

WHY I LOVE IT HERE

What do you love about Clay County today?



Small town feel

small town feel, larger metro

the people

THE PEOPLE!

changing topography!

Hills / topography!

Great access to good medical facilities

close access to health care systems

Welcoming small town atmospheres

small town atmosphere - big city amenities

Community events

Longest table event in 2019 was great

Barnesville Potato Days

City events, Ulen BBQ, Sabin Days, fun events to visit

Blue Eagle in Barnesville and the Clay County Fair, Steam Threshers, Hawley Rodeo, great local festivals

Close access to great healthcare systems

Emerging diversity

our diversity

Great hunting and fishing opportunities on lakes, rivers and wildlife management area

family recreational facilities such as Blue Eagle in Barnesville

Parks in Moorhead and trail running along the river is a big win for the City

Prairie chickens, scientific and natural areas, wide open spaces

Seasons - changing of seasons

Libraries

services provided

Wildlife, deer, prairie chickens

connection to natural places, Buffalo River State Park, trails along rivers and other natural places

Buffalo River State Park and Natural Areas

Buffalo River State Park and the Grasslands

strong library system

strong relationship with the State to provide public services - works well

Clay County & MN values the people

Community support for small businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic

Easy access to business in Clay County via Bicycle

City restaurants and support for them in smaller communities throughout Clay County

Employment opportunities

Businesses like Stoneridge Software in Barnesville

High value placed on preservation of farmland

Collaboration between gov't entities and school districts across the County

County employees and elected officials make themselves accessible and show up at events

Growth opportunities

Everest Tikka House!

Lots of local businesses and support for them

Everest Tikka House!

beautiful farmland great County Highways

Lower special assessments and great schools

Larger residential lot sizes compared to neighboring Cass County

Great mix of Urban and rural landscape

Rural character - easy to get 'out of town' (into nature, etc.)

Lake Country begins in Eastern Clay County

Easy access to other amenities across the region (e.g. lakes, trails, etc.)

Fargo is next door

Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County

Clay County and Unique History - places to see/ learn about that

educational opportunities

Proximity to 3 universities and 2 tech schools

strong arts, starts in the schools

K-12 education is 2nd-to-none

Rush hours is only 5 minutes

Museum - Hjemkomst. Clay County Historical Society and their exhibits. High quality experience

Hjemkomst is unique

Lakes, City amenities, spanish immersion education for my children

The three colleges are a great asset, with events hosted there, after pandemic is done

Bluestem Arts is an amazing amenity

College students as an asset and opportunity

good support for families

safe, welcoming place to live, family friendly

we are a welcoming community

People whom have moved here from different parts of the country feel very safe compared to where they may have come from

Embracing the history while looking ahead to the future

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES



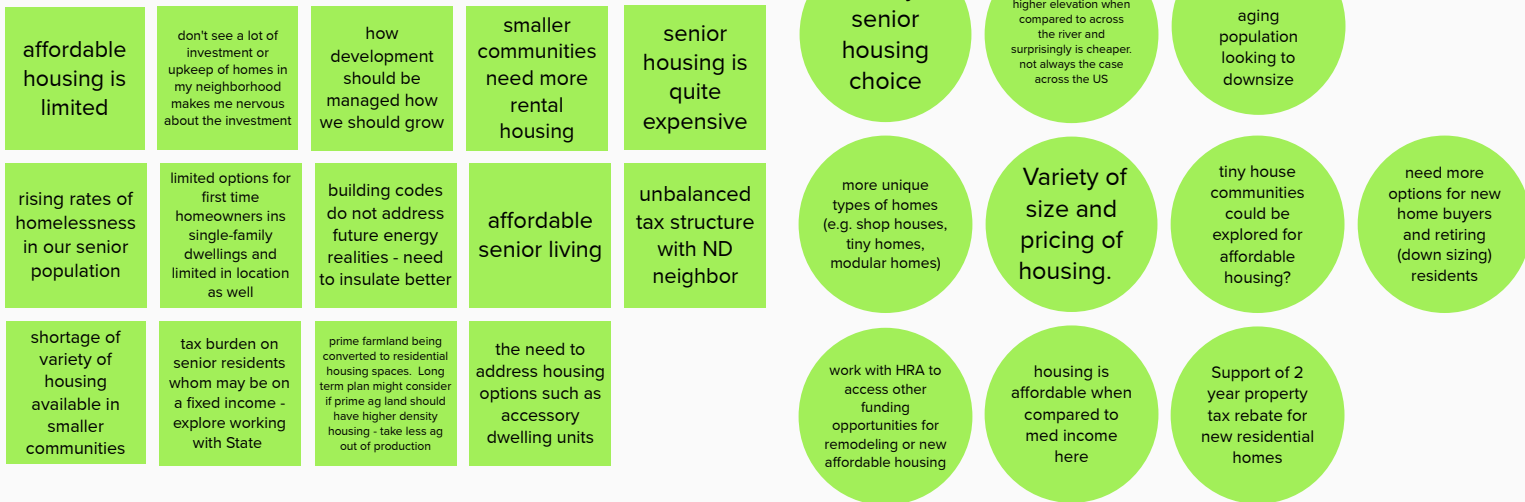
Key:

ISSUES

OPPORTUNITIES



HOUSING



BUSINESSES



AGRICULTURE / FOOD SYSTEMS



ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES



Key:

ISSUES

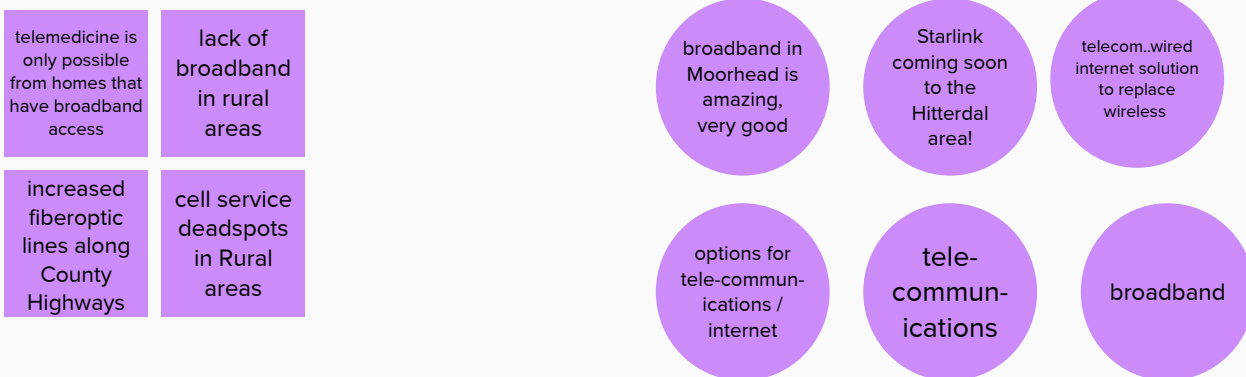
OPPORTUNITIES



TRANSPORTATION



TELECOMMUNICATIONS



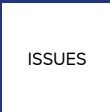
NATURAL RESOURCES



ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES



Key:



RECREATION

indoor play spaces for young families

identification of all public accesses for rivers and lakes

indoor activities for teens as well including skateboarding

more regional trails with better crossings

Heartland Trail

Indoor playground

Inclusive parks and playgrounds

more trails

more walking bridges across the river

Riverkeepers is great - expand canoeing and kayaking

County-owned land provides good outdoor rec opportunities

more skiing, walking, biking trails

heartland trail

Cross-country skiing, fat bike trails, snow shoe trails!

complete Heartland Trail



GOVERNMENT SERVICES / OTHER

Tax burdens continue to go up - need to balance wants and needs is very important

MPS should proactively work to avoid black outs now that we are tied into a national system

additional meeting room space for community groups

more centrally located more access online to items

Address new resident needs - especially New Americans

Coffee shops at bus stops to make waiting for the bus more pleasant

MY FUTURE CLAY COUNTY

What would you like Clay County to look like in 25 years?



Increased employment opportunities to help better retain College grads

additional commercial and industrial business to provide jobs and better tax base

Still a safe welcoming place to live!

maintain family-friendly environment

more monuments and art pointing to the history of our County and its inhabitants

a vibrant community that embraces the river and prairie!

Clay County will be more aesthetically pleasing and have a more modernized look. Clay County will also recognize the City of Moorhead as a suburb that is part of the Fargo-Moorhead metro area and not as a rural city

visible commitment to methods of carbon sequestration and maint. of healthy soil, water, and air

more working lands - cattle, bison operations but also provide other habitat and other ecosystem services

Moorhead is much more "urban" (dense with integrated land use and great public transportation), but rural Clay County remains "rural" so individuals and families can choose what type of environment they want to live in.

I would love to see generational farms continuing their way of life. But also seeing new emerging farming opportunities for others.

Still heavily agricultural

affordable, energy-efficient housing for working families, possibly smaller units for singles and downsizers.

Create a more self-sustained local/regional economy (think circular economy) that is energy neutral by using renewable energy sources.