Upper Explorerland Regional Planning Commission

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Welcome!

- Introductions
- Housekeeping – be comfortable
- Participate freely
- Respect all comments

Iowa Smart Planning …

- Is a tool for local comprehensive planning and subsequent decision-making
- Provides 10 planning principles as a guide to ensure a complete and equitable process
- Identifies 13 elements that may be included in a comprehensive plan
- Is part of the Land Use section of the Iowa State Code, signed into law in April of 2010

Smart Planning Principles

- Collaboration
- Efficiency, Transparency and Consistency
- Clean, Renewable and Efficient Energy
- Occupational Diversity
- Revitalization
- Housing Diversity
- Community Character
- Natural Resource and Agricultural Protection
- Sustainable Design
- Transportation Diversity

Smart Planning Elements

- Public Participation
- Community Characteristics
- Community Culture
- Community Facilities
- Housing
- Public Infrastructure and Utilities
- Transportation
- Natural Resources and Agriculture
- Economic Development
- Land Use
- Hazards
- Intergovernmental Collaboration
- Implementation Plan

Today's Discussion

Community Character and Culture

Natural and Agricultural Resources

Elements to Consider Throughout

- Land Use
  - Understand the best placement for agriculture, industry, housing and commercial to avoid conflicts
  - Understand the suitability of land for various uses
- Hazards
  - To ensure that hazard-prone areas are considered during planning and growth
  - To help prevent some hazards – what can we do now to be able to handle certain events?
- Intergovernmental Collaboration
  - Who are our partners and champions for implementation and support?

The Process

- Background information
- Element analysis
  - Strengths (our assets)
  - Limitations (our challenges)
  - Opportunities (our ideas)
- Select possible actions
- Prioritize actions

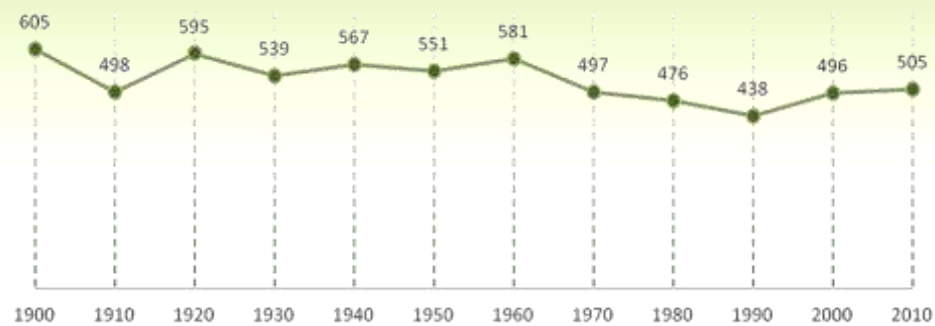
Demographics & Government Finances

Why do we look at demographics and finances?

- To look for trends – are we growing or declining, do we know why?
- To understand our population and financial assets – what do we have to work with?
- To help plan for the future– what will we need in the future to support our population and community?

Demographics

Population Trend Since 1900



Demographics

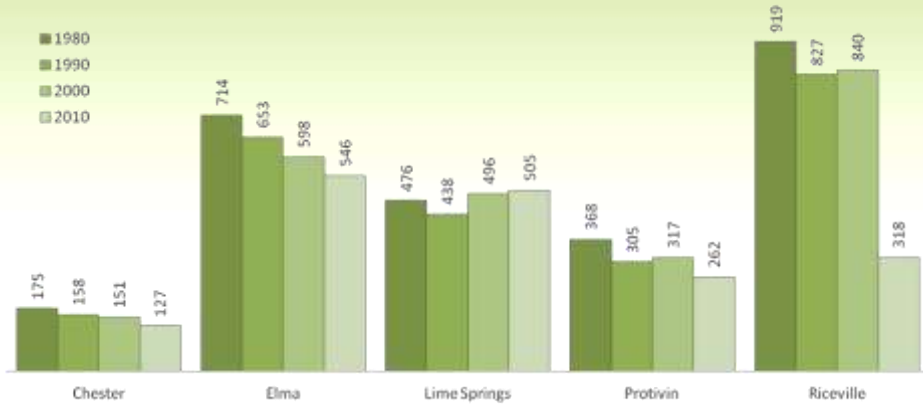
Age Group as a Percent of Population: 1980-2010

Demographics

Population Projection to 2030

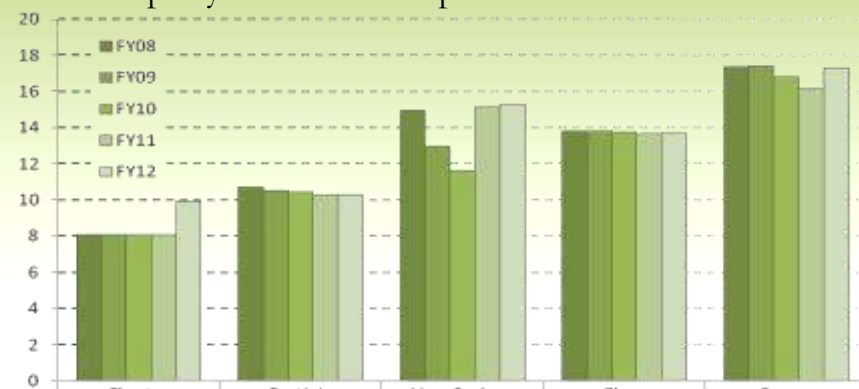
Population Change

City Population Comparisons 1980 - 2010



Government Finances

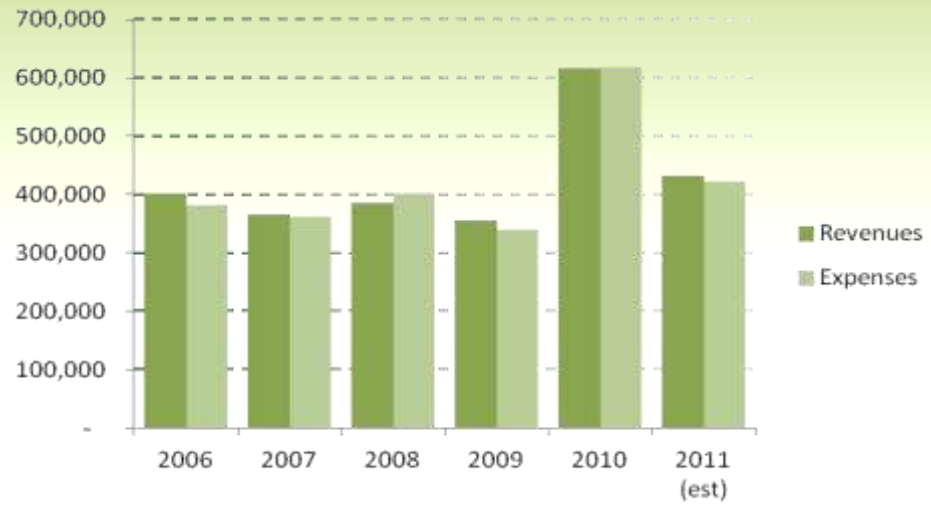
Property Tax Rate Comparisons – 2008 - 2012



	Chester	Protivin	Lime Springs	Elma	Cresco
FY08	8.1	10.73446	14.94298	13.81387	17.34079
FY09	8.1	10.54537	12.97396	13.80783	17.38167
FY10	8.1	10.41957	11.63119	13.74605	16.79928
FY11	8.1	10.30926	15.1257	13.67933	16.15941
FY12	9.912	10.30979	15.25917	13.70109	17.30357

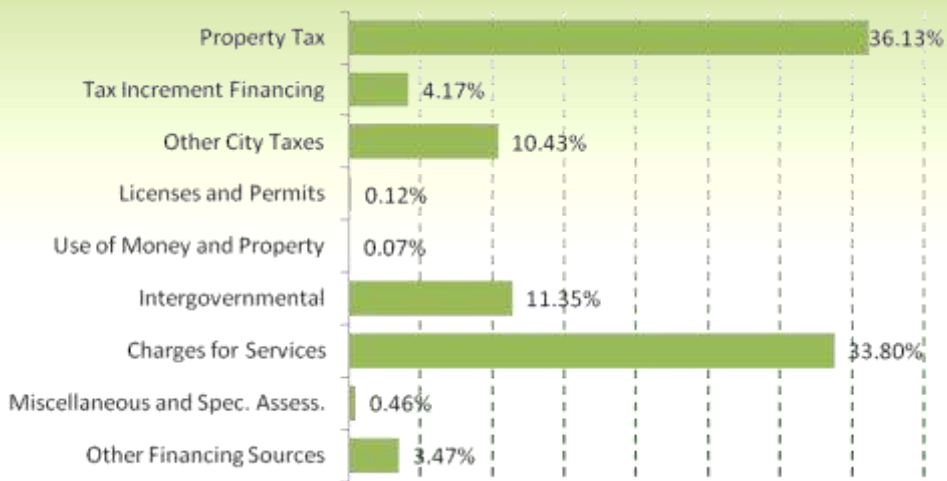
Government Finances

City Revenue and Expenses 2006 - 2011



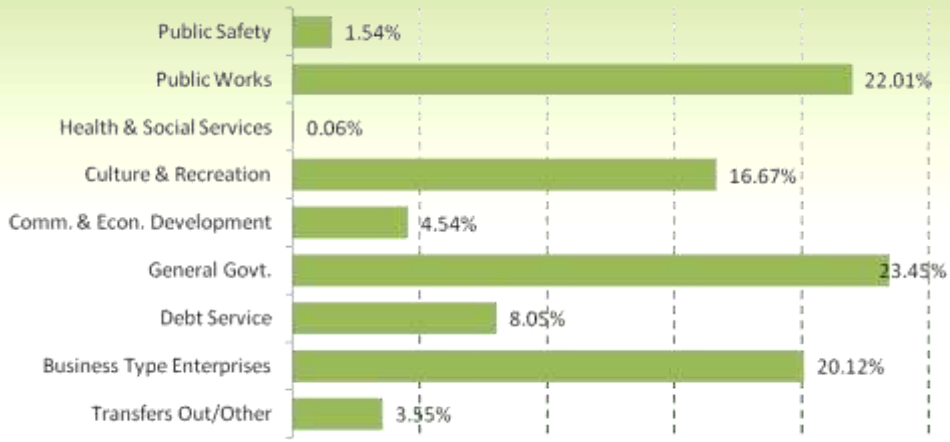
Government Finances

City Revenue Sources: Estimated 2011



Government Finances

City Expense Items: Estimated 2011



Any questions?

Let's get started!

Element: Community Character & Culture

What makes Lime Springs special?

- Culture (performing arts, events, festivals, visual arts…)
- History (architecture, museums, archeology…)
- Natural Resources (parks, scenic vistas, water features…)

Element: Natural Resources & Agriculture

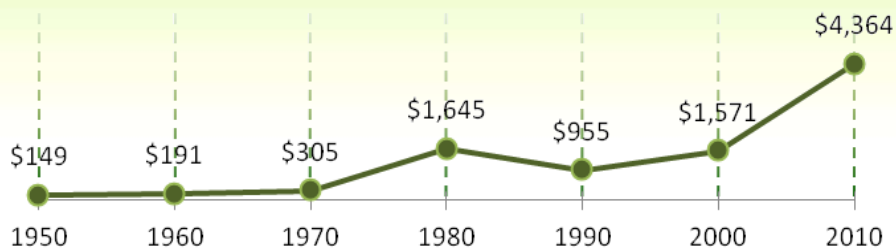
What is the condition of our natural resources?

- Streams and rivers
- Farmland
- Forest
- Prairie
- Air

Do we have pollution issues? Run-off or drainage problems? Noxious weeds? Emerald Ash Borer? What else should we prepare for and how should we prepare for it?

Data: Natural Resources & Agriculture

Price of Howard County Farm Land Per Acre, 1950 - 2010



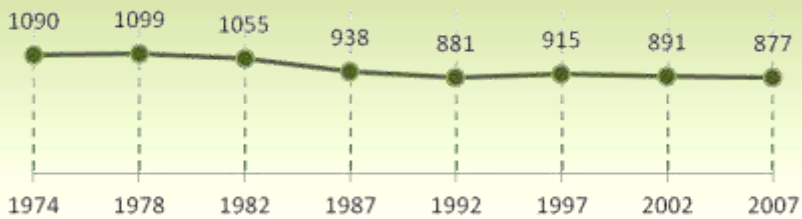
Data: Natural Resources & Agriculture

Price of Howard County Farm Land in the last 5 years: 2006 – 2011

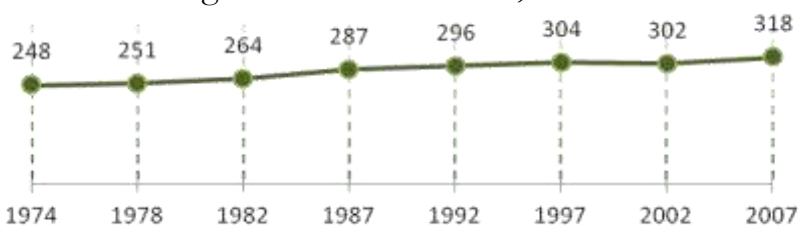
A 118% increase in value!

Data: Natural Resources & Agriculture

Number of Farms, 1974 - 2007



Average Farm Size in Acres, 1974 - 2007



Element Analysis

Strengths (our assets)
Limitations (our challenges)
Opportunities (our ideas)

Select and Prioritize

Thank You!

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Comprehensive Smart Planning
2012