WHY I LOVE IT HERE •



Lakes, City

amenities,

spanish

immersion

education for

my children

Bluestem

Arts is an

amazing

amenity

College

students as

an asset and

opportunity

The three colleges

are a great asset, with events hosted

there, after

pandemic is done



looking ahead

to the future

People whom have

moved here from different parts of the

country feel very safe compared to where they may have came from

safe,

welcoming

place to live,

family friendly

we are a

welcoming

community

good

support for

families

Small towr feel	small town feel, larger metro		e people	THE PEOPLE	!		anging ograph		ills / graphy!		Great access to good medical facilities	close access to health care systems
Welcoming small town atmosphere	atmosphere big city	Co	ommunity events	Longest table ever in 2019 wa great	nt Ba	rnesville ato Days	Ulei Sabi fun e	events, n BBQ, in Days, vents to visit	Blue Eagl Barnesville a Clay Count; Steam Thre Hawley Ro great local fe	and the y Fair, shers, odeo,		Close access to great healthcare systems
Emerging diversity	our diversit	y	Great hunting an fishing opportunities or lakes, rivers and wildlife management are	recrea facilities as Blue	tional s such Eagle	Parks in Moorhead trail runnii along the riv a big win fo City	and Prand	rairie chicker scientific and natural areas wide open spaces	Sea char	asons - nging of asons		Libraries
services			Wildlife, deer, prairio chickens	connec natural Buffalo Riv Park, trai rivers an natural	olaces, ver State s along d other	Buffalo Ri State Pa and Natu Areas	rk ral	Buffalo Rive State Park and the Grasslands				strong library system
provided												
strong relationship wit the State to provide public services - work well	& MN values		Communit support for s businesses di the COVID- pandemic	uring -19 to bu	access siness in County Bicycle	City resta and supp them in s commu througho Cour	ort for maller nities ut Clay	Employm	ent Sities S	usinesses like toneridge oftware in arnesville		High value placed on preservation of farmland
Collaboration between gov't entities and school districts across the County	officials make		Growth opportunit	ties T	erest Lots o busin and su buse! for the		sses oport	Everest Tikka				beautiful farmland great County Highways
Lower special assessments and great schools	recidential let	rura	ea:	ral character - sy to get 'out f town' (into nature, etc.)	begi Easter	n Clay	Easy acce other ame across region (akes, trail	enities the (e.g. r	Fargo is next door	Ţ	Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County	Clay County and Unique History - places to see/ learn about that
	Proximity to 3	strong arts,	K-12				Rush he is only minut	y 5			Museum - Hjemkomst. Clay County Historical Society and their exhibits. High quality experience	Hjemkomst is unique
educational pportunities	universities and 2 tech schools	starts in the	education i 2nd-to-non									Embracing the history while

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Key:



senior

housing is

quite

expensive

unbalanced

tax structure

with ND

neighbor







HOUSING

affordable housing is limited

rising rates of

homelessness

in our senior

population

don't see a lot of investment or upkeep of homes in my neighborhood makes me nervous shout the investment

limited options for first time homeowners ins single-family dwellings and limited in location

shortage of variety of housing available in smaller communities

tax burden on senior residents whom may be on a fixed income explore working with State

how development should be managed how we should grow

building codes do not address future energy realities - need to insulate better

prime farmland being converted to residentia housing spaces. Long erm plan might conside if prime ag land should have higher density nousing - take less ag out of production

smaller communities need more rental housing

affordable senior living

the need to address housing options such as accessorv dwelling units

diversity of senior housing choice

more unique types of homes (e.g. shop houses tiny homes, modular homes)

work with HRA to access other funding opportunities for remodeling or new affordable housing

housing is located on higher elevation when compared to across the river and surprisingly is cheaper not always the case across the US

Variety of size and pricing of housing.

housing is affordable when compared to med income here

Support of 2 year property tax rebate for new residential

homes

apply for the Bicycle-Friendly Business

more mixed

use housing

with business

on street-

level

one-level

houses for aging

population

looking to

downsize

tiny house

communities

could be

explored for

housing?



BUSINESSES

better job of

programs are out

there and need

to be marketed

better

telling our story

Very different business climate than neighboring ND makes it challenging to recruit and retain businesses

better parking (on street) in downtown Moorhead. Traffic needs to slow down so they see

the business

ND v MN taxes for businesses

Clay County Revolving Loan Fund to help businesses start and expand

with greater density patterns in strategic

areat community support for our local businesses

I-94 running through

proximity to higher pop. metro area

small businesses development center at Concordia!

need to make policies to help foster investment

proximity to Lakes Country draws in visitors

capital entrepeneurs. startups.

community

gardens - more

development in

food deserts

leverage local industry sectors and ecosystems,

ag tech, med

device, manufact,

software, etc.

need more

options for new

home buyers

and retiring

(down sizing)

residents

Continue pushing for leveling playing field for new businesses so fewer go to ND

working with townships and smaller cities to even if it means

expansion

welcome business changing prior future growth ideas



AGRICULTURE / FOOD SYSTEMS

Chinese tariff on soybeans reduces buyers

Co-ops (vegetables other farm fresh ingredients)

addressing cottage food laws and

border issues related

> for rural pantry

Collaborating with American Crystal and Busch

more permissive

of food options

and full-suite of

urban gardening

options

resource to link food production with farm to table opportunities

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) opportunities

backyard **POULTRY**

SWCD has low interest loan program available landowners for ad RMP

amazing farmland, streams and lakes, wetlands, clean air

Permanent

food truck

park?

more food truck options

backyard

chickens

interest in food trucks regulations can cause a challenge

cost of

services for

farmland

lack of transportation citizens to food

issues. sustainable practices needed

soil erosion

lack of grocery prepare for stores in rural autonomous areas such as food delivery Jlen and Felton options

promote no till operations to reduce soil

erosion

connect locally

grown and

produced food

to locals

utilize food waste for ag purposes

seeing more

industrial hemp

production in the

processing and

find ways to encourage new farmers

expanded

community

gardens

extension services are great for both rural and urban

residents

some of the best soil in the world

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Key:







dedicated

bike path

through the

middle of

Moorhead

TRANSPORTATION

Address bike friendly roads More walking biking paths throughout the county

Better connections that don't bring you

back to the

downtown Fargo Ground

Center (MATBUS)

horrendous transit - routes, stop amenities and how fares are administered

impacts of

increased

commodity/freight

traffic on township

and county roads

in both metro and rural could use more public transportation options better speed

transitions

from entry

little to no

entry

aging population

cities and counties have no electric vehicle fleets

11th St S

between

Main and

12th Ave is

abysmal

improve 3rd St S from 60th Ave S to 50th Ave S by bluestem

charging stations

Great 7th Ave S in County Moorhead, by Highways the river... road is awful needs improvement

future

Heartland

Trail

connection

Heartland

Trail!

fast electric

vehicle

All Aboard MN -2nd train (daytime) between fargo/ moorhead and the twin cities

Senior Center

transit route to

and from local

that may run on

specific days

senior centers

more train options

partnered

senior center

and childcare

center facilities

future bypass?

Possible

interstate route

around the

Metro?

transit and weather impacts planning public transit with seniors in mind

Moorhead roads overbuilt, not aethetically pleasing and nave weird route patterns.

commodities

impact on

roadways and

strain moving

forward

last mile connections (MATBUS)

Railroad

barriers in

Moorhead

small town access to multimodal options

Main avenue

traffic control

(Moorhead)

is frustrating

make roads more bike friendly

> more active transportation opportunities especially outside of Moorhead

locate funding to bring back Clay County **Rural Transit**

do more for volunteers as part of the volunteer driver program

Heartland Trail!

better link

to Cass and

Clay bike

routes

transportation options with autonomous vehicle service

streets policy highlight in plan somehow

Complete

expand on bicycle shared use access or canoe access path to Bluestem network



TELECOMMUNICATIONS

telemedicine is only possible from homes that have broadband access

lack of broadband in rural areas

increased fiberoptic lines along County Highways

cell service deadspots in Rural areas

broadband in Moorhead is amazing, very good

options for tele-communications / internet

Starlink coming soon to the Hitterdal area

telecommunications

telecom..wired internet solution to replace wireless

broadband



NATURAL RESOURCES

with aggregate

urban forests and prairie spaces

the Dakota Skipper and birding

Great water protect aquifers

surfaces equipment and design to be disabilities

throughout the

access to natrual resources

Felton Prairie. Park and Trails

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





GOVERNMENT SERVICES / OTHER

continue to go up - need to balance wants and needs is

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

additional meeting roon 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 ***

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 committment 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' trural' so individuals and families and 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.	