

# Proposed Projects

It is nearly impossible to take on the challenges of growing and strengthening a community without a plan. Many of the proposed projects include plan development in order to provide research and data for decision making. City of Clinton staff met with our community partners and took a comprehensive look at the needs of the community in order to compile this project list. The City of Clinton's strategic plan and Comprehensive Plan provided a great deal of guidance for the projects listed below.

## **Project 1**

Regional Transportation Plan and Transit Route Study

Project Leader: Dennis Hart, City of Clinton- Transit and Fleet Director, in conjunction with the Cities of Camanche and Fulton

Summary: The Regional Transportation Plan would address obstacles pertaining to bus travel between the Gateway area communities of Clinton, Camanche, and Fulton, Illinois. Description: This project would determine if customer demand from Fulton and Camanche exists, as well as Clinton customer demand to travel to each of those communities. Routes would be proposed, while current existing routes in the City of Clinton would be reviewed and examined for efficiency. Routes would also be mapped in GIS.

Relevance: This project is supported by the City of Clinton's 2032 Comprehensive Plan, which focuses on improving transit service and increasing ridership in Chapter 9. Specific measurable outcomes include to measure the success of the project would include increased ridership from non-Clinton residents, a reduction in number of automobile commutes, miles saved with route redesign, and increased ridership on existing routes.

Resources: The City of Clinton's Transit Department will be available to assist in providing data for current ridership. East Central Intergovernmental Association (ECIA) is the planning agency for the City's transit system and has other planning documents that could be of relevance.

## **Project 2**

Recreational Trail System Proposal

Project Leader: Jason Craft, City of Clinton- City Engineer, in conjunction with the Cities of Camanche and Fulton

Summary: Create a comprehensive plan addressing connectivity of recreational trails through Clinton, Camanche, and Fulton.

Description: The City of Clinton has worked to develop multi-use recreational trails throughout various areas of the city, but does not have a comprehensive plan for connecting the individual trails. This project will provide a plan for a city-wide trail system, assessing the current infrastructure and providing recommendations for future trails. This project would also have a regional focus related to the Cities of Camanche and Fulton as their existing and planned recreational trails provide opportunities to make a more connected region. Maps and other deliverables developed as part of this project can also be used by entities addressing public health in Clinton to promote physical activity. The existing and proposed trail development would also include mapping in GIS.

Relevance: This project is supported by the City of Clinton 2032 Comprehensive Plan, which identifies developing a comprehensive trail system for recreational purposes (Chapter 10). Measurable outcomes for this project include increased miles of recreational trail in Clinton and the region and citizen satisfaction with the City's recreational trail system. Resources: The City of Clinton's Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will be available to provide input and gather feedback for the project, in addition to other City departments that currently maintain and design programming for the City's trails (Grounds and Facilities and Recreation).

## **Project 3**

Recreation Center/Athletic Complex Feasibility Study

Project Leader: Gregg Obren, City of Clinton- Recreation Director

Summary: Assess community wants and needs in relation to recreation and recreation facilities. Description: This project would provide insight into the feasibility of constructing a new recreation center and athletic complex or renovate and add on to the City's existing recreation infrastructure. The Ericksen Community Center has been a primary driver for quality of life in Clinton but with the facility well over 40 years of age there is an intense need to renovate or rehabilitate or build new. The goals of this study would be to create more efficient facilities management potentially reducing staffing costs and to update recreation facilities to better serve the needs of the citizens.

Relevance: This program is supported by the 2032 City of Clinton Comprehensive Plan which identifies citizens wanting additional recreational opportunities (Chapter 10). Resources: A number of prior studies from the 1980's forward exist related to recreation in the Clinton community, including the following:

- 1985 Plan for Park & Recreation Areas 1985 - 2000
- 1986 Department of Parks and Recreation Public Golf Course Feasibility Study
- 1992 City of Clinton Golf Course Market Analysis
- 1990 Clinton Parks and Recreation Citizens' Survey Assessment Report

#### **Project 4**

##### Amenities and Attractions Inventory

Project Leader: Carrie Donaire, Clinton Convention and Visitors Bureau- Director  
 Summary: To build a comprehensive listing of amenities and attractions throughout the Gateway region.

Description: Clinton, Camanche, and Fulton have a number of unique amenities and attractions and historical opportunities to offer residents and tourists alike, but it can be difficult to find information about all the area has to offer in one location. This project would work to identify all of the amenities and attractions in the Gateway area and provide information and website content to all tourism-related entities for promotional materials.

Relevance: This project would enhance the overall mission of the Clinton Convention and Visitors Bureau, which is partially funded by the City of Clinton through hotel/motel tax dollars. Resources: Melissa Wiebenga is the Director of Tourism/Community Services for the City of Fulton, Illinois, and will serve as the contact for Fulton.

#### **Project 5**

##### Citizen Survey

Project Leader: Jessica Kinser, City of Clinton- City Administrator

Summary: To design and conduct a mail survey of citizens addressing specific service areas and needs and utilize focus groups as needed.

Description: It is difficult to develop a plan to address community needs if there is not backing showing the course of action has public support. The City of Clinton has utilized a citizen survey in the 1990's to gauge the needs of citizens or as a measurement of success on existing projects and services, but has not utilized a survey tool since.

Relevance: This project is listed in the City of Clinton's 2014-15 Strategic Plan, under Goal 2: Enhance communication with citizens. This project lends itself to many potential measureable outcomes including satisfaction with specific City services. Resources: The City of Clinton would be able to provide the printing/copying of the surveys as well as return envelopes and postage.

#### **Project 6**

##### Communication Plan

Project Leader: Jessica Kinser, City of Clinton- City Administrator

Summary: Identify stakeholders and best methods of communication by stakeholder type. Description: The City has struggled with communicating internally and externally for years and has no plan to move forward. Without any staff person directed towards communications and promoting positive stories, the City needs a plan for communicating with various stakeholders that is manageable for each department to implement and maintain.

Relevance: This project is supported by the City of Clinton's 2014-15 Strategic Plan. A measurable outcome resulting from the development and an implementation of a communications plan would be increased satisfaction from stakeholders with communication methods.

Resources: The City currently communicates with all citizens with a mailing address through a printed bi-monthly publication called the Lighthouse. The City is also developing a new website to serve as a better location for information. All City departments are available to assist with this project as needed.

#### **Project 7**

##### GIS Mapping

Project Leader: Jason Craft, City of Clinton- City Engineer

Summary: Develop GIS layers based on specific City needs.

Description: The City of Clinton has a state of the art GIS system, but no staff position dedicated to utilize the system to provide useful data for decision making purposes. Current GIS mapping needs are the following:

- Specific incident/crime mapping for the Police Department
- Solid waste and recycling route mapping and recommendations for efficiencies
- Snow removal route mapping and recommendations for efficiencies
- Specific nuisance abatement mapping

Relevance: The use of GIS mapping is not a goal or project in any specific City-approved plan. The intent with each of the mapping projects is to find more efficient ways to operate, which does fit with Goal 4 of the 2014-15 Strategic Plan of continually improving the City's organization and services. Measurable outcomes would be relate to the specific project, but could include calculated fuel or equipment savings as a result of new routes and incident

reduction within certain areas of the City for both Police and nuisance enforcement. Resources: The departments associated with the specific projects, Police, Streets and Solid Waste, and Building and Neighborhood Services, will be resources to provide existing information.

### **Project 8**

Made in Clinton, Iowa USA

Project Leader: Mike Kirchhoff, Clinton Regional Development Corporation (CRDC)- CEO and President

Summary: Develop a marketing campaign/strategy to recognize existing businesses and industries in Clinton.

Description: Clinton has a number of industries that might not be names that most people know, but their products are easily identifiable. Creating connections with goods and products helps strengthen the message that Clinton is a great place locate and positively promotes what is happening in Clinton. This project would gather those familiar projects and tie them back to their manufacturing roots in Clinton.

Relevance: The CRDC has recently adopted Vision 20/20, a funding initiative focused on the continued growth and expansion of the regional economy. Communication to stakeholders, area businesses, and residents is one of the objectives of Vision 20/20 and coincides with the overall intent of the project.

Resources: N/A

### **Project 9**

Downtown Plan Implementation

Project Leader: Jacob Coupee, City of Clinton- Planning Specialist

Summary: Address some of the present and future challenges related to Downtown Clinton.

Description: Many areas of the City have been reviewed and provided with a master plan to provide for future direction and goals towards development. Downtown Clinton has not had a formal master plan completed. This project would include overcoming the specific issues as they relate to Downtown Clinton and provide an opportunity for community development as well as increase the ability to promote working together to achieve said goals. Specific areas to be addressed include the following:

- Develop design standards for Downtown
- Review Downtown housing options, present and future, for relation to income equality
- Develop a plan to address transportation and parking issues
- Provide an analysis related to upper floor housing feasibility

Relevance: This area is addressed in the 2032 Comprehensive Plan, under Chapter 7, Economic Development, which identifies specific goals and projects related to improving Downtown Clinton.

Resources: The Downtown Clinton Alliance is a group formed as a self-supporting municipal improvement district, and would serve as a group to both provide input and feedback. The Clinton Area Chamber of Commerce is also very involved in the growth and development of Downtown Clinton and would serve as a further resources. Information gathered from East Central Intergovernmental Association (ECIA), who prepared the Comprehensive Plan, would be available as well.

### **Project 10**

Small Business Start-Up/Entrepreneurial Aid Plan

Project Leader: Nathan Sondgeroth, Clinton Area Chamber of Commerce- President

Summary: Develop a plan to address how the City of Clinton can assist small or start-up Businesses

Description: The City of Clinton has wonderful potential for small business start-ups and the entrepreneurial minded to pursue opportunities and business ventures. However, the City has struggled to not only encourage such ventures, but provide a platform to have low-risk opportunities to start a business. This plan would provide methodology, guidelines and offer direction on how the City and Chamber of Commerce can better utilize Clinton's potential to be a more business-friendly community for small and/or beginning businesses.

Relevance: The City of Clinton 2032 Comprehensive Plan encourages mixing business-type development (Chapter 7), and specifically identifies working with Ashford University and Clinton Community College. Those entities have not been approached to explore this option, but should be approached. Resources: The Downtown Clinton Alliance and the Lyons Business and Professionals Association would also both serve as resources to this project.

### **Project 11**

Urban Forest Management Plan

Project Leader: Tom Krogman, City of Clinton- Parks/Grounds & Facilities Director Summary: Evaluate the data from a public tree inventory and develop and urban forest management plan.

Description: The City of Clinton is proposing to complete a city-wide tree inventory, which would include identifying and providing GPS coordinates of all species of trees on City-owned property, including trees in the right-of-way prior to the start of this project. The development of an Urban Forest Management Plan would take

the tree inventory data and a plan for directing the City's resources for tree preservation and removal. This project also includes compiling resources to help residents and homeowners in Clinton with identifying ash trees on private property and providing information about options for ash tree treatment or removal.

Relevance: This project is part of the City of Clinton's 2014-15 Strategic Plan, under Goal 3- contributing through a healthy community environment by considering initiatives that work to develop and enhance the community.

Resources: Clinton has a very active Trees Forever group as well as a City Tree Commission who would contribute to the review of the plan and help get resources out to the community.

### **Project 12**

Rain Barrel Program

Project Leader: Bob Milroy, City of Clinton- Interim Water Quality Superintendent

Summary: Develop promotional materials and a plan for encouraging the use of rain barrels as a stormwater management tool.

Description: Stormwater management extends beyond the reach of the City and to every resident of the City of Clinton. In an effort to contain stormwater runoff, this project would provide research and a plan for promoting and propagating the use of rain barrels by residents. The project would focus on the north end of Clinton, an area which is in the midst of storm sewer separation projects, new pump stations and other projects designed to prevent sewer overflows to the Mississippi River.

Relevance: Measurable Outcome: Increased number of residents utilizing rain barrels and other stormwater management best practices.

Resources: The Bickelhaupt Arboretum conducts at least one rain barrel class annually and would serve as a resource to potentially assist in getting materials and reaching out to the community.

### **Project 13**

Landscape Design Plan for Eagle Point Park

Project Leader: Tom Krogman, City of Clinton- Grounds and Facilities Director

Summary: Develop plans for updating the landscaping areas and proposing new areas to enhance the aesthetic of Eagle Point Park.

Description: Eagle Point Park is one of Clinton's many outdoor recreational areas that is tied into the history of this country, as it was completed as a WPA project. The area is vast, 205 acres total, leaving many possibilities for updating the existing landscaping and/or adding new landscaping features.

Relevance: The City of Clinton 2032 Comprehensive Plan provides specific items to be addressed in Eagle Point Park under Chapter 10, which include landscaping and aesthetic improvements.

Resources: The City's Parks and Recreation Advisory Board would provide input and feedback on the project.

### **Project 14**

Recreational Program Revenue Analysis

Project Leader: Gregg Obren, City of Clinton- Recreation Director

Summary: Review existing revenues and program costs to determine sufficiency of revenues to cover costs and provide recommendations for revenue improvement

Description: The City's Recreation Department and programs are part of the General Fund and are funded with a combination of user fees and property tax revenue. This project would provide a comprehensive review of the various programs and fees charged by the Department and would include recommendations for adjusting fees to fit with program objectives.

Relevance: Goal 1 of the City's 2014-15 Strategic Plan is focused on maintaining and improving the financial position of the City. While this project is not specifically noted, it would assist in balancing the tax payer contribution towards programming and work to identify efficiencies in revenues and programming.

Resources: The City's Finance Director, Anita Dalton, would also serve a prominent role in this project.

### **Project 15**

Senior Citizen Fire Prevention Campaign

Project Leader: Mike Brown, City of Clinton- Fire Chief

Summary: Develop a promotional campaign targeted at fire prevention and smoke detectors for senior citizens.

Description: The Fire Department is looking for effective ways to communicate with the City's senior citizens (over age 65) about fire prevention and the use of smoke detectors. According to the 2010 Census, more than 17 percent of the City's population falls into this age group. This project will examine what methods are best for communicating with seniors and provide sample marketing materials for a senior-only fire prevention campaign.

Relevance: While not a specific project stated in the City of Clinton 2014-2015 Strategic Plan,

Goal 2 focuses on enhancing communication with citizens, and implementing new strategies for doing so.

Resources: The National Fire Protection Association has a number of statistics related to senior citizens.

### **Project 16**

Employee Survey

Project Leader: Jessica Kinser, City of Clinton- City Administrator

Summary: Develop a survey assessing employee satisfaction and needs and analyze results of the survey.

Description: The City has never done a formal employee survey of all employees to gauge job satisfaction among other things. This project would be an opportunity for employees to provide feedback to predetermined questions in an anonymous way. The deliverable would be analysis of the data, broken down by department, and recommendations for improving in areas that show improvement is needed.

Relevance: An employee survey is listed in the City of Clinton 2014-15 Strategic Plan under Goal 2: Enhancing communication with employees.

Resources: The City of Clinton would provide printing and mailing services for this project.

### **Project 17**

Mental Health Resources Guide

Project Leader: Jessica Kinser, City of Clinton- City Administrator

Summary: Compile a comprehensive listing of mental health resources and develop a guide to those resources.

Description: Through a community health assessment meeting for Clinton County, those working in the health and non-profit service area identified there were services available related to mental health which were not known by those around the table that work in that area. This health assessment group determined a resource guide is needed to help those in Clinton County better access resources that are readily available.

Relevance: This project indirectly relates back to the City of Clinton 2014-15 Strategic Plan, Goal 3, which involves improving the health of the community. Resources: This project would involve working with a number of service providers in Clinton County.