

STATE OF THE CITY



MAYOR

David Mast

CITY COUNCIL

Bryan Poulter, Ward 1

Karla Jones, Ward 2

Wes Snyder, Ward 3

Brad Magg, At-Large

Curtis Small, At-Large

CITY STAFF

Administration

Wade Wagoner, City Administrator

Nancy Earles, City Clerk

Amanda Bode, Deputy Clerk

Police

Jeremy Burdess, Police Chief

Andrea Clark, Police Officer

Irie Riesberg, Police Officer

Public Works

Mark Earles, Team Leader

Todd Cushatt, Parks Superintendent

JD Smith, Water Superintendent

Tony Thompson, Wastewater Superintendent

MISSION

The City of Colfax provides and maintains high quality public services and attractive public amenities to promote a safe, thriving community that serves residents, attracts and supports businesses, and charms visitors.

VISION

Colfax is an attractive, vibrant small town, building upon its history and growing with opportunities that make it a desirable place to live, work, and play.

VALUES

Community Pride

We take pride in our community's services, appearance, and the actions we take to promote our community's interests.

Integrity

We are honest and trustworthy as we carry out our responsibilities on behalf of our community.

Responsiveness

We are reliable. We take prompt, decisive action to provide customer friendly service.

Community Focus

We work together to determine what's best for Colfax and engage residents in creating a great community.

COLFAX STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 1 Grow the Property Tax Base

Goal 2 Enhance the School System

Goal 3 Increase Economic Development

Goal 4 Increase Livability

Goal 5 Manage the Floodplain



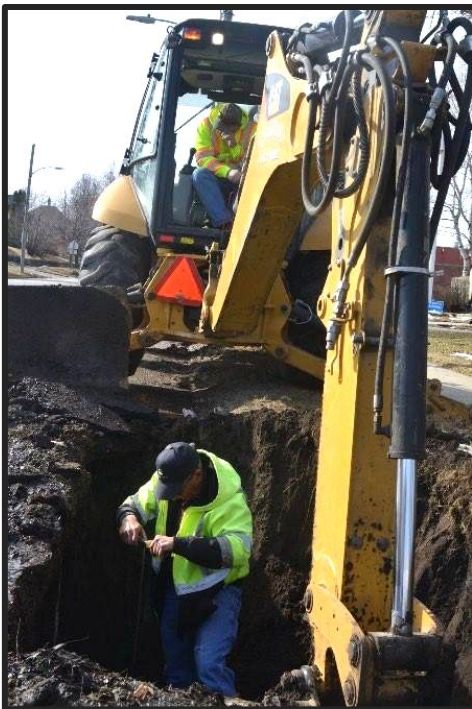
PUTTING GRANTS TO WORK FOR COLFAX



The City of Colfax made a big move into 20 W. Howard Street, renovating the vacant historic building for city hall, Police Department, and Main Street offices. Main Street Iowa awarded the City of Colfax the Best Building Rehabilitation Project for Communities under 5,000 for the project.



Volunteers and city staff planted over 100 trees downtown, at Quarry Springs Park, and in other city parks thanks to a DNR Derecho Tree Grant.



State Revolving Loan Funding provided low interest loans to defray the cost of water system improvements, which reduces the frequency of water main breaks.

38 GRANTS RECEIVED
SINCE 2016
\$1,669,025

\$400,000
Destination Iowa Grant to fund
the RV campground & ADA
accessible dock at Quarry Springs



In 2021, a \$100,000 IEDA Catalyst Grant from the State of Iowa helped secure a major economic development project to bring Fareway to town. Ours was the first store of this size for the grocer.

In coming years the city will continue to seek grants for other improvements. Conceptual renderings of some possible projects are shown below.



A pocket park next to city hall



Bump outs and other traffic calming measures downtown

Additional Community Improvement Proposals

- Tennis court resurfacing and addition of pickleball lines
- Playground equipment at Kelly Fields
- Frisbee golf course
- Dog park
- Parking area between city hall & library



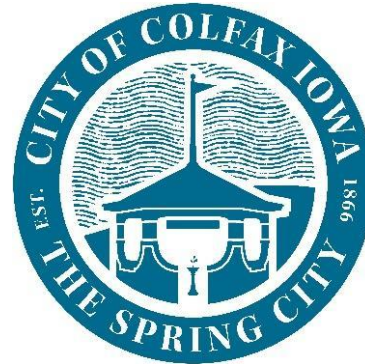
Wayfinding and street signs

COLFAX COMMUNITY PRIDE

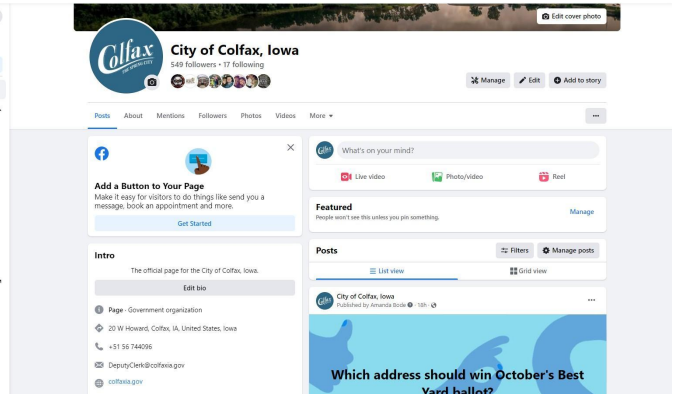
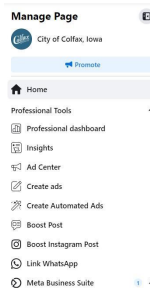
To best represent the City of Colfax, we developed a new logo, city seal, secondary shield, and flag, which are pictured below.



- Water Droplet
- City on a Hill
- Winding Skunk River
- Intriguing tagline



We also improved our online presence by launching a new website and Facebook page.





In 2022 the Colfax named the bridge over the Skunk River for Staff Sergeant Herschel F. "Pete" Briles, a Colfax native and World War II hero. Staff Sergeant Briles received the Presidential Medal of Honor for his service. His heroic initiative under heavy fire led to the surrender of 55 German soldiers and saved the lives of numerous wounded comrades. The City is exploring partnerships with other governmental entities to further honor Staff Sergeant Briles by making aesthetic enhancements to the bridge.



The new Colfax City logo and Colfax-Mingo Tigerhawk appears on the water tower overlooking downtown.



With sponsorship by Dickerson Mechanical, Colfax launched a monthly best yard contest in 2021 that runs May - October. The winners receive \$50 Colfax Downtown Bucks, a Colfax flag, and an entry into the yearly grand prize drawing for \$300 Colfax Downtown Bucks.



In 2022, the city made the difficult decision to demolish the historic Briggs building to prevent catastrophic collapse. The city is now taking proposals from developers to add to our historic downtown. The city is working on adopting design standards to ensure that our historic downtown continues to look great.



The city donated 11.34 acres helping to make the Colfax-Mingo Jr./Sr. High School expansion possible.

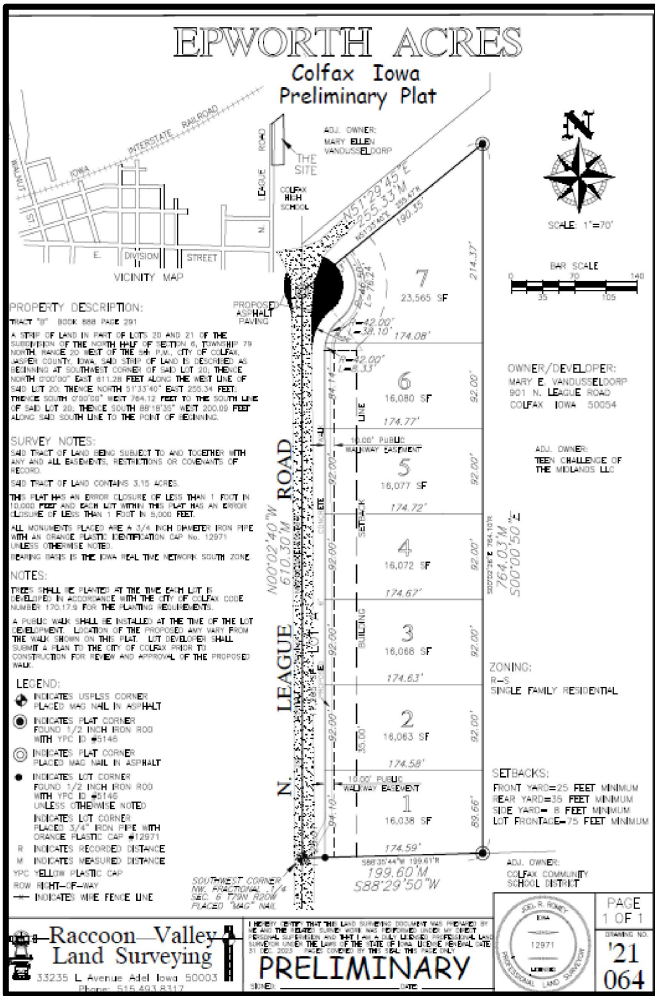


This updated billboard welcomes people to our community on Interstate 80.

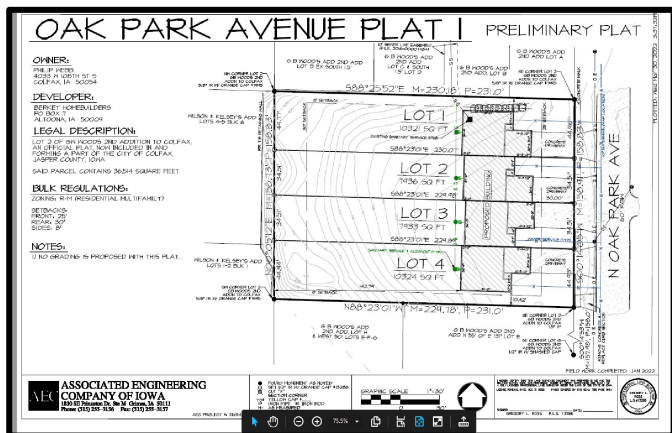


When US Cellular approached the City of Colfax about upgrading to a 5G cellular tower, the city leveraged a provision in the zoning ordinance to require the addition of a flag to the tower. While too expensive to fly year-round, a large American flag makes an appearance between Memorial Day and Independence Day each year.

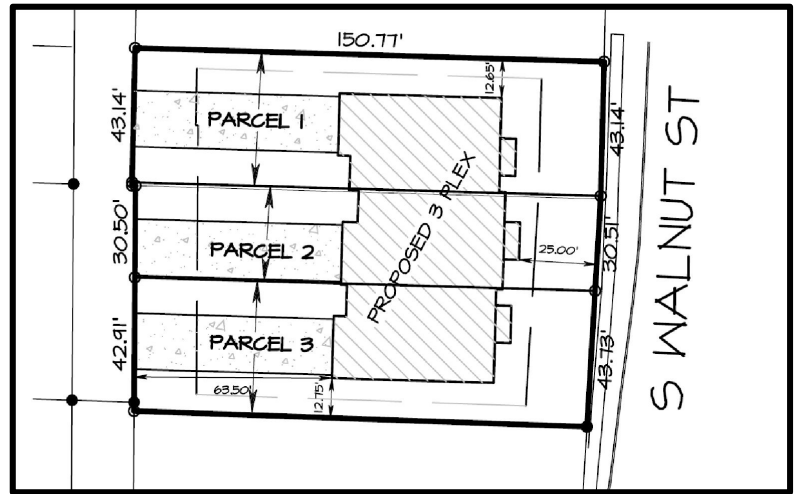
RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT



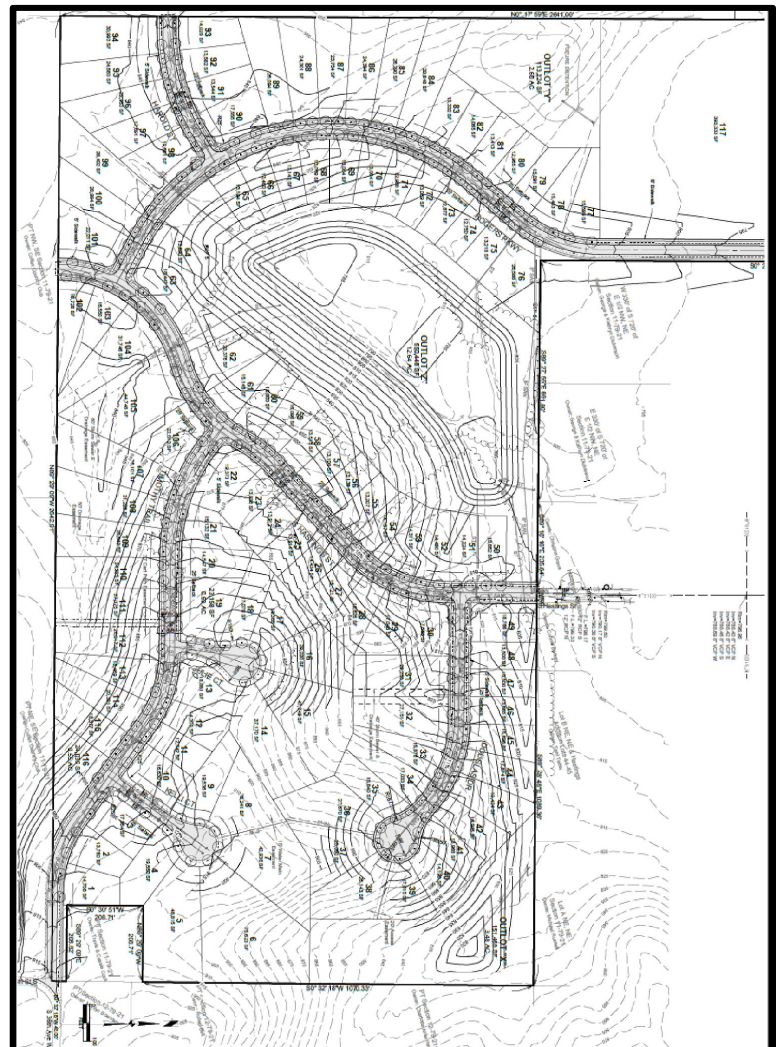
Epworth Acres features seven lots north of the high school.



Oak Park Avenue features four bi-attached townhome lots near the water tower.



This three-unit triplex sits at the corner of Walnut and State.



Snyder & Associates, Inc.
277 S.W. 3RD BLVD
WATERLOO, IOWA 50602
PHONE: 319.231.8800 FAX: 319.231.8801

NO. 1	DESIGNED BY	DATE
NO. 2	CHECKED BY	DATE
NO. 3	APPROVED BY	DATE
NO. 4	DATE	

Sheet C400

The city has approved a preliminary plat for Timber Hill and is hopeful that interest rates will drop soon enabling development to begin.

UPCYCLING COLFAX SPACES

up·cy·cle: to reuse something discarded in a way that creates a thing of higher quality than the original

- 500 & 508 W Washington
- 20 S Lincoln
- 217 E Front
- 2 & 6 N Elm
- 423 W State
- Lots of S Kelly
- 15 E Howard (Sheepgate Coffee Co. opening soon)

PLANNING FOR OUR FUTURE

2016	2018	2020	2022
<p>IOWA LIVING ROADWAYS VISIONING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan calls for improvements to Highway 117 • Would improve the aesthetics of the corridor • Would improve the walkability of downtown 	<p>COMPREHENSIVE PLAN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan done in conjunction with Iowa State University • Plan guides future land use and re-zoning decisions 	<p>CITY CODE BOOK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Golf Cart ordinance passed. • Zoning Ordinance revisions including the Design Standards planned for downtown • New subdivision ordinance ensuring that our streets are tree lined, walkable, and our neighborhoods are the most attractive in the metro <p>REDREW WARD AND PRECINCT BOUNDARIES BASED ON 2020 CENSUS</p>	<p>CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looks at anticipated capital needs in next five years • Provides direction in determining priorities for improvements in our municipal infrastructure, buildings, vehicles and other major capital purchases • Full plan is available at City Hall <p>DOWNTOWN DESIGN STANDARDS IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS STARTED</p>

POLICE DEPARTMENT

MISSION

The mission of the Colfax Police Department is to enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Colfax by working cooperatively to enforce laws, preserve the peace & provide for a safe environment for those who live, work & visit the city.

VISION

Through innovative strategies & exemplary professionalism, we are committed to delivering unparalleled service to our community. We will continue to develop community relationships and strengthen public trust in an effort to prevent, reduce and deter crime while striving for excellence through officer development & strong leadership.

VALUES

Professionalism

Taking pride in our actions, duties, development & appearance.

Integrity

Adhering to moral & ethical principles at all times.

Honor

Enforce the laws equally & without bias, holding yourself & other members to the highest ethical standards.

Equality

Promoting equality in status, rights & opportunities for all.



Police Department Strategic Plan

<p>Professionalism & Organizational Excellence</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Promote a culture of mutual respect within the Colfax Police Department ● Improve the interactions of the members of the CPD and the community ● Recruit, hire, promote and retain candidates that are in line with our core values ● Ensure the departments organizational structure is appropriate to respond to the needs of the community ● Give recognition to officers for outstanding service to the community
<p>Community Engagement & Partnerships</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Promote positive interactions with the public during every contact ● Improve communication with the community ● Enhance and grow community involvement and partnerships ● Increase involvement with youth by providing educational opportunities inside and outside the school system ● Increase involvement in the daily activities of the local school ● Continue to research innovative, community-oriented policing programs to engage the public.
<p>Operational Improvements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reduce, solve and prevent all crime ● Hone in on drug activity, identifying dealers and buyers ● Strengthen internal communication ● Identify and prioritize departmental equipment needs ● Replace out of date and aging equipment and technology ● Improve and expand on solutions to aid investigations and improve overall operations

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

MISSION

The mission of Colfax Public Works is to enhance the quality of life for the public by providing potable drinking water, a quality sewer system, safe streets, and attractive parks and cemetery

VISION

Through honest work and professionalism public works will commit to providing quality utility services, safe streets, and attractive parks for our community

VALUES

Professionalism

Taking pride in our actions, duties, and appearance.

Dependability

Provide services to our community by being trustworthy and reliable.

Cooperative

Work together with city leadership and residents to achieve common goals.



Public Works Department Strategic Plan

- Continue working toward our comprehensive sign straightening and replacement program.
- Continue maintaining & improving our water and sewer systems.
- Continue working toward our street improvement plan.
- Continue maintaining and improving our parks and cemetery.
- Continue Collaborating with city leadership and community toward common goals.

**Colfax Code Enforcement has closed
over 500 cases in the last 5 years
helping to keep the community
looking great**

FIRE & EMS DEPARTMENT

Colfax Fire Dept is a volunteer department made up of:

- 30 Active Firefighters
- 5 Advisory Members
- 5 Basic EMTs
- 3 Advanced EMTs
- 3 Paramedics

The department is always looking for more volunteers to join and help their fellow citizens. Members can choose ambulance or fire priority or both.

With changing times in emergency medical services, our goal is to train our members to give the best care possible under current standards.



FIRE & EMS Highlights

- The department has a call volume of 300 ambulance calls per year and 80 fire calls per year.
- Department equipment includes:
 - o Three 1500 gallons Pumper-Tankers
 - o 3 Quick-Attack units ranging from a Ranger to a 4-wheel drive trucks,
 - o A water rescue boat, and
 - o An enclosed trailer with Haz-Mat and water rescue equipment.



COLFAX PUBLIC LIBRARY

MISSION

Helping residents connect, discover, and be informed.

SERVICES

- Books, audiobooks, movies, games, puzzles, and preschool reading tablets available for checkout
- Four public computers, five iPads, and Wi-Fi internet service that is accessible inside or outside the building
- Printing/copying for a reasonable fee and free faxing
- A meeting room available for use for community members and organizations
- Access to online databases: Brainfuse JobNow, VetNow, HelpNow (online tutoring), Foundation Directory Online (non-profit grant resources) provided by the State Library of Iowa
- Access to searchable digitized Colfax newspapers from 1880-2019
- Access to digital books, audio books, and magazines through Bridges and the Libby app
- Access to interlibrary loan to borrow materials from other Iowa public libraries

PROGRAMS

- Monthly adult book club
- Twice monthly adult coloring
- Weekly preschool story time
- After-school programs for ages 8+ offered at least every other month
- Summer reading program offering educational opportunities and activities, as well as incentives for reading during the summer months
- Special events as scheduled



The Colfax Public Library began serving the Colfax community in 1913 and continues that tradition today. The Colfax Public Library works to be impactful and relevant in the Colfax community by providing the following services and programs.

The Colfax Public Library continues to be an important, necessary, valuable component of the Colfax community. The library is excited and invested in adding resources, programs, and services to provide more opportunities for education, connection, and entertainment in the Colfax community.

Library Highlights

In fiscal year 2022:

- 5,512 individuals visited the Colfax Public Library
- 4,805 physical materials were checked out
- 2,881 digital books and/or magazines were checked out
- Public computers were used 1,549 times
- Wi-Fi was accessed 841 times
- 327 individuals attended live programming events