



2026 CCCFF Program - Planning Awardees

City of Blair		
Planning	Blair Civic Building (Second Story) Conceptual Renovation Plan	\$15,000.00
<p>The City of Blair is requesting \$15,000 through the CCCFF Planning Grant to develop a Conceptual Renovation Plan to guide the future reuse of the second floor of the city's Civic Building, located in the heart of downtown Blair. The city will use the grant to hire a professional architect to conduct architectural programming and develop a conceptual renovation framework for this space.</p> <p>The Blair Civic Building was built in 1912 as the city's fire station and was acquired by the city in the 1920s. For many decades, the second floor—approximately 7,000 square feet—served as a banquet hall and assembly space for weddings, receptions, fundraisers, civic events, public meetings, and community gatherings. In 2008, the city was required to close the second floor to the public because of a lack of fire suppression, inadequate ADA accessibility, non-compliant restrooms, and a staircase that does not meet modern building codes. Today, the space remains vacant and is used only for record storage.</p> <p>The proposed planning effort will evaluate options to restore the second floor as a safe, accessible, and functional civic space. The study will assess ADA accessibility, life-safety and building code requirements, potential hazardous materials, space layout alternatives, and functional needs, including kitchen amenities, storage, and audio-visual equipment. A high-level cost opinion will also be prepared to inform future decision-making.</p> <p>This planning project will position the city to responsibly pursue future investment, avoid piecemeal improvements, and reactivate a locally significant downtown civic space for community use.</p>		
Local Matching Funds (Cash Match): \$15,000.00		

Village of DeWitt		
Planning	DeWitt Community Center Renovation Plan	\$15,000.00
<p>The Village of DeWitt proposes to complete a Community Center Renovation Plan to evaluate the condition, functionality, and renovation needs of the existing DeWitt Community Center, originally constructed in 1984–1985. The Community Center is centrally located within the Village and serves as a primary public gathering space for residents of DeWitt and surrounding communities, providing convenient access for a wide range of users.</p> <p>The facility is used nearly weekly for fundraisers, community events, birthday and anniversary parties, family reunions, wedding receptions, civic activities, and recreational leagues, including a coed volleyball league and a cornhole league. The Community Center is also utilized by Tri County Schools for volleyball and basketball practices and for Post Prom events every other year, highlighting its role as a shared community and school resource.</p>		



While the Community Center includes a full kitchen, restrooms, and event space, it is significantly outdated and has seen limited improvements since construction. Space limitations in the kitchen, constrained restroom accessibility, an inflexible gym-style layout, and aging building components limit the facility's functionality and adaptability for modern events. In recent years, the Village has experienced a noticeable decline in wedding receptions held at the Community Center, reflecting the need for modernization. This planning study will identify renovation needs, estimate associated costs, and guide future investment decisions to ensure the Community Center remains a safe, functional, and competitive public facility.

Local Matching Funds (Cash Match): \$15,000.00

Village of Howells

Planning	Howells Municipal Pool Renovation and Aquatic Center Feasibility Study	\$15,000.00
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The Village of Howells proposes to complete a Municipal Pool Renovation and Aquatic Center Feasibility Study to evaluate the condition, functionality, and future needs of the existing Howells Municipal Pool, originally constructed in 1970. The municipal pool is a key public recreational facility that serves residents of Howells and surrounding communities and remains actively used during the summer season.

Over the years, the community and Village have made targeted investments to maintain and enhance the facility, including a community-funded water slide installed around 2005 through a \$10,000 fundraising effort and a new diving board added in 2007. Despite these improvements, the pool is aging and experiencing challenges, including leaking pipes, outdated restroom facilities, and limited ADA accessibility. While the Village has invested \$110,000 in repairs and system improvements, these efforts have not fully addressed underlying deficiencies.

The pool currently offers swim lessons and employs 13 lifeguards, with attendance remaining steady or increasing in recent years. However, accessibility limitations, aging infrastructure, and missing amenities—such as shaded areas and inclusive access features—highlight the need for a comprehensive evaluation.

This feasibility study will assess renovation needs and associated costs for the existing pool, as well as explore the feasibility and cost of a potential new aquatic center. Completion of this planning effort will allow the Village to make informed, fiscally responsible decisions regarding future investment in safe, accessible aquatic facilities.

Local Matching Funds (Cash Match): \$15,000.00

Village of Kenesaw

Planning	Kenesaw Aquatic Center Feasibility	\$15,000.00
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The Village of Kenesaw seeks CCCFF planning funds (\$15,000), matched with \$15,000 in local funds, to complete the Kenesaw Aquatic Center Feasibility Study. The study will evaluate options for a modern aquatic center that serves residents of all ages, meets accessibility standards, and addresses long-term community needs.

Kenesaw's existing public swimming pool, built in 1970, is located on public school property. Although the pool has served the community for decades, it is not ADA accessible and is landlocked by surrounding school facilities, making expansion or meaningful modernization infeasible. Continued investment in repairs does not address these limitations or provide a sustainable long-term solution.

The feasibility study will define the appropriate size, layout, amenities, and operational considerations for a future aquatic center. Because no site has been selected, the study will first establish the facility's scale and program, which will determine land requirements and the evaluation of potential locations within Kenesaw. This planning-first approach ensures the Village does not prematurely commit to a site or financial investment.

In Nebraska, new aquatic centers are typically financed through general obligation bonds, which require voter approval. The feasibility study will deliver decision-ready conceptual plans, cost opinions, and operational information needed to engage residents, assess financial impacts, and support informed public decision-making. This study is a responsible first step toward preserving aquatic recreation as a key quality-of-life amenity for Kenesaw and the surrounding rural areas.

Local Matching Funds (Cash Match): \$15,000.00

Village of Lynch

Planning	Lynch Community Fitness Center Planning	\$15,000.00
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The Village of Lynch, Boyd County, Nebraska (Village) is preparing to implement a Civic and Community Center Financing Fund community fitness center planning project within the municipal limits of the Village (Project). The planning process will include but is not limited to engineering and architectural drawings, financial considerations for the construction of a new fitness center at 317 West Ponca Street in Lynch. Demolition of the building currently on the site is anticipated. Project impacts may include noise and dust. Project activities will take place during normal business hours.

Total Project costs are estimated at \$30,000. Funding sources include an anticipated Civic and Community Center Financing Fund (CCCFF) grant from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development in the amount of \$15,000 and a match from the Village of \$15,000. Planning phase will be completed within twenty-four (24) months. No persons, businesses nor farms will be displaced as a result of the project activities.

Local Matching Funds (Cash Match): \$15,000.00

City of Madison

Planning	Madison Learning and Community Center	\$15,000.00
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The City of Madison is seeking CCCFF Planning Grant assistance to develop a comprehensive facility plan for 4,000-square-foot multi-use community space. The City-owned space is part of the Madison Public Library, located in the heart of the city, near the business district and residential areas. The space will expand educational opportunities, support workforce development, and strengthen civic engagement through flexible design and modern technology, serving residents of all ages.

The proposed space will fulfill 3 key functions.

1. A Children's Learning and Activity Center will provide structured educational and creative play opportunities that support early childhood development and youth engagement. Potential uses include after-school programming, reading events, and partnerships with schools, civic clubs, and childcare providers.

2. The facility will develop an Organized Community Makerspace, utilizing equipment and tools already owned by the City. The new space will allow centralized storage, safer operation, and user-friendly access to tools and technology for hands-on learning, skill-building, and small-scale fabrication. The makerspace will support residents, students, and entrepreneurs seeking collaborative learning opportunities and access to specialized tools.

3. The project will include a Modern Public Meeting and Professional Event Space equipped with advanced AV capabilities and flexible seating arrangements. This area will support hybrid and remote learning, workforce training, board and civic meetings, professional development workshops, conferences, adult education courses, and other community events.

Local Matching Funds (Cash Match): \$15,000.00

Village of Palmyra

Planning	Palmyra Memorial Library Planning	\$15,000.00
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This planning project will undertake the necessary engineering and technical studies to support the development of a new public library within the municipal government boundaries. The project will evaluate site conditions, infrastructure needs, and design considerations to inform final project scope, cost estimates, and readiness for construction.

Local Matching Funds (Cash Match): \$15,000.00

City of Ralston

Planning	Ralston Park Wellness and Recreation Planning Project	\$10,000.00
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The City of Ralston seeks a planning grant to hire professionals to conceptualize and evaluate a future wellness and recreation amenity options that meets residents' needs while remaining financially feasible for the City. This project advances two interrelated community needs. First, replacing the recreation and wellness services previously provided by the Ralston Recreation Association at the no longer-salvageable Oak Hill Community Pool. Second, taking a critical step toward implementation of the City's Park Master Plan, which calls for redevelopment of Ralston Park to expand wellness and recreational opportunities.

Local Matching Funds (Cash Match): \$10,000.00

City of Wahoo

Planning	Wahoo Recreation Center Conceptual Plan	\$15,000.00
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Requested CCCFF Planning funds of \$15,000, combined with \$15,000 in local funds, will provide the funding to cost-share the Wahoo Recreation Center Conceptual Plan. This planning effort will determine the final site layout, facility size, and design, ensuring the Recreation Center integrates well into the community and meets both current and future needs.

The City of Wahoo proposes to develop a new public Recreation Center that will serve residents of all ages and abilities and be available to the general public. The city-owned facility will support athletics, fitness, wellness, and recreational activities, including indoor court sports, fitness and strength training, wellness programming, and community gathering spaces. The future Recreation Center will charge reasonable user fees but remain open and accessible to the public, consistent with the definition of an eligible recreation center under the CCCFF Act.

The proposed Recreation Center is intended to replace and expand upon the recreational functions currently housed at the existing Wahoo Civic Center, which has reached its capacity and functional limits. The new facility will be designed to better accommodate community demand, improve accessibility, and provide flexible spaces for youth sports, adult fitness, senior wellness, and community use.

The proposed site for the future Recreation Center is located near West 15th Street and U.S. Highway 77, providing convenient access for residents and visitors. The property is located within the City of Wahoo's corporate limits.

Local Matching Funds (Cash Match): \$15,000.00

City of Wayne		
Planning	City of Wayne	\$15,000.00
<p>The City of Wayne is requesting \$15,000 from the Civic and Community Center Financing Fund (CCCCFF) to cost share the planning phase for determining the best community use for the City's municipal property at 1100 East 10th St in Wayne. The City of Wayne will use the funds to determine project feasibility and project sustainability through data collection, property site assessment, and design concept analysis. The project budget will allow the City of Wayne to solicit and employ a consulting firm to conduct community engagement sessions to determine the best civic use for the property and then conduct site assessments and design concept analysis. City officials and staff want the community to participate in determining the best use of the property for area residents. The City is actively engaged in activities that help enhance the quality of life for the residents in and around community. As Wayne and the entire state of Nebraska are faced with a workforce shortage, continually improving quality of life has become a larger part of economic development and workforce recruitment strategies. Preliminary ideas from City officials, staff, and conversations with residents for the ultimate use of this property have been the following: relocating and expanding the current community activity center (with possible indoor swimming pool); relocating and expanding the existing library; relocating and expanding the existing Senior Center/transit program; and, providing a business incubator for new entrepreneurs. The property is large enough to possibly include multiple uses.</p>		
Local Matching Funds (Cash Match): \$15,000.00		

City of Wymore		
Planning	Wymore Community Center Conceptual Renovation Plan	\$10,000.00
<p>The City of Wymore proposes to complete a comprehensive planning study for the renovation and rehabilitation of the existing Wymore Community Center, located at 115 West E Street in the heart of downtown Wymore. Constructed in 1974, the facility serves as the largest public gathering space in southern Gage County and has historically hosted weddings, community celebrations, school events, public meetings, elections, and emergency shelter functions for residents of Wymore, Blue Springs, and the surrounding rural area. The aging building now faces significant interior and exterior deficiencies, including deteriorating finishes, failing mechanical systems, inadequate ADA accessibility, and a deteriorated parking lot and drainage system. The proposed planning project will evaluate structural, accessibility, site, and infrastructure improvements needed to restore the facility as a safe, functional, and inclusive civic space. Located within Wymore's central business district and near other public amenities, the Community Center is a highly visible and integral part of the community's civic infrastructure. The planning study will develop phased renovation strategies to ensure the long-term viability of this public facility and support its continued use as a community and regional gathering place.</p>		
Local Matching Funds (Cash Match): \$10,000.00		

2026 CCCFF Program - Capital Construction Awardees

City of Falls City		
Capital Construction	Falls City Amphitheater	\$265,000.00
<p>The Stone Street Amphitheater & Park is a planned outdoor performance and gathering space designed to expand arts, cultural, and community activities in Falls City. The facility will include a covered stage, flexible green space, walkways, seating areas, shade structures, landscaping, and designated areas for rotating sculptures and public art. The space is designed to accommodate live music, theater, library programs, farmers markets, artisan vendor events, and community gatherings, while also serving as an inviting everyday space for residents, employees, and visitors to relax and socialize.</p> <p>The project is located on a 15,000-square-foot lot within the Falls City Creative District, directly across from the Falls City Library & Arts Center and within walking distance of downtown retailers, restaurants, and cultural attractions. Its central location allows the park to serve as a natural gathering point that connects existing arts venues, businesses, and public spaces. By creating a dedicated outdoor venue where none currently exists, the Stone Street Amphitheater & Park will strengthen downtown vitality, support community programming, and enhance the overall visitor and resident experience in Falls City.</p>		
Local Matching Funds (Cash Match): \$265,000.00		

City of Pierce		
Capital Construction	Chilvers Park Basketball Court	\$29,847.00
<p>The City of Pierce is requesting funding through the Civic and Community Center Financing Fund (CCCFF) Program for Phase 2 of the Chilvers Park 2.0 project: the construction of a 50' x 84' outdoor, lighted, full-size basketball court within Chilvers Park. Chilvers Park is centrally located in Pierce, approximately two blocks north of the downtown corridor and less than one block east of Nebraska State Highway 13, making it highly visible and accessible to residents and visitors.</p> <p>The proposed basketball court will feature SnapSports® modular athletic flooring installed over a new concrete pad and a Goalsetter® MVP 72-inch in-ground basketball system. Lighting improvements will allow for extended evening use and increased safety. This project builds upon recently completed Phase 1 improvements, which included the installation of the only splash pad in Pierce County and two new pickleball courts, transforming Chilvers Park into a multi-generational community recreation hub.</p> <p>The basketball court is designed to function as a year-round civic amenity that supports youth development, physical activity, and informal community gathering. The facility will be publicly owned, free to use, and available seven days a week. As part of the City's broader quality-of-life and economic development strategy, this investment strengthens community infrastructure, enhances downtown adjacency, and ensures equitable access to recreational opportunities for residents of all ages and abilities. The project meets CCCFF eligibility requirements as a publicly accessible civic recreation facility that serves the broader community.</p>		
Local Matching Funds (Cash Match): \$33,688.00		

Village of Potter*		
Capital Construction	Village of Potter Community Hall Project Phase 2	\$175,153.00
<p>The Village of Potter and the Potter Community Improvement Committee is finalizing the funding to complete the Annex Building at the historic 1917 Potter Community Hall, restoring the facility as a fully accessible civic and community center serving Potter and the surrounding rural area. The project will complete the barrier-free annex that adds ADA-compliant restrooms, a modern kitchen, updated</p>		

mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems, HVAC and ventilation, and zero-entry access. Upon completion, the Legion Hall will reopen as a functional public facility that will host year-round community events, civic meetings, cultural programming, youth and senior citizens, and regional gatherings.

The Community Hall is owned by the Village of Potter and is a historic building that has served as Potter's primary gathering place for more than a century. The facility is centrally located within the village and is easily accessible to residents and visitors. The annex will be physically connected to the existing Community Hall structure and is designed to integrate modern infrastructure while preserving the historic character of the original building.

The project is located within Potter's downtown core and is adjacent to other community assets, including businesses, creative district destinations, and event spaces tied to the Tin Roof Creative District. Completion of the Annex Building ensures the facility meets current accessibility and safety standards and can serve as a long-term public asset for the Village of Potter.

Local Matching Funds (Cash Match): \$385,000.00

* The award offer to the Village of Potter is for a lesser amount than the Village applied for. As such, the award is contingent upon the Village's acceptance of the grant and its ability to proceed with the project given the funded amount being less than requested.

City of Wisner

Capital Construction	2026 Wisner Parks Enhancement Project	\$375,000.00
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Beginning in 2018, Wisner's community leaders and citizens have worked to expand and enhance the quality of recreational facilities and activities within the City's parks. The efforts began when the City replaced old playground equipment in River Park while adding a new playground in Central Park. The City also added a dog park and a 1.3-mile trail system using tax credits, donations, grant funds, and funds secured through the Nebraska RTP and LWCF.

The 2026 Wisner Parks Enhancement Project creates additional recreational facilities and amenities that will provide benefits to people of all ages. With a pre-bid projected budget of \$825,177, the project will place a new building with four (4) separate restroom/shower facilities near the campgrounds in River Park, replace old playground equipment in River Park and Dinklage Park, and add a new 90'x50' basketball court in Dinklage Park.

Cole Uhing Court is being named in memory of the 12-year-old who lost his life in an ATV accident on July 6, 2025. It will be built in Dinklage Park, making it the only public basketball court in Wisner's primary residential area. This location allows Wisner's youth and young adults to gather and play basketball without having to walk a half mile or more and cross Avenue E, which is US 275, to get to the basketball court in River Park. Avenue E is Wisner's main thoroughfare, and its traffic load will grow considerably starting in the next 2 years as US 275 is being widened from Norfolk to Omaha. There is currently only 1 pedestrian crossing device on Avenue E, at 10th Street, and no additional traffic controls on Avenue E are anticipated.

Local Matching Funds (Cash Match): \$450,177.00