro-Tem. City Council meets the second Monday each month at 6:00 PM. Offices in addition to the Mayor and Council include City Clerk, City Attorney, Fire Department, and Utilities. The City is also supported by several boards and committees including: Planning and Zoning Committee, Board of Adjustment Committee, and Library Board. Fire and Rescue

services are provided by the Ute Fire Department, which is staffed by volunteers. Ute Volunteer Ambulance provides vital services to the city and surrounding area. Monona County Sheriff provides law enforcement services.

In recent years, the city has increased staffed positions to include a deputy clerk and an assistant serving under Streets and Parks.

The city of Ute is not a member of the NFIP program. An update to the city's Municipal Code of Ordinances is in progress at the time of meeting. The Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 2018.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

Record of demographic information as presented here is sourced via the Census Reporter at https://censusreporter.org/ unless otherwise noted.

The 2020 Decennial Census provides a population of 338 for Ute. The Census Reporter shows a 2024 estimate of 351, better reflecting local accounting estimates. The town is home to 171 households, with a median household income of $55,947, which is below the Monona County median of $62,944. Ute has a relatively high proportion of elderly residents, with 21.1% aged 65 or older, which is slightly below the county average. The town also has a significant portion of its population (12.5%) living below the poverty line. Additionally, 23.6% of residents live with a disability, which is notably higher than both the county and state averages, indicating a greater need for services and support for vulnerable groups within the community.

Community Characteristics	
Population (2024)	326
Population (2020)	342
Total Households	171
Median Household Income	$55,947
Median Household Income – Monona County	$62,944

Vulnerable Populations	*Count*	*Percent*	*Monona*	*Iowa*
5 years and younger	22	6.3%	5.6%	5.7%

65 years and older	74	21.1%	23.8%	16.0%
Below the poverty level	42	12.5%	11.2%	11.3%
Living with a disability	83	23.6%	13.8%	18.5%

Ute has a total of 203 housing units, with 84% currently occupied and 16% vacant. There are no mobile homes in the community. The majority of residential structures in Ute were built before 1970, making up nearly 70% of the housing stock. A smaller portion of homes were constructed between 1970 and 1999, while only a few were built after 2000, indicating an older housing base with limited recent development.

Housing Characteristics	*Count*	*Percent*
Total housing units	203	-
Occupied units	171	84%
Vacant units	32	16%
Mobile Homes	0	0%
Age of residential structure		
Built 2000 or later	7	3.0%
Built 1970 – 1999	66	27.8%
Build 1969 or earlier	164	69.2%

More demographic and community data can be found at https://data.census.gov/.

Leading Employers

The city of Ute hosts dozens of small businesses with varying numbers of employees. Many have substantial local significance – serving as gathering places and/or contributing to the overall function and wellbeing of City operations. Included for consideration are the following.

- Ada J Steakhouse
- Ampride 2
- Community Bank
- New Co-op
- Spare Time
- Ute Tire & Automotive
- Valley Ag

Critical Facilities

City Hall/Public Library	130 Main St
Fire Department/Ambulance Services	141 E Main
Post Office	100 E Main St
City Park & Related Equipment/Structures	422 E Main St
Water Tower	101 S Day Ave
Treatment Plant & Various; Pump House, etc.; Public Restroom	E 7th St
Gazebo	121 E Main
Ute Community Bldg	313 S Monona Ave
Ute Senior Center	107 W Main St
Lift Stations	230 E 7th
	626 S Smith Ave
	210 E 7th St

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

In regard to Ute's valuation of assets and valuation of privately owned properties, facilities and personal property, each of Ute's proposed Mitigation Actions and Strategies pursued for implementation in the next five (5) years will fully consider protections to those assets and to the residents therein. Furthermore, privately owned facilities that offer services and support during times of crisis may be specifically included in mitigation actions and/or strategies receiving municipal-funded support to maintain function and operation those structures. Those entities are listed in the following table for reference.

St Paul's Lutheran Church	303 E 4th St
Ute Housing Complex	300 S Riddle
Ute VFW	115 W Main

Private businesses and organizations play an essential role in the City's recovery efforts and communication network and could be categorized as essential/critical facilities. The above lists are not exhaustive. Additional community churches and individuals, as well as those in nearby communities, work together to ensure communication and support in times of crisis.

Valuation of City Assets

Using Ute's current insurance valuation statement, an estimated base for cost-benefit analysis impacting all city properties is determined using dollar amounts as provided noting Actual Cash Value (ACV) and Replacement Cost (RC) as applicable. Values as provided do not include private properties, equipment, or non-city funded investments that may contribute to project determinations. Separately catalogued assets and equipment as may be used in the event of an emergency are not represented in this value but will accompany project specifications should funding ops be pursued.

Total Building	$	413,246	ACV
	$	2,796,663	RC
Personal Property	$	608,796	RC
Property in the Open	$	789,313	ACV
		871,548	RC
Total	$	**5,479,566**	

b. Participation

A planning meeting was held at Ute City Hall on September 3, 2024. Facilitated by SIMPCO, the following city representatives were in attendance.

- Megan Peitsch, City Clerk
- Jim Henschen, Mayor
- Lonnie Carlson, Public Works

Further public input was sought with the city encouraging residents to complete the survey. No survey respondents indicated Ute as place of residence.

A final review of the Ute profile was completed by the City Clerk on February 25, 2026. Upon review, the city has acknowledged content of the plan including updates since the last review and has confirmed commitment to adopt once approved by FEMA.

c. Community Capabilities

Plans/Guidance Documents	
Comprehensive Plan	Strategic Plan in place to guide economic dev & community growth
Policies/Ordinance - https://cityofute.com/index.php/permits-and-ordinances/	
• Building Code • Nuisance Ordinance	• Tree Trimming Ordinance • Zoning Ordinance
Programs	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Non-Participant	CID #190464 *(number provided by City, not included in NFIP database)*
ISO Fire Rating (not updated)	Class 7
Planning/Zoning Commission	Board of Adjustment
	Zoning/Land Use Restrictions
Tree Trimming Program	
Staff/Department	
Building Code Official	City Clerk and/or Mayor
Building Inspector	City Clerk and/or Mayor
Local Emergency Response Plan	Fire and EMS
Non-Governmental Organizations	
Veterans Groups	American Legion Post #0442 (Abby Post)
Community Organizations	• Ute Community Club • Ute Garden Club • 4-H (w/Mapleton)
Local Funding Availability	
Apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Capital Improvements funding	
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water services	
Ability to incur debt through:	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities

The city is not included in the Community Status Book Report for NFIP. Ute has zero RL/SRL properties. Recent changes throughout city hall staffing and council representation, Ute has assessed policies and procedures and is in progress of making necessary updates. Among new

policies, Ute initiated virtual meeting availability to allow open meetings, following state protocol during COVID. Policy remains in place to accommodate emergency action as necessary.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

communication/education		
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Ute	2020: Generator for community building; City Hall; *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
		Update. Ute implemented several projects in the past 5 years, resulting in this one being delayed. This project carries over into the 2026 HMP with continued high priority.
development		
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Ute	2020: Waterworks and water tower project including generator backup system. *City Clerk, Project administrator, Engineering consultant* (City funds, Loans, CDBG) HIGH PRIORITY
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Ute	**Complete**. Water tower replaced – higher capacity, updated system (December 2024). Project cost exceeded $3M. Segment of water mains replaced, and generator added. Funded through USDA RD , CDBG, local funds, GO Bonds.
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

d. Risk Assessment

A review of NOAA Storm Events revealed one reportable incident specific to Ute in addition to the 16 Monona "Zone" events that affected the whole county.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
UTE	4/19/2023	18:00	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Contributing Factors

The City of Ute implemented numerous projects that substantially improve community wellbeing and resiliency. Following is a summary of those improvements in addition to mitigation-specific updates to planned strategies as listed in the previous section of this profile.

1. Ute has started the process of adding full-of-site daily backups of all systems and programs. The system should be installed and running before end of summer 2025. This is a full backup that in the event of a catastrophic event or security infiltration, the city can be at full capacity, up and running within a day or two.
2. Siren repair and new battery, bearings, and motor (summer 2024)
3. Well pump repair completed in preparation for new well. USDA SEARCH program funds awarded and process in progress.
4. Fire Department implemented communication improvements to better connect with adjacent communities (June 2024)
5. Alert Iowa promotions coordinated with EMA and provision of emergency contact info for residents (November 2023). City continues to post signs, give info to new residents; a link to sign up for alerts is included to all notifications during any signaled events.
6. Water main improvements affecting 150 properties – replaced pipes and mapped
7. Ash trees at park have been treated, reducing loss from effects of Emerald Ash Borer Beetle. The city has also implemented an urban forestry plan to remove all untreated ash trees in the right of way within the next 3 years. All trees in the right of way have been evaluated to lessen the chance of damage to property and infrastructure during high winds
8. Plan set to replace aging FD equipment, SCBAs specifically with 4 replaced using local funds and Monona County Community Partners grant funds
9. Southend drainage work completed along 6th St between Smith and Railway Sts
10. Fire Department added Grade 1 training to annual certifications
11. Code update is in progress with City reviewing Conex boxes, rental inspections, and nuisance language.
12. Comprehensive Plan update in budget discussion

In addition to public properties and infrastructure, Ute participates in a regional Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Program that provides forgivable loans to income-eligible homeowners. This program supports repairs that:

- bring homes up to code (safety, ADA issues),
- stabilize structure (foundation or roof repair) to prevent more costly damage,

- enable efficiency improvements (new windows, insulation).

While local investment has prioritized community betterment overall, a number of mitigation needs remain. There are not any mobile home parks in Ute, however several residences are modular structures. Though set on permanent foundations, these homes are more vulnerable during high wind and other extreme weather events.

An aging population is of concern to city staff, with many not able to safely access their basements for refuge, and some simply wary of being alone in extreme weather conditions.

While not formally designated, the Fire Station is equipped with a generator and has served as a refuge location during power outages and extreme weather. The Community Building may serve in that capacity while open as long as power has not been interrupted. Facilities included in the *Community Supports* section may also serve informally as refuge locations pending emergency type and timing (keyed entry may be a barrier outside of fixed hours of operation).

Priority Hazards

- Tornado/Windstorm
- Severe Winter Storm
- Extreme Heat and Extreme Cold

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

The city is assessing feasibility of designating the Community Building as a shelter/refuge as well as command center in the event of an emergency. Addition of a generator to enable that formal capacity is key to attaining this goal in the short term. Mitigation strategies identified for the next 5 years are as provided in the following table.

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Ute	**New**. PSAs - Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; water conservation (drought considerations); Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and

		loss/damage to property. *City Clerk, County EMA* (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Ute	**Carry over**. Generator for community building; City Hall; *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds general budget, County supports, State/Federal response funds, pre-disaster/mitigation funds as available, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
development		
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Ute	**New**. City is planning new well. *Public works, USDA, contracted services* (local general budget funds, USDA RD) HIGH PRIORITY
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		
Trees	Ute	**New**. Re-tree plan to be implemented. City reduced loss with treatment of ash trees in parks, however additional trees are needed to provide soil stabilization, respite from extreme heat/sun, and to serve as natural windbreak. *City administration* (City general budget funds, IDNR programs, UPS Tree Grants and similar community reforestation funds, private funds) HIGH PRIORITY

10. Whiting

a. Profile

The city of Whiting is centrally located in the northwest quarter of Monona County. County Highways K45 and E24 intersect near the center of the city, with most commercial and residential structures located west of the intersection. The city is located several miles east of Interstate 29. McCandless Cleghorn Ditch meanders north to south through the western portion of city limits. More information can be found on the City of Whiting's website.

Among Whiting's amenities is a new splashpad funded entirely through donations. Project expected to be complete 2026. Whiting hosts an annual gathering to celebrate the famed horror movie, Children of the Corn which was filmed in the area. Gathering includes a screening of the movie and a tour of the house featured in the film.

City Governance & Community Supports

Whiting is governed by a five (5)-person elected City Council and a Mayor. Offices in addition to Mayor and Council include City Clerk, Maintenance Engineer, Fire, and Police. Fire and rescue services are provided by the Whiting Fire Department, which is staffed by volunteers. Whiting

does have a police officer on staff, however, law enforcement services are supplemented by the County. The City of Whiting is a member of the NFIP program.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

Using CensusReporter.gov[25] as a baseline, the town is home to 339 households, and its median household income is $68,977, which is higher than the Monona County median of $62,944. In 2023, Whiting had a population of 840, a slight increase from 829 residents in 2020. Whiting has a relatively small percentage of young children, with 3.7% of the population aged five or younger. A significant portion of the population (18%) is aged 65 or older, which is lower than the county's average. About 10.1% of residents live below the poverty line, and 10.7% live with a disability, both figures that are slightly below the county and state averages. These statistics suggest that Whiting has a diverse community with some economic and accessibility challenges, but also a relatively stable economic base.

Community Characteristics	
Population (2023)	840
Population (2020)	829
Total Households	339
Median Household Income	$68,977
Median Household Income – Monona County	$62,944

Vulnerable Populations	*Count*	*Percent*	*Monona*	*Iowa*
5 years and younger	31	3.7%	5.6%	5.7%
65 years and older	165	18.0%	23.8%	16.0%
Below the poverty level	84	10.1%	11.2%	11.3%
Living with a disability	90	10.7%	13.8%	18.5%

Whiting has a total of 355 housing units, with 337 currently occupied and 18 vacant, resulting in a high occupancy rate of 95%. The community has 57 mobile homes, accounting for 16% of the housing stock. A significant portion of Whiting's homes were built before 1970, making up about 70% of the housing units. The remainder of the housing stock includes homes built between

[25] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1985215-whiting-ia/

1970 and 1999, and a small number were constructed after 2000, reflecting a mix of older and more recent residential development.

Housing Characteristics	*Count*	*Percent*
Total Housing Units	355	-
Occupied	337	95%
Vacant	18	5%
Mobile Homes	57	16%
Age of residential structure		
Built 2000 or later	35	9.2%
Built 1970 – 1999	78	20.4%
Build 1969 or earlier	269	70.4%

Leading Employers

Whiting has dozens of businesses that employ small staffs. Leading employers in the city of Whiting include:

- Whiting Community School District
- Pleasant View Health Facility

Critical Facilities

City Hall (Clerk's Office)	605 Whittier St.
Fire Department	513 Whittier
Public Library	407 Whittier St.
Whiting Elementary School	606 West St
Whiting Senior High School	606 West St
Pleasant View Assisted Living	200 Shannon Dr
Pleasant View Care Center	200 Shannon Dr
Badger Lake State Wildlife Management Area	outside city limits

The city is acquiring additional property, with a purchase in progress. The property will be used as a storage facility. They also sold some properties.

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

Pleasant View Care Center and Assisted Living	200 Shannon Drive
Whiting Christian Church	716 West Street
First Congregational United Church of Christ	429 Whittier Street

Private businesses and organizations play an essential role in the City's recovery efforts and communication network, and are therefore included in this itemizing of essential or critical facilities. The list is not exhaustive.

Valuation of City Assets

In addition to city valuation, that of privately owned properties, facilities and personal property, also contributes to overall protected benefit when mitigation projects are considered. Each mitigation action, strategy, and/or project pursued for implementation in the next five (5) years will fully consider protections to those assets and to the residents therein. Furthermore, privately owned facilities that offer services and support during times of crisis may be specifically included in mitigation actions and/or strategies receiving municipal-funded support to maintain function and operation those structures. Some notable entities are shown.

Total Blanket TIV	$	5,519,551
Building	$	5,058,573
Personal Property	$	523,563
Misc Property Sched	$	296,817
Misc Property Unsched	$	245,562
APD TIV	**$**	**532,957**
Total TIV	**$**	**6,124,515**

b. Participation

An on-site mitigation planning meeting was held at Whiting City Hall February 19, 2025, with SIMPCO and City Clerk Marie Bruns LaClair in attendance.

c. Community Capabilities

Policies/Ordinances (2021)	
• Building Code • Drainage Ordinance • Storm Water Ordinance	• Subdivision Ordinance • Zoning Districts
Programs	
Codes Building Site/Design	Via structured building permit process
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190684B
ISO Fire Rating	Class 7/7X
Staff/Departments	
Public Works Official	Street Superintendent
Emergency Response Team	Fire, Police Chief, and EMS
Non-Governmental Organizations	
Emery Johnson American Legion Post #481	
Local Funding Availability	
Apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Capital Improvements funding	
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water & sewer services	
Ability to incur debt through:	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities

The city participates in the NFIP program with the Mayor serving as Floodplain Administrator. Whiting has zero RL/SRL properties.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Whiting	2020: PSA program to promote education about tree types and planting; *City Clerk* (no funding anticipated) LOW PRIORITY
Promo/Info	Whiting	**Completed**. PSA was communicated through schools at no cost.
tools/equipment		
Equipment	Whiting	2020: Interest in additional/better performing snow removal equipment; *City Council* (City funds, IDOT program funds, PDM) LOW PRIORITY

Equipment	Whiting	**Complete**. The city has a box plow for tractor, new scraper, refurbished plow, and new (used) sander. Better removal plan is in place which included the addition of a part time position.
development		
Bridges & Roads	Whiting	2020: West St Bridge - pending evaluation and cost estimate; *City Council, Collaborate with County Engineer* (City funds, transportation funds, Community Benefit funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Bridges & Roads	Whiting	**Complete**. West St bridge and K45 bridge both redone in 2020. Project cost @ $98,ooo. Loan balance remaining is $45,000. K45 still needs new guard rails – pending (entered as new project).
Bridges & Roads	Whiting	2020: Elevate portion of roadway to correct dip in the road at Bertram intersection; City Council (City funds, transportation funds, Community Benefit funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Bridges & Roads	Whiting	**Complete**. Roadway elevation completed summer 2023.
Policy	Whiting	2020: Consider formalizing reference to DNR for Floodplain Development; *City Council, Zoning Commission, City Attorney* (Local funds) LOW PRIORITY
Policy	Whiting	**Complete**. City completed floodplain update in coordination with IDNR. City is participating in county-wide efforts to counter flooding. No cost associated with project outside of staffing hours.
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

Other work completed since 2019 includes Whittier Rd reconstruction, Road was laid using concrete instead of asphalt to improve longevity and routine maintenance of facilities, infrastructure and roads. As a public health measure, a new OCI9 meter has been installed to provide more accurate assessment of water quality.

Ongoing efforts are in place for the removal of dead/diseased trees is in progress. 2024 included plans to remove 20+ trees, 8-10 from the park. Replacement plan is for five new trees annually involving a sturdy stock. The city will participate in MidAmerican's Trees Please program to facilitate funding.

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

NOAA Storm Event database reports from 11/1/2019 through 12/31/2024 include five events specific to Whiting. General effects of events attributed to Monona (Zone) and Woodbury (Zone) were also experienced locally.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
WHITING	5/12/2022	18:51	Thunderstorm Wind	65 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WHITING	6/12/2024	17:51	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WHITING	6/12/2024	18:14	Hail	2.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WHITING	7/21/2024	17:02	Funnel Cloud		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WHITING	7/29/2024	23:05	Thunderstorm Wind	53 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Other consideration for risk is given to conditions in the planning area. Floodplain is indicated along the northwest and western borders of Whiting, including some developed properties. The large floodplain area may not always be flooded in high river conditions; however, ground saturation and frequency of high water table may routinely impact the community.

Whiting has a relatively large population living in trailer and modular homes, affecting its resiliency in high wind and tornado incidents, as well as any extreme weather conditions. Vandalism has resulted in locking of park facilities that may otherwise serve as shelter from sudden inclement weather conditions.

Several projects are in the works to improve the water systems. Full systems replacement is ultimate goal, though not likely to be completed in the next five years.

Priority Hazards

Whiting has identified the following hazards as their top three concerns based on likelihood of occurrence as well as potential and historical damages due to named events.

- Flooding
- Tornado/Windstorm

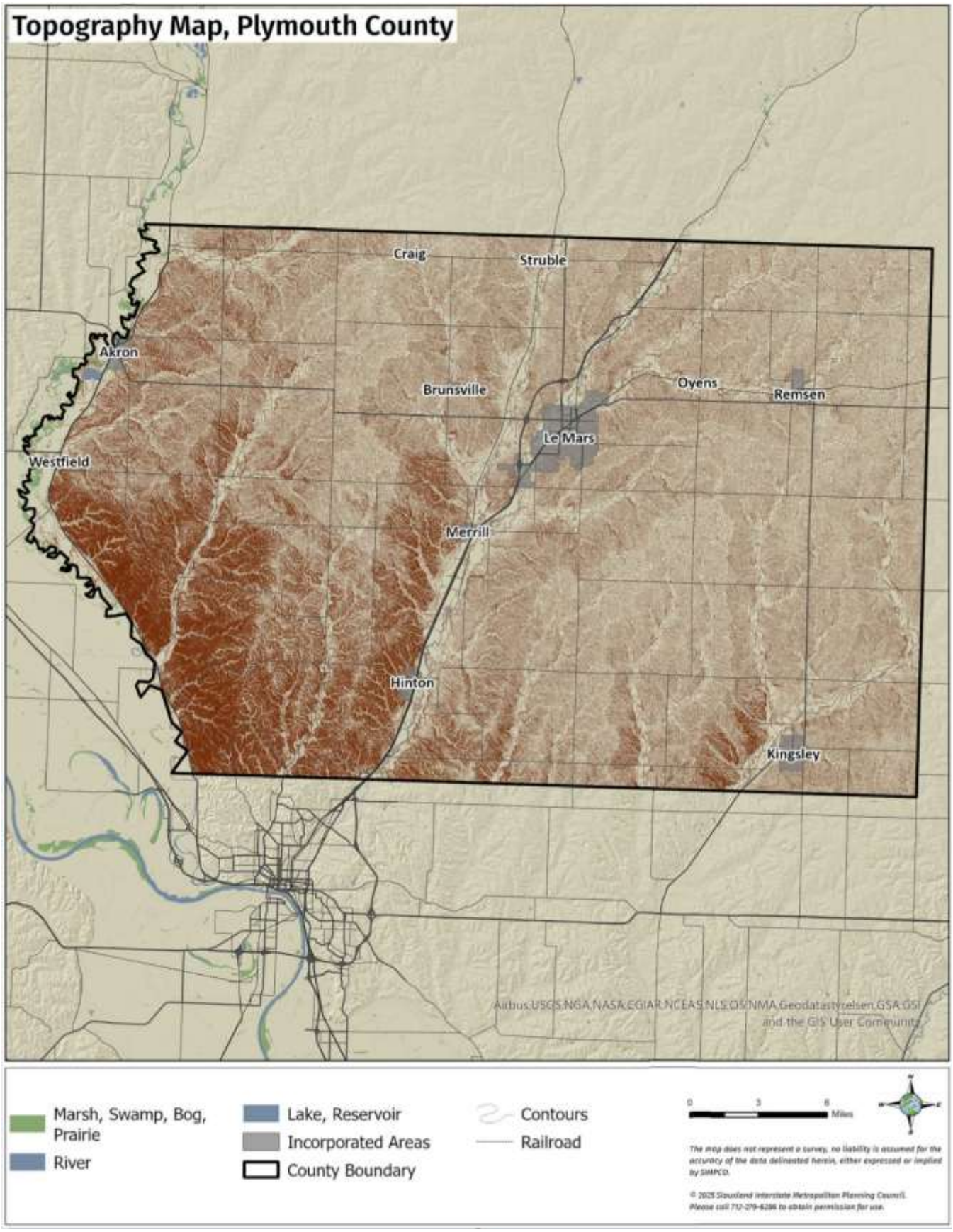
- Severe Winter Storm

Thunderstorm with Hail and Lightning is quickly rising in priority.

Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Whiting	**New**. PSAs - Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to Alert Iowa, Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; water conservation (drought considerations); Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. *City Clerk, County EMA* (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Whiting	**New**. There are no generators and no transformer switches in place for critical facilities. City is developing 2 new projects with generators needs identified. Generator also needed at sewer plant lift station. 1. water plant project in a phased overhaul, including consideration of another well (local, state, federal supports including loan ops) 2. New building for Fire Department (city funded at present, likely to include fundraising and community benefit funds) 3. Sewer plant lift station (not associated with other active or planned project) Addition of generators will enable continuity of operations in the event of a power outage. *Public Works, County EMA* (local funds general budget, project funds as applicable, PDM funds as available) HIGH PRIORITY
Equipment	Whiting	**New**. Whiting Fire Department in need of a new rig-grass fire truck. Estimated cost is $300,000. Fundraising efforts focused on new building therefore local funds are constrained. Priority reflects fund availability, not level need. *Fire Dept, City Council* (Response support funds as applicable, PDM if available) LOW PRIORITY
development		
Bridges & Roads	Whiting	**New**. K45 bridge needs new guardrails following improvements completed in 2020. *Streets dept, County roads*. (local road use funds, other road funding as may be available) HIGH PRIORITY
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

Other planned projects include overlays on roads to reduce deterioration rate in inclement weather conditions.


Topography Map, Plymouth County
Craig
Struble
Akron
Brunsville
Oyens
Remsen
Le Mars
Westfield
Merrill
Hinton
Kingsley
Marsh, Swamp, Bog, Prairie
River
Lake, Reservoir
Incorporated Areas
County Boundary
Contours
Railroad
0
3
6
Miles
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D. Plymouth County

Profile – Unincorporated Area & County

Plymouth County is located along the western edge of northwest Iowa. The County is bordered by Sioux County to the north, Cherokee County to the east, Woodbury County to the south, and the state of South Dakota to the west. Plymouth County is approximately 864 square miles.

Incorporated cities within Plymouth County include Akron, Brunsville, Craig, Hinton, Kingsley, Le Mars, Merrill, Oyens, Remsen, Struble, and Westfield.

Rivers & Watersheds

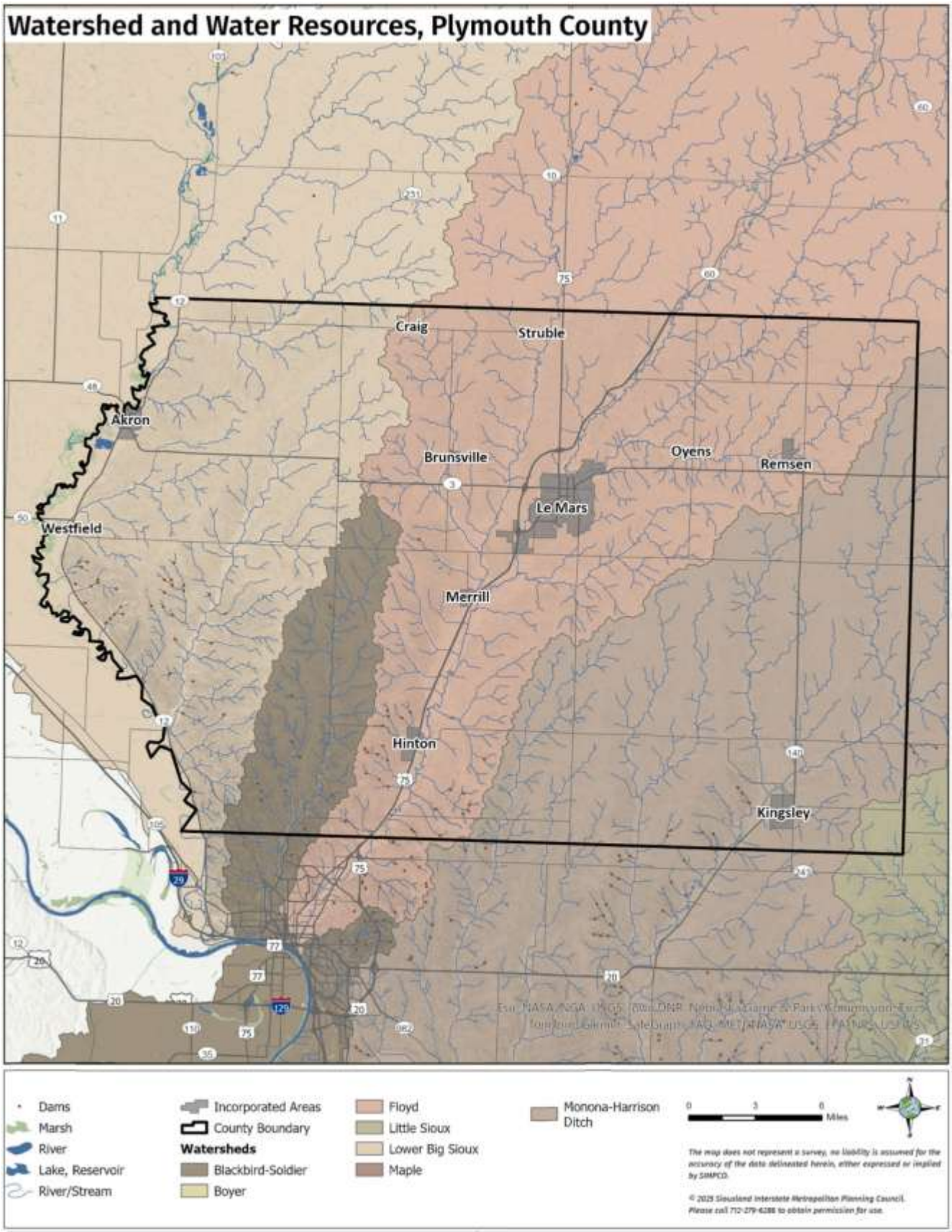
The western border of Plymouth County follows the Big Sioux River. Other significant rivers in the County include the Broken Kettle Creek, Floyd River, Perry Creek, and the West Fork of the Little Sioux River.

There are five (5) watersheds within the County that drain storm water and snow melt into streams and lakes, wetland areas, or into groundwater reserves. These watersheds are Blackbird-Soldier Watershed, Floyd Watershed, Little Sioux Watershed, Monona-Harrison Ditch Watershed, and Lower Big Sioux Watershed. Regional breakdown for watersheds is provided in *Planning Area* information. The following map depicts the sub-watersheds within those as listed above. Sub-watersheds are determined based on hydrologic unit code (HUC) level 12, which includes more detail including tributary data.

Landform Regions & Geology

Plymouth County is composed of three (3) distinct landform regions[26], which include Northwest Iowa Plains, Southern Iowa Drift Plains, and Loess Hills are said to have been formed by ancient glaciers. The Northwest Iowa Plains and Southern Iowa Drift Plains are marked by rolling hills that are the result of the manipulation of glacial sediment deposits by glacial melt and streams.

[26] Source: https://iowageologicalsurvey.uiowa.edu/iowa-geology/landforms-iowa


Watershed and Water Resources, Plymouth County
Craig
Struble
Akron
Brunsville
Oyens
Remsen
Le Mars
Westfield
Merrill
Hinton
Kingsley
Dams
Marsh
River
Lake, Reservoir
River/Stream
Incorporated Areas
County Boundary
Watersheds
Blackbird-Soldier
Boyer
Floyd
Little Sioux
Lower Big Sioux
Maple
Monona-Harrison Ditch
0 3 6 Miles
The map does not represent a survey, no liability is assumed for the accuracy of the data delineated herein, either expressed or implied by SIMPCO.
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The Loess Hills are unique to the region, and begin in Plymouth County. This landform was created from the accumulation of wind-blown silt. Today these steep hills rise from the surrounding landscape.

Transportation Network

U.S. Highway 75 and State Highway 3 intersect near the center of Plymouth County. The transportation network also includes State Highways 3, 12, and 140.

The County's secondary road system is composed of 1,423.27 miles. Within this category, Farm-to-Market roads make up 364.06 miles, while Area Service roads account for 1,059.21 miles. Gravel or earth surface types account for 1,056.23 miles of the secondary road system. The remaining 370.76 miles are composed of bituminous, asphalt, or PCC surface types.

County Governance & Supports

The county seat is in Le Mars, just north of the center of the County. Its jurisdiction covers all unincorporated portions within county boundaries. Plymouth County is governed by a five (5)-person Board of Supervisors. The Board is the legislative body of the county. Additional Offices include the following departments. Some departments have shared staff.

- Assessor
- Attorney
- Auditor
- Clerk of Courts
- County Conservation
- E-911
- Economic Development
- Emergency Management
- Engineer / Secondary Roads
- Information Technology
- Juvenile Court Services
- Planning & Zoning / Sanitarian
- Recorder
- Sheriff
- Treasurer
- Veteran Affairs

The Plymouth County Emergency Management Director serves as a key leader in planning, coordinator of operations, and chief of staff to the jurisdiction's executives during emergency response, community liaison to build the emergency program, and lead agency in coordination

of regional mitigation planning. The Plymouth County Sheriff's Office provides law enforcement services to the rural portions of the County and supports community departments. Mental Health services as administered in Plymouth County are relegated to state districting protocol.

County Facilities

County Courthouse	215 4th St, Le Mars
Law Enforcement Center	451 14th Ave NE, Le Mars
Engineer's Office	32802 170th St, Le Mars
Roads Department - Equipment/Supply Storage	Several locations throughout County
Historical Museum	335 1st Ave SW, Le Mars
County Fairgrounds	500 4th Ave NE, Le Mars
County Veterans Memorial	1000 3rd Ave SE, Le Mars
Hillview Recreation Area	25601 C60, Hinton
Five Ridge Prairie	15561 260th St, (rural)Westfield
Big Sioux Park	14241 Hwy 12, Akron
Birkley's Bend	26779 Hwy 12, Westfield
Boyd's Bend	13469 Hwy 12, Akron
Doorenbos-Ford Wetland	120th St & Hwy 12, Akron
E.C. Lippke Wetland	11132 240th St, Westfield
Highway 75 Wetland	NE of Merrill, east side Hwy 75
Kohler Memorial Grassland	150th St and Quest Ave, Remsen
Meadow Wildlife Area	45597 140th St, Remsen
Millsite River Access	10001 Hwy 3, Westfield
O'Brien Prairie	26211 Noble Ave, Le Mars
River's Bend Wildlife Area	11826 180th St, Akron
Ron Wilmot River Access	180th St & Hwy 12, Akron
Rufus B. Hatch Memorial Grassland	L22 & 140th St, Remsen
Southeast Wildwood	41564 310th St, Kingsley

Education

Plymouth County is home to 18 public schools. Two of these schools are part of the grade-sharing agreement between the Marcus Meriden Cleghorn (MMC) and Remsen Union (RU)

Community School Districts, with portions located in Cherokee County. Additionally, there are four private schools within the county. The remaining 16 public schools are divided among four school districts, which include the following:

- Le Mars Community School District
- Hinton Community School District
- Akron-Westfield Community School District
- Kingsley-Pierson Community School District

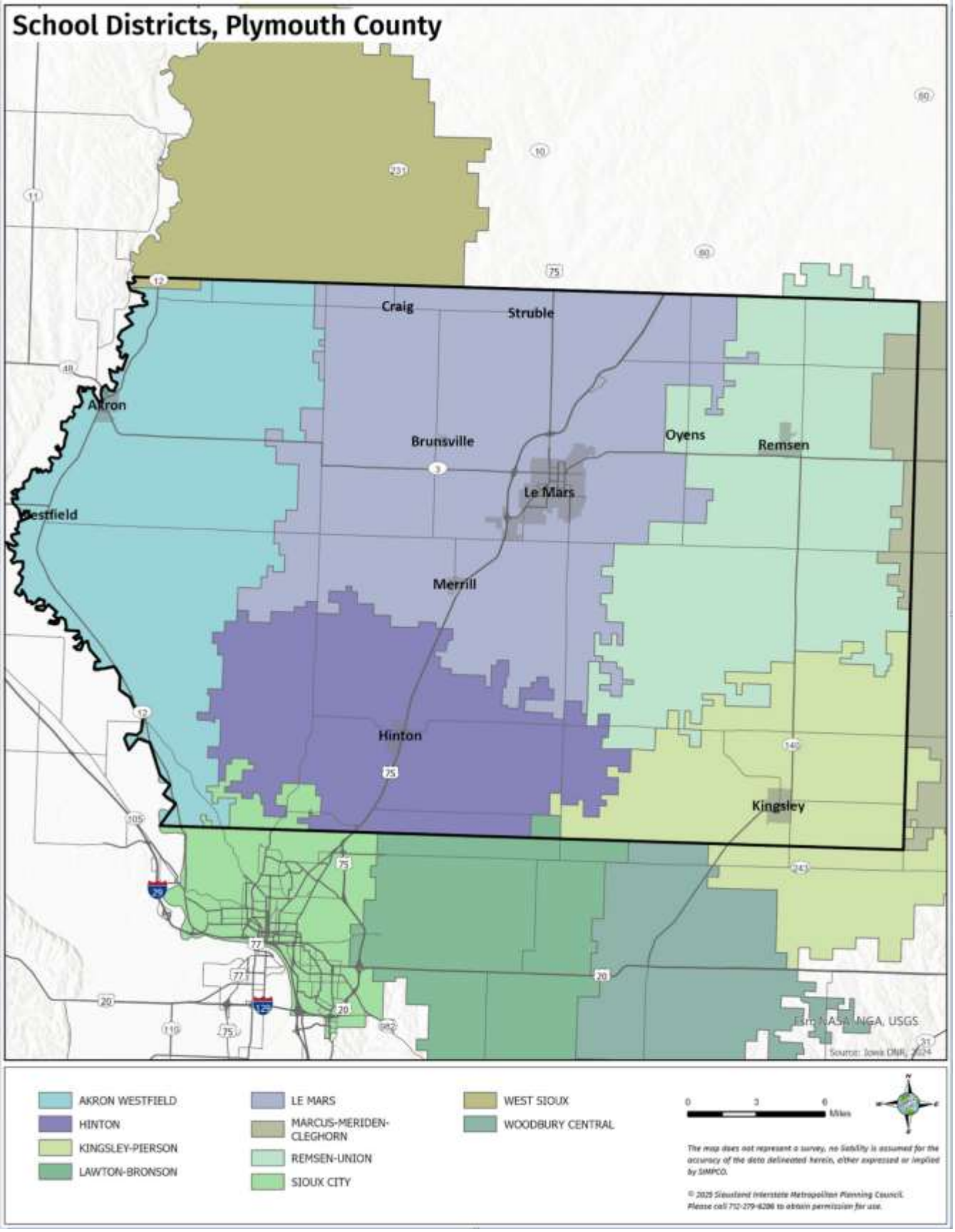
Statistics show educational attainment in Plymouth County[27] reflects a relatively strong foundation in basic and postsecondary education. A higher percentage of residents have completed high school or some college compared to the state average. The county also has a notable portion of residents with associate's degrees, while fewer individuals hold bachelor's or graduate degrees compared to the state. The percentage of people without a high school diploma is slightly lower than the state average, indicating comparable access to early education. Overall, Plymouth County shows solid rates of high school and some college education but lags behind the state in advanced degree completion.

It is important to note that many residents as may be employed by one of the major manufacturing/production businesses in the county have attained certifications for machinery operation and maintenance as a credential for positions held. These certifications, while not included in education stats, can be applied to other employment opportunities and merit due consideration in employability and career advancement.

CensusReporter.gov estimates, the median household income is $81,600 with about 6.8% of its population living below the poverty level.

Generally, the categories that FEMA identifies as vulnerable populations are present in the County at similar rates compared to the State.

[27] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/05000US19149-plymouth-county-ia/


School Districts, Plymouth County
Craig
Struble
Akron
Brunsville
Oyens
Remsen
Le Mars
Westfield
Merrill
Hinton
Kingsley
Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS
Source: Iowa DNR, 2024
AKRON WESTFIELD
HINTON
KINGSLEY-PIERSON
LAWTON-BRONSON
LE MARS
MARCUS-MERIDEN-CLEGHORN
REMSEN-UNION
SIOUX CITY
WEST SIOUX
WOODBURY CENTRAL
0
3
6
Miles
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Population

Community Characteristics	
Population (2023)	25,699
Population (2020)	25,141
Total Households	10,297
Median Household Income	$81,600
Median Household Income – Iowa	$73,147

Vulnerable Populations	*Count*	*Percent*
5 years and younger	1,453	5.7%
65 years and older	4,956	19.3%
Below the poverty level	1,799	6.8%
Living with a disability	2,992	11.8%

Healthcare Facilities

Plymouth County houses Floyd Valley Healthcare in Le Mars. The facility has experienced significant expansion in recent years. Services include Emergency Services, Urgent Care, Specialists, Primary Care, Assisted Living Facility, and Education and Wellness programming. There are several assisted living, nursing homes, and rehabilitation centers throughout the county, as well as local dental and vision care providers.

Housing

Plymouth County has a relatively high median home value compared to the state of Iowa, although its median rent is slightly lower. The county contains a total of 10,863 housing units, with the majority being occupied. Of the occupied units, a significant portion are owner-occupied, while a smaller proportion are renter-occupied. The county has a low vacancy rate, suggesting a stable housing market. These figures highlight a community with a strong emphasis on homeownership, while rental options are also well-represented.

Housing Characteristics	*Plymouth*	*Iowa*
Median Home Value	$218,600	$195,900

Median Rent	$865	$891
	Count	*Percent*
Total Housing Units	10,863	-
Occupied	10,319	95%
Owner-occupied	8,038	74%
Renter-occupied	2,824	26%
Vacant	543	5%

Income & Economics

In Plymouth County, the civilian employed population aged 16 and older totals 20,115 individuals. The largest employment sector is education, health care, and social assistance, which employs over one-fifth of the workforce. Manufacturing and retail trade are also major contributors, with a significant portion of the population working in these industries. Agriculture, including forestry, fishing, and hunting, remains an important sector, alongside transportation, warehousing, and utilities. Other notable sectors include finance, professional services, and public administration. While smaller portions of the workforce are employed in arts, entertainment, and other services, the data reflects a diverse economy with strong representation in both traditional industries and service-oriented sectors.

Much of Plymouth County's economic development and large scale employment is hosted in Le Mars, its county seat. In addition to county employees and City of Le Mars staff and administration, the following are recognized as leading employers as follows.

- Bekins, Inc.
- BoDeans Baking Company
- Dairy Farmers of America/Kemps Dairy
- Fareway
- Floyd Valley Healthcare
- Gehlen Catholic School
- Gus Pech Manufacturing Co.
- Hy-Vee
- Le Mars Community School District
- IML Containers of Iowa
- NorAm Cold Storage and Distribution
- SmithCo Side-Dump
- Walmart
- Wells Enterprises

Industry for the Civilian Employed Population 16 and over

Civilian employed population (16 and older)	20,115	-
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	937	6.9%
Construction	758	5.%
Manufacturing	**2,788**	**20.6%**
Wholesale trade	90	2.1%
Retail trade	**1,227**	**9.1%**
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	1,146	8.5%
Information	214	1.6%
Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing	657	4.9%
Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services	612	4.5%
Education services and health care and social assistance	**3,019**	**22.3%**
Arts, entertainment, & recreation, and Accommodation & food services	625	4.6%
Other services except public administration	806	6%
Public administration	441	3.3%

Valuation of County Assets

Total Blanket TIV	$	48,630,267
Building	$	46,416,552
Personal Property	$	2,213,715
Misc Property Sched	$	8,040,445
Misc Property Unsched	$	809,345
Total TIV	**$**	**57,480,057**
APD TIV	**$**	**5,265,534**
Grand Total TIV	**$**	**62,745,591**
Covered Vehicles	**$**	**5,313,511**

PARTICIPATION

A Mitigation Planning meeting was held December 4, 2025 at the County Annex. Facilitated by SIMPCO, the following were in attendance.

- Rebecca Socknat, EMA

- Stacey Feldman, Auditor
- Nick Beeck, Conservation
- Shawn Olson, Director of IT
- Steven Chapman, Zoning Administrator

Additional participation was collected by way of surveys. Completed online or on paper, there is record of 248 primary survey respondents. Of those, 65 indicated residence in Plymouth County. A secondary survey was made available to participating school districts for distribution to junior and senior students. Of the 65 student surveys collected, 54 students noted residence in Plymouth County. Some insight from the perspective of area youth is discussed in the Risk Assessment portion of this profile.

Capabilities

Plymouth County participates in the NFIP program, CID #190899A. The County Zoning Administrator serves as Floodplain Administrator. As a county, its unincorporated areas have zero RL/SRL properties.

Plans/Guidance Docs	
• Builder's Plan • Comprehensive Plan • County Recovery Plan	• Land Use Plan • Local/County Emergency Plan
Policies/Ordinances	
• Building Code • Drainage Ordinance • Floodplain Ordinance • Historic Preservation Ordinance • Landscape Ordinance	• Nuisance Ordinance • Storm Water Ordinance • Subdivision Ordinance • Zoning Ordinance
Iowa Wetlands and Riparian Areas Conservation Plan	Plymouth County Conservation
Programs	
Zoning/Land Use Restrictions	
Codes Building Site/Design	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190899A
Property Acquisition	

Planning/Zoning Boards	
Mutual Aid Agreements	IMAC & EMAC
Staff/Department	
Zoning Official / Sanitarian	Planning and Zoning, and Environmental Health
Mapping Specialist (GIS)	
Engineer	
Development Planning (role assumed by Board of Supervisors)	
Emergency Management Coordinator	
NFIP Floodplain Administrator	
Emergency Response Team	Special Response Team
Historic Preservation	
Non-Governmental Organizations	*Comments*
Veterans Groups	County Veterans Affairs Commission
Environmental Groups	• County Environmental Health Department. • Conservation Foundation Board • Land Acquisition Conservation
Local Funding Availabilities & Authorities	
Apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Assess impact fees for new development	
Ability to incur debt through	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities
Ability to withhold spending in hazard prone areas	
State / Federal grants by department	
Plymouth County Betterment Fund	
TIF program	Wind Turbine
	Ethanol Urban Renewal

While the county profiles are intended to cover unincorporated areas within defined border, it is impossible to completely separate county operations and services from cooperative planning strategies – especially in mitigation and response planning. One such collaboration is availability of the County Courthouse, located in Le Mars, to serve as gathering place in the

event of an evacuation of Franklin Elementary School. Proximity, access, and ready-to-activate security features figure in such designations.

The primary goal of the county in the event of any emergency is the continuity of operations. Ongoing monitoring of protocol, policies, and procedure enable timely adjustments and improvements as may be dictated in real time.

Review of Actions Taken

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Plymouth Co	2020: Signage needed to better define restricted areas; *County Engineer, Sanitarian* (County funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Promo/Info	Plymouth County	**Implemented**: Plymouth County continues to administer general alerts. Assessing feasibility of adding employees to enable uniform communications and enabling external use specific to departments. System is used by Communications Center, CERT Team including Floyd Valley Hospital.
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	**All** Counties	2020: Assess availability of generators for all critical facilities, portable or permanent. Prep all critical facilities for connection to generators as applicable; *County EMA* (Varying levels of funds needed. Support may come through County, State, and Federal grant and loan programs) HIGH PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Plymouth County	**Implemented.** County Courthouse, Courthouse Annex, and Law Enforcement office have added a generator with a $300,000 investment. Portable generators are available for communities; no additional need for transfer switches.
Equipment	Plymouth County	**Implemented**. Plymouth County Law Enforcement added equipment to increase efficiency of services, especially in emergency situations. Additions include Bearcat, Incident Command Trailer, and multi-use (80-person capacity) Shelter trailer. *County law Enforcement*. (ARPA funds).
development		
Bridges & Roads	Plymouth County	2020: Roadway access/elevation projects identified @ Floyd River Basin and Deep Creek Basin areas. While floodmap revisions continue, the County does not anticipate significant changes in unincorporated areas. *IDNR, County Conservation, County Engineer* (Clean Water Conservation program funds, County funds, IDNR funds, Transportation funds) LOW PRIORITY
Bridges & Roads	Plymouth County	Update was not provided. Project removed from Priority List.

flow control
refuge
technology
natural barriers/supports

Some projects in place throughout the county include tree removal within drainage districts, tree planting projects to re-establish an appropriate tree canopy, and protections of the loess hills.

Plymouth County completed a shelter at the Fairgrounds in 2015 and invested $3500 in refuge resource kits during the planning period since 2020. Some additional refuge/shelter-related projects are needed including notification systems improvements.

Following major flooding over the weekend in Iowa, President Joe Biden declared a major disaster in the state Monday night and approved federal aid to help recovery efforts.

"The President's action makes Federal funding available to affected individuals in the counties of Clay, Emmet, Lyon, Plymouth, and Sioux," a White House press release said.

"Assistance can include grants for temporary housing and home repairs, low-cost loans to cover uninsured property losses, and other programs to help individuals and business owners recover from the effects of the disaster."

Flooding in northwest Iowa, caused by heavy rainfall, had impacted at least 1,900 properties, leaving hundreds destroyed, Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds told reporters Sunday.

https://abcnews.go.com/US/flooding-northwest-iowa-leads-250-water-rescues-hundreds/story?id=111355969 (by Mariama Jalloh, June 24, 2024, 11:10 PM) June 10, 2025

Risk Assessment

Local accounting of weather-related disasters and other hazards are detailed within jurisdiction profiles reflecting reported events in the NOAA Storm Event database and local

accounts. Overall, Plymouth County's reports[28] from 11/01/2019 through 12/31/2024 included 183 storm events in 17 categories.

Event Summary for Plymouth County, Iowa	
Number of County/Zone areas affected:	2
Number of Days with Event:	27
Number of Days with Event and Death:	0
Number of Days with Event and Death or Injury:	0
Number of Days with Event and Property Damage:	1
Number of Days with Event and Crop Damage:	0
Number of Event Types reported:	13

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	12/28/2019	3:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	1/12/2020	14:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	1/17/2020	6:00	Blizzard		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	1/18/2020	11:00	Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	2/12/2020	15:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	2/12/2020	23:00	Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	2/19/2020	1:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
AKRON	3/10/2020	7:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	3/19/2020	17:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
AKRON	3/29/2020	11:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WESTFIELD	3/30/2020	7:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	3.00K
AKRON	4/1/2020	0:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WESTFIELD	4/1/2020	0:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	4/12/2020	6:00	Winter Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WESTFIELD	6/21/2020	5:34	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	1.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	7/28/2020	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	865.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	8/1/2020	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	668.00K

[28] https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/

HINTON	8/14/2020	14:25	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
HINTON	8/14/2020	14:59	Hail	0.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MILLNERVILLE	8/14/2020	14:05	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WESTFIELD	8/14/2020	13:54	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MERRILL	8/31/2020	3:37	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	9/1/2020	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	60.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	10/1/2020	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	77.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	10/25/2020	3:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	11/1/2020	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	10.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	11/9/2020	22:00	Winter Weather		0	0	10.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	12/1/2020	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	12/23/2020	10:00	Blizzard		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	12/29/2020	8:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	1/1/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	1/14/2021	22:00	Blizzard		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	1/23/2021	17:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	1/25/2021	18:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	2/1/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	2/4/2021	3:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	2/14/2021	6:00	Extreme Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	2/21/2021	6:00	Winter Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	3/1/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	4/1/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	5/1/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	73.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	6/1/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	2.350M
AKRON	6/11/2021	5:38	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	35.00K	0.00K
O LEARY	6/22/2021	17:10	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	6.00K	5.220M
O LEARY	6/22/2021	17:20	Thunderstorm Wind	52 kts. EG	0	0	2.00K	0.00K
O LEARY	6/22/2021	17:23	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	2.00K	0.00K
O LEARY	6/22/2021	17:34	Funnel Cloud		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	7/1/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	1.300M
NEPTUNE	7/8/2021	23:29	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
NEPTUNE	7/8/2021	23:31	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	8/1/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	866.00K

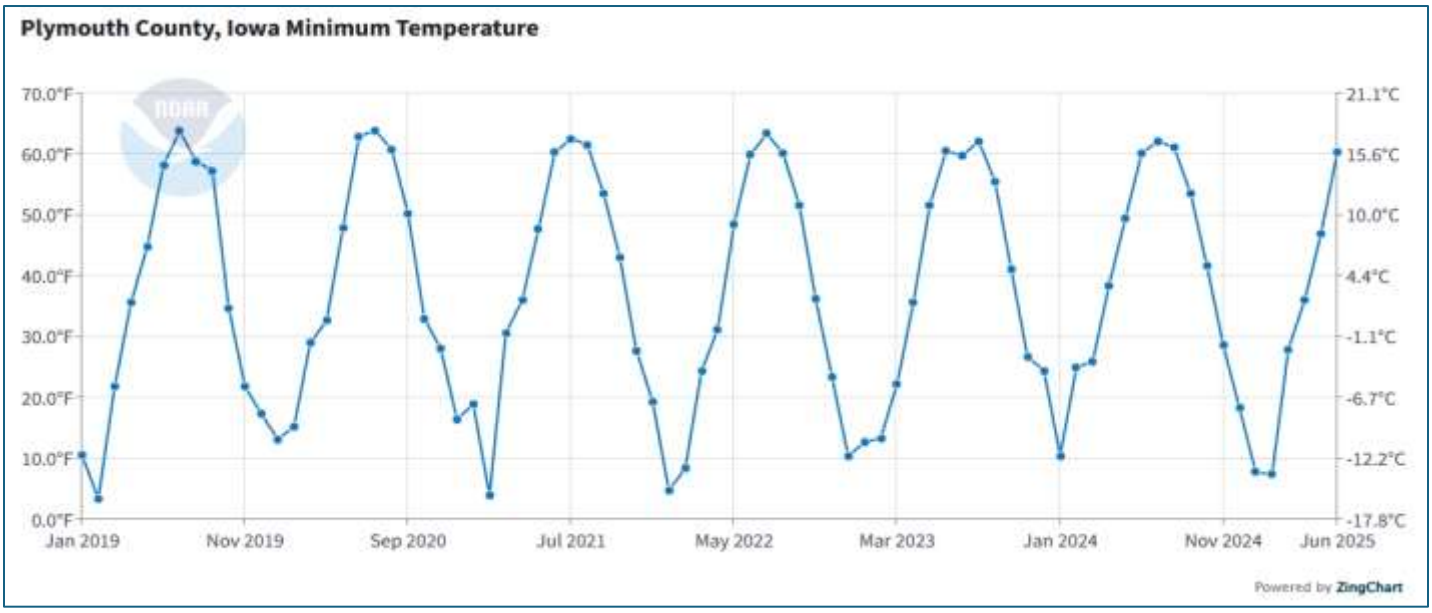
LE MARS	8/27/2021	0:16	Thunderstorm Wind	51 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	30.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	9/1/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	282.00K
LE MARS	10/20/2021	8:17	Hail	0.88 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	12/10/2021	13:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
KINGSLEY	12/15/2021	16:38	Thunderstorm Wind	72 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
KINGSLEY	12/15/2021	16:39	Thunderstorm Wind	72 kts. EG	0	0	25.00K	0.00K
KINGSLEY	12/15/2021	16:39	Thunderstorm Wind	78 kts. EG	0	0	20.00K	0.00K
KINGSLEY	12/15/2021	16:39	Tornado	EF1	0	0	50.00K	0.00K
KINGSLEY	12/15/2021	16:40	Thunderstorm Wind	82 kts. EG	0	0	30.00K	0.00K
KINGSLEY	12/15/2021	16:40	Thunderstorm Wind	83 kts. EG	0	0	35.00K	0.00K
KINGSLEY	12/15/2021	16:41	Thunderstorm Wind	74 kts. EG	0	0	25.00K	0.00K
KINGSLEY	12/15/2021	16:41	Thunderstorm Wind	72 kts. EG	0	0	30.00K	0.00K
KINGSLEY	12/15/2021	16:44	Thunderstorm Wind	69 kts. EG	0	0	20.00K	0.00K
KINGSLEY	12/15/2021	16:44	Thunderstorm Wind	65 kts. EG	0	0	25.00K	0.00K
KINGSLEY	12/15/2021	16:47	Thunderstorm Wind	64 kts. EG	0	0	5.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	12/15/2021	20:35	High Wind	55 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	1/1/2022	6:00	Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	1/5/2022	7:00	Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	2/21/2022	16:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	2/23/2022	4:00	Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	3/5/2022	13:30	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	3/15/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	3/25/2022	10:00	Strong Wind	27 kts. MS	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	4/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	4/23/2022	10:00	High Wind	52 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	4/23/2022	13:00	Wildfire		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	5/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	500.00K
KINGSLEY	5/12/2022	18:30	Thunderstorm Wind	70 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	16.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	6/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	7.140M
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	7/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	10.210M
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	8/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	12.370M
BRUNSVILLE	8/18/2022	16:44	Hail	0.88 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
BRUNSVILLE	8/18/2022	16:56	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

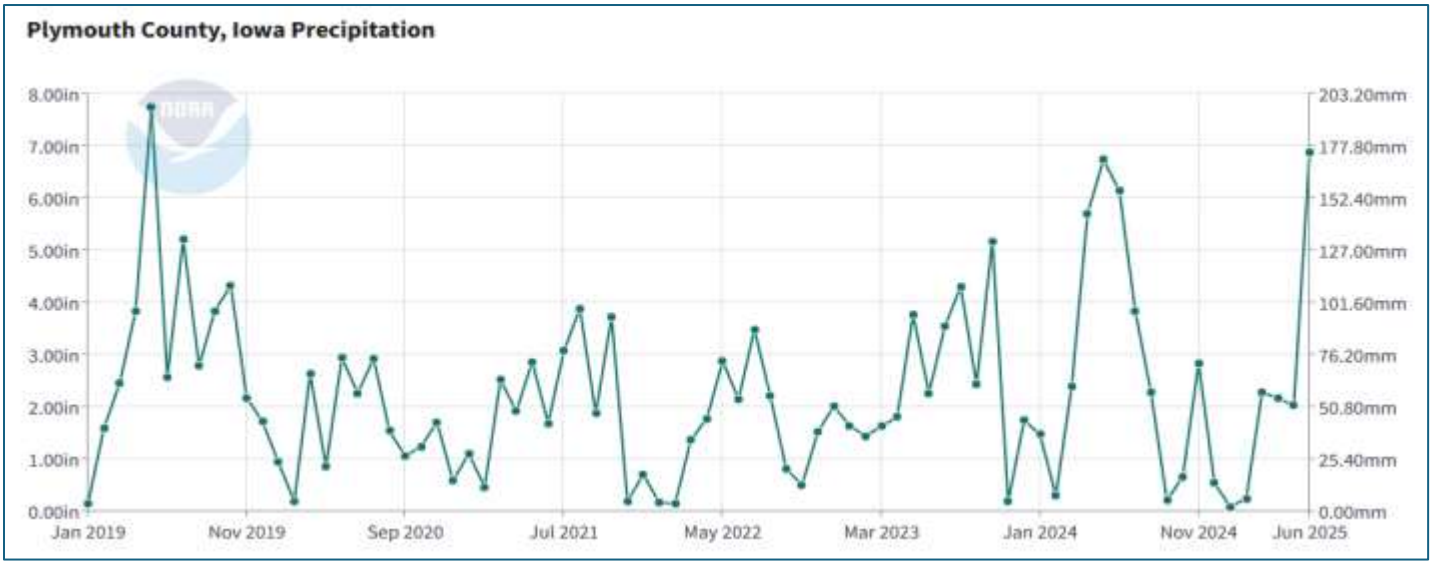
BRUNSVILLE	8/18/2022	16:58	Hail	1.25 in.	0	0	0.00K	11.00K
KINGSLEY	8/18/2022	18:22	Hail	1.50 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
REMSEN	8/18/2022	18:00	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	9/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	2.870M
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	10/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	11/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	11/29/2022	5:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	12/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	12/8/2022	16:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	12/22/2022	0:00	Extreme Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	1/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	1/3/2023	3:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	1/18/2023	18:00	Winter Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	1/28/2023	0:00	Winter Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	2/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	2/22/2023	10:30	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	3/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	3/8/2023	17:30	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	3/22/2023	22:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	4/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
AKRON	4/10/2023	23:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WESTFIELD	4/12/2023	0:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MERRILL	4/19/2023	19:39	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MILLNERVILLE	4/19/2023	19:03	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MILLNERVILLE	4/19/2023	19:09	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
REMSEN	4/19/2023	20:04	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	4/30/2023	9:00	Strong Wind	39 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	5/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
HINTON	5/10/2023	23:05	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
OYENS	5/10/2023	23:40	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
OYENS	5/10/2023	23:42	Hail	2.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	6/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	7/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
HINTON	7/4/2023	13:50	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

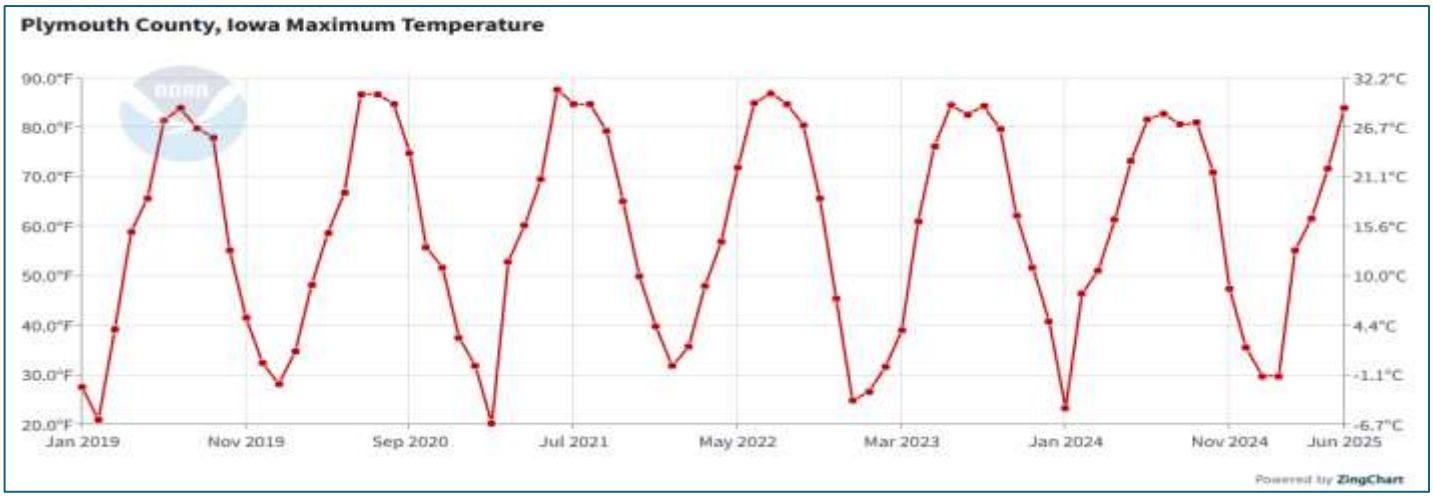
NEPTUNE	7/4/2023	14:02	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	6.00K
MILLNERVILLE	7/12/2023	3:55	Thunderstorm Wind	65 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
HINTON	7/21/2023	18:06	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	7/25/2023	10:00	Excessive Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	8/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
LE MARS MUNI ARPT	8/5/2023	17:25	Thunderstorm Wind	62 kts. MG	0	0	5.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	8/19/2023	13:30	Excessive Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	8/21/2023	11:00	Excessive Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	9/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	9/2/2023	12:00	Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	10/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	7.460M
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	10/12/2023	15:00	Strong Wind	45 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	10/28/2023	11:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	12/9/2023	9:00	Strong Wind	44 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	12/25/2023	3:00	Ice Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	1/8/2024	4:00	Winter Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	1/10/2024	13:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	1/11/2024	14:00	Winter Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	1/12/2024	15:00	Blizzard		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	1/12/2024	18:00	Extreme Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	1/18/2024	9:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	1/19/2024	22:00	Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	2/27/2024	15:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
HINTON	4/16/2024	12:46	Tornado	EFU	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
JAMES	4/16/2024	12:49	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MERRILL	4/16/2024	13:10	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
OYENS	4/16/2024	13:22	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
REMSEN	4/16/2024	13:21	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
STRUBLE	4/16/2024	13:00	Tornado	EF1	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WEST LE MARS	4/16/2024	12:48	Tornado	EFU	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
REMSEN	4/30/2024	14:56	Hail	0.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
REMSEN	4/30/2024	15:00	Hail	0.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
REMSEN	4/30/2024	15:02	Hail	0.88 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

REMSEN	4/30/2024	15:04	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MILLNERVILLE	5/20/2024	22:27	Hail	0.88 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
REMSEN	5/20/2024	18:50	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
O LEARY	5/21/2024	5:43	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
AKRON	6/21/2024	9:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
JAMES	6/21/2024	1:30	Flood		0	0	1.580M	0.00K
WESTFIELD	6/21/2024	16:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
STRUBLE	6/22/2024	2:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
STRUBLE	6/22/2024	14:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WEST LE MARS	6/22/2024	18:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
HINTON	6/23/2024	3:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MILLNERVILLE	6/23/2024	3:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
AKRON	7/1/2024	0:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WESTFIELD	7/1/2024	0:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	7/13/2024	12:00	Excessive Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
KINGSLEY	7/29/2024	23:00	Thunderstorm Wind	65 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
KINGSLEY	7/29/2024	23:08	Thunderstorm Wind	74 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
LE MARS	7/29/2024	22:55	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
LE MARS MUNI ARPT	7/29/2024	22:52	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
LE MARS MUNI ARPT	7/29/2024	22:52	Thunderstorm Wind	54 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MERRILL	7/29/2024	22:46	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	7/31/2024	11:00	Excessive Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	8/2/2024	12:00	Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	8/5/2024	12:00	Excessive Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	8/25/2024	12:00	Excessive Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	10/22/2024	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	11/1/2024	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	12/1/2024	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	12/4/2024	12:00	Strong Wind	43 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PLYMOUTH (ZONE)	12/19/2024	11:00	Strong Wind	29 kts. MS	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
						Totals:	**1.906M**	**52.387M**

The following charts provide a visual of Plymouth County's record of maximum temperature, minimum temperature and precipitation by month from November 2019 through December 2024 (www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/monitoring/climate-at-a-glance/county/time-series/IA).







Priority Hazards

Survey responses specific to Plymouth County indicated and Tornado/Windstorm at the greatest frequency at least somewhat concerned. Flooding (both flash and riverine) and Thunderstorm, Hail & Lightning follow, with notable concern indicated for Severe Winter Storm, Drought, Infrastructure Failure, Extreme Heat, and Hazardous Materials incidents. Issues have varied by community. In addition to Tornado/Windstorm concerns, the county identified top hazards by frequency of related projects.

Most concerning hazards as indicated by county officials are as follows. Determination of level of concern is primarily cost of recovery with sue consideration of risk to residents.

- Flood – Flash and Riverine
- Thunderstorm w/Hail & Lightning
- Severe Winter Storm

The top three most concerning hazards as ranked by survey response are Tornado/Windstorm, Severe Winter Storm, and Flash Flooding.

STORM LAKE, Iowa (KTIV) - A disaster proclamation has been signed for the counties impacted by the recent severe storms that started on Thursday, April 17.

On Friday, April 18, Iowa Gov. Reynolds issued a disaster proclamation for two Siouxland counties: Buena Vista County and Plymouth County. Other counties included are Page County and Fremont County.

Thousands left without power, numerous buildings damaged after severe weather hits Storm Lake, IA

This proclamation allows for state resources to be used to respond and recover from the aftereffects of the severe weather, effective immediately, and expires on Sunday, May 18.

Source: http://www.ktiv.com/2025/04/18/gov-reynolds-issues-disaster-proclamation (By Kathryn Vlaanderen *Published: Apr. 18, 2025 at 3:50 PM CDT*) June 10, 2025.

Future Risk

According to FEMA's National Risk Index[29], Plymouth County has an overall "Very Low" risk level relative state and national comparisons and Very High Community Resilience rating. An assessment of Hazard Types, Expected Annual Loss. Social Vulnerability, Risk Valuation and Risk Score provide a composite breakdown of vulnerability.

Composite Expected Annual Loss:	$ 4,815,286.01
Composite Expected Annual Loss Rate National Percentile:	30%

Building EAL	$ 2,682,874.42			
Building EAL Rate	$ 1.00	per	$2.82K	of building value
Agriculture EAL	$ 276,698.01			
Agriculture EAL Rate	$ 1.00	per	$3.06K	of agriculture value
Population EAL	0.16	fatalities		
Population EAL Rate	1	per	160.57K	people
Population Equivalence EAL	$ 1,855,713.57			

Hazard Type Risk Ratings

	Expected Annual Loss		Risk Factor Breakdown	
Hazard Type	EAL Value	EAL Rating	Risk Value	Risk Index Score
Cold Wave	$ 136,389	Relatively Moderate	$134,713	60.6

[29] Source: https://hazards.fema.gov/nri/map

Drought*	$ 239,042	Relatively Low	$224,472	77
Earthquake	$ 9,326	Very Low	$9,623	16.3
Hail	$ 101,390	Relatively Low	$99,764	48.2
Heat Wave	$ 60,596	Relatively Low	$60,144	44.2
Ice Storm	$ 37,814	Relatively Low	$37,702	39.3
Landslide	$ 21,900	Relatively Low	$19,057	17.5
Lightning	$ 30,060	Very Low	$29,748	17
Riverine Flooding	$ 21	Very Low	$18	3.1
Strong Wind	$ 479,908	Relatively Low	$477,136	57.2
Tornado	$ 3,415,905	Relatively Moderate	$3,398,856	77.7
Wildfire	$ 206,051	Relatively Low	$180,774	69.6
Winter Weather	$ 76,884	Relatively Low	$76,006	56.3

*Note: Risk Index is based on Agricultural (crop only) impacts
https://hazards.fema.gov/nri/report/viewer?dataLOD=Counties&dataIDs=C19149

Mitigation Actions, Strategies, & Projects

Plymouth County identified several strategies and planned actions to address natural disasters and other hazards intended to reduce risk of property loss/damage and potential loss of life.

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Plymouth County	**New**. Plymouth County. Continuity of Operations plan development is in the works, assigning use of facilities when relocation is necessary. Plan includes consideration of displacement potential for all county services. Involved parties: *all department heads, Clerk of Court, State Officers, DOT, DNR, VA* (local staff paid time is anticipated as primary expense at this time) HIGH PRIORITY
Warning Sirens/Alerts	Plymouth Co	**New**. The county is interested in enhancing capacity for alerts at the fairgrounds. As large gatherings tend to slow cell networks, a booster is needed to ensure timely notifications, especially for larger scale outdoor events. *County EMA, Fair board* (Pre-disaster mitigation funds, Community Safety program funds, county funds, allocated fairground facility funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Warning Sirens/Alerts	Plymouth Co w/ City of Le Mars	**New**. Further consideration is needed for improved localized warnings in Le Mars, narrowing scope of generalized county-wide warnings for events that may have significant in-town effects. Such specification are expected to improve school district and shift adaptations for major employers as may be necessary. *County EMA, City of Le Mars, Emergency Response teams* (Pre-disaster mitigation funds, Community Safety program funds, county funds, allocated fairground facility funds) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Plymouth County	**New**. The County will continue to assess availability of generators for all critical facilities, portable or permanent. Prep all critical facilities for connection to

		generators as applicable, coordinating with communities to ensure their panels are prepped for connection. Cost will vary by facility. *County EMA, City public works departments*. (Emergency preparedness programs, BRIC, local funds, county funds) HIGH PRIORITY
development		
flow control		
Drainage Projects	Plymouth Co	**New** & Ongoing. Drainage ditch improvements are needed throughout the county. Maintenance is performed as needed with monitoring in effect for Akron, Westfield, and Hinton as areas frequently affected by flash flooding. Monitoring includes assessing opportunities for long term improvements that may supplement drainage ditch network. Secondary Roads (County budget, IDNR as may be applicable, Disaster response as may be needed) HIGH PRIORITY
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		
Stabilization	Plymouth County	**New**. Rip rap repair and assessment for permanent stabilization is in progress for a man-made berm surrounding a 20-acre lake south of Akron. Flooding in 2024 exceeding historic high flood marks by 5', resulting in significant deterioration of berm. County departments, IDNR as applicable (County budget item, disaster response funds as may be applicable, mitigation funds as may be available) HIGH PRIORITY

JURISDICTIONS

1. AKRON

a. Profile

The City of Akron lies on the western-most border of Plymouth County, on the Iowa/South Dakota border. Akron occupies about 1.23 square miles. Big Sioux River Road, IA-12, travels north/south on a slight diagonal through the central part of Akron with IA-3 branching east from 12 before following the city's southeast boundary and continuing east. Big Sioux River runs on the north part of Akron City's boundary, serving as the Iowa/South Dakota border. Union Pacific railroad line passes through Akron between IA-12 and the Big Sioux River.

City Governance & Community Supports

Akron is governed by a five-person elected Council and the Mayor. Offices in addition to Mayor and Council include:

- Akron Fire & Rescue
- City Administrator
- City Attorney
- City Clerk
- Deputy Clerk
- Library

- Parks & Recreation
- Police Department
- Zoning Board & Commission
- (Elected) Akron Care Center Board

The Akron Fire & Rescue is composed of about 45 volunteers that respond to calls for service utilizing 10 different apparatus and provide a wide variety of skills and special abilities). The city contracts with the County for Emergency Management. Akron is a member of the NFIP program, though residents are known to be inactive under flood insurance. A comprehensive plan was adopted October 2011. More information about the City of Akron can be found on their website at https://akronia.org/.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

CensusReporter.gov estimates a slight increase in the population of Akron from 1,558 in 2020 to 1,660 in 2023[30]. The town is home to 748 households, with a median household income of $59,706. Akron has a poverty rate of 9.2%, indicating that while the community is relatively prosperous, there are still some economic challenges faced by a portion of its residents.

Akron has a total of 802 housing units, with 746 currently occupied and 56 vacant, resulting in a strong occupancy rate. There are no mobile homes in the community. The majority of residents have moved into their homes since 2000, reflecting a trend toward newer housing. Smaller portions of the population settled into homes built in the 1990s or earlier, indicating a mix of both recent and long-established residences throughout the town.

Leading Employers

The following businesses, as well as those listed under Community Supports, operate and have established a necessary presence in Akron. Those as provided are leading employers in the city.

- Akron-Westfield Com School District
- Akron Care Center
- Heyl Truck Lines
- Mike's Inc.

[30] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1900775-akron-ia/

Critical Facilities

City Hall	220 Reed St
City Garage	202 Norka Dr
Library	350 Reed St
Senior Center	204 S 4th St
Police Department	220 Reed Street
Fire Station	1000 Ridge Rd
Fire Siren	5th St @ Dakota St
Huff Bldg	245 N 3rd St
Pump House	260 N 3rd St
Lefty Swift Ballfield & Park	601 Cheyenne Blvd
Main Lift Station	Reed St @ River Rd
Lift Station - Heyl	N Norka Dr
Lift Station – Waterbury (flood eliminated in 2024)	S River Rd
Substation	Hwy 12 @ Reed St
Water Tower & Equipment	S 9th St @ Main St
Well Bldg & Related	S end Akron Business Park
Children's Memorial Park	301 Iowa St
City Park, Sargent Field & related	
Bob Tucker Field	
Akron City Park	City Park Dr.
Akron Swimming Pool	340 North 5th Street
Warning Siren	2nd St @ Country Club Ln
Thrift Store	251 N 5th St
Akron Golf Club	941 Country Club Dr

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

Public and private gathering spaces and other community supports are integral to Akron's makeup. Following is a list of entities given due consideration in mitigation planning efforts. The list is not exhaustive but does highlight some of the community centers, gathering points, and supports known even to non-residents. These and other centers of activity and/or service will be itemized beneficiaries in project protection specifications as applicable.

In Town	
Akron-Westfield Senior High School	850 Kerr Dr
Akron-Westfield Middle School	
Akron-Westfield Elementary School	
Akron Care Center	991 Hwy 3
Akron Family Practice Clinic	321 Mill St
Akron Opera House	151 Reed Street
Akron Area Museum	S 6th Street & Main St
Chub's Country Store	
CVA Grain Bin	
Casey's	
Outside City Limits	
Appley/Von Hagel Wetland	(South Dakota side of River)
Boyd's Bend	13469 Hwy 12
Big Sioux Park	14241 Hwy 12
Hole n' the Wall Lodge	14396 Diamond Ave
Doorenbos-Ford Wetland	near 120th St & Hwy 12
Higman Wetland	(Iowa side of River)
Lazy H Campground	Little Pearl Lake
Rivers Bend	180th St & Hwy 12
Kellen Ponderosa	180th St & Hwy 12
Ron Wilmont River Access	180th St & Hwy 12

Valuation of City Assets

Part of determining overall benefit of any project implementation, Akron periodically reviews its city-held properties in terms of how effective and efficient its functionality is within city operations. In recent years, the city sold two buildings and consolidated operations into a single facility. Protecting city investments is primary mitigation and other development planning. Valuation of assets is based on the community's current insurance policy. Values are provided as a foundation for cost-benefit analysis for projects expected to improve resiliency of the community overall. A more specific assessment of value will be determined by project

when included in an application for mitigation and pre-disaster programs. Numbers as provided are strictly for city-owned assets and do not include vehicles and equipment.

Total Building	$	9,201,538
Total Personal Property	$	1,004,917
Total Property in the Open	$	4,873,525
Combined Total	**$**	**15,079,980**

b. Participation

SIMPCO facilitated a virtual mitigation planning meeting via Teams, December 16, 2024 with Dan Rolfes, City Administrator and Becca Socknat, Plymouth Co EMA in attendance.

c. Community Capabilities

Capacity building is an ongoing process for the city. Informal designation of refuge locations has been made. Pending the emergency/incident, the Care Center and Fire Station will serve to shelter displaced or otherwise affected persons. Formalizing other actions is underway with updates to integrated community plans encompassing capital improvements, land use, and wellhead protect plans, including a master plan component.

The city participates in the NFIP program with the City Administrator serving as Floodplain Administrator. Akron has one RL/SRL property which is residential.

Community	Most Recent Date of Loss	# RL Properties	# of Losses	Net Building Payment	Net Contents Payment	Total Net Payment
AKRON	9/27/2010	1	2	$ 24,054.89	$ -	$ 24,054.89

In addition to resources as available through State, Region, and County entities, the City has the following capabilities as locally derived and/or determined.

Plans/Guidance Documents
Comprehensive Plan
Capital Improvement Plan
Local/County Emergency Plan

Land Use Plan	
Wellhead protection plan	
Firewise or other fire mitigation plan	Fire Department incident command structure
Critical Facilities Plan (Mitigation/Response/Recovery)	within Emergency Ops Plan
Policies/Ordinance	
• Zoning Ordinance • Floodplain Ordinance • Subdivision Ordinance • Tree Trimming Ordinance	• Nuisance Ordinance • Storm Water Ordinance • Drainage Ordinance • Historic Preservation Ordinance
Building Code	UBC & IBC 2018
Property Maintenance (by reference w/exceptions)	IPMC 2022
Programs	
Zoning/Land Use Restrictions	
Codes Building Site/Design	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190223A
ISO Fire Rating	Akron class 4; Akron FD class 4/8B
Property Acquisition	
Planning/Zoning Boards	
Tree Trimming Program	
Staff/Department	
Zoning Administrator (volunteer position)	Building Code Official
	NFIP Floodplain Administrator
Public Works Official	role of Zoning Administrator
Emergency Response Team	Akron Fire & Rescue
Historic Preservation	
Non-Governmental Organizations	
Veterans Groups	Legion Post 186
Homeowner Associations	
Neighborhood Associations	Neighborhood Watch
Chamber of Commerce	
Community Organizations • Friendship & Service Club • Next Generation Club	• Lions • Knights of Columbus • PEO
Local Funding Availability	
Ability to apply for Community Development Block Grants	

Ability to fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water, sewer, or electric services	
Ability to incur debt through:	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

Projects as implemented in the past five (5) years may have a considerable effect on the City's ability to mitigate the effects of natural disasters when actions and strategies as proposed in the 2020 Plan were applied to those projects. Following is a status update.

communication/education		
Warning Sirens	Akron	2020: Assess need for additional warning siren near school; *School Board, City Council, County EMA* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY
		Resolved. City assessed function of existing equipment and determined additional siren is not necessary. School facilities are adequately served by existing warning siren.
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Akron	2020: Transformer needed at wells to make ready for generator connections; *City Public Works & Waterworks Depts* (Local funds, Community benefit fund grants) HIGH PRIORITY
		Phase 1 Implemented. A generator is in place at the Fire Station and 2 generators are incorporated into the Water Treatment Plant U.V. project underway (03/2025).
development		
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

Smaller towns, Akron included, continue to struggle filling vacancies in volunteer and service positions alike. At the time of the mitigation planning meeting, the city was actively conducting

a search for a police officer to fill its second position. Volunteer participation in response departments has steadied somewhat, however there remains high turnover of new recruits brought in to fill in for retired persons. Adequate staffing directly impacts response capacity and Akron's efforts have resulted in a relatively strong volunteer base.

Akron is taking preventive action by strategically removing ash trees. A plan is in place to replace one tree for every two removed. Overall, 7-8 have been removed and 5 have been planted. Work continues as needed.

By Dean Welte and Ervin Dohmen
Published: Jun. 22, 2024 at 1:27 PM CDT

AKRON, Iowa (KTIV) - Plymouth County officials say the Floyd River at Le Mars and the Big Sioux River at Akron have crested. Water is expected to go down slowly from here on.

This news comes hours after Plymouth County Emergency Management told all Akron residents west of Highway 12 needed to evacuate immediately.

At about 3:30 p.m. Saturday water started coming up on Highway 12, with some residents reporting that the water was rising from the manholes on the street. Within two hours a large part of the area around Highway 12 was covered and Akron residents west of the highway were told to evacuate.

Before the evacuation was called, crews worked to place sandbags at places like Highway 12 and Reed Street but as the waters rose, they went further east into town to place bags closer to homes.

https://www.ktiv.com/2024/06/22/officials-say-akron-ia-residents-low-lying-areas-should-be-prepared-evacuate/
(By Dean Welte and Ervin Dohmen *Published: Jun. 22, 2024 at 1:27 PM CDT*) June 10, 2025

The flooding in 2019 overtook primary roadways multiple times resulting in long term closures along Highway 12 and River Rd. In addition to the damage caused to the roads, flooding took the Waterbury Lift Station permanently out of service. Berm, drainage, and other flood protection projects are hindered un the competitive application process for support funds. It is important to note that regardless of community size, infrastructure costs, such as that of a lift station or major road repairs, are the same as those of large urbanized areas. Therefore, the burden of cost weighs heavier on these small communities where the local tax base is already spread very thin.

In terms of natural disasters and other hazards, Akron shows 7 incidents reported in the NOAA Storm Event database from 11/01/2019 through 12/31/2024.

Location	Date	Time	Type	Mag	Dth	Inj	PrD	CrD
AKRON	3/10/2020	7:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
AKRON	3/29/2020	11:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
AKRON	4/1/2020	0:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
AKRON	4/10/2023	23:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
AKRON	6/21/2024	9:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
AKRON	7/1/2024	0:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
AKRON	6/11/2021	5:38	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	35.00K	0.00K

The City of Akron does have repetitive loss properties recorded in the FEMA NFIP flood database.

County	Plymouth County
Community	Akron
Most Recent Date of Loss	9/27/2010
# of Repetitive Loss Properties	1
Number of Losses	2
Net Building Payment	$24,054.89
Net Contents Payment	$0.00
Total Net Payment	$24,054.89

Priority Hazards

Among survey responses received from Plymouth County, none indicate Akron as jurisdiction of residence. From the perspective of the city, priority hazards are determined based on city expenses – one-time and ongoing, as accumulated due to natural disasters and other hazards. Due consideration is also given to residents. Flood mitigation remains an overwhelmingly high priority in project planning. As drought conditions persist, flood impacts are frustratingly more severe.

- Flood – both River and Flash
- Dam/Levee Failure
- Drought

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Akron	**New**. PSAs - Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to Alert Iowa, Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; water conservation (drought considerations); Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. *City Clerk, County EMA* (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Akron	**Carry over**. Transformer needed at wells to make ready for generator connections; *City Public Works & Waterworks Depts* (Local general budget funds, Community benefit fund grants) HIGH PRIORITY
Development		
flow control		
Drainage projects	Akron	**New**. City is assessing check valve on storm sewer pipe seeking a viable solution to reduce flooding incidents. Other considerations include diverting water and/or adding a pump station. Likely to include study and implementation. *Public Works, DNR, County Engineer, Contracted services*. (local general budget funds, disaster/flood mitigation program funds as may be available) HIGH PRIORITY
refuge		
Technology		
natural barriers/supports		
Levees/Berms	Akron	**New**. Berms/Levees to reduce flood risk; rip rap for bank stabilization. *City, FEMA coordination* (Local general budget funds, disaster/flood mitigation funds as may be available) HIGH PRIORITY

2. Brunsville

Note: The city participated in the development of the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan, however, they have not included any specified mitigation actions, strategies, or projects. Therefore, the City of Brunsville, using stipulations defined by FEMA, is not recognized as an active "Participant" in the Plan. To activate participant status, the city must process an amendment at the local level and file said amendment with Plymouth County and FEMA. Procedures to amend this plan are included in Title I. Introduction, Section H. Amendments and Plan Maintenance.

a. Profile

The City of Brunsville is situated just north of center in Plymouth County, and occupies .24 square miles. The main road that connects the city to surrounding communities is Highway 3, running east-west about 1.2 miles south of Brunsville.

City Governance & Community Supports

Brunsville is governed by a five-person elected Council and the Mayor. Offices in addition to Mayor and Council include City Clerk and City Administrator. City staff has designated the Legion Hall as significant support entity to community well-being. The City contracts with the county for law enforcement and with the City of Le Mars's emergency response team. City Council meets the second Monday of every month at 5:15 PM.

The City of Brunsville is a member of the NFIP program, though the majority of residents are known to be inactive under flood insurance. The city is covered by the county's Local/County Emergency Plan and has a few plans adopted and are specified in the discussion of Community Capabilities.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

A review of demographic data was completed using Census Reporter[31]. Brunsville's population rose to 180 from 129 between 2020 and 2023, reflecting notable growth in a short period. Using the 2020 Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan for reference, data from the 2010 decennial census estimated a population of 151.

The town includes 75 households, and the median household income stands at $67,125. Despite a relatively solid income level, 21.6% of the population lives below the poverty line, indicating that a significant portion of residents may be facing economic hardship.

Brunsville has a total of 80 housing units, with 75 currently occupied and 5 vacant, indicating a high occupancy rate. There are no mobile homes in the community. Most residents have moved into their homes since 2000, while a smaller number settled in during the 1990s or earlier. This

[31] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1908875-brunsville-ia/

suggests a relatively modern housing stock with limited older residences, reflecting recent growth and development in the town.

Leading Employers

Drawn from records on file, Brunsville's leading employers are noted as follows.

- Corner Café
- Iowa State Bank

Critical Facilities, Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

Community facilities, both city-owned and independent as listed are determined from records on file.

- City Hall, 310 Oak St
- Brunsville Public Park, Oak St and Locust St
- ALCW (Lutheran Aid Society)
- American Legion Post 724 Heeren McHale Wilkens

Valuation of City Assets

A valuation of assets is not on file for Brunsville. For the purpose of cost-benefit considerations, a valuation of the City's assets may be compiled based on its insured properties, personal property, and facilities. Such calculations would be expected to accompany a mitigation project funding request.

b. Participation

Updates to the Brunsville profile were completed by SIMPCO using available online resources. Additional input was received from the County EMA regarding community capacity to withstand natural disasters and other hazards. One survey indicated Brunsville as jurisdiction of residence.

A final review of Brunsville's profile was completed by Mayor Chad Cody and Nancy Harms, City Clerk on March 13, 2026. As a small community, local decisions and efforts for development are directly tied to area small businesses. Stakeholders represented through the review include the following businesses and entities.

- Corner Cafe
- Service 1st Insurance
- Porculture
- Scooters Natural Meats
- USPO
- Prairie Rose Golf Course IA State

The City of Brunsville, through review of the mitigation plan and provision of final comment has acknowledged plan content and agreed to adopt the plan upon FEMA approval.

c. Community Capabilities

Community capabilities as provided are as retained on file from previous projects and related meetings. The city participates in the NFIP program with the Mayor serving as Floodplain Administrator. Brunsville has zero RL/SRL properties.

Policies/Ordinance	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190476A
Mutual Aid Agreements	Countywide & with SCFR for Haz Mat Response
Non-Governmental Organizations	
Veterans Groups	American Legion Post 724 Heeren McHale Wilkens
Community Organizations	ALCW (Lutheran Aid Society)
Local Funding Availability	
Ability to apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Ability to fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water, and sewer services	
Ability to incur debt through:	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities

The city's floodplain ordinance was adopted 12/19/2004, Resolution 5-2004. Their building code was adopted 10/17/1990, recognizing state standards by reference.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

Brunsville did not include any scheduled projects in the 2020 HMP. A listing of other activities/projects has not been provided.

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

A compilation of storm events as recorded in the NOAA database show a single day of repeated reports of Hail. Brunsville likely experienced the effects of all events indicated for Plymouth "Zone" which include a wide range of event types (see Plymouth County profile for more information).

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
BRUNSVILLE	8/18/2022	16:44	Hail	0.88 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
BRUNSVILLE	8/18/2022	16:56	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
BRUNSVILLE	8/18/2022	16:58	Hail	1.25 in.	0	0	0.00K	11.00K

https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/

Priority Hazards

The city did not indicate priority hazards. One survey respondent indicated Brunsville as place of residence. While the respondent did not complete the ranking scale section of the survey, the following were all noted with "Very Concerned".

- Drought
- Flooding (both flash and riverine)
- Severe Winter Storm
- Thunderstorm w/Hail & Lightning,
- Tornado/Windstorm,
- Pandemic Human Disease

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

The city has not identified a specific action, strategy, or project. Therefore, an amendment must be filed for FEMA and the Iowa Department of Homeland Security to formally recognize this jurisdiction as an eligible applicant for pre-disaster and/or mitigation funds as may be available.

3. Craig

Note: The city participated in the development of the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan, however, they have not included any specified mitigation actions, strategies, or projects. Therefore, the City of Craig is not recognized as an active "Participant" in the Plan. To activate participant status, the city must process an amendment at the local level and file said amendment with Plymouth County and FEMA. Procedures to amend this plan are included in Title I. Introduction, section H. Amendments and Plan Maintenance.

a. Profile

The City of Craig is situated near the northern-most border of Plymouth County, and occupies 0.09 square miles. The city lies about eight miles north of Highway 3, which runs east and west.

City Governance & Community Supports

The City of Craig is governed by a five-person Council and the Mayor. In addition to Mayor and Council, Craig staffs a City Clerk. The City contracts with the county for law enforcement and Emergency Management. Craig also contracts with Ireton Fire and Rescue, which is located five miles north on CR-K30; Law is enforced by the Plymouth County Sheriff's Office.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

Current demographic information as presented is drawn from the Census Reporter[32]. For reference, the 2010 decennial census estimated Craig's population at 89. In 2023, the population

[32] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1916950-craig-ia/

of Craig was 76, marking a slight decline from 79 residents in 2020. The town consists of 24 households, with a median household income of $50,000. While the income level reflects a modest economic profile, about 13% of the population lives below the poverty line, indicating that a portion of residents may be experiencing financial difficulties.

Craig has a total of 24 housing units, all of which are currently occupied, leaving no vacant homes in the community. Two of the homes are mobile homes. The majority of residents have moved into their homes since 2000, while a smaller number have lived in their homes since the 1990s or earlier. This suggests a relatively modern and fully occupied housing stock, with limited older structures and no recent vacancies.

Leading Employers

While not hosting a large number of employees, Farmers' Cooperative has an established and necessary presence in Craig.

Critical Facilities, Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

- City Hall — 725 Main St
- Poplar Park — Main St and Pine St
- St John's Evangelical Lutheran Church — 400 Linn St

Valuation of City Assets

A valuation of assets is not on file. For the purpose of cost-benefit considerations, a valuation of the city's assets may be compiled based on its insured properties, personal property, facilities, and other holdings. Such calculations would be expected to accompany a mitigation project funding request.

b. Participation

Updates to the Craig profile were completed by SIMPCO using available online resources. Additional input was received from the County EMA regarding community needs to withstand natural disasters and other hazards. None of the submitted surveys included notation of Craig as residence.

c. Community Capabilities

Available summary of Craig's resources indicate a small population with a few localized resources. In addition to those as provided, Craig may benefit from county, region, and state resources as specified in respective sections of this plan.

Craig has a basic City code of Ordinances that is maintained with record of amendments, resolutions, and adoptions. Fire and Rescue services are provided through an agreement with the City of Ireton. Craig also has mutual aid agreements with all communities in Plymouth County and with SCFR (through Plymouth County) for hazardous materials response. Funding capabilities are as shown.

There is no floodplain designated within Craig city limits. Craig is not included on the NFIP database's participant listing. The city has zero RL/SRL properties.

Local Funding Availability	
Ability to apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Ability to fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water and sewer services	
Ability to incur debt through:	• general obligation bonds
	• special tax bonds
	• private activities

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

The City of Craig did not include any scheduled projects in the 2020 HMP. A listing of other activities/projects has not been provided.

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

A review of available data in the NOAA Storm Event database revealed no recorded events centered in Craig between 11/01/2019 and 12/31/2024. However, Craig likely experienced the conditions as reported for 102 Plymouth "Zone" events including a broad range of weather events. More information about these events is catalogued in Plymouth County's profile under Risk Assessment.

Priority Hazards

The city did not determine a prioritized list of hazard concerns. It can be expected that the natural disasters listed (as referenced in the 2020 HMP) remain significant concerns to the city.

- Tornado/Windstorm
- Sever Winter Storm
- Grass or Wildland Fire – Primarily due to lack of locally available resources to combat fire of any kind, this hazard may easily become widespread and travel to other communities.

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

The city has not identified a specific action, strategy, or project. Therefore, an amendment must be filed for FEMA and the Iowa Department of Homeland Security to formally recognize this jurisdiction as an eligible applicant for pre-disaster and/or mitigation funds as may be available.

4. Hinton

a. Profile

Including some annexation activity in 2020 and property purchase in 2021, the City of Hinton covers about 0.9 square miles of land near Plymouth County's south border. US Highway 75, the main connector between Hinton and surrounding communities, runs north/south along much of the city's east border. The Floyd River runs about ¼ to ½ mile east of the highway, outside city limits. The Burlington Northern/Santa Fe, Illinois Central, and Union Pacific railroads lines run that same corridor.

City Governance & Community Supports

Hinton is governed by a five-person elected Council and the Mayor. Offices in addition to Mayor and Council include City Clerk, Municipal Utilities, Waterworks, Public Works, and Police Department. The Fire Department averages about 31 volunteer firefighters with, at last count, 11 emergency medical service certifications. An operation independent of the city, the Hinton Fire/Ambulance Department serves the city and rural surrounding areas. Hinton's Public Safety Building was recently built in 2012. The city recognizes the Legion as significant support entity to community well-being alongside additional community supports as specified in the discussion of Community Capabilities.

Hinton has a Police Department hosting three full-time officers. The City contracts with the county for Emergency Management. The City of Hinton is a member of the NFIP program, though residents are known to be inactive under flood insurance. A Comprehensive Plan was adopted July 18 2019. Hinton's Zoning Ordinances and Municipal Code of Ordinances updates are in progress as of May 2025.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

Hinton is a community that has experienced fairly consistent growth for decades, with just one drop shown in decennial census numbers – between 1910 and 1920. Recent data review via CensusReporter.org[33] provides a notable population estimate drop from 935 in 2020 to 881 in

[33] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1936480-hinton-ia/

2023. Local accounting is most consistent with population as determined in 2020 census records, holding steady at 935.

The community includes 357 households, and the median household income stands at $108,125—well above average for the region. With only 2.5% of residents living below the poverty line, Hinton reflects a relatively affluent and economically stable community.

Hinton has a total of 369 housing units, with 358 currently occupied and just 11 vacant, indicating a high occupancy rate. There are no mobile homes in the community. Most of the housing development has occurred since 2000, with a smaller number of homes built in the 1990s and very few constructed before 1990. This points to a modern and well-maintained housing stock, reflecting the town's growth and relatively recent residential development. As of October 2024, two additional residential developments were nearing completion and already at 75% occupancy.

Leading Employers

While not necessarily hosting a large number of employees, the following businesses operate, and have established a necessary presence, in Hinton. Additional business and organizations supporting the overall wellbeing of Hinton are included under Community supports.

- Central Valley Ag
- Hinton Community School District

Critical Facilities

City Hall	205 W Main
Hinton City Park	115 S Center St
Hinton Community Center	205 W Main St
Substation & Equip	26520 C60
Pump Station	Pump Site
Ball Park & Tractor Pull	115 S Center St
Well 4	1210 Mariner Dr
Well 6	26520 C60

Deer Run Golf Course	801 Golf Course Road
Warning Siren	315 W Grand St
Fire/Ambulance/Police Depts	308 1st Ave S
Water Booster Station	955 Springbrook Dr
Water Treatment facility	800 Golf Course Road
Michael's Miracle Park	Valley Dr

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

Hinton High School	315 W Grand
Hinton Middle School	315 W Grand
Hinton Elementary School	315 W Grand
Preschool & Daycare	315 W Grand (independent but onsite @ school)
3D Ag – Hardware & Supplies	1112 Starview
Hinton Baseball & Softball Fields	Golf Course Rd
Held Sports Complex	1st Ave S
Hillview Recreation Area	25601 C60
American Legion	205 W Main St

Several additional businesses operate in Hinton. A complete list can be found on the city's webpage

Valuation of City Assets

Total Building	$	5,736,272
Total Personal Property	$	597,400
Property in the Open	$	3,285,500
Combined Total	**$**	**9,619,172**

b. Participation

SIMPCO facilitated a mitigation planning meeting at Hinton City Hall on October 24, 2024 with the following in attendance.

- Kelly Kreber, Mayor
- Kelli Hill, City Clerk

- Kyle Utech, Public Works
- Logan Johnson, Police Department

City Council consists of residents who carried discussion of impact on local business to the table. Represented business stakeholders include Premier Communications and Weber Accounting and Tax service. Further participation was contributed via survey with 9 respondents indicating Hinton as their jurisdiction of residence in the primary survey (248 total responses) and 33 student responses from the Hinton Community School District to the student survey (65 total responses).

c. Community Capabilities

In addition to capabilities as included in the following table, Hinton also has access to resources as available through county, region, and state programs and supports. Those are identified within the region and county profiles respectively as applicable. As previously stated, the city participates in the NFIP program with the City Clerk serving as Floodplain Administrator. The city has zero RL/SRL properties. The city adopted the updated Floodplain Ordinance, filed under Ordinance 338 on September 8, 2022. Applicable FIRM panels numbers are 19149C0468E and 19149C0631E.

Plans/Guidance Documents	
Comprehensive Plan	
Policies/Ordinance	
• Building Code • Nuisance Ordinance	• Subdivision Ordinance • Zoning Ordinance
Programs	
Zoning/Land Use Restrictions	
Hinton Disaster Plan	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190224A
ISO Fire Rating	Class 5/5A (2019)
Planning/Zoning Boards	
Staff/Department	
Emergency Response Team	Hinton Fire and Rescue

Non-Governmental Organizations	
Veterans Groups	American Legion Post 477 Casper
Community Organizations	• Hinton Growth Org
Local Funding Availability	
Ability to apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Ability to apply for State Revolving Loan Fund programs	
Ability to fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water, sewer, and municipal electric services	
Ability to incur debt through:	• general obligation bonds
	• special tax bonds
	• private activities

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

In addition to planned strategies, Hinton has undertaken some massive infrastructure projects such as a water treatment facility, currently in design phase, with an estimated investment of approximately $10M. Upcoming projects include a highway reconstruction collaboration with IA DOT which will affect roadway drainage/runoff. The following table logs actions taken specific to the 2020 HMP's identified strategies for Hinton.

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Hinton	2020: City is interested in formalizing communications with DOT to address default road closures and local authority on road closures to avoid ineffective detours; *City Administration & Public Works, County Engineer, Iowa DOT* (necessity for dedicated funds not anticipated) HIGH PRIORITY
		Update: Need for enhanced communications continues.
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Hinton	2020: Generators for Lagoon Lift Station & @ 1 well location; *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
		Complete. Part 1 of this project is complete with a generator added at the well location in 2022.
Equipment	Hinton	2020: Mobile pump; *City Maintenance/Public Works* (City funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY
		Update. Project still needed and funds were not sourced. City expects to implement project using local funds. *Public Works*. (City funds, local community benefit funds) elevate to HIGH PRIORITY.
Equipment	Hinton	2020: ATV for use during road blockage and flood staging; *City Council, Streets Dept* (City funds, Community Benefit funds, Response support funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY

		Completed. City purchased ATV for use when roadways or points of entry are inaccessible (storm debris, etc.) in 2022.
development		
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Hinton	2020: Water booster to improve capacity as accesses through fire hydrants. *City Waterworks, Fire Chief* (City funds, Fire Department funds, PDM) MEDIUM PRIORITY
		Update: No specific actions were taken to address this strategy. Project closed.
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Hinton	2020: Lining sewer and manholes in flood plane to eliminate infiltration from flooding and water table; *City Maintenance & Waterworks departments, IDNR* (IDNR program funds, City funds, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
		Partial **Completed**. Manholes were lined in 2021. Project cost not provided. Remaining work carries to 2026 HMP
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Hinton	2020: Repair golf course crossings damaged and washed away during high flow events. *City Parks Dept, City Maintenance* (City funds, Active Transportation funds, Healthy Community/Recreation funds, PDM) LOW PRIORITY
		Complete. Project was implemented in 2020. Project cost not provided.
Bridges & Roads	Hinton	2020: Resurface alleys due to washout during rain events. *City Streets Dept* (City funds, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
		Update: Some resurfacing has been completed with other still pending. and is carried over to the 2026 HMP, reduced to lesser priority.
flow control		
Flood protection	Hinton	2020: Floodgates @ dike; *City Council, IDNR* (City funds, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
		Complete. Floodgate project completed 2021-2022. Cost & fund sources not provided.
Drainage projects	Hinton	2020: Stormwater management projects - drainage improvements; *City Administration, Contracted services, IDNR* (Local funds, IDNR program funds, Disaster funds, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
		Update: Annual road maintenance projects have included some drainage improvements. Remaining work carries to 2026 HMP.
refuge		
Shelter	Hinton	2020: Storm Shelters @ City Parks; *City Administration, County EMA collaboration* (Local funds, Improving public spaces funds, PDM) LOW PRIORITY
		Update: The Elementary School is designated as a refuge site for large scale disaster vents.
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

Risk assessment is an ongoing evaluation of all community infrastructure and public spaces. Unexpected flooding in 2019 highlighted the city's need to prepare for the unexpected as well and anticipated issues. Removal of Ash Trees is a known need, however a clear plan has not yet been developed – in part due to lack of designated funds. Communication efforts are better coordinated between Hinton, nearby communities, Plymouth and Woodbury Counties, and the

IA DOT. IBC and IPMC are being considered in zoning code updates to initiate better resident preparedness for natural disasters.

A review of available Storm Event data from NOAA provides record of 7 events specific to Hinton between 11/01/2019 and 12/31/2024. Hinton likely experienced the effects of 102 Plymouth "Zone" categorized events as well. Those events are noted in the county profile under Risk Assessment.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
HINTON	6/23/2024	3:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
HINTON	8/14/2020	14:25	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
HINTON	8/14/2020	14:59	Hail	0.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
HINTON	5/10/2023	23:05	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
HINTON	7/4/2023	13:50	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
HINTON	7/21/2023	18:06	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
HINTON	4/16/2024	12:46	Tornado	EFU	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Priority Hazards

The city identified the following as priority hazards in context of cost and general well-being of residents.

- Flood
- Severe Winter Weather
- Thunderstorm w/Hail & Lightning

Primary survey respondents from Hinton indicated Grass or Wildland Fire, Flooding (both flash and riverine), and Drought with the highest frequency of "Very Concerned". Infrastructure Failure and Tornado/Windstorm ranked highest among top three hazards.

Hinton Schools student survey responses generally supported these issues as at least somewhat concerning. However, the three with highest frequency as most concerning are Tornado/Windstorm (19/33), Severe Winter Weather (15/33), and Pandemic Human Disease (10/33).

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Hinton	**Carry over**. Some lines have improved but concern remains a factor in communicating course of action and conflicting chain of command (for example, C60 affecting County, DOT, City) as may result in road closures from varying directions and inadvertent closure of backup or designated alternate routes. City is still interested in formalizing communications with DOT to address default road closures and local authority on road closures to avoid ineffective detours *Public Works, County EMA, County Secondary Roads, IADOT*. (Intent is to use existing resources in improved format to ensure communications of intent. No additional funding needs anticipated) HIGH PRIORITY,
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Hinton	**New**. This project will carry over into the 2026 plan maintaining the planned Lagoon Lift Station generator (scheduled for 2026) and the addition of need for a generator at the Public Safety Building. The project at the lagoon includes a loop connection with the Electric Company. *City Council, County EMA* (Local general budget funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, BRIC, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Equipment	Hinton	**Carry over**. Project still needed and funds were not sourced. City expects to implement project using local general funds. Mobile pump; *Public Works* (City funds general budget, local community benefit funds) elevate to MEDIUM PRIORITY.
	Hinton	**New**. City is interested in acquiring road barriers/blockade equipment for use during emergency road closure situations. *City Council, Public Works, Streets Dept* (City funds general budget, Community Benefit funds, Response support funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY
	Hinton	**New**. City is interested in additional ATV for general use city-wide to ensure access as needed when multiple departments are active. *City Council, Public Works, Streets Dept* (City funds general budget, Community Benefit funds, Response support funds) LOW PRIORITY
development		
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Hinton	**Carry over**. Water booster to improve capacity as accesses through fire hydrants. improvements are still desired through specific fire hydrants. Not a current over-riding concern. City will continue to seek funding opportunities to implement project. *City Waterworks, Fire Chief* (City general budget funds, Fire Department funds, BRIC as applicable) MEDIUM PRIORITY
	Hinton	**Carry over**. Sewer linings in floodplain to eliminate infiltration from flooding and water table. Project priority remains. *City Maintenance & Waterworks departments, IDNR* (IDNR program funds, City general budget funds, Disaster Mitigation or Response/FMA as applicable) HIGH PRIORITY
Bridges & Roads	Hinton	**Carry over**. Resurface alleys due to washout during rain events Oversight is the responsibility of the *Streets Department*. (local general budget) LOW PRIORITY.
flow control		
Drainage projects	Hinton	**Carry over**. Starview is in need of stormwater management improvements. With modified priority level, this project continues to the 2026 HMP. *City Administration, Contracted services, IDNR* (Local general budget funds, IDNR program funds, Disaster Response/Mitigation funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY

refuge		
Shelter	Hinton	**Carry over**. Additional shelter options needed. The City would still like to incorporate a shelter at City parks to serve as refuge site during ball games and other events. This project will carry over to the 2026 HMP, maintaining assigned priority. *City Administration, County EMA collaboration* (Local general budget funds, Improving public spaces funds, PDM) LOW PRIORITY
technology		
Improve effectiveness	Hinton	**New**. City has incorporated a plan to review their local Emergency Response and Emergency Operations Plans to assess and improve emergency response actions through: 1. Establishing a chain of command process specific to emergency type and area of effect 2. Designate command center, including alternate location if center is impacted by event 3. Identify refuge/shelter locations that may serve in a general capacity
	Hinton	**New**. City is working to better inform residents of pending and potential extreme weather and other hazardous events through the promotion of existing services including but not limited to Alert Iowa. *City Clerk* (no funding outside of staffing hours necessary) HIGH PRIORITY
	Hinton	**New**. Implementation of improved ADA access is needed for restrooms at community center and city parks. *Parks & Rec, Public Works* (local general budget funds, accessibility or multi-generational living program grants, fundraisers) HIGH PRIORITY
natural barriers/supports		

5. Kingsley

a. Profile

The City of Kingsley is situated on the southeast corner of Plymouth County and occupies about 1.61 square miles. The West Fork Little Sioux River runs northeast and southwest just west of the city. A floodplain intersects Kingsley running east/west, south of the centerline.

City Governance & Community Supports

Kingsley is governed by a five-person elected Council and the Mayor. Council meets the first Monday each month at 7:00 PM. Offices in addition to Mayor and Council include City Clerk, Water Clerk, Maintenance, Police, Fire Department, Ambulance and Rescue, Maintenance, City Attorney, and the Chamber. The Fire Department maintains a staff of about 25 volunteer firefighters. City staff has designated the Legion Hall as a significant support entity to community well-being. Additional community supports are specified in the discussion of Community Capabilities. More information on Kingsley and its services for the public can be found online at http://kingsleyia.com/publicservices.html.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

Demographic estimates are sourced using the Census Reporter. Though estimates tend to fluctuate, a consistent use of a single primary source allows for similar-based comparisons between jurisdictions. An increase in Kingsley's population was estimated from 1,396 in 2020 to 1,427 in 2023[34]. The community is home to 618 households, with a median household income of $73,103. While the income level suggests relative economic stability, about 8.1% of the population lives below the poverty line, indicating that some residents may still face financial challenges.

Kingsley has a total of 653 housing units, with a high occupancy rate of 95% and only a small number of vacant homes. There are no mobile homes in the community. The majority of residents have moved into homes built since 2000, with fewer homes constructed in the 1990s or earlier. This indicates a predominantly newer housing stock and suggests ongoing residential development and investment in the area.

Leading Employers

As a smaller, rural community, Kingsley does not host a major employment center. The city recognizes its community support partners as leading employers. They are included in the Community Supports table.

Critical Facilities

City Hall	222 Main St
Kingsley Public Library	220 Main St
Kingsley Community Center	217 E 1st St
Ambulance & Rescue	
Kingsley Volunteer Fire Dept	101 Clarendon St
Police Department	319 E 1st St
City Maintenance Building	
Cemetery Building	222 Main St.

[34] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1941385-kingsley-ia/

Water Tower	
Lagoon Building & Controls	
Water Pump House	
Lift Station	
No. 3 Well	
Little League Field	
Loring Aquatic and Fitness Center	Quest Ave
Kingsley City Park	Park Dr & Brandon St
Tennis Court/Basketball Court	

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

US Post Office	210 Main St
Kingsley-Pierson High School	322 Quest Ave
Kingsley Elementary School	322 Quest Ave
Kingsley Medical Clinic	111 Main St
Kingsley Nursing & Rehab Center	305 W 3rd St,
Brookside Golf Course	101 Iowa 140
Southeast Wildwood	310th St & Quorn Rd

Valuation of City Assets

Summation of asset values provide current replacement cost and may not include equipment and materials. Valuations are provided as a base for general application to cost-benefit analysis. Project engineering and planning will include specific related asset protections for public assets as well as private property as may be affected by the given project.

Total Building	$	5,022,257	RC
Total Personal Property	$	752,937	RC
Property in the Open	$	2,661,187	RC
Combined Total	**$**	**8,436,381**	

b. Participation

Facilitated by SIMPCO, a planning meeting was held on December 11, 2024 at Kingsley City Hall with the following in attendance.

- Angela Becker, City Clerk
- Brandon Sitzmann, Fire Chief
- Brian Book, Maintenance Manager

One survey for Plymouth County was completed with Rural Kingsley noted as place of residence. Details are included for consideration but not specified as to eliminate potential for disclosure of personal information.

A final review of Kingsley's profile was completed by the City Clerk and Mayor Rick Bohle on February 25, 2026. Upon review, the city acknowledges changes as incorporated since their initial input meeting and confirms agreement to adopt the plan once approved by FEMA.

c. Community Capabilities

Policies/Ordinance	
• Floodplain Ordinance • Nuisance Ordinance	• Open Burn Ordinance • Zoning Ordinance
International Property Code adopted May 2019	
Programs	
Zoning/Land Use Restrictions	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190477A
ISO Fire Rating	Class 6/8B
Planning/Zoning Boards	
Staff/Department	
Public Works Official	
Building Inspector	
Emergency Response Team	Fire Dept, Ambulance & Rescue, Police Dept
Regional Planning Agencies	SIMPCO and Iowa League of Cities
Non-Governmental Organizations	
Veterans Groups	American Legion Nash Post 140
Chamber of Commerce	
Community Organizations	• Kingsley Community Action Club (KCAC) • School Clubs

	• Booster Club • 4-H
Local Funding Availability	
Ability to apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Ability to fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water & sewer services	Water and Sewer
Ability to incur debt through:	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities

Kingsley has adopted by reference the 2024 IBC into their building code. The city participates in the NFIP program with the Mayor serving as Floodplain Administrator. Despite participation, the majority of residents are known to be inactive under flood insurance. Kingsley has zero RL/SRL properties.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

Kingsley has implemented several projects to improve its sustainability in the event of a natural disaster and other hazards. They've initiated a water main replacement project in 2024, purchased a generator for the community center to substantiate its designation as a refuge/shelter location (approximate cost @ $50,000, install not funded and included in new project list), and the fire department has new pump trucks and a new fire station. The new building increases storage capacity, increasing flexibility of City Maintenance/Police Department building.

Always willing to take advantage of collaborative training opportunities, Kingsley hosted a region-wide full scale hazardous material response exercise October 2024. The exercise included a transportation-related hazardous materials incident simulation involving response interactions with 5 participating counties and a third-party administration team. Kingsley prioritizes preparedness and continues to demonstrate that focus in project planning.

The city has included tree maintenance as a line-item in its budget addressing necessary removals and replacement. The city is addressing removal of dead/diseased/at risk trees in the

parking first, with 25 planned per year. Trees in parking will not be replaced, however other public spaces will assume the balance of new trees.

communication/education		
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Kingsley	2020: Generators needed at lift station, water plant, and lagoon; *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
		Completed. Generators are in place at the lift station and lagoon. Additional components will be carried over.
development		
flow control		
Drainage projects	Kingsley	2020: Terracing needed to ease floodplain restrictions. *City Administration, County Engineer collaboration, IDNR, Contracted services* (Local funds, County funds, IDNR Program funds, USDA program funds/loan program, Disaster funds, PDM) LOW PRIORITY
		Project closed. Updated floodplain resources decreased significance of potential impacts to indicated areas, thereby removing restrictions. City will continue to consider opportunities for terracing when implementing projects, however, this item has been removed from the priority list.
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

As mentioned, Kingsley has floodplain running through town, just south of center. The Golf Course and undeveloped greenspace fills most of the designated area, though a few industries may be affected. The city has two warning sirens, audible throughout city limits. Kingsley has 15 reported weather events in the NOAA Storm Event Database between 11/01/2019 and 12/31/2024. Eleven of those events were from varying sources in response to a single event. Unchanged form 2020, Thunderstorm, Tornado, and Hail were notable locally while Drought was significant in Plymouth County and the region.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*

KINGSLEY	12/15/2021	16:38	Thunderstorm Wind	72 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
KINGSLEY	12/15/2021	16:39	Thunderstorm Wind	72 kts. EG	0	0	25.00K	0.00K
KINGSLEY	12/15/2021	16:39	Thunderstorm Wind	78 kts. EG	0	0	20.00K	0.00K
KINGSLEY	12/15/2021	16:40	Thunderstorm Wind	82 kts. EG	0	0	30.00K	0.00K
KINGSLEY	12/15/2021	16:40	Thunderstorm Wind	83 kts. EG	0	0	35.00K	0.00K
KINGSLEY	12/15/2021	16:41	Thunderstorm Wind	74 kts. EG	0	0	25.00K	0.00K
KINGSLEY	12/15/2021	16:41	Thunderstorm Wind	72 kts. EG	0	0	30.00K	0.00K
KINGSLEY	12/15/2021	16:44	Thunderstorm Wind	69 kts. EG	0	0	20.00K	0.00K
KINGSLEY	12/15/2021	16:44	Thunderstorm Wind	65 kts. EG	0	0	25.00K	0.00K
KINGSLEY	12/15/2021	16:47	Thunderstorm Wind	64 kts. EG	0	0	5.00K	0.00K
KINGSLEY	12/15/2021	16:39	Tornado	EF1	0	0	50.00K	0.00K
KINGSLEY	5/12/2022	18:30	Thunderstorm Wind	70 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	16.00K
KINGSLEY	8/18/2022	18:22	Hail	1.50 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
KINGSLEY	7/29/2024	23:00	Thunderstorm Wind	65 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
KINGSLEY	7/29/2024	23:08	Thunderstorm Wind	74 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

In addition to the above reports specific to Kingsley, the city also experienced the general effects of 102 events noted under Plymouth (County) "Zone".

Priority Hazards

Discussion included Infrastructure Failure and costs associated with Severe Winter Storm. However, the city indicated the following as primary hazard concerns for the city.

- Tornado
- Flooding
- Grass and Wildland Fire

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Kingsley	**New**. PSAs - Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to Alert Iowa, Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; water conservation (drought considerations); Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety.

		These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. *City Clerk, County EMA* (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Kingsley	**Carry over**. Generators needed at water plant. A portion of the backup power needs are included in the Water Plant. Replacement project slated for FY2026. Estimated project budget is $5.5M. *City Council, County EMA* (Local general budget funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, BRIC, Community Benefits funds, USDA) HIGH PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Kingsley	**New**. The city has purchased a generator ($50,000) for the community center. Funds have not yet been fully designated for installation. Cost to be determined pending correlation to other like projects. City Council, Public Works, County EMA as may be needed. (Local general budget funds, safety/emergency response funds as may be available, pre-disaster/mitigation funds as may be available. HIGH PRIORITY
development		
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

6. Le Mars

a. Profile

Serving as county seat, the City of Le Mars is situated near the center of Plymouth County. U.S. Highway 75 stretches north/south, primarily just outside city boundaries. Iowa Highway 3 stretches east/west through the city, before angling north and following east toward Cherokee. Iowa Highway 60 is accessible north of the city. The City of Le Mars accounts for the largest population and spatial area of Plymouth County occupying 8.9195 square miles. The Floyd River runs through Le Mars, following outside much of its east and north borders.

City Governance & Community Supports

Le Mars is governed by a five-person elected Council and the Mayor. Offices in addition to Mayor and Council include are as provided.

- Airport
- Library Trustees
- Board of Civil Service Commission
- Board of Zoning Adjustment Commission
- City Clerk

- Community Development/Code Enforcement
- Convention and Visitors Bureau
- Disaster Services Coordinator
- Finance Dept
- Fire-Rescue Department
- Historic Preservation Commission
- Hospital Trustee Board
- Mapping
- Park and Recreation Committee
- Planning and Zoning Commission
- Police Department
- Public Facilities
- Streets
- Waste and Recycling
- Wastewater Treatment
- Water Department

The Le Mars Fire-Rescue department has about 50 volunteers and is funded by a combination of township fire fees, city taxes, and fund-drive donations. The department provides coverage and protection extending 8 miles from City Limits and approximately 200 square miles of rural territory including all or partial areas of seven townships and five additional small communities/villages.

The City of Le Mars is a member of the NFIP, though residents are known to be inactive under flood insurance. A Community Development Plan was adopted in 2023.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

Using the online Census Reporter[35] estimates, Le Mars' population of 10,597 (2023) shows a slight increase from 2020's decennial census (10,571) reflecting steady community growth. The city includes 4,356 households and boasts a median household income of $72,381, which suggests a relatively strong local economy. Despite this, about 8.9% of residents live below the poverty line, indicating that some households may still face economic challenges. Overall, Le Mars continues to show signs of stability and growth while maintaining a solid economic foundation.

Census.gov table B25034 - Year Structure Built[36] estimates the total number of houses in Le Mars to be 4,521 with approximately 88 of those homes built after 2020 and about 17% of total

[35] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1944400-le-mars-ia/
[36] https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDT5Y2023.B25034?q=houses+year+built&g=160XX00US1944400

stock built 2000 or later. Table H1 – Occupancy Status[37] estimates show housing at 225 vacant. Local perception indicates a much lower vacancy rate when considering move-in-ready homes as the market remains very tight. Online real estate resources indicate a range of 30 – 35 homes for sale as of May 2025, and up to 22 units for rent. Census data shows an estimate of 329 mobile homes[38], representing about 7.6% of the total housing units available.

Leading Employers

As one of the larger communities in the planning region, Le Mars hosts a larger employee-base than resident population affecting its approach to effectively managing emergency response.

The following businesses are among the largest in the jurisdiction.

- BoDeans Baking Co.
- Floyd Valley Healthcare
- Iowa National Guard
- Kemps
- Le Mars Community Schools
- Schuster Trucking Co.
- Wells Enterprises Inc.

Several expansions and investments were completed in recent years.

- Wells Enterprises completed multiple additions to their facilities
- Floyd Valley Healthcare completed a $10M specialty clinic and therapy expansions project
- Schuster Trucking added a $4M maintenance building

Critical Facilities

City Facilities	
City Hall	40 Central Ave. SE
Police Department	205 5th Ave NW
Fire Rescue Department	45 1st Ave. SW, Station No. 1
Fire Station #2	25 - 12th St SE

[37] https://data.census.gov/table?q=home+occupancy&g=160XX00US1944400
[38] https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST5Y2023.S2504?q=home+occupancy&g=160XX00US1944400

Garage (FD)	45 1st Ave SW
Airport & Related	1621 Airport Drive
Public Works Bldg	800 18th St SW
Storage Facilities for various Depts	multiple addresses
Water Department & Treatment	1298 18th St. SW
Water Towers	1002 3rd Ave SE
	33082 200th St
Well Houses	multiple addresses
Wastewater Treatment & Related	705 5th Ave NW
	17505 Key Ave
Lift Stations/Pumps	multiple addresses
Booster Station	33082 200th St
Misc Waterworks, Bldgs & Property	100 Park Lane Rd
Kemps Electrical Ctrl Bldg	1078 Lincoln St SW
Shed	301 9th Ave
Office Bldg	50 Central Ave
8 Warning Sirens *(+1 planned for 2025)*	Various locations
Outdoor Recreation	
Adler Park	Plymouth St SE
Bolser Park	2nd St & 5th Ave SE
Cleveland Park	2nd St & 6th Ave S.E.
Courts; Park; Golf Course; Related	935 Park Lane
Dog Park	Holton Dr
Foster Park	Central Ave & 6th St S.E.
Le Mars Area Family YMCA	241 12th St SE
Municipal Park	813 Park Ln
O'Toole Park	Central Ave & 4th St N.E
Outdoor Swimming Pool & Park	241 12th St SE
Paulin Park	12th St & 7th Ave S.E
Riverview Complex	N of Hwy 3
Schafer Park	15th St & Schafer Ave SE
Sunset Park	Holton Dr
Veterans Memorial Park	3rd Ave SE & 10th St
Walnut Park	11th St & Central Ave SE
West Floyd Park	3rd St & 12th Ave SW
Westmar Memorial Park	10th St SE

Willow Creek Campground	4th Avenue NE & Park Lane
Cultural and Wellness	
Veterans Memorial Park & related	3rd Ave SE @ 10th St SE
Olson Cultural Events Center	33 1st St NE
Post 21 Playhouse	105 1st St NE
Le Mars Sportsman Club	31549 C38
Civic Art Center	200 Central Ave SE
Royal Theatre	33 Central Ave SW
Le Mars Convention Center	275 12th Street SE
Le Mars Public Library	46 1st St SW
County facilities	
Plymouth County Historical Museum	335 1st Ave SW
Plymouth County Fairgrounds	500 4th Ave. NE
Plymouth County Veterans Memorial	1000 3rd Ave SE

It is important to note that as County Seat, several county facilities and services as listed in the Plymouth County Profile are hosted in Le Mars.

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

Le Mars High School	921 3rd Ave SW
Individualized Learning Center	940 Lincoln Street SW
Le Mars Middle School	977 3rd Ave SW
Clark Elementary School	201 2nd Ave NW
Franklin Elementary School	400 3rd Ave SE
Kluckhohn Elementary School	1338 Central Ave SE
Floyd Valley Community Health Service	714 Lincoln St NE
Floyd Valley Healthcare	714 Lincoln St NE
Good Samaritan Society - Le Mars	1140 Lincoln St NE
Park Place Estates	900 Lincoln St NE
Plymouth Manor Care Center	954 7th Ave SE
Pride Group Inc.	214 Plymouth Street SE
PRIDE 1 - Residential Care Facility	214 Plymouth Street SE
Prime Living Apartments	108 1st Ave NW
Blue Bunny Museum and Meeting Center	115 Central Ave NW
Mobile Homes & Mobile Home Courts	930 4th St SW

	500 block 6th Ave SW
	100 16th Ave NW
Apartment Complexes	Multiple addresses

Valuation of City Assets

The following summation of city assets is intended to provide a foundation for cost-benefit analysis for mitigation projects. This total is not all inclusive and does not take into account private properties, businesses, residences, and other financial considerations as may be impacted through pre-disaster and resiliency-building efforts. A full cost-benefit analysis will accompany project descriptions in the application process where relevant.

Total Vehicle Value	**$**	**6,553,061**
Blanket TIV	$	149,425,314
Building	$	145,506,894
Personal Property	$	3,918,420
Misc Property Sched	$	3,147,055
Misc Property Unsched	$	1,218,777
Total TIV	**$**	**153,791,146**

b. Participation

Facilitated by SIMPCO and Plymouth County EMA Rebecca Socknat, a planning meeting was held October 24, 2024 at the Le Mars City Council Chambers with the following in attendance.

- Jason Vacura, City Administrator
- Jan Feller, City Clerk
- Joe Mohning, Finance/HR Director
- Brad Eppling, Public Facilities
- Scott Kneip, Streets
- Doug Masuen, Wastewater Superintendent
- Rich Sudtelgte, Water Superintendent
- David Schipper, Fire Chief
- Shirley Taylor, Library Director
- Tom Mullally, Airport Manager

Also considered for discussion are 37 responses to the survey noting Le Mars as residence.

c. Community Capabilities

Plans/Guidance Documents	
Community Development Plan (2023)	
2015 Builder's Plan	
Capital Improvement Plan	
Le Mars Emergency Operation Disaster Preparedness Plan	
Land Use Plan	
Firewise or other fire mitigation plan	Le Mars Fire Department

Policies/Ordinance	
• Building Code	• Landscape Ordinance
• City Code (2019)	• Nuisance Ordinance
• Debris Management Plan	• Storm Water Ordinance
• Drainage Ordinance	• Subdivision Ordinance
• Floodplain Ordinance	• Tree Trimming Ordinance
• Historic Preservation Ordinance	• Zoning Ordinance

Programs	
Codes Building Site/Design	Code Enforcement
Hazard Awareness Program	• Disaster Preparedness Plan • Plymouth Co Alerts (through Alert Iowa) – text/email
ISO Fire Rating	Class 2/2Y
Mutual Aid Agreements	• Countywide 28E • SCFR through County for HazMat Response
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190225A
Planning/Zoning Boards	
Property Acquisition	guided via Iowa ROW Manual
Tree Trimming Program	
Zoning/Land Use Restrictions	

Staff/Department	
Code Enforcement Officer	
Community Development	
Building Inspector	
NFIP Floodplain Administrator	City Administrator
Coordinator of Disaster Services	City Administrator

Emergency Response Team	Fire and Rescue (Ambulance integrated to department)
Historic Preservation	Historic Preservation Commission
Mapping Manager	
Non-Governmental Organizations	
Community Organizations	
• Le Mars Business Initiative Corp • Lions • Kiwanis	• Optimists • Rotary
Homeowner Associations in select neighborhoods	
Le Mars Area Chamber of Commerce	
Neighborhood Associations in select subdivisions	
Veterans Groups	American Legion Wasmer Post 241
Local Funding Availability	
Apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	
Levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water & sewer, stormwater, and solid waste services	
Ability to incur debt through:	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities
Withhold spending in hazard prone areas	Yes

The city participates in the NFIP program with the City Administrator serving as Floodplain Administrator. The city has zero RL/SRL properties. The city's floodplain ordinance is recorded as Ordinance #974 adopted on 9/20/22. FIRM Panel numbers of record are as follows: 19149C0284E, 0287E, 0288E, 0289E, 0291E, 0292E, 0293E, 0294E, & 0477E.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

communication/education		
Assessment/Study	Le Mars	2020: Flood Risk Options Study. Improve elevation of roadway @ 4th Ave NE (Mahogany Ave). Primary access road to this portion of town, limiting access for response teams. A full study on options is needed in preparation of presenting issue of road closure to resident. *City Administrator, Engineer, County Roads communication, IDOT* (City funds, Planning funds, IDNR/IDOT programs, State/Federal programs, TIP, CIP) HIGH PRIORITY

Assessment/Study	Le Mars	**Project closed**. Surveys were completed and discussion held with IDNR, Army Corps of Engineers to assess potential improvements. Determination that a bridge is the only solution is not a feasible project for the City to consider. No further action is planned regarding this issue.
tools/equipment		
development		
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Le Mars	2020: Pedestrian bridge connecting rec trail to golf course. In interest of maintaining natural open spaces, and recoup loss due to lack of development in those areas, the city has invested in a thriving outdoor recreation network. Intending to be interconnected, rec trails connect most facilities. At present, a pedestrian bridge that connects the rec trail to the golf course is in need of major renovation or replacement. A temporary bridge is in place but it is not a long-term solution. The city is determining the best solution for the trail bridge, therefore costs are not yet determined. *City Administrator, Streets, Parks Depts* (City funds, Active Transportation funds, Health & Wellness program funds, Transportation Alternatives Program funds, Community Benefit funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Le Mars	**Update**: **Active implementation**. Funding for this project are in place with work planned for 2025/2026. City streets and parks departments are involved in oversight. TAP funds with local match from City budget will cover project.
flow control		
Flood protection	Le Mars	2020: Airport Flooding Protection - Implement protections to minimize erosion damage to runway & property overall. Floyd River w/in 50" of north end of runway. Measures to further improve previous bank stabilization efforts. Option: Reroute river; channelize. *City Administrator, Airport administration, IDNR* (Local funds, Economic Development funds, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
Flood protection	Le Mars	**Update**: Project was not implemented and will be carried over to the 2026 HMP.
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

As presented throughout this profile, the abundant employment centers in Le Mars add an urgency to ongoing training and capacity building for the city's emergency response teams. Response teams must coordinate with each other as well as their industry partners, to correctly

determine the number of people in an area at any given time. Fortunately, the city has an active Disaster Plan and formal Response Team in place. Each role is clearly identified noting chain of command so no communications are lost. Corporate safety teams routinely cross-train with city responders to facilitate the process.

LE MARS, Iowa (AP) — An explosion Wednesday morning destroyed two houses in the northwest Iowa city of Le Mars and injured three people.

The 6:30 a.m. explosion demolished two adjacent houses and damaged a third house, Le Mars Fire-Rescue Chief Dave Schipper told the Sioux City Journal.

The three people who were injured were inside or around one of the homes. Two of them were taken to a Le Mars hospital and one was taken to a Sioux City hospital and later transferred to a burn center in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Schipper called it "very fortunate" that no one died in the explosion, which he thinks was caused by a gas leak.

https://apnews.com/article/explosions-fires-iowa-city-des-moines-1d9b3487db6ad7d0002dbe65f9f4af2e *Le Mars explosion injures 3 people, destroys homes*. by Tim Hynds, Sioux City Journal via AP; Published 1:38 PM CDT, July 13, 2022) June 10, 2025

Despite ongoing efforts to improve flood-prone areas, the intersecting waterways in and around the city remain a primary consideration in all planning efforts. Flooding in 2024 resulted in more significant damages than previously recorded, especially in and around the town's ball fields and trails.

Due to relative proximity, the NOAA Storm Event database search for Le Mars included the Le Mars Municipal Airport and West Le Mars in addition to the city itself. Between 11/01/2019 and 12/31/2024, 6 events were recorded with Thunderstorm Wind figuring prominently, with Hail, Tornado, and Flood noted at one occurrence each.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
LE MARS	10/20/2021	8:17	Hail	0.88 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
LE MARS	8/27/2021	0:16	Thunderstorm Wind	51 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	30.00K
LE MARS	7/29/2024	22:55	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

LE MARS MUNI ARPT	8/5/2023	17:25	Thunderstorm Wind	62 kts. MG	0	0	5.00K	0.00K
LE MARS MUNI ARPT	7/29/2024	22:52	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
LE MARS MUNI ARPT	7/29/2024	22:52	Thunderstorm Wind	54 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WEST LE MARS	4/16/2024	12:48	Tornado	EFU	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WEST LE MARS	6/22/2024	18:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K

By **Klem Web Team** - Jun 24, 2024

https://klem1410.com/2024/06/24/record-flood-at-le-mars/
Record Flood at Le Mars (by Klem Web Team - Jun 24, 2024)
June 10, 2025

RECORD FLOOD AT LE MARS

Record floodwaters isolated Le Mars for a time, and the city is just now starting to weigh the impact of the flood.

Le Mars had a crest of 29 feet, which was just below the record crest of 26.4 feet.

Le Mars Fire Rescue Chief Dave Schipper said during their flood preparations, they discovered water would come in even higher than predicted.

Priority Hazards

In recent history, flooding is of the greatest concern, resulting in high expense repairs/recovery. The top three identified priorities are determined by likelihood of occurrence, cost of resulting damages, and potential impact on residents as well as the expansive and transient employee base.

- Flood – both Flash and Riverine
- Tornado/Windstorm
- Hazardous Materials Incident

Transportation Incident and Severe Winter Storm are also of significant concern. Particularly at risk are disaster-related blockages affecting the highways and railroad. Potential for bulk spills due to derailment can be catastrophic in terms of access and exhaustion of available supplies. Dam/Levee Failure and most other hazards as identified by the state are on the radar. Severe Winter Storm, Drought, and Extreme Heat factor considerably in local agriculture and manufacturing industries.

Survey responses indicate the top three resident concerns to be fairly consistent with the city's determination, replacing Hazardous Materials Incidents with Severe Winter Storm. Thunderstorm w/Hail and Lightning also has a high frequency of notable concern.

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

communication/education		
Assessment/Study	Le Mars	**New**. Floyd River Redirection Study to address ongoing flood concerns as each recurring heavy flow and river flooding events decrease unaffected area surrounding the airport. Flow currently hooks around north end of runway, looping around again eastward at the south end. South end is progressively shifting east creating an unplanned contact point. The City would like to review options to redirect flow to protect its airport. *City Administrator, County departments as applicable, IDNR, State and Federal programs as may be applicable, contracted engineer*. (Local general budget funds, BRIC/FMA technical support, other grants) HIGH PRIORITY
Promo/Info	Le Mars	**New**. PSAs - Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to Alert Iowa, Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; water conservation (drought considerations); Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. *City Clerk, County EMA* (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
Warning Sirens	Le Mars	**New**. New warning siren at 34th & Lake is planned for 2025. *City Administrator* (Local CIP) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
development		
	Le Mars	**New**: Install new water main valves to improve flow control and access for maintenance. P*ublic Works*. (Local funds general budget) HIGH PRIORITY.

Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Le Mars	**New**. Several waterworks projects are planned including a new reverse osmosis system, well, waterlines between wells. *City utilities.* (Local funds general budget, utility rates) HIGH PRIORITY
	Le Mars	**New**. City is planning new waste water treatment facility. *City utilities, public works*. (Local funds general budget, state/federal program supports as may be available) HIGH PRIORITY
	Le Mars	**New**. New Fire Station facility slated for 2028, with a ballot measure to be brought in 2026. Project includes new buildings and storage shed. *Fire Department*. (Local funds general budget, EOC funds). HIGH PRIORITY
Bridges & Roads	Le Mars	**New**. Action needed to improve conditions where Willow Creek meets the Floyd River. Increase in occurrence of flood events has highlighted lack of capacity of small railroad bridge crossing that area to handle such a large volume of water. If bridge is washed out, a significant impact would be felt regionally and potentially at the national level pending severity of damage. *City administrator, County departments as applicable, railroad, DOT, contracted consultant as applicable*. (local general budget funds, BRIC/FMA, railroad programming, IDOT) HIGH PRIORITY
flow control		
Flood protection	Le Mars	**Carry over.** Airport Flooding Protection - Implement protections to minimize erosion damage to runway & property overall. Floyd River w/in 50" of north end of runway. Measures to further improve previous bank stabilization efforts. Option: Reroute river; channelize. *City Administrator, Airport administration, IDNR* (Local funds, Economic Development funds, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
	Le Mars	**Carry over**. Further efforts are needed to stabilize riverbanks and creekbanks to control or direct flow from Floyd River and Willow Creek, especially when in high water stages, from both riverine and flash flood events. North and South ends of airport are increasingly at risk as high flow rate of water continues to reform the Floyd River. Bridges at 24th Street and the RR bridge at 4th Ave NE and the walking bridge at Hwy 3 are faced with structure failure risk increasing with each high water event, as placement in proximity to river is changing. Issue is becoming increasingly urgent. Cost estimate not readily available. *City Administrator, Airport administration, IDNR* (Local general budget funds, Economic Development funds, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

7. Merrill

a. Profile

The City of Merrill is situated near the center of Plymouth County, just south of Le Mars City. US Highway 75 is the main road that travels north-south through the eastern portion of Merrill. Floyd River defines the path of Hwy 75, following northeast outside the city's immediate corporate boundaries. BNSF railroad has a line that runs through Merrill, intersecting the highway and separating a portion of Merrill's downtown from the rest of the city.

City Governance & Community Supports

Merrill is governed by a five-person elected Council and the Mayor. Offices in addition to Mayor and Council include City Clerk, Police Department, Ambulance Department, Maintenance Department, Library, and EDC Department. The Merrill Fire Department is staffed by 22 volunteer firefighters. City staff designates the Legion Hall as a significant support entity to community's well-being. Additional community supports are specified in the discussion of Community Capabilities.

Merrill contracts with the county for law enforcement and Emergency Management. The City of Merrill is a member of the NFIP program, though residents are known to be inactive under flood insurance.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

Merrill had an estimated population of 885[39] in 2023, reflecting an increase from 717 residents in 2020 decennial census numbers. The city is home to 343 households and has a median household income of $79,250, suggesting a relatively strong economic standing. With only 4.5% of the population living below the poverty line, Merrill appears to be a financially stable community overall.

In 2023, Merrill had a total of 382 housing units, with 343 of them being occupied, which accounts for 90% of the units. There are 38 vacant units, making up 10% of the housing stock. The community also includes 19 mobile homes, which represents 5% of the housing units. In terms of the age of the residential structures, 233 units were built before 1990, while 53 were constructed between 1990 and 1999, and another 53 were built in 2000 or later. This distribution highlights a mix of older and newer housing in Merrill.

Leading Employers

- Casey's
- Hometown Mobility
- Iowa State Bank
- Plymouth Energy LLC
- US Post Office
- Wells (Le Mars)

[39] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1951375-merrill-ia/

Critical Facilities

City Hall & Community Center	608 Main St
Senior Center	
Library-Kissinger Ctr	
Police Department	
Fire Station	500 Roosevelt
EMS / Ambulance Department	
Garage Mntc Shop	301 2nd St
Sewer Lift Station	100 E Main St
	19 5th St
Warning Siren	635 Center St
	205 Calhoun St
	725 Webster St
Merrill Community Park & Related	725 Webster
Park & Related	700 Webster
Misc Storage	331 2nd St
Water Treatment; Pump House & related	635 Center St
(RV Only) Campground	23 5th St

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

In addition to those businesses listed under leading employers and various city facilities, the city recognizes the following as community gathering spots/events that may temporarily reflect a higher than average concentration of the local population.

- Cugini's Italian Restaurant
- Merrill Food Truck Night (Wednesdays)
- Merrill Shooting Range

Valuation of City Assets

Total Building	$	7,867,875
Total Personal Property	$	876,779

Total Property in the Open	$	1,065,799
Combined Total	**$**	**9,810,453**

b. Participation

Facilitated by SIMPCO and Plymouth County EMA Rebecca Socknat, a mitigation planning meeting was held February 14, 2025 via Teams with the following in attendance.

- Bruce Norgaard, Mayor
- Angela Gray, City Clerk
- Pat Gray, Public Works

c. Community Capabilities

Plans/Guidance Documents	
Comprehensive Plan	
Land Use Plan	
Policies/Ordinance	
Zoning Ordinance	within City Code
Floodplain Ordinance	within City Code
Drainage Ordinance	In covenants for HOAs
Programs	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190478A
ISO Fire Rating	Class 6/9
Staff/Department	
Public Works Official	
Emergency Response Team	Fire and Rescue
Non-Governmental Organizations	
Veterans Groups	American Legion Oleson-Halweg
Chamber of Commerce	
Local Funding Abilities	
Apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	

Fees for water and sewer services	
Ability to incur debt through:	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities

The city has adopted by reference the IBC and IPMC, with applicable exceptions as currently implemented at the state level. Merrill's Community Development department oversees compliance for construction/development activities in relation to building codes, land development code, the Comprehensive Plan, and enforcement thereof. The city participates in the NFIP program with the City Clerk serving as Floodplain Administrator. Merrill has zero RL/SRL properties.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

communication/education		
tools/equipment		
development		
flow control		
Drainage projects	Merrill	2020: Improve ditch and drainway management. Conduct through clearing and implement maintenance plan. *City Council, City staff* (Local funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Drainage projects	Merrill	**Update**. Issues addressed at north end of town including routine maintenance. Problems still present with particular concern over riverine flooding. Additional attention is needed to determine prevention options. Ditch maintenance is ongoing and will continue. New project added for 2025 for other options to be determined.
refuge		
Shelter	Merrill	2020: Interest in designating refuge locations at City Park and Campgrounds. Structural enhancements to be considered for formal designation. *City Council, City staff County EMA as applicable*. (local funds, community benefit programs, local groups, fundraising)
		Update. No action taken due to lack of dedicated funding options. Project is still needed and carries into the 2026 HMP project list. Priority is due to funding constraints, not level of need.
technology		
natural barriers/supports		
Dike improvement	Merrill	2020: Implementation of improvements to substantiate dike as barrier to flooding. *City Council, County, and DNR collaboration as applicable.* (Local funds)
Dike improvement	Merrill	**Update**. Cells were raised in lagoon project completed in 2019. Area was still severely impacted by floods in 2024 necessitating further consideration and expanded options.

In addition to updates as provided for planned projects in the 2020 Plan, the City of Merrill implemented several project components contributing to community resiliency.

- Backup generator at lift station
- Generator hookup at well (for mobile generator connection)
- Water access plan in place
- Highway work is planned with stormwater controls in place. Project is expected to retain those features sustaining drainage during and after construction

The city engaged IDNR to map ash trees throughout the community with findings indicated most are on private property. The city has plans in place to 1.) remove trees as affected and 2.) plant 6-8 new trees annually. Some mitigation efforts were implemented for the lagoon, however flooding in 2024 indicated a greater need that that addressed. Several other projects benefitting community resilience include the following.

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

An assessment of records in the NOAA Storm Event database include three reports from Merrill.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
MERRILL	8/31/2020	3:37	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MERRILL	4/19/2023	19:39	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MERRILL	4/16/2024	13:10	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Some areas housing critical facilities were raised in 2018/2019. Despite those efforts, flooding as occurred in 2024 affected the city's lagoon located on the east side of the river, outside the city's formal boundary. Resulting in severe damages, the FEMA recovery process was underway at the time of the planning meeting. The city is interested in determining viable solutions to reduce the impact of future flood events (see 2026 projects table).

The presence of a high frequency rail line intersecting US-75 and cutting through town adds to concerns about Transportation Incidents and Hazardous Materials Incidents.

Priority Hazards

The city continues to consider the following as priority hazards, with the addition of Thunderstorms with Hail and Lighting as being the most prevalent and most likely to result in damage.

- Thunderstorm with Hail and Lightning
- Flooding
- Tornado/Windstorm
- Severe Winter Storm

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Merrill	**New**. PSAs - Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to Alert Iowa, Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; water conservation (drought considerations); Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. *City Clerk, County EMA* (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
development		
flow control		
Drainage projects/ Study-Assessment	Merrill	**New**. River flooding hits north side of town and around highway. Additional attention is needed to determine prevention options. Interested in feasibility study and implementation of related solutions. Funding is a barrier. *City Council, City staff* (Local general budget funds, PDM, FMA) HIGH PRIORITY
refuge		
Shelter	Merrill	**Carry over**. Interest in designating refuge locations at City Park and Campgrounds. Structural enhancements to be considered for formal designation. *City Council, City staff County EMA as applicable*. (local general budget funds, community benefit programs, local groups, fundraising). LOW PRIORITY
technology		
natural barriers/supports		
Dike improvement	Merrill	**New**. Dike enhancement and/or replacement with more effective protections against flood, especially for lagoon. Project may require a study to determine feasible options. Priority based on funding viability, not project need. *City*

		Council, County, and DNR collaboration as applicable. (Local general budget funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Stabilization	Merrill	**New**. City is using rip rap for stabilization and reduction of wash out potential. Interested in more permanent means of stabilizing river bank and protective berms. *Public Works, City Maintenance, DNR as may be applicable.* (Local general budget funds, PDM, Flood Disaster funds, community benefits program) HIGH PRIORITY

8. Oyens

a. Profile

The City of Oyens is situated near the northeastern part of Plymouth County and occupies 0.09 square miles. Highway 3 is accessible from less than a mile, just south of the city. Highway 3 and K-64 are the closest main road connectors to surrounding communities. There is a Canadian National railroad line that travels east-west through the southern part of the city.

City Governance & Community Supports

Oyens is governed by a five-person elected Council and the Mayor. Offices in addition to Mayor and Council include City Clerk, Maintenance, and Economic Development. The Volunteer Fire Department is independent of the city and staffs about 22 volunteer firefighters. Oyens contracts with the county for law enforcement and Emergency Management.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

CensusReporter.gov estimates the population of Oyens at 89 in 2023[40], showing a slight decrease from 92 residents recorded in 2020 census numbers. The town is home to 32 households, with a relatively high median household income of $96,250, indicating a strong economic standing. Although no specific poverty data is available, the community's income level suggests a relatively stable financial environment. However, city staff believes income and population estimates in determined from the 2020 census as well as American Community Survey estimates since to greatly misrepresent the actual population and relative income. A Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) guided income survey is currently underway to determine actual Low-to-Moderate-Income rates.

[40] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1960780-oyens-ia/

In Oyens, there are an estimated 32 total housing units, all of which are occupied, reflecting a fully utilized housing stock. None of the units are vacant or classified as mobile homes. The majority of the housing structures were built between 1990 and 2000, with a smaller portion built before 1990, and a notable number of homes were built in 2000 or later. This indicates a relatively newer housing market with stable occupancy.

Leading Employers

Oyens has a few small businesses in town. The following are notable employers.

- Central Valley Ag
- US Post Office
- CVA Storage

Critical Facilities, Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

City Hall	230 Main St
Fire Station	
Well House	401 Park St
Water Plant Shed	

Once established, the City Park will be included as a critical facility and gathering location for Oyens. It is important to note the above listed employers also serve as potential gathering locations. City Hall serves as command center and refuge location in the event of emergency. The Fire Department has a connection to a generator on county property that runs the sheds.

Valuation of City Assets

A current valuation of assets is not immediately available. However, based on valuation increases for communities throughout the region, the 2019 valuation of $474,360 has likely increased between 20 and 50% in the last five years. Investments expected through planned

projects may have an exponential impact on cost-benefit analyses applied to mitigation projects.

b. Participation

Facilitated by SIMPCO and Plymouth County EMA Coordinator Rebecca Socknat, a planning meeting was held on February 21, 2025 at the county EMA office. The following were in attendance.

- Donna Paulsen, Mayor
- Julie Athens, City Clerk

Further input was collected via survey with three of Plymouth County's 65 responses indicating Oyens as place of residence.

c. Community Capabilities

Policies/Ordinance	
Zoning Ordinance	
Nuisance Ordinance	
Programs	
Zoning/Land Use Restrictions	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID # 190479A
ISO Fire Rating	Class 9/10
Staff/Department	Comments
Emergency Response Team	Yes, Fire and Rescue (no ambulance)
Local Funding Availability	
Apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water and sewer services	
Impact fees for new development through TIF	
Ability to incur debt through:	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds

- private activities

Much of the city's maintenance is contracted – lagoon, water, snow removal, utilities, and street repairs.

An income survey to determine CDBG eligibility is underway. Based on interactions with population, the city expects drastically different outcomes than those determined through 2020 decennial census estimates.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

Oyens did not have any projects included in the 2020 HMP. Projects completed were in line with routine maintenance with mitigation measures sustained or improved in the process, for example in street repairs. The city participates in the NFIP program with the City Clerk serving as Floodplain Administrator. Oyens has zero RL/SRL properties.

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

Floodplain carries through south of city limits and surrounds (but does not overlap) the lagoon. As Plymouth County Floodplain maps are in preliminary stages, those determinations may change – especially when the frequency and intensity of local flooding is in a cycle of annual increases. Infrastructure plans, especially regarding water system improvements, will fully consider the potential changes in the final maps with specific attention given to the 500-year floodplain.

The city is looking into establishing a city park. A committee is in place and preliminary plans include a shelter that would serve as storm refuge as well as shade in extreme heat conditions. The city is also planning water systems improvements with the schedule being highly reliant on funding opportunities. At present, city water is testing at a high level for nitrates. The project is primarily a public health measure. Wastewater improvements are incorporated in the project as are mitigation efforts that protect the infrastructure from flooding and allow for, at minimum, generator connections. Pending fund availability and final engineering, a dedicated

generator is expected to be part of the project. The shelter and generator aspects are included as projects for Oyens in this Plan. A mobile generator is available through the County as needed. However in the event of a large scale disaster, it may already be designated for an another use.

Water main capacity constrains the city's ISO Fire Rating with local infrastructure not meeting the 6" or greater size requirement. The city does not have independent ambulance services.

In addition to community conditions as outlined above, an assessment of NOAA Storm Event database records provides the following events specific to Oyens.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
OYENS	5/10/2023	23:40	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
OYENS	5/10/2023	23:42	Hail	2.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
OYENS	4/16/2024	13:22	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Oyens is included in the represented area indicated by Plymouth (Zone) within the NOAA system, noting general effects of regional weather conditions as noted for 102 reports. Oyens student population attend classes in the MMCRU and Le Mars school districts, highlighting importance of passable roadways in inclement weather conditions.

Priority Hazards

The following hazard priority designations are carried over from the 2020 plan as their relative impacts are still of significant concern to the community.

- Tornado/Windstorm
- Thunderstorm w/Hail & Lightning
- Grass and Wildland Fire

A lightning strike cost the community $35,000 in damages. Infrastructure failure ranks closely to those noted with particular concern for water quality and lagoon function.

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

The city needs to look at opportunities to replace the propane tank for city hall to ensure function in the event of an emergency.

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Oyens	**New**. PSAs - Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to Alert Iowa, Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; water conservation (drought considerations); Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. *City Clerk, County EMA* (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Oyens	**New**. As part of an infrastructure improvement project for the city's water systems, the city is looking at opportunities to include a dedicated generator at its wastewater treatment plant. Cost is to be determined and will dictate whether a dedicated generator is added or if a transfer switch alone is incorporated into the project. If a transfer switch is the implemented solution, the city will pursue funds for a mobile generator for use between its facilities. *City Council, contracted engineering firm, DNR*. (USDA, DNR, CDBG, Local general budget funds, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
development		
flow control		
refuge		
Shelter	Oyens	**New**. The city is in the process of establishing a city park. Plans include a shelter to offer moderate protection from thunderstorms, hail & lightning as well as shade in extreme heat conditions. *City Park Planning Committee, City Council* (Local general budget funds, community betterment, PDM as applicable. HIGH PRIORITY
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

9. Remsen

a. Profile

The City of Remsen is situated in the northeast quadrant of Plymouth County, occupying 1.27 square miles. Highway 3 is the main road that connects Remsen to surrounding communities and delineates much of the town's southern border. A Canadian National railroad line travels east-west through the center of town, following much of Remsen's northern border.

City Governance & Community Supports

Remsen is governed by a five-person elected Council and the Mayor. Offices in addition to Mayor and Council include City Clerk, Street Department, Sanitation Department, Utility Board, and Wastewater Department. Remsen City has a volunteer Fire Department in place. The Department staffs twenty members, headed by one Fire Chief and three officer/personnel positions. Outside of preventing and extinguishing fires, the Fire Department also takes on the responsibility of answering all emergency calls for which there is no other established agency (http://www.remseniowa.org/).

City staff designates the Legion Hall as a significant support entity to community's well-being. Additional community supports are specified in the discussion of Community Capabilities. Remsen contracts with the county for law enforcement and Emergency Management, but has a Fire and Response team.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

CensusReporter.gov estimates Remsen's population increased to 1,897[41] in 2023, up from 1,678 in 2020, indicating steady growth. The town is home to 677 households and boasts a median household income of $98,250, suggesting a strong economic foundation. With only 4.1% of residents living below the poverty line, Remsen appears to be a financially stable community, reflecting positive economic trends.

Remsen has a total of 727 housing units, with 676 currently occupied, indicating a high occupancy rate and a relatively low number of vacancies. The housing stock includes 51 mobile homes. A significant portion of homes were built in 2000 or later, while smaller but equal shares were constructed in the 1990s and before 1990. This suggests a community with a predominantly newer housing base and ongoing residential development.

Leading Employers

MMC & RU Community School Districts	Marcus & Remsen offices
Happy Siesta Nursing Home	423 Roosevelt Ave,

[41] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1966405-remsen-ia/

Mid-Sioux Opportunity	418 S Marion St
Farmers' Cooperative	6 S Washington
Bavarian Meadows	632 L14 # 130
Gengler Feed	002 S Marion St
Wells Enterprises	(Region employer) Le Mars, IA

Critical Facilities

City Hall	008 W 2nd St
Police Dept	205 Fulton
Fire Dept & Municipal Garage	108-112 1st St
Remsen Public Library	209 Fulton St, Remsen, IA 51050
Maintenance Bldg	215 Fulton St
Well/Reservoir	124 E Nothem Ave
Well Field	North of Remsen
Water Tower	801 Madison St
Remsen Swimming Pool & Related	209 Lincoln St,
Thelen Park; Football Field; North Park	
Garage	122 Marion
Sunrise Park & Shelter House	515 E 3rd St
Beck Park & Shelter House	105 Madison St
Old Light Plant	125 E 1st St
Ambulance Bldg	109 Fulton
Shop/Utility Bldg	320 S Marion St
Storage	16267 L12
Main Lift Station & Lab	Marion St
Remsen Cemetery	
Niggeling Ball Park & Related	Nothem Ave
Baseball Field & Related	
Water Treatment Facilities & Related	400 Lagoon Rd
Derby Arena	Marion St

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

MMC & RU Middle School	511 Roosevelt Ave, Remsen
RU Remsen Elementary (Pk-4)	
Avalon Ballroom	114 Fulton St
Remsen Golf Course	506 W 5th St
Outside city limits	
Meadow Wildlife Area	45597 140th Street
Rufus B. Hatch Memorial Grassland	Intersection of L22 and 140th Street
Kohler Memorial Grassland	near 150th St and Quest Ave

Locations indicated under leading employers are also considered as gathering locations and areas of interest. Similarly, gathering locations outside city limits are included as visitors during special events may temporarily cause a significant increase in population affecting resource availability in hazardous conditions.

Valuation of City Assets

Building	$	17,504,426	RC
Personal Property	$	1,462,083	RC
Property in the Open	$	8,238,220	RC
Total	**$**	**27,204,729**	

b. Participation

A mitigation planning meeting was facilitated by SIMPCO at Remsen City Hall on February 25, 2025 with the following in attendance.

- Rachel Keffeler, City Administrator
- Mike Wurth, Public Works Superintendent

Additional input was provided through survey response with five of Plymouth County's respondents indicating residence in Remsen.

c. Community Capabilities

Plans/Guidance Documents	
Comprehensive Plan	
Builder's Plan - through Zoning Administrator	
Policies/Ordinance	
• Building Regulations Ordinance - IPMC by reference w/exceptions (2019) adopted 5/2024 • Dangerous Buildings Ordinance • Drainage Ordinance • Floodplain Ordinance • Historic Preservation Ordinance • Nuisance Ordinance • Open Burning Restrictions	• Storm Water Ordinance • Subdivision Ordinance • Tree Ordinance • Well Protection • Zoning Regulations Ordinance
Programs	
Zoning/Land Use Restrictions	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190480A
ISO Fire Rating	Class 5/8B
Staff/Department	
Building Code Official	Zoning Administrator
Public Works Official	
Emergency Response Team	Yes, Fire and Rescue
Historic Preservation	
Museum Board	
Non-Governmental Organizations	
Veterans Groups	American Legion Pieper
Chamber of Commerce	
Community Organizations	Lions Club
Local Funding Availability	
Ability to apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Ability to fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water, sewer, gas, and electric services	
Ability to incur debt through:	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities

The city participates in the NFIP program with the Mayor serving as Floodplain Administrator. Remsen has zero RL/SRL properties.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

Actions taken to improve community resilience in Remsen include a water systems improvement project involving water main replacements, funded in part by CDBG. Projects completed in response to planned strategies in the 2020 plan include one amended addition as included in the following table.

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Remsen	2020: Interest in promotion of established warning systems such as Alert Iowa system; *City Clerk, County EMA (*No dedicated funding necessary) HIGH PRIORITY
Promo/Info	Remsen	**Update**. Remsen includes periodic postings recommending resident enrollment in Alert Iowa and similar online alert systems. Community will continue to do so but this will not be continued as an Ongoing mitigation-specific project into the 2026 plan.
tools/equipment		
development		
Bridges & Roads	Remsen (as amended at local level 8/10/2020)	Amendment: Box culvert replacement in flood prone area (5th St between Jackson and Marion Streets). *City of Remsen, Beck Engineering contracted services, City Clerk, Public Works*. (anticipated funding: FMA/BRIC, local match via Road Use funds, and local option funds) HIGH PRIORITY
		Complete. Flood mitigation project was completed with addition of box culvert and redirection of runoff. Project cost was $475,000 - paid using entirely local funds.
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

Other work that contributes to local resiliency includes tiling work as completed on the Golf Course improving drainage systems on Country Club and Celebrity with one storm drain on each 24” tile. Runoff flows to the pond. Project cost was $22,000 in materials. Labor was completed by Golf Course employees.

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

An assessment of the recorded events specific to Remsen includes eight reports. This is separate from the 102 Plymouth (Zone) events reported that also affected the area.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
REMSEN	8/18/2022	18:00	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
REMSEN	4/19/2023	20:04	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
REMSEN	4/16/2024	13:21	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
REMSEN	4/30/2024	14:56	Hail	0.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
REMSEN	4/30/2024	15:00	Hail	0.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
REMSEN	4/30/2024	15:02	Hail	0.88 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
REMSEN	4/30/2024	15:04	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
REMSEN	5/20/2024	18:50	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Priority Hazards

- Infrastructure Failure
- Tornado / Windstorm
- Thunderstorm with Hail & Lightning

Shown above in order of greatest concern, the city includes Flooding to the list. City flood-related expense is mainly focused on washout from uncontrolled runoff during flash flood events. Survey responses indicated Severe Winter Storm as a notable concern in addition to the city's #2 & #3 considerations. When asked to select the top three hazards, respondents selected Severe Winter Storm (4/5), Tornado/Windstorm (3/5) with the highest frequency. Transportation Incident and Terrorism were also noted.

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

The city is in the process of moving its utilities underground. The $1.2M project is in progress and set for completion in 2026. Additional mitigation-specific strategies to be implemented in the next five years are included in the following project table.

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Remsen	**New**. PSAs - Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; water conservation (drought considerations); Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. *City Clerk, County EMA* (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
Equipment	Remsen	**New**. Fire Department is in need of equipment replacements including 12 SCBA units with harness/backpack, face piece, and 2 cylinders each and 24 spare cylinders. Cost at last estimate is about $122K. *City Council, Fire Chief & Department reps* (local general budget funds, AFG grant if awarded, community benefits funds). HIGH PRIORITY
development		
flow control		
Drainage Projects	Remsen	**New**. Storm drains are needed at each end of Beck Park. *City Council, public Works, Parks & Rec, DNR as applicable* (local general budget funds, DNR as available, PDM/Flood prevention as available) HIGH PRIORITY
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

10. Struble

a. Profile

The City of Struble lies near the northern-most border of Plymouth County, and occupies .016 square miles. Highway 75 is the closest man road that connects Struble to surrounding communities. Less than a mile east of the city, Highway 75 travels north and south. West Branch Floyd River also runs north/south, less than half a mile east of the city.

City Governance & Community Supports

The City of Struble is governed by an elected Council and Mayor, and appointed City Clerk. City Council meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 PM. Struble contracts with the county

for law enforcement. The city does not have a Fire-Rescue department, but contracts with the City of Maurice (Sioux County) Fire and Rescue.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

Struble had a population of 71 in 2023[42], reflecting a small increase from 67 residents in 2020. The town consists of 30 households and has a median household income of $59,167. Despite the modest population growth and moderate income level, about 21.4% of residents live below the poverty line, indicating that a portion of the community may be experiencing economic hardship.

Struble has a total of 30 housing units, all of which are occupied, indicating full utilization of its housing stock. The community includes a small number of mobile homes. A majority of the homes were built prior to 2000, with the most recent structure added in 2005. CensusReporter[43] indicates about 35% of residents moved into their current home between 2010 and 2020.

Leading Employers

While hosting relatively small employee populations, Struble recognizes Urban's Lawn Care as its leading employers.

Critical Facilities, Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

City Hall	210 William St
City Maintenance Shop	305 Main St
Town Hall	Block 7 Elgin Twp
City Park	(adjacent to City Hall)
Shelter House	Lot 11-13 Block 12

[42] censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1975945-struble-ia/
[43] https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1975945-struble-ia/ (2026 04-07)

Valuation of City Assets

Valuation of assets as provided is based on the city's current insurance policy and does not necessarily provide full scope of public properties and equipment. This serves as a foundation for cost-benefit considerations when determining project scope and relative impacts. Further analysis including all properties/assets within the area of potential effect of a given project will accompany an application for mitigation funds or may be included as a deliverable in a scoping project or study.

Building	$	349,350
Personal Property	$	30,108
Total	**$**	**379,458**

b. Participation

Facilitated by SIMPCO, a mitigation planning meeting was held at Struble City Hall on December 3, 2024 with the following in attendance.

- Marilynn Volmecke, City Clerk
- Mike Vander Molen, Mayor
- Linda Urban, Treasurer
- Bob Hughes, Councilmember
- Troy Hughes, Councilmember
- Shelbee Ropte, Councilmember
- Ken Urban, Councilmember
- Rick Weiler, Councilmember

In addition to the planning meeting, 9 of Plymouth County's survey respondents indicated residence as Struble.

A final review of Plan content including updates since Struble's last input meeting was completed by the City Clerk on April 7, 2026. Upon review, the city has confirmed their commitment to adopt the Plan as approved by FEMA.

c. Community Capabilities

A small community, Struble has limited local resources. However, there is a mutual aid agreement in place with all communities in Plymouth County response, with the Sheriff's

department for law enforcement services, and with SCFR HazMat Response through the county as applicable. A border community, Struble also collaborates with nearby communities in Sioux County. Fire and rescue services are contracted with Maurice. Struble may also benefit from all supports as provided through county and regional programs as listed in their respective profiles. The following funding resources are available options for the City of Struble.

NFIP participation has been determined to be cost-ineffective. As its floodplain does not include qualifiable and/or insurable structures, Struble is a non-participant in NFIP under CID # 190481A. The city has zero RL/SRL properties.

Local Funding Availability	
Ability to apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Ability to fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Ability to incur debt through:	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Struble	2020: Interest in promotion of established warning systems such as Alert Iowa system; Promote programs as available through regional resources. *City Clerk, County EMA (*No dedicated funding necessary) HIGH PRIORITY
Promo/Info	Struble	**Update**. informal promotion of available alert systems is provided through council discussion and interactions with residents. The city plans to continue promotion efforts to expand effectiveness of existing resources.
Promo/Info	Struble	**Implemented and Ongoing**. Promote established warning systems such as Alert Iowa system; Promote programs as available through regional resources. *City Clerk, County EMA (*No dedicated funding necessary) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
development		
flow control		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

The city completed other work as needed in recent years in terms of response as well as mitigation. Tree removal is completed to reduce potential effects of dead/diseased trees. The city is moving forward with tree replacement in the park and other public properties outside of parking. Scheduled ditch clearing was completed is on a monitoring schedule to prevent blockages that may escalate flash flooding instances. Funds as allocated from the 2019 floods were used to re-gravel heavily damaged roads. City Hall has a new roof that serves to help sustain that structure. The city has put in new culverts along Lake Ave/4th Street and a large new culvert on the north side of Main Street downtown. They are in the process of addressing risk assessment issues, especially in the park safeguarding playground equipment

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

Steps taken to improve resilience have been modest due to lack of available funds. However, projects as implemented have all taken mitigation into account, maximizing return on investment. At present, access to/from Struble is severely restricted with bridges out at each the north and south ends of town. Without a local fire department, the city is fully reliant on mutual aid agreements for emergency response. Concerns for fire response, especially with recently prevalent drought conditions, serve as impetus for including acquisition of a tanker in their mitigation strategies. As residents serve on nearby volunteer departments, training to operate the tanker can be part of routine certifications.

A more complicated risk is that of hazardous materials incidents as BNSF railroad line runs through town. Depending on materials in transport and other factors involved in the incident, immediate action is critical.

Flooding remains a priority concern due to a high water table. A moderate or heavy rain will routinely result in some basement flooding.

A review of NOAA Storm Event database shows 3 recorded events between 11/1/2019 and 12/31/2024, all of which occurred in2024.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
STRUBLE	4/16/2024	13:00	Tornado	EF1	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
STRUBLE	6/22/2024	2:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
STRUBLE	6/22/2024	14:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Priority Hazards

Priority hazards are based on frequency/likelihood of occurrence, potential for catastrophic loss or damage, and ability (or lack thereof) to mitigate without outside supports.

- Flood
- Tornado/Windstorm
- Grass and Wildland Fire

Other natural disasters and other hazards on the city's radar are drought and infrastructure failure – one increases risk of priority concerns, the other prohibits prompt response.

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

Following are Struble's identified strategies to improve their mitigative opportunities and resilience.

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Struble	**Ongoing**. Promote established warning systems such as Alert Iowa system; Promote awareness/preparedness programs as available through regional resources. *City Clerk, County EMA (*No dedicated funding necessary) HIGH PRIORITY
Warning Siren	Struble	**New**. Replace warning siren pending fundability. Current siren had aged out with replacement parts hard to find and very expensive. *City council, County EMA*. Local general budget funds, pre-disaster/mitigation funds as may be available, community foundation grants, community betterment grants) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
Equipment	Struble	**New.** City identified need to obtain tanker to keep in town to support local response efforts. Without a local fire department, Struble's risk is significantly high. Priority level reflects likelihood of extended time frame for completion due to limited funding availability. *City Council, County and State EMA and other response network supports as available* (Local general budget funds, fundraising, response equipment grants, community foundation/betterment funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY
development		

flow control		
Drainage	Struble	**New**. City is in need of improved stormwater drainage and runoff controls for downtown. *City Council* (City general budget funds, transportation funds, Community Benefit funds) LOW PRIORITY
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

11. Westfield

a. Profile

Westfield is the western-most incorporated city along the border of Plymouth County and occupies about 0.13 square miles. It is located on the northern edge of the "Loess Hills" landform leading to designation of the local portion of Highway 12 as the Loess Hills Scenic Byway. IA-12 is the main road that connects Westfield to surrounding communities and runs north-south through the City. County Road C38, just south of town, connects Westfield to Le Mars. The Big Sioux River runs north-south less than a mile west of the city, and the Dakota and Iowa Railroad (DAIR #211) passes north-south through the center of the city.

City Governance & Community Supports

Westfield is governed by a five-person elected Council and the Mayor. Offices in addition to Mayor and Council include City Clerk, Maintenance, and contracted water/wastewater supervisor. Council meets the third Monday of each month.

Ambulance services are contracted with the City of Akron. Akron Fire/Ambulance provides pre-hospital patient care and ambulance service. A 28E Agreement is in place between all Plymouth County Communities and the Plymouth County EMA for Emergency Management. Westfield further coordinates response efforts and safety messaging with the city of Jefferson, SD (see adjacent screenshot. Source: Facebook post, March 28, 2026).

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

In 2023, CensusReporter.org estimates Westfield's population at 133[44], showing a modest increase from 123 residents in 2020. The town is home to 70 households and has a median household income of $60,000, indicating a relatively stable economic base. With only 4.5% of residents living below the poverty line, Westfield appears to maintain a solid level of financial well-being within the community.

Westfield has a total of 84 housing units, with 70 currently occupied and 14 standing vacant. The town includes three mobile homes as part of its housing stock. Most of the residential structures were built in 2000 or later, reflecting a relatively modern housing landscape. A smaller number of homes were constructed in the 1990s and before 1990, indicating that much of the community's housing is fairly new.

[44] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1984090-westfield-ia/

Leading Employers

- The Station
- Hummer's Roadhouse
- Steve McMahon Trucking
- Price Auction House
- Marilyn's Beauty Shop

Critical Facilities, Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

City Hall	223 Union St.
Westfield Baseball Field & Related	Plymouth St & Lindon St.
Westfield City Park, Shelter, & Playground	Union &Elm St.
Loess Hills Welcome Center	320 Union
(New) City Shed/Garage	Elm
Lift Station & Lagoon	(South end) Railroad Dr
(New) Water Treatment Plant	Elm St
Community Center	215 Linden St
Community Gathering Locations/Vulnerable Populations	
Westfield Congregational Church	224 Linden St
Outside City Limits	
Birkley's Bend	26779 Highway 12
E.C. Lippke Wetland	11132 240th Street
Five Ridge Prairie	15561 260th St
Millsite River Access	10001 Highway 3

Valuation of City Assets

Total Building	$	811,014
Total Personal Property	$	163,334
Total Property in the Open	$	213,980
Combined Total	**$**	**1,188,328**

b. Participation

Facilitated by SIMPCO, a virtual mitigation planning meeting was held via Teams on February 17, 2025 with the following in attendance.

- Jenny Hartman-Mendoza, Mayor
- Karen Wardrip, City Clerk

A review meeting via phone call was conducted on August 5, 2025 with Karen Wardrip, City Clerk. A VPA was signed and filed on the same date. A final review was completed by the City Clerk and Councilmember Beth Terpstra on February 27, 2026. Upon said review, the city acknowledges plan content and commits to adopting the plan once approved by FEMA.

c. Community Capabilities

Plans/Guidance Documents	
Comprehensive Plan	
Land Use Plan	Future Land Use w/in Comp Plan
Policies/Ordinance	
Permitting process governed by Ordinance	
Programs	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190482A
Staff/Department	
Public Works Official	
Local Funding Availability	
Apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	
Levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water, sewer, and electric services	
Ability to incur debt through	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities

The city's floodplain ordinance is located under Section 160 of their Municipal Code of Ordinances and was adopted 10/17/2022. The city participates in the NFIP program with the City

Clerk serving as Floodplain Administrator. Some properties have been removed from eligible for coverage status with recent map updates. Westfield has zero RL/SRL properties.

In addition to policy and procedural supports, the city has some equipment in place to reduce the potential effects of natural disasters and other hazards. One generator is in place at the lift station, and one is at the community center for emergency use. Additional generators are needed. Response teams are not centered in Westfield so basic preliminary on-site actions may serve to stabilize situations (power outages, command center establishment, refuge location, etc.). City staff uses the City's UTV to access lagoon when roads are washed out.

The city has undertaken a zoning and land use update to better accommodate practical land use with some changes between commercial and residential designated lots where applicable. The city also transitioned some parcels from Ag to Commercial.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

Westfield included one mitigation strategy in the 2020 plan as shown in the following update table.

communication/education		
tools/equipment		
development		
flow control		
Flood protection	Westfield	2020: City assessing options to reinforce lagoon to protect from flooding. *City Council, City maintenance/waterworks, County EMA and DNR as applicable*. (Local funds, PDM, approved bond/loan programs as applicable)
Flood protection	Westfield	**Update**. This project did not advance to a more permanent solution due to expenses attributed to 2019 flood recovery and again in 2024. Substantial berm repairs were completed. However, they proved insufficient for unprecedented flooding as occurred in 2024. Lack of funding and available resources contributed to delay in permanent solution. Project is still needed and will carry over to the 2026 HMP.
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

Other projects completed that improve local resilience include the following.

- City projects (totaling $120,000):
    - Road to lagoon repaired, improving access in inclement weather conditions
    - Fencing replaced
    - Scheduled berm repair completed (though additional work is noted in current mitigation strategies section)
    - Removal of dead/diseased trees in city right of way is in progress, completed as needed. The County is addressing ditch trees.

- Impactful private property work:
    - Private dike that had collapsed was repaired ($35,000)

At the time of the planning meeting, a Water Treatment Plant project was in progress. Westfield has added two buildings to its inventory and added a concessions stand to the city ballfields.

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

An assessment of records in the NOAA Storm Event database includes seven reports specific to Westfield in addition to the 102 attributed to Plymouth (Zone) as likely experienced throughout the county.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
WESTFIELD	3/30/2020	7:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	3.00K
WESTFIELD	4/1/2020	0:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WESTFIELD	6/21/2020	5:34	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	1.00K	0.00K
WESTFIELD	8/14/2020	13:54	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WESTFIELD	4/12/2023	0:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WESTFIELD	6/21/2024	16:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WESTFIELD	7/1/2024	0:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Additional consideration is given to the six mobile homes located in city limits.

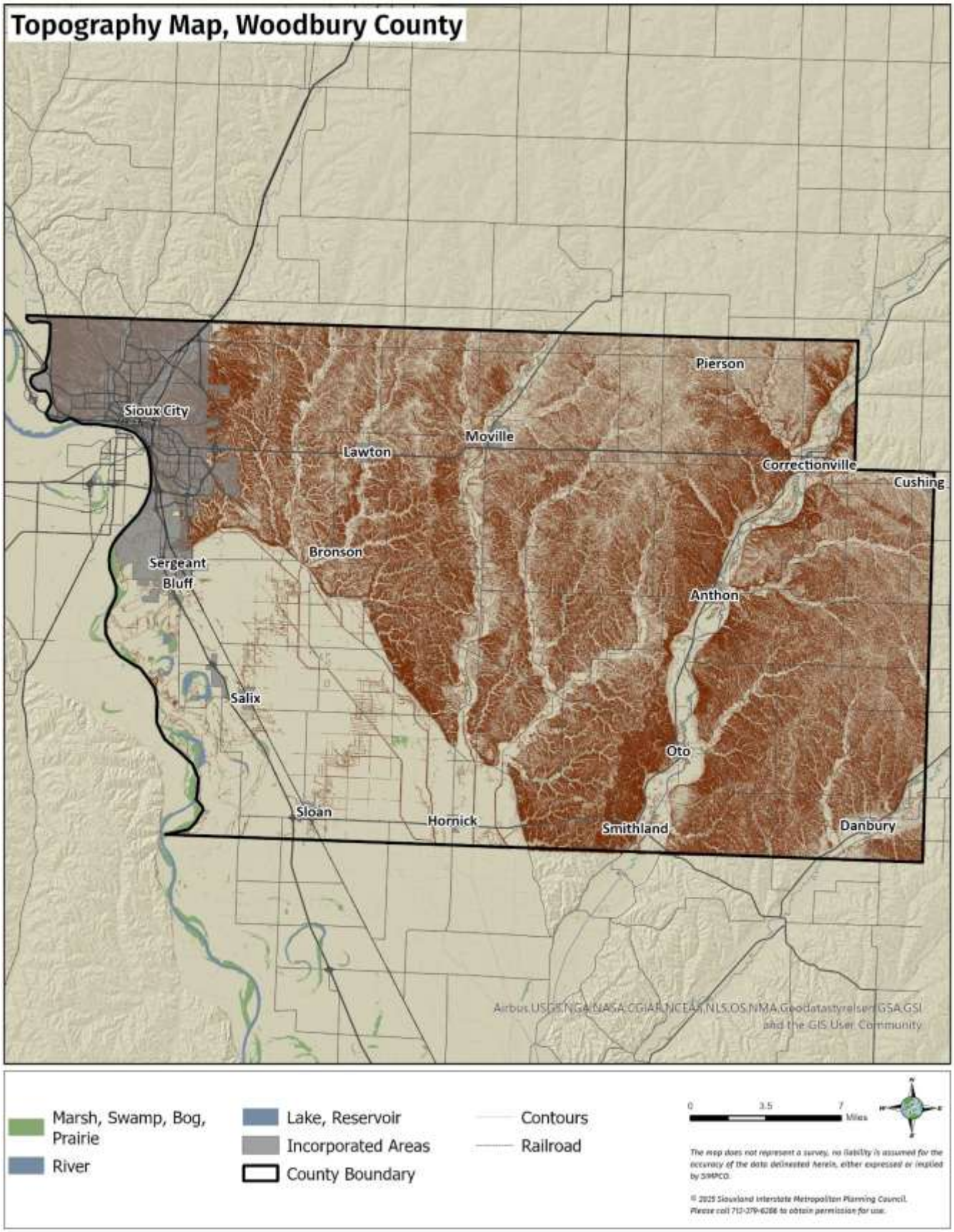
Priority Hazards

The City carried over the following as priority hazards.

- Flood
- Thunderstorm w/Hail & Lightning
- Tornado/Windstorm

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Westfield	**New**. PSAs - Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to Alert Iowa, Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; water conservation (drought considerations); Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. *City Clerk, County EMA* (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
Warning Siren	Westfield	**New**. Replace warning siren pending fundability. Current siren had aged out with replacement parts hard to find and very expensive. *City council, County EMA*. Local general budget funds, pre-disaster/mitigation funds as may be available, community foundation grants, community betterment grants) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
development		
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Westfield	**New**. City is in process of completing a new water treatment facility. Project is incorporating flood protections and continuity of operations features (generator/generator hook up). *Public Works, contracted project manager/administrator* (CDBG, Local general budget funds) HIGH PRIORITY
flow control		
Flood protection	Westfield	**Carry over**. City seeking options to substantially reinforce berm and/or other flood protections around lagoon. *City Council, City maintenance/waterworks, County EMA , FEMA, and DNR as applicable*. (Local general budget funds, Disaster Recovery funds as applicable) HIGH PRIORITY
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		


Topography Map, Woodbury County
Pierson
Sioux City
Moville
Lawton
Correctionville
Cushing
Bronson
Sergeant Bluff
Anthon
Salix
Oto
Sloan
Hornick
Smithland
Danbury
Airbus,USGS,NGA,NASA,CGIAR,NCEAS,NLS,OS,NMA,Geodatastyrelsen,GSA,GSI and the GIS User Community
Marsh, Swamp, Bog, Prairie
River
Lake, Reservoir
Incorporated Areas
County Boundary
Contours
Railroad
0
3.5
7
Miles
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E. Woodbury County

Profile – Unincorporated Area & County

Woodbury County is located north of center along Iowa's west "coast". The County is bordered by Plymouth County to the north, Ida County to the east, Monona County to the south, and the Missouri River lines its western border with the state of Nebraska. Woodbury is 872 square miles in size. Incorporated communities in Woodbury County include Anthon, Bronson, Correctionville, Cushing, Danbury, Hornick, Lawton, Moville, Oto, Pierson, Salix, Sergeant Bluff, Sioux City, Sloan, and Smithland.

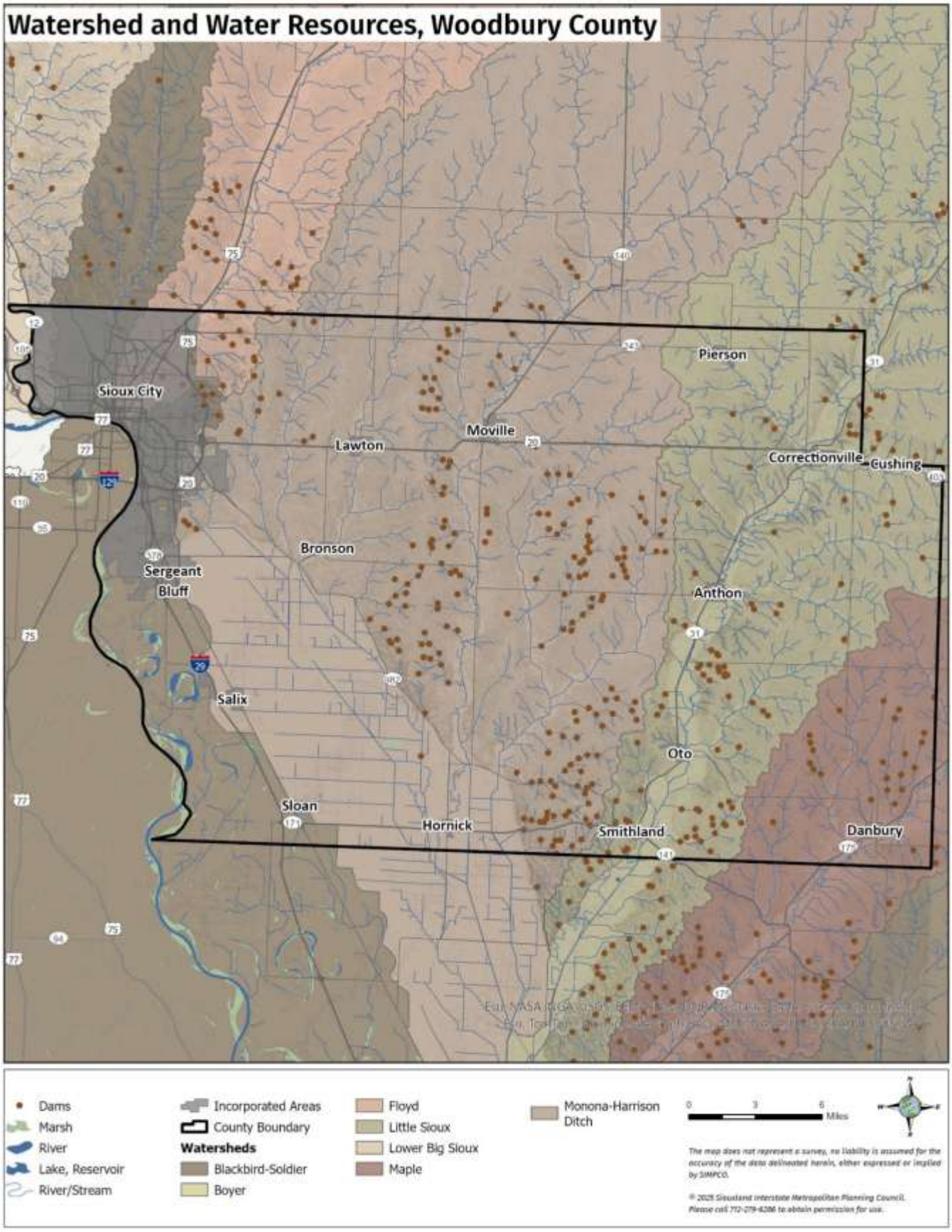
Rivers & Watersheds

The western border of Woodbury County is the Missouri River. Other significant rivers in the County include the Floyd River, Maple River, Perry Creek, Pierson Creek, and the West Fork of the Little Sioux River.

There are six (6) watersheds within the County that drain storm water and snow melt into streams and lakes, wetland areas, or into groundwater reserves. These watersheds starting west and heading east are Lower Big Sioux Watershed, Blackbird-Soldier Watershed, Floyd Watershed, Monona-Harrison Ditch Watershed, Little Sioux Watershed, and Maple Watershed as shown in the map in the Region potion of this Plan. The following map depicts the sub-watersheds within those as listed above. Sub-watersheds are determined based on hydrologic unit code (HUC) level 12, which includes more detail including tributary data.

Landform Regions & Geology

Woodbury County is composed of four (4) distinct landform regions – Northwest Iowa Plains, Southern Iowa Drift Plains, Loess Hills, and Missouri Alluvial Plain.


Watershed and Water Resources, Woodbury County
Sioux City
Pierson
Moville
Lawton
Correctionville
Cushing
Bronson
Sergeant Bluff
Anthon
Salix
Oto
Sloan
Hornick
Smithland
Danbury
Dams
Marsh
River
Lake, Reservoir
River/Stream
Incorporated Areas
County Boundary
Watersheds
Blackbird-Soldier
Boyer
Floyd
Little Sioux
Lower Big Sioux
Maple
Monona-Harrison Ditch
0 3 6 Miles
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Transportation Network

On the western side of the County is Interstate 29, which generally runs north to south. US Highways 20 and 75. State Highways 12, 31, 140, 14, and 175 are also included in the County's road network.

The County's secondary road system is composed of 1,353.48 miles. Within this category, Farm-to-Market roads make up 395.56 miles, while Area Service roads account for 957.92 miles. Gravel or earth surface types account for 938.85 miles of the secondary road system. The remaining 331.37 miles are composed of bituminous, asphalt, or PCC surface types.

County Governance & Supports

The county seat is located in Sioux City, in the northwest portion of the County. Its jurisdiction covers all unincorporated portions within county boundaries. Woodbury County is governed by a five (5)-person Board of Supervisors, supported by an administrative staff. The Board exercises power characteristic of each of the three branches of government: executive, legislative, and judicial. Additional county offices include the following departments.

- Assessor
- Attorney
- Auditor
- Communication Center (911)
- Conservation Board
- Elections
- Emergency Management
- Emergency Services
- Human Resources
- Motor Vehicle
- Recorder
- Secondary Roads
- Sheriff's Department
- Siouxland District Health
- Social Services
- Treasurer
- Veteran Affairs
- Weed Commissioner
- Planning & Zoning Commission/CED

The Woodbury County Department of Emergency Management supports and coordinates between local departments and emergency responses units. The Woodbury County Sheriff's

Office (WCSO) provides law enforcement services to the county. The office has 120 employees and covers 872 miles.

County Facilities

Facility Name/Type	*Address*	*City*
Anthon Shed; Storage	NW Corner of Bridge St & Miller Ave	Anthon
Climbing Hill Shed	75 Deer Run Trail	Climbing Hill
Public Safety; Emerg Services Bldgs	121 Deer Run Trail	Climbing Hill
Correctionville Shed; Storage (PNBR)	112 Knotty Pine	Correctionville
Multiple structures	Little Sioux Park	Correctionville
Danbury Shed	NE Corner of 1st St & Thomas St	Danbury
Danbury Tower	3077 Osceola Ave	Danbury
Library - Leased Space	221 Main St	Danbury
Hornick Shed; Storage Shed (PNBR)	220 Main	Hornick
Library/City Hall - Rented Space	510 Main St	Hornick
Lawton Shed	Hwy 20	Lawton
Miller Township Shed	SW Corner of 250th & O'Brien Ave	Millersburg
Library - Leased Space	825 Main St	Moville
Moville Shed; Storage	Hwy 20	Moville
Secondary Roads Office	759 E Frontage Rd	Moville
Multiple structures	NE Corner of Hwy 31 & 290th St	Oto
Oto Radio Building	Corner of 2nd & Royal Sts	Oto
Oto Shed	205 Washington St	Oto
Library - Leased Space	321 4th St	Pierson
Pierson Shed	106 Summit St	Pierson
Cabins	2924 Snyder Bend Rd	Salix
Luton Shed	2508 Dallas Ave	Salix
Multiple structures	Snyder Bend	Salix
Multiple structures	Bigelow Park	Salix
County Building	401 - 8th St	Sioux City
County Building	1211 Tri-View Ave	Sioux City
Courthouse	620 Douglas St	Sioux City
Dorothy Pecaut Nature Ctr.	4500 Sioux River Rd	Sioux City
Law Enforcement Center	407 7th St	Sioux City

Law Enforcement Training Center	1600 County Home Rd	Sioux City
Prairie Hills facility & related	1600 County Home Rd	Sioux City
Siouxland District Health	1014 Nebraska St	Sioux City
Trosper-Hoyt County Serv Bldg	822 Douglas St	Sioux City
Comfort Station Storage; Open Shelter	Fowler Forest	Smithland
Multiple structures	Southwood, 1 Mi SW of Smithland	Smithland

Education

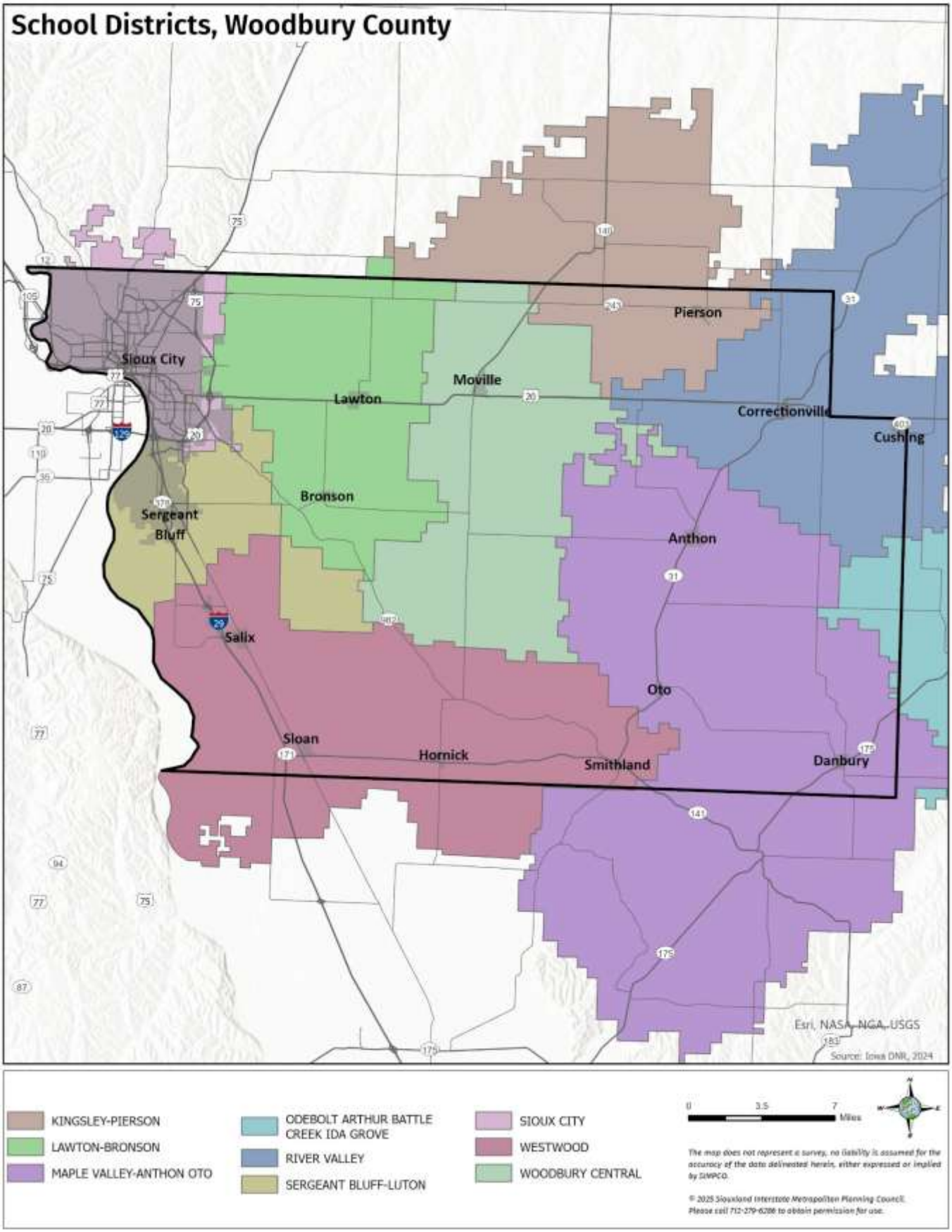
Within Woodbury County there are 48 public schools divided into six (6) school districts. These districts include:

- Lawton-Bronson Community School District, Lawton
- River Valley Community School District, Correctionville
- Sergeant Bluff-Luton Community School District, Sergeant Bluff
- Sioux City Community School District, Sioux City
- Westwood Community School District, Sloan
- Woodbury Central Community School District, Moville

In addition, there are eight (8) private schools located within the County. The Sioux City Career Academy provides an alternative learning environment for students within the Sioux City Community School District.

While there are no public universities located with Woodbury County, there are a several other higher education institutions. Western Iowa Tech Community College is a public two-year college located in Sioux City. Private non-profit institutions include Briar Cliff University and Morningside College, also located in Sioux City.

Woodbury County generally has a higher percent of residents with a high school degree or some college compared to the state of Iowa. However, the County falls behind within the categories of bachelor's degree and graduate or professional degree.


School Districts, Woodbury County
Pierson
Sioux City
Moville
Lawton
Correctionville
Cushing
Bronson
Sergeant Bluff
Anthon
Salix
Oto
Sloan
Hornick
Smithland
Danbury
Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS
Source: Iowa DNR, 2024
KINGSLEY-PIERSON
LAWTON-BRONSON
MAPLE VALLEY-ANTHON OTO
ODEBOLT ARTHUR BATTLE CREEK IDA GROVE
RIVER VALLEY
SERGEANT BLUFF-LUTON
SIOUX CITY
WESTWOOD
WOODBURY CENTRAL
0
3.5
7
Miles
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Educational attainment in Woodbury County shows a higher percentage of residents without a high school diploma compared to the state average. However, the county has a relatively strong proportion of individuals who have completed high school or pursued some college education. The number of people with an associate's degree is close to the state average, but Woodbury

County has a lower percentage of residents with bachelor's and graduate degrees compared to the state. This indicates that while there is a solid foundation in basic and postsecondary education, there are opportunities for growth in higher education attainment within the county.

Level of Education	*Woodbury*	*Iowa*
No high school diploma	12.8%	6.8%
High school degree (includes equivalency)	32.6%	30.4%
Some college, no degree	19.8%	19.9%
Associate's degree	11.4%	12.1%
Bachelor's degree	15.6%	20.6%
Graduate or professional degree	7.8%	10.2%

Population

CensusReporter.org provides the following population[45] and household statistics for Woodbury County. It's important to note the data as provided is a snapshot of available information at the time drawn. Number fluctuate as data is more thoroughly assessed over time, accounting for variations in using the same source with the same search criteria and retrieving varying results. For consistency, the point in time results are reflected as pulled and are presented as estimates.

Community Characteristics	
Population (2023)	105,760
Population (2020)	105,941
Total Households	40.348
Median Household Income	$64,913

[45] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/05000US19193-woodbury-county-ia/

Median Household Income – Iowa	$71,433

Healthcare Facilities

Woodbury County holds numerous healthcare facilities, clinics, and urgent care offices. There are a number of mental health services centers, eye doctors, dentists, orthodontists, surgery centers and more, geared to meet the needs of residents in the tri-state area. Some services are gradually consolidating, many with often changing management companies – especially nursing homes, rehab centers, and assisted living facilities.

The larger providers are listed below for reference. Several have branch offices/services and have more than one service location.

- Unity Point Health – St Luke's
- Siouxland Community Health Center
- Family Healthcare oof Siouxland
- June E Nylen Cancer Center
- Briar Cliff University Physical Therapy Clinic
- CNOS

Housing

Woodbury County's housing picture is best defined within its incorporated communities, with very little discernable information available for unincorporated entities. The county does have an active planning and zoning commission serving under the board of supervisors. In general terms, CensusReporter.org provides an estimate of 43,622 housing units with a 92% occupancy rate. Median home values show at $182,900 in comparison to the state at $213,300 and the national median value of $340,200. The national range has a significant impact on local markets, especially after significant relocation trends stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic. Seeking smaller communities with less density, many large urban residents overpaid for homes due to relative value of a similar home in their city of origin. This is consistent throughout the region.

Income & Economics

Industry for the Civilian Employed Population 16 and over		
Civilian employed population (16 and older)	51,663	-

Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	1,108	2.1%
Construction	4,4047	7.8%
Manufacturing	9,368	18.1%
Wholesale trade	1,787	3.5%
Retail trade	5,182	10%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	3,300	6.4%
Information	1,153	2.2%
Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing	2,836	5.5%
Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services	3,303	6.4%
Education services and health care and social assistance	10,732	20.8%
Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services	5,420	10.5%
Other services except public administration	2,528	4.9%
Public administration	899	1.7%

The budgeted projects outlined in the Capital Improvement Plan and the scheduled Equipment Replacement Plan play a significant role in mitigation efforts. These initiatives help ensure access, enhance security, and establish reliable infrastructure, all of which contribute to the county's ongoing resiliency through daily decision-making at the local level.

Valuation of County Assets

A valuation of county assets was not provided for this Plan update. To provide an accurate cost-benefit analysis prior to project implementation, the county will consider valuations of affected properties - both public and private, to validate project expense.

Participation

SIMPCO facilitated a mitigation planning meeting at the Security Institute, WITCC on January 13, 2025 with the following in attendance.

- Mike Montino, EMA Coordinator
- John Holmes, Assistant EMA Coordinator
- Dan Priestley, Zoning Coordinator
- Laura Sievers, Engineer (via phone conference)

Woodbury County residents comprised 78 of the 251 primary survey respondents, offering public input for consideration herein.

A final review was completed by Dan Priestley and Mike Montino acknowledging changes and formalizing participatory status on March 31, 2026.

Capabilities

Woodbury County participates in the NFIP program, CID #190536C. The County Zoning Director serves as Floodplain Administrator. As a county, its unincorporated areas have zero RL/SRL properties.

Plans/Guidance Documents	
• Comprehensive Plan (May 2025) • Builder's Plan • Capital Improvement Plan	• Local/County Emergency Plan • County Recovery Plan • Land Use Plan
Policies/Ordinance	
Building Code	Roof Load Capacity Ordinance
Debris Management Plan	Storm Water Ordinance
Drainage Ordinance	Subdivision Ordinance
Floodplain Ordinance	Tree Trimming Ordinance
Nuisance Ordinance	Zoning Ordinance
Programs	
Zoning/Land Use Restrictions	
Codes Building Site/Design	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190536C
Hazard Awareness Program	
Property Acquisition	
Programs	
Planning/Zoning Boards	
Tree Trimming Program	
Mutual Aid Agreements	28E agreement with all communities within Woodbury County
Staff/Department	*Comments*

• Building Code Official • Building Inspector • Mapping Specialist (GIS) • Engineer • Development Planner	• Emergency Management Coordinator • NFIP Floodplain Administrator • Emergency Response Team • Historic Preservation
Non-Governmental Organizations	*Comments*
American Red Cross	Sioux City
Salvation Army	Sioux City
Veterans Groups	in communities
Homeowner Associations	in some cities
Neighborhood Associations	in some cities
Chamber of Commerce	Sioux City
Community Organizations (Lions, Kiwanis, etc.)	in communities
County Funding Abilities & Authorities	
Ability to apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Impact fees for new development	
Incur debt through	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities
Withhold spending in hazard prone areas	

Review of Actions Taken

communication /education		
Assessment/Study	Woodbury Co	2020: Econ Dev - Work on measures necessary to reduce NFIP participant costs for communities. County Economic Dev, IDNR (County funds as needed) HIGH PRIORITY
		Project closed. Economic Development department consolidated into Zoning. Project deemed not immediately feasible, though county will reassess situation given an opening to such opportunity.
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Woodbury Co	2020: All communities: Standby generator on site for each Community Center/City Hall as may be designated for command center during a disastrous event) LOW PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Woodbury Co	**Update.** Some communities have added generators and/or transfer switches to accommodate mobile equipment. The county will continue to

		pursue opportunity to install dedicated generators where necessitated and transfer switches where still needed.
Generator & Related Projects	Woodbury Co	2020: A generator needed at Courthouse; *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Woodbury Co	**Update**. Carry over to 2026 plan.
Equipment	Woodbury Co	2020: Sandbagging equipment/HESCO bags; *County Engineer, potential collaboration with partner County* (County funds, IDOT program funds, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
Equipment	Woodbury Co	**Complete** (with ongoing inventory maintenance required). County acquired 10 pallets of HESCO bags in addition to two 2" pumps, a 6" pump. Bags and sandbagging equipment was issued to address current year flooding. Old stock was used first with remainder stored for future use. Bags hold an approximate 10-year useful life so no additional are needed at this time.
Equipment	Woodbury Co	2020: Additional trailer w/ 5 sets of road barricades. 3 trailered and ready to roll. 5 sets per trailer; *County Engineer,* (County funds, IDOT program funds, PDM) LOW PRIORITY
Equipment	Woodbury Co	**Project Closed**. County determined that while extra equipment would be beneficial, it is not a practical cost consideration in the near future with county funds, nor response funding as may become available.
Equipment	Woodbury Co	2020: Additional pumps - 12" & 18" capacity; *County Engineer* (County funds, IDNR program funds, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
Equipment	Woodbury Co	**Update**: Current practice is to borrow from established resources as needed (local farmer).
development		
Bridges & Roads	Woodbury Co	2020: Secondary Roads - about 30 bridge replacements necessary -- some immediate, *County Engineer, Contracted services* (County funds, IDOT Transportation funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Bridges & Roads	Woodbury Co	Specifics regarding completed and pending bridge projects were not provided, though the county continues to address its bridge repair backlog annually. Unless incorporated into a specific event-related recovery or prevention effort and amended, this item will not carry over to the 2026 HMP.
Bridges & Roads	Woodbury Co	2020: Secondary Roads - about 50 bridge needing rip rap, scour, overlay or other maintenance; *County Engineer, Contracted services* (County funds, IDOT Transportation funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Bridges & Roads	Woodbury Co	Specifics regarding completed and pending rip rap restoration/fortification projects were not provided. Replacement of rip rap is an annual maintenance item, with additional attention given post extreme weather event (flood, heavy rain, heavy snow, other incurred displacement). Unless incorporated into a specific event-related recovery or prevention effort and amended, this item will not carry over to the 2026 HMP.
Bridges & Roads	Woodbury Co	2020: Further incorporate mindful planning to accommodate overflow at some road points such as Old Hwy 141 and D38; *County Engineer, Contracted services* (County funds, IDOT Transportation funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Bridges & Roads	Woodbury Co	Update was not provided at the county's mitigation planning meeting.
flow control		

refuge		
technology		
Improve effectiveness	Woodbury Co	2020: EMA - Improve weather radio/communication receptors in southeast area of county; County EMA, County Board, State Communications (County funds, state program funds, PDM) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Improve effectiveness	Woodbury Co	**Implemented**. The county completed an upgrade of their communications systems, improving reception in problem areas. Funding source and cost were not provided.
natural barriers/ supports		

Risk Assessment

The county is undergoing the development of a continuity of government operations plan, anticipated for completion by 2026. Policy updates are integral to the plan. Woodbury County must take into account the actions, mitigative and otherwise, implemented in nearby communities and states. Substantial and unexpected flooding caused significant loss in several communities. Tributary flooding caused enactment of an antiquated water diversion plan on the South Dakota side of the river. A similarly unexpected levee breach in Smithland highlighted a gap in updated flood modeling. Otherwise protected areas are increasingly becoming exposed. This and other flooding events in 2024 emphasized the need for a feedback process within the county's scope of control – interdepartmental to start and interstate and regional in the long term. Process development includes continuous and practical review of procedures to gauge effectiveness and feasibility.

Demographic changes in the region dictate need for Woodbury County to assess capacity to communicate with visitors and occupants of county facilities in varying languages and modes. This factors into notifications of emergency situations, especially for new residents and the homeless population. Technology provides an opportunity for better in-time language translation. However, tech may not be the best answer for those living in tents along the river and other hazard-prone locations.

Risk stemming from natural disasters and other hazards are generalized by an accounting of records as reported in the NOAA Storm Event database[46]. A summary of events reported in

[46] Source: http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/

Woodbury County includes 189 events between 11/01/2019 and 12/31/2024 (1888 days). Total reported property damage estimate is $5,261,000 and crop damages are estimated at $48,262,000.

Summary	
Number of County/Zone areas affected:	2
Number of Days with Event:	133
Number of Days with Event and Death:	0
Number of Days with Event and Death or Injury:	0
Number of Days with Event and Property Damage:	8
Number of Days with Event and Crop Damage:	19
Number of Event Types reported:	18

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
WOODBURY (ZONE)	11/26/2019	14:30	Winter Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	11/28/2019	18:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	12/29/2019	9:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	1/17/2020	5:30	Blizzard		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	1/19/2020	4:00	Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	1/22/2020	0:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	2/12/2020	16:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	2/12/2020	22:00	Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	2/19/2020	1:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	3/19/2020	18:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	4/12/2020	8:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
LEEDS	5/24/2020	3:29	Thunderstorm Wind	52 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
BRONSON	6/21/2020	5:30	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
BRONSON	6/21/2020	5:30	Hail	0.88 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
LEEDS	7/14/2020	1:05	Lightning		0	0	25.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	7/28/2020	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	475.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	8/1/2020	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	617.00K
MOVILLE	8/10/2020	7:40	Thunderstorm Wind	50 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	4.00K
SIOUX CITY ARPT	8/10/2020	7:20	Thunderstorm Wind	50 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY ARPT	8/10/2020	7:24	Thunderstorm Wind	58 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

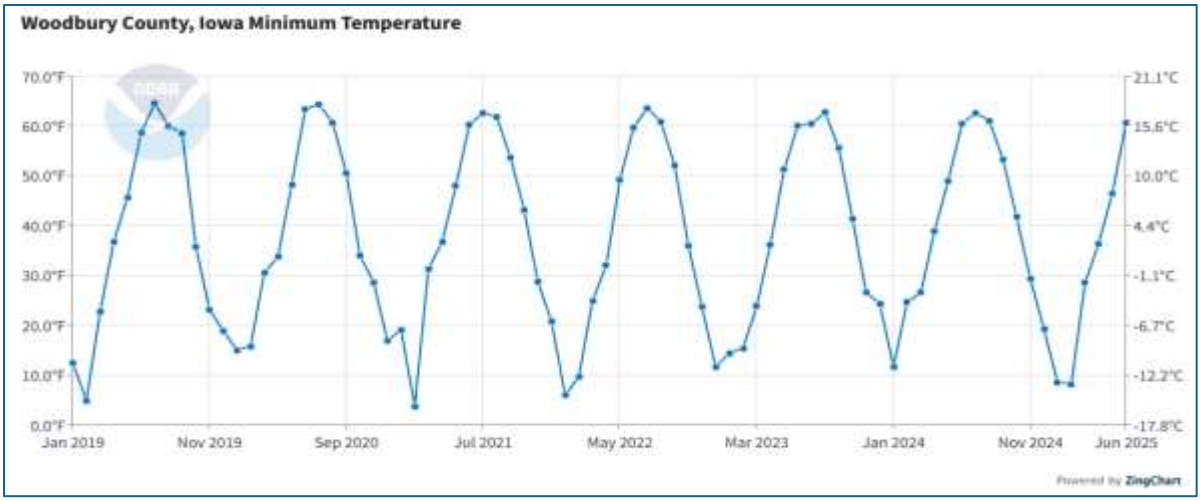
SPRINGDALE	8/10/2020	7:16	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	1.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	9/1/2020	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	10/6/2020	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	47.00K
LEEDS	10/11/2020	17:59	Thunderstorm Wind	54 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	10/11/2020	12:00	Wildfire		0	0	300.00K	20.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	10/25/2020	2:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	11/1/2020	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	107.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	11/9/2020	21:00	Ice Storm		0	0	6.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	12/1/2020	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	12/23/2020	10:00	Blizzard		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	12/29/2020	7:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	1/1/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	1/15/2021	3:00	Blizzard		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	1/23/2021	17:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	1/25/2021	11:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	2/1/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	2/4/2021	2:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	2/15/2021	0:00	Extreme Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	2/21/2021	5:00	Winter Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	3/1/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PIERSON	6/22/2021	17:46	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	8.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	7/27/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	583.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	8/1/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	336.00K
SIOUX CITY	8/5/2021	23:22	Thunderstorm Wind	52 kts. EG	0	0	2.00K	0.00K
PIERSON	8/20/2021	17:16	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	2.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	9/1/2021	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	76.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	12/10/2021	12:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
ANTHON	12/15/2021	16:34	Thunderstorm Wind	74 kts. EG	0	0	75.00K	0.00K
BRONSON	12/15/2021	16:23	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	25.00K	0.00K
BRONSON	12/15/2021	16:25	Tornado	EF2	0	0	500.00K	0.00K
DANBURY	12/15/2021	16:38	Thunderstorm Wind	64 kts. EG	0	0	10.00K	0.00K
HORNICK	12/15/2021	16:19	Thunderstorm Wind	65 kts. EG	0	0	25.00K	0.00K
LAWTON	12/15/2021	16:28	Thunderstorm Wind	70 kts. EG	0	0	25.00K	0.00K
LAWTON	12/15/2021	16:28	Thunderstorm Wind	69 kts. EG	0	0	25.00K	0.00K

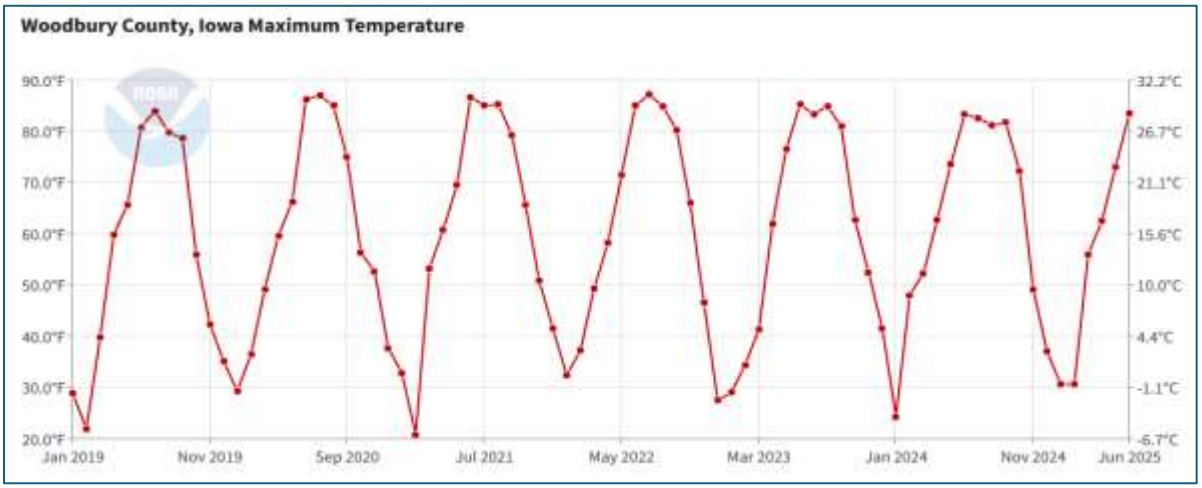
LAWTON	12/15/2021	16:31	Thunderstorm Wind	69 kts. EG	0	0	10.00K	0.00K
MOVILLE	12/15/2021	16:35	Tornado	EF1	0	0	200.00K	0.00K
SALIX	12/15/2021	16:15	Tornado	EFU	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SALIX	12/15/2021	16:20	Tornado	EF1	0	0	250.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	12/15/2021	16:21	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	12/15/2021	16:25	Thunderstorm Wind	65 kts. EG	0	0	10.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY ARPT	12/15/2021	16:23	Thunderstorm Wind	71 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	12/15/2021	20:20	High Wind	58 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	1/4/2022	18:20	High Wind	53 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	1/6/2022	5:00	Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	2/21/2022	17:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	2/22/2022	22:30	Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	3/15/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	3/25/2022	10:00	Strong Wind	46 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	4/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CORRECTIONVILLE	4/12/2022	16:15	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
HOLLY SPGS	4/12/2022	16:24	Hail	1.50 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
HOLLY SPGS	4/12/2022	16:27	Hail	1.50 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
HORNICK	4/12/2022	16:22	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	4/12/2022	19:20	High Wind	55 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	4/12/2022	19:25	High Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	4/23/2022	9:15	High Wind	59 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	5/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	937.00K
MOVILLE	5/12/2022	18:15	Thunderstorm Wind	50 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	29.00K
SERGEANT BLUFF	5/12/2022	18:01	Tornado	EFU	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	5/12/2022	15:54	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY ARPT	5/12/2022	18:09	Thunderstorm Wind	59 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	5/30/2022	13:41	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	6/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	500.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	7/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	5.020M
SIOUX CITY ARPT	7/5/2022	15:49	Thunderstorm Wind	51 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	80.00K
SIOUX CITY	7/7/2022	16:40	Flash Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	8/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	5.090M
WOODBURY (ZONE)	9/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	1.260M
WOODBURY (ZONE)	10/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K

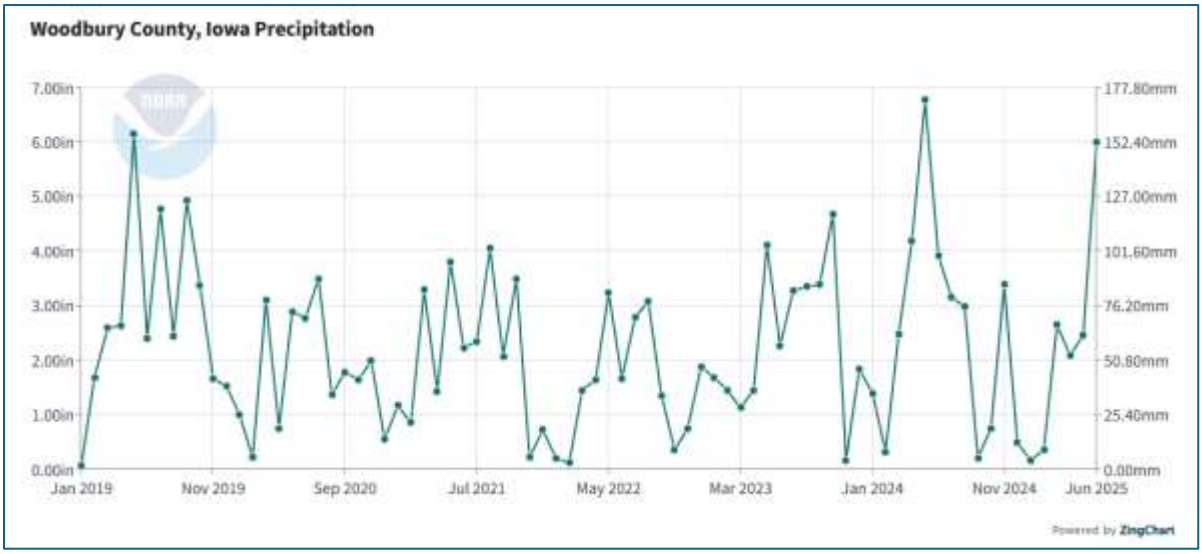
WOODBURY (ZONE)	11/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	11/29/2022	6:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	12/1/2022	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	12/8/2022	15:30	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	12/22/2022	1:00	Extreme Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	1/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	1/2/2023	18:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	1/18/2023	17:00	Winter Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	1/27/2023	22:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	2/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	2/15/2023	3:20	High Wind	50 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	2/22/2023	12:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	3/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	3/8/2023	16:30	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	3/22/2023	21:30	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	4/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	4/18/2023	22:16	High Wind	57 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	4/19/2023	19:14	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	4/30/2023	8:00	Strong Wind	48 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	5/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	5/10/2023	22:54	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
LEEDS	5/10/2023	22:53	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
LEEDS	5/10/2023	22:54	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SLOAN	5/12/2023	18:46	Thunderstorm Wind	52 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	6/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	7/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SERGEANT BLUFF	7/4/2023	16:56	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SERGEANT BLUFF	7/12/2023	4:28	Thunderstorm Wind	51 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	7/12/2023	4:20	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY ARPT	7/12/2023	4:26	Thunderstorm Wind	51 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SLOAN	7/12/2023	4:35	Thunderstorm Wind	52 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	7/25/2023	10:00	Excessive Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	8/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	8/19/2023	12:00	Excessive Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K

WOODBURY (ZONE)	8/21/2023	11:00	Excessive Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	9/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	9/2/2023	12:00	Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
MOVILLE	9/18/2023	23:50	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	9/23/2023	11:30	Hail	1.25 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	10/1/2023	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	33.070M
SERGEANT BLUFF	10/3/2023	19:29	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	10/3/2023	19:25	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	10/28/2023	10:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	12/9/2023	9:00	Strong Wind	39 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	12/25/2023	3:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	1/8/2024	3:00	Winter Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	1/10/2024	16:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	1/11/2024	15:00	Winter Storm		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	1/12/2024	15:00	Blizzard		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	1/12/2024	18:00	Extreme Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	1/18/2024	10:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	1/19/2024	22:00	Cold/wind Chill		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	2/27/2024	17:00	Winter Weather		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	4/2/2024	19:00	High Wind	50 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	4/6/2024	14:30	High Wind	50 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
LEEDS	4/16/2024	12:50	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
ANTHON	4/26/2024	11:06	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SERGEANT BLUFF	5/20/2024	21:42	Hail	1.25 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SERGEANT BLUFF	5/20/2024	21:42	Thunderstorm Wind	65 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY ARPT	5/20/2024	21:42	Thunderstorm Wind	63 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	5/21/2024	5:26	Thunderstorm Wind	52 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY ARPT	5/21/2024	5:19	Thunderstorm Wind	62 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
LEEDS	5/21/2024	5:24	Thunderstorm Wind	65 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SALIX	6/12/2024	17:25	Hail	1.50 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SALIX	6/12/2024	17:25	Hail	1.25 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SERGEANT BLUFF	6/12/2024	17:04	Hail	1.25 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SLOAN	6/12/2024	17:29	Hail	1.50 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SLOAN	6/12/2024	17:33	Hail	1.50 in.	0	0	0.00K	3.00K

SLOAN	6/12/2024	17:49	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SLOAN	6/12/2024	17:50	Hail	2.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CORRECTIONVILLE	6/15/2024	20:08	Thunderstorm Wind	70 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SLOAN	6/22/2024	22:00	Flood		0	0	4.130M	0.00K
PIERSON	6/23/2024	4:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
LEEDS	6/23/2024	3:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
LEEDS	6/23/2024	10:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	6/24/2024	19:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SERGEANT BLUFF	7/7/2024	16:50	Hail	1.25 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	7/13/2024	12:00	Excessive Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	7/28/2024	14:40	Flash Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
LEEDS	7/28/2024	15:00	Flash Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
LAWTON	7/29/2024	23:02	Thunderstorm Wind	51 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PIERSON	7/29/2024	23:06	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	7/29/2024	22:39	Thunderstorm Wind	52 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	7/29/2024	22:40	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	7/29/2024	22:46	Thunderstorm Wind	51 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY ARPT	7/29/2024	22:45	Thunderstorm Wind	60 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
LEEDS	7/29/2024	22:44	Thunderstorm Wind	62 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SMITHLAND	7/29/2024	23:08	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SPRINGDALE	7/29/2024	22:45	Thunderstorm Wind	65 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	7/31/2024	11:00	Excessive Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	8/2/2024	12:00	Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	8/5/2024	12:00	Excessive Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	8/25/2024	12:00	Excessive Heat		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	8/29/2024	15:30	Flash Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	10/8/2024	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	11/1/2024	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	11/20/2024	4:00	Strong Wind	43 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	12/1/2024	0:00	Drought		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	12/4/2024	12:00	Strong Wind	48 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
WOODBURY (ZONE)	12/19/2024	10:30	Strong Wind	47 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K


Woodbury County, Iowa Minimum Temperature
70.0°F
60.0°F
50.0°F
40.0°F
30.0°F
20.0°F
10.0°F
0.0°F
21.1°C
15.6°C
10.0°C
4.4°C
-1.1°C
-6.7°C
-12.2°C
-17.8°C
Jan 2019
Nov 2019
Sep 2020
Jul 2021
May 2022
Mar 2023
Jan 2024
Nov 2024
Jun 2025
Powered by ZingChart


Woodbury County, Iowa Maximum Temperature
90.0°F
80.0°F
70.0°F
60.0°F
50.0°F
40.0°F
30.0°F
20.0°F
32.2°C
26.7°C
21.1°C
15.6°C
10.0°C
4.4°C
-1.1°C
-6.7°C
Jan 2019
Nov 2019
Sep 2020
Jul 2021
May 2022
Mar 2023
Jan 2024
Nov 2024
Jun 2025


Woodbury County, Iowa Precipitation
7.00in
6.00in
5.00in
4.00in
3.00in
2.00in
1.00in
0.00in
177.80mm
152.40mm
127.00mm
101.60mm
76.20mm
50.80mm
25.40mm
0.00mm
Jan 2019
Nov 2019
Sep 2020
Jul 2021
May 2022
Mar 2023
Jan 2024
Nov 2024
Jun 2025
Powered by ZingChart

The vast list of weather events as recorded in NOAA does not include all incidents and effects of extreme weather in Woodbury County, but it does offer a base for consideration of what extreme events occur as well as frequency. The following charts depict Woodbury County's maximum temperature, minimum temperature, and precipitation by month from November 2019 through December 2024.

Priority Hazards

The county maintained the following as priority hazards.

- Flood – River and Flash
- Dam Failure/Levee Failure
- Tornado/Windstorm

From survey responses, Severe Winter Storms can be added for consideration. The highest frequency of *Very Concerned* was indicated for Flooding, both Flash (45/78) and Riverine (46/78), and Tornado / Windstorm (43/78). When asked to mark the top three priority hazards, Tornado / Windstorm (45/78), Flash Flooding (40/78) Severe Winter Storm (28/78). Dam and Levee Failure figured into many community conversations, however, other risks as indicated were given precedence.

Mitigation Actions, Strategies, & Projects

Woodbury County has planned several strategies incorporating mitigative activities into new and existing projects.

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Woodbury Co	**New.** Improve awareness of program availability. *County EMA, emergency response teams throughout county, State program officer(s)*. (State program funds where applicable; in-kind volunteer time) HIGH PRIORITY.
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Woodbury Co	**Carry over**. Standby generator on site for each Community Center/City Hall as may be designated for command center during a disastrous event. Coordination between *County EMA and participating city public works and/or utilities*. (Funding TBD pending location and affected population specifications.) LOW PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Woodbury Co	**Carry over**. Generator still needed. Plans in place to apply for generator through HMGP funding source. There are 2 small mobile generators available

		however, capacity is insufficient for extended period of need. A generator needed at Courthouse; *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds general budget, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Woodbury Co	**New**. 1 dedicated/fixed and 1 mobile generator needed for secondary roads to *County Board of Supervisors County EMA* (Local funds general budget, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Equipment	Woodbury Co	**Carry over**. Should funding be available, county will further consider addition of pumps to their inventory. Priority level is decreased in bringing project into current plan. *County Engineer* (County funds (general budget), IDNR program funds, BRIC/FMA) LOW PRIORITY
development		
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
Improve effectiveness	Woodbury Co	**New**. County is in the process of developing a Continuity of Operations Plan including alternate worksite locations for county offices in the event of displacement due to disaster, including reprioritization process for alternate work sites.
natural barriers/ supports		

The county has begun the process of assessing opportunity for nuclear energy generation. As the assessment proceeds, the county is actively incorporating mitigation considerations in seeking such development.

Jurisdictions

1. Anthon

a. Profile

The city of Anthon is situated in the center of the east half of Woodbury County. The City is located along State Highway 31, with the majority of the total area situated southeast of the highway. The Little Sioux River serves as the eastern border. Go to www.cityofanthon.com for more local details.

City Governance & Community Supports

Anthon is governed by a five (5)-person elected City Council and the Mayor. City Council meets the second Monday of each month at 5:30 PM. Offices in addition to Mayor and Council include City Clerk and Public Works. The Anthon Fire Department is independent of the city but does receive some funding from Anthon. The City contracts with the County for law enforcement and maintains a 28E agreement with Anthon Community Ambulance Service, Inc. for medical response services. This ambulance service is staffed by volunteers. The city of Anthon is a member of the NFIP program.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

In 2023, CensusReporter.gov[47] estimates Anthon's population at 531, reflecting an assumed decrease from 545 residents as reported in decennial census data from 2020. The city is home to 277 households and has a median household income of $52,500, which is below the median for Woodbury County. The community includes a notable number of residents who are age 65 or older, as well as individuals living with disabilities. Additionally, some residents live below the poverty line, indicating ongoing economic challenges for a portion of the population.

Community Characteristics	
Population (2023)	531
Population (2020)	545
Total Households	277
Median Household Income	$52,500

[47] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1902350-anthon-ia/

Median Household Income – Woodbury County	$64,913

Vulnerable Populations	*Count*	*Percent*	*Woodbury*	*Iowa*
5 years and younger	32	6.6%	7.3%	6.3%
65 years and older	123	25.2%	14.3%	16.0%
Below the poverty level	87	13.4%	14.0%	12.0%
Living with a disability	87	13.4%	12.4%	11.6%

Anthon has a total of 296 housing units, with 277 currently occupied and 19 vacant. The housing stock includes a small number of mobile homes. Most of the residential structures were built in 1969 or earlier, with a smaller portion constructed between 1970 and 1999, and only a few built after 2000. This suggests that much of the town's housing is older, reflecting a more established residential landscape.

Housing Characteristics	*Count*	*Percent*
Total Housing Units	296	-
Occupied	277	93.6%
Vacant	19	6.4%
Mobile Homes	5	1.7%
Age of Residential Structure		
Built 2000 or later	9	3.0%
Built 1970 – 1999	44	14.9%
Build 1969 or earlier	243	82.1%

More demographic and community data can be found on the U.S. Census webpage for Anthon.

Leading Employers

- Maple Valley-Anthon Oto Community Schools
- Fireside Steak and Lounge

Critical Facilities

City Hall	301 E Main St,
Substation	Hwy 31 South
(Community) Event Center	110 N 5th Ave
Stahl Park	510 State St
Sewer Plant/Lift Station	
House, Pump, & Well	506 W Main St
Warehouse/Office	200 W Main St
Pump House/Warehouse	504 W Main St
Town Hall	301 E Main St
Town Garage	510 W Main St
Water Treatment Plant	508 W Main St
Water Tower	501 W Bridge St
Well & Control Panel	601 E Bridge St
Honey House	506 State St
Hamann Memorial Library	311 E Main St
Sand Bunker	South End of Town @ Tree Dump
O'Neil Park	
Lee Schroeder Memorial Park	203 Westgate Rd
Forsling Park	

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

Anthon Fire-Rescue	4035 Fox Ave
US Post Office	109 N 2nd Ave
MVAO Elementary School	110 West Division
Anthon United Methodist Church	401 E Bridge St
St Joseph’s Church	400 E Randolph St
Trinity Lutheran Church	106 E Arnold St

Valuation of City Assets

Total Building	$	8,754,141	RC
Personal Property	$	30,3160	RC
Property in the Open	$	2,074473	RC
Total	**$**	**11,128,930**	

b. Participation

A mitigation planning meeting was facilitated by SIMPCO at Anthon City Hall on December 17, 2024 with Nikki Kelsheimer, City Clerk in attendance. Follow up information and additional data was provided by Amy Buck, Deputy Clerk via phone and email.

One survey respondent of 251 submissions indicated Anthon as jurisdiction of residence.

A final review of the city profile was completed by the city clerk and deputy clerk March 26, 2026 with agreement to updates and commitment to adopt the Plan upon FEMA approval.

c. Community Capabilities

Capabilities	
Comprehensive Plan (2020)	
Local Emergency Plan	
County Recovery Plan	
Policies/Ordinance	
• Building Code • Drainage Ordinance • Floodplain Ordinance • Nuisance Ordinance	• Storm Water Ordinance • Subdivision Ordinance • Tree Trimming Ordinance • Zoning Ordinance
Programs	
• Tree Trimming Program	• Zoning/Land Use Restrictions
Codes Building Site/Design	Refer to State's Code
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190286C
ISO Fire Rating	Anthon Class 8, eff 3/1/1995; Anthon FD, class 8/9, eff 3/1/95
Staff/Department	

Building Code Official	Mayor
Building Inspector	Mayor
Public Works Official	Public Works Superintendent
Emergency Manager	City Clerk @ city level
Emergency Response Team	Anthon Fire and Rescue
Non-Governmental Organizations	
Veterans Groups	McNiff Post 389
Community Organizations	Anthon Community Development Corporation
Local Funding Availability	
Ability to apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Ability to fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water, sewer, and electric services	
Ability to incur debt through	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities

Anthon's building code includes adoption by reference of the IPMC, 2015 Edition added 7/8/2019. The Floodplain Ordinance was updated 6/10/2024 including FIRM Planel 19193C0313E. The city participates in the NFIP program with the Deputy Clerk serving as Floodplain Administrator. Anthon has zero RL/SRL properties. Anthon adopted their Floodplain Ordinance using the approved FIRM Panel number 19193C0313E dated 07-17-2024.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

communication /education		
tools/equipment		
development		
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		
Stabilization	Anthon	2020: Riverbank stabilization @ access point; City administration (City funds, Disaster funds, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
		Update. Stabilization was implemented, however, the city would like a more permanent solution to reduce continuous rip rap replacement. Project will carry into 2026 HMP.

Additional actions taken to introduce mitigation measures include:

- The city has designated the Event Center as refuge/shelter location in the event of an emergency.
- For waterway emergencies, the city has access to the fire department's boat.
- The city completed upgrades to the water plant in recent years
- Utility service transition to underground electrical lines is in progress.
- The city actively promotes Alert Iowa to residents using community messaging network of signage, city website, and social media.

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

Floodplain wraps around the east side of Anthon, covering a good portion of the city's southeast quadrant. Most affected land is designated for agriculture use. Only two events are reported showing Anthon in the NOAA Storm Event database between 11/01/2019 and 12/31/2024.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
ANTHON	12/15/2021	16:34	Thunderstorm Wind	74 kts. EG	0	0	75.00K	0.00K
ANTHON	4/26/2024	11:06	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Though not included in the NOAA system, Anthon has experienced local flooding resulting in the need to relocate their lift station to higher ground.

Priority Hazards

- Flood – Flash and River
- Thunderstorm w/Hail & Lightning
- Tornado/Windstorm

The city's determination of priority hazards is consistent with the record of events and the single survey as submitted for Anthon. Extreme heat is also indicated as a priority concern.

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

I addition to the mitigation-specific stabilization project for Anthon described below, the city is also seeking to improve inner-community communications. Their current texting service is expensive and inadequate for anticipated uses.

communication /education		
Promo/Info	Anthon	**New**. PSAs - Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to Alert Iowa, Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; water conservation (drought considerations); Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. *City Clerk, County EMA* (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
development		
Relocate critical facilities	Anthon	**New**. City is planning to relocate lift station to higher ground. Recent flooding impaired function and effectiveness. *Public Works* (Local general budget, bonds if needed, PDM grant as may be available) HIGH PRIORITY
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		
Stabilization	Anthon	**Carry over**. Riverbank stabilization @ access point. Routine efforts are made using rip rap. City is seeking long-term solutions to reduce recurring maintenance. City administration (City – General funds, Disaster funds, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY

2. Bronson

a. Profile

The city of Bronson is centrally located in the western half of Woodbury County. County Highways K42 and D38 intersect in Bronson. Elliot Creek runs through the southeast corner of city limits, and Elliot Creek and Deer Creek converge just east of the City.

City Governance & Community Supports

Bronson is governed by a five (5)-person elected City Council and the Mayor. Council meets the third Wednesday each month at 6:00 PM. Offices in addition to Mayor and Council include City Clerk. Fire and rescue services are provided by the Bronson Fire Station, which is staffed by volunteers. The City contracts with the County for police protection services.

Bronson is a member of the NFIP program. The Municipal Code of Ordinances and the Comprehensive Plan are both in the process of being updated. The Municipal Code of Ordinances were updated in 2019.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

CensusReporter.org estimates Bronson's population reached 302 in 2023[48], showing a modest increase from 294 residents in 2020. The community includes 116 households and reports a median household income of $83,500, notably higher than the median for Woodbury County. While a small portion of the population lives below the poverty line or lives with a disability, Bronson appears to be a relatively affluent and stable community. The age distribution includes a mix of young children and older adults, reflecting a balanced demographic.

Community Characteristics	
Population (2023)	302
Population (2020)	294
Total Households	116
Median Household Income	$83,500
Median Household Income – Woodbury County	$51,350

Vulnerable Populations	*Count*	*Percent*	*Woodbury*	*Iowa*
5 years and younger	19	6.3%	7.3%	6.3%
65 years and older	33	10.9%	14.3%	16.0%
Below the poverty level	12	3.6%	14.0%	12.0%
Living with a disability	19	6.3%	12.4%	11.6%

[48] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1908650-bronson-ia/

Bronson has a total of 118 housing units, with nearly all of them occupied, indicating a high demand for housing and a stable residential base. The community does not include any mobile homes, and most homes were built before 1970, giving the town a more established and historic character. A significant portion of the housing stock was also constructed between 1970 and 1999, while a smaller number of newer homes have been added since 2000. This mix of housing ages suggests a blend of long-standing residences alongside some newer development.

Housing Characteristics	Count	Percent
Total Housing Units	118	-
Occupied	116	98%
Vacant	2	2%
Mobile Homes	0	0%
Age of Residential Structure		
Built 2000 or later	9	8.1%
Built 1970 – 1999	43	38.7%
Build 1969 or earlier	59	53.2%

Leading Employers

City of Bronson City Hall
Randy's Auto
Lawton-Bronson Community School District
Bronson Bar

As with the majority of communities within this plan, Bronson's businesses play an integral role in community improvement efforts, sustainability, and development. As such, they were represented by Council and City Staff as stakeholders in this Plan.

Critical Facilities

City Hall/Community Center	100 1st St E
City Maintenance Shed	90 Pine St
Water Tower	214 3rd St

Lift Stations & Related	524 E Front St
	Front St (West End)
Parker-Smith Athletic Complex	100 Walnut
Well House	213 3rd St
Lagoon	
Bronson Ambulance	
Bronson Ball Park	100-198 Maple Street,

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

City of Bronson City Hall
Randy's Auto
Bronson Bar
Lawton-Bronson Community School District

Valuation of City Assets

For the purpose of cost-benefit considerations, a valuation of the City's assets was compiled based on its insured properties, personal property, and facilities. The value as provided does not include private properties, equipment, or non-city funded investments that may contribute to project determinations. Separately catalogued assets and equipment may not be represented in this value.

Total Blanket TIV	$	2,325,948
Building	$	2,253,084
Personal Property	$	91,740
Misc Property Sched	$	101,640
Misc Property Unsched	$	32,340
APD TIV	**$**	**149,215**
Total TIV	**$**	**2,478,804**

b. Participation

A planning meeting facilitated by SIMPCO was held via phone conference on December 11, 2024 with the following in attendance.

- Lindy Jessen, City Clerk
- Jason Garnand, Mayor
- Dave West, Councilman

A final review of the Plan including revisions and updates was conducted by the City Clerk and Mayor on February 26, 2026. Upon review, the city commits to adopting the Plan once approved by FEMA.

c. Community Capabilities

Plans/Guidance Documents	
Comprehensive Plan (2020)	
Policies/Ordinance	
• Building Code • Floodplain Ordinance • Nuisance Ordinance	• Subdivision Ordinance • Zoning Ordinance
Programs	
Zoning/Land Use Restrictions	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190287
Floodplain management program (updated 2023)	
Response	
ISO Fire Rating	Bronson class 9; Bronson FD, class 9/10
Staff/Department	
Public Works Official	
NFIP Floodplain Administrator	role filled by City Clerk
Local Funding Availability	
Ability to apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water, sewer services	
Ability to incur debt through:	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities
Ability to withhold spending in hazard prone areas	

Bronson's Floodplain Ordinance #2-2024 was adopted on March 10, 2020.The city participates in the NFIP program with the City Clerk serving as Floodplain Administrator. Bronson has zero RL/SRL properties. Additional locally developed and available supports in the preceding table are supplemented by resources available through county, region, and state programs.

Among efforts to improve its capacity for resilience, the city is in the process of updating its tree ordinance to include pre-disaster designation of a scrap site for tree-related debris. The city also added a generator at the city water pump. The installation of a second warning siren has reduced some concern about tornado activity as audible warnings cover the whole community into the immediate surrounding area.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

communication/education		
Warning Sirens	Bronson	2020: Considering warning siren replacement; Recent repairs were necessary on current siren; *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) LOW PRIORITY
Warning Sirens	Bronson	**Implemented**. The warning siren was replaced in June 2022, at the cost just over $19,000.
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Bronson	2020: Generator for Community Center/City Hall and critical facilities; *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Bronson	**Update**. Due to lack of funding, the project was not implemented. Carry project into 2026 plan.
Equipment	Bronson	**Implemented**. City purchased Stair Chair (lift) for ambulance to facilitate building exit for persons otherwise requiring use of a mobility device (such as a wheelchair or walker) in the event of an emergency and/or evacuation when stairs are involved. Cost: $990. Local funds.
development		
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		
Retention Pond	Bronson	2020: Consideration to addition of Retention Pond to mitigate flooding; improve effectiveness of natural space in mitigation; *City administration, IDNR, Collaboration with County EMA, Contracted engineer services* (Local funds, Community Benefit funds, IDNR Program funds, PDM) LOW PRIORITY
Retention Pond	Bronson	**Update**: Action has not been taken due to other priorities, however project remains a concern for the city and will continue through the 2026 HMP planning period.

In addition to the activities noted in response to the 2020 HMP, Bronson Fire Department added a new pump truck.

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

Bronson has floodplain designation for nearly half of its incorporated boundaries. Most property to the south of Front Street is agricultural; however, some developed properties are impacted.

Reports to the NOAA Storm Event database[49] from 11/01/2019 through 12/31/2024 includes the following events.

Location	Date	Time	Type	Mag	Dth	Inj	PrD	CrD
BRONSON	6/21/2020	5:30	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
BRONSON	6/21/2020	5:30	Hail	0.88 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
BRONSON	12/15/2021	16:23	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	25.00K	0.00K
BRONSON	12/15/2021	16:25	Tornado	EF2	0	0	500.00K	0.00K

Priority Hazards

- Flood
- Grass or Wildland Fire (and its potential effects on local business and residential structures)
- Severe Winter Storms (roadway clearing)

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Bronson	**New**. PSAs - Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to Alert Iowa, Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; water conservation (drought considerations); Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety.

[49] Source: https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/

		These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. *City Clerk, County EMA* (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Bronson	**Carry over**. The City is still seeking funding supports and will carry project into 2026 Plan with modified priority level. City has designated Community Center as refuge site/command center in the event of an emergency. A dedicated generator would facilitate that use. *City Council, County EMA* (Local general budget funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY
development		
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		
Retention Pond	Bronson	**Carry over**. Assess opportunity to implement retention pond to mitigate flooding through natural methods. *County EMA, Contracted engineer services* (Local general budget funds, Community Benefit funds, IDNR Program funds, pre-disaster funds as may be available) LOW PRIORITY

3. Correctionville

a. Profile

The city of Correctionville is located in the northeastern portion of Woodbury County, near the county border. Most of the City is located south of and adjacent to U.S. Highway 20, with a small portion situated north of the highway. IA-31 intersects the city as Driftwood Street, connecting the city to Washta to the north and Anthon to the southwest.

Meandering to the north and west is the Little Sioux River. Bacon Creek is located south of the City. The Sioux Bend Wildlife Area is just west of Correctionville and shares a border with the west bank of the Little Sioux River. South of that is Copland Park, a significant green space. More information can be found at the City of Correctionville website[50].

City Governance & Community Supports

Correctionville is governed by a five-person City Council and the Mayor. In addition to these offices, the city is also supported by City Hall (City Clerk) Board of Adjustment, Zoning Commission, and two maintenance personnel. Council meetings are held at City Hall, 7:00 PM

[50] Source: https://correctionville.govoffice2.com/

on the second Monday of every month. Correctionville is also served by two municipal boards, which are the Zoning Commission and the Board of Adjustments. The City contracts with the county for law enforcement services. Fire and rescue services are provided by the Correctionville Fire Department, which is staffed by volunteers. The response team consists of an average of 18 firefighters, with 6 at FF1 status (+4 in training), 1 at FF2 status (+2 in training), and 4 EMTs. Numbers fluctuate with changes in volunteer availability.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

In 2023, CensusReporter.gov estimated Correctionville's population[51] at 746, showing a slight decline from 766 residents in 2020. The community includes 293 households, with a median household income of $51,125—just below the county median. While the town supports a diverse range of residents, it has a significant number of individuals over 65 and several residents living with disabilities. Additionally, a portion of the population lives below the poverty line, reflecting some economic challenges despite an otherwise modest income level.

Community Characteristics	
Population (2023)	746
Population (2020)	766
Total Households	293
Median Household Income	$51,125
Median Household Income – Woodbury County	$51,350

Vulnerable Populations	*Count*	*Percent*	*Woodbury*	*Iowa*
5 years and younger	65	8.5%	7.3%	6.3%
65 years and older	185	24.1%	14.3%	16.0%
Below the poverty level	112	14.8%	14.0%	12.0%
Living with a disability	108	14.7%	12.4%	11.6%

Correctionville contains 336 total housing units, with 299 of those currently occupied and 37 remaining vacant. The housing stock features a mix of structures, with a notable portion built before 1969. A smaller number of homes were constructed between 1970 and 1999, and some

[51] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1916545-correctionville-ia/

more recent development has taken place since 2000. Mobile homes are also present in the community, contributing to the variety of housing options available.

Housing Characteristics	*Count*	*Percent*
Total Housing Units	336	-
Occupied	299	89%
Vacant	37	11%
Mobile Homes	134	4%
Age of Residential Structure		
Built 2000 or later	40	9.6
Built 1970 – 1999	95	22.9
Build 1969 or earlier	280	67.5

More demographic and community data can be found on the US Census Bureau webpage for Correctionville.

Leading Employers

City of Correctionville
River Valley Community School District
Correctionville Nursing & Rehabilitation
Valley Lodge Assisted Living
Nursing Home
Western Iowa Cooperative
Dixon Construction Co
Mathers Construction Co
VT Industries (Holstein)

Critical Facilities

City Hall/Community Bldg	312 Driftwood
Firehouse/Ambulance	315 Cedar
Garage/Storage	
Warehouse	701 5th St
Tennis Court	824 Hackberry

Library	532 Driftwood
City Maintenance	705 5th St
Water Tower	
Water Treatment Plant	
Pump House	
Pool Facility & Related	815 8th St
Pump House	
Emergency Well	416 7th St
Generator Bldg/Lift Station	4138 160th St
American Legion Bldg	119 Driftwood
Military Displays	
Copeland Park	4173 S Hwy 31
Storm Siren	522 Driftwood
Van Houten-Southwell Roadside Park	4138 160 St

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

River Valley High School
Correctionville Nursing & Rehabilitation
Valley Lodge Assisted Living
MercyOne Correctionville Family Medicine
Los Amigos
GAR Hall / Vet Center
Church of Christ
Grace Lutheran Church
Grace United Methodist Church

Valuation of City Assets

Total Blanket TIV	$	6,714,061
Building	$	6,158,635
Personal Property	$	679,964
Misc Property Sched	$	363,248
Misc Property Unsched	$	176,256

Total TIV	**$**	**7,378,102**
APD TIV	**$**	**1,843,944**
Grand Total TIV	**$**	**9,222,046**

Both public and private properties directly affected by a given project will be considered in appropriate context. A Water Systems Improvements project, for example, is in the planning stages and includes replacement of the water tower, well, and water mains – all of which were impacted in the 2019 and 2024 flood events. Generators and/or connections for generator hookups where applicable will be included in final project plans.

b. Participation

SIMPCO facilitated a mitigation planning meeting Correctionville City Hall December 23, 2024 with the following in attendance.

- April Putzier, City Clerk
- Amanda Curtin, Deputy Clerk
- Pat Langschwager, Roads/Sewer (City Maintenance)

Three surveys of the 78 submitted for Woodbury County indicated residence in Correctionville.

A final review of Correctionville's profile was completed by April Putzier City Clerk, and Mayor Kenneth Bauer on March 24, 2026. In completing the review, the city has agreed to changes to the plan based on feedback from the state and FEMA and agrees to adopt the plan upon FEMA approval.

c. Community Capabilities

Capabilities
Comprehensive Plan
Local Emergency Plan
Watershed Plan
Firewise or other fire mitigation plan
Policies/Ordinance

• Floodplain Ordinance • Nuisance Ordinance • Subdivision Ordinance • Provision for Historic Preservation	• Tree Trimming Ordinance • Zoning Ordinance (2023 – new map) • Provision for Drainage
Programs	
Zoning/Land Use Restrictions	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	Yes, CID #190288C
ISO Fire Rating (not updated)	Class 8/9
Property Acquisition	as needed
Planning/Zoning Boards	
Tree Trimming Program	
Staff/Department	
Public Works Official	
Emergency Management Coordinator	City Clerk is the emergency manager for the city
Emergency Response Team	Fire and Rescue
Historic Preservation	
Non-Governmental Organizations	
• Chamber of Commerce • Community Betterment Club	• Veterans Groups •
Local Funding Availability	
Ability to apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Ability to fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water, sewer services	
TIF Districts (implemented in 2018 and 2024)	
Ability to incur debt through	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities

The city participates in the NFIP program with the Mayor serving as Floodplain Administrator. Floodplain Ordinance #746-2024 was adopted April 8, 2024. As of October 2025, Correctionville has one RL/SRL property.

Community	Most Recent Date of Loss	# RL Properties	# of Losses	Net Building Payment	Net Contents Payment	Total Net Payment
CORRECTIONVILLE	6/20/1983	1	2	$ 5,942.69	$ 4,385.10	$ 10,327.79

A Municipal Code of Ordinances update is in progress. Removal of dead/diseased trees is ongoing with priority given to visibly distressed trees. The IPMC was adopted by reference with exceptions on 6/12/2023, substantiating building codes and maintenance requirements.

The Watershed plan is under review with implementation planned to include mitigation projects as identified in the Mitigation Needs, Actions, and Strategies table at the end of this profile.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

communication/education		
tools/equipment		
Equipment	Correctionville	2020: ATV with water tank capacity - remote access for fire response and other uses as applicable; *City Council, Fire Chief* (City funds, Fire Department funds, Fire Association funds, fundraisers, Community Benefit funds, Federal funds for response programs) HIGH PRIORITY
Equipment	Correctionville	Complete. $55,000 project complete 2022 – funded through grant (USDA).
development		
flow control		
Drainage projects	Correctionville	2020: Implement drainage projects as identified; *City Administrator/Streets/Public Works* (Local funds, IDNR project funds, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
Drainage projects	Correctionville	**Update**: Driftwood Street ditches completed. Additional areas in need of attention.
refuge		
Shelter	Correctionville	2020: Considering means of enabling refuge when community center and city hall are not open. Assess feasible options in accessing when otherwise closed, or alternate location available 24 hrs. *City administration, Local services, agencies, businesses* (Local funds – additional supports unknown until solution has been identified) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Shelter	Correctionville	Implemented. Community Center remains unlocked during anticipated extreme weather events, particularly in winter. The school was designated as command center, recovery center, and temporary residence for displaced families during the 2024 flood events.
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

A review of reports in the NOAA Storm Event database from 11/01/2019 through 12/31/2024 provided only two records specific to Correctionville. However, local records provide a different picture. It is important to note that the NOAA database is contributor-sourced and is therefore somewhat limited. Those experiencing extreme effects of natural disasters, such as the severe flooding that occurred 6/24/2024, rarely have the afterthought of updating such reports. The following table underrepresents both property and crop losses due to that specific flood event.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
CORRECTIONVILLE	4/12/2022	16:15	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
CORRECTIONVILLE	6/15/2024	20:08	Thunderstorm Wind	70 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Correctionville is substantially affected by flooding potential, surrounded on the north, west and south by floodplain. While still in the preliminary stages, the Iowa Flood Center map shows a significant area on the city's west and south sides in the floodway. Such designation is restrictive to community growth and recovery opportunities within that zone. The north end of town is protected from riverine flooding by a hill that serves as a natural berm. However, the Little Sioux River continues through lower-level land areas, as does Bacon Creek, enabling accumulated collection of flood waters in both river flooding and flash flood events. Property acquisition is under consideration by the city as means of mitigating future loss and damages. If pursued, acquired property in part will be designated and maintained as a wetlands conservation area, and will likely evolve into an education site.

As flood and other natural events continue to intensify in frequency and severity, the city uses existing resources to further awareness for such events. The city provides education to residents on disaster preparedness through promotion of the Alert Iowa system, sharing information on Facebook, and having info cards available at City Hall.

Source: Facebook, 2025 06-10

The City of Correctionville does have repetitive loss properties recorded in the FEMA NFIP flood database.

County	Woodbury County
Community	Correctionville
Most Recent Date of Loss	6/20/1983
# of Repetitive Loss Properties	1
Number of Losses	2
Net Building Payment	$5,942.69
Net Contents Payment	$4,385.10
Total Net Payment	$10,327.79

Priority Hazards

The city maintained the priority hazard designations as indicated in the 2020 plan as follows.

- Flood
- Tornado/Windstorm
- Grass and Wildland Fire

Survey respondents indicated Flooding – both Flash and Riverine at the highest frequency under "Very Concerned". When asked to choose top hazards, Drought and Flood topped the list.

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

communication /education		
Promo/Info	Correctionville	**New**. PSAs - Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to Alert Iowa, Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; water conservation (drought considerations); Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. *City Clerk, County EMA* (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
development		
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Correctionville	**New**. City is in the planning stages of replacing its critical water systems infrastructure. The well, water tower, and water mains are all in need of replacing. Generators/transfer switches anticipated as part of planned projects where applicable. Public works, contracted services, IDNR, USDA (Disaster Recovery funds, CDBG, USDA, local general budget funds, SRF for design) HIGH PRIORITY
flow control		
Drainage Projects	Correctionville	**Carry over**. Continue implementation of drainage projects. Additional areas need attention. Project will be recurring with opportunity to instill better long term controls should such process be made known. Implement drainage projects as identified. Citywide culvert and ditch maintenance improvements including but not limited to bigger culverts, dredging ditches, add drainways where appropriate. *City Maintenance* (Local operations and road use funds, IDNR project funds, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
refuge		
Shelter	Correctionville / River Valley School District	**New**. Formalize shelter/refuge/command center designation(s) and declaration process specific to hazard type and need. *City Maintenance, River Valley School District, County EMA*. (No funding needs anticipated) HIGH PRIORITY
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

4. Cushing

a. Profile

The city of Cushing is located near the eastern border of Woodbury County, occupying about .3 square miles. The city is south of US Highway 20 and bisected by 160th Street. Several small creeks and streams travel through city boundaries including Bacon Creek to the north.

City Governance & Community Supports

Cushing is governed by a five (5)-person elected City Council and a Mayor. City Council meets the first Tuesday of every month. Offices in addition to the Mayor and Council includes the City Clerk and Maintenance. The Cushing Fire Department is staffed by volunteers and provides emergency response services. The City contracts with the county for law enforcement services.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

For 2023, CensusReporter.org estimates Cushing's population[52] at 223, reflecting a slight decrease from 230 residents in 2020. The community includes 75 households and reports a median household income of $70,139, which is notably higher than the county median. Despite this relatively strong income level, some residents face challenges, including those living with disabilities or below the poverty line. Additionally, the town is home to both young children and older adults, highlighting a diverse age range among its population.

Community Characteristics	
Population (2023)	223
Population (2020)	230
Total Households	75
Median Household Income	$70,139
Median Household Income – Woodbury County	$51,350

Vulnerable Populations	*Count*	*Percent*	*Woodbury*	*Iowa*
5 years and younger	18	8.5%	7.3%	6.3%
65 years and older	32	15%	14.3%	16.0%

[52] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1917940-cushing-ia/

Below the poverty level	49	22.1%	14.0%	12.0%
Living with a disability	21	9.9%	12.4%	11.6%

Cushing has a total of 77 housing units, the majority of which are occupied, with only a small number of vacancies. The housing stock is primarily composed of older homes, with most residential structures built before 1970. A smaller number of homes were constructed between 1970 and 1999, and only a few have been built since 2000. The community does not have any mobile homes, reflecting a housing landscape made up entirely of traditional residential structures.

Housing Characteristics	*Count*	*Percent*
Total Housing Units	77	-
Occupied	75	97%
Vacant	2	3%
Mobile Homes	0	0%
Age of Residential Structure		
Built 2000 or later	4	3.9%
Built 1970 – 1999	36	35.0%
Build 1969 or earlier	63	61.2%

Leading Employers

Wiese Construction
Anfinson Farm Store
United Bank of Iowa
Shever Family Trans, Inc.
Squatch Construction
Old 20 Bar

Critical Facilities

City Hall	200 Main St,
Fire Department	201 Main St
City Maintenance Shop	203 Main St
Water Tower	302 Hill St

Pump House/Pump	1st St
Pump House	90 Valley St
	101 Valley St
Library	202 Main St
Storage Shed	204½ Main St
City Park	

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

Fire Station / Community Center	
Legion Hall	
St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church	206 School Street
Cushing Methodist Church	506 2nd Street
Old 20 Bar	310 3rd Street

Valuation of City Assets

Total Building	$	375,112	ACV
	$	2,428,154	RC
Total Personal Property	$	7,492	ACV
	$	231,969	RC
Total Property in the Open	$	1,171,720	RC
Combined Total	**$**	**4,214,447**	

b. Participation

A mitigation planning meeting was facilitated by SIMPCO on January 7, 2025 at Cushing Town Hall. The following city representatives were in attendance.

Jesse VanHouten, Mayor
Nicole Huisinga, City Clerk
Shawn M Joy, Councilmember
Brennan Hoaglund, Councilmember
Keith Jackson, Councilmember
Mary Tyler, Councilmember

Cushing residents accounted for five of Woodbury County's 78 surveys as submitted for public input. Responses are included in section summaries where applicable.

A final review of plan contents including updates was completed by the City Clerk with input provided by Mayor Jesse VanHouten, City Maintenance Earl Ellsworth, and the following Councilmembers: Brennan Hoaglund, Bill O'Connell, Shawn Joy, Keith Jackson, and Dustin Schlenger. Upon review, the city has acknowledged updates and confirmed their commitment to adopt the Plan as approved by FEMA.

c. Community Capabilities

Plans/Guidance Documents	
• Comprehensive Plan	• Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Plan
Policies/Ordinance Updated 2023	
• Building Code • Drainage Ordinance • Floodplain Ordinance • Landscape Ordinance	• Nuisance Ordinance • Storm Water Ordinance • Tree Trimming Ordinance
Programs	
Codes Building Site/Design	*Included in Code of Ordinances Residential Dwelling Standards*
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID# 190289C
ISO Fire Rating	Cushing class 8, Cushing FD class 9/9
Staff/Department	
Public Works Official	
Emergency Management Coordinator	City Clerk is the emergency manager for the city
NFIP Floodplain Administrator	Authority of the Mayor or Fire Chief
Emergency Response Team	Cushing Fire and Rescue
Law enforcement contracted through County	
Non-Governmental Organizations	
Veterans Groups	F Roger Baumann Legion and Auxiliary
Community Organizations	• Betterment Club • Business Club • Old 20 Community Development Corp
Local Funding Availability	
Ability to apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Ability to fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	

Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water and sewer services	
Impact fees for new development by way of sewer and water connection fees for new homes	
Ability to incur debt through	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities

Building Codes were implemented in the city's ordinances in 1996. Cushing's floodplain ordinance #22-2024 was adopted March 5, 2024. The city participates in the NFIP program with the City Clerk serving as Floodplain Administrator. Cushing has zero RL/SRL properties.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

communication/education		
tools/equipment		
development		
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Cushing	2020: Extensive repairs on City Hall/Community Building necessary due to cumulative damages from wind, heavy snow, heavy rain, and fluctuating weather conditions. *City Council*, *City Maintenance* (City funds, Community Catalyst Building Remediation funds, Facility Improvements funds, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Cushing	**Completed**. $20- to $30,000 has been invested in City hall improvements. Over $1M have been invested in water systems improvements including a lift station and water distribution system improvements. Funding included $350,000+ DNR grant, IFA funds, $890,00 loan, and $150,000+ in imminent threat funds (water mains).
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

Tree removals are in progress with 9 complete and 13 remaining in the park. Approximately 10 in parking and rights of way not yet addressed. A replacement plan is not in place, however the city is in communications with the state arborist.

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

Geographically, Cushing sits with its north and west borders adjacent to floodplain, along with much of its east border. Old Hwy 20 is particularly prone to flash flooding in heavy rain.

A review of the NOAA Storm Event database provided zero reports directly associated with Cushing between 11/01/2019 and 12/31/2024, however, residents likely experienced the effects of the 104 Woodbury (Zone) events. It is important to note that NOAA is a user-fed data base where individuals submit reports of local weather events. It is possible that no current residents are contributors.

Priority Hazards

- Infrastructure Failure (facilities and streets repair needs)
- Tornado / Windstorm
- Severe Winter Storm

Tornado/Windstorm figured in at the highest frequency of Very Concerned. When asked to indicate the respondents' top three hazards, Infrastructure Failure and Drought followed Tornado/Windstorm.

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Cushing	**New**. City is committing to incorporating public awareness for disaster preparedness through promotion of Alert Iowa system and other available resources through Woodbury Co EMA. *City Clerk, Council, County EMA* (no funding needs anticipated). HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
development		
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

5. Danbury

a. Profile

The city of Danbury is located in the southeastern corner of Woodbury County. State Highway 175 runs diagonally through the southeastern portion of the city. Maple River is located south and east of city limits, and several smaller streams are present to the north and west. More information can be found on the Danbury website.

City Governance & Community Supports

Danbury is governed by an elected five (5)-person City Council and a Mayor. Offices include City Clerk/Treasurer and City Maintenance. The City contracts with the County for law enforcement. Danbury has a volunteer fire department, which is supported by surrounding communities. Danbury contracts with Danbury Ambulance Service for emergency response.

Portions of Danbury are located within the floodplain (Zone A); however, the city is not a member of the NFIP program.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

CensusReporter.org estimates Danbury's 2023 population[53] at 311, reflecting a slight decrease from 320 in 2020. The town is home to 172 households, with a median household income of $64,028, which is well above the county average of $51,350. Despite this relatively strong economic position, a portion of the population lives below the poverty line. The community also includes a significant number of seniors, and many residents are living with a disability. Overall, while Danbury boasts a solid economic foundation, there are still challenges, particularly among its older residents.

Community Characteristics	
Population (2023)	311
Population (2020)	320
Total Households	172
Median Household Income	$64,028

[53] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1918390-danbury-ia/

Median Household Income – Woodbury County	$51,350

Vulnerable Populations	*Count*	*Percent*	*Woodbury*	*Iowa*
5 years and younger	19	6.5%	7.3%	6.3%
65 years and older	74	25.4%	14.3%	16.0%
Below the poverty level	34	11.3%	14.0%	12.0%
Living with a disability	49	16.8%	12.4%	11.6%

Danbury has a total of 162 housing units, with the majority being occupied and a smaller portion vacant. Most of the homes were built prior to 1970, with a significant number also constructed between 1970 and 1999. A small number of homes were built after the year 2000. The town does not currently have any mobile homes, reflecting a predominantly traditional housing structure.

Housing Characteristics	*Count*	*Percent*
Total Housing Units	162	
Occupied	139	86%
Vacant	23	14%
Mobile Homes	0	0.0%
Age of Residential Structure		
Built 2000 or later	8	4.2%
Built 1970 – 1999	58	30.2%
Build 1969 or earlier	126	65.6%

More demographic and community data can be found on the US Census Bureau webpage for Danbury.

Leading Employers

- Barry Motors
- Bluejay Boutique
- Colbert's Market
- Danbury Catholic Schools
- First Security Bank
- GFG
- KCK Convenience Store
- Nutrien Solutions
- Premier Roofing Systems
- Sexton Oil

- Shelby County State Bank
- Shrank's Bar & Grill
- Welte Vault Co.

Critical Facilities

City Hall	207 1st St,
Danbury Fire Department	201 Main St
Danbury Ambulance Service	201 Main St
Library	215 Main St
Storage Facility	
Water Tower	
Shop/Water Treatment Plant	108 2nd St
Well House	
Water Treatment Tank	
Lagoon	
Lift Station	L37
City Ballpark	West edge of 3rd St
City Park	W 2nd & 4th Sts
Dana Apartment Bldg	303 Main St
Health & Recreation Facility	206 East St

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

St. Mary's Catholic Church and School	604 Peach Street
Danbury United Methodist Church	200 Liston St
Schrank's Bar & Grill	117 Main St

Valuation of City Assets

Total Blanket TIV	$	5,468,785
Building	$	4,553,509
Personal Property	$	949,824
Misc Property Sched	$	104,907

Misc Property Unsched	$	32,533
Total TIV	**$**	**5,640,773**
APD TIV	**$**	**89,703**
Grand Total TIV	**$**	**5,730,476**

b. Participation

SIMPCO facilitated an online mitigation planning meeting via Teams on February 25, 2025 with Cristy Nelson, Danbury City Clerk in attendance.

One survey was returned indicating Danbury as jurisdiction of residence.

c. Community Capabilities

Plans/Guidance Documents	
Comprehensive Plan	
Policies/Ordinance	
• Drainage Ordinance • Nuisance Ordinance • Storm Water Ordinance	• Subdivision Ordinance • Tree Trimming Ordinance • Zoning Ordinance
Programs	
ISO Fire Rating	Danbury class 7; Danbury FD class 9/9
NFIP Non-Participant	# 190290C
Property Acquisition	
Staff/Department	
Public Works Official	
Emergency Management Coordinator	City Clerk @ local level
Emergency Response Team	Fire and Rescue
Non-Governmental Organizations	
Veterans Groups	Carlson-Frum American Legion
Community Organizations	Danbury Community Club
Local Funding Availabilities and Authorities	
Apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	
Levy taxes for a specific purpose	

Fees for water and sewer services	
Ability to incur debt through	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities

Danbury's Municipal Code of Ordinances is currently under revision. An urban renewal area has been designated, however, the program has not been utilized. At the time of the planning meeting, the city was in the process of filling the vacant Public Works position.

The city has determined that costs of NFIP participation exceed reasonable return on investment for areas as potentially affected in their floodplain. Danbury is a non-participant of NFIP, CID #190290C. The city has zero RL/SRL properties.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

communication /education		
Warning Sirens	Danbury	2020: Warning Siren needs replacing; *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds, County Funds, PDM, Community Benefit funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Warning Sirens	Danbury	**Complete**. Warning siren installed 2020+/-. Project was funded through various local grant programs.
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Danbury	2020: Portable generator *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
		Update. Project still needed. Lagoon project has taken precedence for current year. Project will carry to 2026 HMP.
Equipment	Danbury	2020: Pumps; *City Council, Public Works, collaboration with County EMA* (Local funds, County funds, Community Benefit funds, fundraising, Federal programs, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
		Resolved. City has worked out agreement with Fire Department. FD will provide equipment as needed.
	Danbury	2020: Utility ATV/snowmobile; *City Council, Fire Chief, Public Works, collaboration with County EMA* (Local funds, County funds, Community Benefit funds, fundraising, Federal programs, PDM) MEDIUM PRIORITY
		Complete. City purchased a Gator in 2020 using local funds.
development		
Bridges & Roads	Danbury	2020: Road repairs from runoff damages. Interest in preventive measures by way of redirection and retention methods. *City Maintenance/Council, County Engineer collaboration* (City funds, Transportation funds) HIGH PRIORITY
		Complete. Road repairs necessitated by runoff from flood events have been completed and were covered by FEMA funds.
flow control		

refuge
technology
natural barriers/ supports

Other projects completed or in progress:

- New lagoon with dedicated generator
- Most dead/diseased/at risk trees in city parks and rights of way have been removed
- Community Club has been gradually adding trees since 2022+/- to balance those removed. No formal plan in place.

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

A review of the NOAA Storm Event database includes one report specific to Danbury. It is important to note that the database is user-based record of events, not necessarily a collection of all known events. Due to proximity, Danbury likely experienced of all recorded county zone events for Woodbury, Ida, Monona, and Crawford Counties.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
DANBURY	12/15/2021	16:38	Thunderstorm Wind	64 kts. EG	0	0	10.00K	0.00K

Preliminary Iowa Flood Plain maps, a coordinated effort between Iowa DNR and the Iowa Flood Center, indicate a significant amount of floodplain surrounding Danbury, but not affecting any current structures.

Priority Hazards

- Tornado/Windstorm
- Thunderstorm w/Hail & Lightning
- Severe Winter Storm
- Drought

Additional concerns in discussion and through survey response include Flood (both flash and riverine), Animal/Plant/Crop Disease, Hazardous Materials Incidents, and Transportation Incidents.

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

communication /education		
Promo/Info	Danbury	**New**. PSAs - Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to Alert Iowa, Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; water conservation (drought considerations); Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. *City Clerk, County EMA* (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Danbury	**Carry over**. Portable generator needed for water plant with potential to serve various facilities. **Added**: Transformer switches needed to enable connections. *City Council, County EMA* (Local general budget funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds, local funds) HIGH PRIORITY
development		
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

6. Hornick

a. Profile

The city of Hornick is situated near the southernmost border of Woodbury County, just west of center. Most of the city lies north of Highway 141, with about 20% of the total area extending south of the highway.

City Governance & Community Supports

Hornick is governed by a five (5)-person elected council and the Mayor. Offices in addition to Mayor and Council include City Clerk and Public Works. The Hornick Volunteer Fire & Rescue is independent of the City but does receive some funding from Hornick. City staff designates the Legion Hall and the United Methodist Church as significant support entities to community well-

being. These and additional community supports are specified in the discussion of Community Capabilities. The City contracts with the County for law enforcement and maintains a 28E agreement with regional emergency response providers. City Council meets the second Monday every month at 7:00 PM.

The City of Hornick is a member of the NFIP program, though the majority of residents are known to be inactive under flood insurance.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

CensusReporter.org estimates Hornick's 2023 population[54] at 335, a noticeable increase from 255 residents in 2020. The town is home to 117 households, with a median household income of $77,917, reflecting a relatively stable economic base. However, a portion of the population lives below the poverty line, suggesting that some households may face economic challenges.

Hornick has a total of 128 housing units, with 116 of them occupied. The town has a relatively low vacancy rate, with only 12 vacant units. A small portion of the housing units are mobile homes. The majority of the homes were built in 2000 or later, with a smaller number constructed between 1990 and 1999, and a few built before 1990.

Leading Employers

New Cooperative
3-Speed Repairs
Chance "R" Bar

Critical Facilities

City Hall; Fire Dept Garage	400 Main St
Community Center	419 Main St
Water treatment Facility	420 Main St
Maintenance Shop	
Water Tower	Lots 16-18, Block 7

[54] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1937200-hornick-ia/

Museum	201 Main St
City Park	405 4th St, Ste 1
Library	510 Main St
Lift Station	208 4th St
Garage	406 5th St

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

In addition to businesses designated as Leading Employers, the following serve as community centers and gathering locations.

Legion Hall	306 Main St
United Methodist Church	411 5th St

Valuation of City Assets

Total Building	$	3,390,402
Total Personal Property	$	301,066
Total Property in the Open	$	712,592
Combined Total	**$**	**4,404,060**

b. Participation

A mitigation planning meeting, facilitated by SIMPCO, was held at Hornick City Hall on February 10, 2025 with the following in attendance.

- Scott Mitchell, Mayor
- Lori Teel, City Clerk
- Mat Andresen, City Council
- Scott Mathias, City Council
- Eric Bebee, City Council
- Steve Holst, City Council
- Dustin Johnson, City Council

Hornick residents accounted for 7 of Woodbury County's 78 survey responses, providing additional consideration regarding natural hazard concerns. Hornick councilmembers and city staff represent interests of community organizations and businesses in addition to their

respective city roles. Other considerations in plan content represent the following stakeholders.

- American Legion Hindman Steele Post 492 - Organization
- Teel Heating and Air Conditioning LLC - HVAC

A final review, submission of revisions, and acknowledgement of plan content was conducted by the City Clerk and the Mayor on March 11, 2026. The city commits to adopting the plan upon FEMA approval.

c. Community Capabilities

Plans/Guidance Documents		
Comprehensive Plan		
Policies/Ordinance		
• Floodplain Ordinance (updated per DNR) • Nuisance Ordinance • Restricted Residence District • Storm Water Ordinance	• Subdivision Ordinance • Tree Trimming Ordinance • Subdivision Regulation	
Programs		
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant		CID #190291C
ISO Fire Rating	Hornick, Class 8; Hornick FD, Class 8/9	
Staff/Department		
Engineer	County representation; Contracted consult as needed	
Public Works Official	Public Works Superintendent	
Emergency Management Coordinator	City Clerk @ local level	
Emergency Response Team	Hornick Volunteer Fire & Rescue	
Non-Governmental Organizations		
Veterans Groups	• Hindman-Steele American Legion and Auxiliary • Sons of the Legion	
Community Organizations	Library Group	
Local Funding Availabilities & Authorities		
Community Development Block Grants		
Capital Improvements funding		

Authority to levy taxes for a specified purpose	
TIF District allocations as applicable	
Fees for water, sewer	
Incur debt through	• general obligation bonds • private activities • special tax bonds
Withhold spending in hazard prone areas is in place but unlikely to be used.	

In compliance with Iowa DNR, Hornick's updated Floodplain Ordinance (Ord # 2024-01) was adopted on 04/08/2024 referencing FIRM Panel ID 190291. The city participates in the NFIP program with the City Clerk serving as Floodplain Administrator. Hornick has zero RL/SRL properties.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

communication /education		
Programs	Hornick	2020: Assess opportunities for homeowners with uninhabitable properties months after flood events of 2019; *City Council/Administration SIMPCO* (no cost allocated outside of staff hours for assessment) MEDIUM PRIORITY
		Closed. Based on city finances, skewed market value of homes/property, and ability to repurpose flood-prone areas, the city determined implementation of a home acquisition program is not feasible. City will continue to monitor potential of opportunities as they arise, however, the project is removed from the priority list.
tools/equipment		
development		
flow control		
Flood protection	Hornick	2020: Berm/raised rec trail to protect city from Ditch flooding; *City Council, County EMA, engineering consultant* (PDM and FEMA Disaster funds) HIGH PRIORITY
		Update – Phase 1, the mitigation portion of the project is **complete**. Berm has been substantially raised with primary phase of project completed 12/2024. Funded with IA Flood Mitigation dollars, the $2.1M project included the development of a local Flood Mitigation Board. Phase 2 of the project, the trail, is not complete. The trail remains on the city's project list but will not be carried into the 2026 HMP as a mitigation action.
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

Other projects completed since 2019 include the following.

Project description	*Funding Sources*	*Cost*
1. Raised generator at lift station 3.5'. Included new generator.	local funds, MRHD Grant	$50K
2. New water plant. Project began prior to 2019 flood, finally completed. Includes additional shop space.		$360K
3. Drainage issues overall improved with berm-raising project		
4. Road work repairs/replacement due to 2019 flood in progress. Repairs include improved storm runoff controls through sloped channel, and ditch clearing. Anticipated completion: Fall 2025	FEMA 404 project	$2.4M
5. Ash trees treated to sustain current tree canopy		
6. County re-did Main St . City addressed ADA improvements to sidewalk concurrently.	Federal Hwy program funds, local funds	
7. Improved response equipment with purchase of		
• Payloader	MRHD	
• Skid loader	local funds, community grants	

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

The events related to the flood in 2019 are still primary consideration in city planning efforts as Hornick pulls itself back together. NOAA Storm Event database records between 11/01/2019 and 12/31/2024 include only 2 reports specific to Hornick, though the city likely experienced the effects categorized as “Zone” under Woodbury County and Monona County.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
HORNICK	12/15/2021	16:19	Thunderstorm Wind	65 kts. EG	0	0	25.00K	0.00K
HORNICK	4/12/2022	16:22	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Priority Hazards

- Tornado / Windstorm
- Flood – Flash and River
- Grass and Wildland Fire

Survey responses include Thunderstorm with Hail & Lightning at a relatively high frequency in addition to those as determined above. When asked to choose top three hazards, Infrastructure Failure joins all those as listed.

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

communication /education		
Programs	Hornick	**New**. Interest in implementing Smoke Detector check/install program in collaboration with Fire Department and County departments as applicable (i.e. Health, EMA). City is aware that county has units available. Distribution & Install process not established. *City, City Fire Department, County EMA, FD* (no funding needs anticipated) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Promo/Info	Hornick	**New**. PSAs - Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to Alert Iowa, Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; water conservation (drought considerations); Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. *City Clerk, County EMA* (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
Equipment	Hornick	**New**. Interested in new communications radios. Potentially available through County supports. *City staff, County EMA* (Local funds - general budget, Response/Community Safety programming) MEDIUM PRIORITY
development		
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

7. Lawton

a. Profile

The city of Lawton is centrally located in the northwestern quarter of Woodbury County. Covering about .7 square miles, the majority of the city is situated north of U.S. Highway 20, with a small potion including an assisted living facility located south of the highway. Elliott Creek is located in the western portion of the city and runs north to south. More information can be found on the City of Lawton website at https://www.lawtoniowa.com/.

City Governance & Community Supports

Lawton is governed by a Mayor and City Council who are elected by city residents. City Council meets the second Wednesday each month at 5:30 PM and is composed of five (5) members. Offices in addition to the Mayor and Council include City Clerk and Public Works. The Lawton Community Fire Department is staffed by volunteers and provides fire suppression and rescue services to Banner Township and Concord Township in addition to the City. Lawton has its own ambulance service, the Provisional Paramedic Service, which includes 10 responders and one ambulance. It serves the surrounding 72 square miles. The city's volunteer fire department has an average of 22 firefighters, ready to serve.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

Based on Census Reporter's 2023 estimates[55], Lawton's population is 938, reflecting a slight decrease from 943 in 2020. The town is home to 352 households, with a median household income of $90,278, significantly higher than the Woodbury County median of $51,350. Vulnerable populations in Lawton include 44 children aged 5 years and younger, and 157 residents aged 65 or older. About 75 residents live below the poverty level, and 65 residents are living with a disability. While Lawton shows a relatively strong economic foundation, these figures suggest that there are still some challenges faced by certain segments of the community.

Community Characteristics	
Population (2023)	938
Population (2020)	943
Total Households	352
Median Household Income	$90,278
Median Household Income – Woodbury County	$51,350

Vulnerable Populations	*Count*	*Percent*	*Woodbury*	*Iowa*
5 years and younger	44	4.9%	7.3%	5.7%
65 years and older	157	17.3%	14.3%	16.0%
Below the poverty level	75	8.3%	14.0%	11.3%
Living with a disability	65	7.2%	12.4%	18.5%

[55] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1943905-lawton-ia/

Lawton has a total of 390 housing units, with 351 of them occupied and 39 units vacant. The town does not have any mobile homes. A significant portion of the housing stock (102 units) was built in 2000 or later, while the remaining homes are older. This reflects a mix of newer and more established homes in the community.

Housing Characteristics	*Count*	*Percent*
Total Housing Units	390	-
Occupied	351	90%
Vacant	39	10%
Mobile Homes	0	0.0%
Age of Residential Structure		
Built 2000 or later	102	26.6%
Built 1970 – 1999	128	33.3%
Build 1969 or earlier	154	40.1%

More demographic and community data can be found on the US Census Bureau site for Lawton.

Leading Employers

Agrivision Equipment
Lawton-Bronson Community Schools
Lawton Senior Living
Pronto Market
Scarecrow Farms (Seasonal)
Western Iowa Telecom

Critical Facilities

Garage	206 W Main
City Hall/Community Center	315 Ash St
Friendship Center	300 Cedar St
Fire Station	104 W Maple
Pump House	300 W Main
City Park	111-113 Tara Way

Water Tower	
Park, Gazebo	SE Corner - Cedar & Maple
Ballpark	1592 Eastland Ave
Water Treatment Facility	321 Ash St
Well Heads; Related	
Sewer Lift Station	301 W Main
Emergency Siren	Maple St

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

Lawton-Bronson Junior High School	100 Tara Way
Lawton-Bronson High School	
American Family Insurance	101 E Maple St
Bethel Lutheran Church	322 Pine St
Bob & Ellen's	311 Cedar St
Community Presbyterian Church	411 E Birch St
The Friendship Center	300 Cedar St
Security National Bank	315 Cedar St

Valuation of City Assets

Total Blanket TIV	$	6,294,860
Building	$	6,110,316
Personal Property	$	239,825
Misc Property Sched	$	433,696
Misc Property Unsched	$	251,455
APD TIV	**$**	**1,503,087**
Grand Total TIV	**$**	**7,035,292**

b. Participation

SIMPCO facilitated a virtual mitigation planning meeting via Teams on December 18, 2024. The following were in attendance.

- Tricia Jernberg, City Clerk
- Jesse Pedersen, Mayor
- Justin Dunnington, Public Works Director
- Travis Ludwig, Fire Chief

For additional consideration, four surveys were submitted with jurisdiction indicated as Lawton. As with many small towns, all development projects take into consideration the interests of area businesses and organizations that define the community. Participation includes concerns of the following stakeholders by way of direct representation through City Councilmembers, City Staff, and or attendance at community meetings discussing mitigation and other planning and development projects: Pronto Market, Bob & Ellen's Restaurant, Security National Bank, WiaTel, US Post Office, Shane's Glass, Lawton Motors, APEX Crop Services, Richardson Excavating, Lawton-Bronson High School, Community Presbyterian Church, Bethal Lutheran Church, Lawton Lock-Ups, MidStep Services, Quality Upholstery, Antique Grocery, Roan Landscaping, and Lawton Senior Living

The city's signed Voluntary Participation Agreement, dated 12/18/2024, is on file.

A final review of Lawton's profile was completed by the City Clerk and the Public Works Director on March 25, 2026. Upon review, the city acknowledges changes as incorporated since their last review and confirmed their commitment to adopt the Plan once approved by FEMA.

c. Community Capabilities

Plans/Guidance Documents	
Comprehensive Plan	
Policies/Ordinance	
• Building Code • Floodplain Ordinance (2024) • Nuisance Ordinance	• Subdivision Ordinance • Tree Trimming Ordinance
Some provisions for Stormwater included in the Code of Ordinances	
Some provisions for Debris Management included in the Codes of Ordinances	
Programs	

Some provisions for Drainage included in the Codes of Ordinances	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190292C
ISO Fire Rating	Class 5/5x
Property Acquisition	
Staff/Department	
Public Works Official	Water Superintendent
Emergency Management Coordinator	City Clerk @ local level
Emergency Response Team	Fire and Rescue
Non-Governmental Organizations	
Veterans Groups	American Legion Post 718
Local Funding Availability	
Apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	
Levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water and sewer services	
Ability to incur debt through	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities

Lawton's Floodplain Ordinance 2024-02 was adopted on 3/13/2024. The city participates in the NFIP program with the City Clerk serving as Floodplain Administrator. Lawton has zero RL/SRL properties.

The city is actively implementing mitigation strategies into planned projects. They have a tree removal plan in place addressing dead/diseased trees in public rights of way and parking. In 2024, approximately $15,000 was invested, which included replacements in the City Park.

The city has a collaborative relationship with Lawton Senior Living Center to work with response teams to coordinate transfers to the Holstein facility as may be needed in the event of a disaster. The school facilities throughout town host potential for a helipad should such equipment be needed.

The schools are partners with the city in community development efforts. The community center is an identified refuge location if students are displaced during the school day or during

school activities. The district has an active Safe Routes to School program reducing the risk of pedestrian/bicyclist vs vehicle crashes.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

communication/education		
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Lawton	2020: Generator needed for Fire Department; *Fire Chief, City Council, County EMA* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
		Complete. Phase I is complete. A generator has been purchased for the Fire Department. A new project for 2026 HMP is for hook-up and installation.
development		
flow control		
refuge		
Shelter	Lawton	2020: Include tornado-rated safety features in plans for new community center; *City administration, Project coordinator, EMA collaboration* (Local funds, private funds, fundraisers, PDM) MEDIUM PRIORITY
		Implemented. City constructed a new city hall/community center/maintenance facility that enables reasonable shelter from extreme weather. While not FEMA-level designated, the center has interior space designated as a safe area. The county has designated the new facility has been designated by the county as a recovery center as needed. Project overall cost is about $1.3M. In addition to city staff, the fire department has access to the building in the event of an emergency or extreme weather conditions.
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

In addition to completion of a new city building (housing City Hall, the Community Center, and Maintenance), Lawton repaired their warning siren to full function. Approximate cost was $5,000.

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

The NOAA Storm Event database included four reports specific to Lawton. The city likely suffered the effects of the 104 Woodbury (Zone) events as well.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
LAWTON	12/15/2021	16:28	Thunderstorm Wind	70 kts. EG	0	0	25.00K	0.00K

LAWTON	12/15/2021	16:28	Thunderstorm Wind	69 kts. EG	0	0	25.00K	0.00K
LAWTON	12/15/2021	16:31	Thunderstorm Wind	69 kts. EG	0	0	10.00K	0.00K
LAWTON	7/29/2024	23:02	Thunderstorm Wind	51 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Below is a depiction of the Dec 2021 storms that affected much of the region. Storm activity cut through Lawton resulting in extensive damage. The NOAA system, which relies on residential reports, does not include the accurate Tornado designation as determined following the events of that day.

Tornado - LAWTON
Woodbury County

Date	12/15/2021
Time (Local)	4:25 pm - 4:32 pm
EF Rating	EF-2
Est. Peak Winds	130 mph
Path Length	8.4 Miles
Max Width	100 Yards
Injuries/Deaths	0

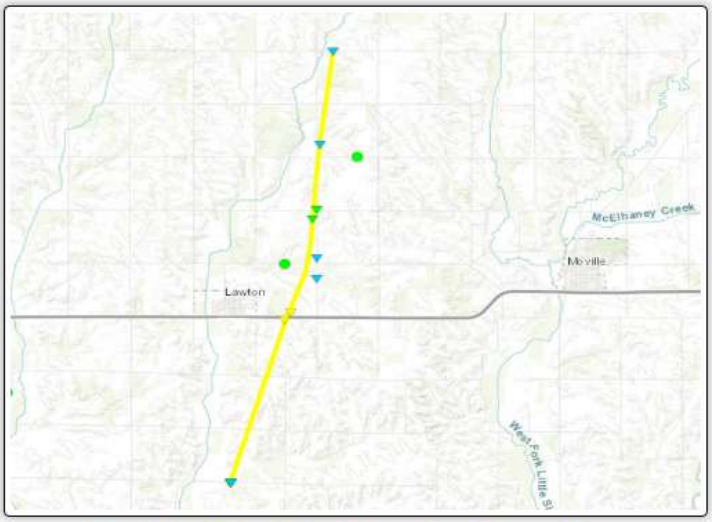
Summary:

The tornado touched down along 190th street 2 miles northeast of Bronson and ripped a portion of a roof off a single family home. The tornado continued northeast across open fields until it hit two metal utility transmission towers, resulting in the closure of U.S. Highway 20 due to electrical lines on the road east of Lawton.

The tornado continued northward near Fayette Avenue, impacting multiple farmsteads. A few barns/sheds were damaged along with many broken/snapped tree limbs. A machine shed at one farmstead was completely destroyed along with a concrete silo and lean-to shed. Multiple power poles were snapped along 140th street. Minor damage was also noted to shingles on a couple single family homes.

The tornado eventually lifted near the intersection of 110th street and Fayette Avenue.

Track Map



EF0 EF1 EF2 EF3 EF4 EF5 TSTM UKN

Downloadable KMZ File

Source: https://www.weather.gov/fsd/20211215-Tornado-nwia (June 9, 2025)

Priority Hazards

- Tornado / Windstorm
- Severe Winter Storm
- Grass and Wildland Fire

Priority hazards remain consistent with those specified in 2020. A greater emphasis is place on concern of Windstorms as well as Thunderstorms with Hail and Lightning. Survey responders aligned their top three concerns with the priorities indicated by the City.

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Lawton	**New**. PSAs - Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to Alert Iowa, Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; water conservation (drought considerations); Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. *City Clerk, County EMA* (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Lawton	**New**. Prepare generator connection and install at Fire Station. *Fire Chief, City Council, County EMA* (Local funds general budget, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
development		
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

8. Moville

a. Profile

The city of Moville is centrally located in the northern half of Woodbury County. The majority of the City is situated north of U.S. Highway 20, with a small portion located south of the highway. Several streams are located to the west of the city including McElhaney Creek, West Mud Creek, Mud Creek, and West Fork Little Sioux River. Only McElhaney Creek passes through city limits. More information can be found on the City of Moville website.

City Governance & Community Supports

Moville is governed by a Mayor and City Council who are elected by city residents. A Mayor Pro Tem is appointed by the mayor and may vote as a member of the Council. Five (5) additional

members serve on Council. Offices in addition to Mayor and Council include City Clerk, Public Works, Police, Fire and Rescue, and Ambulance Services.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

In 2023, Moville's population was 1,840[56], showing a slight increase from 1,687 in 2020. The city has 666 households, with a median household income of $96,250, significantly higher than the median income of Woodbury County, which is $51,350. The community includes a notable portion of vulnerable populations, with a significant number of residents aged 5 years and younger, as well as a considerable percentage of individuals aged 65 and older. Additionally, some residents are living below the poverty level, and a portion of the population is living with a disability.

Community Characteristics	
Population (2023)	1840
Population (2020)	1,687
Total Households	666
Median Household Income	$96,250
Median Household Income – Woodbury County	$51,350

Vulnerable Populations	*Count*	*Percent*	*Woodbury*	*Iowa*
5 years and younger	177	9.6%	7.3%	5.7%
65 years and older	208	11.3%	14.3%	16.0%
Below the poverty level	143	3.2%	14.0%	11.3%
Living with a disability	204	11.2	12.4%	18.5%

Moville has a total of 624 housing units, with 612 occupied and 12 vacant. There are 25 mobile homes, comprising a small portion of the housing stock. The majority of homes in Moville were built before 1999, with a significant number constructed in 1969 or earlier, and a sizable portion built between 1970 and 1999. A smaller number of homes were built in 2000 or later.

Housing Characteristics	*Count*	*Percent*

[56] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1954930-moville-ia/

Total Housing Units	624	-
Occupied	612	98%
Vacant	12	2%
Mobile Homes	25	4%
Age of Residential Structure		
Built 2000 or later	52	7.4%
Built 1970 – 1999	277	39.2%
Build 1969 or earlier	378	53.5%

Leading Employers

The largest employer in the City of Moville is the Woodbury Central Schools, which employs approximately 75 people. In addition to education, the manufacturing and retail trade industries employ the next greatest amount of people.

EGR Insurance, Inc.
MF Construction
Nutrien AG Solutions
Western Iowa Telephone Association
Woodbury Central Community School District

Critical Facilities

City Hall	21 W Main St
Police	
Ambulance	24 W Main St
Fire & Rescue	
Lift Station	1 Hwy 140
Haskell Pool; Park	2 Hwy 140
Community Center/Library	815 Main St
Fire Station #2; Vehicle Storage	19 S 1st
Well House	111 N 3rd St
Siren	
Well House; Well Heads	211 N 4th St
N Lift Station	112 N 2nd St

Lagoon Bldg	2431 160th St
Water Tower & Control Panel	111 Fair St
Pumps	
Midway Park	N 4th St
Ball Fields	221 N 2nd St
Main St Park	Main St
The Ridge Park	845 Park Ridge Pl
Memorial Park	304 S Pearl St
Veterans Park	S 2nd & Jones Sts
Post Office	319 Main St
Woodbury Co RAC	
Woodbury Co Engineer's Office	

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

Woodbury County Fairgrounds	206 Fair St
Woodbury Central High School	408 S 4th St
Woodbury Central Middle School	
Moville Elementary School	
Eastside Acres Campground	811 E Frontage Rd
Mobile Home Park	
County Conservation Board	State Highway 140
Churches • New Hope Church 516 Main St • Moville United Methodist Church 450 S 1st St • Trinity Lutheran Church 323 S 4th St • Immaculate Conception Church 419 Jones St	
CNOS Medical Clinic	631 Frontage Rd
Dollar General	
Lewis Drug	
Senior Center / American Legion Hall	11 S 2nd St

County and private entities are included here as areas of interest, essential services, and/or where places with increased vulnerability during a disaster. Additional County Facilities as may be located in Moville are itemized in the County Profile.

Valuation of City Assets

A partial valuation of assets at $2,511,868 was provided as preliminary base for cost-benefit analysis. This value does not include all city property and facilities. An assessment of values will accompany project plans including public as well as private assets as may be affected by a given action.

b. Participation

A mitigation planning meeting was held at Moville City Hall on August 26/2024.SIMPCO facilitated the discussion and the following people were in attendance.

- Michaela Peterson, City Clerk
- Jerry Sailer, Fire Chief
- Mike Montino, Co EMA Coordinator
- Casey Stratton, EMT
- Pat Rogers, Agent
- Bret Hayworth, Council
- Dave Christensen, Bldg Inspector
- Joe Barnes, Chief, PD (former – provided 3/25/26)
- Pat Smith, PWD

Follow up communications were completed on March 26, 2026 with City Clerk, Michaela Peterson including a final review of the profile and discussion of changes initiated through preliminary state and FEMA reviews.

c. Community Capabilities

The city participates in the NFIP program with the Mayor serving as Floodplain Administrator. The City has zero RL/SRL properties. Moville has the following local supports in place in addition to resources as uniformly available through county, region, and state programs.

Plans/Guidance Documents
Comprehensive Plan
Capital Improvement Plan (5-yr update in progress as of 8/26/24)
Land Use Plan
Policies/Ordinance

• Building Code • Nuisance Ordinance • Subdivision Ordinance	• Tree Trimming Ordinance • Zoning Ordinance
Programs	
Zoning/Land Use Restrictions	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190293C
ISO Fire Rating	FD Class 5/5 Rural
Planning/Zoning Board	
Staff/Department	
Building Code Official	Independently contracted
Building Inspector	Independently contracted
Public Works Official	Public Works Directors
NFIP Floodplain Administrator	City Clerk
Emergency Response Team	Fire and Rescue
Local Funding Availabilities & Authorities	
Apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	
Levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water and sewer services	
Impact fees for new development	
Ability to incur debt through	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

communication /education		
Warning Sirens	Moville	2020: Add warning sirens to supplement existing. Assess need for additional at southeast edge of town and at Ridge Park; *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY
		Update. Action not taken. Maintain project for 2026 Plan.
tools/equipment		
Equipment	Moville	2020: Drone for Fire Department -- assess and prepare before entering situation; determine best approach for grass fires, etc.; Assess areas of concern. *Fire Chief, City Council (*Department funds, Response support funds, PDM) MEDIUM PRIORITY
		Update not provided.

development		
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
Improve effectiveness	Moville	2020: Increase supply of handheld radios to improve inner and inter-department communications; *City Council, Collaboration with EMA* (City funds, potential PDM funds) LOW PRIORITY
		Implemented. The city police and fire departments are inter-connected allowing for immediate, in-time communications as needed. The city offices use All Contact enabling constant communication through departments.
natural barriers/ supports		

In addition to actions in response to the 2020 HMP, Moville has implemented other projects affecting community wellbeing. A generator is in place at the water treatment plant. There is a portable generator dedicated for use at the well house and lift station. A new water plant and tower are in the planning stages. A new floodplain ordinance was enacted in 2024. An ash tree replacement plan is in place in response to Ash Borer Beetle concerns.

Work has been done to improve the city's frontage road addressing elevation and drainage. Moville is beginning the LOMA process to remove that area from the floodplain.

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

Nutrien operations in town, while vital to local economy, does pose concern due to on-site propane product tanks. Traffic volume along US 20 heightens threat of not only transportation incidents, but hazardous materials incidents as well. The city is looking at formalizing refuge options through conversations with churches, the fairgrounds board, and schools. Current understanding is no pets may accompany residents to refuge locations, however lack of formal plan makes that difficult to maintain. Residents would benefit from full awareness enabling them to make alternate arrangements. The ball diamonds and a single residence on S Pearl are flood prone properties.

The NOAA Storm Event database shows four reports for Moville between 11/01/2019 and 12/31/2024[57].

Location	Date	Time	Type	Mag	Dth	Inj	PrD	CrD
MOVILLE	8/10/2020	7:40	Thunderstorm Wind	50 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	4.00K
MOVILLE	12/15/2021	16:35	Tornado	EF1	0	0	200.00K	0.00K
MOVILLE	5/12/2022	18:15	Thunderstorm Wind	50 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	29.00K
MOVILLE	9/18/2023	23:50	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Priority Hazards

- Flood (riverine)
- Tornado / Windstorm
- Hazardous Materials Incident
  Transportation Incident

Difficult to narrow concerns to a top three priority, haz mat and traffic accidents stem from a common source: traffic volume on US 20. Thunderstorms with Hail & Lightning are prevailing issues as well with incidents often resulting in at least some damage.

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

communication /education		
Promo/Info	Moville	**New**. PSAs - Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to Alert Iowa, Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; water conservation (drought considerations); Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. *City Clerk, County EMA* (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
Warning Sirens	Moville	**Carry over**. Add warning sirens to supplement existing. City is seeking opportunity to fully assess need for additional siren(s). Portions of expanded residential areas exceed anticipated coverage area of existing siren. Cell phone-based alerts may meet needs of most, but not all. *Public Works, County EMA* (PDM, Local general budget, community foundation grants as available) MEDIUM PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Moville	**New**. City is looking at generator purchases for Fairgrounds (County collaboration), Community Center and Fire Hall. Community Center serves as shelter when open. *City,*

[57] Source: https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/

		Public Works, County EMA (local funds general budget, pre-disaster/mitigation funds as available) HIGH PRIORITY
development		
flow control		
Flood Protection	Moville	**New**. Improvements to the existing berm at the North Lift Staton are needed as it has been compromised three times. *Public Works, Engineering supports as available* (local general budget funds, Flood/Disaster mitigation funds as available, community foundation grants) HIGH PRIORITY
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

9. Oto

a. Profile

The city of Oto is centrally located in the southeastern quarter of Woodbury County. State Highway 31 and County Highway D54 intersect in Oto. The city is situated west of the Little Sioux River. To the west is Oak Ridge Conservation Area, and to the north is Curtin Timber Public Wildlife Area.

City Governance & Community Supports

Oto is governed by a Mayor and City Council. The Council is composed of three (3) voting members. City Council meets monthly on the first Monday at 6:30 PM. In addition to these offices, Oto is served by the following departments: Clerk/Treasurer and Maintenance. The City contracts with Woodbury County for law enforcement services. Oto is served by independently operated, volunteer emergency response teams -- Oto Ambulance and Oto Fire Department.

Oto is a member of the NFIP program with portions of the city located within a floodplain (Zone A). Both the Municipal Code of Ordinances and the Comprehensive Plan have been recently updated.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

CensusReporter.org shows Oto with a population of 66 in 2023[58], showing a slight decrease from 72 residents in 2020. The town is home to 33 households, though the median household income is not available. A significant portion of Oto's population is 65 years or older, and many residents face economic challenges, with a notable number living below the poverty line. Additionally, a considerable number of residents are living with a disability, highlighting some of the community's unique needs.

Community Characteristics	
Population (2023)	66
Population (2020)	72
Total Households	33
Median Household Income	n/a
Median Household Income (all of Woodbury County)	$51,350

Available estimates are disparate and not reflective of what is likely the actual per capita income level, especially when paralleled with an estimate more reflective of local perception of the poverty rate. The CensusReporter.org site estimates per capita at more than double the state and Sioux City metro area numbers, with poverty rate also more than double the metro and state rates. Local summation is more consistent with estimated poverty rate as included in the following table.

Vulnerable Populations	*Count*	*Percent*	*Woodbury*	*Iowa*
5 years and younger	2	3%	7.3%	6.3%
65 years and older	18	27.3%	14.3%	16.0%
Below the poverty level	17	25.8%	14.0%	12.0%
Living with a disability	21	31.8%	12.4%	11.6%

Oto's housing stock is largely made up of homes that are 50 or more years old, with minimal new construction in recent years. Only one house has been built in the 21st century. The city

[58] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1960240-oto-ia/

also has a relatively high vacancy rate, with 15 of the 50 total housing units currently unoccupied.

Housing Characteristics	*Count*	*Percent*
Total Housing Units	49	-
Occupied	33	67%
Vacant	16	33%
Mobile Homes	2	4%
Age of Residential Structure		
Built 2000 or later	1	2.0%
Built 1970 – 1999	12	24.0%
Build 1969 or earlier	37	74.0%

More information regarding demographics can be found on the U.S. Census webpage for Oto.

Leading Employers

While not hosting a large number of employees, the following businesses operate and have established a necessary presence in Oto.

- Lyle's Auto Salvage
- Oto Pub & Grub

Critical Facilities Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

City Hall	27 Washington
Ambulance Service	27 Washington
Sewage Lift Station	242 Water St
Fire Department	33 Washington
Pump/Well #3	300 3rd Ave
Town Maintenance Bldg	215 1st Ave
Water Tower	Royal St

Pump House #2	110 2nd Ave

In addition to city facilities, private establishments including but not limited to the leading employers as listed are critical to the function of the city as community supports.

Valuation of City Assets

Total Building	$	140,065	RC
Total Personal Property	$	52,634	RC
Total Property in the Open	$	310,221	RC
Total	**$**	**502,920**	

b. Participation

A planning meeting, facilitated by SIMPCO, was held at Oto City Hall on December 17, 2024. City Clerk Nikki Kelsheimer was present.

A final review of Oto's profile was completed by the City Clerk. Upon review, the city acknowledges updates as included since their initial meeting and confirmed commitment to adopt the Plan once approved by FEMA.

c. Community Capabilities

In addition to state, region, and county programs, the City of Oto has the following identified as locally available resources.

Plans/Guidance Documents	
Comprehensive Plan	
Policies/Ordinance	
Nuisance Ordinance	Trees Ordinance
Building and Land Use Regulations	
Programs	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	Yes, 190294C
ISO Fire Rating (updated class not provided)	Oto Class 9; Oto FD Class 9/10
Staff/Department	

Public Works Official	Superintendent for the City
Emergency Response Teams (Independent of City)	Ambulance
	Fire Rescue
Non-Governmental Organizations	
Oto Days Committee	
Local Funding Availabilities & Authorities	
Apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	
Levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water, sewer, or garbage collection services	
Assess impact fees for new development	
Incur debt through • general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities	
Withhold spending in hazard prone areas	

Oto adopted its Floodplain Ordinance (2024-17) on April 11, 2024. The city participates in the NFIP program with the Mayor serving as Floodplain Administrator. Oto has zero RL/SRL properties.

The ambulance building is designated as a cooling station during extreme heat events. The city follows state codes for building standards and floodplain regulations. Active promotion of the Alert Iowa system is ongoing through Facebook and neighbor to neighbor.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

communication /education		
Warning Sirens	Oto	2020: Warning siren needed immediately. Malfunction due to lightning strike. *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
		Resolved. Oto's warning siren is now functioning.
tools/equipment		
Equipment	Oto	2020: Fire Dept in need of equipment and new facility; *Fire Chief* (City support, Department funds, Fire Association funds, FEMA AFG, CDBG facilities funds, State Revolving Fund loan) LOW PRIORITY

		Update. Facility and equipment improvements are still needed for the Oto Volunteer Fire Department. No action has been taken due to lack of funds. This project will carry into the 2026 HMP. Priority reflects feasibility, not need.
development		
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

d. Risk Assessment

A review of events recorded in the NOAA Storm Event database did not show any reports for Oto between 11/01/2019 and 12/31/2024. It can be expected that Oto did experience the effects of all 104 events reported for the Woodbury "Zone".

Contributing Factors

Weather extremes of all kinds are troublesome for Oto and most small communities. The city is making strides in coordinating planning effort to ensure mitigation efforts are incorporated into all planning projects where applicable.

Priority Hazards

- Tornado/Windstorm
- Severe Winter Storm
- Thunderstorm w/Hail & Lightning

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

communication /education		
Promo/Info	Oto	**New**. PSAs - Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to Alert Iowa, Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; water conservation (drought considerations); Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. *City Clerk, County EMA* (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		

Generator & Related Projects	Oto	**New**. Oto is seeking the opportunity to purchase a generator to facilitate operation of critical functions during power outages. *Public Works, County EMA* (local funds general budget, community foundation grants, pre-disaster/mitigation funds as available. MEDIUM PRIORITY
Equipment	Oto	**Carry over**. Fire Dept in need of equipment and new facility; *Fire Chief* (City support general budget, Department funds, Fire Association funds, FEMA AFG, CDBG facilities funds, State Revolving Fund loan) LOW PRIORITY
development		
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

10. Pierson

a. Profile

The city of Pierson is situated in the northeast quarter of the Woodbury County, near the northern border. County Highways D12 and L25 intersect at the northeastern corner of the city. Several small streams meander through city limits. More local details can be found on the City of Pierson website at https://www.piersonia.com/.

City Governance & Community Supports

Pierson is governed by a five (5) person elected City Council and the Mayor. Council meets the second Wednesday of each month. Offices in addition to the Mayor and Council include City Clerk and Public Works. Fire and rescue services are provided by the Pierson Fire Department, which is staffed by volunteers. This department provides fire response services to surrounding communities. Pierson contracts with Woodbury County for police protection services.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

Pierson, Iowa, had a population of 331 in 2023, showing a slight decline from 337 in 2020. Local utility records indicate 166 households in town. Census-estimated median household income exceeds the average for Woodbury County. Pierson has a relatively large number of young children compared to the surrounding area, while the number of older adults is somewhat lower. Fewer residents live below the poverty line than in both the county and the state, indicating a relatively stable economic situation. However, the town has a higher number of

individuals living with disabilities, which may point to a greater need for supportive services and accessibility resources in the community.

Community Characteristics	
Population (2023)	331
Population (2020)	337
Total Households (2023)	103
Median Household Income (2023)	$56,563
Median Household Income – Woodbury County (2023)	$51,350

Vulnerable Populations	*Count*	*Percent*	*Woodbury*	*Iowa*
5 years and younger	29	10%	7.3%	6.3%
65 years and older	34	11.7%	14.3%	16.0%
Below the poverty level	25	7.6%	14.0%	12.0%
Living with a disability	41	14.1%	12.4%	11.6%

Decennial Census estimates provide a total of 120 housing units, with 103 currently occupied and 17 standing vacant in Pierson. The majority of these homes are older, with nearly all residential structures built before 1970, and none constructed after the year 2000. Only a small portion of the housing stock was built between 1970 and 1999. Mobile homes make up a very small share of the housing, reflecting a predominantly traditional housing landscape. This aging housing inventory may present challenges related to maintenance, energy efficiency, and modernization, but also suggests a community with deep roots and long-standing character.

Housing Characteristics	*Count*	*Percent*
Total Housing Units	120	-
Occupied	103	86%
Vacant	17	14%
Mobile Homes	4	3%
Age of Residential Structure		
Built 2000 or later	0	0.0%
Built 1970 – 1999	21	11.4%
Build 1969 or earlier	163	88.6%

More demographic and community data can be found on the US Census Bureau webpage for Pierson.

Leading Employers

- NEW Co-op
- Culligan Water
- United Bank of Iowa
- Mahoney Auto

Critical Facilities

City Hall/Library	201 Main St
Community Center	514 2nd St
Fire Station	514 2nd St
Water Tower; Pump House	300 Main St
City Park	Main St
Maintenance Bldg	601 Front St
Pump house & Related	290 Maple
Utility Bldg	
Pump House; Control Panel	Lenox Ave
Sewage Treatment Plant	Minnesota Ave
Ballpark	210 Maple St
Cemetery	

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

US Post Office
Pierson Elementary & Middle School (4-8)
Pierson United Methodist Church
Gas Lantern Restaurant
Thonny's Bar and Grill

Valuation of City Assets

A valuation of city assets was not provided for this plan. However, a base value of $2,251,801 from the 2020 HMP can be estimated to have doubled based on improvements and across the board building/property increases in recent years. A full assessment of values of public and private properties as may be impacted by mitigation actions/strategies will be formed for cost benefit analysis to be incorporated into project plans and funding requests.

b. Participation

A formal mitigation planning meeting was not held, however, communications regarding mitigation planning were conducted between SIMPCO, and the City of Pierson with Jeanette Beekman, City Clerk and Mayor Dallas Groen providing input. Information was provided via email and completion of the jurisdiction update survey.

A follow up review of Pierson's profile was completed 2/25/2026 by the Mayor and City Clerk, acknowledging revisions since preliminary input and confirming agreement to adopt the plan upon FEMA approval.

c. Community Capabilities

Plans/Guidance Documents	
Comprehensive Plan	
Policies/Ordinance	
• Floodplain Ordinance • Nuisance Ordinance	• Storm Water Ordinance • Subdivision Ordinance
Programs	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190295C
ISO Fire Rating (not updated)	Pierson Class 5; Pierson FD, Class 8/9
Tree Trimming Program	In effect @ parkings
Staff/Department	
Public Works Official	
Emergency Management Coordinator	City Clerk @ local level
Emergency Response Team	Fire and Rescue
Non-Governmental Organizations	

Veterans Groups	American Legion Harrison/Pedersen Post #291
	American Legion Auxiliary
Community Organizations	Pierson Town and Country
Local Funding Availability	
Ability to apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Ability to fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water and sewer services	
Ability to incur debt through	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities
Ability to withhold spending in hazard prone areas	

Within its Building Code, the city has adopted by reference the 2015 IPMC with exceptions. Pierson's floodplain ordinance was adopted April 10, 2024. The city participates in the NFIP program with the City Clerk serving as Floodplain Administrator. Pierson has zero RL/SRL properties.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

communication /education		
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Pierson	2020: Generator for Community Building for continuation of use as refuge location in the event of power outage; *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
		Update. Action not taken as other projects took precedence. Carry over to 2026 HMP.
Equipment	Pierson	2020: ATV for use during road blockages; *City Council* (City funds, PDM) LOW PRIORITY
		Update. Action not taken. Carry into 2026 HMP with same priority level.
development		
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

Pierson has taken steps implementing drainage improvements, however more work is needed. The city has completed their 4th Street Drainage Improvements project, and is moving ahead in

planning drainage improvements on Front Street. Front Street strategies are included in the project table. The city does have a CIP that is guided by city planning documents and short/long-term goals. An IDNR Tree Assessment has been completed with removals completed as needed and replacement taking place on an intermittent schedule pending funding. Generators and SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) have been added to the water plant to ensure availability of water in case of an electrical outage. The city is also in the planning and approval stages of a new wastewater treatment system. Mitigative protections and a generator connection are anticipated components.

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

An assessment of NOAA Strom Event database provides record of four reports specific to Pierson between 11/01/2019 and 12/31/2024. Due to its location, it can be assumed that the community experienced effects of "Zone" classified events as declared for Woodbury, Plymouth, Cherokee, and Ida Counties.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
PIERSON	6/22/2021	17:46	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	8.00K
PIERSON	8/20/2021	17:16	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	2.00K	0.00K
PIERSON	6/23/2024	4:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
PIERSON	7/29/2024	23:06	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Pierson is surrounded on three sides with floodplain. Current flood concerns are more relevant to runoff and flash flood events, especially when preceded by periods of drought and extremely dry conditions. The same conditions intensify riverine flooding when concurrent.

Priority Hazards

- Tornado/Windstorm
- Severe Winter Storm
- Flood

Pierson maintained declared priority hazards as included in the 2020 HMP, though flood is more relevant to effects on surrounding areas than within city limits.

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

communication /education		
Promo/Info	Pierson	**New**. PSAs - Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to Alert Iowa, Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; water conservation (drought considerations); Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. *City Clerk, County EMA* (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Pierson	**Carry over**. Dedicated generator for Community Building for continuation of use as refuge location in the event of power outage; *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds general budget, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Equipment	Pierson	**Carry over**. ATV for use during road blockages; *City Council* (City funds general budget, PDM) LOW PRIORITY
development		
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Pierson	**New**. Sewer lining project. City is lining sewers to improve existing infrastructure, and extend useful life. Approx cost is $200,000 – planned for 2026. *Public Works, DNR.* (Local funds – general budget) HIGH PRIORITY
flow control		
Drainage Projects	Pierson	**New**. The city has made some drainage improvements in recent years (4th St), but more work is needed along Front Street. *Public Works* (local general budget funds, other infrastructure funds as may be available) HIGH PRIORITY
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

11. Salix

a. Profile

The city of Salix is centrally located in the southwestern quarter of Woodbury County. Interstate 29 bisects the city, although most of the commercial and residential structures are located east of the interstate.

Along the western border is Browns Lake, and beyond that is the Missouri River. Brown's Lake, Bigelow Park, and Woodbury County Conservation are also located west of city boundaries. Further from city limits and to the east is the Luton Wildlife Management Area, and to the south is the Lakeport Area. More information can be found on the City of Salix's website at https://salixiowa.com/.

City Governance & Community Supports

Salix is governed by a Mayor and City Council who are elected by residents. The Mayor appoints a Mayor Pro Tem who serves as a voting member of Council. In addition, Council is composed of five (5) voting members. City Council meets the second Wednesday of every month. Staffed positions include City Clerk and Maintenance. Salix Fire & Rescue is located in the center of town, staffed by an average of 35 volunteers. This department also provides ambulance services. The city contracts with the County for law enforcement.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

Salix's population in 2023[59] according to CensusReporter.org is estimated at 413, showing what is locally considered a more accurate depiction of city population. With 184 households, the city enjoys a median household income of $62,143 – well above the Woodbury County average – indicating a relatively strong economic base. The community has a significant number of older adults, making up nearly a quarter of the population, while the number of young children is comparatively low. Despite its aging population, Salix reports a very low poverty rate, suggesting a generally stable and well-supported community. A notable portion of residents live with a disability, which may signal a need for accessible infrastructure, healthcare services, and community support tailored to these individuals.

Community Characteristics	
Population (2023)	413
Population (2020)	295
Total Households	184
Median Household Income	$62,143

[59] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1970320-salix-ia/

Median Household Income – Woodbury County	$51,350

Vulnerable Populations	*Count*	*Percent*	*Woodbury*	*Iowa*
5 years and younger	21	5.1%	7.3%	6.3%
65 years and older	96	23.2%	14.3%	16.0%
Below the poverty level	9	3.4%	14.0%	12.0%
Living with a disability	60	14.5%	12.4%	11.6%

Salix, Iowa has a total of 193 housing units, with 183 currently occupied and only 10 vacant, reflecting a high occupancy rate. The housing stock in Salix is fairly well-distributed in age, with over half of the homes built before 1970 and more than a third constructed between 1970 and 1999. A smaller share of homes – about 9% – have been built since 2000, indicating some recent development activity. Mobile homes make up a small portion of the housing, suggesting a predominance of traditional, single-family structures. Overall, Salix's housing profile shows a stable and well-maintained community with a mix of older homes and gradual new growth.

Housing Characteristics	*Count*	*Percent*
Total Housing Units	193	-
Occupied	183	95%
Vacant	10	5%
Mobile Homes	8	4%
Age of Residential Structure		
Built 2000 or later	15	8.7%
Built 1970 – 1999	63	36.4%
Build 1969 or earlier	95	54.9%

More demographic and community data can be found on the US Census webpage for Salix.

Leading Employers

- Walkers
- Steinhoff Construction

Critical Facilities

City Hall	317 Tipton St,
Salix City Park	
Filtration House	203 Tipton St
Pump House	110 Tipton St
Pump House	120 Tipton St
Water Tower	130 Tipton St
Lift Station, West	Tama St at Willow St
Lift Station, East	Hwy 75 at Walnut
Aspen Lift Station	Lakeport & Aspen Sts
Park Buildings	303 Walnut
City Maintenance Shed	311 Tipton

The city has other holdings including but not limited to the old Pioneer Bank Building at 405 Poplar. As of the planning meeting, the property is expected to be sold. Therefore, it is not specified on the above critical facilities list.

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

Arnold's Trailer Sales & Service	Walker's Restaurant and Bar
Head and Nails Beauty Shop	Salix Community United Methodist Church
Roger's I-29 Auto Repair	St. Joseph Catholic Church
Steinhoff Landscape & Construction	
Brown's Lake (State Park)	722 Bigelow Park Rd
Snyder Bend Park (State Park)	2924 Snyder Bend Rd

Valuation of City Assets

Total Blanket TIV	$	2,889,134
Building	$	2,855,091
Personal Property	$	34,043
Misc Property Sched	$	89,760
Misc Property Unsched	$	36,905

APD TIV	**$**	**2,500**
Total TIV	**$**	**3,015,799**

b. Participation

SIMPCO facilitated a virtual mitigation planning meeting on December 19, 2025, via Teams, with City Clerk Kathy Brouillette in attendance. The meeting included status updates for 2020 HMP projects as included for the Salix, other major projects and events since the last plan, review of natural disasters and other hazards as included in the State 2023 HMP, and projects and actions planned or needed for the city. One survey was completed with Salix indicated as jurisdiction of residence with response corresponding directly with City-stated concerns and priority hazards.

Follow up conversations with the new City Clerk, Ashley Mareau and Mayor Kevin Nelson were conducted via email and phone in January and February, 2026. As a result, two projects and several strategies were added to Salix's goals table. Final review was completed 2/25/26 through which the city has acknowledged revisions to the Plan since their initial planning meeting and confirm agreement to adopt the plan upon FEMA approval.

c. Community Capabilities

Plans/Guidance Documents	
• Capital Improvement Plan	• Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Plan
• Comprehensive Plan	• Land Use Plan
Policies/Ordinance	
• Debris Management Plan	• Storm Water Ordinance
• Drainage Ordinance	• Subdivision Ordinance
• Floodplain Ordinance	• Tree Trimming Ordinance
• Nuisance Ordinance	• Zoning Ordinance
Programs	
Zoning/Land Use Restrictions	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190296C
ISO Fire Rating *(Not updated)*	4 (in town)/4Y (Brown's Lake area)
Planning/Zoning Boards	

Tree Trimming Program		
Staff/Department		
Building Code Official		
Building Inspector		
Public Works Official		Public Works Director
NFIP Floodplain Administrator		Mayor
Emergency Response Team		Fire and Rescue
Non-Governmental Organizations		
Community Organizations	• Park Committee	
Local Funding Availability		
Ability to apply for Community Development Block Grants		
Ability to fund projects through Capital Improvements funding		
TIF funding for designated use		
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose		
Fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric services		
Impact fees for new development		
Ability to incur debt through	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities	
Ability to withhold spending in hazard prone areas		Yes

The city's Building Code was initiated on 12/12/2018. Through Resolution 2024-2, Salix adopted their floodplain ordinance on 5/8/2024. The city participates in the NFIP program with the Mayor serving as Floodplain Administrator. Salix has zero RL/SRL properties.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

communication /education		
Warning Sirens	Salix	2020: Warning sirens – Replace existing in town; *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY As amended 01/12/2022: **Complete**. A new weather siren was installed in December 2020. The weather siren is connected to the County Communications Center as a primary means of notifying residents and visitors to Salix of imminent danger due to extreme weather conditions such as tornado and/or windstorms. The siren is multi-tonal allowing variation in sounds to differentiate the causes for warning.
tools/equipment		

development		
flow control		
Drainage Projects	Salix (As amended 01/12/2022)	2022. Recent changes in permissible stormwater drainage methods have increased flood risk in Salix during periods of heavy rainfall and/or rapid snow/ice melt. Phase I: The City plans to pursue technical assistance including but not limited to a study or preliminary engineering to assess probable solutions. Phase II: Implement stormwater drainage system to resolve issues created by cancelation of agreement to direct stormwater into nearby Drainage District. Public Works, County Board of Supervisors, IDNR, USDA, other regulatory bodies as applicable (FEMA BRIC/FMA, local funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Drainage Projects	Salix	**Update –** Phase I: **Complete.** City worked with Farmer's Drainage District and Woodbury County, assisted with contracted engineering firm, to conduct study and form a new drainage district – Approved 12/10/2024. Phase II will now be implemented under status as a drainage district, enabling a more expeditious and streamlined process.
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

The city added a lift station to accommodate the new Aspen development which is set to include 4-5 townhomes when complete. The interior of the water tower was painted to improve longevity. The project was funded through a loan which will be paid out using TIF. Dead/diseased trees are tracked and removed as necessary. Replacements are planned for the city park. The floodplain ordinance was updated in 2024 under direction of IDNR. Several projects were implemented affecting the city's ability to respond to emergency incidents including but not limited to the following.

- The city has added two AED units – one at the park and one at city hall. Project is funded through a Railroad grant (an offset for the effects of a derailment incident) and is set to align with Woodbury County 911/Communication Center for a coordinating unlocking process.

- Keyless entry locking system was installed at fire station. Remote capabilities enable resident access to tornado room when building otherwise closed.

- Several major improvements to the city's water infrastructure led to an improvement in the city's fire ISO rating. The City's ISO Fire Rating improved from 7 to 4.

- A new truck, equipped for plowing, was added to city inventory.

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

An assessment of the NOAA Storm Event database provided four reports specific to Salix.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
SALIX	12/15/2021	16:15	Tornado	EFU	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SALIX	12/15/2021	16:20	Tornado	EF1	0	0	250.00K	0.00K
SALIX	6/12/2024	17:25	Hail	1.50 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SALIX	6/12/2024	17:25	Hail	1.25 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Salix has corporate boundaries that are disjoined at the I-29 on/off ramp area. The western area of the city does have some floodplain including ag lands and into Brown's Lake. Proximity to businesses involving volatile products/ingredients/components (MidAmerican, Port Neal, and CF Industries, for example) and historical events (1996 Terra Industries explosion) serve as impetus for concern over hazardous materials incidents. Not only the production and use of such products, but the transport through the city's cross section at I-29 and Old Hwy 75 are factors in city emergency preparedness considerations.

Priority Hazards

- Flood
- Severe Winter Storm
- Tornado/Windstorm (with Windstorm the prevailing concern)

Infrequency of hazardous materials incidents, as well as potentially exorbitant costs keep this from being a higher priority in mitigative action planning.

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

communication /education		
Promo/Info	Salix	**New**. PSAs - Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to Alert Iowa, Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; water conservation (drought considerations); Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. *City Clerk, County EMA* (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Salix	**New**. Purchase and Install Automatic back up Generator at West Lift Station. *Public Works* (Locally available grants from Farm Credit and MRHD as may be awarded, City budget - general fund, fundraising) HIGH PRIORITY
development		
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Salix	**New**. The City is planning to replace its fire hydrants to improve function and access to minimize loss/damages in the event of fire, including but not limited to grassland and wildfire. Fire Chief, Public Works. Priority reflects lack of dedicated funding, not significance of project. (Funding has not been determined aside from match coming from the city's general fund; Response assistance and community betterment grants as may be available) MEDIUM PRIORITY
flow control		
Drainage Projects	Salix	**Carry over**. Phase II - The project identified through the study included the construction of a flow channel connecting the Salix Drainage District to the Farmers Drainage District, including a retention pond and other flow diversions. Project is awaiting finalization of cost-benefit analysis as interim conditions put Salix at heightened risk for street flood potential, storm drain backup, and home infiltration. *Salix Drainage District* (Drainage district funds, others to be determined pending necessitated corrections) HIGH PRIORITY
Drainage Projects	Salix	**New**. The City, with drainage issues leading to the creation of the aforementioned Drainage District, is in need of design improvements to effectively address high volume rain events. *Drainage District trustees* (Drainage District funds, city general budget as potential support – general fund, grants as may be available) HIGH PRIORITY
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

The city has adopted by reference the IPMC, IBC, IFGC, and IMC standards as adopted at state level, with exceptions. A full code update is budgeted for 2026.

12. Sergeant Bluff

a. Profile

The city of Sergeant Bluff is located in western Woodbury County. The city is bordered by Interstate 29 to the west, and is bisected by County Highway D38. The Sioux Gateway Airport is

located to the west of the City and separates Sergeant Bluff from the Missouri River. More information can be found on the City of Sergeant Bluff website.

City Governance & Community Supports

Sergeant Bluff is governed by a Mayor and City Council who are elected by city residents. The Mayor serves as a non-voting member of the City Council. Voting members include the five (5) members of the Council including the Mayor Pro Tem. Council meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 5:30 PM. Offices, Departments, and Boards include the following.

Staff and Departments	
Building Inspector	Human Resources
City Administrator	Library Director
Assistant City Administrator	Planning & Zoning
City Clerk	Police Department
Finance Director	Public Works (& Maintenance Crew)
Fire Department	Receptionist

Boards, Commissions, & Programs	
Board of Adjustment	Planning & Zoning Commission
Mayor Committee Board	Senior Committee Board
Parks & Recreation Board	Urban Revitalization

The Sergeant Bluff Police Department is staffed by a Police Chief, Assistant Police Chief, Office Manager, and eight (8) Police Officers. The city also has a volunteer Fire Department. The Fire Department provides ambulance services. A 28E agreement exists between Sergeant Bluff and Woodbury Township, ensuring that Sergeant Bluff will provide fire protection and other emergency services for all property within the Township. The city also participates in the Enhanced 911 system through the Woodbury County Communication Center in Sioux City. The city conducts an annual review and update of its Municipal Code of Ordinances.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

CensusReporter.gov estimates Sergeant Bluff, Iowa, had a population of 5,274[60] in 2023, up from 5,009 in 2020, reflecting steady growth over the past decade. The city includes 1,734 households and boasts a strong median household income of $122,610—more than double the average for Woodbury County—indicating a high level of economic prosperity. The population includes a balanced number of young children and a lower-than-average share of older adults compared to both the county and state, suggesting a relatively youthful and family-oriented community. While past estimates indicated a higher poverty rate, more recent data shows only 7.7% of residents living below the poverty level, well below county and state averages. Additionally, the percentage of residents living with a disability is in line with the county and significantly lower than the state average. Overall, Sergeant Bluff presents as a growing, economically strong community with a solid quality of life and relatively low rates of poverty and vulnerability.

Community Characteristics	
Population (2023)	5,274
Population (2020)	5,009
Total Households	1,734
Median Household Income	$122,610
Median Household Income – Woodbury County	$51,350

Vulnerable Populations	*Count*	*Percent*	*Woodbury*	*Iowa*
5 years and younger	371	7.3%	7.3%	6.3%
65 years and older	588	11.6%	14.3%	16.0%
Below the poverty level	369	7.7%	14.0%	12.0%
Living with a disability	615	12.2%	12.4%	11.6%

Sergeant Bluff, Iowa, has a total of 1,837 housing units, with 1,727 of them currently occupied, indicating a strong demand for housing in the area. The city also has a relatively low vacancy rate, with just 110 units vacant. Mobile homes make up a small portion of the housing stock, while the majority of homes were built between 1970 and 1999. A significant portion of the housing was constructed after 2000, reflecting ongoing development and modernization in the

[60] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1971625-sergeant-bluff-ia/

community. Additionally, many homes were built prior to 1970, contributing to a mix of older and newer homes that offer diverse housing options for residents.

Housing Characteristics	*Count*	*Percent*
Total Housing Units	1,837	-
Occupied	1,727	94%
Vacant	110	6%
Mobile Homes	110	6%
Age of Residential Structure		
Built 2000 or later	462	28.5%
Built 1970 – 1999	705	43.5%
Build 1969 or earlier	453	28.0%

More demographic and community data can be found on the U.S. Census webpage for Sergeant Bluff.

Leading Employers

Embassy Rehabilitation and Care Center
Fareway food Stores
Pioneer Valley Living and Rehab
Sergeant Bluff-Luton Community Schools
Sioux City Brick and Tile
185th ARW (within planning boundaries)
CF Industries (within planning boundaries)
Gelita USA, Inc (within planning boundaries)

Critical Facilities

An itemized listing of city properties and facilities was not provided for this update. Included for discussion are the many improvements and additions completed within the past five years. The following list is not exhaustive, however, it does present a summary of newer investments, improvements, and amenities.

- Dog Park

- Library
- City Hall (new facility)
- School Sports Complex – East Campus (new)
- Police Department (Relocated to former City Hall building)
- Lift station (new)
- Splash Pad

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

Sergeant Bluff-Luton Elementary School	Floyd Place
Sergeant Bluff-Luton Primary School	Elevate Community Church
Sergeant Bluff-Luton Middle School	
Sergeant Bluff-Luton High School	Pioneer Valley Living/Rehab
American Legion	River Bend Apartments & Townhomes
Bluff View Home	Shepherd of Peace Lutheran Church
Community United Methodist Church	Eye Doctor
Embassy Rehab & Care Center	Dentist

Valuation of City Assets

A current valuation of assets was not provided for this update. Using the 2019 total of $26,041,575, current estimated valuation with all investments and improvements considered, can easily increase that number by 50%. The city will provide appropriate valuations for cost-benefit analyses for not only city assets, but also for private properties as may be affected by mitigative actions.

b. Participation

Facilitated by SIMPCO, a mitigation planning meeting was held December 11, 2024 at Sgt Bluff City Hall. In attendance were:

- Aaron Lincoln, City Administrator
- John Robinson, Crew Chief
- Anthony Gaul, Fire Chief

Of the 78 Woodbury County survey respondents, 7 indicated residence in Sgt Bluff. City staff does represent the Community Action Team which helps to plan and facilitate community gathering events including but not limited to Com Con, an annual event inviting the community to provide input on community wants, needs, and planned projects. Attendees include residents and businesses/organizations serving the community. It is an interactive event encouraging stakeholder engagement.

Final review of the city's profile was completed by Aaron Lincoln with input from the Fire Chief and Public Works Crew Chief. Upon said review, the city acknowledged revisions and confirmed their commitment to adopt the plan once approved by FEMA.

c. Community Capabilities

Plans/Guidance Documents	
Comprehensive Plan (2024)	
Capital Improvement Plan	
Land Use Plan	
Policies/Ordinance	
• Building Code (IBC 2021) • Debris Management Plan • Drainage Ordinance • Floodplain Ordinance • Historic Preservation Ordinance • Landscape Ordinance	• Nuisance Ordinance • Storm Water Ordinance • Subdivision Ordinance • Tree Trimming Ordinance • Zoning Ordinance
Programs	
Zoning/Land Use Restrictions	
Codes Building Site/Design	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	Yes, CID #190297C
ISO Fire Rating	Sergeant Bluff Class 2; Sergeant Bluff FD, Class 2
Property Acquisition	
Planning/Zoning Boards	
Tree Trimming Program	

Mutual Aid Agreements	County & Surrounding communities
	North Sioux City SD
	South Sioux City NE
Staff/Department	
Building Code Official	Engineer
Building Inspector	Historic Preservation
Development Planner	Public Works Official
Emergency Management Coordinator	City Clerk @ Local Level
Emergency Response Team	Fire and Rescue
Non-Governmental Organizations	*Comments*
Veterans Groups	George Nelson American Legion
Community Organizations	
• Community Action Team • Sgt Bluff Community Foundation	• Sgt Bluff-Luton Community School Foundation • Sgt Bluff-Luton PTO
Local Funding Availabilities & Authorities	
Ability to apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Ability to fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Fees for water and sewer services	
Impact fees for new development	
TIF (for specified projects)	
Ability to incur debt through	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities
Ability to withhold spending in hazard prone areas	

City building codes were established in 2005 with the last amendment adopted July 8, 2025. Among local ordinances, the city has adopted by reference with some exceptions, the following.

- 2024 International Fire Code (Adopted April 22, 2025)
- 2023 National Electric Code (Adopted July 8, 2025)
- 2021 International Building Code (Adopted June 11, 2024)
- 2021 International Residential Code (Adopted June 11, 2024)
- 2021 International Existing Building Code (Adopted June 11, 2024)

- 2021 Uniform Plumbing Code (Adopted June 11, 2024)
- 2021 International Mechanical Code (Adopted June 11, 2024)
- 2021 International Fuel Gas Code (Adopted June 11, 2024)
- 2012 International Energy Conservation Code (State of Iowa)

Sergeant Bluff's floodplain ordinance was adopted June 18, 2024 referencing FIRM Panels 19193C0212E and 19193C0214E, dated 7-17-2024. The city participates in the NFIP program with the City Administrator serving as Floodplain Administrator. The City has zero RL/SRL properties. Sergeant Bluff has in place several supports to guide planning focused on resiliency. In addition to those listed, county, region, and state programs are also available.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

Sergeant Bluff has an extensive list of community investments completed since 2019 that include resiliency building and mitigative action. The following table provides updates to projects as included in the 2020 HMP.

communication/education		
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Sgt Bluff	2020: Generator for PD; *Police Chief, City Council, County EMA* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
		Project closed. One large portable generator is available as needed. Police Department is prepared for such connection if needed. Fire Station has been designated as command center in the event of an emergency and is equipped to serve that role.
Equipment	Sgt Bluff	2020: Pumps for clean water transfer; City Administrator, Streets Department (City funds, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
		Complete. Pumps for use in diverting accumulated water during flooding and heavy rain events have been added to city equipment inventory. Cost of project completion not provided.
Equipment	Sgt Bluff	2020: Replace rescue boat. *Fire Department/EMS* (Department funds, City supports, Response support funds, fundraisers, PDM) LOW PRIORITY
		Update. Fire Department has replaced pump tanker. Some additional equipment on budgeted (see new projects). Rescue boat replacement removed from priority list.
Equipment	Sgt Bluff	**In progress – carry over**. Handheld radios are in process of being replaced. Spring 2025 10 replaced with 4 still pending. *City, Fire Department*. (Local funds for those already replaced, Local funds and response funds as available for remaining) HIGH PRIORITY
Equipment	Sgt Bluff	2020: ATV for police Department to minimize access issues. *Police Dept* (Department funds, City supports, fundraisers, PDM) LOW PRIORITY

		Update: UTV replacement has been initiated in budget conversations with a plan to replace at least one UTV within the next five years.
development		
Relocate critical facilities	Sgt Bluff	2020: Interest in relocating 2nd Fire Station for improved response to more areas; *City Admin, Fire Chief, Zone Administrator* (City Funds, Fire Dept Funds, Fire Assoc funds, fundraisers, Response Support funds) LOW PRIORITY
		Update. Project not completed. Carry over to 2026 HMP.
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

Infrastructure investments outside of those indicated in 2020 include mitigative measures. Some significant projects include:

- $1M investment in moving electric utilities underground. Process is reducing redundancy in service lines as well as outages. Lines are looped with water mains streamlining access points for maintenance.
    - Side effect: update water modeling / systems to assess southend for fire response
- Large capacity generator for Interstate Lift Station (2023 @ $55,000)
- Cyber-threat preventions with a migration to independent VPN-based systems with IT firm
- Active shooter/intruder collaboration with schools including designating evacuation / refuge meet-up locations as a coordinated effort with strategic community partners
- Standardized hydrants in place with all fire protections monitored/tracked on scheduled maintenance

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

First consideration for risk awareness is summarizing the impact of extreme weather events and other hazards. NOAA Storm Event database includes 8 reports specific to Sergeant Bluff between 11/1/20219 and 12/31/2024. It is important to note that the city's response teams are among those first on the scene for emergencies in nearby communities and rural areas.

Therefore, incidents recorded for the much of Woodbury and Monona Counties also affect Sgt Bluff's resources.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
SERGEANT BLUFF	5/12/2022	18:01	Tornado	EFU	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SERGEANT BLUFF	7/4/2023	16:56	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SERGEANT BLUFF	7/12/2023	4:28	Thunderstorm Wind	51 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SERGEANT BLUFF	10/3/2023	19:29	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SERGEANT BLUFF	5/20/2024	21:42	Hail	1.25 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SERGEANT BLUFF	5/20/2024	21:42	Thunderstorm Wind	65 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SERGEANT BLUFF	6/12/2024	17:04	Hail	1.25 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SERGEANT BLUFF	7/7/2024	16:50	Hail	1.25 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Sgt Bluff has benefited from lessons learned and in-time response based on outcomes. Hosting large gatherings for special events (such as RAGBRAI) offers a trial-by-fire scenario requiring in-time adaptations and recovery. These experiences with an exponential (albeit temporary) growth in local population trigger other considerations. In particular – specifically a change in local demographics and a steady population increase. Several actions implemented in Sgt Bluff have reduced the risk of damages to/loss of property and offer protections to residents and visitors. Continuing a mindful approach to resiliency, the city is considering assessment of relatively new circumstances.

- Continuous growth in residential development. Population has steadily increased expanding the number of residential units (single- and multiple family) and all that goes with such growth – use of resources, utilities, facilities, and schools.

- Communication to migrant populations and homeless persons. As homelessness (by choice and circumstantial) rises, the city recognizes
    - The need to be able to communicate preparedness information and warnings of imminent dangers in multiple formats so that neither lack of technology nor language are barriers to safety.
    - Citizen rights and responsibilities. The city is assessing means of informing new residents, visitors, and migrant populations of their rights and responsibilities

to better define mutual expectations between them and the city as well as their neighbors.

- Consideration of proposed economic development measures as may be implemented at county and state levels.
    - CO2 pipeline plans will directly affect local response teams requiring additional training and equipment
    - Discussion of potential nuclear energy plant. While just introduced as an option, proactive measures are needed to prepare response units and residents for related awareness, including protocol for worst-case-scenario situations.

Priority Hazards

The city maintains the following as priority hazard concerns, largely due to cost of cleanup and broad impact on entire community.

- Tornado/Windstorm
- Severe Winter Weather
- Thunderstorm w/Hail & Lightning

Survey respondents indicated a high frequency of Very Concerned for Severe Winter Storm (5/7) and Tornado/Windstorm (5/7). Also notable concern was indicated for Expansive Soils (4/7), Infrastructure Failure, and Transportation Incidents. The hazards chosen when asked for the top three priority concerns are Thunderstorm with Hail & Lightning (5/7), Tornado/Windstorm, (4/7), and Infrastructure Failure (4/7).

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

communication/education		
Promo/Info	Sgt Bluff	**New**. Interest in developing public awareness campaign for emergency preparedness. Specific topic of interest: lightning awareness and safety. Others as deemed appropriate for season. Collaborate with County EMA for materials. *City Clerk,* (Local – General fund, no additional dedicated funding expected to be necessary) HIGH PRIORITY
Warning Siren	Sgt Bluff	**New**. City is considering need for additional warning siren due to development of East Campus which includes outdoor school sports facilities in addition to

		expansion of homes and trail connections. Implementation is dependent on school district development planning as well as population changes. *Fire Chief*. (Local - general fund, PDM funds, local community and foundation grants, School District funds) Currently HIGH PRIORITY but may downgrade pending school bond measure (2025)
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Sgt Bluff	**New**: Dedicated generator still desired at Fire Department should funding become available. Fire Station serves as designated command center as needed. *Fire Chief*. (Local - general fund, GO Bond, PDM) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Sgt Bluff	**New**. Generator connections at all facilities. *Public Works Director* (Local - general fund, GO Bond, PDM) LOW PRIORITY
Equipment	Sgt Bluff	**Carry Over** (continuation of in-progress project). Handheld radios are in process of being replaced. Spring 2025 10 replaced with 4 still pending. *Fire Chief*. (Local funds for those already replaced, Local funds and response funds as available for remaining) HIGH PRIORITY
Equipment	Sgt Bluff	**New**. Fire department replacing Ambulance at $305,000. *Fire Chief*. (Fire/EMS Foundation Funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Equipment	Sgt Bluff	**New**. Replace AED units. 2 existing units aging out of effective life. Seeking funding supports. *Fire Chief*. (Local – general fund, GO Bond, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
Equipment	Sgt Bluff	**New**. Replace Life Packs. 35 are aging out of useful life. Expected cost is $60,000. *Fire Chief*. (Local – GO Bond, general fund, Fire/EMS Foundation Funds, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
Equipment	Sgt Bluff	**New**. Fire Dept planning replacement of Brush Truck pending funding availability. Replacement is approximately a year-long process with an estimated cost of $100- to $120,000. *Fire Chief*. (GO Bonds, fundraisers, community benefit grant, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
Equipment	Sgt Bluff	**Carry over**. Replace 1 of 2 UTVs within 5 years. This remains a low priority activity. *Police Chief* (Local - general fund, fundraisers, pre-disaster/mitigation funds as applicable, emergency response equipment grants as available) LOW PRIORITY
Safety/Security Equipment	Sgt Bluff	**New.** Interested in acquiring and installing Flock Camera as means of community protection. This would be a collaborative effort with the City of Sioux City as a bordering community – due to planned placement, it may also be affected. *Police Chief*. (PD funds, local - general fund, private donations/fundraisers) HIGH PRIORITY
Safety/Security Equipment	Sgt Bluff	**New**. Collaborative effort to enable communication connections via software in Law Enforcement between City, County, and Sioux City. Cost estimates not currently available. *Police Chief*. (departmental and local general fund, Response funds as available, public safety funds as available) HIGH PRIORITY
development		
Relocate critical facilities	Sgt Bluff	**Carry over**. City maintains an Interest in relocating 2nd Fire Station for improved response to more areas; *City Admin*. (City general fund, Fire Dept Funds, Fire Assoc funds, fundraisers, Response Support funds) LOW PRIORITY
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

Mitigation-specific projects are provided in the preceding project table. Other new projects

- Implementation of new Thorgaard lightning prediction system
- Additional generator for city facilities needed at City Hall, Public Works, Parks & Rec, and Police Department
- C Street road project planned to include flow control
- West Ridge Rd drainage project (collaboration with Sioux City) – across railroad and MidAmerican gas line
- Tree removal at a cost of $20,000 per year. City is underequipped to handle volume.

13. Sioux City

a. Profile

Sioux City is the largest city in Woodbury County. It is located in the northwestern quarter of the county. Interstate 29 runs along the western edge of the City. U.S. Highway 20 and State Highway 75 converge in Sioux City, as do several other County Roads and Highways. North Sioux City, South Dakota and South Sioux City, Nebraska contribute to the greater Sioux City metro region.

The Missouri River is located to the west of Sioux City and acts as a portion of its western border. This river also divides Iowa from Nebraska. The Big Sioux River meets with the Missouri River along the west side of the northern half of the City. The Floyd River meets with the Missouri in the Center of Sioux City. Several significant greenspaces include Stone State Park, Bacon Creek Park, Sioux City State Prairie Preserve, Riverside Park, South Ravine Park, Sertoma Park, Cone Park, and Chautauqua Park. More information can be found on the City of Sioux City website.

City Governance & Community Supports

Sioux City is governed by a five (5)-person City Council, which includes the Mayor and Mayor Pro-Tem. City Council meets every Monday at 4 PM except for holidays and a fifth Monday of the month. Offices in addition to Council include the following.

- Airport
- Art Center
- City Clerk

- City Manager
- Com Center (911)
- Community Development
- Customer Service
- Economic Development
- Engineering
- Environmental Services
- Events Facilities
- Field Service
- Finance
- Fire Rescue
- Human Resources
- Human rights
- Legal
- Library
- Museum
- Parking
- Parks & Recreation
- Police
- Public Works
- Transit
- Underground Utilities
- Utilities
- Water Plant
- Waste Water Treatment

Sioux City is also served by several municipal boards including:

- Active Transportation Advisory Committee
- Airport Board of Trustees
- Art Center Board of Trustees
- Board of Adjustment
- Building & Housing Code Board
- Civil Service Commission
- Effective Fiscal & Public Policy Committee
- Environmental Advisory Board
- Events Facilities & Tourism Advisory Board
- Gjilan Kosovo Sister City Committee
- Historic Preservation Commission
- Human Rights Commission
- Library Board of Trustee
- Mayor's youth Commission
- Museum Board of Trustees
- Parking & Skywalk System Board of Trustees
- Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
- Planning & Zoning Commission
- Senior Advisory Committee
- Transit System Advisory Board
- Woodbury County Information & Communication Commission
- Yamanashi City Sister City Committee

The Sioux City Police Department is composed of 119 sworn officers and 25 civilian personnel. The City also has a Fire and Rescue Department. Services performed by this department include fire suppression, emergency medical services, prevention and education, and training. Fire Personnel are employed by the city. There are eight (8) stations throughout the city and one training center. Several 28E agreements exist between Sioux City and surrounding communities and counties in regard to fire response and emergency response. Hazardous materials response serves other communities as a contracted service.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

Sioux City, Iowa population from CensusReporter.gov[61] is estimated at 85,651 in 2023, presuming a decrease from 85,776 in 2020. The city has 32,843 households and a median household income of $65,473, which is notably higher than the average for Woodbury County, reflecting a relatively strong economic position. Sioux City's population includes a significant number of both young children and older adults, with a larger share of seniors compared to both the county and the state. The percentage of residents living below the poverty line is in line with the county but higher than the state average, indicating a moderate level of economic hardship within the community. Additionally, Sioux City has a higher percentage of residents living with a disability compared to both Woodbury County and the state, suggesting a need for targeted services and support for individuals with disabilities.

Community Characteristics	
Population (2023)	85,727
Population (2020)	85,776
Total Households	32,843
Median Household Income	$65,473
Median Household Income – Woodbury County	$51,350

Vulnerable Populations	*Count*	*Percent*	*Woodbury*	*Iowa*
5 years and younger	5,221	6.1%	7.3%	6.3%
65 years and older	12,744	15%	14.3%	16.0%
Below the poverty level	12,859	14.6%	14.0%	12.0%
Living with a disability	13,304	15.8%	12.4%	11.6%

Sioux City, Iowa, has a total of 34,901 housing units, with 32,807 of them occupied, reflecting a strong housing demand. This estimate indicates an increase of over 1000 housing units since the 2020 HMP which reflected 2010 decennial census estimates. The city has a relatively low vacancy rate of 6%, indicating stability in its housing market. Mobile homes make up a small portion of the housing stock. The majority of homes in Sioux City were built before 1970, with a significant number constructed between 1970 and 1999. A smaller share of the housing was

[61]Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1973335-sioux-city-ia/

built after 2000, suggesting that while there is some new development, the housing stock is largely composed of older homes. This mix of housing ages provides a variety of living options for residents, though it may also highlight potential needs for updating and modernization in some areas.

Housing Characteristics	*Count*	*Percent*
Total Housing Units	34,901	-
Occupied	32,807	94%
Vacant	2,094	6%
Mobile Homes	1,047	3%
Age of Residential Structure		
Built 2000 or later	2,122	6.3%
Built 1970 – 1999	8,851	26.2%
Build 1969 or earlier	22,836	67.5%

More demographic and community data can be found on the U.S. Census webpage for Sioux City.

Leading Employers

Large-scale employers operating within the City include but are not limited to:

- City facilities/offices
- 185th Air Refueling Wing / IA ANG
- Woodbury County offices/operations
- Bomgaars
- Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Sioux City
- Hy-Vee
- Mercy One (acquired by Unity Point 11/2025)
- Unity Point Health
- MidAmerican Energy
- Sabre Industries
- Wilson Trailer
- Seaboard Triumph Foods
- Smithfield Foods
- Sioux City Community School District
- Briar Cliff University
- Morningside University
- Western Iowa Tech Community College

Critical Facilities

Miscellaneous City Facilities	
City Hall	405 6th St.
Animal Control Shelter	2400 Hawkeye Dr
Roth Fountain	924 4th St
Martin Towers (bsmt + 2 flrs)	4th & Pierce St
SFD w/attached single car garage	2804 S Lewis Blvd
Transit Office & Garage	2505 4th St.
Sign & Signal Shed; Shed	717-723 Omaha St.
Airport Facilities	
Airport Terminal	Duplex (21 units)
Passenger Loading Bridges (2)	Dwellings (4 units)
Parking Booth	Hangars (133 units)
Misc Bldgs, Equipment Storage, Offices	
Police Department Facilities	
Police Training Center	6602 Allison Ave
Police/Fire Headquarters	601 Douglas St
Police/Fire/Sheriff Memorial Monument	405 6th St
Fire Department Facilities	
Fire Stations (7)	*varied*
Fire Training Center	1701 Terminal Dr
Regional Training Tower	6608 Allison Ave
Central Maintenance	
CM Garage; Fuel Station	1823 18th St
CM Storage Building 10	1723 18th St
Public Works Facilities	
Public Works HQ Field Office	1723 18th St
Salt Storage Building	
Asphalt Plant	
Mntc & Storage Building	1823 18th St
Public Service Garage & Storage, Bldg	1821 18th St
Environmental Services	
ES Field Hdqtrs	1921 18th St
Multiple Facilities & Bldgs	*(36 addresses)*

Parking Ramps	
• Heritage Parking (Ramp A) • Discovery Parking (Ramp B)	• River's Landing Parking (Ramp D) • Martin Luther King, Jr Transportation Center
Skywalk	
Skywalk network - 13 connections	
Libraries	
Morningside Branch	4005 Morningside Ave
Perry Creek Branch	2912 Hamilton Blvd Lower B
Wilbur Aalfs Library	529 Pierce St
Museums/Arts	
Art Center	225 Nebraska St
Gilchrist Learning Center	220 Pierce St
Lamb Productions	417 Market St
Peirce Mansion	2901 Jackson St
Sgt. Floyd Welcome Center	1100 Larsen Park Rd
Sioux City History Museum	607 4th St
Indoor Rec/Event Centers	
Convention Center	801 4th St
IBP Ice Center	3808 Stadium Dr
Long Lines Family Center	401 Gordon Dr
Tyson Events Center	
Expo Center	
Cemeteries	
Floyd Park Cemetery	2500 7th St
Graceland Park Cemetery	2651 S Lakeport St
Logan Park Cemetery	3901 Stone Park Blvd

City Parks, Pools, Splash Pads		
Parks Storage/Misc Bldgs	1665 18th Street	
• Anderson Dance Pavilion	• Floyd Monument, Park	• Lewis & Clark Stadium
• Bacon Creek Park	• George St Children's Park	• Lewis Park, Pool
• Boat Ramp	• Grandma Moos Park	• Lyons Park
• Cecelia Park	• Grandview Park	• Macomb Park

• Chautauqua Park	• Headington Park	• MidCity Park
• Chris Larsen Park (expanded)	• Hillcrest Park	• Riverfront Playground
• Cone Park (expanded)	• Hi-View Park	• Riverside Park, Aquatic Center
• Cook Park, Skate Park, Splash Pad	• Kelly Park	• Rose Hill Park, Splash Pad
• Dale St Park; Splash Pad	• Kiddie Park	• Sanford Center Park
• Dinosaur Park	• Krumann Park	• Sertoma Park
• Emerson Park	• Leeds Park, Splash Pad	• Smith Villa Playground
• Fairmount Park	• Legacy Park	• Thompson Park
• Flight 232 Memorial	• Leif Erickson Park, Pool	• War Eagle Monument

Ball Parks/Recreation Fields		
• Center St. Park	• Kirk Hansen Park	• Riverside Recreational Complex
• Chautauqua Park	• Merch Headid Park	• Rueger Field
• Goldie Park	• Miracle Field	• Strikers Field
• Hubbard Park	• Pulaski Park	

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

- Schools:
  - Bryant Elementary School, 3040 Jones Street
  - Clark Early Childhood Center, 4315 Hamilton Boulevard
  - Hunt Elementary School, 2002 Nebraska Street
  - Irving Elementary School, 901 Floyd Boulevard
  - Leeds Elementary School, 3919 Jefferson Street
  - Liberty Elementary School, 1623 Rebecca Street
  - Loess Hills Elementary School, 1717 Casselman Street
  - Morningside Elementary School, 3601 Bushnell Avenue
  - Nodland Elementary School, 3300 S. Cypress Street
  - Perry Creek Elementary School, 3601 Country Club Boulevard
  - Riverside Elementary School, 2303 Riverside Boulevard
  - Spalding Park Elementary School, 4101 Stone Avenue
  - Sunnyside Elementary School, 2700 S Maple Street
  - Unity Elementary School, 1901 Unity Avenue
  - East Middle School, 5401 Lorraine Avenue
  - North Middle School, 2101 Outer Drive North
  - West Middle School, 3301 W. 19th Street
  - East High School, 3200 S. Cypress Street

    - North High School, 4200 Cheyenne Boulevard
    - West High School, 2001 Casselman Street
    - Sioux City Career Academy, 627 4th Street
- Colleges & Universities
    - Briar Cliff University, 3303 Rebecca Street
    - Morningside College, 1501 Morningside Avenue
    - St. Luke's College – UnityPoint Health, 2800 Pierce Street
    - Western Iowa Tech Community College, 4647 Stone Avenue
- Hospitals
    - MercyOne Siouxland, 801 5th Street (acquired by Unity Point 11/2025 but facilities remain in operation)
    - UnityPoint Health – St. Luke's, 2720 Stone Park Boulevard
    - Siouxland Surgery Center, 600 Sioux Point Road
- American Legion, 4021 Floyd Boulevard
- Churches (numerous)
- Hotels and conferences centers (numerous)

This list is not exhaustive. Additional community supports may include private businesses and individuals. Residents of Sioux City can also utilize facilities and services provided by nearby communities. Cumulatively, these all add to the city's network of support and communication in times of crisis.

Valuation of City Assets

A current valuation of assets was not provided for this update. Using the 2019 total of $311,964,787, current estimated valuation with all investments and improvements considered, can increase that number by as much as 50%. The city will provide appropriate valuations for cost-benefit analyses for not only city assets, but also for private properties as may be affected by mitigative actions.

b. Participation

Facilitated by SIMPCO, Sioux City's mitigation planning meeting was held at City Hall on October 30, 2024 with the following participants in attendance.

- Brad Bollinger, Police Lieutenant
- Brad Puetz, Utilities
- Jeremy McClure, Police Lieutenant
- Gordon Phair, Public Works
- Robert Padmore, City Manager
- Tom Pingel, Utilities
- Aaron Lisle, Fire Captain
- Chris Madsen, Senior Planner

Attendees at the planning meeting reviewed the listing of hazards in the 2023 State Plan, projects included in the 2020 Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan and related status, planned projects, actions, and strategies related to identified hazards, and recent natural disasters. Discussion included

Survey participation for the city accounted for 43 of 78 Woodbury County submissions. It is important to note that many of the responses were received during the Riverside Flood Recovery Resources Fair. As the recent disaster was the focus of the gathering, those responses are reactive but also particularly relevant, offering significant input on how residents may be better prepared for future like events.

Additional input was provided by Wade Schuldt, City Planner, City of Sioux City throughout the planning process. Follow up and confirmation of applicable capabilities were confirmed via email communication with Jesse Dunn, Civil Engineer, City of Sioux City, and Aaron Lisle. A final review was completed by Grdon Phair , City Engineer and Wade Schultz, City Planner on Fenruary 25, 2026. Upon review, the city has acknowledged updates and confirmed their commitment to adopt the Plan as approved by FEMA.

c. Community Capabilities

Plans/Guidance Documents	
• Comprehensive Plan (2024)	• City Economic Development Plan
• Capital Improvement Plan (annual)	• Land Use Plan

Critical Facilities Plan (Mitigation/Response/Recovery)	
Emergency Response Plan (water systems)	
Policies/Ordinance	
• Building Code • Drainage Ordinance • Floodplain Ordinance • Historic Preservation Ordinance • Landscape Ordinance • Nuisance Ordinance	• Open Burn Restrictions • Storm Water Ordinance • Subdivision Ordinance • Tree Trimming Ordinance • Zoning Ordinance
Programs	
Zoning/Land Use Restrictions	
Codes Building Site/Design	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190298C
ISO Fire Rating	Class 1
Property Acquisition	For funded flood control projects (permanent easement plan, not implemented)
Planning/Zoning Boards	
Staff/Department	
• Building Code Official • Building Inspector • Development Planner • Emergency Management Coordinator • Emergency Response Team • Historic Preservation	• Engineer • Mapping Specialist (GIS) • NFIP Floodplain Administrator • Public Works Official • Sioux City Fire Rescue • Commission and staff liaison
Non-Governmental Organizations	
American Red Cross	
Salvation Army	
Veterans Groups • American Legion Post 307 • Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10753 • VFW Post 1973 • Daughters of the American Revolution (Martha Washington Chapter) • Children of the American Revolution (Sgt. Charles Floyd Society)	
Homeowner Associations	Yes, In certain subdivisions
Neighborhood Associations	approximately 11 Neighborhood Coalitions

Chamber of Commerce	Siouxland Chamber of Commerce
Community Organizations	
• Junior League of Sioux City • Sioux City Lions Club • Rotary Club-Downtown Sioux City • Downtown Partners	• Downtown Kiwanis • Fraternal Order of Eagles Sioux City #77 • Quota International of Sioux City • Rotary Club-Suburban Sioux City
Local Funding Availabilities & Authorities	
Apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	
Levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Collect fees for water and sewer services	
Impact fees for new development	
Incur debt through	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities
Withhold spending in hazard prone areas	

Sioux City's building code includes by reference the IBC 2024 edition as adopted with exception November 10, 2025. The city's floodplain ordinance was adopted under Resolution # 2024-0646 on June 18, 2024 referencing FIRM Panel ID 190298. The city participates in the NFIP program with the Zoning Enforcement Officer serving as Floodplain Administrator. As of October 2025, Sioux City has zero RL/SRL properties.

Capabilities specific to Sioux City Fire & Rescue include:

- 137 Uniformed personnel and 4 Civilian personnel, Total 141
- These are all the first response vehicles-7 fire engines, 2 Trucks, 1 Heavy Rescue vehicle, 1 Command vehicle, 2 EMS Response vehicles, 4 first due Ambulances, Boats and 3 Fire Prevention vehicles.
- Also 4 Reserve Engines , 1 Truck, and 4 reserve ambulances.

City capabilities include consideration of natural disasters and other hazards beyond those requiring mitigation action through participation in this plan. The City of Sioux City, having in its borders areas susceptible to varying degrees of landslides, or gravitational mass movement,

does have grading and setback slope requirements serving as preventive measures within its building codes.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

The following table updates the status of projects as identified in the 2020 HMP including those added by amendment in 2025.

communication /education		
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Sioux City	2020: Generators for critical facilities where none are currently in place; *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Generator & Related Projects	Sioux City	**Update**: Some generator acquisition/placement still needed.
development		
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Sioux City (amended & adopted 01/13/25)	2025: **Carry over** to 2026 HMP. Bacon Creek Conduit. Estimated $35M project - Reconstruction and relocation beginning at Rustin Street continuing to the outlet west of Lewis Boulevard. The project addresses the deteriorated condition of the existing conduit underneath Gordon Drive and the risk of structural failure, posing a risk to the traveling public on Gordon Drive. The conduit will be relocated from underneath Gordon Drive off-alignment and the capacity will be expanded to withstand a 100-year flooding event. The project improves resiliency of the utility, transportation infrastructure, and the region. *City of Sioux City, IA DOT*. (City of Sioux City Engineering Dept, CIP FY 2028) HIGH PRIORITY.
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Sioux City (amended & adopted 01/13/25)	2025: **Carry over** to 2026 HMP. Bacon Creek Channel Reconstruction. Estimated $18M project is a collaborative effort to stabilize the channel built in 1930. Flooding events have resulted in Missouri River backing up channel, causing entry to the combined sanitary sewer system. Backwater infiltration has caused significant damage to Wastewater Treatment Plant. Project addresses the compromised combined sanitary system and includes repurposing the existing site to coordinate with economic development and urban use vision planning. *City of Sioux City, IA DOT*. (City of Sioux City Engineering Dept., CIP FY2028) HIGH PRIORITY.
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

Additional mitigation-related projects completed since 2019 include the following.

- Updated power system needs are reflected in the CIP with a generator at the Police Department/Fire Department HQ facility.
- Fully equipped response UTV in place at training center – 2 more needed with 1 at urgent status.
- One well has been reconstructed with the addition of a flood barrier. Cost and Funding sources were not specified.

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

Review of the NOAA Storm Event database for Woodbury County between 11/1/2019 and 12/31/2024 provides 27 Sioux City/Sioux City Airport-specific events. Woodbury "Zone" records include 104 events generally impacting the city as well.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
SIOUX CITY ARPT	8/10/2020	7:20	Thunderstorm Wind	50 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY ARPT	8/10/2020	7:24	Thunderstorm Wind	58 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	8/5/2021	23:22	Thunderstorm Wind	52 kts. EG	0	0	2.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	12/15/2021	16:21	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	12/15/2021	16:25	Thunderstorm Wind	65 kts. EG	0	0	10.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY ARPT	12/15/2021	16:23	Thunderstorm Wind	71 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	5/12/2022	15:54	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY ARPT	5/12/2022	18:09	Thunderstorm Wind	59 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	5/30/2022	13:41	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY ARPT	7/5/2022	15:49	Thunderstorm Wind	51 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	80.00K
SIOUX CITY	7/7/2022	16:40	Flash Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	4/19/2023	19:14	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	5/10/2023	22:54	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	7/12/2023	4:20	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY ARPT	7/12/2023	4:26	Thunderstorm Wind	51 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	9/23/2023	11:30	Hail	1.25 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	10/3/2023	19:25	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY ARPT	5/20/2024	21:42	Thunderstorm Wind	63 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

SIOUX CITY	5/21/2024	5:26	Thunderstorm Wind	52 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY ARPT	5/21/2024	5:19	Thunderstorm Wind	62 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	6/24/2024	19:00	Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	7/28/2024	14:40	Flash Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	7/29/2024	22:39	Thunderstorm Wind	52 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	7/29/2024	22:40	Thunderstorm Wind	61 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	7/29/2024	22:46	Thunderstorm Wind	51 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY ARPT	7/29/2024	22:45	Thunderstorm Wind	60 kts. MG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SIOUX CITY	8/29/2024	15:30	Flash Flood		0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Cumulative record of estimated property damage is $12, 000 and crop damage is $80,000. It is important to note that this system is record of reported incidents and related damages, not a full accounting of actual assessed damages. For example, the flooding event as recorded for June 24, 2024 resulted in significant damages in the Leeds and Riverside neighborhoods, including the complete loss of some homes. As of May 25, 2024, the city and many residents continue to work with FEMA and insurance providers to assess the full scope of loss.

Additional factors in determining risk include the following.

- Recent I-29 reconstruction improved roadway capacity and continues to serve as a north-south conductor from Kansas City to Canada.

- The Police Department specified a concern for turnover with 25 new appointments to the department within 2 years. At the time of the mitigation planning meeting, 119 of 131 positions are filled. Several factors contribute to high turnover including but not limited to retiring long-term employees, surplus of other employment opportunities, and it can be expected that there is some reduction of viable candidates due to overall low unemployment rates in the region. Other city department are experiencing similar staffing shortages. Where feasible, roles are consolidated to fill the gaps. The city is conducting ongoing assessment of organizational structure to efficiently serve the community with available human resources.

Priority Hazards

The city maintains the following as priority hazards .

- Flood
- Severe Winter Weather
- Thunderstorm w/Hail & Lightning

Considerable discussion was held regarding Drought and its strain on the city's water supply. As expected, Flooding - Riverine and Flash (34 of 43) and Levee /Dam Failure (23/43) figure highly in the frequency of Very Concerned indications. Sever Winter Storm (22/43) and Tornado/Windstorm (21/43) are also recognized as concerning. Overall, when asked what they consider their top three concerns, respondents indicated Flash Flood, Tornado/Windstorm, and Sever Winter Storm.

Specific open-ended responses to the Personal Impacts portion of the survey include the following. Again, this is notable due to relevance of severe impacts of flooding suffered by many respondents who were either victims of the flood or agents of the community programs that serve(d) them. Comments are provided in context of how they were written or discussed at time of survey where applicable. Some notes are added to clarify intent of comment.

- [note veteran & homeless impact] I am one of many that live on and off the river considered "non traditional housing" by FEMA, most call it homeless or encampment. When the waters hit a high point and flash flooding came from North of State or North levee gates releasing water many of us were took by surprise. Lack of access to "local news", "no emergency" or "early warning systems". The water rose quickly with little time to evacuate putting us between flood barriers and the water. Most of us lose gear critical to our survival. I am part of homeless vets not help by VA, westcare, but gave all at times.
- early notification of potential flooding -improved levee integrity
- Erosion-losing more of the riverbank. maybe putting red rock along the riverbank.
- Housing-displaced, needs accessible option -Not ready due to unknown

    - Note: Recommendation as noted per discussion with respondent: evac plan include actions for ADA
- IN NEED OF SUPPORT!!
- More notification of evacuation. More communication for City.
- Resident stated more warning would have been helpful.
- Resident stated sandbags were needed and not available.
- Resident stated earlier information would have been good
- It would have been prevented if it was sand bagged. It would help a lot if they would make fixing the appt, top priority.
- Concerned about extreme heat with regard to the low and moderate income populations
- We lack the staff and funding to respond to any issues at this point, existing infrastructure is overwhelmed and when the day comes, we will be face down and ass up.
- Investment in infrastructure is very important
- Notification from our natural disasters such as flooding and what plan the government plans to conduct. (2) For the people whose lives are in danger from the natural disaster (flood) have emergency crews contact them early so they have time to get out. (3) For tornadoes having more buildings around with basements for people that live in mobile homes.
- Financial extreme hardships and high increase in costs of living. That is making it harder and harder to continue with providing the basic needs
- economic uncertainty; resource consumption
- none at this time
- Hail damage
- Yard washed away in most recent food

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

The following table includes specific projects identified by the city.

communication /education		
Promo/Info	Sioux City	**New**. Improve communications of imminent dangers due to natural disaster: storm safety; extreme temperature protections; storm alerts (promote RED Alert program in use by city); Red Flag warnings, etc. *City communications department* (no additional fund needs anticipated) HIGH PRIORITY
Promo/Info	Sioux City	**New.** Efforts in progress to update Red Alert geo mapping capacity to specific areas and to address more than just snow city-wide. *Public Works, Communications Department.* (Local funds/annual budget) MEDIUM PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Sioux City	**Carry over**. Generators still needed at Police Department and other City Facilities. Project remains necessary and carries into 2026 plan. *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds general budget, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Equipment	Sioux City (interest in same expressed by Ida Co.)	**New.** Sandbagging machine needed for local inventory. City would maintain as property with access through mutual aid for adjacent/nearby communities. Machine enables responders to produce the same amount of bags in 5 hours with 4-5 people as you can with 12-15 people loading manually in 30 hours. Investment estimated under $50K. Regional impact. Parks Department. (Local - general fund, PDM/FMA) HIGH PRIORITY
Equipment	Sioux City	**New**. Add large capacity pump to city inventory. Estimated at $210,000. Sioux City Utilities. (CIP FY 2026) HIGH PRIORITY
Equipment	Sioux City	**New**. Department needs an updated tool to open and close flood gates that is not electric. *Parks Department* (Local - general fund, PDM/FMA)) HIGH PRIORITY
development		
Policy	Sioux City	**New**. Policy/regulation needed to ensure all future wells and well projects must include means for permanent protections upon implementation. City Council, City Planning & Zoning. (No funds anticipated aside from staff hours to compile ordinance &/or modification of existing) HIGH PRIORITY
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Sioux City (amended & adopted 01/13/25)	2025: **Carry over** to 2026 HMP. Bacon Creek Conduit. Estimated $35M project - Reconstruction and relocation beginning at Rustin Street continuing to the outlet west of Lewis Boulevard. The project addresses the deteriorated condition of the existing conduit underneath Gordon Drive and the risk of structural failure, posing a risk to the traveling public on Gordon Drive. The conduit will be relocated from underneath Gordon Drive off-alignment and the capacity will be expanded to withstand a 100-year flooding event. The project improves resiliency of the utility, transportation infrastructure, and the region. *City of Sioux City, IA DOT*. (City of Sioux City Engineering Dept, CIP FY 2028) HIGH PRIORITY.
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Sioux City (amended & adopted 01/13/25)	2025: **Carry over** to 2026 HMP. Bacon Creek Channel Reconstruction. Estimated $18M project is a collaborative effort to stabilize the channel built in 1930. Flooding events have resulted in Missouri River backing up channel, causing entry to the combined sanitary sewer system. Backwater infiltration has caused significant damage to Wastewater Treatment Plant. Project addresses the compromised combined sanitary system and includes repurposing the existing site to coordinate with economic development and urban use vision planning. *City of Sioux City, IA DOT*. (City of Sioux City Engineering Dept., CIP FY2028) HIGH PRIORITY.

Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Sioux City	**New**: Wastewater Plant Improvement Project. In conjunction with other flood-affected area projects, the City is planning significant improvements to its wastewater treatment plant. Estimated at $300M, the project will address system capacity updates, flood infiltration protections, and improved function overall. *City Utilities Department*. (BRIC, Local general budget matching funds) HIGH PRIORITY
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Sioux City	**New**. Improve outflow systems at Wastewater Plant. Estimated at $1.5M. Protects river, local bodies of water. *Sioux City Utilities Dept. and related regulatory bodies – IDNR, etc*. (Local general budget funds, BRIC) HIGH PRIORITY
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Sioux City	**New**. Reconstruction of well planned, including addition of flood barrier. Project cost not provided. *Public Works, Water Dept*. (Local general budget funds, Federal/state funds as may be applicable) HIGH PRIORITY.
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Sioux City	**New.** City is seeking to construct a designated storage shed or container for flood response equipment. *Parks department*. (Local - general fund, PDM/FMA)) HIGH PRIORITY
Relocate critical facilities	Sioux City	**New**. Sioux City is looking at relocation of Riverside lift station outside of potential flood area. Due to existing structure's age, replacement may be warranted. Still in preliminary planning stages with expected cost not immediately available. *Public Works, Waterworks*. (local general budget funds, may be eligible for disaster/disaster mitigation funds, TBD) HIGH PRIORITY
flow control		
Flood protection	Sioux City	**New**. Flood Mitigation Ponding project for FY27 in Leeds area. Full scope to be determined – intent is to mitigate frequent occurrence of flash flood points by creating intentional water retention areas. Cost is estimated at $4M. *Public Works, contracted services/labor*. (Local general budget funds, state mitigation funds as available) HIGH PRIORITY
Flood protection	Sioux City:	**New**. Levee Extension along Big Sioux River affecting Riverside neighborhood. The project estimated at $2.5M is under review for implementation. Extreme historical flooding in 2024 resulted in flood protection actions as dictated in neighboring state jurisdiction. Outcome of that last-resort implementation exposed an otherwise protected area, with significant damage to or loss of approximately 70 homes. *Sioux City Public Works, related regulatory systems including but not limited to the Army Corp of Engineers*. (CIP requested, Local general budget Funds, BRIC) HIGH PRIORITY
Flood protection	Sioux City:	**New.** Infrastructure protection. Riverside Collector well- permanent flood barrier and elevated access to the well. *Parks Department*. (Local - general fund, PDM/FMA) HIGH PRIORITY
Flood protection	Sioux City:	**New.** Infrastructure protection. Well and switchgear in Chris Larsen boat ramp-needs a deployable closure structure instead of sand bags. Needs to have plan to increase wall height if necessary as it was under built. *Parks Department*. (Local - general fund, PDM/FMA) HIGH PRIORITY
Flood Protection	Sioux City	**New**. Hesco sandbags needed to improve flood prevention. This $40, 000 project may also be categorized as Equipment. *Public Works*. (Local general budget funds, FMA funds, other response/emergency management funds as may be available) HIGH PRIORITY
Flood Protection	Sioux City	**New.** City is looking to replace wire weight gauge on Floyd River with USGS Auto-Read gauge, allowing remote alerts. *Parks Department*. (Local - general fund, PDM/FMA) HIGH PRIORITY
Drainage projects	Sioux City	**New**. Southbridge development will affect function of existing drainage ditch, which protects water treatment plant. A 46M project is planned and funded to ensure sufficient function FY26-28. *City Utilities* (CIP) HIGH PRIORITY

Drainage projects	Sioux City	**New**. City is planning stormwater drainage improvements at Pulaski Park area in Morningside. A collaborative effort with Morningside university resulted in $1.5M investment, in the planning stage in 2025 with implementation set for 2026. *Public Works, Parks & Rec, Morningside University* (funding sources not identified beyond local general budget) HIGH PRIORITY
Drainage projects	Sioux City	**New**. City is planning targeted Reconstructing Undermined Pavement and Stormwater Drainage improvements including Pulaski Park area in Morningside. A collaborative effort with Morningside university resulted in $1.5M investment, in the planning stage in 2025 with implementation set for 2026. *Environmental Services Dept. coordinated with Morningside University* (CIP) HIGH PRIORITY
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		
Stabilization	Sioux City	**New**: Tree replacement plan included in CIP. Replace trees that have been removed due to dead/diseased as means of soil stabilization, wind break, and relief from extreme heat/sun events. Parks & Recreation Department. Local funds via CIP, grants as available - DNR, tree foundations, MidAmerican, etc.) HIGH PRIORITY.

Additional projects identified as necessary include the following.

- Re-establish voice-over capacity to warning siren system
- Generators at firehouses – added in recent project but still needed at other stations
- Police dept needs:
    - High end drone with thermal imaging capacity ($25,000)
    - UTV ($30,000 fully equipped as PD unit)

Projects specific to SCFR department include:

- CIP 159-018 – Apparatus Replacement – In FY207, we will be replacing the squads, to include chassis and lift arm mechanisms/mounts. This is utilized both as EMS response vehicles, but also grass rigs, tow vehicles for rescue boats, and general utility functions. The estimated cost is $392,094.

- CIP 159-031 Public Safety Generators – Station 1 will be replaced in 2025, so may be a little late on that one. But HQ is scheduled to be replaced in 2028 at an estimated cost of $83,000.

- CIP 539-227 Bypass Pumping Equipment – According to Brad Puetz, the city is looking into purchasing a 10-inch portable dry prime trash pump and 400 feet of suction and discharge hose for use during flood emergencies. This project was proposed after the Riverside flood and has an estimated cost of $120,000.

- Storm Sirens (unspecified locations)

    - Currently using old radio technology, interest in updating internal radios to be on 800 trunked system – HIGH PRIORITY

    - Update to the sirens to solar power to eliminate the need for MidAmerican feed.

    - Study to determine proper city coverage

14. Sloan

a. Profile

The city of Sloan is located in the southwest corner of Woodbury County, just east of Interstate 29. State Highway 141 and Old Highway 75 intersect at the southwest corner of the city. Boyer Ditch continues south out of the City. More information about Sloan can be found on the city's website at https://sloania.com/.

City Governance & Community Supports

Sloan is governed by a five (5) person elected council and the Mayor. Offices in addition to the Mayor and Council include the following.

- Emergency Services (Fire & Rescue Department)
- Gas & Electric Utilities
- Local Phone / Cable / Internet UtilitiesParks & Recreation
- Sanitation & Recycling
- Water Utility

The city is also served by the Planning & Zoning Commission. The City of Sloan Fire and Rescue Department is staffed by volunteers. Law enforcement is provided by the County.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

CensusReporter.org estimates a population of 884 for Sloan in 2023[62], showing a decline from decennial census estimate of 1,042 in 2020. With 372 households, the community enjoys a median household income of $73,750, which is significantly higher than the Woodbury County average, reflecting a stronger local economy. Sloan's population includes a larger percentage of older adults compared to the county and state, with nearly 19% of residents aged 65 and over. The number of young children is relatively low, which is in line with the state average. While the poverty rate in Sloan is slightly below the county average, it still reflects some economic challenges. Additionally, the percentage of residents living with a disability is lower than the state average but slightly above the county's, indicating a moderate need for accessible services and support.

Community Characteristics	
Population (2023)	884
Population (2020)	1,042
Total Households	372
Median Household Income	$73,750
Median Household Income – Woodbury County	$51,350

Vulnerable Populations	*Count*	*Percent*	*Woodbury*	*Iowa*
5 years and younger	51	5.8%	7.3%	6.3%
65 years and older	167	18.9%	14.3%	16.0%
Below the poverty level	138	12.6%	14.0%	12.0%
Living with a disability	91	10.3%	12.4%	11.6%

Sloan, Iowa, has a total of 378 housing units, with 370 of them occupied, resulting in a high occupancy rate of 98%. The vacancy rate is quite low, with only 8 units vacant. Mobile homes make up a small portion of the housing stock. The majority of homes were built before 1970,

[62] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1973605-sloan-ia/

while nearly half of the housing was constructed between 1970 and 1999. A smaller number of homes were built after 2000, indicating that most of the housing stock in Sloan is older. This mix of housing ages suggests a relatively well-established community, though there may be opportunities for updating and modernizing some of the older structures.

Housing Characteristics	*Count*	*Percent*
Total Housing Units	378	-
Occupied	370	98%
Vacant	8	2%
Mobile Homes	4	1%
Age of Residential Structure		
Built 2000 or later	32	6.9%
Built 1970 – 1999	206	44.7%
Build 1969 or earlier	223	48.4%

More demographic and community data can be found on the U.S. Census webpage for Sloan.

Leading Employers

Sloan is primarily composed of smaller businesses and workplaces. Leading employers in/near the city include:

- Westwood Community School District
- Uncommon Grounds
- WinnaVegas Casino and Hotel (outside city limits)

Critical Facilities

City Hall	428 Evans St
Community Center	423 Evans St
Park & Splash Pad	418 Alderson St
Park Restrooms	403 Buckley
Water Treatment Plant	700 Johnson St
Maintenance Garage	

Sewage Treatment Plant	
Pump/Electric Switches	5th St @ Brown St
Water Tank	Old Hwy 75 @ Johnson St
Pump House	425 4th St
Sports Complex	400 8th St
Hopkins Bldg	502 Brown St
Library	502 Evans St
Lift Station	1870 Hwy 141
Golf Course/Clubhouse	3212 Old Hwy 75
Transformer	
Pump House	208 5th St
Water Tower	

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

Westwood Schools	1000 Rebel Way
Burgess Clinic	409 Evans St
Community Church of Christ	502 Beall
Skien Lutheran Church	11929 Aspen Ave
Evangelical Covenant Church	306 Buckley

This list is not exhaustive. Additional community supports may include other private businesses and individuals. Residents of Sloan can also utilize facilities and services provided by nearby communities. Cumulatively, these all add to the city's network of support and communication in times of crisis.

Valuation of City Assets

Total Blanket TIV	$	10,685,053
Building	$	10,031,530
Personal Property	$	653,523

Misc Property Sched	$	158,500
Misc Property Unsched	$	67,788
Total TIV	**$**	**10,911,341**

b. Participation

An in-person mitigation planning meeting, facilitated by SIMPCO was held at Sloan City Hall on February 18, 2025 with City Clerk Dixie Peters in attendance. One survey was submitted indicating Sloan as jurisdiction of residence.

c. Community Capabilities

Plans/Guidance Documents	
Comprehensive Plan	
Policies/Ordinance	
• Building Code	• Storm Water Ordinance
• Drainage Ordinance	• Subdivision Ordinance
• Floodplain Ordinance	• Tree Trimming Ordinance
• Landscape Ordinance (w/in covenants)	• Zoning Ordinance
• Nuisance Ordinance	
Programs	
Zoning/Land Use Restrictions	
Codes Building Site/Design	w/in covenants; restrictions when buying
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190299C
ISO Fire Rating (not updated)	Sloan Class 6; Sloan FD, Class 6/9
Property Acquisition	
Planning/Zoning Boards	
Tree Trimming Program	
Staff/Department	
Building Code Official	
Building Inspector	
Public Works Official	
Emergency Management Coordinator	City clerk @ local level
Emergency Response Team	Fire and Rescue
Non-Governmental Organizations	

Veterans Groups	Smith-Rhodes American Legion
Local Funding Availability	
Apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	
Levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Collect fees for water and sewer services	
Ability to incur debt through	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities

The city participates in the NFIP program with the Mayor serving as Floodplain Administrator. Sloan has zero RL/SRL properties.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

communication/education		
Warning Sirens	Sloan/ Westwood Schools	2020: Warning siren at south end of town, serving school & rec facilities; *City Council, County EMA* (Local funds, County supports, State/Federal response funds, PDM, Community Benefits funds) MEDIUM PRIORITY
Warning Sirens	Sloan	**Complete**. A siren was installed to better serve the areas of outdoor school facilities.
tools/equipment		
development		
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

The city's comprehensive plan was completed in 2020. In time for anticipated housing development, Sloan has adopted the IBC and IPMC by reference with exceptions as means of increasing resiliency. The city installed a new bathroom at the city park serving dual purpose as a modest shelter. They have also added a splash pad to better offer residents and visitors respite from extreme heat.

The city is monitoring dead/diseased trees in easements, rights of way, and parking. Removal is drawn from the annual budget as needed. Replacement will be addressed through Parks and Recreation, as an ongoing assessment of need.

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

An assessment of the NOAA Storm Event database includes seven reports specific to Sloan, many for the same day.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
SLOAN	5/12/2023	18:46	Thunderstorm Wind	52 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SLOAN	7/12/2023	4:35	Thunderstorm Wind	52 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SLOAN	6/12/2024	17:29	Hail	1.50 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SLOAN	6/12/2024	17:33	Hail	1.50 in.	0	0	0.00K	3.00K
SLOAN	6/12/2024	17:49	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SLOAN	6/12/2024	17:50	Hail	2.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
SLOAN	6/22/2024	22:00	Flood		0	0	4.130M	0.00K

Priority Hazards

- Tornado/Windstorm
- Severe Winter Storm
- Flood – *both river and flash flood issues as they impact residential basement flooding*

Survey response indicates significant concern about Dam / Levee failure.

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

communication/education

Promo/Info	Sloan	**New**. PSAs - Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to Alert Iowa, Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; water conservation (drought considerations); Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. *City Clerk, County EMA* (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
development		
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Sloan	**New**. Sloan is preparing for a water infrastructure improvement project including wastewater treatment and a new water tower. The project will include generators and/or generator transfer switches where applicable and practical. Project is expected to exceed $3M. *Public Works, contracted engineer*. (Local general budget funds, loans, others as may become available.) HIGH PRIORITY
Improve existing facilities & infrastructure	Sloan	**New**. Sloan is seeking funding to support add lighting to parks and enhance trail network to improve access as well as general public safety and wellbeing. *City Council, Parks committee*. (Local general budget funds, others to be determined.) HIGH PRIORITY
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/supports		

Road projects are planned, with most consisting of routine maintenance. Drainage maintenance/improvements will be addressed as applicable. Projects that are not necessarily mitigative but essential for community health include a new housing development.

15. Smithland

a. Profile

The city of Smithland is situated in south central Woodbury County. State Highways 141, 31, and 92 all converge near the center of Smithland. The Little Sioux River runs to the east and south of the City. An oxbow lake can be found just south of city limits.

City Governance & Community Supports

Smithland is governed by a five (5) person elected City Council and a Mayor. Offices in addition to Mayor and Council include City Clerk. Council meets monthly on the 2nd Thursday at 6:00 PM. The Little Sioux Grant Township Fire Department is located in Smithland and is staffed by

volunteers. The City contracts with Woodbury County for law enforcement services. The City of Smithland is a member of the NFIP program.

As a small community, city decisions for projects and other development are closely entwined with local businesses. Stakeholders represented by City Council and City Staff include Buffalo Joe's (restaurant) and Smithland Country Store.

Demographics, Housing, & Economics

For Smithland, Iowa, CensusReporter.gov shows an estimated population of 148 in 2023[63], down from decennial census estimates of 187 in 2020. The same source shows town has 76 households and boasts a relatively high median household income of $83,000, significantly higher than the average for Woodbury County. Smithland has a notably older population, with nearly 38% of its residents aged 65 and over, far above both the county and state averages. The town has a very small percentage of young children, consistent with a more mature demographic. The poverty rate in Smithland is low, reflecting overall economic stability, though the town does have a higher percentage of residents living with disabilities compared to the county. This may indicate a need for additional services and support for individuals with disabilities in the community.

Community Characteristics	
Population (2023)	148
Population (2020)	187
Total Households	76
Median Household Income	$83,000
Median Household Income – Woodbury County	$51,350

Vulnerable Populations	*Count*	*Percent*	*Woodbury*	*Iowa*
5 years and younger	2	1.4	7.3%	6.3%
65 years and older	56	37.8%	14.3%	16.0%
Below the poverty level	9	4.7%	14.0%	12.0%
Living with a disability	36	17.6%	12.4%	11.6%

[63] Source: https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US1973650-smithland-ia/

Smithland, Iowa, has a total of 93 housing units, with 76 currently occupied, resulting in an occupancy rate of 82%. The town has a relatively high vacancy rate of 18%, indicating some availability in the housing market. Mobile homes make up a small portion of the housing stock. The majority of the homes in Smithland were built before 1970, with a smaller number constructed between 1970 and 1999. Very few homes have been built since 2000, suggesting that most of the housing in the area is older. This aging housing stock may point to opportunities for renovation or updating to meet the needs of the community's current residents.

Housing Characteristics	*Count*	*Percent*
Total Housing Units	93	-
Occupied	76	82%
Vacant	17	18%
Mobile Homes	7	8%
Age of Residential Structure		
Built 2000 or later	2	2.2%
Built 1970 – 1999	22	24.2%
Build 1969 or earlier	67	73.6%

More demographic and community data can be found on the U.S. Census webpage for Smithland.

Leading Employers

Leading employers in town include the Country Store and Buffalo Joe's.

Critical Facilities

Smithland City Hall	110 Jackson St
Pump House	N Hickory
Ball Park	
City Maintenance Bldg	
Museum	S Hickory

Lagoon & Related	301 W Main St
Back-Up Well; Water Pump	210 Pine St

Community Supports, Vulnerable Populations, Gathering Locations, & Local Areas of Interest

No major gathering paces outside those as included in the Leading Employers list were noted.

Valuation of City Assets

Valuation of assets based on the 2025 statement of valuations provided by Smithland's insurance company including Building and Business Personal Property is $816,510 – more than double the valuation provided in 2020.

b. Participation

Facilitated by SIMPCO, a mitigation planning meeting was held at the Clerk's Office on December 16, 2024 with the following in attendance.

- Courtney Schmitt, City Clerk
- Paul R Frahm, Maintenance Superintendent

Three surveys of the 251 total primary surveys submitted indicate Smithland as jurisdiction of residence.

A final review was completed by the city clerk and maintenance superintendent on March 23, 2026. Upon review, the city acknowledged changes as included in the plan and committed to adopting upon FEMA approval.

c. Community Capabilities

Plans/Guidance Documents	
Comprehensive Plan (2020)	
Policies/Ordinance	
• Building Code	• Nuisance Ordinance
• Debris Management Plan	• Subdivision Ordinance

• Floodplain Ordinance (updated 07/18/24)	• Tree Trimming Ordinance
Programs	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participant	CID #190300C
ISO Fire Rating	Smithland Class 8; Smithland FD Class 8/9
Staff/Department	
Public Works Official	
Emergency Management Coordinator	City clerk @ Local level
Emergency Response Team	Fire Department; Oto Ambulance
Non-Governmental Organizations	
Veterans Groups	Leslie F Seaton American Legion and Auxiliary
Local Funding Availabilities & Authorities	
Apply for Community Development Block Grants	
Fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	
Levy taxes for a specific purpose	
Collect fees for water and sewer services	
Ability to incur debt through	• general obligation bonds • special tax bonds • private activities

Smithland's building code was updated in May 2024 and included adoption by reference of the IPMC. The city participates in the NFIP program with the City Clerk serving as Floodplain Administrator. Smithland has zero RL/SRL properties.

Review of Actions Taken (Since 2019)

Smithland included one project in the 2020 HMP. The project described in the table below is carried over with modification to this Plan.

communication /education		
Warning Sirens	Smithland	2020: Warning siren improvement/replacement needed to better perform alerts for residents. Replacement or updating must include connection to County Communications Center. City Council. City staff, County EMA. (Local funds, county supports, community benefits programs, fundraising, PDM) HIGH PRIORITY
Warning Sirens	Smithland	**Update**. City has determined replacement of siren is necessary as parts are no longer available to maintain current siren.
tools/equipment		
development		
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		

Other actions taken since 2019 include a Floodplain Ordinance update.

d. Risk Assessment

Contributing Factors

The NOAA Storm Event database indicates one report specific to Smithland between 11/01/2019 and 12/31/2024. Events as categorized under Woodbury Zone and Monona Zone affected Smithland as well. Details of those events are included in respective county profiles under Risk Assessment.

Location	*Date*	*Time*	*Type*	*Mag*	*Dth*	*Inj*	*PrD*	*CrD*
SMITHLAND	7/29/2024	23:08	Thunderstorm Wind	56 kts. EG	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Priority Hazards

- Tornado/Windstorm
- Flood
- Grass or Wildland Fire

Survey respondents provided a high frequency indication of Very Concerned about Tornado/Windstorm, Flood, and Thunderstorm with Hail & Lightning. Specific response to Top Three Concerns prioritized Infrastructure Failure, Flood, and Tornado/Windstorm.

e. Mitigation Needs, Actions, & Strategies

communication /education		
Promo/Info	Smithland	**New**. PSAs - Improve communications of existing programs and systems as available including but not limited to Alert Iowa, Increasing water intake during extreme heat and/or extreme dry conditions; water conservation (drought considerations); Red Flag warning awareness; Lightning safety, Snowstorm/Heavy snow safety, Tornado safety. These activities are intended to reduce risk of life and loss/damage to property. *City Clerk, County EMA* (no funds needed) HIGH PRIORITY
Warning Sirens	Smithland	**Carry over**. Replace warning siren. *Public Works, City Clerk, County EMA* (local general budget funds, community foundation grants) HIGH PRIORITY
tools/equipment		
Generator & Related Projects	Smithland	**New**. Generators are needed at the Wastewater Plant and Fire Hall as means of maintaining operations during power outages. *City Maintenance, County EMA* (local funds general budget, community benefit funds, fundraisers, pre-disaster / mitigation funds as available)
development		
flow control		
refuge		
technology		
natural barriers/ supports		