# 2024 Carroll County Comprehensive Plan

# Acknowledgements

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# Chapter 1
# Introduction

Carroll County, located in west central Iowa, is a quiet, rural county consisting of rolling hills, scenic views, and quality people. Within the county there are thirteen cities. The cities include Arcadia, Breda, Carroll, Coon Rapids, Dedham, Glidden, Halbur, Lanesboro, Lidderdale, Manning, Ralston, Templeton, and Willey. The County is also home to three unincorporated villages; Maple River Junction, Mount Caramel, and Roselle. The county is located equidistant to the two large metropolitan areas of Des Moines and Omaha. It is approximately 93 miles west of Des Moines and approximately 108 miles to the east of the Omaha area. Sioux City is also approximately 102 miles to the northwest.

The county has quality transportation access with U.S. Highway 71, U.S. Highway 30, and IA Highway 141. There is also a good system of county highways that provide transportation from farm to market. There is an airport outside the City of Carroll that is used by small aircraft. The Union Pacific Railroad and the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad provide rail service to and through the county.

The county also has a variety of recreational areas such as the Sauk Rail Trail which runs from Swan Lake State Park south of Carroll north to Lake View located in Sac County. There are several other city and county parks and tourist attractions scattered throughout the county.

Planning and zoning are two important tools for cities and counties to use to provide a high quality of life. Planning assesses the current conditions in an area and identifies strengths to build on and weaknesses to improve. It also sets out an implementation program that specifies when actions are to be taken.

Predominantly rural counties like Carroll are not usually concerned with many of the issues identified in the Iowa Code such as overcrowding, adequate light and air, traffic congestion because they are not faced with those problems and will likely stay that way for years to come. However, there are some issues that are very relevant to Carroll County. Concerns of farmland preservation, safety from fire, flood, panic and other dangers, and protection of soil from wind and water erosion are key issues for the county. Without a comprehensive plan and zoning ordinances, development could occur anywhere which would increase the chances for farmland to be wasted, erosion to occur, or the resident's quality of life to threatened.

This comprehensive plan will address the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats gathered from public input. The issues Carroll County is facing as well as issues county officials and residents foresee will be discussed throughout the sections of this plan. Ideas for the county's future are included in this plan and this comprehensive plan will set the goals and policies necessary to bring the ideas to reality. Finally, the plan will serve as the legal basis for zoning, which will guide the way land is used as stated in the Iowa Code, Section 414.3:

*"The regulations shall be made in accordance with a comprehensive plan and designed to preserve the availability of agricultural land; to consider the protection of soil from wind and water erosion; to encourage efficient urban development patterns; to lessen congestion in the street; to secure safety from fire, flood, panic, and other dangers; to promote health and the general welfare; to provide adequate light and air; to prevent the overcrowding of land; to avoid undue concentration of population; to promote the conservation of energy resources; to promote reasonable access to solar energy; and to facilitate the adequate provision of transportation, water, sewerage, schools, parks, and other public requirements. However, provisions of this section relating to the objectives of energy conservation and access to solar energy do not void any zoning regulation existing on July 1, 1981, or require zoning in a city that did not have zoning prior to July 1, 1981.*

*"Such regulations shall be made with reasonable consideration, among other things, as to the character of the area of the district and the peculiar suitability of such area for particular uses, and with a view to conserving the value of buildings and encouraging the most appropriate use of land throughout such city."*

A combined effort from the steering committee, County Supervisors, Carroll County citizens, the planning and zoning commission, and Region XII Council of Governments, this plan will meet the law stated previously. This document is intended to be a working tool for the county to use for years to come. With some hard work and commitment, the visions identified in this plan will become reality, making Carroll County a viable place to live and work for many years.
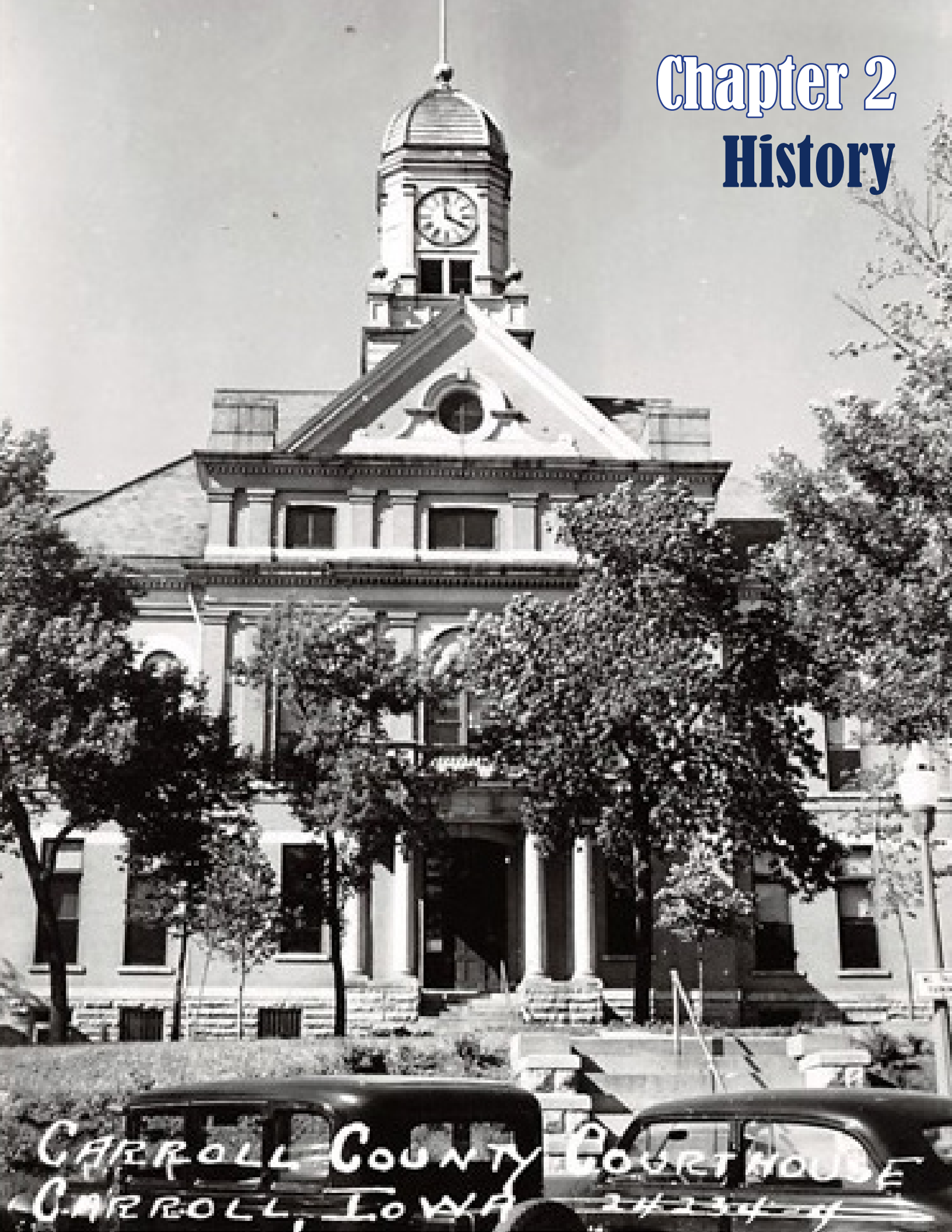
CARROLL COUNTY COURTHOUSE
CARROLL, IOWA 2-23-4

The history and development of Carroll County and the communities is important, not only to the history of the area, but to the direction that Carroll County is headed into the future.

This following account was relayed by Johnny Greene, also known as Chief Cho-me-use from the Carroll County Historical Society:

*Before the white man came to Carroll County.*
*Before the county was settled, there was a warpath that extended north to south through the county. It separated the Pottawatomie and Mesquakie from the Sioux. Sioux warriors chased a buffalo over the lane and the battle began.*

*At Swan Lake, which was more of a marsh at the time, three hundred Pottawatomie were hidden in ambush on the southeast side of the lake. Seven hundred Sioux advanced from the west. Rifles were used until the ammunition gave out and bow and arrows were used until arrows were expended. The furious onslaught continued in hand to hand combat with tomahawks.*

*This was a battle to the end. Indian legend relates that three Pottawatomie and one Sioux survived. Early trappers and hunters reported the ground was white with bleached bones, rusted rifles and weapons.*

This following provides a chronological history of the development of Carroll County from the Carroll County Historical Society.

January 15, 1851 - Carroll County is created as part of forty-nine new counties in the western part of Iowa.

The county is named for Charles Carroll of Carrollton (1737-1832) the only Catholic signer of the Declaration of Independence. He was the last surviving signer dying at ninety-five years of age.

1851 - Enos Butrick came to Carroll County and spent two years.

1854 - Enos Butrick brought his wife and seven children to Jasper Township near the confluence of Purgatory Creek and the North Raccoon River.

1854 - The first religious service was conducted by a  Methodist circuit rider at Henry Copeland's cabin near Carrollton.

1855 - The first election was held at Henry Copeland's home one mile south of Carrollton in a small clearing on the Middle Raccoon River. Every voter was present from both sections of the county; the North Cooners (15) and the Middle Cooners (13) for a total of twenty-eight votes. Voters were all male as women couldn't vote.  The North Cooners won because they had two more votes and the first officials were elected.

1856 - William Gilley came to Carroll County and settled near Carrollton. He kept a journal, which today is a valuable source of information about early Carroll County.

The Civil War was a deterrent to settlers coming to the county.

The early settlers that came to the county settled near the rivers where wood and water was available.

1856 - Jane L. Hill was the first teacher in Carroll County at the first school in Carrollton.

April 14, 1856 - Carrollton was established as the first county seat.

1857 - Mail delivery was precarious. People going to the Grist Mill at Panora carried the mail back and forth until a post office was established in Carrollton.

1858 - The first court house was built for $3,000.

1860 - The census listed two-hundred eighty-one people living in Carroll County.

1866 - The railroad was started across Iowa including Carroll County.

1868 - The first public school was established in Carroll City with the first classroom at the Boots Hotel on East 5th Street.

1868 - Chicago and North Western trains could travel from Clinton to Council Bluffs.

1868 - Our Lady of Mount Carmel was established as the first Catholic Church in Carroll County. The Catholic presence would eventually grow to thirteen parishes in the county.

April 28, 1868 - All the county records were moved to the new county seat of Carroll City which was a hamlet of eleven residents and prairie grass.

1869 - Carroll city was incorporated.

1869 - The first court house was built in Carroll City at a cost of $4,000.

1869 - The first school was built between 5th and 6th Streets on the east side of Carroll.

1870 - The Presbyterian Church was the first church in Carroll. The church was destroyed in the fire of 1879.

1875 - Carroll City was renamed Carroll.

1877 - A Chicago and North Western branch was built through Maple River Junction and Breda to Sioux City.

September 25, 1879 - The majority of the business district of Carroll was burned down in a fire.

1880 - North Side School was built between Adams and Main Streets on 10th Street. This was considered the edge of town at the time. Wings were added to the building in 1891 and 1904.

1881 - The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad was built through the southern part of the county. It went through the towns of Coon Rapids, Dedham, Templeton and Manning.

1883 - The South Side School was built for elementary students so they didn't have to cross the railroad tracts to go to school. The bell from the school is on the site of the school which is now South Side Park.

1887 - A new court house was built in Carroll after the first one burned.

1902 - The Chicago and Great Western was built through Carroll County starting at the northeast corner with the establishment of Lanesboro and Lidderdale, and going through Carroll, Halbur and Manning in the southwest.

1905 - St. Anthony Hospital opens with thirty beds and seven doctors.

1909 - St. Angela Institute designed to teach young women domestic science is established.

September 10, 1913 - The proclamation for the Lincoln Highway was signed. The route, starting at Times Square in New York and ending in San Francisco, went through Carroll County on its 3,389 mile length across the country. Grading began in Carroll County in 1917. Paving came much later.

1916 - A new school for grades nine through twelve with a gym and auditorium was built at the north end of the block between Adams and Main Street.

1936 - The WPA built a new auditorium.

1940 - A new elementary building was built on the south part of the block between Adams and Main Streets.

1954 - Kuemper Catholic High School, a coed high school is established.

September 23, 1959 - Nikita Khrushchev visited the Roswell Garst farm to learn about American farming practices.

November 21, 1959 - John F. Kennedy, the future President of the United States spoke at the Chamber of Commerce meeting.

1959 - Carroll Conservation Board signs management agreement with Iowa DNR to receive authority and develop a park.

1965 - The five year Urban Renewal process began that created a new downtown for Carroll.

September 24, 1966 - The new Carroll County court house is dedicated.

1968 - A new elementary school building called Fairview School is built at the corner of 18th and Grant Road.

November 14, 1971 - The new one hundred thirty bed St. Anthony Regional Hospital was dedicated.

1980's - A new high school was built at the southwest corner of 30th and Grant Road.

1989 - The second phase of Urban Renewal is implemented with the addition of big box stores.

1998 -  A new middle school was built at the northwest corner of 30th and Grant Road.

1998 - The 33-mile Sauk Rail Trail is completed connecting Swan Lake State Park (Carroll) to Black Hawk Lake (Lake View).

2002 - Templeton Rye Distillery is founded in Templeton. The first batch of whiskey is not bottled until 2006.

2004 - Swan Lake Conservation Education Center opens.

2005 - Construction of the new Carroll Fire Department is completed.

2012 - Manning Regional Healthcare Center opens at the new location on the west side of Manning.

2014 - Carroll County Freedom Rock is completed in Manning. Painted by Ray "Bubba" Sorensen, it is a part of the 99-county Iowa Freedom Rock® Tour.

2015 - Carroll Area Wind Farm is completed. The 9 turbine wind farm is located on 1,100 acres and has a physical capacity of 21MW.

2020 - Carroll Public Library completes $3.3 million renovation.

2021 - Sheriff's Office and stand alone jail are completed.

2022 - DMACC Carroll completes a $4.2 million, 11,700 sq. ft. campus expansion.

2022 - Courthouse renovations are completed.

Table 2.1: Carroll County Village and Cities Date of Incorporation

| City/Village | Date | City/Village | Date |
|---|---|---|---|
| Arcadia | Incorporated 1881 | Lidderdale | Incorporated 1901 |
| Breda | Incorporated 1877 | Manning | Incorporated 1882 |
| Carroll | Incorporated 1869 | Maple River Junction | 1872 |
| Coon Rapids | Incorporated 1863 | Mount Carmel | 1868 |
| Dedham | Incorporated 1883 | Ralston | Incorporated 1903 |
| Glidden | Incorporated 1873 | Roselle | 1881 |
| Halbur | Incorporated 1882 | Templeton | Incorporated 1882 |
| Lanesboro | Incorporated 1902 | Willey | Incorporated 1911 |

# Historic Population

Settlers first came to Carroll County in 1849 and the County was first recognized in the U.S. Census in 1860 with a population of 251. In 1900, Carroll County's population was recorded at 20,319 residents. From 1900 through 1960, the county experienced slow steady growth in population, reaching 24,431 persons in 1960; the highest population for the county as recorded by the United States Census. The 2020 Census showed the population of Carroll County at 20,760 residents. Figure 3.1 below shows the history of Carroll County's population since 1860.

Figure 3.1: Carroll County Historic Population, 1860-2020



Source: United States Census
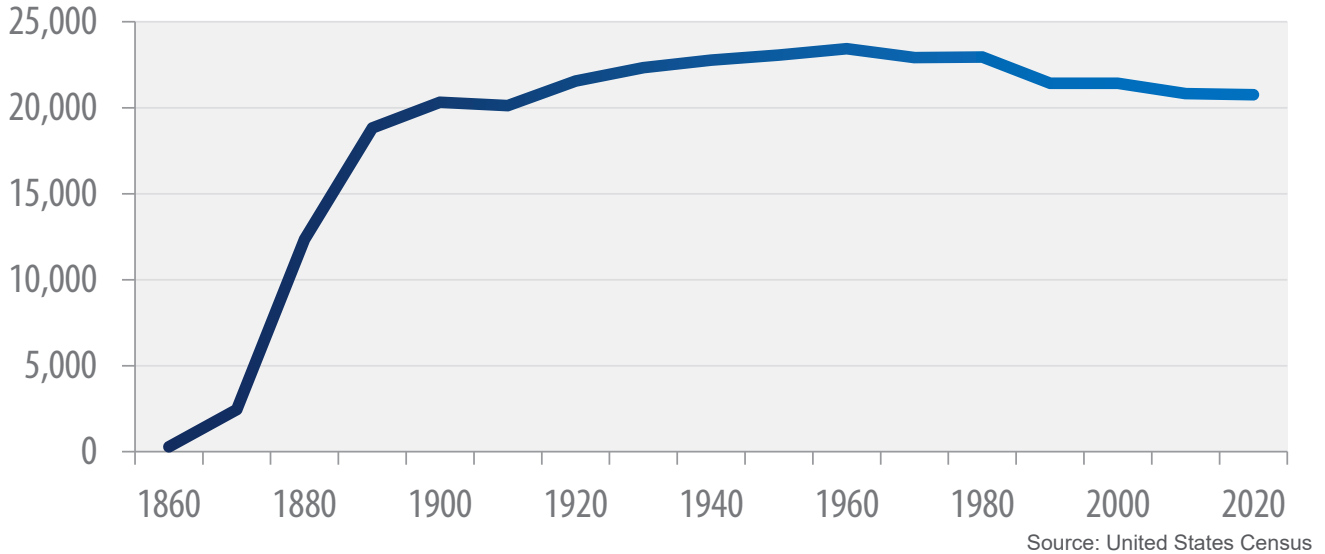
Figure 3.2: Regional Counties Historic Population, 1860-2020



Source: United States Census
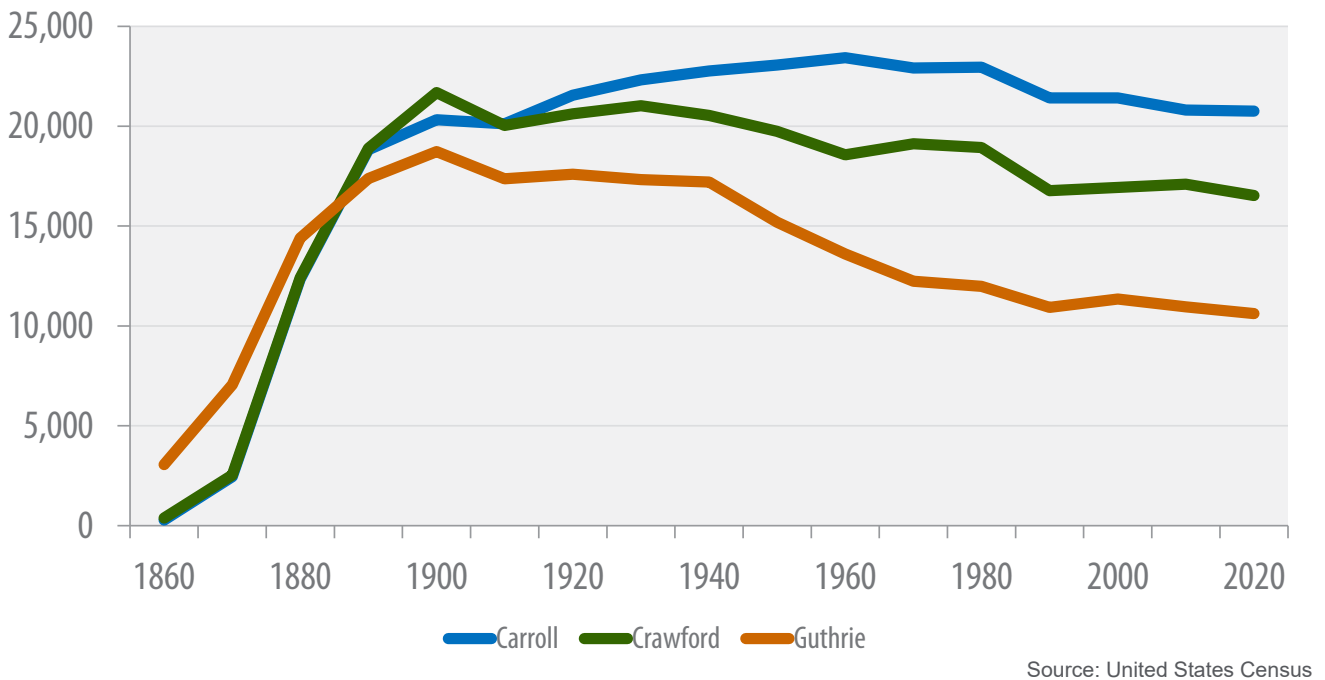
Carroll County when compared to other similar regional counties, as shown in figure 3.2, has had similar increases and decreases in overall county population as Crawford and Guthrie Counties. While the populations are different, there have been noticeable periods of population growth and decline in each county that lines up with the other two.

Table 3.1: Carroll County Rural and City Populations, 2000-2020

| Year | Total Population | City Population | Rural Population | Percent Rural |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2000 | 21,421 | 16,429 | 4,992 | 23.30% |
| 2010 | 20,816 | 16,363 | 4,453 | 21.30% |
| 2020 | 20,760 | 16,510 | 4,250 | 20.50% |

Source: American Community Survey

Table 3.1 above shows the population of Carroll County broke into two categories, city and rural populations. From 2000 to 2020, there has been a trend of people residing in the rural portions of the county moving into the cities of the county. In 2000, 23.30% of the county's population resided outside of city limits. In 2020, that percent decreased to 20.50%. This could be due to farms being sold to other farming operations. When the need to live on the farmstead is no longer present, for some of the families, moving into town where there are more amenities makes sense.

## Age

Looking at the County's overall population age can help the county determine the future needs of its residents. Carroll County's largest population cohort is the 55 to 64 years of age group where 14.8% of the population falls. The next two largest cohorts are the 5 to 14 and 15 to 24 groups. This may be directly related as residents in the 45 to 54 age range may be the parents of the 5 to 24 year olds. This is important to remember throughout this plan that the previously mentioned age ranges may be connected, especially when looking at planning for future amenities. Figure 3.3 shows Carroll County's population broken down by age range compared to the State of Iowa's. This can be beneficial information as each jurisdiction has to plan for their overall make-up, and can show why the state may benefit certain programs over ones that the county may find beneficial.

Figure 3.3: Iowa and Carroll County Population Age, 2020
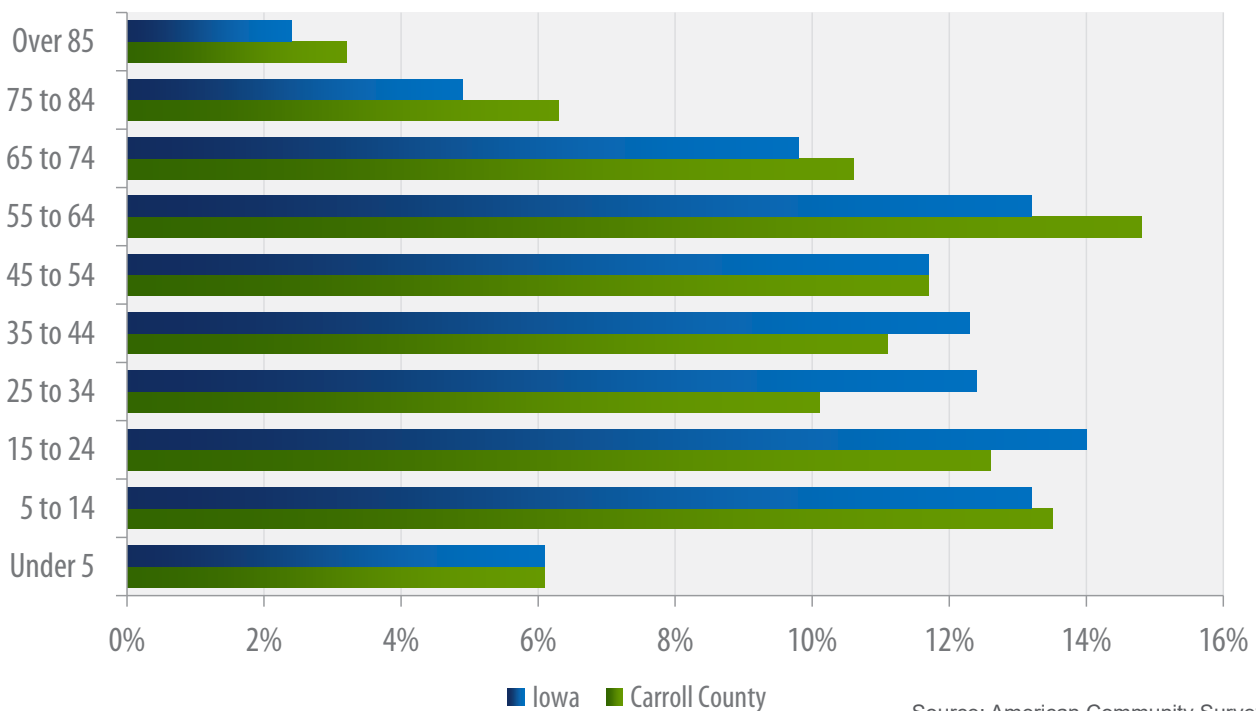


Source: American Community Survey

## Figure 3.4: Carroll County and Cities Median Age, 2020



Figure 3.4: Carroll County and Cities Median Age, 2020
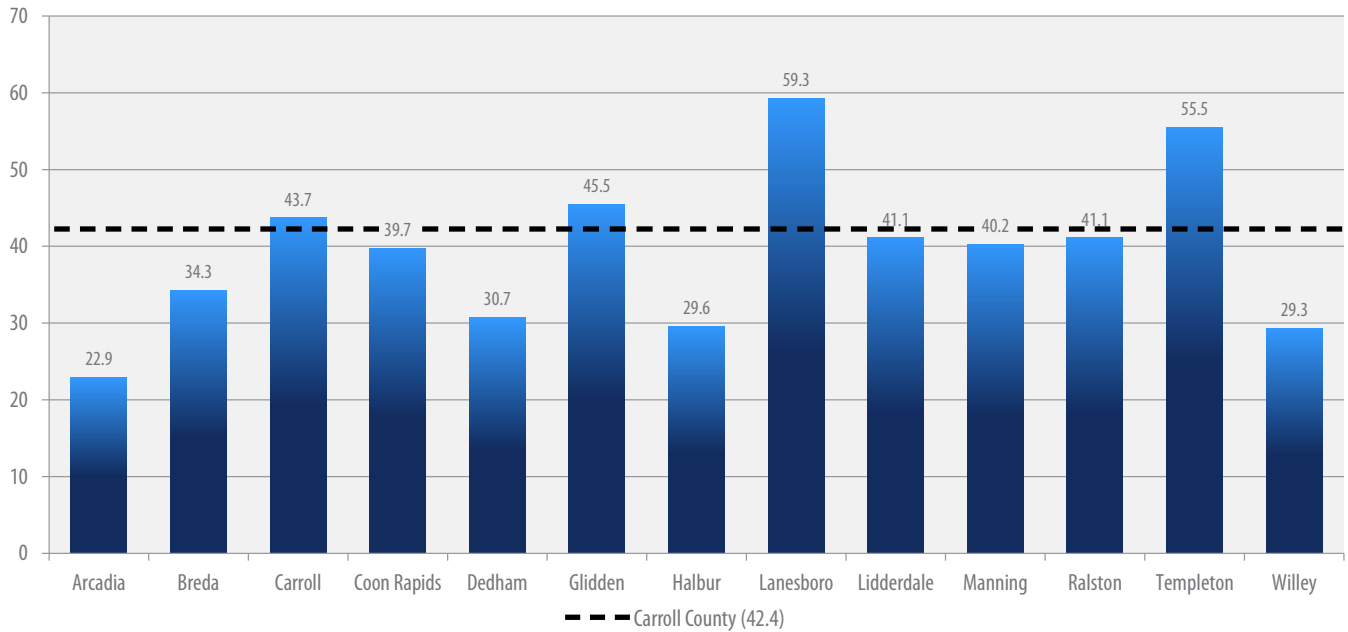
Source: American Community Survey

Carroll County's median age is 42.4, which is lower than only four cities within the county. The other nine cities within the county have a lower median age than the county as a whole. Arcadia has the lowest median age at 22.9 and Lanesboro has the highest median age at 59.3. Figure 3.4 above shows a breakdown of all the cities in Carroll County and the county as a whole.

## Race

In 2020, over 93% of Carroll County's Population identified as white. It is important to note that Hispanic and Latino populations are a specific Census subset of white. In many rural Iowa communities and counties, people of Hispanic or Latino descent have helped stabilize otherwise shrinking populations. In Carroll County, the Hispanic or Latino population has grown by 161 residents since 2010. Table 3.2 documents the race responses from Carroll County. The table shows that the Black or African American, and two or more races have experienced recognized growth in the ten year period shown.

Table 3.2: Race and Hispanic Origin, 2010 & 2020

|  | 2010 | 2020 | 2020 Percent |
|---|---|---|---|
| Total Population | 20,816 | 20,760 | 100% |
| White | 20,119 | 19,409 | 93.49% |
| Black or African American | 82 | 262 | 1.26% |
| American Indian and Alaska Native | 20 | 19 | 0.09% |
| Asian | 92 | 75 | 0.36% |
| Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | 0 | 0 | 0.00% |
| Some other race | 5 | 18 | 0.09% |
| Two or More Races | 165 | 383 | 1.84% |
| Hispanic or Latino (of Any Race) | 333 | 594 | 2.86% |

Source: American Community Survey

# Educational Attainment

In the five year time period shown in figure 3.5 below, Carroll County's population educational attainment has not drastically changed. The percent of the population that has less than a high school diploma (or equivalent) has decreased. This level of education was more popular when farms required more hands to complete the work and children dropped out of school to help on the farm. There have been slight increases in the percent of individuals that have some college, but no degree and those with associate's degrees. The full breakdown can be viewed below.

Figure 3.5: Carroll County Educational Attainment, age 25 and over, 2017 & 2022
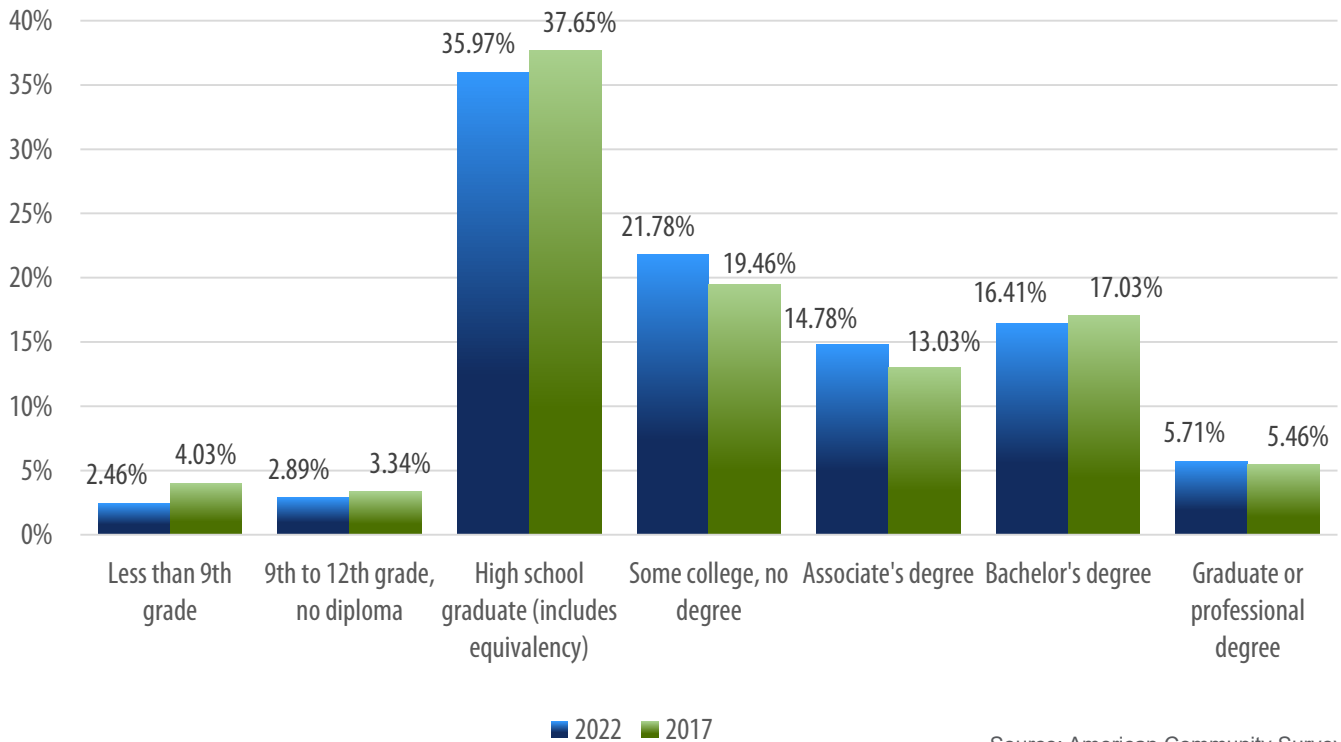


Source: American Community Survey

Housing within the county is an important aspect to examine throughout the planning process. Being able to understand the characteristics of what housing is currently available within the county as well as the types of housing that may be lacking or needing improvement can help the county determine the future housing needs and development. Having available and affordable housing within Carroll County is important for the county's economic success. Attractive housing stocks can be utilized to attract potential employers and employees to the county.

## Housing Units

Table 4.1 shows the total number of housing units within Carroll County as a whole, as well as the incorporated cities within the county. While this plan focuses on the county, it is important to note what is happening within each city, as it effects the county as whole. From 2010-2020, the County, Arcadia, Breda, and Carroll saw housing unit increases and the remaining cities saw decreases in the number of total units. While Carroll County as a whole saw an increase in the number of units, rural Carroll County saw a decrease of 21 units. The total number of housing units within the county is important, but equally important is considering the types of housing units there are and who occupies the units.

According to the 2021 American Community Survey Estimates, over 82% of the housing units in Carroll County are single-unit, detached structures, otherwise known as single-family homes. The second largest cohort includes structures that have ten or more units, this includes apartment complexes that have 50 or more units in one structure. The third largest cohort, representing 3.9% of all housing units within the county is structures with 3 or 4 units. It is important to remember that the information displayed in figure 4.1 is inclusive of all cities and rural areas within Carroll County, not just the county outside of incorporated cities.

Table 4.1: Carroll County & Carroll County Cities Housing Unit Change, 2010-2020

|  | 2010 | 2020 | 2010-2020 Change |
|---|---|---|---|
| Carroll County | 9,376 | 9,490 | 1.22% |
| Rural County | 1,796 | 1,775 | -1.17% |
| Arcadia | 195 | 211 | 8.21% |
| Breda | 226 | 234 | 3.54% |
| Carroll | 4,698 | 4,825 | 2.70% |
| Coon Rapids | 613 | 604 | -1.47% |
| Dedham | 107 | 100 | -6.54% |
| Glidden | 523 | 518 | -0.96% |
| Halbur | 98 | 95 | -3.06% |
| Lanesboro | 74 | 68 | -8.11% |
| Lidderdale | 88 | 84 | -4.55% |
| Manning | 719 | 747 | 3.89% |
| Ralston | 45 | 39 | -13.33% |
| Templeton | 159 | 158 | -0.63% |
| Willey | 35 | 32 | -8.57% |

Source: American Community Survey

Figure 4.1: Carroll County Type of Housing Unit, 2021
Source: American Community Survey



- 1 unit, detached
- 1 unit, attached
- 2 units
- 3 or 4 units
- 5 to 9 units
- 10 or more units
- Mobile home

0.95%
3.14%
6.38%
0.95%
3.90%
1.81%
82.87%
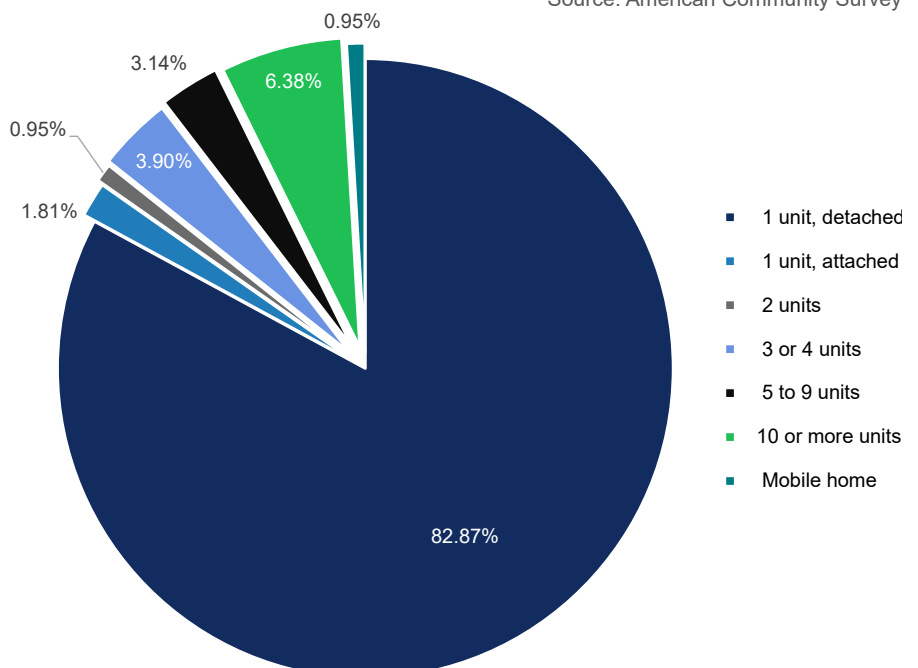
One of the biggest considerations for people when looking into purchasing a home is the number of bedrooms within the unit. There have to be enough bedrooms to accommodate the household's wants and needs. Figure 4.2 shows the number of bedrooms per unit according to the 2021 American Community Survey Estimates. Nearly 40% of all units in Carroll County have three bedrooms. Ensuring that there are homes with a range of bedrooms available allows the county to be attractive to households of all sizes.

Figure 4.2: Bedrooms per Unit, 2021
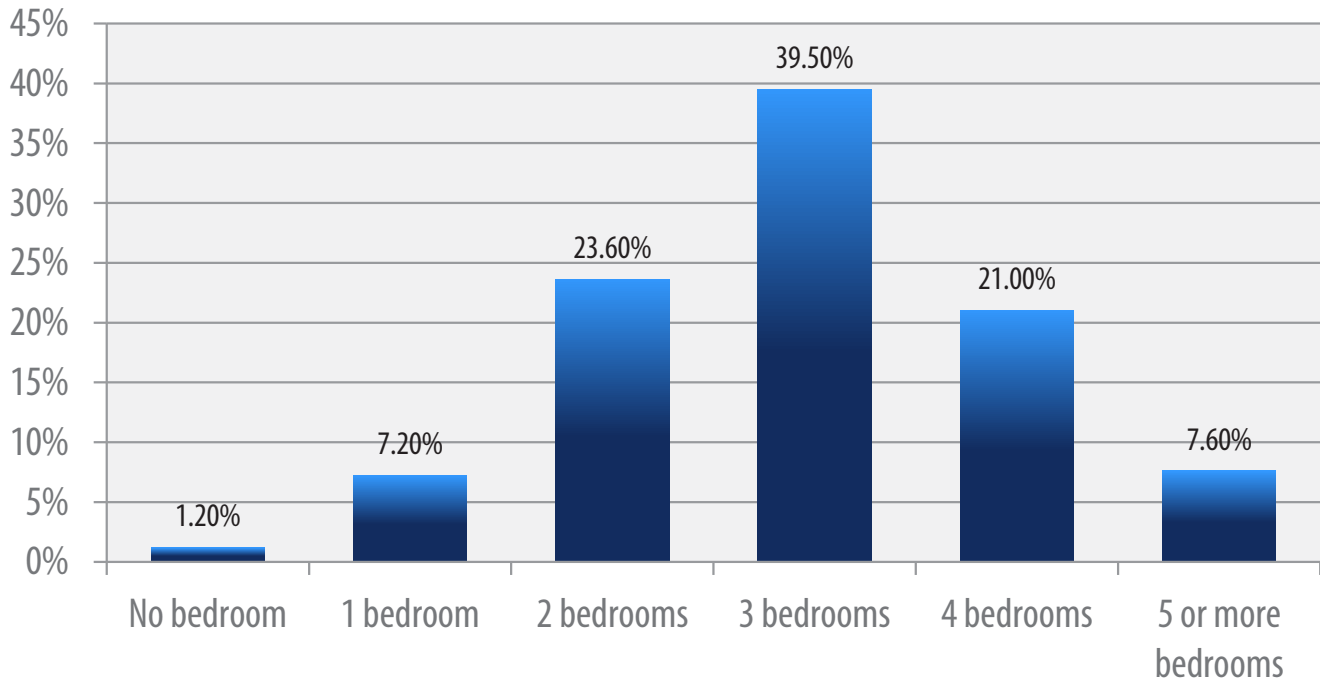


Source: American Community Survey

## Structural Age

According to the County Assessors, table 4.2 displays the year residential structures were built by county. Like many portions of rural Iowa, each county has a large percentage of structures constructed in 1939 or earlier. Carroll County saw an increase in the construction of homes in both 1950 to 1959 and 1970 to 1979. Homes constructed within the past three years account for 1.6% of the homes within the county, a higher percentage than both Crawford and Guthrie Counties.

Older structures do not necessarily mean a poor quality home, but modern homes utilize updated construction techniques and materials. These updated materials and techniques provide advantages when it comes to energy efficiency, longevity of

Table 4.2: Year Structure Built, 2023

| Year Built | Carroll County | Crawford County | Guthrie County |
|---|---|---|---|
| Built 2020 or later | 1.6% | 0.1% | 0.2% |
| Built 2010 to 2019 | 4.1% | 2.3% | 5.6% |
| Built 2000 to 2009 | 6.8% | 3.6% | 10.5% |
| Built 1990 to 1999 | 7.9% | 5.3% | 10.2% |
| Built 1980 to 1989 | 5.0% | 9.8% | 11.8% |
| Built 1970 to 1979 | 11.4% | 20.1% | 11.6% |
| Built 1960 to 1969 | 9.7% | 8.9% | 7.1% |
| Built 1950 to 1959 | 11.1% | 5.7% | 4.3% |
| Built 1940 to 1949 | 4.9% | 6.2% | 3.3% |
| Built 1939 or earlier | 37.6% | 38.0% | 35.5% |

Source: County Assessor

materials (roof life, siding life, etc.), and updated safety requirements. The older a home is, the more likely it was to be constructed with (and still have present) potentially hazardous materials such as asbestos, knob and tube wiring, and lead paint. Knob and tube wiring does not have a ground wire, putting electronics at increased risk of damage and puts the home at a greater risk of fire. Asbestos and lead paint, left untouched, do not pose a major threat, but when deconstructed, can cause lead poisoning and potentially cancer.

## Average Household Size

The average household size of both renter and owner-occupied units can help determine the number of housing units needed to ensure that the future housing needs are met. When compared to two other regional counties, Carroll County has the smallest renter-occupied average household size, and the middle owner-occupied average household size. In Carroll County, an average of 1.93 renters live in each unit and 2.46 people live in each owner-occupied unit.



Figure 4.3: Average Household Size, 2022
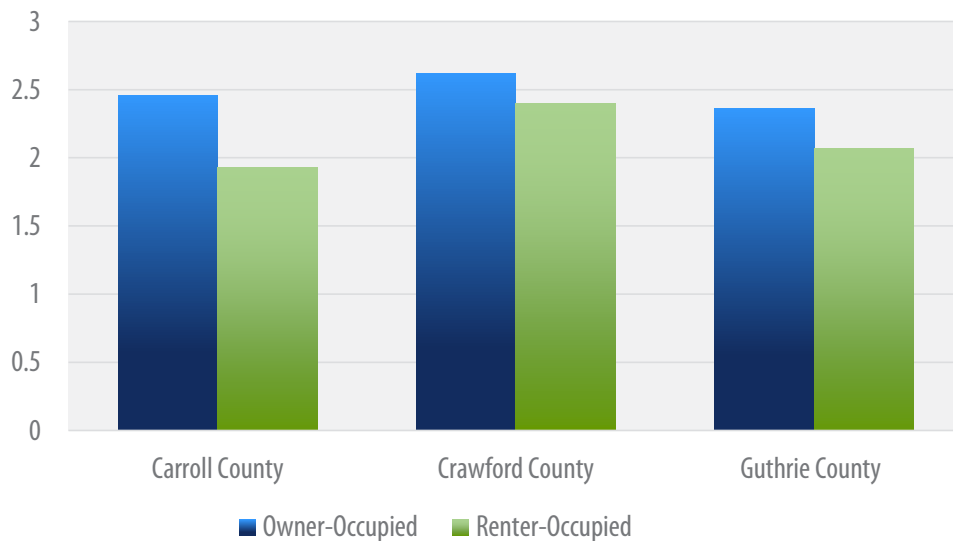
Source: American Community Survey

## Household Types

It is important to understand they different types of households located within the county as each household type can require or prefer different amenities. Table 4.3 breaks down the household types in Carroll County according to the 2022 American Community Survey Estimates. The majority of the households in Carroll County when looking at all occupied units and owner-occupied units are occupied by families. In owner-occupied units, this represents 72.2% of all households and in all occupied units, this household type represents 62.9%. The majority household type of renter-occupied units is non-family households, more specifically, the householder living alone (58.6%).

Table 4.3: Carroll County Household Types, 2022

| Household Type | All Occupied Units | Owner-Occupied Units | Renter-Occupied Units |
|---|---|---|---|
| Family households | 62.9% | 72.2% | 33.4% |
| Married-couple family | 49.6% | 60.4% | 15.3% |
| Householder 15 to 34 years | 7.2% | 8.7% | 2.6% |
| Householder 35 to 64 years | 26.7% | 31.9% | 10.1% |
| Householder 65 years and over | 15.7% | 19.8% | 2.6% |
| Other family | 13.3% | 11.8% | 18.1% |
| Male householder, no spouse present | 3.9% | 3.7% | 4.5% |
| Householder 15 to 34 years | 1.1% | 0.6% | 2.5% |
| Householder 35 to 64 years | 2.7% | 2.9% | 1.9% |
| Householder 65 years and over | 0.1% | 0.1% | 0.0% |
| Female householder, no spouse present | 9.4% | 8.1% | 13.6% |
| Householder 15 to 34 years | 3.5% | 2.6% | 6.2% |
| Householder 35 to 64 years | 5.0% | 4.6% | 6.3% |
| Householder 65 years and over | 0.9% | 0.8% | 1.1% |
| Nonfamily households | 37.1% | 27.8% | 66.6% |
| Householder living alone | 33.6% | 25.8% | 58.6% |
| Householder 15 to 34 years | 6.1% | 2.7% | 16.7% |
| Householder 35 to 64 years | 13.0% | 10.7% | 20.2% |
| Householder 65 years and over | 14.6% | 12.3% | 21.8% |
| Householder not living alone | 3.4% | 2.0% | 7.9% |
| Householder 15 to 34 years | 2.0% | 0.7% | 6.1% |
| Householder 35 to 64 years | 1.2% | 1.0% | 1.7% |
| Householder 65 years and over | 0.3% | 0.3% | 0.1% |

Source: American Community Survey

# Vacancy Rates

According to the 2022 American Community Survey Estimates, 8.6% of the housing units in Carroll County are currently vacant. A housing unit is defined, for Census use, as a house, an apartment, a group of rooms, or a single room occupied or intended for occupancy as separate living quarters. Separate living quarters are those in which the occupants do not live and eat with other persons in the structure and which have direct access from the outside of the building or through a common hall. While the data shows that there are 8.6% of the total units sitting vacant, the committee feels that that number is higher than the actual number of vacant units. Of the vacant units, the largest majority is labeled "other vacant" with 49.33% of all vacancies falling into that category. Units that are available for rent or sale account for 28.69% of the vacant units. Units that have been rented or sold and are currently not occupied represent 19.78% of the vacant units.

It is important for cities and the county as a whole to have some vacant units as it allows for new residents to move into the county without waiting for a unit to be vacated. Vacancies also allow for current Carroll County residents to move throughout the county if they would prefer to move out of their current home, but not want to leave the county.

Table 4.4: Carroll County Vacancy Status, 2022

| Vacancy Status | Number of Units | Percentage of Units |
|---|---|---|
| For rent | 139 | 16.97% |
| Rented, not occupied | 132 | 16.12% |
| For sale only | 96 | 11.72% |
| Sold, not occupied | 30 | 3.66% |
| For seasonal, recreational, or occasional use | 18 | 2.20% |
| For migrant workers | 0 | 0.0% |
| Other vacant* | 404 | 49.33% |
| Total | 819 | 100% |

*Table 4.4 Definitions:*
*Vacant Units for Rent: This group consists of vacant units offered fro rent and those offered for both rent and for sale.*

*Vacant Units Rented or Sold, not occupied: These consist of year-round vacant units which have been rented or sold but the new renters or owners had not moved in as of the time of interview.*

*Vacant Units for Sale Only: This group is limited to units for sale only; it excludes units both for rent and sale. If a unit was located in a multi-unit structure which was for sale as an entire structure and if the unit was not for rent, it was reported as "held off market." However, if the individual unit was intended to be occupied by the new owner, it was reported as "for sale."*

*For Seasonal, Recreational, or Occasional Use: If the vacant unit is not for rent, or for sale only but is held for weekends or occasional use throughout the year, the unit is included in this category. Time-shared units are classified in this category if the vacant unit is not for rent or for sale only, but held for use for an individual during the time of interview.*

*Vacant Housing Unit: A housing unit is vacant if no one is living in it at the time of enumeration, unless its occupants are only temporarily absent. Units temporarily occupied at the time of enumeration entirely by people who have a usual residence elsewhere are also classified as vacant.*

*Other Vacant Definition: A housing unit is classified as other vacant when it does not fit into any other year-round category. These can be labeled "other vacant" when the owner does not want to rent or sell, is using the unit for storage, or is elderly and is living in a nursing home or with family members. Additionally it could be being held for settlement of an estate, is being repaired or renovated, or is being foreclosed.*

# Monthly Housing Costs

The median rent for housing units in Carroll County is $697, lower than both Crawford ($732) and Guthrie ($788) Counties. Owner-occupied units with a mortgage pay the lowest in Crawford County at $1,149 in housing costs per month, followed by Carroll County at $1,216 per month, and then Guthrie County at $1,385 per month. Owner-occupied units without a mortgage in Crawford County pay the lowest amount in monthly housing costs at $493 followed by Carroll County at $498 per month. This information is displayed in table 4.5 below.

Table 4.5: Regional Monthly Housing Costs, 2022

| | Carroll County | Crawford County | Guthrie County |
|---|---|---|---|
| Median Monthly Costs for Owner-Occupied Units with a Mortgage | $1,216 | $1,149 | $1,385 |
| Median Monthly Costs for Owner-Occupied Units without a Mortgage | $498 | $493 | $541 |
| Median Gross Rent for Renter-Occupied Units Paying Rent | $697 | $732 | $788 |

# Housing Assessed Values

Figure 4.4 displays the assessed value of all housing units in Carroll County according to data from the Carroll County Assessor in January 2024. Over 60% of the housing units in Carroll County are valued under $150,000. An additional 24.7% of the housing units are valued between $150,000 and $249,999. The remaining 14% of the units are valued at $250,00 or more. The assessed value of a home considers sales of comparable homes, location, and a number of other factors. According to the Iowa Department of Revenue, the assessed value is to be at actual or market value for most properties in the State of Iowa.

Table 4.4: Carroll County Assessed Housing Values, 2024



Source: Carroll County Assessor
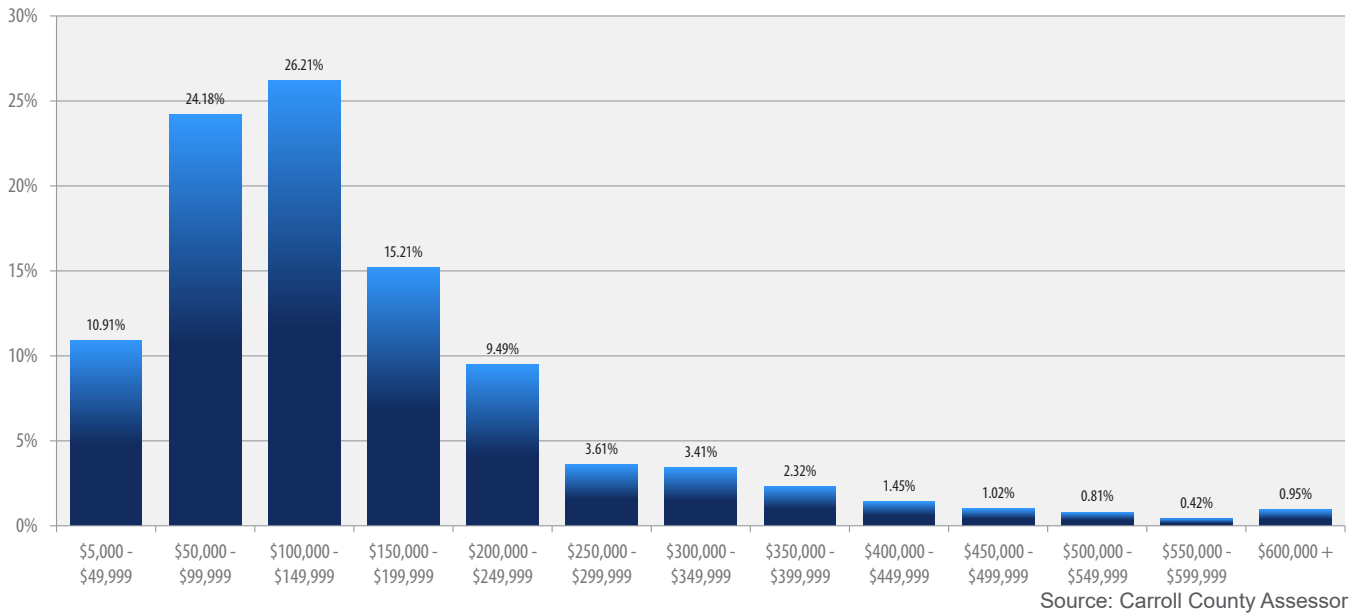
# Available Programs

## Habitat for Humanity

**Homeownership Program**

Habitat for Humanity partners with qualified families and individuals to help them purchase new construction and previously-owned homes. The program lends aid to families who meet income requirements as well as a need for housing.

**Rock the Block**

Rock the Block is provided by Habitat for Humanity and is an initiative which provides the opportunity for homeowners, organizations, volunteers and Habitat for Humanity to work together in assisting low-income residents with minor repairs to their homes. Qualifying homes may receive critical home repairs, weatherization and home preservation.

For more information contact: Habitat for Humanity of West Central Iowa at 712-587-1305 or at hfhwci@hotmail.com. The Habitat for Humanity which serves Carroll County's mailing address is PO Box 843, Carroll, IA 51401.

## Section 8 Housing

Region XII Housing Authority is the administrative body for the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program for Carroll County. This program helps provide rental assistance for low income families. The program requires renters to pay between 30 and 40 percent of the rent, and the housing authority forms a contract with the landlord to pay the difference directly to the landlord on behalf of the family. To be eligible for this program, rental units must meet HUD's standards safe and sanitary living conditions. Aside from the Section 8 program, the housing authority offers low income housing programs for those who meet program guidelines.

For more information contact: Region XII Housing Authority at 712-792-5560 or rgnxiiha@ qwestoffice.net. Region XII Housing Authority is located at 320 East 7th Street, Carroll, IA 51401.

## New Opportunities

**Weatherization**

The Weatherization Program aims to reduce energy costs for low-income families by improving the efficiency of their homes at no cost to the family. This program provides energy efficiency through adding insulation, air sealing, furnace and water heater replacements, as well as health and safety measures.

**Energy Assistance**

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a federally-funded program that has been established to help qualifying low-income Iowa homeowners and renters pay for a portion of their primary heating costs for the winter heating season. By doing so,  the risk of health and safety problems (such as illness, fire or eviction) are reduced. The assistance is based on household income, household size, type of fuel, and type of housing. The application for energy assistance is also an application for weatherization of the home.

For more information contact: Carroll County Family Development Center 712-792-2832. The Carroll County Family Development Center is located at 23751 Highway 30 East, Carroll, IA 51401.

## Region XII Revolving Loan Fund

Loans are available to income-qualified homeowners in any of Region XII's member communities for down payment assistance and/or home repairs to eliminate health and safety hazards including windows, doors, roofs, furnaces, etc.

For more information contact: Region XII COG at 712-792-9914.

## Housing Trust Fund

The COG Housing Trust Fund can assist potential homeowners located within Sac City with down payment assistance and/or rehabilitation. This assistance can be in the form of a loan, grant, or a half grant half loan. The form of assistance is income based and participants of this program can receive up to $10,000.

For more information about the COG Housing Trust Fund contact: Region XII COG at 712-792-9914.

## Iowa Finance Authority
**Workforce Housing Loan**
The Iowa Finance Authority (IFA) will provide financial assistance in the form of a repayable loan to cities and counties that demonstrate a need for additional workforce rental housing for Iowans as a result of employment growth within the local unit of government's jurisdictional boundaries. Only cities and counties in Iowa are eligible applicants for Workforce Housing Loan Program assistance.

For more information contact IFA at 515-725-4955.

**Main Street Loan Program**
Loans are made for the rehabilitation of upper floor housing or commercial properties or for new construction on infill lots in downtown areas of communities that participate in the Main Street Iowa program. Up to $250,000 can be loaned for the purpose of this program and applications are reviewed on an ongoing basis.

For more information about the Main Street Loan Program contact: Main Street Iowa at 515-725-3077.

## Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB)
**Competitive Affordable Housing Program** The Competitive Affordable Housing Program encourages partnerships between member financial institutions and local housing providers to secure funds for the purchase, construction or rehabilitation of affordable homeownership or rental housing units. Grants are available to sponsors including nonprofits, governments, housing authorities and other qualifying organizations.
**Down Payment Programs**
This program aims to help families achieve homeownership by providing down payment and closing cost assistance to eligible home buyers.

For more information contact the Des Moines FHLB at 800-544-3452.

## USDA
**Single Family Housing Guaranteed Loan Program**
This program assists approved households the opportunity to own dwellings as their primary residence in eligible areas. Applicants may build, rehabilitate, improve or relocate a dwelling. Funds may be used towards reasonable closing costs as well as repairs and rehabilitation.

For more information contact the USDA at 515-284-4667.

## Community Catalyst

The Community Catalyst Building Remediation Program assists communities with the redevelopment, rehabilitation or deconstruction of buildings to stimulate economic growth or reinvestment in the community. Funded projects usually include a second story housing component to a first story business development.

For more information contact IEDA's Community Catalyst program contact at 515-725-3061.

# Goals

## Increase the number of quality rentals

Many rural communities, outside of Carroll County, have seen some tax credit projects being built but that has not necessarily been the case for Carroll County. This leaves both higher and lower income households competing for the same units. Many residents noted the lack of good quality market rate rentals for families and young professionals. Providing better options for this market will free up housing for lower income households and drive the lowest quality units either off the market or force them to improve their product.

Action Items:
- Encourage cities with the development of new housing projects
- Provide assistance when applicable to city development projects

## Increase builder capacity

Just as other markets are looking at ways to recruit and retain employees the building trades need the same assistance. Ways to attract individuals back to Carroll County that have this expertise or to train individuals that want to stay in the community should be explored.

Action Items:
- Encourage businesses to provide tuition assistance and on the job training for individuals
- Support education of building trades including the DMACC Building Trades Program
- Encourage collaboration between the county high schools and local trades

## Expand the lot supply

Many of the smaller communities have made great strides to ensure available lots exist within their corporate limits; these efforts must continue. Private developers cannot afford to pay for the upfront costs of infrastructure for lot development and every reasonable effort should be made to ensure that lots are available in all of the communities of Carroll County.

Action Items:
- Continue to partner with and encourage cities for growth opportunities

## Discuss the potential for a building inspector/compliance officer

Carroll County, and a number of jurisdictions within the county do not have a building inspector/ compliance officer to do inspections on newly constructed buildings. This can lead to projects not being completed as originally permitted. The hiring on this position could benefit not only the county, but multiple jurisdictions as one jurisdiction alone may not have enough work to keep an employee of this type busy.

Action Items:
- Determine need for inspector/officer
- Discuss the potential to share position with other jurisdictions to reduce costs and increase the benefit of the position

# Chapter 5
## Parks & Culture

Extra amenities, such as parks, recreational opportunities, and historic attractions are part of what makes the county home for a number of people. There are a wide variety of amenities available for both residents and visitors of Carroll County to utilize or visit. The large number of historic, recreation, and cultural resources offer something for everyone of all ages to enjoy.

# Parks & Recreation

## Swan Lake State Park



Swan Lake State Park is managed by the Carroll County Conservation Board. It is a 510 acre multi-use area, including a 110 acre lake. The land was acquired by the Department of Natural Resources in 1933. In 1959, the Carroll County Conservation Board signed a management agreement with the Department of Natural Resources receiving authority to maintain and develop the park. It has the largest and most diverse campground in Carroll County. Water, electric, and full-hookup campsites are available for RV's with over 100 total campsites. Tent camping is also available. The park is home to an Education Center which has classrooms available for rent. Also available for rent are the park's shelter houses and cabins. Other amenities include shower houses, a concession stand/gift shop, campground shelter house, a new dump station, paddleboat & canoe rentals, and firewood/ice sales. Certain amenities are limited to seasonal openings, including the bathrooms, some shelters and concession stands.

## Sauk Rail Trail



The Sauk Rail Trail is a 33 mile concrete multi-use recreational trail located and managed by both the Carroll and Sac County Conservation Boards. It is the first recreational trail in the state of Iowa to connect two state parks. You can start in Swan Lake State Park south of Carroll or in Lake View near Blackhawk Lake State Park. If traveling the entire length of the trail, users will pass through the cities of Breda, Carroll, and Lake View and the unincorporated villages of Carnavon and Maple River. The trail is intended to be used by visitors for biking, hiking, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, and nature observation.

## Great Western Park



Great Western Park is located on the southwestern edge of Manning and is managed by the Carroll County Conservation Board. Previously, this park was known as the Four Corners Recreation Area. The original lake was restored and the whole park is continually being developed. The park features a shelter house, modern restrooms and shower house, playground, fishing, walking trails, shooting range, and a campground. The campground has 16 camp sites available with water and electrical hookups. The lake is 12 acres and 14 feet deep, equipped with a boat ramp.

## Riverside Park

Riverside Park is located near Coon Rapids and is managed by the Carroll County Conservation Board. The beautiful Riverside Park provides miles of trails that follow the Middle Raccoon River. Kayak and Canoeing the river is a popular summertime activity. Just up the road is the Riverside Park campground. The campground is self-registration and on a first-come, first-serve basis. There are 20 electric sites available for RV camping, with each site having their own electric and water connections. Tent camping is also available. There is a shower house and dump station located in the campground. Certain amenities, such as water connections and the shower house are seasonal.

## Russell White Nature Trail

Located near Lanesboro the Russell White Nature Trail starts on N41 or Timber Avenue and travels over the North Raccoon River at Hobbs Access by this large deck girder bridge and continues northeast to the town of Lanesboro. In 1978 Carroll County Conservation acquired the 41-acre abandoned railroad right-of-way, Russell White Nature Trail, which is named after long-time Carroll County Conservation Custodian and Charter Board Member, Russell "Chow" White. The trail is about 2.5 miles and is great for hiking, running, walking, and mountain biking and is generally considered an easy route. The trail is also great for small game hunting, mushroom hunting, listening to songbirds and birding, and wild berry hunting.

## Wildlife & Other Areas

The Carroll County Conservation Board manages Wildlife Management Areas and River Accesses with land for public use, wildlife habitat, and natural areas. These areas can be found on map 5.1 on the next page. Table 5.1 displays the amenities available at each county managed area, including the Wildlife Management Areas.

The County also maintains two shooting ranges available for public use. One is located within Great Western Park. The other is the Carroll County Rifle and Pistol Range located on Kittyhawk Avenue near the Carroll Landfill.

# Carroll COUNTY CONSERVATION

22676 Swan Lake Dr.
Carroll, IA 51401
(712) 792-4614
jason@carrollcountyiowa.org
www.mycountyparks.com

Office Hours
8:00am-4:30pm Monday-Friday
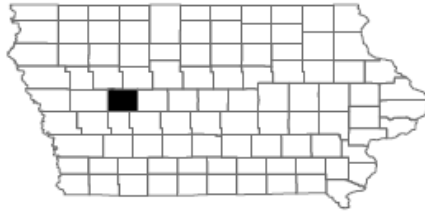
**Legend**

| | |
|---|---|
| State Highways | Corporate Limits |
| U S Highways | Trails |
| County Paved | Parks |
| County Gravel | Rivers & Lakes |
| Grade B | Major Streams |



Breda

Lanesboro

22

10

Lidderdale

12
21
18
2
4
17
16
13
7
3
1
19

71

Arcadia

30
30

15

Carroll

11

Glidden

Ralston

24

Halbur

9

71

Willey

27

25

Templeton

Manning

Dedham

14

8

23

6

20

26

Coon Rapids

5

71

0 0.5 1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    9    10 Miles
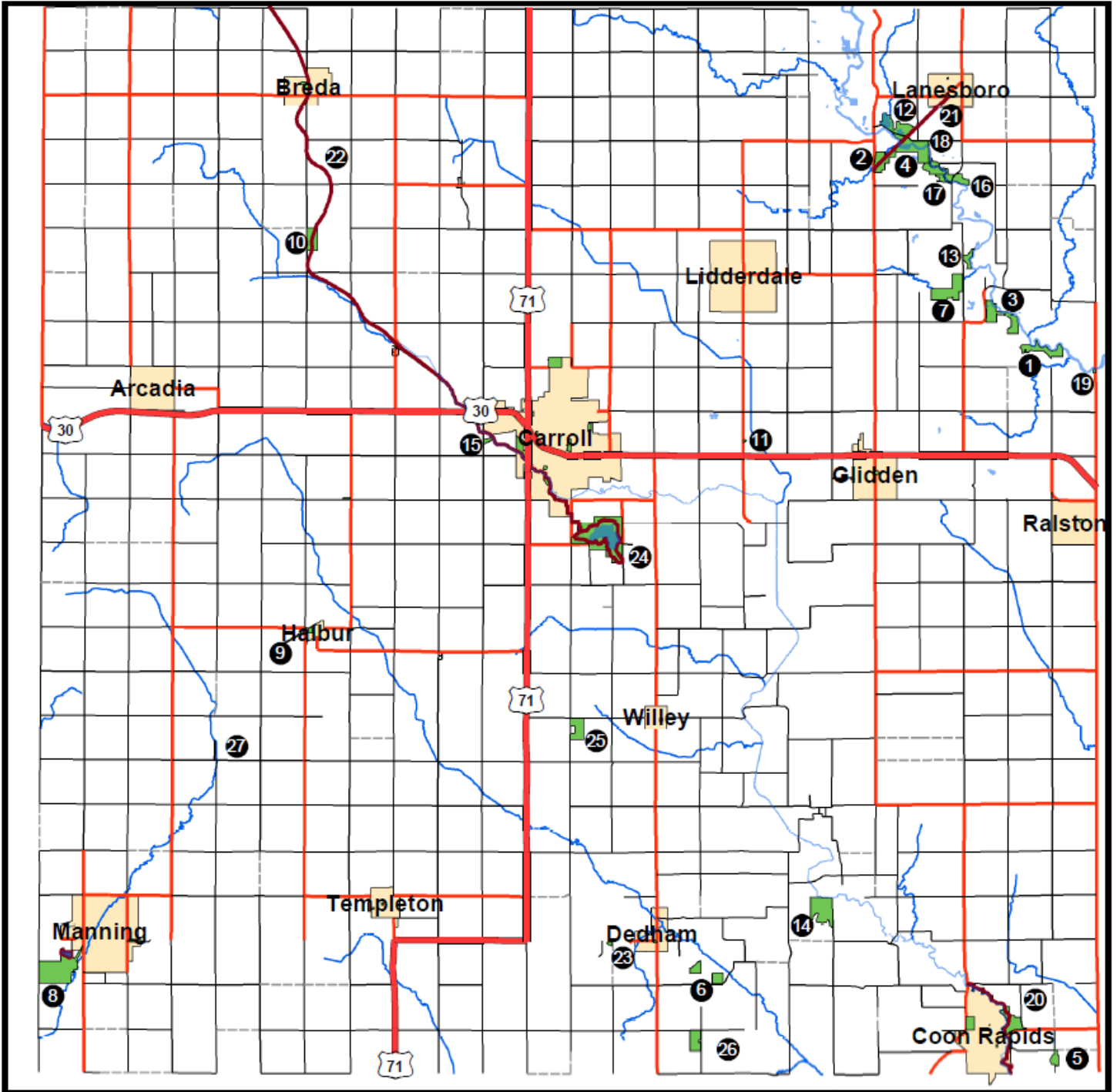
## Table 5.1: Carroll County Conservation Managed Areas Amenities

| Carroll County | ACRE-AGE | CAMPSITES: Electric/Full Hookup/Non Electric/Equestrian/YouthDump Station/Wifi | WATER: Drinking/Showers | TOILETS: Flush/Vault | CABIN RENTAL: Seasonal/Year Round | SHELTER: Enclosed/Open/Free/Rental | PICNICKING | TRAILS: Bike-Hard Surface/Limestone/Water Equestrian/Hiking/Snowmobile/XC Ski-Groomed | SWIMMING: Beach/Pool | FISHING: Jetty/Pier/Lake(acres)/Stream or River/Trout | BOATING: Canoe/Electric/Motor BR-Boat Rental/Ramp | SPORTS: Archery/Disc Golf/Iceskating Playground/Shooting Range/Sledding/Tennis/Winter Sports | SITES: Amphitheater/Arboretum Birdwatching/Wildlife Exhibit Historic Site/Nature Center Prairie/Wetland/Woodland | HUNTING: Forest/Upland/Wetland |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 Bennett Access Area — 4 mi. E, 2 mi. N of Glidden | 108 | N5 | | | | | P | | | S | M, C | | | F |
| 2 Buck Run Creek Area — 6.5 mi. N of Glidden Hwy 286 | 85 | | | | | | | | | | | | | F, U |
| 3 Butrick Bluff Wildlife Area — 2 mi. E, 3 mi. N, .5 mi E of Glidden | 170 | | | | | | | H | | S | C, BR | | P20 | F, U |
| 4 Carroll County Access — 2 mi. S, .5 mi. W of Lanesboro | 70 | N5 | | | | | P | | | S | C | | | F |
| 5 Christy Pond — 1.5 mi. E of Coon Rapids | 30 | | | | | | | | | | | | | W, U |
| 6 Daniel Davis Timber — 1 mi. S, 1 mi. E of Dedham | 72 | | | | | | P | H | | L3 | E | | | F |
| 7 Dickson Timber — 2 mi. E, 3.5 mi. N of Glidden | 155 | E18, N5, Eq | | V | | ER1, EF1 | P | H, E | | | | P, H | | F |
| 8 Great Western Park — 0.5 mi. S of Manning | 312 | E8, N8 | D | F | | ER1 | P | H | | L12, S | E, R | P, S | P272 | U |
| 9 Halbur Ridge Wildlife Area — W edge of Halbur | 11 | | | | | | | H | | | | | | U |
| 10 Hazel Brush Wildlife Area — 3 mi. S of Breda | 117 | | | | | | | H | | | | | | F, U |
| 11 Hazelton Wildlife Area — 3 mi. E of Carroll | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12 Hobbs Access — 1 mi. S, 1 mi. W of Lanesboro | 11 | N5 | | | | | P | | | S | C | | | |
| 13 Merritt Access — 2 mi. E, 4 mi, N of Glidden | 68 | N5 | | | | | P | | | S | M, C, R | | | F |
| 14 Middle Raccoon River Access — 4 mi. E, 2 mi. N of Dedham | 174 | | | | | | | H | | S | | | | F |
| 15 Mid-Prairie Park — 0.5 mi. W of Carroll | 17 | | | | | | | H | | S | | A, S | | U |
| 16 North Raccoon Access — 2 mi. S of Lanesboro | 45 | | | | | | | | | S | C, R | | | F |
| 17 North Raccoon-Andrews Access — 2 mi. S of Lanesboro | 24 | | | | | | | | | S | C | | | F |
| 18 Reinart Bend — along N Raccoon River between Hobbs and Carroll Co. Access | 154 | | | | | | | | | S | | | | U |
| 19 Richey Access — 3 mi. N of Ralston | 3 | E8, N5 | D | V | | | P | | | S | C | | | |
| 20 Riverside Park — NE edge of Coon Rapids | 144 | E12, N4 | D | F | | OF1 | P | H | | S | | P | | |
| 21 Russell White Nature Trail — Lanesboro to Hwy 286 | 41 | | | | | | | H, S | | S | | | | U |
| 22 Sauk Rail Trail — Swan Lake to Lake View | 250 | | D | F | | | | H, B, S | | | | W | P6 | U |
| 23 Sporrer Wildlife Area — Hwy 141, 1 mi. W of Dedham | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 24 Swan Lake State Park — 2 mi. S, 1 mi. E of Carroll | 510 | E56, F46, N50, D, W | D, S | F, V | S1, YR 1 | ER1,EF1,OR1,OF1 | P | H, E, B, S | B | P, J, L110 | M, C, BR, R | D, H, I, P W | A, B, E, H, N, P, W | |
| 25 Tigges North Wildlife Area — 2 mi. W of Willey | 91 | | | | | | | | | L4 | E | | | U |
| 26 Tigges South Wildlife Area — 2 mi. SE of Dedham | 80 | | | | | | | | | L3 | E | | | U |
| 27 West Botna Wildlife Area — 3 mi. S, 2 mi. W of Halbur | 6 | | | | | | | H | | | | | | U |

# Goals

## Maintain Existing Facilities

Carroll County currently has a large variety of facilities that are designed for all ages and physical abilities. Continuing to maintain the current facilities is a top priority. Providing maintenance for these existing facilities is more cost effective than constructing new facilities.

Action Items:
   - Resurface hard surface trails
   - Improve existing shower & restroom facilities
   - Improve and expand recreational rentals

## Pursue Additional Amenities

Adding additional amenities as funding allows is essential to maintaining the high quality of life that Carroll County residents currently enjoy. Increasing the number of outdoor amenities at the parks would allow the county to continue to diversify the amenities it offers, helping to draw new residents and visitors to the area.

Action Items:
   - Connect Coon Rapids Trails to the Raccoon River Valley Trail
   - Connect Manning Trails to Coon Rapids
   - Create outdoor multi-sport court in county parks
   - Install a boat ramp at Riverside Park
   - Install all age appropriate playgrounds in all county parks
   - Create a North Raccoon River Water Trail

## Expand Environmental Education

Carroll County has worked hard to expand environmental education opportunities available to schools, public, families, care facilities, libraries, and other groups in Carroll County. Continuing to expand the Environmental Education program offerings gives people of all ages the opportunity to learn more about the environment or possibly learn new outdoor skills. Expanding the Environmental Education Program would allow for more program diversity which would help reach more people.

Action Items:
   - Purchase an enclosed trailer for hauling equipment and supplies to remote programs
   - Expand Educational supplies and equipment
   - Acquire a trailer and kayaks for water sports programming
   - Expand live animal displays for use in programming
   - Collaborate with adjoining county Environmental Education programs to offer regional programming or share resources

## Natural Resource Management Improvements

Carroll County has a very diverse habitat mix in the parks and wildlife areas managed by the Conservation Board. Maintenance of these areas is always on going and providing good access to the County Parks and Wildlife areas make them easier for people to use and enjoy. Spending time on natural resource management keeps these parks and wildlife areas desirable for public use.

Action Items:
- - Timber stand improvement and invasive species control in timbers
- - Ash tree removal due to the Emerald Ash Borer
- - Fish habitat and sediment control on ponds
- - Woody species control in native grass stands
- - Increase native grass habitat available in Carroll County
- - Replanting trees in areas impacted by Ash tree removal

# Historic & Cultural Resources

## Carroll County Historical Society

The mission of the Carroll County Historical Society is to preserve the history of Carroll County for the benefit, education, and enjoyment of present citizens and future generations. The main museum is located in the former Carnegie Library Building at the corner of the Lincoln Highway (Highway 30) and Court Street, and other displays are maintained in the Schoolhouse and the Log Cabin in Graham Park, and the Farmstead Museum at Swan Lake State Park.



## Carnegie Library Building

The Historical's Society main museum was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in November 1976. The library was designed by Thomas R. Kimball and constructed in 1912 with funding assistance provided by Andrew Carnegie. Many small towns with few financial resources, such as Carroll, were assisted by Mr. Carnegie to create libraries such as this one that they would otherwise be unable to have. This building is one of one hundred Carnegie libraries built in Iowa.



## Forbes Octagon Barn

The Forbes Octagon Barn was constructed in 1883 outside of Lanesboro. The barn is one of, at most, fourteen octagon barns that are known to still exist in Iowa. The barn was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1986 as octagon barns were uncommon and considered experimental in their day.



## Carroll County Bridges

Carroll County is home to six bridges constructed around 1913 utilizing the riveted Warren pony trusses. These bridges are the prototypical example of what would become an Iowa State Highway Commission standard design. The bridges were constructed by Standard Bridge Company of Omaha. The bridges are located on Kittyhawk Avenue, Olympic Avenue, Quail Avenue, Robin Avenue, and one bridge spans Storm Creek. The sixth bridge was removed from service and moved to Swan Lake State Park.
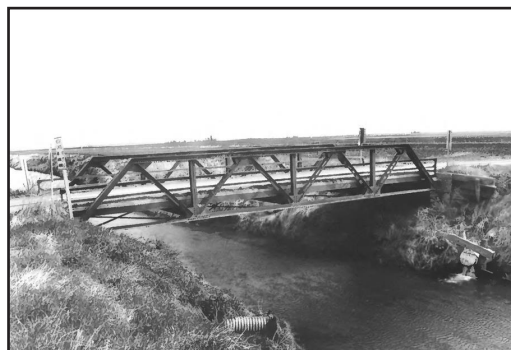
## Carroll County Courthouse

The original county seat of Carroll County was the village of Carrollton. The first courthouse was completed in 1865 for a cost of about $3,000. Then the county seat was moved to Carroll City and court was set up in the former railroad depot. In 1869, for the sum of one dollar, the railroad sold to the county the square upon which a $4,000 courthouse was erected. In 1886, this structure was damaged by a fire and could not be used.

In 1887, a beautiful, Victorian stone building was built, complete with cupola and clock. The old building was demolished in 1965 and a modern brick facility was constructed for approximately $750,000. The bell from the 1887 courthouse was preserved and is displayed on the current courthouse grounds.





## Carroll County Churches

There are a number of churches in Carroll County that may be eligible for designation as a historic building according to the National Register of Historic Places, but in Carroll County, only the Roselle Church has achieved this designation.

## Holy Guardian Angels Church and Cemetery - Roselle

Holy Guardian Angels Church was constructed in 1904 and reflects the influence of German-Catholic immigrants had on the area. The church building features an Indiana limestone foundation, distinctive Gothic architecture, a 145-foot steeple, and elaborate and highly colored stained windows. Building the church was a lengthy process. The process took 2,116 trips with horse-drawn wagons, 93 days of work with horses and 393 days of manual labor. In addition to money, parishioners donated items such as altars, communion rails and windows for the church, which cost $48,000. The adjacent cemetery which has grave markers dating back to 1863, is also included in the National Register designation.



# Goals

## Highlight Carroll County's History

Carroll County's history and the history of it's cities is still present today. Making historical information readily available at historical sites should be considered to widen the availability of historical knowledge. The numerous historical sites around the county could be part of a county-wide educational tour.

Action Items:
- Continue to support the Carroll County Historical Society
- Help advertise and promote Historical Society Events

## Maintain Historic Properties of Local Significance

There are a variety of properties located throughout Carroll County that were the site of historic events or are important to the local community's history. Maintaining these properties is significant to the area and county history.

Action Items:
- Complete required maintenance on historic properties and sites through grants and volunteer efforts
- After required maintenance is completed, prepare National Register of Historic Places designation for specific locations
- Continue to maintain township cemeteries

# Chapter 6
## Transportation

# Streets

The transportation system is most often the lifeline of any area, and in Iowa, this is most specifically the roads and highways. Carroll County is no exception as the largest portion of the development within the county is located along the state, and U.S. highways. Carroll County is bisected by two U.S. Highways. U.S. Highway 30 runs from east to west and U.S. Highway 71 runs from north to south. In the southern portion of the county is Iowa Highway 141 which runs east to west. Highway IA 141 runs though Manning, Templeton, Dedham and Coon Rapids before continuing east to Des Moines.

The Carroll County Secondary Roads Department is responsible for the maintenance of 1,069 miles of roads in the rural area. Of these roads, 373 miles are on the farm-to-market system and the remaining 635 miles are comprised of local gravel and Level B roads. The Federal Function Classification of Carroll County can be found in Map 6.1 on the next page.

The diverse road types within the county create a wide variety of average annual daily traffic (AADT) counts. The most recent county numbers are from 2018 and can be found in Map 6.2. The highest count in the rural portion of the county comes from just east of the City of Carroll on U.S. Highway 30 where the AADT is 8,000 vehicles per day. U.S. Highway 30 within Carroll County sees average traffic counts between 3,680 and 8,000 vehicles per day. U.S. Highway 71 has AADT counts that range from 1,950 - 5,200. IA Highway 141 has counts ranging from 1,270 - 2,550. E16 east of Breda has a AADT of 1,800, which is the highest of all the county highways. Map 6.2 displays the AADTs for all of the roads in the rural portions of the county as of May 2018.

# Air Transportation

Carroll County is served by the Arthur N. Neu Municipal Airport. The airport is located approximately 2.75 miles east of the City of Carroll, and approximately one mile south of U.S. Highway 30. The airport is managed by a five member board of Carroll residents who are appointed by the Carroll City Council to 6-year terms. The airport was established at its current location in the 1940s and has grown to be one of the busiest in Western Iowa with approximately 700 landings per month. The airport has two paved and lighted runways and has hangar space for 24 airplanes. The Arthur N. Neu Municipal Airport is an enhanced service airport which means it has a runway over 5,000 feet and has services for a wide range of general aviation activity.

Carroll County is located within a short distance to both regional and international airports. The Fort Dodge Regional Airport is located 64 miles from Carroll County and United Airlines has flights to Chicago daily. Des Moines International Airport is the closest international airport located 92 miles from Carroll County. The airport services Allegiant Air, American Airlines, Delta, Frontier, Southwest, and United Airlines.

Map 6.1: Carroll County Federal Functional Classification Map, 2024

Federal Functional Classification Map

Carroll
County
IOWA

IOWA | DOT

N

1/17/2024

Interstate
Other Principal Arterial
Minor Arterial
Major Collector
Minor Collector
Local Roads
Corporate Limits
Rail Lines
State Parks
State Institutions
Federal Land
County Borders
Townships
Urban Areas

FUTURE CLASSIFIED ROUTES SHOWN AS DASHED LINES

14

Miles
0  0.75 1.5   3   4.5   6

2016 ANNUAL AVERAGE DAILY TRAFFIC

*REVISED 5/2018
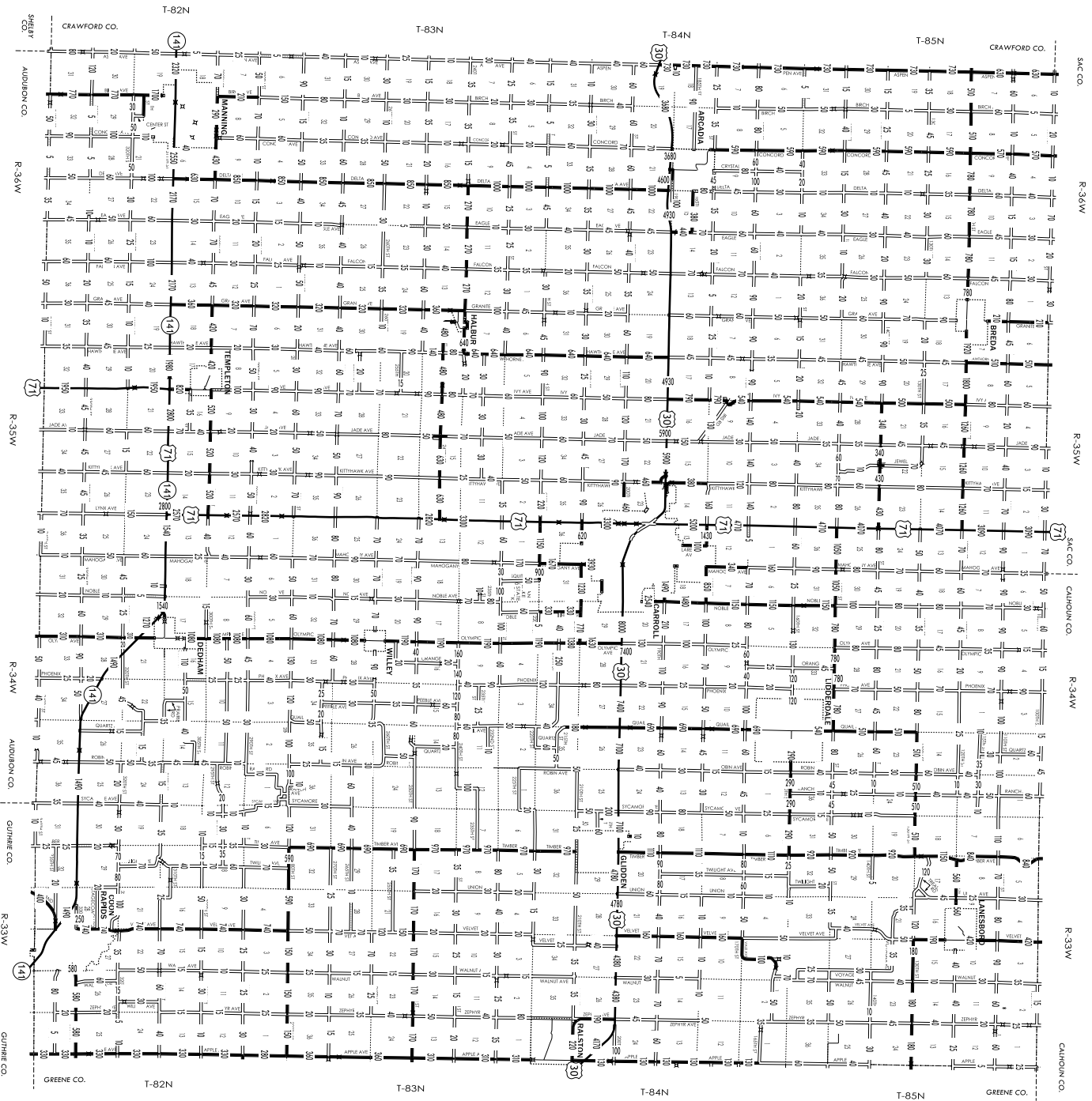
TRAFFIC FLOW MAP OF
CARROLL COUNTY
IOWA

Prepared by
IOWADOT
OFFICE OF SYSTEMS PLANNING
Phone: (515) 239-1664
WWW.IOWADOT.GOV/MAPS

In Cooperation With
United States
Department of Transportation
JANUARY 1, 2017
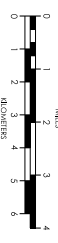
LEGEND

DIVIDED HIGHWAY
PAVED ROAD
BITUMINOUS ROAD
GRAVEL ROAD
EARTHEN ROAD
LEGAL NOT OPEN ROAD

# Commuting

Transportation modes are important when county residents are considering how to commute to their place of employment. The largest portion of Carroll County residents (82.5%) drove alone to their place of employment. Carpooling was the second largest way residents of Carroll County commuted to work. The third largest group of residents worked from home, therefore did not have a commute to work daily. Residents of Carroll County had an average commute of 14.3 minutes, which was the shortest average commute when looking at comparable regional counties. Guthrie County has the largest average commute time. This could be due to a portion of the county's residents traveling to the Des Moines metro for work. The information in table 6.1 can help stress the importance of maintaining the diverse transportation network and not just the importance of maintaining the county's roadways.

Table 6.1: Regional Means of Commuting to/from work, 2022

|  | Carroll County | Crawford County | Guthrie County |
|---|---|---|---|
| Total workers age 16 and over | 10,600 | 7,703 | 5,221 |
| Drove Alone | 82.5% | 77.6% | 80.0% |
| Carpooled | 7.6% | 10.5% | 6.6% |
| Public Transportation | 0.3% | 2.7% | 0.2% |
| Walked | 2.8% | 2.4% | 2.8% |
| Other Means (includes motorcycle) | 0.7% | 0.7% | 1.2% |
| Worked from Home | 6.0% | 6.0% | 9.2% |
| Average Commute Time (Minutes) | 14.3 | 17.0 | 27.7 |

Source: American Community Survey

Figure 6.1: Distance/Direction traveled from Home to Primary Job, 2021



Less than 10 miles
10 to 24 miles
25 to 50 miles
Greater than 50 miles
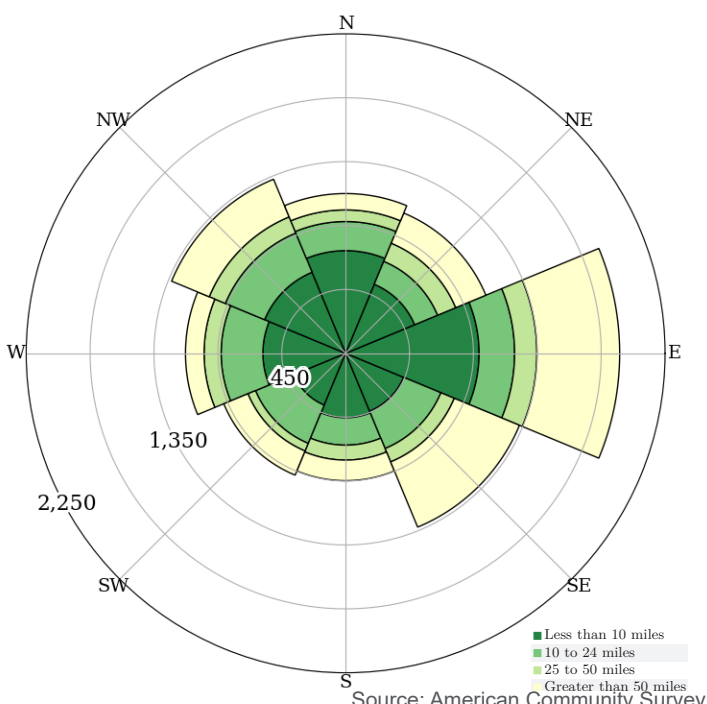
Source: American Community Survey

While evaluating how workers are traveling to and from work, it is also important to recognize where the workers are going. Figure 6.1 shows how far workers within Carroll County are traveling and in what direction to their primary job. Nearly half of the workers from Carroll County travel less than ten miles to their place of employment. Workers who travel ten to 24 miles make up 20.5% of the working population, 9.1% of the working population travel 25 to 50 miles and the remaining 22.3% of the population travel greater than fifty miles to their primary place of employment. Figure 6.2 shows how many people live and work in Carroll County, those who live outside Carroll County but work inside the county line, and those who live in Carroll County but work in another county.

## Figure 6.2: Inflow/Outflow Counts of Primary Jobs, 2021
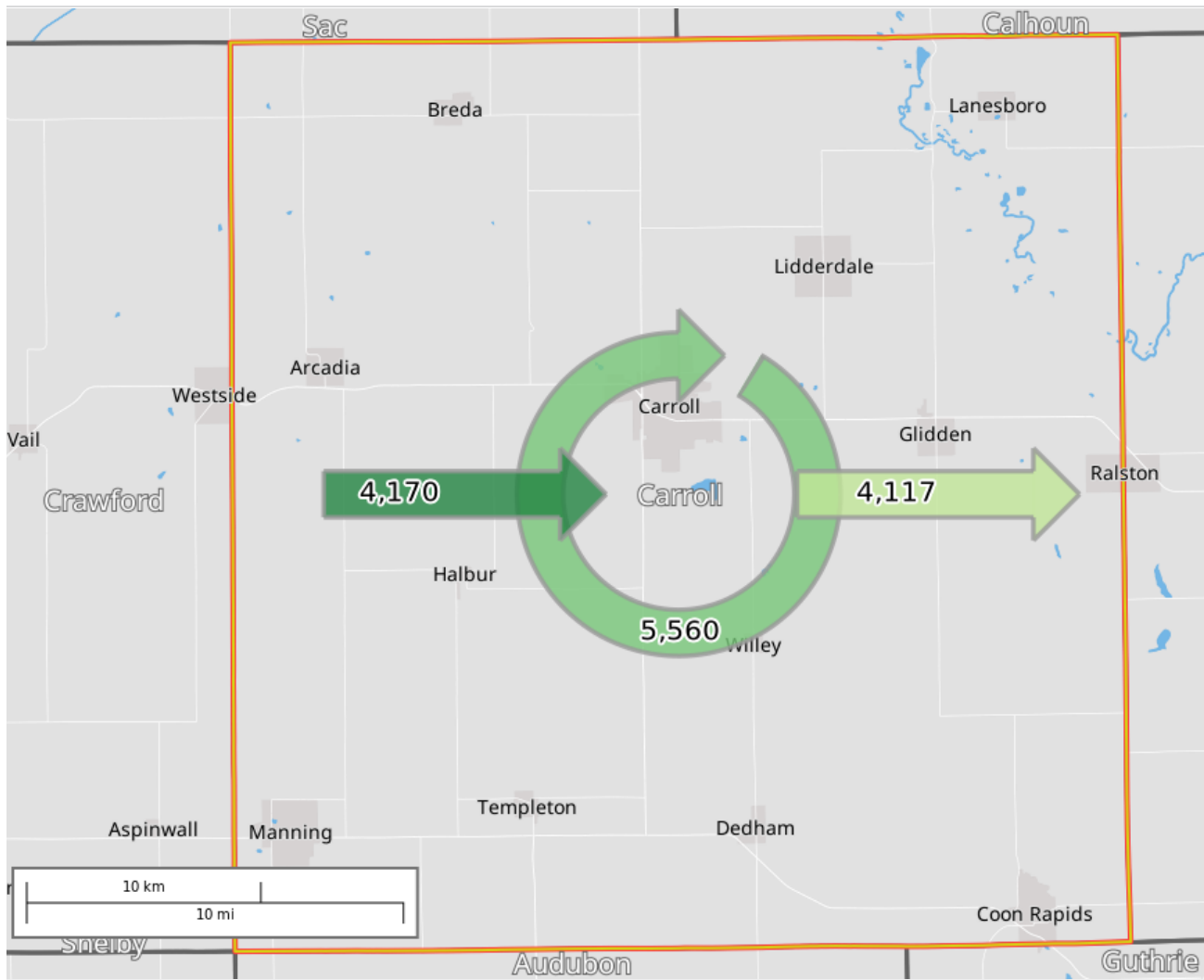


Source: American Community Survey

## Table 6.2: Cities in Carroll County Inflow/Outflow, 2021

|  | Employed in City, Live Outside Limits | Live in City, Employed Outside City Limits | Live and Work in City Limits |
|---|---|---|---|
| Arcadia | 118 | 215 | 13 |
| Breda | 228 | 229 | 17 |
| Carroll | 3,232 | 2,328 | 1,850 |
| Coon Rapids | 147 | 443 | 68 |
| Dedham | 15 | 85 | 1 |
| Glidden | 103 | 432 | 4 |
| Halbur | 103 | 432 | 4 |
| Lanesboro | 20 | 55 | 0 |
| Lidderdale | 42 | 78 | 0 |
| Manning | 412 | 474 | 123 |
| Ralston | 27 | 34 | 0 |
| Templeton | 117 | 148 | 12 |
| Willey | 15 | 27 | 0 |

Source: American Community Survey

# Goals

## Maintain existing transportation infrastructure

Maintenance and condition of existing transportation infrastructure is a major transportation issue. Some streets within the county need a new asphalt overlay, while others have already had several overlays and must be reconstructed. There are also bridges within the county which need maintenance. These projects should be completed as funding allows. The projects listed in the action items below are ways in which the county and it's communities plan to maintain existing transportation infrastructure.

Action Items:
- Grade county gravel roads on a regular basis
- Continue to inspect county bridges and develop a schedule to ensure maintenance and replacement when necessary

## Expand existing transportation infrastructure

As communities and rural businesses expand, it is important to expand the current infrastructure to match the needs of the homes or businesses. A number of expansion projects have been identified has high priority to be able to meet the needs of the county or community.

Action Items:
- 4-lane U.S. Highway 30

## Transportation enhancements

The transportation facilities in Carroll County are adequate and allow travelers to get from Point A to Point B. While this is adequate, enhancing the route can lead to additional routes beginning and ending within the County. Making enhancements as noted in the action items below can help create an inviting corridor.

Action Items:
- Widen Highway 30, create 4-lane system
- Improved county gateway signage

# Water

Carroll County is part of West Central Iowa Rural Water Association's (WCIRWA) territory. WCIRWA is based out of Manning and has an established water distribution system in the western 2/3 of the County. The map below shows rural water service areas for the state of Iowa. The cities of Arcadia, Halbur, Lanesboro, Lidderdale, Templeton and Willey are all connected to WCIRWA to provide water service to the residences and businesses located within the community. Households that are not connected to rural water or wish not to be connected to rural water get their water from private wells.

The cities of Breda, Carroll, Coon Rapids, Dedham, Glidden, Manning, Ralston provide water through municipal utilities. Each city has different water rates which can also affect their sewer rates. Each city has different systems to check water usage and bill their residents.

Map 7.1: Rural Water System Service Territory Map
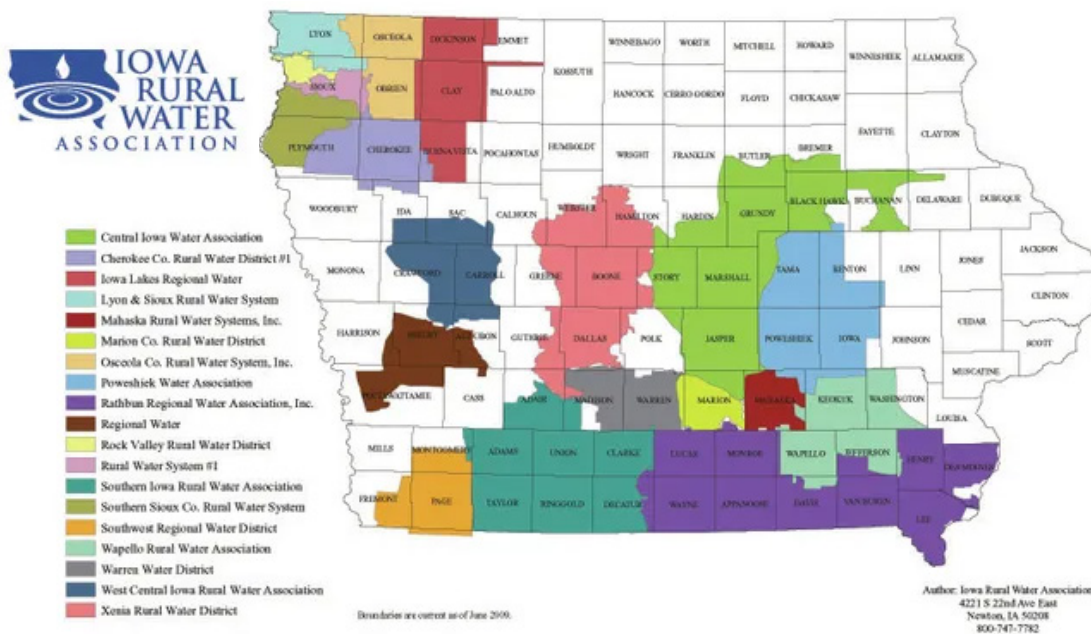


# Sewer

Residents of Willey and those outside of city limits in Carroll County have private septic systems. The installation and replacement of septic systems are overseen by the Environmental Health Department. The cities of Arcadia, Breda, Carroll, Coon Rapids, Dedham, Glidden, Halbur, Lanesboro, Lidderdale, Manning, Ralston, and Templeton all have city-wide sanitary sewer systems which serve the residents of the community.

Maple River and Mount Carmel sewers are county owned. The county contracts with a maintenance provider for each community system. Maple River is a DNR permitted system.  All homes go to a single treatment site where testing is required. Mt. Carmel has multiple types of systems that are all county permitted. Mostly individual septic tank and drain field systems. A couple at-grade systems and three Advantex systems shared by 3-4 homes. These are annually inspected by the maintenance provided. Tanks are pumped when needed.

# Natural Gas

Dedham's natural gas service is provided by MidAmerican Energy. Alliant/Interstate Power and Light provides natural gas service to Carroll. Black Hills Energy serves Glidden and Ralston with natural gas. Coon Rapids has their own municipal natural gas utility that serves the city. Manning also has a natural gas utility that serves the City of Manning and the cities of Arcadia and Templeton. The cities of Breda, Halbur, Lanesboro, Lidderdale, and Willey do not have a natural gas provider.

# Electric

Electrical service is provided in the County by Alliant Energy, MidAmerican Energy, Raccoon Valley Electric Cooperative, Western Iowa Power Cooperative, Midland Power Cooperative, Breda Municipal, Glidden Municipal, Coon Rapids Municipal, and Manning Municipal utilities.

During the last few years, Carroll County has seen extensive construction of wind generation towers in the northwest quarter of the county by MidAmerican Energy. There are currently two

Map 7.2: Electric Utility Service Territory Map
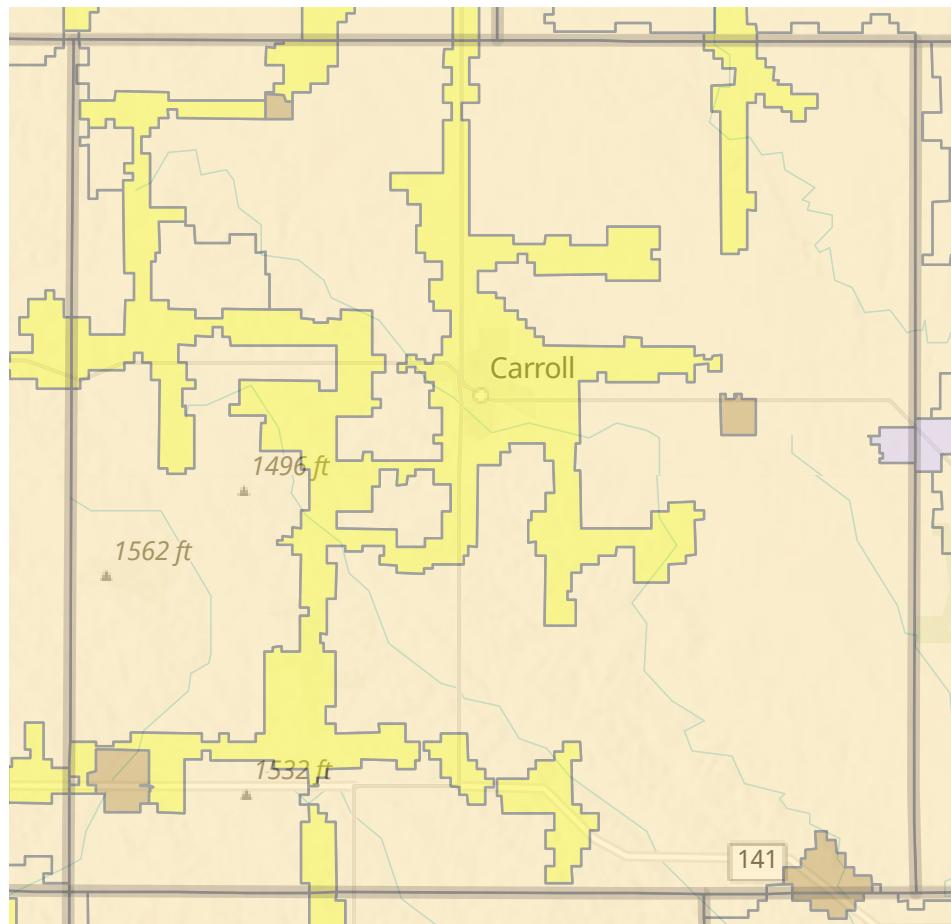


Legend:
- Interstate Power and Light Company / Alliant Energy
- MidAmerican Energy
- Municipal
- REC

wind farm sites located within the county, Victory and Carroll. The Victory Wind Farm is a 105 MW site located in both Carroll and Crawford Counties. The Carroll Wind Farm is located in northern Carroll County and is a 159.1 MW site.

Raccoon Valley Electric Cooperative has a community solar initiative that are currently operable in Breda, Coon Rapids, and Glidden. This allows RVEC member-owners to become involved in solar energy without the additional cost, construction, insurance and maintenance required with a privately-owned solar array.

# Telecommunications

Telecommunications is a broad term that can include wired phones, fiber optic, satellite, television, and internet. Generally this term can include cellphone service as well. For the purpose of this section, cellphone providers/service will be separated. Carroll County is served by six different telecommunication companies. Windstream provides telecommunication services to the eastern portion of the county as well as the areas surrounding Manning and Halbur. Templeton Telephone Company serves the City of Templeton and the surrounding rural areas. Westside Independent Telephone Company serves the City of Arcadia and rural areas in the west central portion of the county. Corn Belt Telephone serves the very north western corner of the county. Quest Corp. - IA serves the central portion of the county and Breda Telephone Corporation (Western Iowa Networks) serves the northern portion of the county.

Map 7.3: Telecommunications Service Territory Map



Legend

Telecommunications Company
- Breda Telephone Corp.
- Corn Belt Telephone Company
- Qwest Corp-IA
- Templeton Telephone Company
- Westside Independent Telephone Company
- Windstream Holdings, Inc
- Carroll County Boundary
- Carroll County Cities
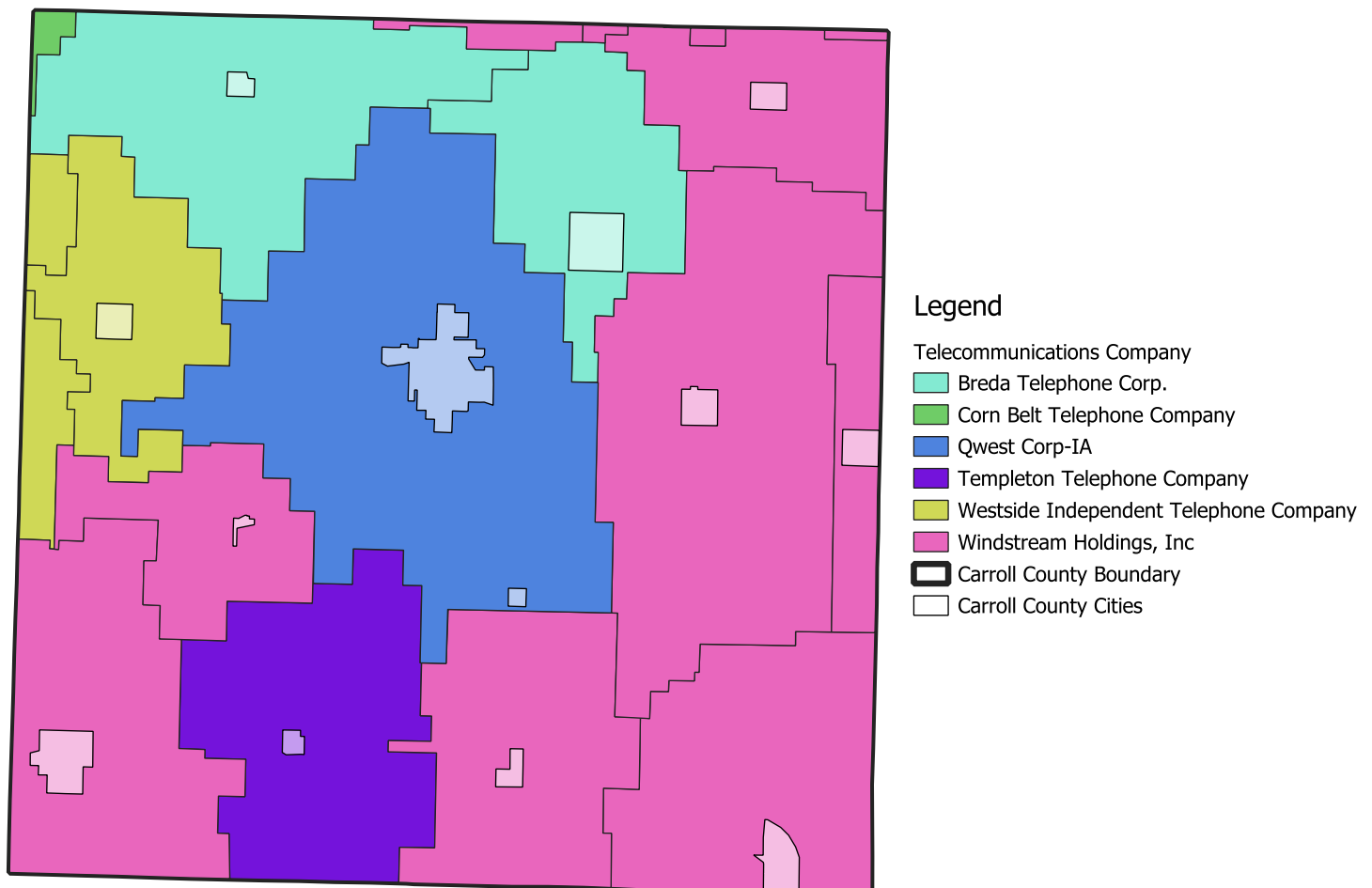
# Cell Phone Providers

According to each provider's service map, three national carriers serve the entire county. One provider covers the central, northern, and eastern portions of the county. Each provider offers different goods and services to those who choose to utilize the specific provider. Verizon, U.S. Cellular, and AT&T all cover Carroll County. T-Mobile is shown to provide coverage to the City of Carroll, north to Breda, and from Carroll east to Ralston. Limited rural portions of the county are covered by T-Mobile.

# Goals

## Expand current service areas

Internet and cell service continues to be important to the day-to-day operations in the lives of Carroll County residents. Individuals are working and learning from home and require adequate internet speeds for remote work/leaning to happen.

Action Items:
- Make fiber available to all county residents
- Improve cell phone coverage throughout the county

Carroll County has a large number of facilities which are devoted to serving the community. There are a number of facilities that benefit the county as a whole such as the Sheriff's Department and County Ambulance as well as specialized services.

## Carroll County Courthouse

The center of county governments is located at the Carroll County Courthouse, located at the intersection of U.S. Highway 30 and Main Street in Carroll. The Board of Supervisors is the executive and administrative branch of county government. The supervisors make policy for the county, administer various programs and have final authority over the county budget.

Carroll County elects five members to its board who serve staggered, four-year terms. In a Presidential election year, three positions are voted on, and two positions are voted on in the Gubernatorial Election year.

Also headquartered in the Courthouse are the Assessor, Auditor, Driver's License (DOT), Emergency Management, Information Technology, GIS, Passports, Recorder, Treasurer and Zoning Departments.

## Carroll County Sheriff's Department

The Sheriff's Department provides a variety of law enforcement related services to all citizens of the county. In addition to patrolling the county roads for traffic enforcement and responding to emergencies, the Deputies conduct investigations, act to serve legal papers in the civil law process, and provide education in law enforcement and public safety.
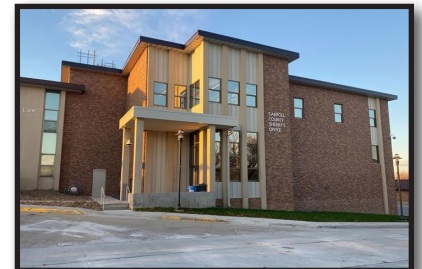
The Sheriff is the county's principal peace officer for the unincorporated areas who is elected every four years. The Sheriff's Office is made up of the following primary areas of responsibility:

   - Patrol: The Sheriff & Deputies are the police force for residents of the unincorporated areas of the county, and provide contracted law enforcement for the cities of Arcadia, Breda, Dedham, Glidden, Halbur,  Lanesboro, Lidderdale, Ralston, Templeton and Willey. The Sheriff's Office handles all routine and emergency calls for these areas, and regularly patrols all areas of the county. They also provide security at special events in the county.

   - Jail: The Sheriff oversees a Jail that has the capacity to handle 52 inmates.

   - Records: Maintains all the records for individuals that are booked into the jail, officer's investigative reports, and issues permits to acquire and carry handguns.

   - Civil: The Sheriff is responsible to execute and serve writs and other legal process documents including Sheriff's Sales, subpoenas, and garnishments.

- Investigate: Deputies are responsible for handling more in depth investigations that may require additional specialized training such as burglary, robbery, sexual assault, fraud, murder, and arson.

- Reserves: This is a division of volunteer Deputy Sheriffs that assist the full time Deputies and the Sheriff in many different ways, including patrol, traffic control, security or any other area that is deemed necessary.

## Fire Departments

There are twelve fire departments based in Carroll County. The cities of Arcadia, Breda, Carroll, Coon Rapids, Dedham, Glidden, Halbur, Lanesboro, Lidderdale, Manning, Ralston, and Templeton have local fire departments. These departments serve their respective cities and rural areas primarily in Carroll County, but their jurisdictions can expand into the surrounding counties through their own jurisdictions and mutual aid agreements. On occasion, departments outside of Carroll County provide fire protection services to land located within the county.

## Communications Center & Radio System

The Carroll County Sheriff's Office operates the Carroll County Communications Center, which is the 911 public safety answering point (PSAP) and primary dispatch center for the Sheriff's Office, as well as the three city police departments, 12 volunteer fire departments, and Carroll County Ambulance Service. The Communications Center handled nearly 17,000 calls for service in the calendar year 2023. The Communications Center employs a director and six full-time employees. It has two full workstations capable of receiving and processing 911 calls, as well as phone, radio, and computerized communications.

The Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System (ISICS) is a statewide, 700 MHz, Project 25 Phase II, trunked, interoperable radio system that serves the daily needs of public safety agencies and public service entities at all levels of government. It facilitates cross-communications between all users in times of emergencies across the state.

In 2019, Carroll County funded a local radio system enhancement to ISICS. The project leveraged two existing state-owned tower sites and developed three additional county-owned tower sites to provide on-street portable coverage throughout the county. The project also included a six-site VHF public safety paging system. In 2021, all public safety radio communications were migrated to the ISICS radio platform. As of 2024, there are 32 talkgroups and over 400 locally owned and maintained radios on the system.

The school districts of Glidden-Ralston, IKM-Manning, and Coon Rapids-Bayard have migrated their bus and administrative radios to the ISICS platform. All public and parochial school buildings

in the county have at least one School Emergency Alert Radio (SEAR) that leverages the ISICS system to notify the Communications Center of a major incident or mass casualty event. These radios can also be used to provide two-way communications with the Communications Center or other public safety responders if needed.

Like schools, other public service entities such as the county secondary roads department, city public works, and municipal utilities companies are eligible to add radios to ISICS.

## Education

There are seven public school districts with area located in Carroll County. These districts are: Ar-We-Va, Carroll, Coon Rapids-Bayard, Glidden-Ralston, IKM-Manning, South Central Calhoun, and East Sac County. There is one private school district located within the county, Kuemper Catholic.



Within the county there is one secondary educational opportunity available. Des Moines Area Community College is located in the City of Ankeny, and has a satellite location within the City of Carroll. In 2023, DMACC opened a regional center in Templeton. The Carroll Campus has a variety of Associate's Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates and even Bachelor's Degree options (through On Campus Transfer Options) available. There are also a number of colleges and universities located within a short commute from Carroll County including:
   - Iowa State University, Ames
   - Creighton University, Omaha
   - University of Nebraska, Omaha
   - Drake University, Des Moines
   - Grand View College, Des Moines
   - Iowa Western Community College, Council Bluffs
   - Southwestern Community College, Creston
   - Western Iowa Tech, Denison

Table 8.1: Carroll County School District Enrollment

| School District | Total Enrollment |
|---|---|
| Ar-We-Va | 292 |
| Carroll Community | 1,613 |
| Coon Rapids - Bayard | 435 |
| Glidden - Ralston | 307 |
| IKM-Manning | 672 |
| Kuemper Catholic | 1,116 |
| South Central Calhoun* | 926 |
| East Sac County* | 844 |

*Not located in Carroll County, but Carroll County residents may attend.

# Healthcare

There are two hospitals located in Carroll County, Manning Regional Healthcare Center (MRHC) in Manning and St. Anthony Regional Hospital in Carroll.

Manning Regional Healthcare Facility opened in 1927. It is a private, not for profit institution that includes Manning General Hospital, Manning Family Recovery Center, and clinics. The hospital is a 17-bed facility that offers diagnostic radiology equipment, emergency department care, impatient medical and surgical treatment, and skilled nursing services. The Recovery Center, a 13-bed facility, is designed to treat chemical dependencies.

St. Anthony Regional Hospital is an independent, non-profit provider of health care that is sponsored by St. Anthony Ministries. Since its founding as a hospital in 1905, St. Anthony has grown to include a multi-specialty surgery center, primary care and specialty clinics, a cancer treatment center, behavioral health, senior care including independent living, assisted living, nursing home with an Alzheimer's unit and more. The hospital is operated as a Critical Access Hospital, staffing 25 acute care beds.

Outside the hospitals, there are a variety of family physicians, dentists, orthodontists, optometrists/ophthalmologists, chiropractors, and holistic health clinics.

# Carroll County Ambulance Service

Through an agreement, Carroll County Ambulance Service was established on January 1st 1974. Carroll County Ambulance Service has a blend of both paid and volunteer staff for its 7 ambulances. Paramedic capable ambulances are based in Carroll, Breda, Coon Rapids, manning, and Templeton. These ambulances respond to approximately 2800 calls for service throughout Carroll County and parts of surrounding counties. Carroll County is fortunate enough to have first responder groups that respond to calls for service prior to the ambulance arrival. These are located in Arcadia, Carroll, Dedham, Glidden, Halbur, Lanesboro, Lidderdale, Ralston, Templeton, and Willey.

# Elderbridge Agency on Aging

Elderbridge Agency on Aging is part of a national network designed to address the needs and concerns of older adults. Their goal is to enable their constituents to: Make informed decisions; Easily access home and long-term care options; Remain in their homes as long as possible with a high quality of life; Stay active and healthy; and Promote and experience an ongoing safe environment. Elderbridge's services fall into seven categories, supportive services; health, prevention & wellness; family caregiver support; older worker employment program; elder justice & adult protective services; Medicare support; and private pay for services.

# New Opportunities

New Opportunities is located at 23751 Highway 30 East,  Carroll. New Opportunities is one of 17 Community Action Agencies serving the state of Iowa. Community Action Agencies are locally-based private, non-profit organizations that network with a wide-array of local organizations to enhance the opportunities for low-income Iowans (children and families) to meet basic needs and develop their own capacity to do so. New Opportunities provides treatment, head start/early start, outreach, prevention, health, and weatherization services. Within these broad categories are the organization's BackPack Food Program, Back-to-School Supplies Program, Christmas Toy Drive, Clothing Assistance, Community Gardens, Disaster Assistance, Elderly Waiver Chore Program, Financial Literacy Program, Food Pantry, Heat Assistance, Holiday Food Baskets, Mobile Food Pantry and Utility Crisis Assistance.

# Food Pantries

Residents of Carroll County have access to three different food pantries, depending on where they reside within the county. The Community of Concern is located in Carroll and provides qualified residents with food and critical emergency help - regardless of income. New Opportunities operates food pantries in both the City of Carroll and the City of Manning. Those looking to utilize the New Opportunities food pantries have to meet certain income requirements. The Coon Rapids Ministerial Association operates the Coon Rapids - Bayard Community Food Pantry in Coon Rapids which is open to any community members. The Coon Rapids United Methodist Church  has a 24/7 food pantry box on its grounds that is open to anyone in the community to give to or take from.

# Fricke Building

The Fricke Building is located at 608 N Court Street and houses the County's Environmental Health Department, Carroll County Public Health, and Carroll County Veteran's Affairs.

# Congregate Meals

There are three different congregate meal sites in Carroll County. These sites are located at the Carroll Recreation Center, Chuck's Bar & Grill (Coon Rapids) and the other is at the Manning Senior Citizens Center. All three of these locations have meals available for eating at the location and meals available for home delivery. The City of Glidden also offers home delivered meals.

# Goals

## Develop plans for healthcare recruitment

In order to maintain existing services, it is important for health care providers to have resources available to recruit new providers to existing practices. It will also be beneficial for the cities and county to have resources available to recruit new providers.

Action Items:
- Support hospitals & clinics with recruitment and retention efforts when possible

## Maintain and expand the capabilities of the communications center

Ensuring the communications center maintains it's current capabilities and expands upon them when necessary is vital to the safety of the county's population. Actions under this goal can include structural projects as well as technological advances.

Action Items:
- Expanded dispatch center with 1 additional dispatch workstation bringing the total number of workstations to 3 with floor space to add a 4th dispatch workstation in the future
- Enhance the backup system capabilities of the communications center
- Fund the training, retention, and recruitment of qualified public safety telecommunicators

## Support interoperable communications among county, city and other public service entities

Communication between all entities can improve response to an emergency incident. Making sure all parties are on the same page when it comes to communications for safety personnel can determine how smoothly a response can go.

Action Items:
- Support the use of ISICS by eligible user agencies and entities
- Encourage all schools to use ISICS for bus and administrative radio communications
- Encourage eligible public safety personnel to use FirstNet for cellular phone and broadband communications

# Chapter 9
# Intergovernmental Collaboration

# Carroll County - Cities

Carroll County works with a number of cities within the county to provide police protection as the jurisdictions are too small to justify their own police departments. The cities that are protected by the Carroll County Sheriff's Office are Arcadia, Breda, Dedham, Glidden, Halbur, Lanesboro, Lidderdale, Ralston, Templeton, and Willey. The City of Carroll, Manning, and Coon Rapids are all large enough to sustain their own departments.

Fire departments within the county provide services to each other as well. In some instances, departments respond through mutual and automatic aid to help provide fire and rescue services throughout the county.

Carroll County Ambulance Service serves Carroll County through a lend of full-time and volunteer staff with facilities in Carroll and three other locations throughout the county.

Carroll County has 28E with two cities in the region, Carroll and Glidden. This creates a two-mile buffer outside the city limits of Carroll and Glidden, respectively. These 28E agreements also establish that two members of the Cities' zoning boards and boards of adjustment must live within this two-mile buffer. These two members are appointed by Carroll County.

# Carroll County - Regional

In March, 2015, Carroll County became a Home Base Iowa Community. Home Base Iowa connects Iowa businesses with qualified veterans and their spouses looking for career opportunities. The program also provides resources to help connect veterans and their families with education and in transitioning to a new community. The City of Glidden is a Home Base Iowa City.

Carroll County is a member of Region XII Council of Governments and Western Iowa Advantage. Region XII Council of Governments was organized in 1973 to assist local governments in Audubon, Carroll, Greene, Guthrie, and Sac Counties in Western Iowa. Region XII COG has two departments: Local Assistance and Western Iowa Transit. The Local Assistance Department provides technical assistance to communities in the areas of planning, infrastructure, transportation, housing, grant writing, recreation, ordinances, zoning, economic development, and other community and county projects. Western Iowa Transit is a demand-response public transit system that serves the six county region. Western Iowa Advantage is a multi-county collaborative marketing effort and the Region XII Development Corporation, which has several revolving loan funds for business development and expansion.

Carroll County, as a member of the Iowa State Association of Counties (ISAC) entered into an agreement with Iowa Counties Technologies Services (ICTS) to provide technology services that are more efficient and economical when provided jointly rather than individually.

Carroll and Crawford Counties work jointly to provide environmental health services around wells, septic tanks, emergency preparedness and radon awareness. Carroll County provides

an employee to provide the necessary tasks in both counties, and the position is jointly funded with funds from both Carroll and Crawford Counties.

The West Central Iowa Solid Waste Management Association is an Association of local governments and solid waste leaders who work cooperatively to provide economically sound solid waste management systems within the West Central service area.  The Association is made up of Carroll County Solid Waste Management Commission, Crawford County Area Solid Waste Agency, Guthrie County Solid Waste and Recycling Agency, Shelby County Solid Waste Agency, and the cities, of Adair, Brayton, Exira, Fonda, Jolley, Yetter, Rinard, Lake City, rural Calhoun County, Avoca and Minden.

Carroll County Solid Waste Management Commission (Commission) owns and operates a regional landfill and provides disposal services for members of the West Central Association (Association) along Buena Vista and Sac Counties. The agencies and cities have long term contracts for solid waste disposal with the Commission.  The Commission has area available for development for solid waste disposal through 2060. The Commission has expansion funds set aside for development with the current disposal area lasting through 2033.

The Commission owns and operates a regional recycling center for Association members and Sac County through long term contracts for recycling processing. Commission staff sort the materials into various categories such as glass, plastics, newsprint and cardboard and the bales of materials are shipped to mills where they are made back into new materials. The Commission will continue to explore emerging technologies for sorting such as robotics and artificial intelligence.

Carroll County also is in agreement to plan for and implement watershed improvements within the East and West Nishnabotna Watershed. The West Nishnabotna Watershed agreement is between eight counties (including Carroll County), eight cities, and eight Soil and Water Conservation Districts. This agreement ensures that the planning efforts of the organizations located within the watershed are cohesive and share similar goals. The East Nishnabotna Watershed agreement is very similar to the West Nishnabotna agreement. The agreement includes eight counties, six cities, and seven Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

The County also is a member of the North Raccoon Watershed Management Authority. This authority is made up of eleven counties, eleven solid waste conservation districts, and eighteen cities. The authority has the power to perform any or all of the following duties:
 1. Assess the flood risks in the watershed.
 2. Assess the water quality in the watershed.
 3. Assess options for reducing flood risk and improving water quality in the watershed.
 4. Monitor federal flood risk planning and activities.
 5. Educate residents of the watershed area regarding water quality and flood  risk
 6. Seek and allocate monies made available to the Authority for purposes of water quality and flood mitigation.
 7. Make and enter into contracts and agreement and execute all instruments necessary or incidental to the performance of the duties of the Authority.

# Carroll County - State of Iowa

Carroll County works with the Iowa Department of Transportation on a number of road projects and DOT inspections annually. The county has a 28E agreement with the Iowa Department of Transportation for the county to perform drivers licensing functions including skill testing and issuance of licenses, non-operator ID cards, and disabilities ID devices. The two jurisdictions also cooperate to provide maintenance and services, including policing, to US Highway 30 and 71, as well as Iowa Highway 141.

The availability of grants to the County from a number of sources is highly beneficial. State grants available for roads, housing, and infrastructure to name a few benefits the county and the communities within it. The USDA's fund availability is also beneficial to the county in similar ways. The state also acts as a funnel for other federal funds that have benefitted the local communities.

# Goals

## Increase number of 28E agreements to increase sharing of services
The purpose of 28E agreements is to permit state and local governments in Iowa to make efficient use of their powers by enabling them to provide joint services and facilities with other agencies and to cooperate in other ways of mutual advantage. Increasing the number of these agreements within the County would allow the County and its cities to work together for a mutual advantage.

Action Items:
   - Connect organizations/jurisdictions that may benefit from service sharing


## Encourage public/private partnerships
There are ways that public and private entities can work together that provide a benefit for both entities. These partnerships are sometimes harder to discover as private and public entities aren't always in direct communication with one another.

Action Items:
   - Connect organizations/jurisdictions that may benefit from partnerships
   - Create a space to foster conversations between the public and private sectors

A strong economy is essential for Carroll County to grow and prosper. Understanding the county's current economic condition is important before determining ways to increase the number of economic opportunities within the county.

# Employment

Carroll County's unemployment rate has continued to remain very close to the State's unemployment. Since 2010, both Carroll County and Iowa's unemployment rates had been steadily decreasing. The 2020 unemployment rate spike during the COVID-19 pandemic which affected the employment market, and since that spike, the unemployment rate has fallen back to normal standards.

Figure 10.1: Unemployment Rates, 2010-2021
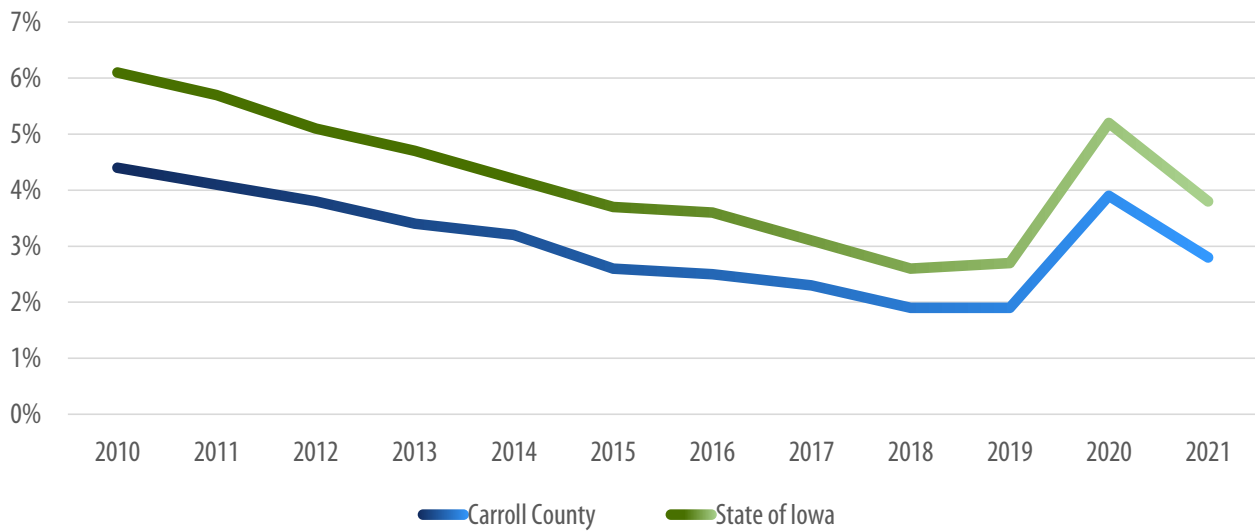
Figure 10.2: Employment by Industry, 2022
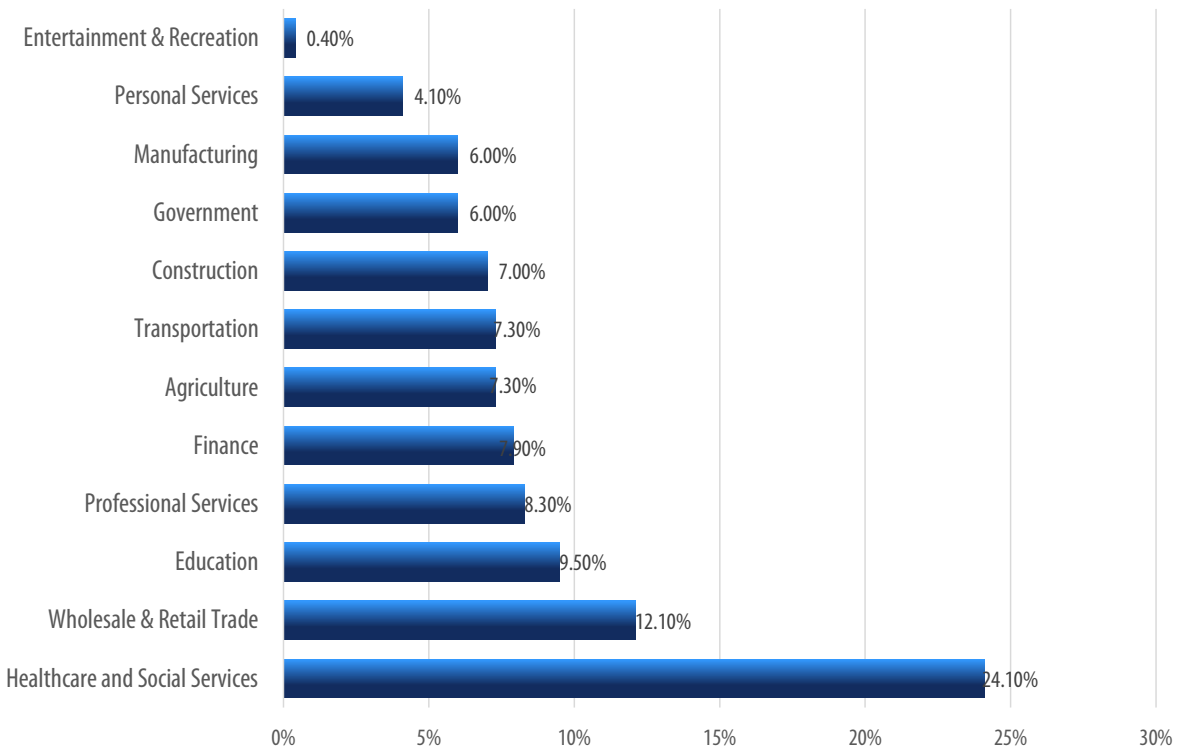
Carroll County's largest industries include healthcare, retail trade, education, professional services, finance, and agriculture. This is shown in Figure 10.2. This information is provided by Iowa Workforce Development's Laborshed Report for Carroll County. St. Anthony Regional Hospital is a major employer in Carroll County and that is why almost a quarter of employees in Carroll County are in the Healthcare Industry.

## Income

Income is another indicator of the strength of an economy within the county. The Figure 9.3 shows the distribution of the household income within the county. 19.3% of the county's households make $50,000-$74,999 per year. In 2022, 18% of the county's households made less than $25,000 per year. Over 26% of the county's households made more than $100,000 per year.

Figure 10.3: Household Income, 2022
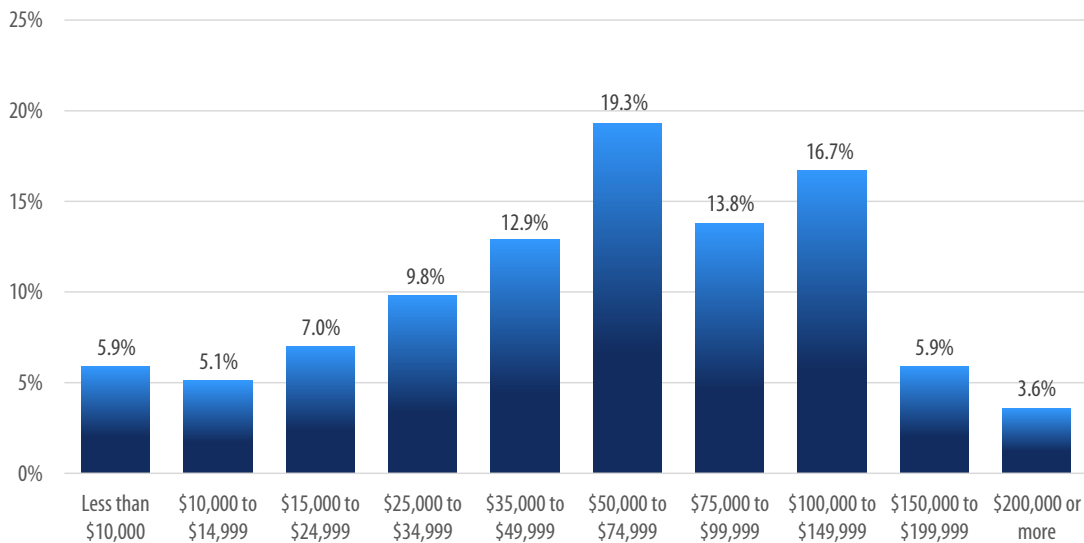


In 2010, Carroll County's Median Household Income was around $47,507. Over the next twelve years, the median household income has risen to $61,157, an increase of above 28%. Compared to neighboring Counties, Carroll County's median household income is the second highest. Greene County's median household income is the lowest of the compared counties at $52,768. Figure 9.4 visualizes Carroll County's median household income compared to five other counties which have similar population makeup and location

Figure 10.4: Median Household Income Comparison, 2022
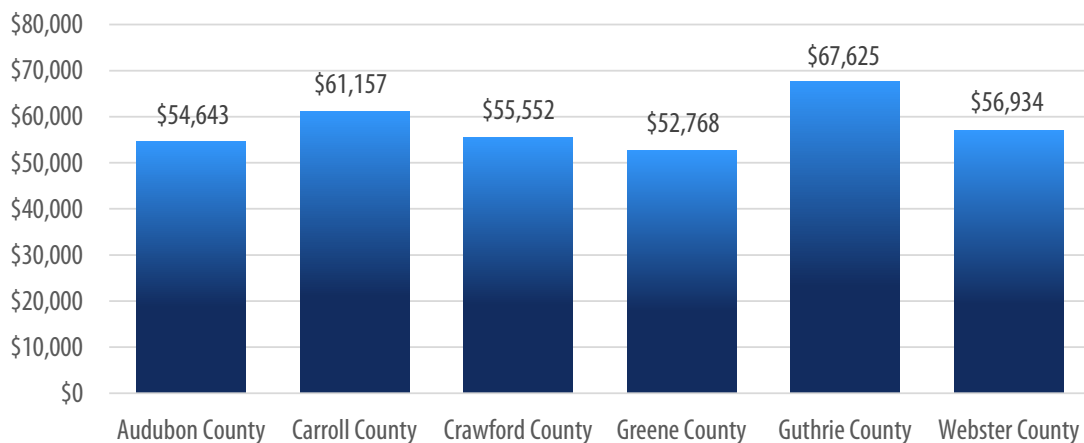
Per capita income, or income per person, is another way to analyze income within the county. Carroll County's per capita income in 2021 was $33,416, which is up 33% from the per capita income of $25,094 in 2010. Figure 10.5 showcases a comparison of Carroll County to its incorporated cities.

Figure 10.5: Per Capita Income Comparison, 2022

| City | Per Capita Income |
|---|---|
| Carroll County | $33,416 |
| Arcadia | $23,806 |
| Breda | $41,229 |
| Carroll | $32,857 |
| Coon Rapids | $25,028 |
| Dedham | $27,476 |
| Glidden | $28,534 |
| Halbur | $26,716 |
| Lanesboro | $34,044 |
| Lidderdale | $28,644 |
| Manning | $37,935 |
| Ralston | $35,681 |
| Templeton | $40,032 |
| Willey | $31,317 |
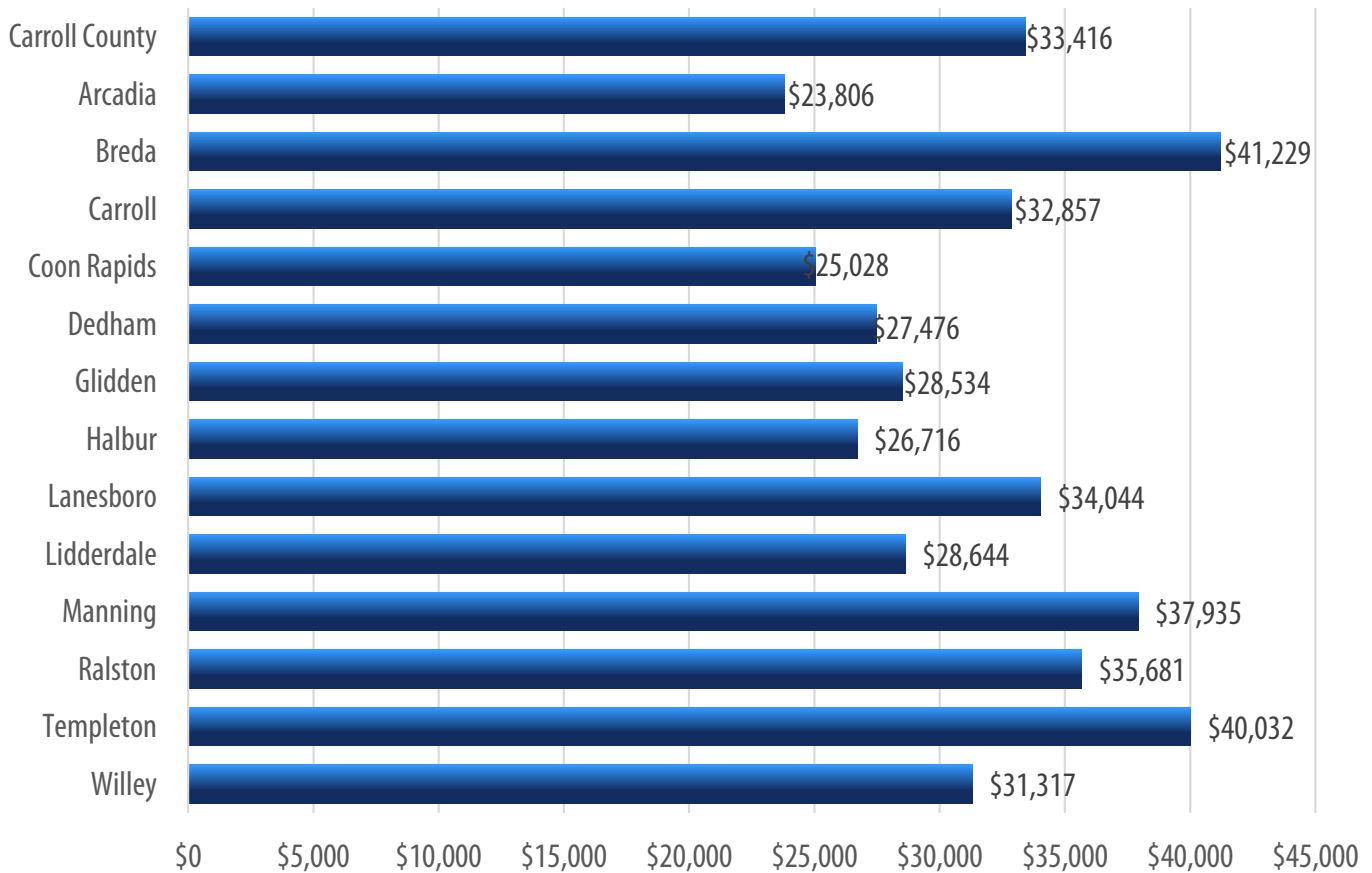
## HUB712

HUB712 is a new facility designed to deliver a robust set of services that help new businesses launch and existing businesses grow. Part co-working space, part business resource center, and part innovation hub, the new facility is key to an expanded approach to economic development around Carroll. The facility will provide space for local businesses to utilize for a variety of reasons and offers a large number of tools & resources.

# Goals

## Build workforce

Creating a workforce which not only can fill the currently available positions, but is strong enough to attract new businesses is important. There is always room to improve the county's workforce and utilizing programs which are already in place will be beneficial in the advancement of the workforce.

Action Items:
- Encourage employers to be willing to train new workers

## Attract new-to-Carroll County businesses

New business start-ups have been recognized as a priority for economic development within the county. Attracting new businesses will assist in growing the county's population and providing the additional jobs needed to support a growing population. As the county and its cities work towards attracting new businesses, it is important to look for businesses to complement the current existing businesses.

Action Items:
- Market available buildings
- Improve internet capabilities throughout the county
- Promote incentives available to new businesses

## Support HUB712

HUB712 is a new space designed to help new businesses launch and existing businesses grow. This space is beneficial to Carroll County's economic development in the future.

Action Items:
- Help market the facility and its resources
- Provide assistance when applicable

Carroll County and all thirteen of it's cities voted to adopt the Carroll, Crawford, Greene, and Sac Counties Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan in 2020. The planning process was guided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to prepare communities for potential hazards and disasters. The Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan is a regional hazard mitigation plan which includes 4 counties and its communities. FEMA requires all communities be covered by an approved hazard mitigation plan before it makes certain funding available. Each hazard mitigation plan is valid for five years before an update is required. During the planning process, each city was met with individually to ensure accuracy of each section, and the county supervisors were also met with to determine the county's path and accuracy.

The hazard mitigation planning process includes three basic steps:
- Critical Infrastructure - Identify what needs to be protected and what could potentially cause a hazard or disaster
- Risk assessment - consider what hazards could happen, how frequently they could occur, and what the damage would be
- Goals and Action Steps - what can be done to prepare and protect the community from hazards and disasters

Table 11.1: Carroll County Critical Facilities

| Number on Map | Name | Address | Type |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Arthur N. Neu Municipal Airport | 21177 Quail Avenue, Carroll | Essential Facility |
| 2 | Based Ambulance/Paramedics | Carroll | Essential Facility |
| 3 | Based Ambulance/Paramedics | Breda | Essential Facility |
| 4 | Based Ambulance/Paramedics | Coon Rapids | Essential Facility |
| 5 | Based Ambulance/Paramedics | Manning | Essential Facility |
| 6 | Carroll County Courthouse | 114 E 6th Street, Carroll | Essential Facility |
| 7 | Carroll County Landfill | 19111 Kittyhawk Ave, Carroll | Essential Facility |
| 8 | County Secondary Road Shop and Storage | 1400 W 6th St, Carroll | Essential Facility |
| 9 | Storm Sirens | Various | Essential Facility |
| 10 | 911 Towers | Various | Essential Facility |
| 11 | Secondary Roads Tower, houses school repeater | Mahogany Avenue, Carroll | Essential Facility |
| 12 | ISICS Tower Site - Audubon Alt. | 20755 300th St., Templeton | Essential Facility |
| 13 | ISICS Tower Site - Carroll | 19382 Hwy 30, Carroll | Essential Facility |
| 14 | ISICS Tower Site - Coon Rapids | 29333 Hwy 141, Coon Rapids | Essential Facility |
| 15 | ISICS Tower Site - Lanesboro | 11403 Timber Ave, Lake City | Essential Facility |
| 16 | ISICS Tower Site - Manning | 65 West St., Manning | Essential Facility |
| 17 | Comm. Center Tower | 114 E 6th St., Carroll | Essential Facility |

# Critical Infrastructure

The critical infrastructure identification was completed during the hazard mitigation planning process. The list includes infrastructure vital to the county. City inventories were also completed which listed infrastructure vital to the community, facilities that could be used to shelter residents from harm, as well as facilities that could pose a hazard. Table 11.1 names the critical infrastructure within the county. These facilities are then mapped in Figure 11.1.

Map 11.1: Carroll County Critical Facilities
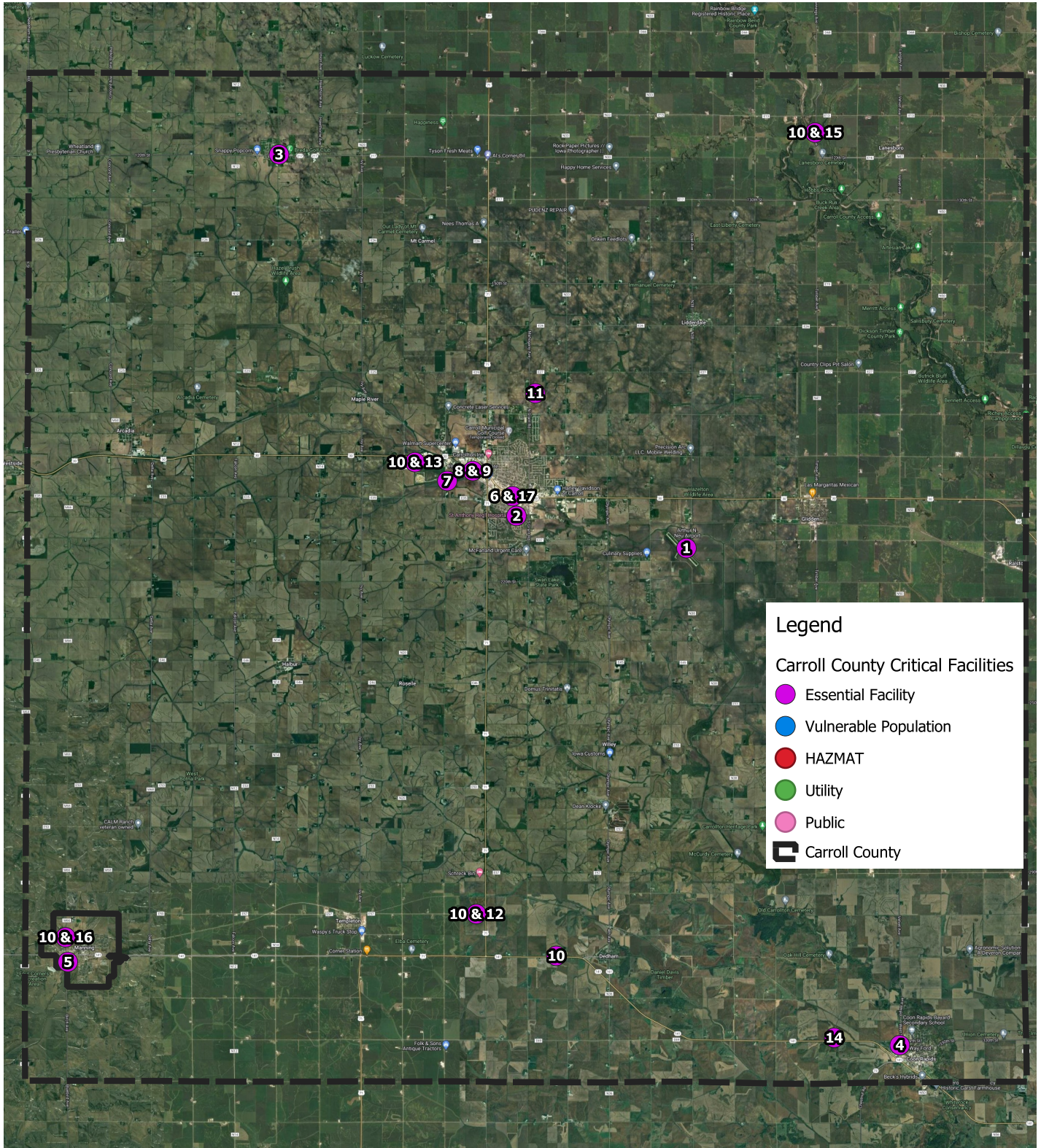
# Risk Assessment

The county's hazard mitigation steering committee completed a risk assessment to rank the hazards which was then used to determine what types of projects the city should pursue. The hazards were separated into natural and human-caused hazards. Table 11.2 takes each individual risk to Carroll County and ranks them according to their hazard score which is based on if the event has happened before, if the county is likely to experience the event, the probability of the threat happening, the magnitude of the event, how much warning time would be given before the event would happen, and how long the threat would last. Carroll County's highest ranking hazard is Severe Winter Storms with a hazard score of 3.0. The next highest hazard is Grass/Wild Land Fire with a hazard score of 2.80. The lowest ranking hazard was expansive soils as Carroll County is located in an area where expansive soils are rare. The criteria that was used to rank each hazard is displayed in table 11.3 on the next page.

Table 11.2: Carroll County Risk Assessment Scoring

| Hazard | Previous Occurrence? | Likely to Experience? | Probability? | Magnitude/ Severity | Warning Time | Duration | Hazard Score |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Severe Winter Storm | Yes | Yes | 4 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3.00 |
| Grass/Wild Land Fire | Yes | Yes | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 2.80 |
| Transportation Incident | Yes | Yes | 3 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 2.75 |
| Thunderstorm/ Lightning/Hail | Yes | Yes | 4 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2.65 |
| Tornado | Yes | Yes | 3 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 2.65 |
| River Flooding | Yes | Yes | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2.55 |
| Animal/Plant/Crop Disease | Yes | Yes | 2 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 2.50 |
| Drought | Yes | Yes | 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 2.50 |
| Levee/Dam Failure | Yes | Yes | 2 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 2.40 |
| Flash Flood | Yes | Yes | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 2.35 |
| Windstorm | Yes | Yes | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 2.35 |
| HAZMAT Incident | Yes | Yes | 4 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 2.30 |
| Infrastructure Failure | Yes | Yes | 2 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 2.30 |
| Terrorism | No | No | 1 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 2.25 |
| Human Disease | Yes | Yes | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 2.20 |
| Extreme Heat | Yes | Yes | 3 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2.10 |
| Radiological | No | No | 1 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 1.95 |
| Earthquake | No | No | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1.45 |
| Expansive Soils | No | No | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1.30 |

## Table 11.3: Risk Assessment Criteria

| **Probability:** Likelihood of the hazard occurring again in the future considering both the hazard's historical occurrence and the projected likelihood of the hazard occurring in any given year | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Score** | **Description** | |
| 4 | Highly Likely | Event is probable within the calendar year.<br>History of events is greater than 33% likely per year. |
| 3 | Likely | Event is probable within the next three years.<br>History of events is at least 20% but less than or equal to 33% likely per year. |
| 2 | Occasional | Event is probable within the next five years.<br>History of events is at least 10% but less than or equal to 20% likely per year. |
| 1 | Unlikely | Event is possible within the next 10 years.<br>History of events is less than 10% likely per year. |
| **Magnitude/Severity:** Assessment of severity in terms of injuries and fatalities, person property and infrastructure and the degree and extent with which the hazard affects the area | | |
| **Score** | **Description** | |
| 4 | Catastrophic | More than 50% of property severely damaged<br>Shutdown of facilities and services for more than 30 days<br>Multiple deaths |
| 3 | Critical | 25% to 50% of property severely damaged<br>Shutdown of facilities and services for at least 2 weeks<br>Injuries/illnesses that result in permanent disability |
| 2 | Limited | 10% to 25% of property severely damaged<br>Shutdown of facilities and services for more than a week<br>Injuries/illnesses that do not result in permanent disability |
| 1 | Negligible | Less than 10% of property severely damaged<br>Shutdown of facilities and services for less than 24 hours<br>Injuries/illnesses treatable with first aid |
| **Warning Time:** Rating of the potential (average) amount of warning time before the hazard occurs | | |
| **Score** | **Description** | |
| 4 | Less than 6 hours | |
| 3 | 6 to 12 hours | |
| 2 | 12 to 24 hours | |
| 1 | More than 24 hours | |
| **Duration:** A measure of the duration of time that the hazard will affect the area<br>Ex. a snowstorm will likely last several hours, whereas a lightning strike would last less than a second | | |
| **Score** | **Description** | |
| 4 | More than 1 week | |
| 3 | Less than 1 week | |
| 2 | Less than 1 day | |
| 1 | Less than 6 hours | |

The goals laid out in the multi-jurisdictional plan for Carroll County are to Enhance Community Protection, Protect Against Power Outages, Maintain and Support Public Safety, Update Communication Systems, and Maintain Public Infrastructure. These goals will help steer the county with hazard planning as well as comprehensive planning as these goals affect the safety of all residents and visitors to Carroll County.

# Goals

## Enhance Community Protection

Protection of the lives of the residents of Carroll County is the most important goal. Ensuring that all residents of the county are protected to the fullest extent possible during a hazard event is the primary goal, and there are a number of ways the county can assist in the protection of its residents.

Action Items:
- Additional warning sirens
- Educate public on hyper reach notification and continue to fund
- Promote NOAA radios to the public

- Complete current plan and make plans to update every five years
- Inform public on hazardous materials locations and hazards
- Designate shelters
- Post stop signs or yield signs on the more than 900 miles of gravel roads throughout the County
- Continue County membership with Region 5 Hazardous Materials Team in Fort Dodge
- Promote Alert Iowa

## Protect Against Power Outages

Power outages can cause widespread harm within the county. There are residents who rely on electricity for health reasons and if an outage were to happen, there could be immediate consequences for these individuals. While outages may still occur even with mitigation actions implemented, the instances can usually be resolved more efficiently with less downtime.

Action Items:
- Purchase portable generators
- Encourage use of one call to avoid damage to utilities
- Encourage electric companies to bury their overhead power lines
- Back-up power for county fuel depot

## Maintain and Support Public Safety, Including Facilities, Equipment, and Training

Public safety personnel are the county's first response to any hazard event. Providing for necessary equipment, training, and facilities allows these individuals to respond to an event with necessary items to reduce the overall impact a hazard has on the county. Supplying the necessary equipment, training, and facilities allows for a quicker response.

Action Items:
- Provide funding needed to train personnel (fire, EMS, public safety comunicators, and police)
- Keep updating and upgrading ambulance fleet, snow plow equipment, sand trucks, etc
- Set-up and test back-up communication center

## Maintain and Protect Public Infrastructure

Being able to minimize the damage to the public infrastructure within the county will reduce the amount of clean-up and financial assistance necessary post-hazard event.

Action Items:
- Find alternative water sources for fire protection
- Locate and get permission to use farm ponds
- Use old farm wells to fill tanker storage
- Continue to budget for and fund street repairs throughout the County
- Schedule bridge improvements and inspections, work on dams
- Complete drainage mitigation
- Maintain and improve airport facilities

Chapter 12
Land Use

## Existing Land Use

Map 12.1 at the end of this chapter showcases the existing land use map for Carroll County. The existing land use map shows how land use within Carroll County is currently being utilized. Existing land use does not necessarily reflect the current zoning designation or the desired future land use pattern. Land use categories in Carroll County include agriculture, residential, business, light industrial, heavy industrial, interchange service district incorporated cities and public recreation.

According to the US Census Bureau, Carroll County has an area of 570 square miles, or 364,800 acres. It is important to note that these numbers are approximate and classifications from the Carroll County Assessor were the determining factor.

Table 10.1 illustrates the population density for Carroll County since 1960. It shows the population density of Carroll County has declined since 1980. From 1990 to 2000, population density remained the same at 37.6 persons per square mile, indicating that the population was stable during the period.

Table 10.1: Population Density

| Year | Population Density (persons per sq. mile) |
|------|-------------------------------------------|
| 1980 | 40.3 |
| 1990 | 37.6 |
| 2000 | 37.6 |
| 2010 | 36.5 |
| 2020 | 36.4 |

## Agricultural Land

Table 10.3 illustrates the amount of land in farms, average farm size, number of farms, and cropland compared from 2002 to 2022. From 2002 to 2022, the number of acres in farms and the average farm size has decreased. Total cropland has dropped in that same time period, while pastures and grazing has seen an overall increase from 2002 to 2022.

Table 10.2: Agriculture Land Use

| Year | 2002 | 2017 | 2022 |
|------|------|------|------|
| Land in Farms | 364,175 acres | 349,114 acres | 343,933 acres |
| Average Size of Farms | 348 acres | 325 acres | 322 acres |
| Total Cropland | 331,279 acres | 319,857 acres | 319,150 acres |
| Pasture or Grazing | 10,810 acres | 15,570 acres | 13,373 acres |

## Recreational Land

Another noticeable existing land use found in the county is for public recreation. The Carroll County Conservation Board manages 27 areas totaling over 2,700 acres for public use, wildlife habitat, and natural areas. Some popular recreational uses include: Picnicking, camping, hunting, fishing, hiking, bicycling, horseback riding, and boating.

## Residential Land Use

Following the COVID-19 Pandemic, there has been an increase in people working from home, meaning that more and more citizens have decided to live in a more rural setting since there

is no need to commute to work. This has also been contributed to the increase in quality in broadband and telecommunications in rural areas.

Rural residential housing development has been increasing slowly and steadily over the years in Carroll County. With this development comes the removal of ag-land from production, the need for increased municipal-type services in the rural area and an increase for potential conflict between Agriculture producers and rural, non-farm dwellers. Carroll County has taken an active stance through previous zoning efforts to control this type of development by requiring 5-acre minimum lot sizes for new parcels. In a move to preserve ag land, as little as one-half acre lot sizes can be utilized where an abandoned acreage site existed previously to construct rural dwellings.

## Industrial Land Use

There are a few areas in the rural part of the county that utilizes industrial land use. Industrial land uses exist in the unincorporated villages of Roselle and Maple River Junction. Industrial land use in rural areas include small manufacturing businesses, agricultural supply facilities, sand and gravel pits, trucking companies, and fuel storage facilities. These land uses are scattered throughout the County.

## Commercial Land Use

There is relatively little commercial activity outside the corporate limits of the cities within Carroll County. Commercial land uses occur in the unincorporated villages of Maple River Junction and Roselle, as well as some of the designated interchange service areas around the county.

## Future Land Use

Map 10.2 at the end of this chapter showcases the future land use map. The future land use map showcases how the county could look in the future. This does not necessarily mean that this is what the county will look like in the future; however, it helps the county make a more informed choice on future zoning decisions.

The Iowa code in Chapter 335.5 lists twelve areas which must be addressed in an adopted county comprehensive plan which is used as the basis for local zoning. These areas are:
  - Preserve the availability of agricultural land
  - Consider the protection of soil from wind and water erosion
  - Encourage efficient urban development patterns
  - Lessen congestion in the street or highway
  - Secure safety from fire, flood, panic and other dangers
  - Protect health and the general welfare
  - Provide adequate light and air
  - Prevent the overcrowding of land
  - Avoid undue concentration of population
  - Promote conservation of energy resources
  - Promote reasonable access to solar energy
  - Facilitate the adequate provision of transportation, water, sewage, schools, parks, and other public requirements.

# Carroll County
## Comprehensive Plan
## Land Use Map

2 Mile Area – Existing Extended City Zoning Areas. Zoning and Subdivision authority rest with the City by 28E Agreement with the County unless the agreements are cancelled by either party.

B-1 – Business District.

I-1 – Light Industrial District

I-2 – Heavy Industrial District

I-S – Interchange Service District

PR – Public Recreation District

R-1 – Residential District

UT – Urban Transition District Overlay

A-1 – Agricultural District
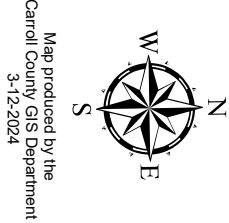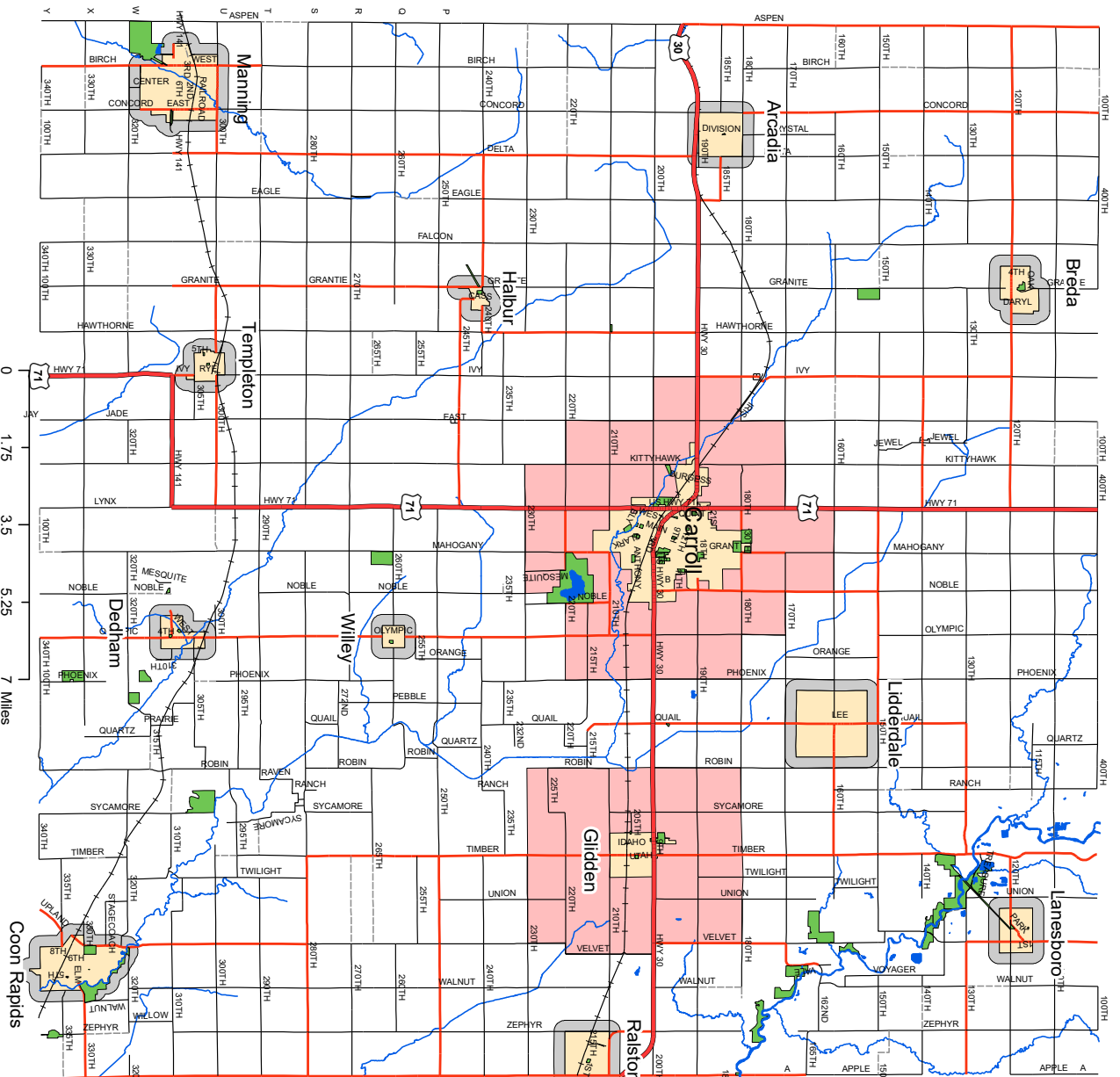
Map produced by the
Carroll County GIS Department
3-12-2024

N
W E
S

Scale: 0   1.75   3.5   5.25   7 Miles

# Chapter 13
# Implementation

The final step in the comprehensive planning process is to consider how the goals will be implemented. The specific action goals laid out in each chapter are the first step in determining how the goals will be implemented. Also important is who will be responsible for implementing those actions, how the actions will be funded, and what the time frame will be for completing the action items. The following list does not prioritize actions, but provides guidance on what projects and actions should be considered. As the cites and county discusses future budgets and strategic planning updates, it is recommended that this portion of the plan be reviewed.

The following pages involve an implementation matrix. The goals and action items are laid out in each chapter. The matrix is to be used for implementing the action items. The goals are listed along with action items. Responsible parties are indicated as well as what funding is available to assist with completing each individual action item within the specified time frame.

Time frame options are:
   -On-going: actions that will be continual; may already be underway or will begin shortly
   -Short: actions that will be completed within three years
   -Mid: actions that will be completed in three to five years
   -Long: actions that will take at least five years to complete.
   -TBD: On an as needed basis, or will be determined by other factors at an unforeseeable date

## Housing Goals

| Goal | Action | Responsible Party | Funding Source | Time Frame |
|------|--------|-------------------|----------------|------------|
| Increase the number of quality rentals | Encourage cities with the development of new housing projects | Cities, Developers | Cities, Private | Ongoing |
| | Provide assistance when applicable to city development projects | Cities, Carroll County | Cities, Carroll County, Private, Grants | TBD |
| Increase builder capacity | Encourage businesses to provide tuition assistance and on-the-job training for individuals | Private Entities | Private | Ongoing |
| | Support education of building trades, including the DMACC Building Trades Program | Schools, Carroll County, Cities | Carroll County, Cities, Private | Ongoing |
| | Encourage collaboration between the county high schools and local trades | Schools, Private Entities | None | Short |

| Goal | Action | Responsible Party | Funding Source | Time Frame |
|------|--------|-------------------|----------------|------------|
| Expand the lot supply | Continue to partner with and encourage cities for growth opportunities | Carroll County, Cities | None | Ongoing |
| Discuss the potential for a building inspector/ compliance officer | Determine need for inspector/officer | Carroll County | Carroll County | Short |
| | Discuss the potential to share the position with other jurisdictions to reduce costs and increase the benefit of the position | Carroll County, Regional Counties, Cities | Carroll County, Regional Counties, Cities | Short |

## Parks & Culture Goals

| Goal | Action | Responsible Party | Funding Source | Time Frame |
|------|--------|-------------------|----------------|------------|
| Maintain Existing Facilities | Resurface hard surface trails | Carroll County Conservation, Carroll County | Grants, Carroll County, City, Private | TBD |
| | Improve existing shower & rest room facilities | Carroll County Conservation | Revenue from County Parks, Grants, Private Donations, Public funds | Short |
| | Improve and expand recreational rentals | Carroll County Conservation | Revenue from County Parks, Grants, Private Donations, Public funds | Short |
| Pursue Additional Amenities | Connect Coon Rapids Trails to the Raccoon River Valley Trail | Carroll County, Coon Rapids | Grants, City, Carroll County | Long |
| | Connect Manning Trails to Coon Rapids Trails | Carroll County, Manning, Coon Rapids | Grants, City, Carroll County | Long |

| Goal | Action | Responsible Party | Funding Source | Time Frame |
|------|--------|-------------------|----------------|------------|
| | Create outdoor multi-sport court in county parks | Carroll County Conservation | Revenue from County Parks, Grants, Private Donations, Public funds | Mid |
| | Install a boat ramp at Riverside Park | Carroll County Conservation | Revenue from County Parks, Grants, Private Donations, Public funds | Mid |
| | Install all age appropriate playgrounds in all county parks | Carroll County Conservation | Revenue from County Parks, Grants, Private Donations, Public funds | Mid |
| | Create a North Raccoon River Water Trail | Carroll County Conservation | Revenue from County Parks, Grants, Private Donations, Public funds | Long |
| Expand Environmental Education | Purchase an enclosed trailer for hauling equipment and supplies to remote programs | Carroll County Conservation | Revenue from County Parks, Grants, Private Donations | Short |
| | Expand Educational supplies and equipment | Carroll County Conservation | Revenue from County Parks, Grants, Private Donations | Short |
| | Acquire a trailer and kayaks for water sports programming | Carroll County Conservation | Revenue from County Parks, Grants, Private Donations | Short |
| | Expand live animal displays for use in programming | Carroll County Conservation | Revenue from County Parks, Grants, Private Donations | Short |

| Goal | Action | Responsible Party | Funding Source | Time Frame |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Collaborate with adjoining county Environmental Education programs to offer regional programming or share resources | Carroll County Conservation | Revenue from County Parks, Grants, Private Donations | Ongoing |
| Natural Resource Management Improvements | Timer stand improvement and invasive species control in timbers | Carroll County Conservation | Revenue from County Parks, Grants, Private Donations | Ongoing |
| | Ash tree removal due to the Emerald Ash Borer | Carroll County Conservation | Revenue from County Parks, Grants, Private Donations | Ongoing |
| | Fish habitat and sediment control on ponds | Carroll County Conservation | Revenue from County Parks, Grants, Private Donations | Ongoing |
| | Woody species control in native grass stands | Carroll County Conservation | Revenue from County Parks, Grants, Private Donations | Ongoing |
| | Increase native grass habitat available in Carroll County | Carroll County Conservation | Revenue from County Parks, Grants, Private Donations | Short |
| | Replanting trees in areas impacted by Ash tree removal | Carroll County Conservation | Revenue from County Parks, Grants, Private Donations | Short |
| Highlight Carroll County's History | Continue to support the Carroll County Historical Society | County Supervisors, Carroll County Historical Society | Carroll County, Cities, Private, Grants | Ongoing |
| | Help advertise and promote Historical Society Events | County Supervisors, Carroll County Historical Society | None | Ongoing |

| Goal | Action | Responsible Party | Funding Source | Time Frame |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Maintain Historic Properties of Local Significance | Complete required maintenance on historic properties and sites through grants and volunteer efforts | Property Owner, Carroll County | Grants, Private Donations, Carroll County | Ongoing |
| | After required maintenance is completed, prepare National Register of Historic Places designation forms for specific locations | Property Owner, Carroll County Historical Society, Private Individuals | None | TBD |
| | Continue to maintain township cemeteries | Carroll County | Carroll County | Ongoing |

## Transportation Goals

| Goal | Action | Responsible Party | Funding Source | Time Frame |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Maintain existing transportation infrastructure | Grade county gravel roads on a regular basis | Secondary Roads | Carroll County | Ongoing |
| | Continue to inspect county bridges and develop a schedule to ensure maintenance and replacement when necessary | Carroll County Engineer, Carroll County Supervisors | Carroll County | Ongoing |
| Expand existing transportation infrastructure | 4-lane Highway 30 | DOT, Carroll County, Counties along Highway 30, Private Entities | DOT | Long |
| Transportation Enhancements | Widen Highway 30, create 4-lane system | DOT, Carroll County, Counties along Highway 30, Private Entities | DOT | Long |
| | Improved county gateway signage | Carroll County | Carroll County | Mid |

# Infrastructure Goals

| Goal | Action | Responsible Party | Funding Source | Time Frame |
|------|--------|-------------------|----------------|------------|
| Expand current service areas | Make fiber available to all county residents | Carroll County, Providers | Private, Federal Grants | Short |
| | Improve cell phone coverage throughout the county | Cell Phone Providers | Private | Short |

# Community Facility Goals

| Goal | Action | Responsible Party | Funding Source | Time Frame |
|------|--------|-------------------|----------------|------------|
| Develop plans for healthcare recruitment | Support hospitals and clinics with recruitment and retention efforts when possible | Carroll County Growth Partnership, St. Anthony Regional Hospital, Manning Regional Healthcare Center | Local Incentives | Ongoing |
| Maintain and expand the capabilities of the communications center | Expanded dispatch center with 1 additional dispatch workstation bringing the total number of workstations to 3 with floor space to add a 4th dispatch workstation in the future | Carroll County Communications Center, Carroll County Supervisors | Carroll County, Grants | Short |
| | Enhance the backup system capabilities of the communications center | Carroll County Communications Center, Carroll County Supervisors | Carroll County, Grants | Short |
| | Fund the training, retention, and recruitment of qualified public safety telecommunicators | Carroll County Communications Center, Carroll County Supervisors | Carroll County, Grants | Ongoing |

| Goal | Action | Responsible Party | Funding Source | Time Frame |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Support interoperable communications among county, city, and other public service entities | Encourage eligible public safety personnel to use FirstNet for cellular phone and broadband communications | Carroll County Communications Center, Carroll County Supervisors | None | Ongoing |
| | Support the use of ISICS by eligible user agencies | Carroll County Communications Center, Carroll County Supervisors | None | Ongoing |
| | Encourage all schools to use ISICS for bus and administrative radio communications | Carroll County Communications Center, Carroll County Supervisors, County Schools | None | Ongoing |

## Intergovernmental Collaboration Goals

| Goal | Action | Responsible Party | Funding Source | Time Frame |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Increase number of 28E agreements to increase sharing of services | Connect organizations/ jurisdictions that may benefit from service sharing | Carroll County, Carroll County Secondary Roads, Carroll County Engineer, Partner Organizations | None | Ongoing |
| Encourage public/private partnerships | Connect organizations/ jurisdictions that may benefit from partnerships | Carroll County, Cities, Townships | None | Short |
| | Create a space to foster conversations between the public and private sectors | Carroll County, Cities, Private Entities | None | Short |

# Economic Development Goals

| Goal | Action | Responsible Party | Funding Source | Time Frame |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Build workforce | Encourage employers to be willing to train new workers | Employers | Private, Grants | Ongoing |
| Attract new-to-Carroll County businesses | Market available buildings | Carroll County Growth Partnership, Western Iowa Advantage | Grants, Private Investment, City, Carroll County | Short |
| | Improve internet capabilities throughout the county | Providers | Private, Grants | Ongoing |
| | Promote incentives available to new businesses | Carroll County Growth Partnership, Carroll County, Western Iowa Advantage | Grants, Private Investment, City, Carroll County | Short |
| Support HUB712 | Help market the facility and its resources | Carroll County Growth Partnership, Western Iowa Advantage, Carroll County, Private | None | Ongoing |
| | Provide assistance when applicable | Carroll County Growth Partnership, Western Iowa Advantage, Carroll County, Private | None | Ongoing |

# Hazard Goals

| Goal | Action | Responsible Party | Funding Source | Time Frame |
|------|--------|-------------------|----------------|------------|
| Enhance community protection | Additional warning sirens | Communications Center | Carroll County, Grants | Mid |
| | Educate public on hyper reach notification and continue to fund | Emergency Management | Carroll County, State | Ongoing |
| | Promote NOAA radios to the public | Emergency Management | Carroll County, Grants | Ongoing |
| | Complete current hazard mitigation plan and make plans to update every five years | Emergency Management, County Supervisors, Cities | City, Carroll County (State & Federal if grant funding available) | Short |
| | Inform public on hazardous materials locations and hazards | Emergency Management, Emergency Services, Fire Departments | Carroll County, Cities | Ongoing |
| | Designate shelters | Emergency Management, City Councils, Carroll County Conservation | Carroll County, Cities | Short |
| | Post stop signs or yield signs on the more than 900 miles of gravel roads throughout the county | County Engineer | Carroll County | Long |
| | Continue County membership with Region 5 Hazardous Materials Team in Fort Dodge | Board of Supervisors, Fire Departments, Emergency Management | Carroll County, Cities | Ongoing |
| | Promote Alert Iowa | Carroll County, Cities | City, Carroll County, if any funds are necessary | Ongoing |

| Goal | Action | Responsible Party | Funding Source | Time Frame |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Protect against power outages | Purchase portable generators | Fire Departments, Emergency Management | City, Carroll County, Grants | Mid |
| | Encourage use of one call to avoid damage to utilities | Pipeline Utility, Fire Department, Emergency Services | City, Carroll County, if any funds are necessary | Ongoing |
| | Encourage electric companies to bury their overhead power lines | Board of Supervisors, City Councils | City, Carroll County, if any funds are necessary | Ongoing |
| | Back-up power for county fuel depot | Board of Supervisors, County Engineer | Carroll County, Grants | Mid |
| Maintain and support public safety, including facilities, equipment, and training | Provide funding needed to train personnel (fire, EMS, public safety communicators, and police) | Board of Supervisors, City Councils, Emergency Management | City, Carroll County, Grants | Ongoing |
| | Keep updating and upgrading ambulance fleet, snow plow equipment, sand trucks, etc. | Secondary Roads, Carroll County Ambulance, Carroll County Communications Center | City, Carroll County, grants | Ongoing |
| | Set-up and test back-up communication center | Emergency Management, 911 Board, Board of Supervisors | Carroll County | Mid |
| Maintain and protect public infrastructure | Find alternative water sources for fire protection | Fire Departments | Department, if any funds are necessary | Ongoing |
| | Locate and get permission to use farm ponds | Fire Departments | Department, if any funds are necessary | Ongoing |
| | Use old farm wells to fill tanker storage | Fire Departments | Department, if any funds are necessary | Ongoing |

| Goal | Action | Responsible Party | Funding Source | Time Frame |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Continue to budget for and fund street repairs throughout the County | Board of Supervisors, County Engineer | City, Carroll County, DOT | Ongoing |
| | Schedule bridge improvements and inspections, work on dams | Board of Supervisors, County Engineer | City, Carroll County, DOT | Ongoing |
| | Complete drainage mitigation | Board of Supervisors, County Engineer | Carroll County | Ongoing |
| | Maintain and improve airport facilities | Carroll City Council | City, Grants | Long |

# Appendix A
# SWOT Analysis

# Strengths

- Strong Agriculture
- Good Schools
- Prospering Businesses
- Good Livestock
- Strong Grain Markets
- Clean County
- Good Parks
- Fire Department
- Strong Internet
- 3 Implement Dealers
- Low Cost of Living
- Good jobs
- Sense of community
- Family Farm Operations
- Knowledgeable Community Leaders
- Strong Road Maintenance
- Tillable ground
- 2 Major Highways
- Manufacturing
- Hunting
- Low Crime Rate
- Few Flood Zones
- Saint Anthony Hospital, particularly Cancer Center and Same Day Surgery
- Airport
- Recreation Center
- Fiscally Sound Government
- Trail System
- Better Shopping and Restaurants than adjacent counties
- Strong Fire, Police, and Medical Infrastructure

# Weaknesses

- Restaurants
- Low Labor Force
- Gravel Roads
- Weak Bridges
- Fallen trees in river
- Farther Away from Major Transport Hubs
- Entertainment
- Not enough Housing Development
- Not enough retail
- Broadband Access
- Affordable Housing
- 24 hour retail has gone away since the COVID Pandemic
- Population Growth
- Childcare options
- Lack of communication between leaders and employees
- Lack of diverse entertainment options
- Lack of skilled labor and proper job training

# Opportunities

- Good community to raise a family
- More property for less money
- Easy to start a local business
- Inexpensive for industrial companies
- Stronger Economic Development
- Broadband Availability
- More Solar Power coming to Carroll County

# Threats

- Limited New Housing
- Companies moving business out of the county
- Younger people leaving town
- Aging Population
- Older Agriculture Labor Force
- Nursing Shortage
- Decreasing Labor Force
- Railroad Safety
- Cyber Threats
- Worker Retention
- Vacant Buildings