

# Our Story

## SERVICE DELIVERY PROMOTING QUALITY OF LIFE

### General Election on November 6th

#### Fast Facts

October 27: deadline to pre-register to vote  
 October 27: last day to request a mailed absentee ballot  
 November 5: last day to vote absentee in person  
 November 6: polls open 7 am - 9 pm  
**Voters must go to assigned precinct.**

The Auditor's Office is open from 8 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday. The Auditor's Office will also be open from 8 am to 5 pm on the following days:  
 • Saturday, October 27  
 • Saturday, November 3

#### Deadlines

Voter registration forms and absentee ballot requests must be received in the Auditor's Office by 5 pm on those days.

#### Do I need to show ID to vote?

This information is for registered voters voting at a polling place.

#### Elections held January 1 – December 31, 2018

**YES.** ID is required, **HOWEVER** registered voters without the required ID can sign an oath attesting to their identity.

#### Acceptable forms of ID:

- Iowa driver's license or non-operator identification card
- US passport
- US military or veteran's identification card
- Tribal ID
- Voter ID card issued under the new law (available December 2017)

NOTE: the voter information card previously provided by county auditors will not be valid as proof of identity.

#### Elections held January 1, 2019 and beyond

**YES.** ID is required (see list in box above). Registered voters without the required ID or another voter who can attest to their identity will be issued a provisional ballot.

Election Day Registrants must always provide both proof of identity and proof of residence to vote a regular ballot.

Questions? Please call (515) 382-7210.

[www.storycountyiowa.gov/elections](http://www.storycountyiowa.gov/elections)

### STAY CONNECTED!

Sign up for Notify Me at [www.storycountyiowa.gov](http://www.storycountyiowa.gov)

### Upcoming Events

- General Election - November 6th
- Supermarket of Veterans Benefits - November 13th
- Snowmobile, ATV and off-highway vehicle license renewals due - December 31st

Story County offices will be closed the following days in observance of holidays:

- **Veterans Day** - Monday, November 12th
  - **Thanksgiving and Day After** - Thursday and Friday, November 22nd and 23rd
  - **Christmas Eve** - Monday, December 24th
  - **Christmas** - Tuesday, December 25th
  - **New Year's Eve** - Monday, December 31st, Offices will close two hours early
  - **New Year's Day** - Tuesday, January 1st
- Story County Board of Supervisors meet weekly on Tuesdays at 10:00 am in the Public Meeting Room, 2nd Floor, Story County Administration Building, Nevada.**

### Story County Supermarket of Veterans Benefits

**Come join us for the 19th Annual Supermarket of Veterans Benefits in November!** Over the years, around 90 to 125 Veterans and surviving spouses have joined us that day.

This year, Story County Veterans Affairs will be hosting the Supermarket of Veterans Benefits from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm on Tuesday, November 13, at the PLEX (5501 George Washington Carver Ave, Ames.) Donuts and coffee will be provided as well as free haircuts all day.

This is a great opportunity for all Veterans and spouses to see what benefits are available. Representatives from various groups will be on hand to discuss various available programs.

**All information and services are FREE OF CHARGE!**  
 Contact info: 515-956-2626 515-956-2625 Brett or Erin



For more Story County events and classes through Story County Conservation, please visit



[www.storycountyiowa.gov](http://www.storycountyiowa.gov)

### Manufacturing Growth throughout Story County

Exciting things are happening throughout Story County leading to new manufacturing jobs! Advanced manufacturing is the number one business sector in Iowa, representing more than 17.8% of the state's GDP, as evidenced by the more than 6,000 manufacturers employing over 213,000 Iowans, or 14% of the state's total workforce. In September, the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) Board announced funding approval for projects based in Story County. Together, these projects will create 330 jobs and have a combined \$185,535,400 in capital investment throughout the county.

Following the State's approval, Dan Culhane, President and CEO of the Ames Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Commission commented, "It's a great day for Story County! These five projects further add to the incredible job growth we've experienced. This could not be scripted any better with the geographic balance of these opportunities touching four communities here in Story County. It underscores the importance of working together. The collegiality of city and county officials working hand in hand with our team here at the AEDC is highly impactful and we are seeing the benefits of these strong partnerships."

The manufacturing industry employs over 9,500 individuals throughout Story County, with average annual earnings of \$59,506. All three companies with the proposed expansions are local, long-standing businesses in the communities of Story City, Nevada, and Ames.



\$30M	\$150 M	\$7.5 M
16 Jobs	210 Jobs	64 Jobs



#### About Eby

Founded in 1938, M.H. Eby is an industry-leader in manufacturing aluminum truck bodies and livestock haulers. Eby plans to expand its existing facility in Story City by doubling workspace and purchasing additional equipment. This expansion will not only allow for the growth of existing lines, but position Eby to introduce additional product lines into the facility. The IEDA Board awarded Eby \$176,000 in direct financial assistance as well as tax benefits from Iowa's High Quality Jobs (HQQ) Program for this \$4.7 million capital investment. The project is expected to create 64 jobs.

"We have been pleased to be a part of the Story City community since 2005," said Travis Eby, President of M.H. Eby. "The quick response by all local and state partners to support our multi-faceted expansion project is impressive. We look forward to build on the strong foundation we have in the community to bring this expansion opportunity to reality in Story County."

#### About 3M

3M has been a strong corporate partner in the Ames community and plans a significant investment in its current facility to expand and grow. The project will re-purpose roughly 30,000 square feet in the 3M Ames facility. This project also includes increasing the capacity of utilities and adding climate controls to parts of the plant, both of which are required by the new processes. IEDA awarded tax benefits to 3M for this project that will be a capital expenditure of approximately \$27.8 million and create 16 new jobs.

#### About Burke Marketing Corporation

Burke Marketing Corporation, a subsidiary of Hormel Foods Corporation, plans to expand its manufacturing plant, including an addition of 200,000 square feet at its Nevada location to accommodate increased production. Burke was awarded the company tax benefits via the HQJ Program for this proposed \$150 million capital investment. This project is expected to create approximately 210 jobs.



### Building our Workforce



Attracting a suitable workforce is critically important for the continued success in Story County. The estimated "laborshed" population in Story County (for those ages 19-64) totals 532,002 persons, with the gender breakdown being 51.5% males and 48.5% females. The average age of those in the workforce is 48-years-old. Residents within the Story County Laborshed are willing to commute an average of 21 miles one-way for employment opportunities.

The WorkInAmes.com website supports both businesses and job seekers. This interactive, local job board serving all of Story County, receives 1,500 job postings and 2,500 searches each week on average. Employers are able to post jobs for free. Those looking for a job may search openings for full time, part time and internship positions.



# Our Story

## SERVICE DELIVERY PROMOTING QUALITY OF LIFE

### Economic Development in Story County: Regionally and Cooperatively Succeeding

For nearly a decade, Story County has been steadily moving ahead to re-invent and invigorate the role it plays in economic development throughout Story County. Back in 2012, the Board of Supervisors received a report simply known as the "CPAT Report" compiled by a professional planning team through the American Planning Association. CPAT stands for Community Planning Assistance Team and pairs a multidisciplinary team of expert planning professionals from around the country with community members, key stakeholders, and relevant decision makers, to develop place-based initiatives to foster community education, engagement, and empowerment.

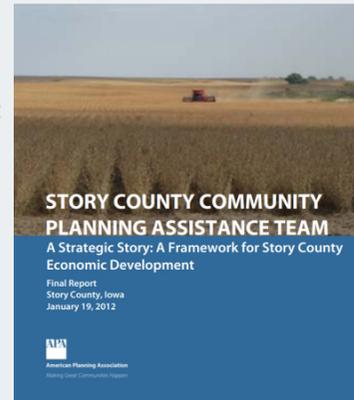
The CPAT process designed and identified a clear framework around which Story County could move in a forward direction to organize its economic development activities. The report outlined four broad areas to support improved quality of life and economic development initiatives:

- 1) Vision and long range planning,
- 2) Strategic partnerships and investments,
- 3) Trails, recreation and other quality of life issues, and
- 4) County planning organization.

Following acceptance of the CPAT Report, the Board of Supervisors set about to define the implementation strategies and priorities to move forward.

To date, nearly every recommendation identified by the CPAT has been put into action in one form or another. Starting with the vision, Story County established a set of values and vision through 2036, and in June 2016, adopted the County's comprehensive long-range plan called the Cornerstone to Capstone (C2C) Plan. To address strategic partnerships and investments, the County's first identified priority was to develop a strategic plan, with that first plan adopted in 2013. Annually, the Board continues the practice of looking forward strategically to the next (and upcoming) years. Furthermore, funding was increased to the Story County Economic Development Group. Also, the Board set about defining capital investments and developing a Capital Improvements Plan in tandem with the budget.

Putting on an "outside-the-box thinking cap", the Board of Supervisors developed new programs such as the Facade Improvement Grant Program and the Urban Renewal Area Program to help communities throughout Story County leverage outside resource to invest in each community's success and catalyze downtown development. Regarding trails and recreation, Story County Conservation leads by example. Investments in land acquisition and capital improvements - to the Heart of Iowa Trail and Praeri Rail Trail in addition to the creation of the Tedesco Environmental Learning Corridor - enhance the quality of life for all Story County citizens. The CPAT report also encouraged Story County to look inward to identify expertise and resources that exist to help smaller communities and provide support for small city revitalization. Programs such as the "Technical Assistance to Communities" and other partnerships such as the contractual relationship with the Ames Economic Development Commission were formed.



### What's the SCEDG?



The SCEDG - Story County Economic Development Group - is comprised of municipal officials, economic development professionals, County elected officials and staff. The group, in existence since the 1980s, through their combined efforts, promote economic growth, quality of life, capital investment, and job creation throughout Story County.

The group meets quarterly and discusses projects within the fifteen participating municipalities, projects being undertaken by the Story County Board of Supervisors and assistance being provided to the municipalities by the Board, and an educational component - with presentations from economic development experts throughout the state of Iowa.

Annually, the Board of Supervisors allocates funding to the SCEDG, which is then responsible for distribution to the members and funding projects related to economic development staff and administration, community marketing and prospecting, development of promotional materials, consulting and planning services, speculative buildings, financial incentives, and general community betterment activities.

### Urban Renewal Program and Projects

Like cities in Iowa, the State of Iowa authorizes counties to establish areas within their boundaries known as "urban renewal areas." Within these area, cities and counties can exercise special powers, including financing projects using property taxes generated from incremental property tax valuations. These areas are intended to include areas of the county appropriate for commercial or industrial enterprises in which the county seeks to encourage further development. After a county board of supervisors designates an urban renewal area, a formal urban renewal plan is created.

Following the construction of the first wind turbines in northeastern Story County and construction of Vetter Equipment along US Highway 30, the Board of Supervisors established the Story County Urban Renewal Area. Along with creating the plan, the Board established policies - known as the Economic Development Process and Policies - to establish structure and objectivity to the standard operating procedures for evaluating economic development projects. As the program outlines, the primary goal is community improvement and eligible projects fall into the following types: Transportation Infrastructure Enhancement, Public Land and Trail Improvement, Communication and Utility Infrastructure Expansion, and Main Street and Town Center Revitalization.

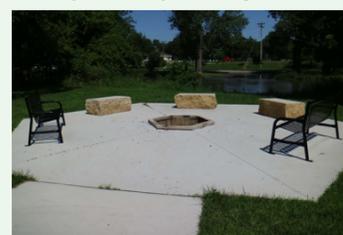
Since 2013, the Story County Board of Supervisors has invested nearly \$1.3 million in communities and projects located in all the communities in Story County through the adopted urban renewal program.



Playground at Colo-NESCO in Zearing



Mail Enclosures in Kelley



Park Improvements in Story City



Road Improvements at Freedom Rock in Maxwell

### Do I need a Zoning Permit?

A zoning permit is required in all zoning districts prior to the construction of any structure including dwellings, decks, fences, accessory structures (100 square feet in size or greater), signs, and more. An application for a zoning permit should be submitted to the Story County Planning and Development Department for review of conformity with the adopted Land Development Regulations.

A complete Zoning Permit Application submittal includes:

- A completed application including type of structure, use of structure, dimensions, height, etc.
- A signature from the property owner
- A filing fee (calculated based on structure type and square footage—a Valuation Sheet is available to determine the permit fee)
- A site plan including existing on-site structures, the footprint of the proposed structure, setback measurements from property lines, location of site access, septic system location, and any existing natural features
- Blue prints/construction drawings
- A list of any Tier 2 Materials stored on-site

For details about zoning permit and conditional use permit (CUP) requirements, or to discuss proposed projects, please contact Story County Planning and Development Staff at 515-382-7245 or at [pzweb@storycountyiowa.gov](mailto:pzweb@storycountyiowa.gov).



### Reinvesting in Our Main Streets Facade Improvement Grant Program



Former "Bank" Building - Zearing



Former County Shed - Slater

The Story County Facade Improvement Grant Program provides financial assistance to the cities, encouraged to be working in collaboration with private commercial businesses within their city limits, for façade improvements along main street. The purpose is to support the revitalization of business districts in small towns by stimulating private investments that enhance the appearance of buildings and properties.

The community is required to provide matching funds equal or greater to that awarded by Story County. The Board of Supervisors may award grants up to 20% not to exceed \$10,000 towards the total project costs.

Since the first project was approved in Zearing in 2015, Story County has awarded over \$37,000 to six communities. Within these communities, eight projects have been undertaken totaling over \$210,000 in total projects costs.

**Administration Building**  
Phone: 515-382-6581

**Animal Shelter**  
Phone: 515-382-3338

**Engineer and Secondary Roads**  
Phone: 515-382-7355

**Justice Center**  
Attorney Phone: 515-382-7255  
Sheriff Phone: 515-382-6566

**Human Service Center**  
Phone: 515-663-2930

**Conservation**  
Phone: 515-232-2516

## STORY COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIALS

County Attorney  
Jessica Reynolds

County Sheriff  
Paul Fitzgerald

County Auditor  
Lucy Martin

County Treasurer  
Renee Twedt

County Recorder  
Stacie Herridge

Supervisor  
Lauris Olson

Supervisor  
Rick Sanders

Supervisor  
Marty Chitty