

ANNUAL REPORT

2013-2014

VISION

2020
inspire
create



Downtown Austin— a Destination Point



Education Leaders



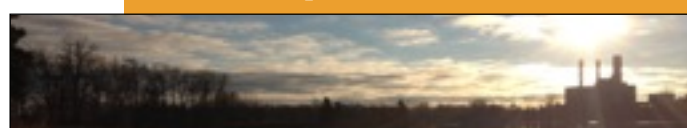
Community Recreational Center



Embrace and Maintain our Waterways



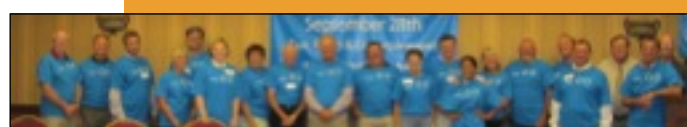
Gateway to Austin Attraction



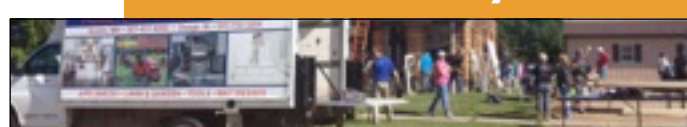
Revitalization of Austin Utilities Building



Expanded Bike/Walk Trail System



Business Friendly Environment



Community Pride and Spirit



Community Wide Technology

Annual Report 2013-2014

The **vision** is clear.
 The **goals** are set.
 The **work** has begun.

Are you ready for **action**?

Join us to improve our community.

Contact
 Laura Helle
 Director of Vision Creation
 507-437-3448
 laura@vision2020austin.com

Officing at Austin Area Chamber of Commerce
 329 North Main Street, #102
 Austin, MN 55912



More information and volunteer sign up at www.vision2020austin.com

HIGHLIGHTS

Annual Report **2013-2014**

Vision Committee	Highlighted Accomplishments	Community benefit	Partners
Downtown Austin—a Destination Point	SPAM® Museum moving downtown; old bank building converted to ArtWorks Center; Summer Kick Off & Fall Fest; very low vacancy rate in district	Increase visitors and traffic to retail district; generate more local sales tax revenue	Hormel Foods Corp, AACA, the Hormel Foundation, City of Austin, DCA, Port Authority
Revitalization of Austin Utilities Building	Site accepted for National Register of Historic Places	Qualify for Historic Preservation Tax Credits to fund capital costs	Austin Utilities, DCA, the Hormel Foundation, Gronen Development
Education Leaders	Launched Austin Aspires, new 501(c)3 non profit; hired Jennifer Lawhead as Executive Director	Improve outcomes for students; create a stronger workforce and more high-wage jobs	Mayo Clinic Health System ALA, Hormel Food Corp, the Hormel Foundation
Business Friendly Environment	Community Concierge launched in February 2014	Welcome newcomers; improve employee recruitment/retention for employers; attract new businesses	Chamber, Hormel Food Corp, Mayo Clinic Health System ALA, the Hormel Foundation
Community Pride and Spirit	CHIP served 7 homes in 2013. With new coordinator hired will serve more in 2014. Possible federal grant to address needs in Crane Addition. Spread the Spirit campaign encouraged random acts of kindness	Property values in neighborhood increase; neighborhood connections boost safety Celebrate Austin's community spirit	Habitat for Humanity, United Way, the Hormel Foundation, HRA Hardy Geranium, Eastwood Bank
Community Wide Technology	Hosted conversation with leaders at the State Legislature and regional technology businesses	Encourage state funding for broadband infrastructure in Greater Minnesota	Blandin Foundation, Ag Star Financial, the Hormel Foundation
Expanded Bike/Walk Trail System	Completed Safe Routes to School planning for six Austin schools Supporting construction of Shooting Star Trail from Rose Creek to Austin	Qualify for Mn DOT funding for infrastructure Increase tourism—Austin as hub of regional trails	Mn DOT, Austin Public Schools Prairie Visions, ACVB, Mower County
Embrace and Maintain our Waterways	Secured grant from Clean Water Fund for targeted projects on the Dobbins Creek sub watershed	Reduce flooding, reduce sediment in East Side Lake, improve water quality	Cedar River Watershed District, the Hormel Foundation
Community Recreational Center	Completed feasibility study with public input on unmet needs for recreation, fitness and wellness	Proves need for new center to serve ALL residents and informs business plan for new space	YMCA, Austin Public Schools, Riverland CC, City of Austin, the Hormel Foundation
Gateway to Austin Attraction	Completed an aesthetics manual with Mn DOT determining the design of overpass enhancements, new construction and landscaping Exploring potential sites for a visitors center with immediate I-90 access	Ensure future I-90 projects will be completed with an Austin-specific design Increase visitors; generates sales tax revenue	Mn DOT Mower Co., City of Austin, ACVB, the Hormel Foundation

PARTNERS

Our thanks to these organizations for contributing to the success of Vision 2020.

- Ag Star Financial
- Alta Planning + Design
- Austin Aspires
- Austin Area Chamber of Commerce
- Austin Area Commission for the Arts
- Austin Area Foundation
- Austin ArtWorks Festival
- Austin Bruins
- Austin Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Austin Daily Herald
- Austin Farmer's Market
- Austin Housing and Redevelopment Authority
- Austin Human Rights Commission
- Austin Lions
- Austin Main Street Project
- Austin Public Library
- Austin Public Schools
- Austin Utilities
- Bevcomm
- Blandin Foundation
- Blue Cross Blue Shield
- Brand Yourself, LLC - Tami Enfield
- BWBR Architects
- Cedar River Watershed District
- City of Austin
- Coffee House on Main
- Community Design Group
- Community Development Venture Capital Alliance
- Community Education
- Cooperative Response Center
- Development Corporation of Austin
- Diamond Ridge Printing
- Eagles Club
- Eastwood Bank of Austin
- Fett Properties
- Games People Play
- Gronen Development
- Growth and Justice
- Habitat for Humanity Freeborn-Mower
- The Hardy Geranium
- HGA Architects
- Hormel Foods — Austin Plant
- Hormel Foods Corp.
- The Hormel Foundation
- Hormel Historic Home
- The Hormel Institute / Univ. of Minn.
- HyVee of Austin
- Jaguar Communications
- Jay C. Hormel Nature Center
- The Joseph Company
- KAUS Radio
- KSMQ Public Television
- Mayo Clinic Health System - Albert Lea Austin
- Marnita's Table
- Mn DOT
- Mower County
- Mower County Historical Society
- Mower Refreshed
- Mower Soil Water Conservation District
- Pacelli Catholic Schools
- Parenting Resource Center
- Pedal MN
- Piggy Blues
- Port Authority
- Prairie Visions (Shooting Star Trail)
- Precision Sign
- Riverland Community College
- Rotary Club of Austin
- RSP Architects
- Rydjor Bike
- Southern Minnesota Bike Club
- Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation
- Town Center Building - Patrick Bradley
- United Way of Mower County
- US Bank
- Welcome Center of Austin
- Wells Fargo
- YMCA of Austin
- Yoga Studio of Austin



COMMITTEE LEADERS

Business Friendly Environment
Paul Baessler, Roberta Czaplewski, Sandy Forstner, John Garry, Eric Shoars

Community Pride and Spirit
Chair: Kristen Olson
Co-chair: Patty Stevens

Community Recreational Center
Chair: Matt Cano
Co-chair: Tanya Medgaarden

Embrace and Maintain our Waterways
Heath Garey, Amanda Tiedemann, Tim Ruzek

Gateway to Austin Attraction
Chair: John Gray
Co-chair: Lynn Spainhower

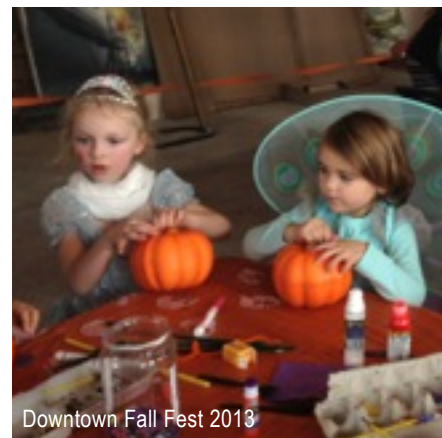
Revitalization of Austin Utilities Building
Chair: Bonnie Rietz
Chair: Mary Anne Wolesky

Education Leaders
Chair: Randy Kramer
Co-chair: Jana Haynes

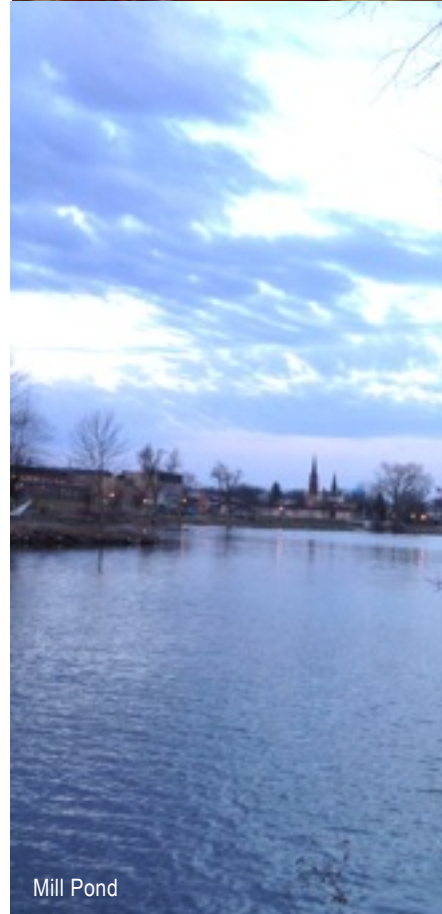
Community Wide Technology
Chair: Chris Holt
Co-chair: Mark Nibaur

Expanded Bike/Walk Trail System
Chair: Steve Kime
Co-chair: Jim Burroughs

Downtown Austin a Destination Point
Chair: Stephnee Leather
Co-chair: Sarah Douty



Downtown Fall Fest 2013



Mill Pond

Thanks also to leaders in
Des Moines, Iowa
Dubuque, Iowa
Indianola, Iowa
LeMars, Iowa
New Ulm, Minnesota
Pine Island, Minnesota
Owatonna, Minnesota
for sharing your expertise with Vision 2020.

Annual Report
2013-2014

STEERING COMMITTEE

Gary Ray, Chair
The Hormel Foundation

Summer Cano
Towers Watson

Geoff Baker
McFarland Truck Lines, Inc.

Sandy Forstner
Austin Area Chamber of Commerce

John Garry
Development Corp of Austin

John Gray
The Hormel Foundation

Craig Hoium
City of Austin

Craig Jones
The Hormel Institute/Univ. of Minnesota

Andrew Kepper
Hormel Foods Corp

Tamm Kritzer
Mayo Clinic Health System - A.L. Austin

Yesenia Mendoza
Riverland Community College

Chet Rao
Hormel Foods Corp

Bonnie Rietz
Community Volunteer

Jake Vela
The Welcome Center of Austin

INFORMATION

What is Vision 2020?

Vision 2020 is a grassroots movement in Austin, Minnesota. Volunteers are engaged with government, business and non-profit sectors to improve the quality of life by the year 2020.

How did Vision 2020 get started?

A group of community leaders convened in early 2011 inspired by success in other communities. In April 2012 ten Vision Statements—chosen by a process of community input—were revealed to the public. The goal is to achieve the visions by 2020.

How is Vision 2020 funded?

Vision 2020 projects are funded from a variety of sources including grants from foundations, individual donations, business sponsorships and federal, state and local taxes.

Financial Support

Our thanks to these donors for financially supporting Vision 2020.

BUSINESS DONORS

Accentra Credit Union
Adams Rizzi Sween
Anderson Memorials
Ankeny's Mini Mart
Arizona Cleaning Co
Bollingberg Chiropractic
Brick Furniture
Clasen-Jordan Mortuary
Cornerstone Financial
Cooperative Response Center
Eastwood Bank
Fett Properties
Fuhrman Real Estate
Golden Tress
Greg L Meyer Insurance
Hansen Hauling & Excavating
Hanson Tire Service
Heartman Insurance
Hill Larson Walth Benda
Judy Laskewitz
Kestner Electric
Kurt Potach, DDS
McDonald's Courtesy Corp
Midwest Diesel Sales & Service
MJ O'Connor
Oak Knoll Farm
Overby Orthodontics
Palleton of MN
Rotary Club of Austin
Rydjor Bike Shop
Schmidt Signs
Simplified Technology Solutions
Smyth Companies
The Joseph Company
Twice is Nice

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUNDING

City of Austin
Mower County

IN KIND

Austin Area Chamber of Commerce
Development Corporation of Austin
Diamond Ridge Printing
HyVee of Austin
Town Center Building - Patrick Bradley

SPECIAL THANKS

The following volunteers transitioned away from committee leadership roles in the last year.

Jim Heilman • Rick Jaacks
Sam Jewell • Jerry McCarthy

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Anderson, Curt & Greta
Anderson, Scott & Janet
Astrup, Dan & Becky
Baessler, Paul & Dawn
Baker, Geoff & Diane
Baker, Glenn & Sally
Barinka, Tim & Mary
Baskin, Amy & Greg
Bednar, Michael & Dennis
Bennett, Anthony
Bergemann, Doug & Joann
Binder, Steve & Debbie
Bird, Greg & Jeannine
Boughton, Roger & Cheryl
Brinkman, Bob
Cano, Matt & Summer
Ciota, Mark & Allison
Coffey, Mark & Tammy
Collier, Bob & Kelly
Day, Tom
Enright, Wayne & Judy
Ettinger, Jeff & LeeAnn
Feragen, Jody & Duane
Forstner, Sandy & Pam
Fox, Don & Marlene
Fox, Martin & Joanne
Fritz, Tim & Kathy
Garry, John & Sally
Gleisner, Steve & Tina
Gray, John & Terry
Gray, John & Terry
Haynes, Scott & Jana
Helle, Laura
Hoffman, Pam & Jim
Hoium, Craig & Jan
Holst, Alice
Holtorf, Stephen & Mary
Johnson, Craig & Jane
Jones, Craig & Mary Jo
Juhlke, David & Ann
Kepper, Lindsey & Andrew
Kime, Steve & Barb
Kleis, Keith & Mary
Kramer, Randy & Wendy
Kritzer, Tamm & Jeff
Krueger, Jodi & Brian
Kubesh, Frank & Monica
Kusick, Thad & Wendy
Law, Maryanne
Maxfield, Tedd & Jill

Individual cont.

McDermott, Rodney & Jean
Mendoza, Yesenia
Mickelsen, Darryl & Deb
Mino, Jim & Janice
Mlinar, Joe & Joyce
Mohrfeld, Jerry & Evie
Nibaur, Mark & Lori
Nuytten, Jeff & Kris
O'Rourke, John & Joan
Orcutt, Steve & Brenda
Pfeil, Larry & Teri
Ramlo, Mark & Gretchen
Rao, Chet & Rae Dawn
Ray, Pat & Gary
Rietz, Tim & Bonnie
Rizzi, Steve & Signe
Schieck, Joel & Pearl
Schwab, Pat & Beth
Smith, Geoff & Susan
Snyder, Bill & Julie
Splinter, Jim & Vicki
Sylte, Dave & June
Tangren, Pete & Bonnie
Vela, Jake
Wolesky, Jerry & Mary Anne
Worlein, Paul & Joanne
Young, Rick & Carol

GRANTS & PROGRAM SUPPORT

Ag Star Financial
Austin Main Street Project
Blandin Foundation
Blue Cross Blue Shield
Eastwood Bank of Austin
Growth and Justice
The Hardy Geranium
Hormel Foods — Austin Plant
Hormel Foods Corp.
The Hormel Foundation
Hormel Historic Home
The Hormel Institute / Univ. of Minn.
Mayo Clinic Health System - Albert Lea
Austin
Mn DOT
Rydjor Bike
Southern Minnesota Bike Club
Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation
United Way of Mower County
US Bank
Wells Fargo

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