

# BUTLER COUNTY, NEBRASKA RURAL COMMUNITY

Comprehensive Plan – 2036.

## Meeting #4:

Butler County Planning & Zoning Commission.

Wednesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, 6:00PM.

1. **MEETING #5: Wednesday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 6:00PM.**  
**TOPICS:** *Discussion of "Draft" completed Comprehensive Plan & proposed Zoning Districts with Permitted, Special/Conditional & Non-Conforming Uses.*
2. **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN PROGRESS REPORT & STATEMENT #2.**
3. **DISCUSSION: UPDATED EXISTING & FUTURE LAND USE MAPS/CAPACITY MATRICES & ADDITIONAL MAPS.**
4. **DISCUSSION: BUTLER COUNTY, NEBRASKA, RURAL COMMUNITY PLANNING, PRESERVATION & DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES.**



**Becky Hanna**                      **Tim Keelan**  
*Principal Partners & Community Planners*

**Keith Carl**                              **Martin Stumpf**  
*Community Planner*                      *Planning Intern*



# HANNA:KEELAN ASSOCIATES COMMUNITY PLANNING & RESEARCH

PRINCIPALS:

Becky J. Hanna  
Timothy M. Keelan

April 29, 2026

Lori Aschoff, County Clerk  
Butler County, Nebraska  
451 N 5th Street  
David City, Nebraska 68632

RE: Butler County, Nebraska Comprehensive Plan -- #1442.

## STATEMENT # 2

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Fee for Services Rendered & expenses incurred for the  
Butler County, Nebraska Comprehensive Plan.

(50% Completed) \$28,500.00

Amount Received to Date (\$14,250.00)

**AMOUNT DUE \$14,250.00**

*COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING & ZONING • STRATEGIC PLANNING • HOUSING MARKET STUDIES • HOUSING DEVELOPMENT  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH & ANALYSIS • PUBLIC FACILITY PLANNING & IMPLEMENTATION  
HUMAN RESOURCE PLANNING • STATE & FEDERAL GRANT WRITING & ADMINISTRATION*

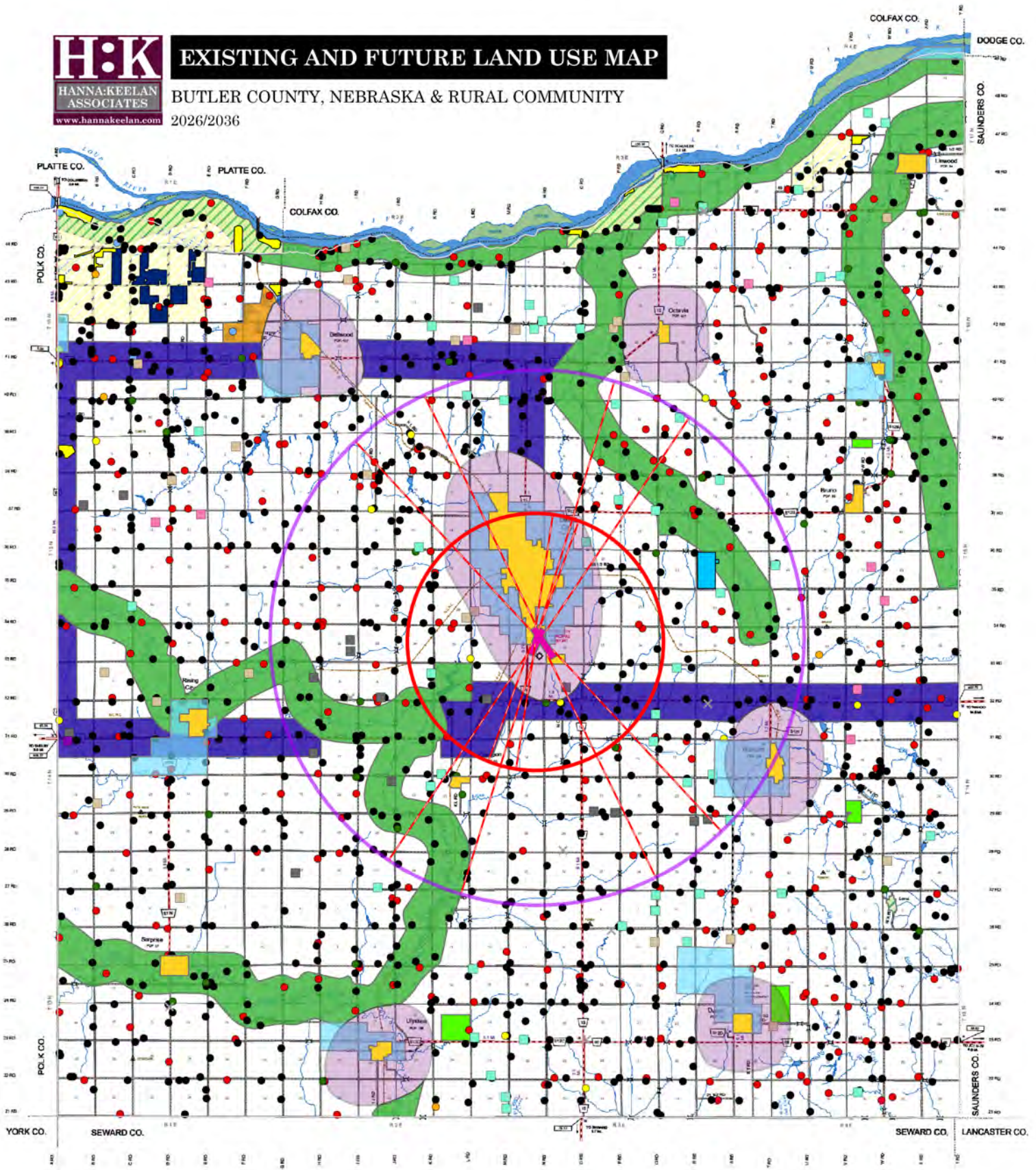
3275 HOLDREGE STREET • P.O. BOX 30552 • LINCOLN, NE 68503-0552  
(402) 464-5383 • FAX (402) 464-5856 • website: [www.hannakeelan.com](http://www.hannakeelan.com)

<b>ESTIMATED EXISTING &amp; FUTURE LAND USE CAPACITY MATRIX BUTLER COUNTY, NEBRASKA 2026 &amp; 2036</b>		
<b>Land Use</b>	<b>2026 Land Area (Acres)</b>	<b>2036 Land Area (Acres)</b>
- <b>TOTAL ACRES</b>	<b>378,240</b>	<b>378,240</b>
- <i>Land Area</i>	<i>374,000</i>	<i>374,000</i>
- <i>Water Area</i>	<i>4,240</i>	<i>4,240</i>
- <b>Community Corporate Limits (CL) &amp; Planning Jurisdictions (PJ)</b>	<b>30,457.6</b>	<b>30,457.6</b>
- <b>Butler County Rural Community</b>	<b>347,782.4</b>	<b>347,782.4</b>
- <b>Agricultural* (Open Farm/Pasture Land)</b>	<b>341,130.5</b>	<b>340,468.3</b>
- <i>Proposed Conservation Easement Areas</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>52,876.4</i>
- <i>Wellhead Protection Areas</i>	<i>3,460.3</i>	<i>3,460.3</i>
- <b>Animal Confinement Operations</b>	<b>1,574.2</b>	<b>1,778.1</b>
- <i>Cattle Confinement</i>	<i>767.7</i>	<i>850.1</i>
- <i>Goat Confinement</i>	<i>7.6</i>	<i>7.6</i>
- <i>Pork Confinement</i>	<i>289.2</i>	<i>326.8</i>
- <i>Poultry Confinement</i>	<i>509.7</i>	<i>593.6</i>
- <b>Public/Quasi-Public</b>	<b>184.6</b>	<b>184.6</b>
- <i>Cemeteries</i>	<i>156.2</i>	<i>156.2</i>
- <i>Other</i>	<i>28.4</i>	<i>28.4</i>
- <b>Park/Recreation/Management Area**</b>	<b>437.9</b>	<b>437.9</b>
- <b>Residential/Farmsteads</b>	<b>4,812.5</b>	<b>4,940.2</b>
- <i>Single Family/Mobile Home Residential</i>	<i>4,779.0</i>	<i>4,906.7</i>
- <i>Residential Subdivisions</i>	<i>594.1</i>	<i>661.3</i>
- <i>Farmstead/"Other" Animal Confinement</i>	<i>300.8</i>	<i>300.8</i>
- <i>Mobile Home Park</i>	<i>11.9</i>	<i>11.9</i>
- <i>Abandoned Residential</i>	<i>21.6</i>	<i>21.6</i>
- <b>Commercial</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>18.3</b>
- <b>Industrial</b>	<b>631.8</b>	<b>1,733.1</b>
- <i>Landfill</i>	<i>379.4</i>	<i>379.4</i>
- <i>Other Industrial</i>	<i>252.4</i>	<i>439.6</i>
- <i>Solar Farm Project</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>914.1</i>
*Includes agricultural structures/outbuildings.		
**Includes Wildlife Management Areas.		
Source: Hanna:Keelan Associates, 2026.		



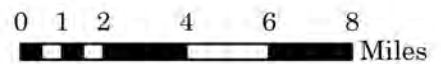
# EXISTING AND FUTURE LAND USE MAP

BUTLER COUNTY, NEBRASKA & RURAL COMMUNITY  
2026/2036



## Legend

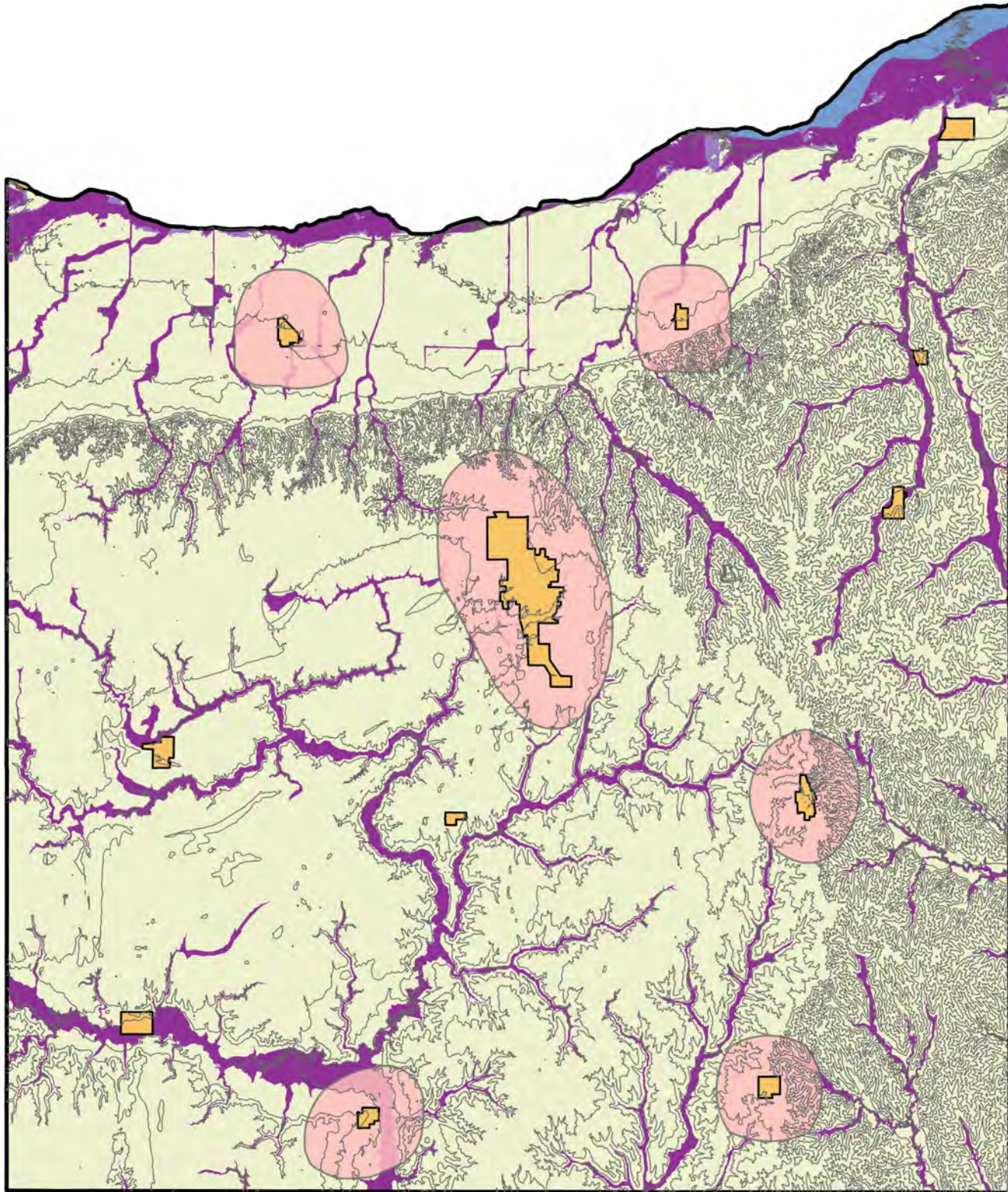
- |  |   |   |  |   |
|--|---|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Existing Agriculture</li> <li> Municipal Boundaries</li> <li> Community Planning Jurisdictions</li> <li> Unincorporated Communities</li> <li> Residential Subdivisions</li> <li> Mobile Home Park</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Residential (Single Family/Farmstead)</li> <li> Abandoned Structures</li> <li> Industrial</li> <li> Industrial (General Farming Operation)</li> <li> Commercial</li> <li> Public/Quasi-Public</li> <li> Other Structures</li> <li> Other Confinement</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Goat Confinement</li> <li> Cattle Confinement</li> <li> Pork Confinement</li> <li> Poultry Confinement</li> <li> Park/Recreation</li> <li> Landfill</li> <li> Proposed Solar Development</li> <li> Wellhead Protection Areas</li> </ul> | <p><b>David City Municipal Airport</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Operation Zone</li> <li> Approach Zone</li> <li> 3-Mile Turnaround Zone</li> <li> Airport Jurisdiction</li> </ul> | <p><b>Future Land Use</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Future Residential</li> <li> Future Industrial</li> <li> Future HWY</li> <li> Commercial/Light Industrial Zones</li> <li> Future Conservation</li> <li> Future Agriculture</li> </ul> |
|--|---|---|--|---|



# FLOOD HAZARD AREAS

BUTLER COUNTY, NEBRASKA

2026



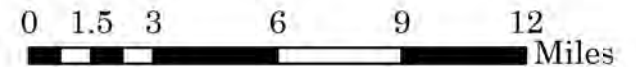
## Legend

- Butler County
- Topography - Contour Interval 10ft
- Butler County
- Butler County Communities
- Community Planning Jurisdictions

## Butler County Flood Hazard Areas

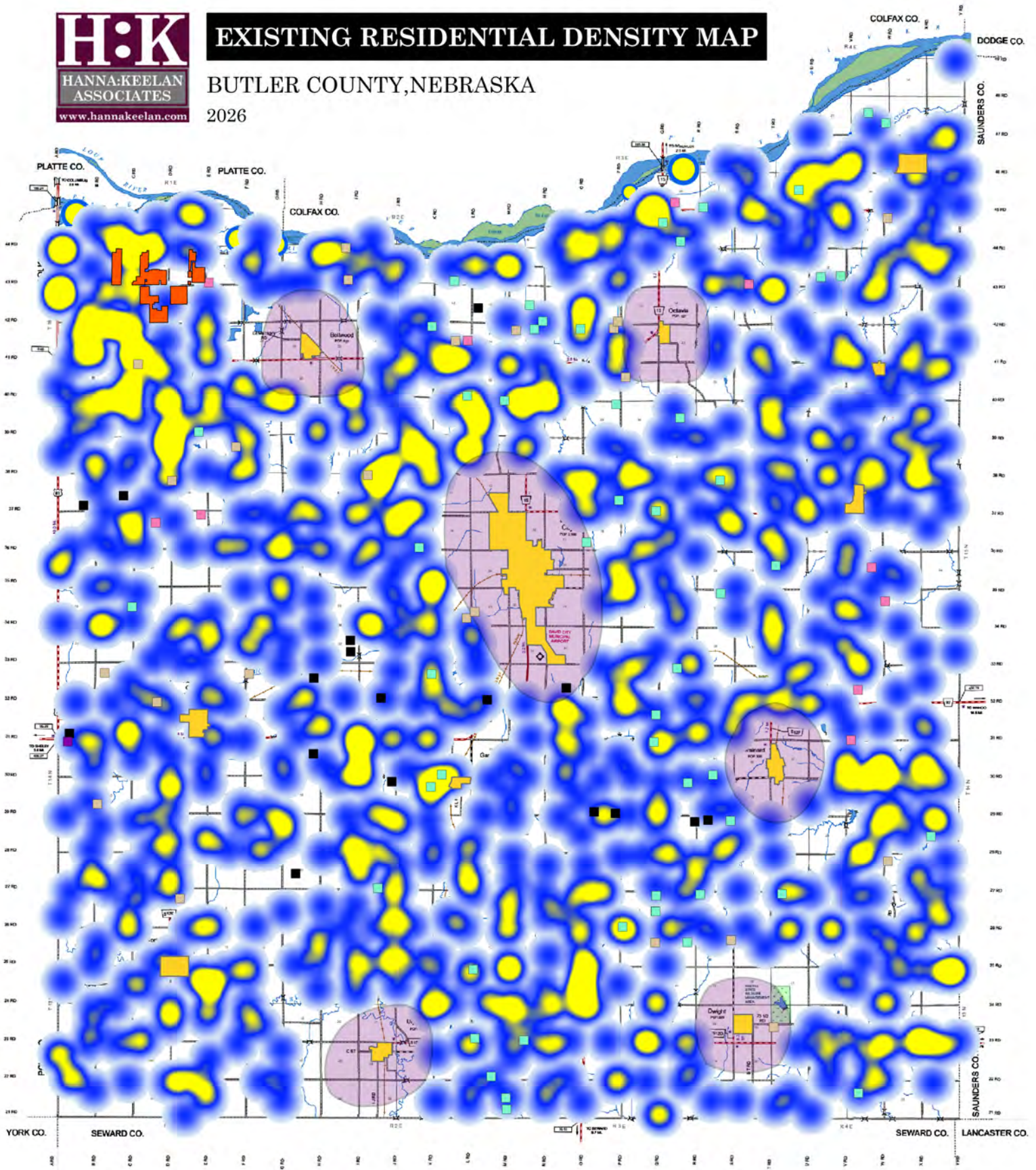
### Class Type

- 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard
- Regulatory Floodway
- 0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard
- Area of Minimal Flood Hazard
- Area with Reduced Risk Due to Levee
- Not Mapped



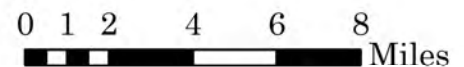
**EXISTING RESIDENTIAL DENSITY MAP**

BUTLER COUNTY, NEBRASKA  
2026



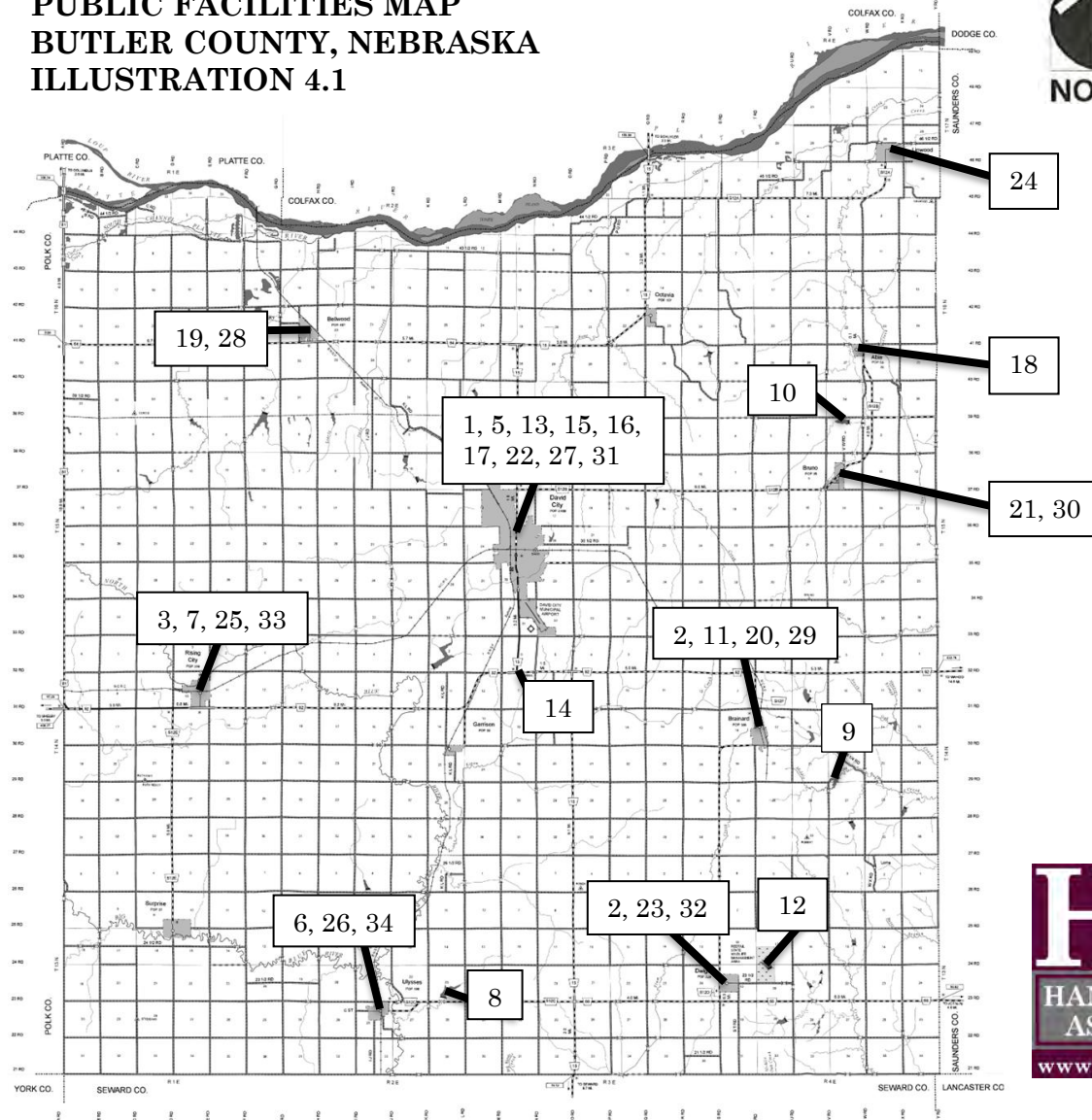
**Legend**

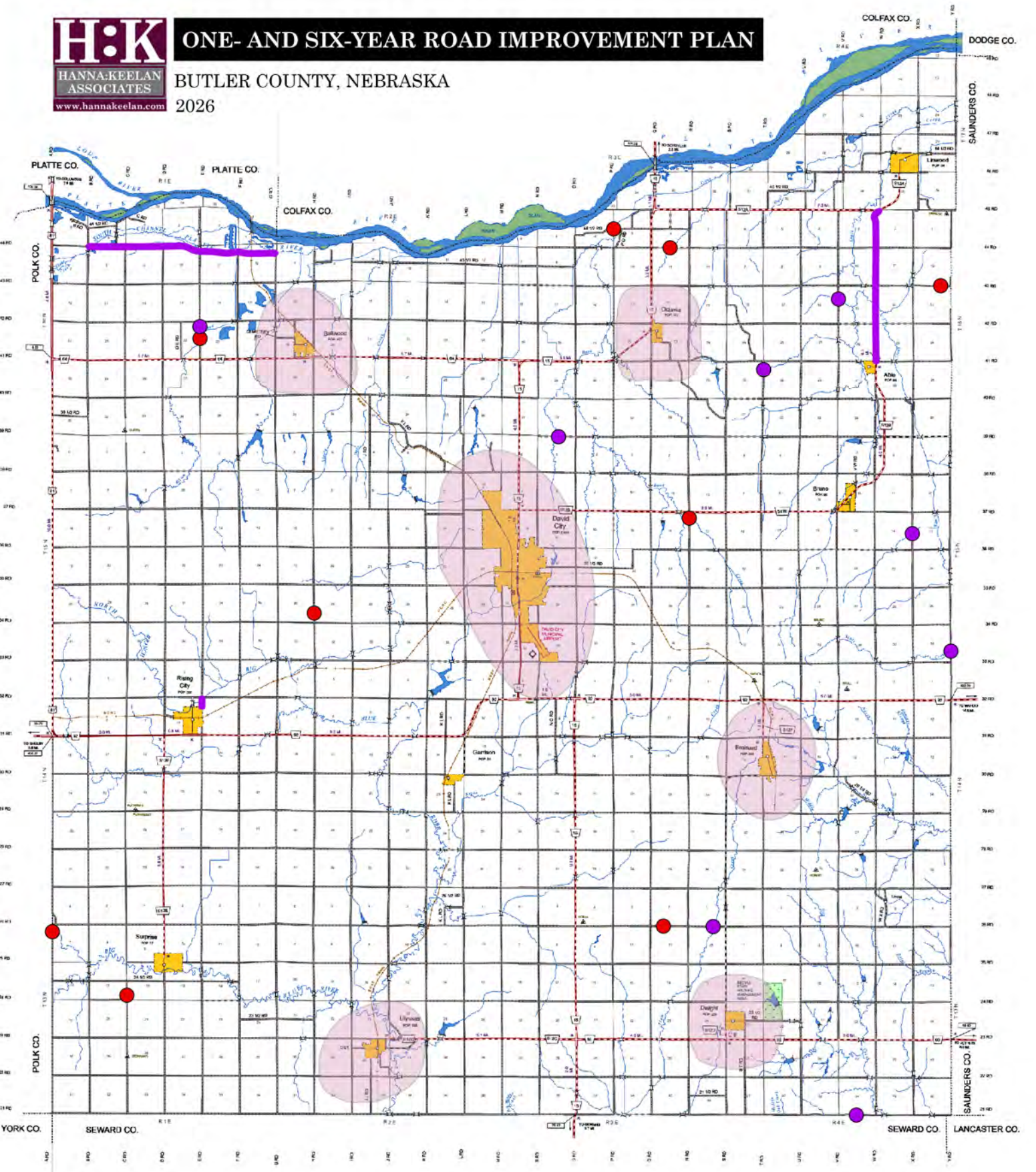
- Municipal Boundaries
- Community Planning Jurisdictions
- Proposed Solar Development
- Other Confinement
- Goat Confinement
- Cattle Confinement
- Pork Confinement
- Poultry Confinement
- Residential (Single Family/Farmstead)**
- Sparse
- Dense



1. David City Public Schools
2. East Butler Public Schools
3. Shelby-Rising City Public Schools
4. Cross-County Community Schools  
(Stromsburg, NE)
5. Hruska Memorial Library
6. Ulysses Township Library
7. Rising City Community Library
8. Oxbow Trail Recreation Area
9. Timber Point Lake Recreation Area
10. Homestead Lake Recreation Area
11. Oak Creek Trail (Trailhead)
12. Redtail Lake Wildlife Management Area
13. Butler County Fairgrounds
14. Butler County Highway Department
15. Butler County Health
16. Butler County Senior Living Program
17. Butler County Sheriff
18. Abie Volunteer Fire Department
19. Bellwood Volunteer Fire Department
20. Brainard Volunteer Fire Department
21. Skull Creek Volunteer Fire Department
22. David City Volunteer Fire Department
23. Dwight Volunteer Fire Department
24. Linwood Volunteer Fire Department
25. Rising City Volunteer Fire Department
26. Ulysses Volunteer Fire Department
27. Butler County Courthouse
28. Bellwood Post Office
29. Brainard Post Office
30. Bruno Post Office
31. David City Post Office
32. Dwight Post Office
33. Rising City Post Office
34. Ulysses Post Office

## PUBLIC FACILITIES MAP BUTLER COUNTY, NEBRASKA ILLUSTRATION 4.1

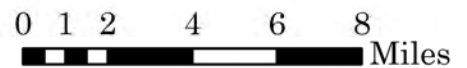




**Legend**

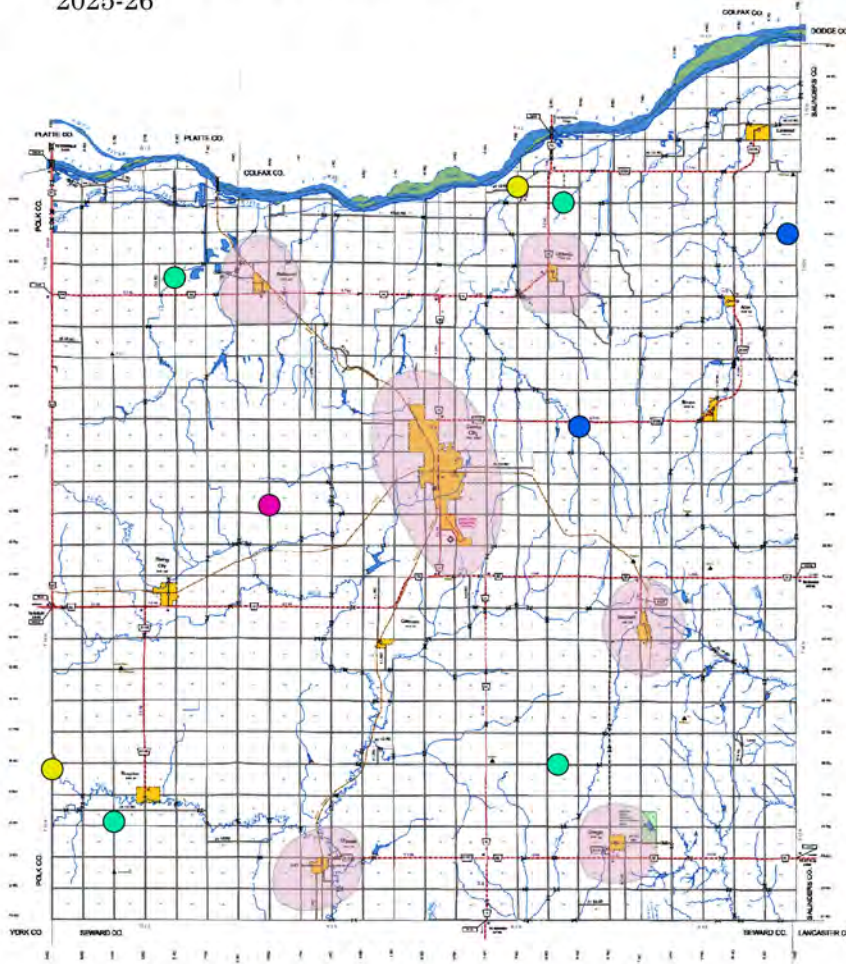
- One-Year Road Improvements
- Six-Year Road Improvements

Community Planning Jurisdictions



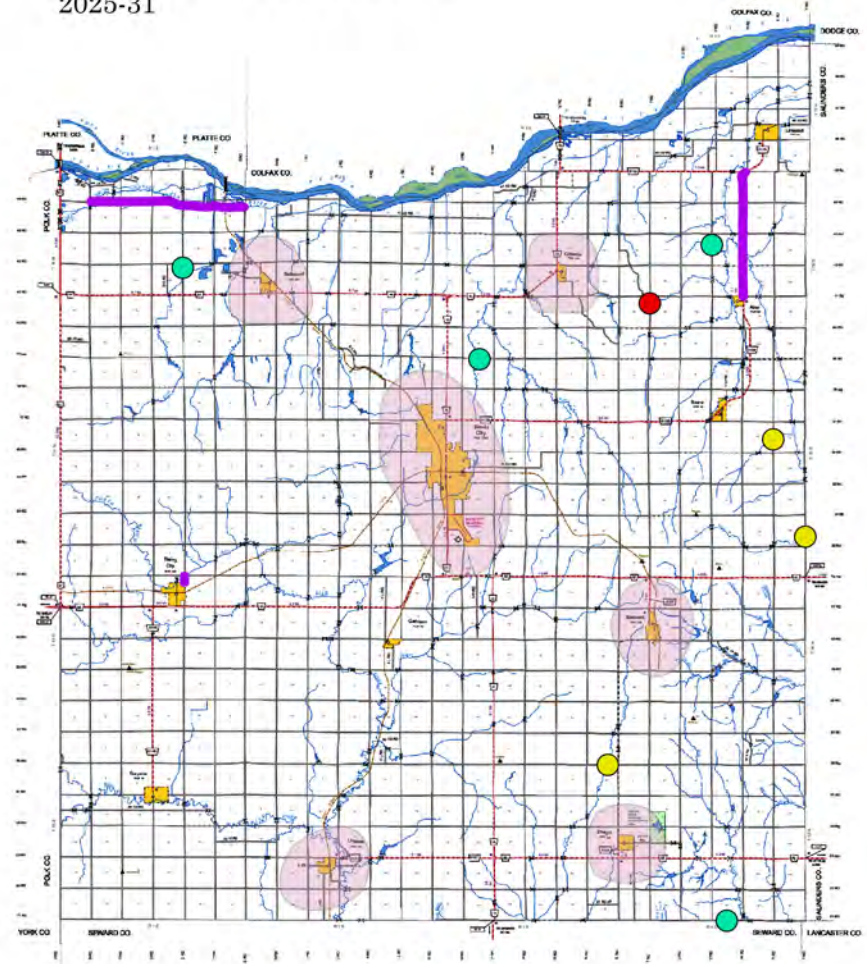
# ONE-YEAR ROAD IMPROVEMENT PLAN

BUTLER COUNTY, NEBRASKA  
2025-26



# SIX-YEAR ROAD IMPROVEMENT PLAN

BUTLER COUNTY, NEBRASKA  
2025-31



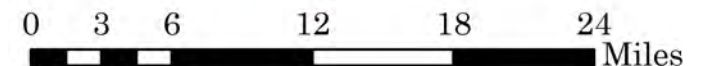
## Legend

### Road Improvements

### Project Type

- Bridge Replacement
- Bridge to Culvert
- Culvert Replacement

- Culvert Replacement, Grading
- Install Culvert
- Grading and Paving
- Community Planning Jurisdictions



# BUTLER COUNTY, NEBRASKA, RURAL COMMUNITY

## PLANNING, PRESERVATION & DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES.



## **BUTLER COUNTY, NEBRASKA, RURAL COMMUNITY PLANNING, PRESERVATION & DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES.**

### **INTRODUCTION.**

This **Section** of the **Comprehensive Plan** provides proposed **Planning, Preservation & Development Initiatives for Butler County, Nebraska, Rural Community**. The **Rural Community** is comprised of an estimated 3,200 persons residing in 1,400 households outside of a City or Village's One-Mile Planning Jurisdiction.

These **Initiatives** address a wide spectrum of land use and planning topics, ranging from the preservation of general, traditional agriculture to planned residential subdivisions to economic development opportunities and will be the cornerstone of maintaining quality lifestyle and economic prosperity currently experienced in the **Butler County Rural Community**. The purpose of each **Initiative** is to create a **“balance” of both land use preservation and development practices** at all levels of planning implementation, in an effort to address the health, safety and overall general welfare of the **Butler County Rural Community** residents. This, in turn, will promote the best possible planning and development practices to address the appropriate agricultural, residential, commercial, industrial, public/quasi-public and land/water conservation needs and wants of the citizenry.

The **Planning, Preservation & Development Initiatives** are a product of the **qualitative and quantitative research activities** conducted for the **Comprehensive Plan**.

**Qualitative research** activities included meetings with the Butler County Planning Commission, comprised of appointed rural residents of the County, representing various geographic points throughout the County. Also included was the implementation of the **Butler County, Nebraska County-Wide Opinion Survey**. The **Survey** allowed the **Butler County Citizenry** to provide their opinion of **future land use activities** in the **Rural County area**. A total of **794 residents, including 358 from Rural Butler County, with 295 Rural Community residents living one+ mile from a community**, completed the **Survey**. The results of the **Survey** provided guidance for creating citizenry consensus and direction in the preparation of the following **Planning, Preservation & Development Initiatives**.

**Quantitative research** activities included the collection, analysis and projection of pertinent population, income, economic and agricultural data from local, State and National sources, all in an effort to understand both past and present demographic and land use development trends in the **Butler County Rural Community**.

The Land Use Preservation & Development Initiatives address the important components of planning implementation. The following identifies Three Primary Categories of Initiatives in the Butler County Rural Community.

1. **Population, Plan Participation & Implementation.**
  - Population Stability & Growth.
  - Rural County Leadership.
  - Rural County Citizen Participation & Relationships.
  - Plan Review & Implementation.
  
2. **Preservation of Existing Conditions in the Butler County Rural Community.**
  - Agricultural Land Areas & Associated Farmsteads.
  - Housing Preservation.
  - Parks/Recreation & Other Public Amenities.
  - Road Network & Other Transportation Systems.
  - Commercial & Industrial Preservation/Expansion.
  - Conservation Easements.
  
3. **Future Development & Planning Practices.**
  - Land Use Planning & Zoning.
  - Residential Development Practices.
  - Public Facilities, Utilities & Transportation.
  - Commercial & Industrial Development.
  - Alternative Energy Development Practices.
  - Broadband/Telecommunications.

The **implementation of the Comprehensive Plan** should include the coordination of local **Rural County** groups and organizations to carry-out these **Planning Initiatives**. The **success of the Comprehensive Plan** will greatly depend upon **planned programs of citizen participation**, to allow local residents the opportunity to both monitor and provide input for **Preservation and Development activities** in the **Butler County Rural Community**.

**1. POPULATION, PLAN PARTICIPATION & IMPLEMENTATION.**

The **success** of this **Comprehensive Plan** will greatly depend upon **planned programs of citizen participation**, to allow local residents the opportunity to both monitor and provide input for **Preservation and Development activities** in the **Butler County Rural Community**. Maintaining, at least, a stable population by 2036 will require local leadership to continue to **strengthen relationships** between the **Butler County Rural Community** residents, rural business/industrial operations and the leadership of each Community, to conduct planning practices supportive of proper land usage, economic growth, housing development, public facilities and services, transportation and recreation opportunities.

- **Annual population statistics from the U.S. Census have identified a stable and increasing population throughout the County since the 2020 Census.** Butler County, Nebraska, is expected to increase, slightly, in population through 2036, with a projected population of 8,486.

The **Butler County Rural Community** currently has an estimated population of 3,203. This population base is expected to remain stable and increase to an estimated 3,264 during the next 10 years. The increase in population will necessitate planned housing, public facilities and economic development activities in specifically designated areas where prime agricultural lands will not be encroached upon.



- **Butler County leadership** will need to continue to take an active role in **marketing the development potential of the Butler County Rural Community** supporting the broadening of the local economic base, expanding employment opportunities. Emphasis will be placed on both **traditional and modern agricultural related activities, including ag-related commercial and industrial entities, and rural residential development in specifically designated areas of the Rural Community.**



- Maintain and utilize the **Comprehensive Plan** as the **primary tool for decision making**, regarding the **Preservation and Development** of land areas in the **Butler County Rural Community**. This includes an **annual review process** of the **Comprehensive Plan and Zoning and Subdivision Regulations**, coupled with changes, modifications and/or amendments prepared upon consensus of the Planning Commission, Butler County Board of Supervisors and the public.

## **2. PRESERVATION OF EXISTING CONDITIONS.**

Preserving existing conditions in the **Butler County Rural Community** is important because it protects the very qualities that define the area’s identity, stability, and appeal. Agricultural lands, natural landscapes, park and recreation areas and historic sites all contribute to the County’s heritage and economic foundation, particularly in areas where farming, tourism, or outdoor recreation play key roles. Maintaining these assets helps prevent unmanaged or incompatible development that can strain infrastructure, increase costs, and erode the rural character residents value. Preservation also supports environmental sustainability by safeguarding water quality, wildlife habitats, and open spaces.

The **Butler County, Nebraska, Rural Community** has never had an officially adopted Comprehensive Plan or Zoning Regulations, which has resulted in unplanned developments without land use development codes or rules and the development of conflicting and inappropriate land developments. Many of these uses are “nonconforming” in character and conflict with existing agricultural and residential acreage development.

**To protect the existing natural environment in the Rural Community, during the Comprehensive Planning Process, a nine-month moratorium was recommended by the Butler County Planning Commission and enacted by the Butler County Board of Supervisors. The moratorium temporarily restricted the development of utility scale wind farms, utility scale solar farms, expansion of the Butler County Landfill, battery energy storage systems and large-scale data centers.**

- An important statistical analysis of land use in Butler County was the preparation of a **Land Use Capacity Matrix**, presenting both the current and projected pertinent land use requirements in the County. **Butler County comprises 378,240 acres, of which an estimated 341,130 acres consist of agricultural farm and pasture land.** Local leadership should continue to promote the **preservation of the agricultural industry in the Butler County Rural Community**, including the diversification of crop and livestock production and use of digital technology to boost the efficiency of general and intensive farming operations. Historically, agriculture has been the primary income producing activity for the **Rural Community**. This is anticipated to remain as such through the 10-year planning period, ending in 2036.

**The Butler County Planning Commission, as well as participants of the County-Wide Opinion Survey, expressed strong support for official designation as a “Livestock Friendly” County by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture.**

- County leadership must be cognizant of farming operation trends in the County, including an overall decline in the number of farms and an increase in average farm size, as per the 2012, 2017 and 2022 Census of Agriculture.



**A majority of County-Wide Opinion Survey participants identified the preservation of “General Agricultural Uses,” including farming and ranching operations, as the most important planning initiative in the County during the 10-year planning period.**

- **The existence of an affordable housing stock in the Butler County Rural Community should be developed during the next 10 years, ensuring that safe and decent housing types exist for both existing and future farmsteads. Land areas adjacent hard-surfaced roads/highways, as well as in close proximity to existing rural residential subdivisions are prime locations for rural residential development, either single family homes or a planned residential subdivision. There should be little to no infringement on the operation of all agricultural activities.**

- **Park and Recreation areas** should be maintained and preserved, local Recreation and Wildlife Areas. This includes the Timber Point Lake environs. According to Lower Platte South Natural Resource District, *“Timber Point is a 160-acre property including a lake of 29 surface acres. The lake is located one mile east, one mile south and one mile east from the south edge of Brainard in Butler County”*. **Participants of the County-Wide Opinion Survey were mostly “supportive” or “very supportive” of protecting park and recreation land uses in Butler County throughout the 10-year planning period.**



- **Public emergency services**, including police, fire and ambulance services should be maintained and enhanced where necessary to provide the **Butler County Rural Community** residents with reliable access to these services. Continue to provide the necessary funding for equipment and apparatus enhancements to maintain sufficient response times and personnel safety.
- The preservation of the **Butler County Rural Community transportation system** will require proper planning and implementation of all levels of local road networks, with emphasis on the safe transport of people and goods. Both the **State and County One- and Six-Year Road Plans** should be “key” in directing a proper, modern road system in the **Rural Community**.
- Preserve and support the continuation and expansion of **existing commercial and light industrial land uses**, as needed, with emphasis on commercial and industrial types that benefit **Butler County Rural Community** residents, especially, the local agricultural sector. **Land designated for industrial uses is projected to increase significantly with the development of the proposed Sandhills Energy Solar Farm in northwestern Butler County.**

- Consider the implementation of **Conservation Easements** along major river corridors, including the Platte and Big Blue Rivers through practical zoning regulations. Conservation easements are important to the health of local residents because they protect the natural systems that directly support clean water, air quality, and overall well-being. By limiting intensive development and preserving vegetation along riverbanks, easements help filter pollutants, reduce erosion, and maintain water quality for drinking, recreation, and agriculture. Easements also reduce flood risks by allowing rivers to access their natural floodplains, which can lessen property damage and protect public safety.

**Participants of the County-Wide Opinion Survey were generally “Supportive” or “Very Supportive” of land and water conservation practices and protection of creek and river corridors throughout Butler County. An estimated 52,876 acres of land, in close proximity to significant waterways in Butler County, could be included in a conservation easement program.**



### **3. FUTURE DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING PRACTICES.**

Butler County leadership will be required to provide a clear framework for managing growth while preserving the rural community’s character, resources, and long-term viability. Thoughtful planning helps local leaders make informed decisions about land use, infrastructure, housing, and economic development, ensuring that limited public funds are used efficiently and strategically. It also allows a county to anticipate challenges such as population shifts, workforce needs, and environmental pressures. By guiding where and how development occurs, The **Butler County Rural Community** can protect agricultural land and natural assets, support local businesses, and maintain a high quality of life for residents.

- **Maintain and follow the Future Land Use Plan** for the **Butler County Rural Community**, which is based upon present conditions and the sound forecast of future needs. Coordinate all land development and planning activities, including land use changes with the input of the general public and County and State officials.

- Ensure that **all developments** in the **Butler County Rural Community** conform to **uniform planning standards** and are in conformance with local **Zoning Regulations**. Evaluate the concepts of “**permitted**” and “**special**” or “**conditional**” **land uses** throughout the rural County, as it pertains to future developments. Special permitted uses should contain all land use provisions associated with permissive uses, with the addition of other development and/or operational conditions as deemed necessary by the County.
- Utilize the **Land Use Plan** and associated **Zoning Regulations** as a means to ensure that all development efforts in the **Butler County Rural Community** result in the preservation and protection of the **highest concentration of irrigated and dry land crop production areas** County-wide. Emphasis on groundwater protection and preservation of agricultural land uses should be emphasized.



- **General farming practices** should continue to be the priority agricultural land use type in the **Butler County Rural Community**. Currently, Butler County maintains an estimated **341,131 acres** of agricultural farming and pasture land. Additionally, an estimated **1,574 acres** are dedicated to intensive agricultural operations, including confined animal feeding operations.

The **development of new and expansion of existing intensive agricultural operations, including feedlots and livestock confinement facilities**, should only be allowed by Special or Conditional Use Permit and be avoided in the **Butler County Rural Community** areas containing sensitive soils conditions, especially along major water corridors. It is anticipated that there will be an increase in the amount of land developed to support animal confinement operations through 2036. **Participants of the County-Wide Opinion Survey provided a variety of responses, both supporting and not supporting, the development of new and expansion of existing confined animal feeding operations.**



- Avoid the development and promotion of commercial and industrial operations that could result in the **contamination of soils and groundwater resources**. Enforce State and Local regulations protecting the environment from developments resulting in **contamination or pollutants**.
- Limit **future non-agricultural developments** in the **Butler County Rural Community, including general commercial and industrial operations** to locations that are relatively free of environmental constraints relating to soils, slope, flood plain, drainage, ground water, endangered species or other natural resources, or along hard-surfaced roads and highways.
- Prohibit the development of land uses and commercial/industrial operations that are not supported by the citizens of the **Butler County Rural Community**. **As per the County-Wide Opinion Survey, these would include commercial wind and solar energy development projects, data centers, battery energy storage systems and any expansion of the Butler County Landfill.**
- Continue to practice modern measures that limit or reduce flood hazards, control water run-off and enhance the quality of surface and ground water in the **Rural Community**, while avoiding development in and around floodplains and associated floodways.

- Promote the **development of housing** in the **Butler County Rural Community**, in locations consistent with the Future Land Use Map, utilizing appropriate Zoning Ordinances. Encourage **future residential development** in the **Butler County Rural Community** to be located in close proximity to communities, or at appropriate locations along paved transportation corridors.

**Participants of the County-Wide Opinion Survey, overall, were generally “supportive” of housing development, both individual homes and planned subdivisions, occurring in the Butler County Rural Community.**

- **Demolish substantially dilapidated housing units** within the **Butler County Rural Community** that are a detriment to the health, safety and welfare of rural County residents.
- **Provide adequate, efficient and appropriate public facilities, utilities and services** to both new and existing agricultural and residential developments in the **Butler County Rural Community**. Ongoing communication with public service providers will be pertinent to the proper location and design and development of any new facilities and/or systems. These public facilities should be consistent in meeting the **cultural, educational, social, recreational, safety and health needs of the Rural County**.
- **Ensure adequate open and recreational space, including state recreation and wildlife management areas** are both maintained and developed in the **Butler County Rural Community**. Emphasize both existing and potential recreational opportunities associated with local river corridors and channels.
- Encourage **joint Community/County economic development activities** in the **Butler County Rural Community** that create stable, long-term employment opportunities with competitive wages, especially for low- to moderate income persons and families.



- Provide facilities and services in the **Butler County Rural Community necessary to prevent degradation of the environment**, including the proper disposal of animal waste. Ensure rules and regulations governing **potable water and sewage treatment** are adhered to.
- Ensure that **adequate public health, safety and crime prevention systems** are provided and accessible throughout the **County**.
- **Promote a social and cultural environment that provides opportunities for all residents to experience, develop and share their values, abilities, ambitions and heritage.**
- Continue to support the **evolution of the public educational system** and ensure that it is capable of maintaining and elevating the **Rural County's overall educational level.**
- Utilize the **County's and State's One & Six Year Road Plans** to both maintain and provide new and improved transportation networks in the **Butler County Rural Community, as well as the continued maintenance of the existing County road network.** Coordinate transportation systems with the **planning and development of other elements** of the **Rural Community.**
- Continue to maintain County road systems in accordance with the standard State of Nebraska Department of Transportation "Functional Street Classifications".
- Utilize the Comprehensive Plan's "**Energy Element**" directed at both documenting and monitoring the consumption of energy and conservation policies for all sectors in the **Butler County Rural Community. Overall, residents of Butler County, including the Rural Community, were not supportive of the development of commercial scale alternative energy projects, as per the County-Wide Opinion Survey results.**



The **Energy Element** could be utilized to **create planning and Zoning guidelines for the provision of personal alternative energy systems** to supplement individual residential and business, in the **Butler County Rural Community**, with electric consumption in accordance with Nebraska State Statute 70-1012, as amended February, 2025 (LB 43).

- Encourage and promote the continued development and use of **broadband and telecommunication technologies** throughout the **Butler County Rural Community**, with an emphasis for provisions in the underserved areas of Butler County. Support the creation of **public-private partnerships** with the Butler County Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors, local municipal governments, public power districts, communications providers and private investments in providing **broadband and fiber optic infrastructure** to underserved areas of the **Rural Community**. According to the U.S. Census American Community Survey, an estimated 89.2 percent of all households in Butler County maintain a broadband internet connection.

