



# CITY OF HINTON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



Final Draft April 2021

**WVU**LAW  
LAND USE &  
SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
LAW CLINIC

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# INTRODUCTION

## City of Hinton

The City of Hinton is located in southern West Virginia and is the county seat for Summers County. Hinton is located along the New River and its confluence with the Greenbrier River as shown on **Map 1: Location Map**. The City was established in the 1870s as a pivotal railroad town for the Chesapeake and Ohio (C&O) Railroad Company. The City developed dramatically in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

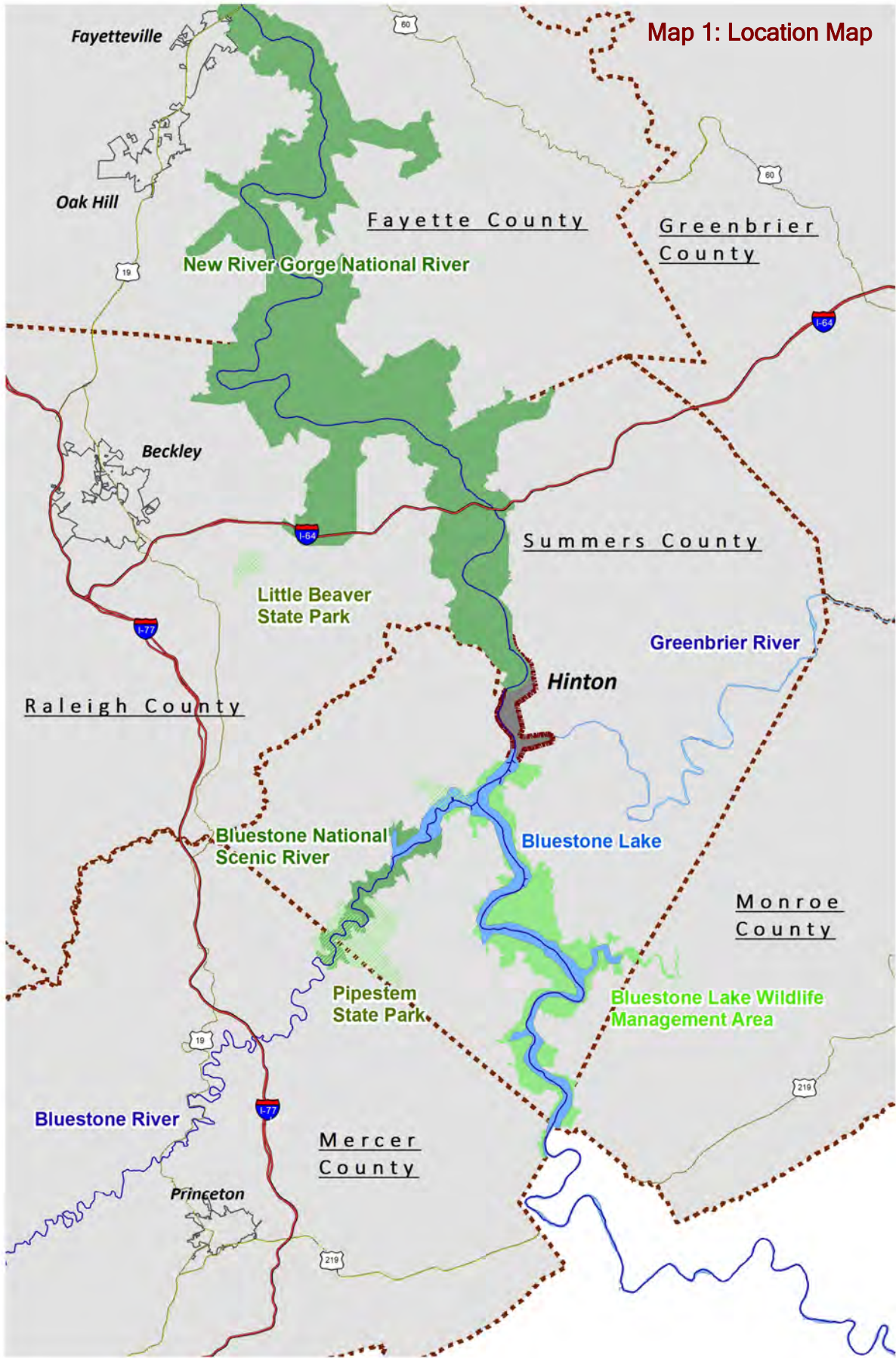


Several local businesses were established, and the C&O Railroad Company constructed a roundhouse that employed several residents from Hinton. Hinton had continued success throughout the coal boom, the construction of the Bluestone Dam, and the establishment of Bluestone State Park. The city's unique history remains visible in the many historic buildings that exist within city limits. However, in recent years, the city has lost population and several key businesses. With the coal industry decline and subsequent economic losses, the City of Hinton needs of direction and change in order to prosper.

Local elected officials realize that the city needs vision to move forward. As a result, this comprehensive planning effort was started. A comprehensive plan will help the city realize its potential and build on its key assets. The comprehensive plan is a policy document that will prioritize projects important to residents and business owners and provide land use guidance for future development and revitalization efforts. City council should use this plan when a decision needs to be made regarding a development proposal, capital improvements project, or policy change. The plan should also be used to show community support in grant applications.

***“Make no little plans; they have no magic to stir men's blood.”***

***Daniel Burnham***



# WEST VIRGINIA CODE REQUIREMENTS

The West Virginia Code outlines several provisions that must be included in a comprehensive plan, as well as details how local governments must receive public input and adopt a comprehensive plan. The City of Hinton Planning Commission consists of five (5) members that represent a wide range of interests within the town. The City of Hinton Planning Commission, with assistance by the West Virginia University College of Law Land Use and Sustainable Development Law Clinic, is tasked with developing the plan pursuant to West Virginia Code, Chapter 8A: Land Use Planning.

Once the plan is adopted, the planning commission should begin implementation. The plan should be reviewed annually to determine progress and next steps. Any new development or proposed zoning change within the City of Hinton must be consistent with the comprehensive plan. The plan must be updated every ten (10) years.

The tables below display the mandatory elements required by the West Virginia Code and where the elements can be found in this plan.

## Required Objectives of a Comprehensive Plan, W. Va. Code § 8A-3-4

CODE PROVISION	PAGE #
Statement of goals and objectives	9
Timeline on how to meet short and long-term goals and objectives	61-64
Action plan with implementation strategies	61-64
Recommendations of a financial program for necessary public funding	61-64
Statement of recommendations concerning future land use and development policies	55-56
A program to encourage regional planning, coordination, and cooperation	58
Maps, plats, and/or charts that present basic information on the land, including present and future uses	4, 14, 17, 51, 52, 55, 57

## Required Components of a Comprehensive Plan, W. Va. Code § 8A-3-4(c)

CODE PROVISION	PAGE #
<b><i>Land Use</i></b>	
Different land uses (including, for example, residential, agricultural, historic, conservation)	50,51
Population density and building intensity standards	50
Growth or decline management	11
Projected population growth or decline	54
Constraints on development (including identifying flood-prone and subsidence areas)	50
<b><i>Housing</i></b>	
Analyze projected housing needs and different types of housing needed (including affordable housing and accessible housing for persons with disabilities)	50,54
Identify the number of projected housing units and land needed	
Address substandard housing	33-37
Rehabilitate and improve existing housing	33-37
Adaptive reuse of buildings into housing	54
<b><i>Transportation</i></b>	
Vehicular, transit, air, port, railroad, river, and any other mode	11-13
Movement of traffic and parking	11, 16
Pedestrian and bicycle systems	11, 15,16
Intermodal transportation	12
<b><i>Economic Development</i></b>	
Analyze opportunities, strengths, and weaknesses	39-44
Identify and designate economic development sites or sectors	39-44, 56
Identify types of economic development sought	39-44, 47-48
<b><i>Miscellaneous Components</i></b>	
Infrastructure	22
Public Services	18-21, 42, 58
Rural	55-56
Recreation	23-28
Community Design	31-32, 34
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Renewal or redevelopment	55-56
Financing	61
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# VISION STATEMENT

The catalyst for change in any community comes from its residents. To guide overall plan development, the planning commission first created a vision statement to capture the wishes and dreams of city residents.

**Hinton is a vibrant and historic town where rivers and friends meet. Located in southeastern West Virginia, on the banks of the Greenbrier and New Rivers, Hinton is a central hub for great people and community organizations to gather and collaborate. Hinton prides itself on its history but is looking to the future.**

After the vision statement was created, the planning commission reached out to residents and business owners to hear their concerns. For this plan to be successful and initiate change, the public was involved throughout the process. Public input procedures were developed and can be found in **Appendix 1**. Many different methods were used to gather public input, including:

- Two (2) open houses
- Online survey
- Stakeholder Interviews

Two open houses were held on April 29, 2019, one was held in the afternoon and the other in the evening. Attendees were asked to share their ideas on how to improve Hinton. A summary of the results can be found in **Appendix 2**.



An online survey was created to gather more information from residents, especially those that did not attend the open houses. The survey asked questions regarding quality of life and what was most important for Hinton to improve. Results from the online survey are described in more detail throughout the comprehensive plan. The results of the survey can be found in **Appendix 3**.

The planning commission conducted stakeholder interviews with key members of the community. Stakeholders provide valuable insight on specific needs within a community. A complete list of stakeholders can be found in **Appendix 4**.



# FOCUS AREAS

The information gathered from the planning commission, open houses, stakeholder interviews, and online survey were used to identify key issues and concerns in Hinton. Four (4) specific concerns were consistently identified throughout the planning process and form the focus areas of the comprehensive plan. Each focus area was examined in detail. Goals and objectives were then developed to help create a plan of action for each focus area.



**Goal 1: Improve the quality of life for residents by revitalizing the city.**

**Goal 2: Enhance the appearance of the city by improving housing and building quality.**

**Goal 3: Strengthen economic development by attracting and supporting new businesses and retail.**

**Goal 4: Encourage appropriate land use to protect the character and resources of the city.**



# Focus Area 1: Quality of Life



Source: City of Hinton Facebook Page



Source: City of Hinton Facebook Page

# OVERVIEW

Is Hinton a great place to live? In order to answer that question, one must look at the quality of life of residents within the community. Cost of living, economic opportunities, recreation, education, transportation, and arts and culture are all essential for a community's well-being. The comprehensive plan reviews each of these elements to determine how the city can improve and continue to provide the best amenities and services to its residents. Trends in population and age were also considered. According to the U.S. Census, the child-rearing age cohort (ages 35-54) declined in the city over the past ten years, while the pre-retirement age cohort (ages 55-64) increased. These numbers indicate that the population in Hinton is getting older. An older population requires different types of community services, such as public transportation, medical facilities, and increased financial support from family or government resources.

## *Transportation Overview*

The City of Hinton is located approximately ten (10) miles from Interstate 64. The main roads through the city are state maintained roads. As shown on **Map 2: Transportation Network**, State Route 20 is the major roadway that travels through the city and connects Hinton to Interstate 64 in the north and Athens in the south. State Route 20 receives a fair amount of traffic in Hinton, with the city being the county seat and center of commerce in Summers County. Average daily traffic (ADT) counts range from 1,700 to 2,500 cars per day. Other state routes in the city include State Route 107 (ADT of approximately 7,500) and State Route 3 (ADT of approximately 5,300). The City recently paved local streets in downtown and Bellepoint.

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The City of Beckley is approximately 40 minutes away, the City of Princeton 45 minutes, and the City of Lewisburg is 50 minutes.

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No special routes or lanes exist for bicyclists. Although the Department of Highways installed Share the Road signs, not many people use bikes in the city.

The New River Parkway is a scenic byway that will serve Hinton once completed (Bluefield Daily Telegraph, 2014). The parkway consists of three segments that will run along the New River in both Summers and Raleigh Counties and will connect the City of Hinton with

Interstate 64. The first segment of 1.3 miles has been built beginning at State Road 20 near Hinton along River Road and continuing north. The second segment is now complete and connects Hinton with Sandstone Falls. Construction on the third segment will begin in 2021 and will connect Sandstone Falls to Interstate 64 via bridge. Potential plans exist to extend the parkway south to connect Hinton with the City of Princeton. At this time there are no intermodal transportation options for the city.



The Bluestone Dam impounds the New River, creating Bluestone Lake. The Greenbrier River meets the New River above the dam. Commercial boating does not occur on either rivers, but pleasure boating, fishing, and rafting are popular activities. No designated water trails exist in the city. There is no port within city limits. However, boat launches at Bellepoint Crossing near the Bluestone Dam and Bateau Beach provide river access between the Veterans Memorial Bridge and the Greenbrier Bellepoint Bridge. The City recently applied for a grant to improve the design of the Bateau Beach boat launch ramp. Possible uses for the area include a picnic shelter, restrooms, and proper boat launching facilities.



Amtrak's Cardinal line serves the City of Hinton on Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday each week. Passengers can reach the following destinations from Hinton: Chicago, Indianapolis, Cincinnati, Charlottesville, Va., Washington D.C., Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York City. In addition, the train stops in Huntington, Charleston, Montgomery, Thurmond, Prince, Alderson, and White Sulphur Springs. The outside and lobby of the Hinton Train Depot has

been renovated. There is a need to renovate the rest of the building. The vacant portions of the train depot could be utilized as offices, restaurant space, or a children's museum. Additional parking is needed as there are only 3 parking spaces currently. Amtrak is in the process of constructing six additional spaces. However, there is still no long term parking for Amtrak customers.

CSX uses the railroad to haul freight, and freight trains travel through the city daily. Summers County High School is located between the river and train tracks which causes concerns with residents because if a train derailment or other issue were to occur while school is in session, students may not be able to evacuate school property safely. Evacuation plans have been discussed but no plan has been developed.

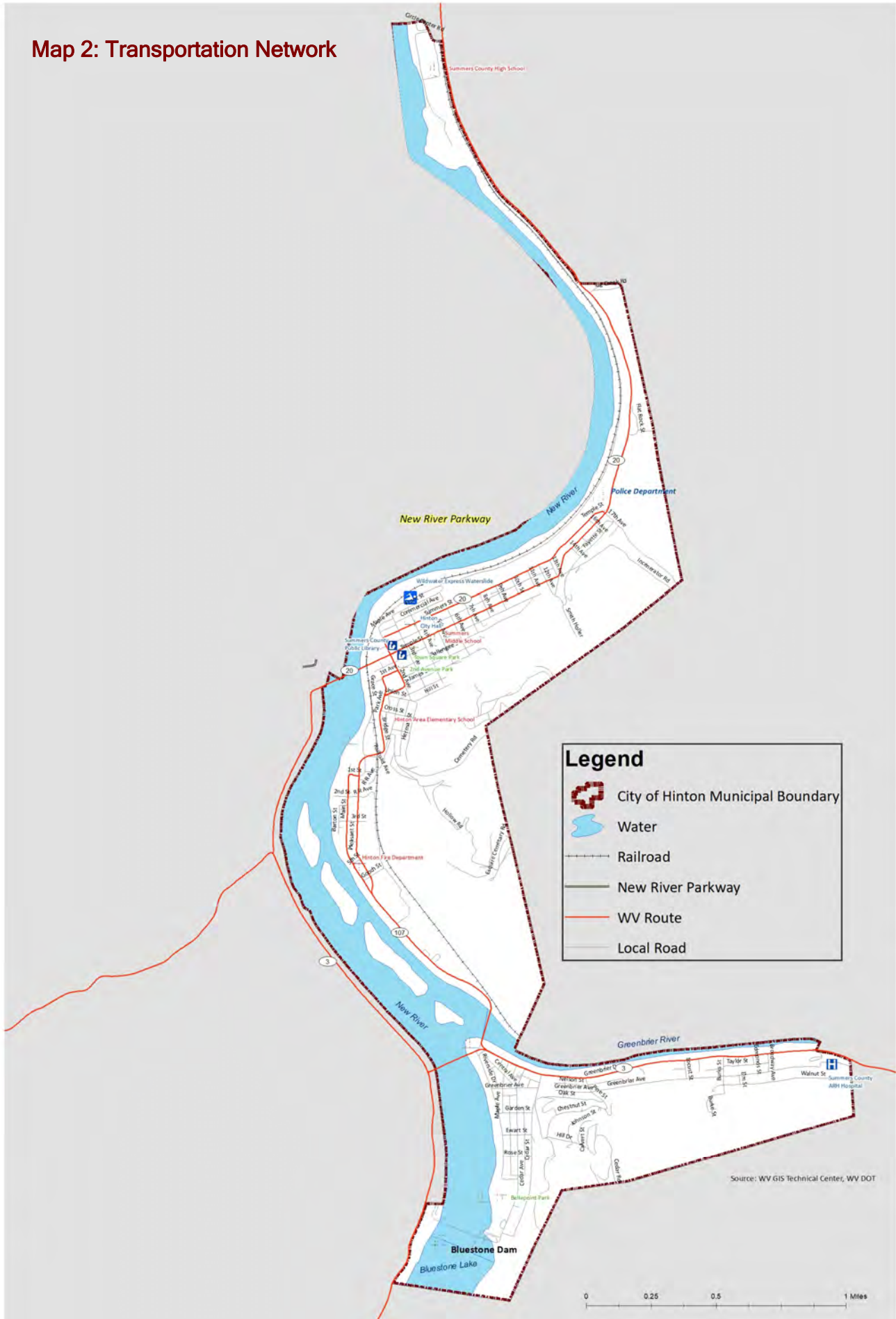
The lack of public transportation in Hinton also concerns local elected officials and residents. There is a need for a local taxi service. The city should also consider a partnership with Summers County to develop a regional public transportation system.

The nearest airport to the City of Hinton is the Greenbrier Valley Airport in Lewisburg.



*Source: City of Hinton Facebook Page*

Map 2: Transportation Network



## Goal 1: Improve the quality of life for residents by revitalizing the city.

Objective: Improve the existing transportation network

Objective: Consider new options for a multi-modal network

### Complete paving projects throughout the city

Roads within city limits are maintained by the public works department, which consists of a crew of nine full-time employees. The public works department is responsible for maintaining 26 miles of roads and pave streets based on available funds. In 2019, no local streets were paved due to lack of funding. Typically, the City can only afford to pave one or two streets per year. In the future, the City should budget for paving of roads that are determined to be in particularly bad condition.

### Develop a sidewalk plan to help prioritize sidewalk repairs and construction

Sidewalk maintenance is the responsibility of the property owner, but in the past, the City has applied for grants to repair and/or construct new sidewalks. Overall, residents would like to see Hinton become a more walkable community. Local elected officials, planning commission members, and the public have listed several areas in need of sidewalks. Residents feel that this can be accomplished by constructing new sidewalks in specific areas and repairing existing sidewalks.

Development of a sidewalk plan would facilitate the process. Sidewalk concerns should be mapped to determine what areas of the city need the most improvement. Sidewalks that lead to schools, parks, and businesses should be a high priority. Two areas identified by

the Planning Commission as a high priority are shown on

### **Map 3: Transportation Needs:**

- Pizza Hut to Bridge in Avis
- Greenbrier Drive

### **Provide additional parking lots in downtown**

The City provides free on-street parking. A parking lot also exists next to the Hinton Railroad Museum and city hall. Parking forms a concern during the week as insufficient parking exists for Hinton Elementary School and the Summers County Courthouse.

### **Provide additional parking at the Amtrak Station**

The City should work with Amtrak to determine the feasibility of adding additional spaces, especially long-term parking spaces. The City should look at vacant lots near the train station to determine if they could be used to construct a parking lot.

### **Explore opportunities to provide public transportation**

The City should work with the County to determine the feasibility of starting a regional public transportation system. The City should also work with local businesses and nonprofits to start a local taxi service.

### **Install a unified signage system throughout the city**

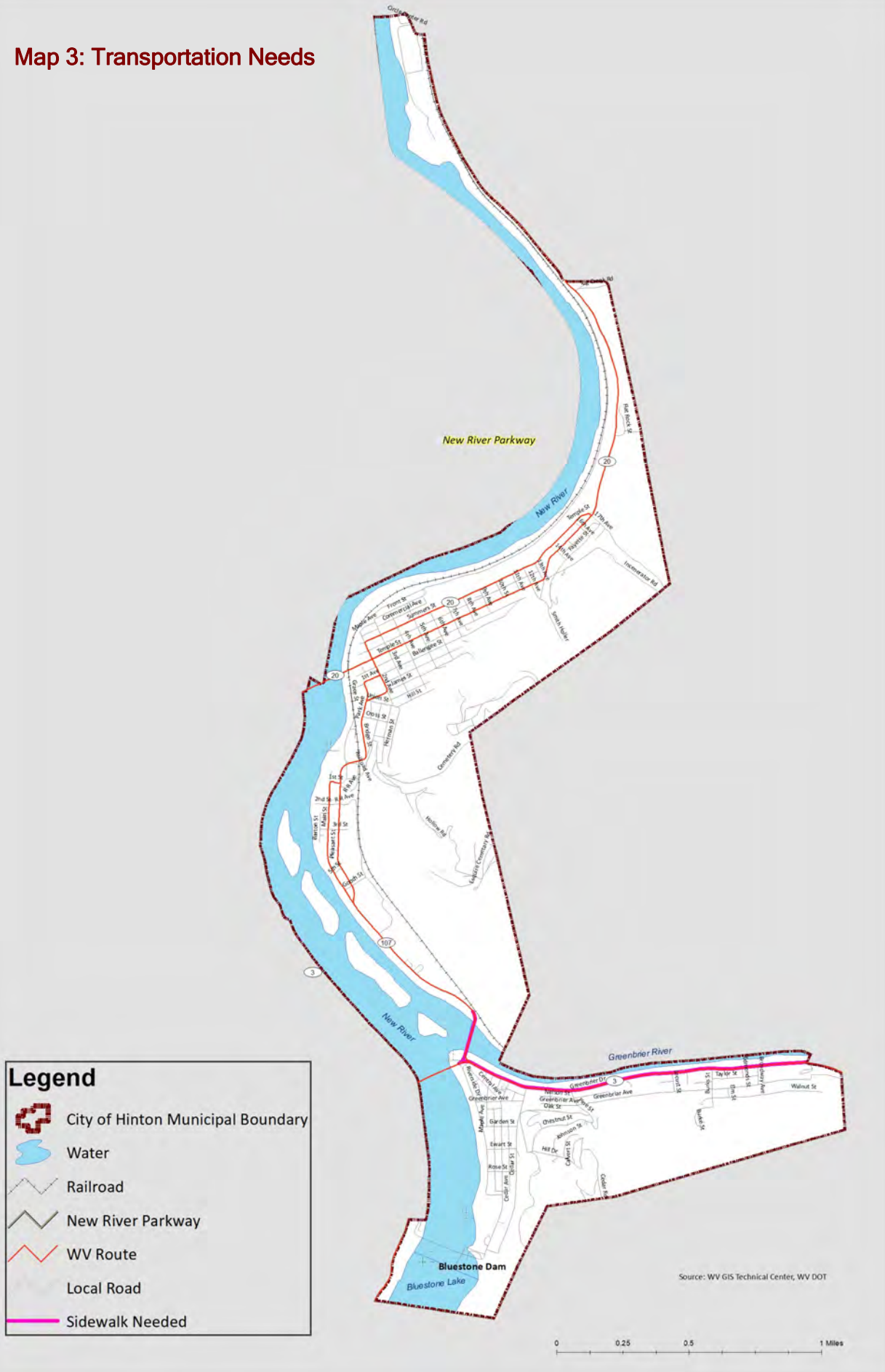
Residents and business owners identified lack of signage as a challenge. The directional signage in Hinton is inconsistent and lacks a cohesive theme. The City should first determine an appropriate color scheme and design for signs. In the past, the City explored the purchase of professionally designed signs; however, the cost was prohibitive. The City should explore whether local artists would be able to create signs at a lower cost.

### **SURVEY RESULTS:**

**Where do you think the city needs to be more walkable?**

- Bellepoint
- Subway/Dairy Queen area
- Temple Street to Riverview
- Summers Street to Riverview
- Front Street
- West End
- Near Kroger
- Lower Second Avenue
- Downtown
- Avis (especially by Fire Department)
- Greenbrier Drive
- River Road
- Between Avis and courthouse
- Ballengee Street
- Near middle and elementary schools and Third Avenue
- Big Four Drug Store
- Between Bellepoint and bridges, state police and Pizza Hut
- Train Depot

Map 3: Transportation Needs



## *Community Services Overview*

According to city residents, public safety is a vital government service. If residents do not feel safe in their community, decreased quality of life is inevitable. An online survey was published during the comprehensive plan process, asking residents what is the most important service that the City of Hinton provides its residents. Police and fire protection formed the top answers. The City of Hinton Police Department consists of seven (7) full-time police officers. The City of Hinton Volunteer Fire Department consists of four (4) paid firefighters and 25 volunteer firefighters. A new fire station was built five years ago (The Register-Herald, 2009).

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Of online survey respondents, 65 percent are satisfied with the police department services and 89 percent are satisfied with fire department services

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The City of Hinton is well served with utilities, essential utilities and equipment, and infrastructure.

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Summers County Appalachian Regional Healthcare Hospital is located in Hinton and has 25 beds, 40 doctors, and 123 employees. The hospital provides an emergency room and a home care store and offers a variety of surgical procedures, a senior care program, rehabilitation services, and imaging. The hospital also operates the Summers County Family Care Clinic, which specializes in family medicine.

The Summers County School District serves children in Hinton. Three elementary schools lie within the county, one of which is located in Hinton and serves children in pre-kindergarten through grade five. Summers Middle School is the only middle school in the county and is located in Hinton. In 2020, the middle school in downtown Hinton was permanently closed due to unsafe conditions and the middle school students were transferred to the high school. The Summers County Board of Education is considering an addition onto the high school with more classroom space and an additional gymnasium as funding allows.



Source: Hinton Elementary School Facebook Page

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According to the US Census, over the past ten years school age cohorts (ages 5-19) are stagnant and make up the least amount of age cohorts in the city.

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Approximately 340 students attend the middle school from grades six through eight. Programs at the middle school include 4-H, band, Bible club, basketball, cheerleading, football, golf, natural helpers, National Junior Honor Society, student government, and yearbook. Summers County High School is also located in Hinton and serves students in grades nine through twelve. Programs at the high school include basketball, baseball, softball, football, golf, cheerleading, band, FFA, and volleyball.

The Summers County Library is located in Hinton. The library consists of five full-time staff and one part-time staff. Many of the programs at the library are geared toward children, but the library is working on diversifying its programming.



*Source: Summers County High School Facebook Page*

There has been an increase in the pre-school (Under age 5) and childbearing age cohorts (ages 25-34) in Hinton, which could indicate that there will be a slight increase in young people in Hinton in the next several years. School age children require more school and recreational facilities.



*Source: Summers County Library Facebook Page*

## Goal 1: Improve the quality of life for residents by revitalizing the City.

Objective: Protect the public from natural disasters and emergencies

Objective: Initiate programs to address concerns of residents regarding crime

Objective: Improve infrastructure for existing residents

### Continue to provide resources to the police department

The police department needs to replace aging police vehicles. Residents expressed concern about recently increased drug activity and desire additional police protection, perhaps even foot patrol. The City of Hinton Police Department has two officers on duty at a time. The City has experienced difficulty with turnover of police officers because they tend to work for the City for a short time, only to leave for a higher-paying job.

Replacement of police vehicles and additional police should be considered in future city budget proposals. The City should also consider increasing patrols throughout the city to address increased drug activity.



Source: City of Hinton Facebook Page

### Develop community-oriented policing

At this time, the City of Hinton Police Department runs no community programs. Hinton residents are concerned about increased crime and drug usage. Community-oriented policing brings police and community together by working jointly to address and identify crime. The city police department has already created a Facebook page to increase interaction with citizens and provide important information on public safety (Hinton Police

Department Facebook, 2020). Other ways to involve the public include: email alerts, neighborhood watch meetings, a text messaging system, press releases, police academy, and classes at the high school.

### Partner with Summers County to provide a school resource officer for schools

The county needs a full-time school resource officer. A partnership should be explored between the city, county, and Board of Education to employ a school resource officer. A school resource officer educates students on safety, law, and crime prevention. The officer also provides protection to students, teachers, and staff.

### Continue to provide resources to the fire department

Greenbrier Drive, Possum Hollow, Walnut Street, and Esquire Cemetery lack adequate water supply. This lack of water causes concern for the fire department in a fire event. Additional fire hydrants are needed in Bellepoint. The fire department has also stated a need for additional paid firemen.



*Source: City of Hinton Facebook Page*

Replacement of aging fire vehicles, the need for additional fireman, and water supply should be considered in future city budget proposals and when developing grant proposals.

### Prepare for emergencies

The City should provide information on its website regarding emergency shelter locations and alert methods. The City should consider the use of an email list to send updates to residents regarding emergencies, severe weather, chemical leaks, natural disasters, street closures,

water main breaks, boil water advisories, and public safety advisories. The City should also explore the use of a text messaging alert system.

An emergency generator is needed so that the fire station could be used as an emergency shelter.

### **Provide water and sewer infrastructure for all residents**

The City of Hinton is well served by public water and sewer. The sanitary sewer system covers 18 square miles and covers the City of Hinton, Bellepoint, Avis, Barksdale, Brooks, and Brooklyn. Areas to be potentially added in the future for service include Willow Wood, Beach Run, and Madams Creek. The system needs valves to control air on an aeration basin. Other concerns include inflow, infiltration, and repairing and installing a second ultraviolet light bank. West Virginia American Water provides public water in most of the city. Areas of the city not covered by public water include homes along Cemetery Road and Possum Hollow Road.

The City should work with West Virginia American Water to install public water access in high-need areas. The City should also budget for additional extensions of the sewer system in underserved areas. Sewer equipment should also be budgeted and prioritized.

## Recreation Overview

The City of Hinton is surrounded by an abundance of recreation, as shown on **Map 1: Location Map**. From city parks to state parks to even a national park, the City of Hinton does not lack recreation opportunities. City-owned recreation opportunities include the Wildwater Express Waterslide, Bellepoint Park, Town Square Park, and Second Avenue Park.



Source: City of Hinton Facebook Page

### Wildwater Express

Waterslide includes a train-shaped swimming pool, kiddie pool, two water slides, concession area, and basketball court.

Facilities at Bellepoint Park include a playground, pavilion with picnic tables, charcoal grills, benches,



picnic tables, swing-set, walking path, basketball court, tennis courts, baseball field with lights, and restrooms. Town Square Park and Second Avenue Park are open space areas that provide locations for events and festivals. The City recently built a stage in Town Square Park for local events.

Bluestone State Park and Pipestem Resort State Park are both located within reasonable driving distances from Hinton. Bluestone State Park is approximately five miles from Hinton and is home to Bluestone Lake. The state park offers camping and cabins. The lake includes public boat launches as well as boat rentals, boat slips, and trailer parking at Bluestone Marina. Eight miles of hiking trails, picnic tables, and an outdoor pool are located at the lake.

The Bluestone Wildlife Management Area borders Bluestone Lake and is located approximately 30 minutes from Hinton. The Area offers hunting, boating, fishing, primitive camping, hiking trails, and picnic sites. Pipestem Resort State Park is approximately 20 minutes from Hinton and offers numerous recreation activities. Activities include a tramway, zipline tours, guided fishing tours, rock climbing, mountain biking and hiking trails, fishing, adventure lake and splash park, indoor pool, 9- and 18-hole golf courses, driving range, mini golf course, paddleboats, canoeing and kayaking on Long Branch Lake, tennis courts, horseback riding, and whitewater rafting. In the winter, sledding and cross-country skiing are popular activities. Overnight facilities include cabins, two lodges, and campgrounds. The park also offers shopping and dining options.

Hinton is also located minutes from New River Gorge National River, which consists of over 70,000 acres of land along the New River. The New River travels through three states (North Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia). The river starts in North Carolina and ends in Gauley Bridge, West Virginia, where it joins the Gauley River to form the Kanawha River. The Sandstone Visitors Center is located approximately ten miles from Hinton and educates visitors on the history of the New River.

Sandstone Falls is the largest waterfall on the New River. The river drops 10 to 25 feet at the falls. Visitors can view the falls on a series of boardwalks. There are two overlooks on State Route 20. Sandstone Falls Overlook provides views of the falls and Brooks Overlook provides views of Brooks Island, which is a bald eagle nesting site (National Park Service, 2018).



Through the Community Captains program offered by Active Southern West Virginia, an organized one-mile group walk meets every Tuesday morning at Bellepoint Park. Active Southern West Virginia has also partnered with the Summers County Public Library to offer a free 5K runner program. The Summers Running Club plans to begin meeting weekly and offer training for 5K races in the future.

# Goal 1: Improve the quality of life for residents by revitalizing the City

Objective: Encourage recreation opportunities for all ages

## Explore the feasibility of providing additional recreation facilities

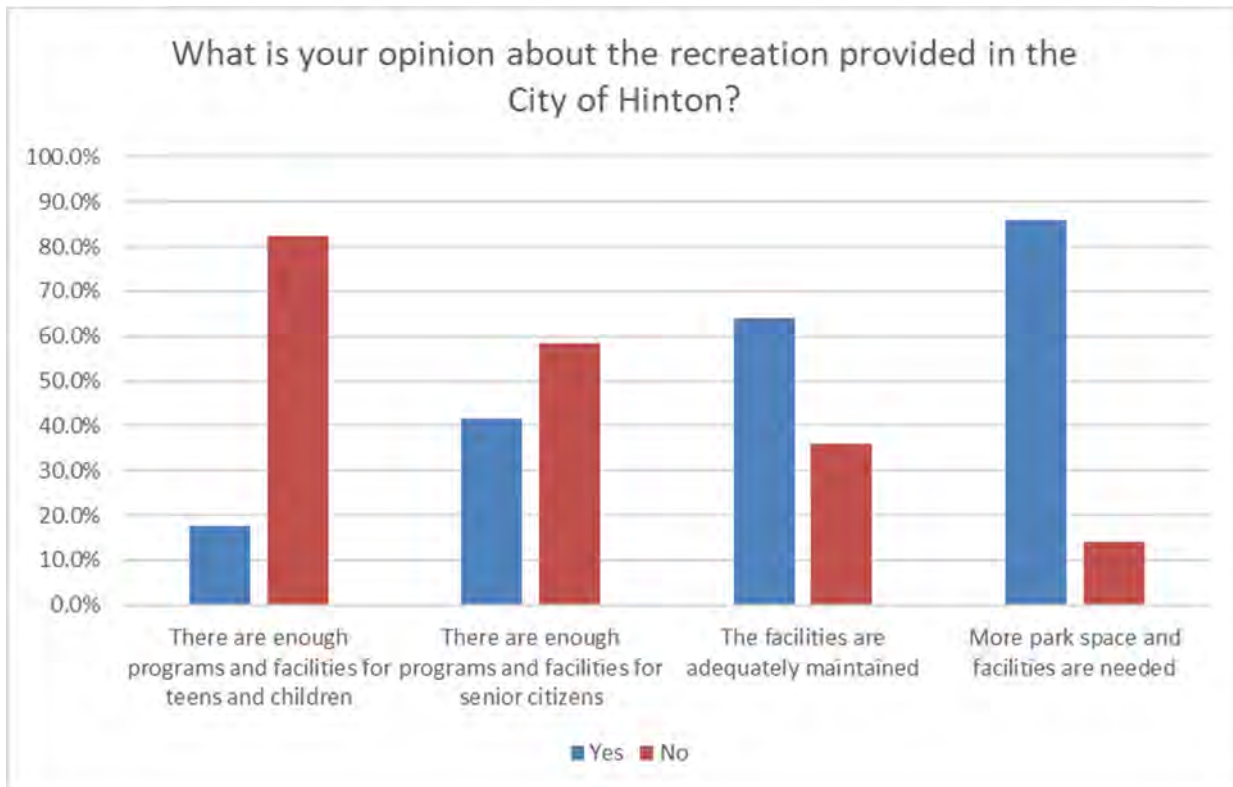
While there are numerous recreational attractions in the city and surrounding area, residents still desire additional recreational opportunities.

Approximately 82% of survey respondents feel

that there are not enough programs and facilities for teens and children. Residents also feel that there are not enough programs and facilities for senior citizens and that more park space and facilities are needed. Overall, residents desire more indoor recreation, access to the river, and family-oriented events.



The City should consider providing space for indoor recreation for residents. An indoor recreation facility could be as simple as a gym that residents could use to play basketball, soccer, and other types of games. The gym could also be rented out for events and parties.



Accessibility to existing recreation is an issue as most recreation that the city offers is located in the Bellepoint neighborhood. Bellepoint is not easily accessible to many residents as the park is a far walk for those without vehicles. Residents specifically expressed desire for a park in the West End neighborhood. A possible location for a park in the West End neighborhood is shown on [Map 6: Future Land Use](#).

The City should also consider adding additional recreational amenities in Town Square Park. The City could install backyard games such as corn hole boards, giant blocks, horseshoes, and shuffleboard. The City could also host games in the park such as tag, frisbee, and kickball. The New River Gorge

## Case Studies: Community Centers

### *City of Elkins*

In 2014, the City of Elkins purchased the former Elkins National Guard Armory and repurposed the building into the Phil Gainer Community Center. The community center includes a multi-purpose room with basketball, volleyball, tennis, and pickleball courts. The gym can also be used for baseball and soccer. The community center also has a batting cage, stage area, kitchen, and meeting room. The facility is available for event rentals.

### *Pocahontas County*

The Pocahontas Community Wellness Center is located in the Town of Marlinton next to Marlinton Elementary School and Greenbrier River Trail. The wellness center includes a gymnasium, fitness room, racquetball court, and multi-purpose rooms. The center also offers group activities such as aerobics, crafts, and after-school activities for children.

Regional Development Authority and the City of Hinton recently received a grant of \$442,320 from the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection to clean up property beside the Ice Plant that may be used for a future amphitheater. Over 71 percent of residents stated they would use an amphitheater.

### **Provide recreational programs**

Organized sports activities for children include Summers County Youth Football (varsity, peewee, and flag) and Cheer, Hinton Little League (boys and girls baseball and softball, ages 4 to 16), and Hinton Youth League Girls Basketball.

The City should consider a part-time position that would provide recreational programming for all ages. Youth programming could include arts and crafts, outdoor adventure, technology, hiking and bicycling. Adult programming could include sports, health/fitness, and educational programming (for example: CPR and art). Senior programming could include senior fitness, book club, excursions and card games.

Residents have also expressed interest in the formation of a youth soccer league. This interest should be explored with the other sports organizations to determine whether it is a feasible program for Hinton and the surrounding area.

### **Consider partnering with nearby facilities to provide additional recreational opportunities**

Bluestone and Pipestem Resort State Parks offer a variety of recreational opportunities. However, the parks are not within walking distance of the city, which poses a hardship to those without a vehicle. The City should explore a bus or shuttle to and from Hinton to either or

both state parks.

A

minimum ridership would be required for the bus to be provided. Initially, the bus could run on a weekly basis to assess interest from residents.



*Bluestone Lake (Source: wvstateparks.com)*



*Pipestem Resort (Source: wvstateparks.com)*

### Promote Bluestone State Park and Pipestem State Park to residents and visitors by hosting an annual Summers County Park Appreciation Day

The City of Hinton should partner with both Bluestone State Park and Pipestem State Park to promote the state parks to residents and visitors by:

- Hosting an annual Summers County State Park Appreciation Day
- Planning and promoting other events at Bluestone State Park and Pipestem State Park
- Encourage and facilitate school field trips and senior citizen trips to Bluestone State Park and Pipestem State Park

### Explore the feasibility of installing a splash pad at the Wildwater Express Waterslide

Some local elected officials have expressed interest in installing a splash pad at the pool. Splash pads are a wonderful addition to a community and can attract tourists and visitors from surrounding areas. Splash pads are inexpensive to maintain and can be elaborate or simple depending on the needs of the community. Water features are incorporated into the splash pad that can shower, mist, and shoot streams of water with zero water depth. Water is treated and recirculated through a filtration system.

## Case Studies: Community Centers

### Mill Race Park, Parsons, WV

The Splash Park Zone at Mill Race Park in Parsons, is a 3,000 square foot pirate ship-themed splash park. Improvements to Mill Race Park include the addition of a bucket dump, paving the parking lot, and installation of a new ice-skating rink.

### Palatine Park: City of Fairmont

In 2014, the City of Fairmont installed a splash pad in Palatine Park along the Monongahela River. The splash pad is free for visitors. Palatine Park also includes river access for fishing and boating and a pavilion for events and concerts. In the winter, the splash pad is converted into an ice-skating rink and free skates are provided.





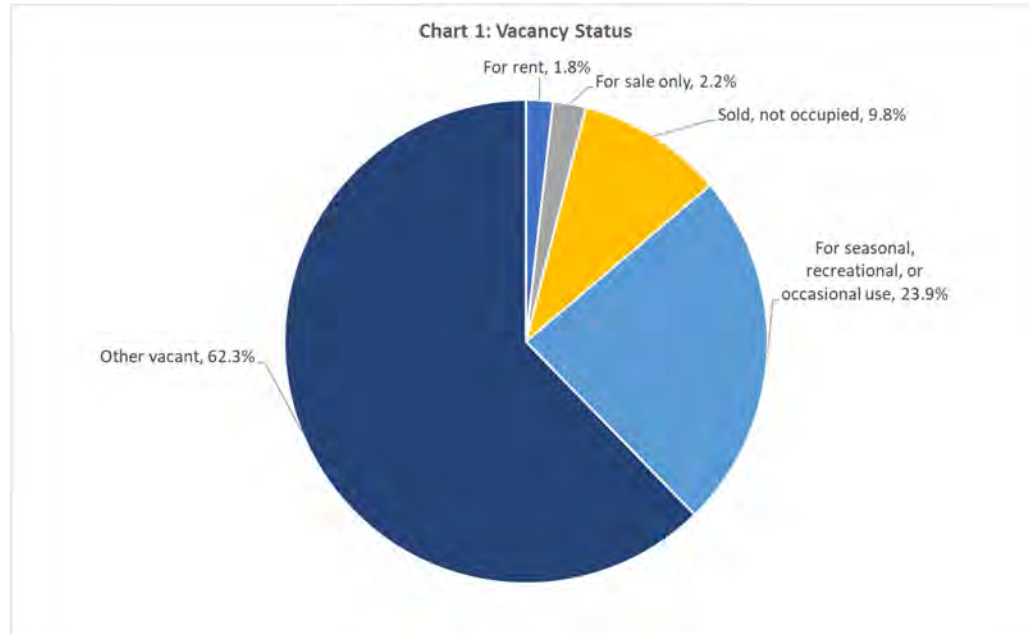
# Focus Area 2: Enhance the appearance of the City



# OVERVIEW

The presence of numerous abandoned and dilapidated buildings throughout the city is a major concern of residents. Data from the U.S. Census Bureau was utilized to better understand housing issues in

Hinton. According to the 2018 American Community Survey, 18.3% of housing units in Hinton are vacant. This rate is higher than West Virginia (17.8%) and the United States (12.3%). A high vacancy rate can indicate that economic circumstances, housing type, and condition are such that many people



choose not to live within the municipal boundaries or move elsewhere. A high vacancy rate can also negatively affect residential neighborhoods. The majority of vacant homes fall into the category of “all other vacants” as illustrated on **Chart 1: Vacancy Status**. According to the US Census bureau the term “all other vacants” refers to units held vacant for personal reasons by the owner. Common reasons include:

- No one lives in the unit and the owner is making repairs
- Owner does not want to rent or sell
- Owner using the home for storage
- Owner is elderly and living in a nursing home or elsewhere

Seasonal homes comprise the next highest level of vacancies as Hinton is close to many recreational attractions.

In addition, the fact that 51% of housing in Hinton is owner occupied and 49% is renter occupied causes concern. The number of renters in the city has increased over the past several years while the number of people owning their own home has decreased.

The City of Hinton is working to address concerns of residents regarding abandoned and dilapidated buildings. Recently the city was accepted into West Virginia University's BAD Buildings Program, which provides technical assistance and tools to address brownfields and abandoned and dilapidated buildings. The program helps communities identify, prioritize, and redevelop buildings of concern. As part of the program, the City will develop an inventory of site information and ranked list of criteria to create a redevelopment plan to address high-priority sites. The inventory will be useful to determine the scope of the problem and prepare an action plan to move forward.

The City adopted the 2010 International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC), which provides regulations for the repair and maintenance of the exterior of property and structures. Some general requirements in the IPMC cover grass and weeds, cracked and broken windows, pest elimination, garbage, graffiti, and inoperable or abandoned vehicles.

In February of 2021 the City enacted West Virginia Code Section 8-12-16, which allows municipalities to address structures, dwellings, or buildings that are unsafe, unsanitary, dangerous, or detrimental to the public safety or welfare. Procedures set out in the provisions ensure that property owners receive due process. Although similar to the building code in some ways, Section 8-12-16 contains additional authority not included in the building code.

The City passed nuisance ordinances in place to protect public health. The ordinances regulate boarding or lodging houses; odor; junk automobiles and machinery; pipes, tanks, gutters, and cans; and operation of engines, furnaces, or boilers. In 2016, the City adopted an ordinance creating a vacant property registry requiring vacant property owners to register their property with the City, which assesses a fee for each year the building is vacant. To date, the City has not enforced the ordinance.

Residents expressed concern about the overall appearance of the city. Survey respondents were asked how the city should be beautified and litter removal was the top concern. In April 2019, the City hosted a community-wide cleanup. The City's street crew also removed several dumpsters of trash from city limits. In October of 2020, the City hosted a Litter Sweep where volunteers picked up and hauled trash. The City also hosted a city-wide clean-up in October. The city was broken into 6 quadrants. Each quadrant was asked to have their larger household items outside to be picked up on their designated day. In preparation of the cleanup, the Hinton Police notified homeowners that are in violation of City trash codes so that they will be given the opportunity to get rid of the trash during the pick-up or be fined.

Hinton Full Steam Ahead is a local group of volunteers that have worked with the West Virginia Community Development Hub's Communities of Achievement Program to make Hinton a regional hub promoting arts, culture, and active entertainment for all ages, while also highlighting the city's railroad history (WV Community Development Hub, 2019). The Hinton Full Steam Ahead group has worked on many beautification projects throughout the city, including coordination to complete the mural on 3rd Avenue and the cleanup of Lincoln School and the Hardwoods Building.

The City has worked on various beautification efforts throughout the years, including landscaping, construction of a new stage, and installation of flower baskets and flags on light poles and bridges.

### *Online Survey Results: How should Hinton beautify the city?*

*(respondents were able to select more than one choice)*

<i>Litter removal</i>	122
<i>Community gardens</i>	91
<i>Landscaping</i>	84
<i>Benches</i>	80
<i>Additional murals</i>	59
<i>Public art</i>	59
<i>Improved signage</i>	55
<i>Other</i>	50
<i>Develop gateways at city entrances</i>	44



*Source: Hinton Full Steam Ahead Facebook Page*

## Goal 2: Enhance the appearance of the city by improving housing and building quality.



Objective: Identify abandoned and dilapidated buildings

Objective: Work to ensure beautification efforts

Objective: Promote code enforcement and regulations

### Increase code enforcement efforts

An online survey completed for the comprehensive plan indicated that 92% of survey respondents support increased code enforcement to address abandoned and dilapidated buildings. The City recently hired a code enforcement officer on an as-needed basis to enforce current regulations. The City should develop press releases to inform the public about the new position and provide information on how regulations will be enforced.

### Enforce the vacant property registry

The City's vacant property registry ordinance was enacted in 2016 but has not yet been enforced due to a lack of staff. With the recent hiring of a code enforcement officer, enforcement of the ordinance should be a priority.

### Case Study: City of Fairmont Vacant Property Registration

The City of Fairmont Vacant Property Registration Program encourages property owners to register their vacant building after the building has been vacant for 180 days. If the property is reoccupied after 180 days, the property owner is eligible for a maximum of 100% business & occupancy (B&O) tax credits on rent and royalties for five years. The code enforcement officer inspects buildings free of charge on an annual basis.

*Source: <https://www.fairmontwv.gov/402/Vacant-Property-Registration-Program>*

### Apply for home rule status

Another tool municipalities can use to deal with abandoned and dilapidated buildings is the Municipal Home Rule Program, which allows municipalities to experiment with ideas currently not permitted via state code. The City should consider applying to participate in the Home Rule Program to address specific problems relating to abandoned and dilapidated buildings and other issues. If the city becomes a home rule municipality, local elected officials should consider the use of on-site citations, which would allow city officials to issue citations to property owners for sanitation and nuisance violations without the need for court enforcement.

### Extend beautification efforts

Beautification efforts should be extended to the West End and Avis neighborhoods, as shown on **Map 6: Future Land Use**. Beautification should include installation of lamp posts, flower baskets, and tree boxes.

Local elected officials have also expressed a desire to add more public art, such as sculptures and town symbols, throughout the community.

## Case Study: Public Art in Winchester and Blacksburg, Va.

In Winchester, Va., apple sculptures are sold to and decorated by community businesses, then installed downtown. Winchester claims to be the apple capital of the world and hosts the annual Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival.

In Blacksburg, Va., home to Virginia Tech, a public-private partnership created the Gobble de Art project, which places Hokie Bird statues all around Blacksburg.



### **Develop community gardens on vacant lots**

Residents stated that they would like community gardens planted on vacant lots to help improve the city's image and provide food and gardening opportunities for residents. City-owned vacant lots would be an ideal location to start a community garden. For privately-owned vacant lots, the property owner would need to grant permission. The City should consider providing start-up materials and assistance to local groups willing to sponsor and maintain a garden. The city owns several vacant lots that could be a potential area for a community garden.

### **Continue to host annual city-wide clean-up events**

The City should continue hosting organized clean-up events in both spring and fall. Clean-up of litter on roads and riverbanks should be completed. The event should also include a curbside clean-up where residents can place large and bulky items not suitable for regular garbage pickup. The City should consider coordinating volunteer groups to help elderly and low-income residents clean up their yards.



### **Sponsor a monthly home and yard contest**

The City should consider sponsoring a monthly home and yard contest to incentivize residents to clean up their property. A prize could be given to a resident with the most improved home and yard. Local businesses could sponsor the contest by donating prizes, such as free meals to local restaurants and gift certificates to local stores.

### **Encourage remote workers to live in Hinton**

West Virginia University was recently awarded funding from Intuit executive Brad Smith and his wife, Alys, for a remote worker program to fuel entrepreneurial and innovative thinking by bringing new talent to West Virginia (Brad and Alys Smith Outdoor Economic Development Collaborative, 2021). The program has since been named the Brad and Alys Smith Outdoor Economic Development Collaborative. The collaborative's remote program will include benefits such as financial incentives, free co-working space, free and subsidized outdoor trips and activities, professional development, and networking events (Brad and Alys Smith Outdoor Economic Development Collaborative, 2021).

Hinton local officials would like to capitalize on this program by encouraging remote workers to choose Hinton as their home. However, newer housing and housing for middle-income individuals is needed to attract younger people and families to Hinton. The city would like to work with private developers to build new housing, possibly using the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) program.

## Case Study: Beautification Contests

The City of Weston hosts an annual clean-up week, during which the Street Department picks up items that residents want to throw away. Community groups also form teams to clean up the city.

In the City of Elkins, a Make it Shine contest rewards residents \$300 for cleaning and improving property within city limits. Participants must submit before and after photos. Prizes are also available for runners-up. During the Make it Shine contest, residents painted murals on dumpsters throughout the city.



### Consider adopting the West Virginia Building Code

The building code is one of the most effective means of addressing abandoned and dilapidated buildings. Regular inspections of buildings can prevent dilapidation in the first place. The building code also provides remedies for repair and demolition. Approximately 78% of survey respondents supported the adoption of the West Virginia State Building Code. Local elected officials have recently discussed enacting the building code. However, the cost of enforcement is a barrier, as a certified code enforcement officer would need to be hired. The City is currently exploring options on the best way to adopt and administer the building code.

# \$ Focus Area 3: Economic Development



Source of pictures: City of Hinton Facebook Page

# OVERVIEW

A thorough analysis is needed to determine the best economic opportunities for the City of Hinton. This section of the comprehensive plan explores the strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities of the local economy in Hinton. This information was gathered from input from the City of Hinton Planning Commission, open houses, and the online survey conducted during the comprehensive plan process.

The City's most valuable asset is its scenic and beautiful location in the New River Gorge. Tourism is a key focus for future economic growth in the city. Visitors can enjoy the great outdoors in the surrounding region and visit Hinton for retail and restaurant needs. However, increased marketing and promotion is needed, as Hinton is located ten miles from the nearest interstate. The completion of the New River Parkway will help attract visitors into Hinton. However, visitors may bypass Hinton altogether as the parkway does not directly travel through Hinton.

Bluestone and Pipestem State Resort Parks are within a reasonable driving distance from the City of Hinton. Wildwater Express, the city's swimming pool, is a regional attraction, with 11,000 people using the pool in 2018 and 8,100 in 2019.

The Bluestone Dam, built in 1952, also provides economic growth to the city. The dam is located on the New River and provides flood control for the New and Kanawha River Valleys. Over half

## Strengths

- Location in the New River Gorge
- New River Parkway
- Wildwater Express
- Bluestone and Pipestem Resort State Parks
- Bluestone Dam and Lake
- Downtown Business District
- Historic District
- Summers County Convention and Visitors Bureau
- Summers County Appalachian Regional Healthcare Hospital
- Ritz Theater
- Local Festivals and Events



of the water that travels through Charleston comes through the Bluestone Dam (U.S. Army Corp. of Engineers, 2019). The dam impounds the New River, creating the 11-mile long Bluestone Lake. The dam is 165 feet high and half of a mile long. Bluestone Lake provides recreation and fishing opportunities for the City of Hinton, the surrounding region, and visitors. In recent years, the dam has been under construction to reduce the risk of a breach. The project has five phases, with the fifth phase having begun in 2019. The fifth phase is for basin improvements and is projected to be completed in 2027, at a cost of more than \$200 million (West Virginia MetroNews Network, 2019). The lake brings in tourism dollars, and ongoing dam construction provides B&O taxes to the City of Hinton.

The downtown business district is a strength for Hinton. Hinton has a vibrant historic downtown district that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Several projects in downtown Hinton have been completed utilizing federal historic preservation tax credits available due to its historic status. Hinton is the county seat for Summers County, with the Summers County Courthouse, Summers County Board of Education, and other county government offices located in Hinton. Summers County is also a designated opportunity zone, which provides federal tax incentives for developers willing to invest in the area (West Virginia Development Office Opportunity Zones, 2020).

The Explore Summers County Visitors Center is located in downtown Hinton and provides information to visitors on local restaurants, shopping, and lodging. The visitors center is operated by the New River Gateway Convention and Visitors Bureau, which promotes the City of Hinton and Summers County. The mission of the CVB is to strengthen the community by advancing economic growth through tourism. The CVB promotes all festivals and events in the city and county using their website, social media,

## Weaknesses

- Lack of promotion
- 10 miles from I-64
- Vacant Buildings
- Hinton Technology Center
- Closure of businesses
- No hotel
- Broadband



Source: City of Hinton Facebook Page

and printed brochures. Future plans include continuing to improve marketing, working with other organizations, and partnering with the City on advertisements. A lack of parking is a concern at the visitors center.

Downtown has seen revitalization in the past few years with a few new businesses opening. Downtown businesses include restaurants, a movie theater, museums, retail shops, and personal services. The Ritz Theater was restored in 2009 and provides live entertainment and weekend movies. The theater is also available to rent for parties, events, and conferences. A need exists for a local chamber of commerce to help promote local businesses.

PracticeLink has been headquartered in Hinton since 1999. PracticeLink is a call center that connects job-seeking physicians and practitioners with health systems, hospitals, medical groups, and private practices (PracticeLink, 2019). The City of Hinton also serves as home to three banks; City National Bank, First Community Bank, and Summit Community Bank.

The Hinton Technology Center, opened in 2006, is located downtown and includes retail, medical offices, a daycare, and a city-owned fitness center. The technology center is owned by the

## Opportunities

- Tourism
- New River Parkway
- Designated Opportunity Zone
- Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credits
- Conferences



*Source: wwhistorictheaters.com*



city and is difficult to maintain and the top floor is currently vacant. There is a need for additional tenants in the building, as current rents received fail to cover the operating utility costs.

Several organizations have been involved in revitalization efforts. For example, MountainPlex Properties, which was founded in 2007, has led the preservation and revitalization of several buildings and businesses in downtown Hinton.

The Hinton Area Foundation is a nonprofit group that funds projects and scholarships in Hinton and Summers County. Funding comes from gifts and contributions to the foundation. Grants available through the foundation include the Community Impact Grant, Making a Difference Community Improvement Project Grant, and the Learning Innovation Mini-Grant. The foundation has 42 different scholarship funds with different criteria.

The Hinton Hope Foundation sponsors three community reinvestment projects in the county each year. The foundation hosts Hinton's Got Talent, a ginseng cultivation project, Summers County Cookery, and Youth Leaders of Summers County. Hinton Full Steam Ahead is an organization working on several economic development projects, include developing weekly collaboration conversations for community leaders, stabilization of the Hardwoods Building, and hosting a developer tour to showcase available real estate in the city.

Numerous events and festivals in Hinton satisfy the cultural, social, and community needs of residents. The events and festivals also attract visitors to downtown. In 2017, in order to promote the city and its businesses, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays were established. Beginning in May, a series of musical events, food, and other activities are held during the second Saturday every month until September. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays organization has expanded its efforts to include an indoor flea market during the



winter months. In 2019, the Festival of Rivers was held in conjunction with 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays in August. The festival includes live music, vendors, artists, a car show, and food.

The biggest festival is Hinton Railroad Days, which attracts thousands of visitors to the city in October. Streets in Hinton are closed to traffic and filled with vendors selling crafts, art, and food. Live music plays throughout the weekend. For over 50 years, the Collis P. Huntington Railroad Historical Society has sponsored the New River Train, an excursion train running weekends throughout the month of October, to Hinton during Railroad Days. However, in 2019, the Historical Society cancelled its sponsored trip due to changed Amtrak policies making it cost prohibitive to continue running the train (West Virginia MetroNews Network, 2019). Rail Excursion Management Company, a private company, stepped in to run the train instead. The express ran for three days in privately-owned luxury rail cars with breakfast and dinner served. Passengers had three hours to enjoy the festival in Hinton. According to the company's website, the train transported over 2,500 guests to Hinton from Huntington and Charleston over the three days.



*Source: City of Hinton Facebook Page*

Other festivals in Hinton include the West Virginia Water Festival, which is a weeklong event held in the summer. The West Virginia Water Festival includes contests, dog show, car show, quilt show, arts and crafts, fishing tournament, fireman's parade, rubber ducky race, pancake breakfast, fireworks, grand parade concerts, and street dance.

A Hinton Hometown Christmas is an annual event that kicks off the Saturday after Thanksgiving with Small Business Saturday. Other events throughout the month of December include caroling, breakfast or cookies with Santa, Christmas Parade, Christmas Bazaar, City of Hinton tree lighting, and musical events.

While downtown Hinton is the center of the city, there are many other businesses located in neighborhoods of Avis and Bellepoint. The presence of Summers County Appalachian Regional Healthcare Hospital attracts medical professionals and visitors into the city. The lack of workforce available in the community forms a concern. In addition, there has not been a shopping center since MagicMart closed in 2018. The city also lacks a hotel.

Though Hinton is remote, the city is connected with broadband access. However, certain areas of the city experience connectivity issues.

An opportunity exists to attract conferences into Hinton with the presence of three event centers: the Ritz Theater, Freight Depot, and McCreery House.



*Source: City of Hinton Facebook Page*

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Of online survey respondents, approximately 43 percent said their internet service is good, approximately 31 percent said their internet is good sometimes, and 26 percent said their internet is not good.

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## Goal 3: Strengthen economic development by attracting and supporting new businesses and retail.

Objective: Retain existing business

Objective: Bring more people in to visit the city

Objective: Provide the resources businesses need to flourish

### Increase marketing and promotion of local businesses and attractions

The City of Hinton is considered a hidden gem in southern West Virginia. Many people in West Virginia and in other parts of the country are not aware of all that Hinton has to offer. The New River Gateway Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) does well in promoting Hinton. Many recreation, attractions, shopping, dining, and lodging opportunities in Hinton are listed on the CVB website. Brochures can be mailed to interested people, but the CVB should consider posting an online copy of the brochure in PDF format. The City of Hinton is the only incorporated municipality in Summers County. A brief description of the city and corresponding map should be included on the website to bring awareness to visitors. In 2019, approximately 2,400 passengers used the Hinton Depot. Signage at the depot is needed to direct people to downtown. Brochures highlighting businesses, restaurants, and attractions in Hinton are also needed inside of the train depot.

Hinton needs marketing at the state and national level. The City's website should include a link to the CVB website, and vice versa. Brochures of city attractions and businesses should be available online. A partnership between the City and CVB should explore media exposure, such as newspaper ads and commercials, in markets outside of West Virginia.

### Market tax credits for historic preservation and designated opportunity zone

The City of Hinton downtown is a designated historic district, which allows property owners to participate in the Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit program. The City and its Historic Landmarks Commission should continue to publicize the tax credit program and assist property owners in applying for and receiving historic rehabilitation tax credits. Information about the program should be included on the city website.

Property owners have yet to take advantage of the federally designated opportunity zone, which provides tax-deferring benefits on any capital gains received from real estate or business investment in Hinton. The City should include information about the opportunity zone on its website and publicize the information through various media outlets.



### Consider the formation of a local business group to promote city businesses

Businesses in Hinton should consider forming a local business group or partnership to share advice, knowledge, and experience with one another. The group could take the lead in showcasing businesses, organizing events, and promotional activities in Hinton.

### **Case Study: City of Lewisburg Downtown Merchants Association**

The City of Lewisburg has a Downtown Merchants Association that has been very successful. Many of the fairs and festivals in the city have been developed by the Downtown Merchants Association to showcase businesses. At First Friday events, shops, galleries and restaurants remain open later than usual and offer free entertainment, refreshments, special sales, and services. (Source: The Register Herald, 2020)

### **Explore opportunities for the Hinton Technology Center**

The City of Hinton should explore how to use the Hinton Technology Center to reduce costs. One potential opportunity would be to convert the second floor to lodging.

### **Hold additional events to attract visitors**

Events currently held in the city attract thousands of visitors annually. One of the largest festivals in Hinton is Railroad Days. A website was recently created for the event. The website should include information on timing of events and specific vendors that will be at the festival.

While an event is typically held at least monthly in Hinton, there is a need for additional events in the winter. For example, a winter carnival event could include ice skating, sleigh rides, and ice sculptures.

## **Case Study: Events, Festivals, and Carnivals**

### **Fort Ligonier Days**

Fort Ligonier Days is an event held yearly in Ligonier, Pennsylvania. The event website includes maps with vendor and music locations, points of interest, craft areas, first aid locations, bathroom facilities, and parking. (Source: Fort Ligonier Days, 2020)

### **Fire and Ice Carnival**

The City of Elkins, West Virginia, has previously held a winter carnival called Fire and Ice. The carnival included a temporary, portable ice-skating rink and skate rentals, fire juggles, fire breathers, dancers, stilt walkers, live music, and a comedy show.

### **Encourage the expansion of internet and cell phone service**

Residents and business owners have the option of using cable, DSL, and satellite internet services. While most are able to access the Internet, some areas of the city lack service. The City should work with internet service providers to ensure all residents have access to reliable internet service.

The City should work with the West Virginia Legislature to expand internet access to unserved and underserved areas. The City should also work with the Region 1 Planning and

Development Council to implement the Broadband Strategic Plan that was completed for the region.

### **Market Hinton as a destination and venue for conferences**

The City of Hinton has several venues that are ideal for hosting conferences, which is unique for a small city. The Freight Depot is city-owned and should be showcased on the city website. Summers County CVB highlights venues on its website. The City should also provide a link to the CVB website page on area venues.

### **Consider hiring a business specialist**

The city is need of a business specialist to focus on working with merchants, establishing E-commerce, developing and expanding events, and marketing the city to visitors.





## Focus Area 4: Land Use



Source: City of Hinton Facebook Page



Source: City of Hinton Facebook Page

# OVERVIEW

The City of Hinton is a small municipality with a population density of approximately 1,100 people per square mile. Building intensity is typical of a small town in West Virginia, with average size homes on smaller lots. Most of the land within Hinton is already developed. Most of the city consists of single-family residential uses, as shown on **Map 4: Existing Land Use**. Multi-family residential uses are mainly located downtown and include duplexes and apartments above businesses. Affordable housing units and universally-designed housing that is accessible to persons with disabilities exist in the city, such as Hinton House. Some interest has been expressed in converting the old hospital into low- to middle-income housing, but a project has not come to fruition.

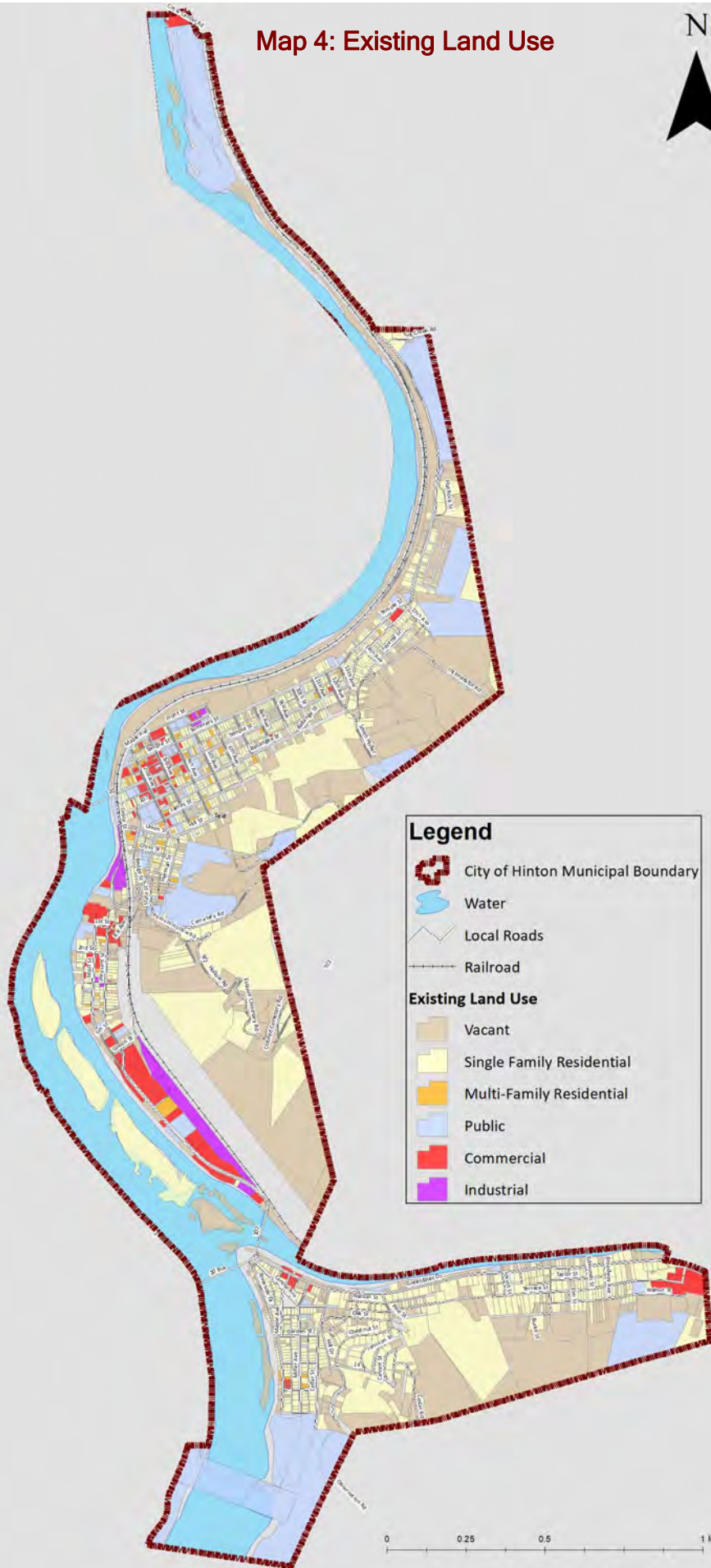
As the county seat of Summers County, numerous government and public uses are located within Hinton, including the Summers County Courthouse; Summers County Board of Education offices; Summers County Library; Summers County Memorial Building; Summers County Elementary, Middle, and High Schools; Hinton City Hall; and numerous churches.

The city includes two distinct and different commercial areas. The downtown business district is comprised of small businesses, restaurants, and retail shops. The other commercial areas generally serve the traveling public and are located along the major roadways, State Routes 107 and 20, in Hinton city limits. Commercial uses include stores with larger footprints, such as gas stations, fast food restaurants, and grocery stores. Industrial uses are located along the railroad. Land classified as vacant on **Map 4: Existing Land Use** is mainly steep slopes or undeveloped lots.



Due to the New and Greenbrier Rivers that run adjacent to Hinton, portions of the city lie within the floodplain, as shown on **Map 5: Development Constraints**. Greenbrier Drive experiences flooding during high waters, but homes have not been affected to date. The City has a floodplain ordinance to regulate development within the floodplain. Sections of the Avis and Bellepoint neighborhoods are located within the floodplain but have not flooded since Bluestone Dam was built. The city currently experiences no subsidence issues.

Map 4: Existing Land Use



**Legend**

- City of Hinton Municipal Boundary
- Water
- Local Roads
- Railroad

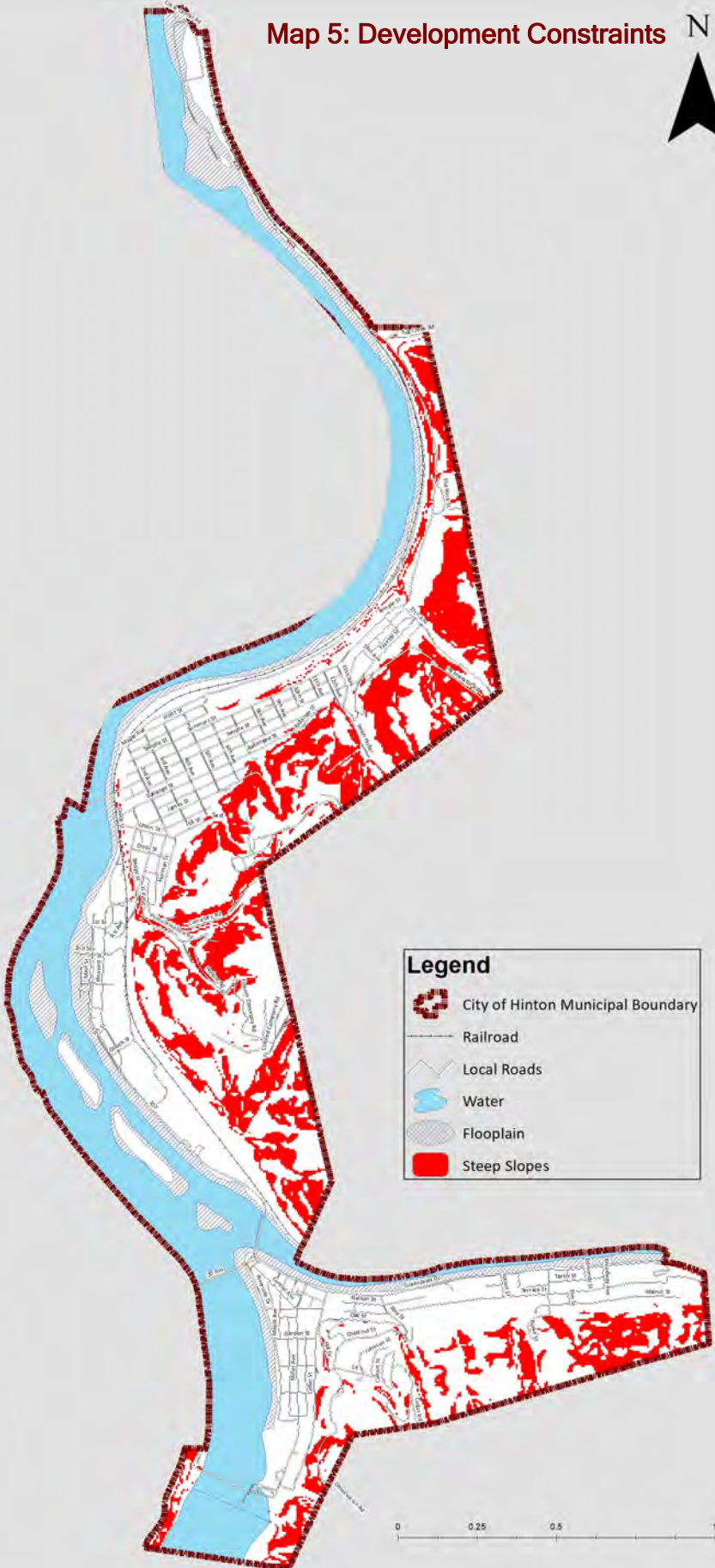
**Existing Land Use**

- Vacant
- Single Family Residential
- Multi-Family Residential
- Public
- Commercial
- Industrial

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

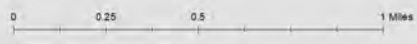
Source: WV GIS Technical Center, WV DOT

Map 5: Development Constraints



**Legend**

- City of Hinton Municipal Boundary
- Railroad
- Local Roads
- Water
- Floodplain
- Steep Slopes

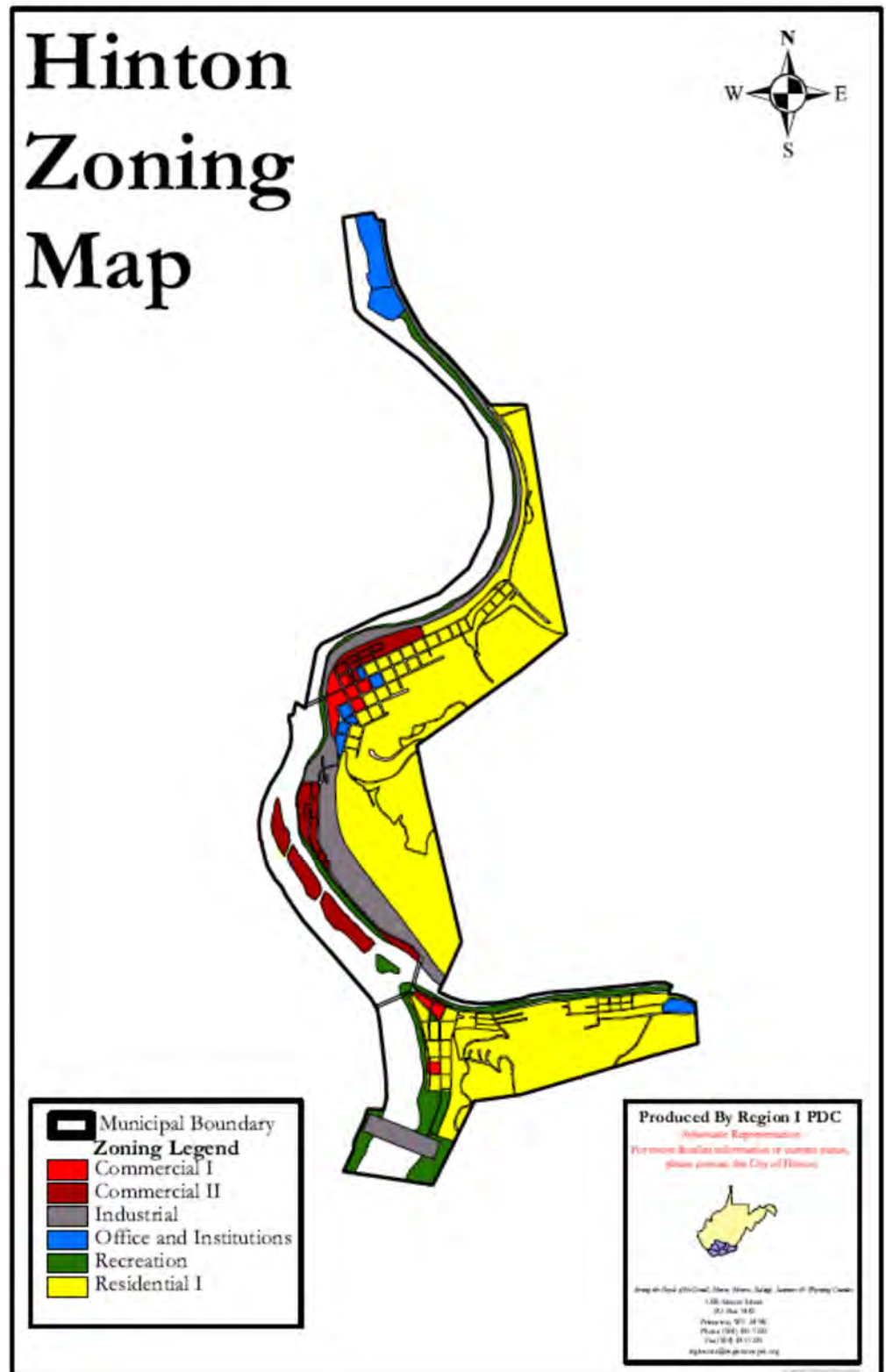


Source: WV GIS Technical Center, WV DOT

To better regulate land use within the city, local elected officials enacted a zoning ordinance in 1996. The ordinance includes six zoning districts:

- Recreational
- Residential
- Office and Institutions
- Commercial I
- Commercial II
- Industrial

The majority of Hinton is zoned as Residential. Downtown is zoned Commercial I, Commercial II, and Office and Institutions. According to local elected officials, no issues exist with the current zoning ordinance.



## *Future Land Use*

Hinton's population peaked in 1930 with a total of 6,654 people during the boom of the railroad. Since then, Hinton's population has slowly declined. In 2010, the population was 2,676. Population estimates in 2018 show a further decline to 2,395 people. Population estimates are developed using data on births, deaths, and migration to calculate population change since the most recent decennial census.

To better prepare Hinton for the future, population projections were developed to help local elected officials better understand the services they need to provide based on whether the city will gain or lose population. Population projections are only available for counties in West Virginia and not for municipalities. Summers County is projected to lose 1,403 residents by 2030. Population projections for Hinton were determined evaluating the projection for Summers County and past city population trends. The city has experienced a continued decline in population since 1980. The estimates released by the U.S. Census Bureau in 2018 show a further decline. Assuming population trends continue, by 2030, the city may lose an additional 543 people.

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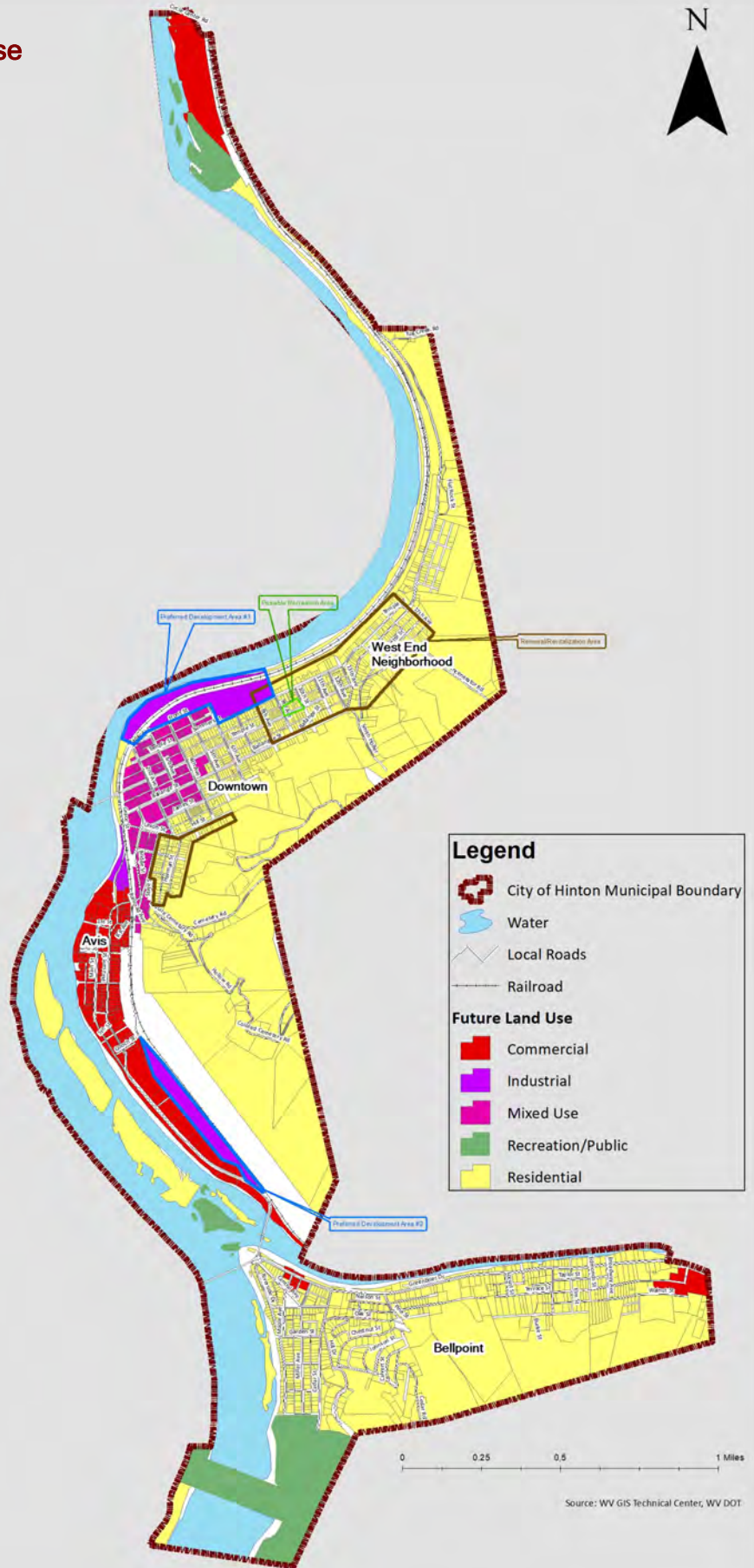
**The City of Hinton is projected to continue to lose population in the next several years**

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A projected population decline indicates that no additional housing is needed. However, during the planning process, residents and local elected officials identified a need for higher-value homes to attract new residents in the middle- and upper-income levels as well as apartments and condos for seniors. The median value of a home in Hinton is \$74,500, which is significantly lower than the median value of a home in Summers County, which is \$95,400. The median home value in a community correlates to the age of housing. Older housing stock tends to have lower value and may require significant renovations and improvements. Approximately 38% of homes in Hinton were built before 1939 and less than 9% of homes were built in the last two decades. At this time, there are no opportunities to reuse buildings for housing within city limits.

**Map 6: Future Land Use** was developed to guide development within the City of Hinton. The future land use map is not a zoning map, but a visual illustration of the vision of the city.

Map 6: Future Land Use



## *Future Land Use Categories*

- **Commercial:** areas intended for large-scale commercial development to serve residents of Hinton and the surrounding region
- **Industrial:** areas intended to allow for limited industrial uses
- **Mixed Use:** downtown commercial development
- **Recreation/Public:** areas intended for recreational and/or public uses
- **Residential:** areas for single-family and/or multi-family development

**Map 6: Future Land Use** also identifies preferred areas for development and renewal and redevelopment areas, in accordance with West Virginia Code, Chapter 8A.

Preferred Development Area #1 consists of approximately 20 acres suitable for industrial development along the railroad tracks. Preferred Development Area #2 lies along State Route 107 and would also be suitable for industrial development.

Several areas were identified as renewal and/or redevelopment areas. These areas are scattered throughout the city and consist of dilapidated residential buildings, some of which are vacant and some of which are occupied. The areas are shown on the future land use map. There are no rural areas in the City of Hinton due to the lack of agriculture and conservation lands within city limits.

A potential future recreational area was identified on Temple Street. This area could be a good location for a small playground, green space or community garden.

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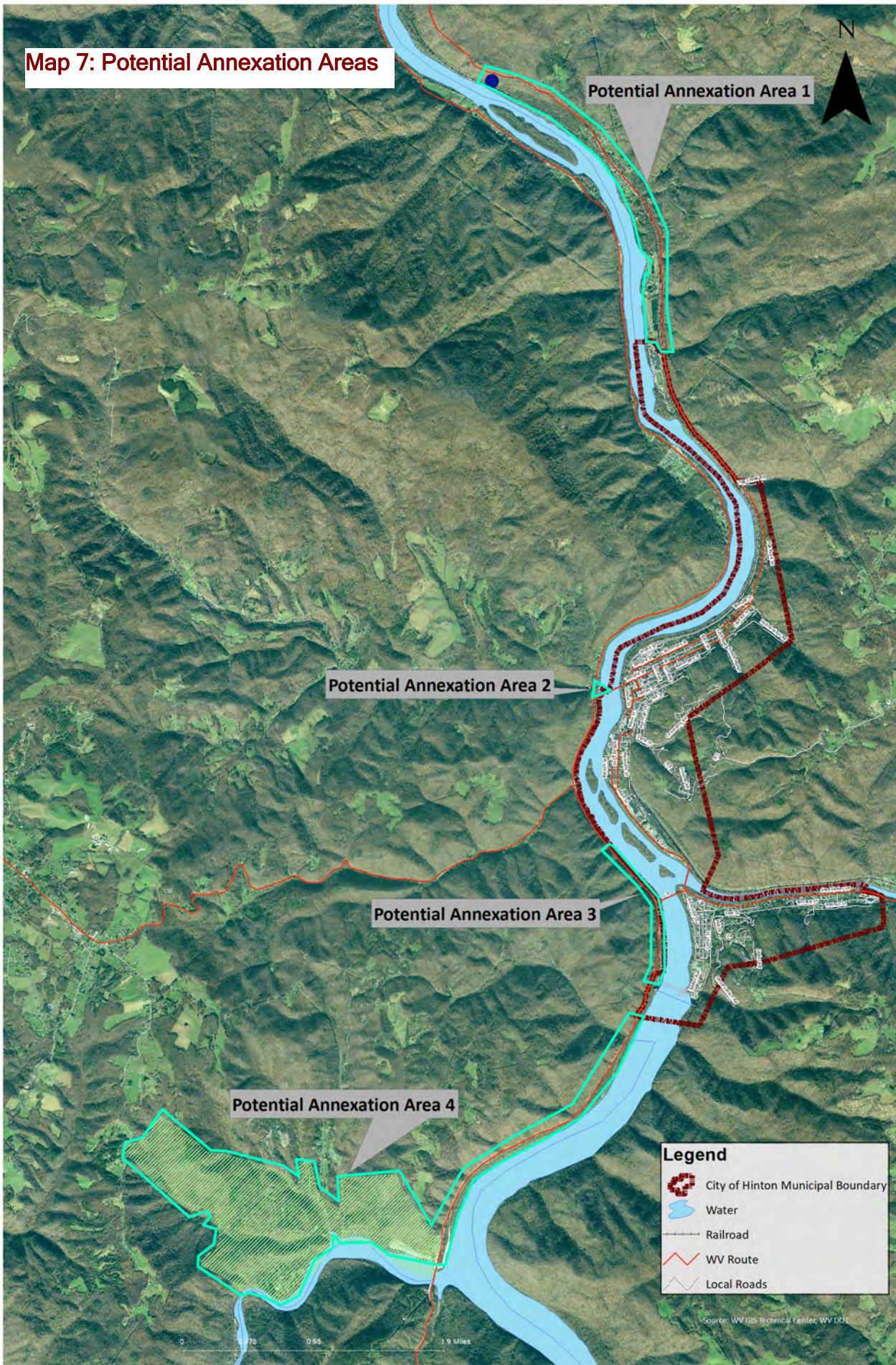
**Rural areas:**  
land that is not  
intended for urban growth

**Preferred development areas:**  
where incentives may be  
used to encourage development, infill  
development, or redevelopment

**Renewal and/or redevelopment areas:**  
slums and other blighted  
areas that need community  
renewal, revitalization, and/or  
redevelopment

---

Map 7: Potential Annexation Areas



- Legend**
- City of Hinton Municipal Boundary
  - Water
  - Railroad
  - WV Route
  - Local Roads

Source: WV GIS Technical Center, WV DOT

The City considered potential annexation of certain areas near its municipal border. The areas are shown on **Map 7: Potential Annexation Areas:**

- Potential Annexation Area 1: Summers County High School to Brooks Overlook
  - The purpose of annexing this area is to eliminate blight from Route 20 into town and improve river access points. Water and sewer are available.
- Potential Annexation Area 2: Route 20 from the bridge to Raleigh County border, approximately 1 mile
  - The purpose of annexing this area is to provide emergency services to residents along Route 20. This area is already served with water and sewer.
- Potential Annexation Area 3: Bluestone Dam to the Temple Street Bridge on Route 20
  - The purpose of annexing this area is to provide emergency services to local businesses and enhance the general area. This area is already served with water and sewer.
- Potential Annexation Area 4: Bluestone Lake
  - The purpose of annexing this area would be to offer additional recreational events and sponsor events at the lake and not have to rely on other agencies. This area is not served with water and sewer.

The City should coordinate with Summers County on any annexation plan to promote regional planning between the County and City. Recently, the county and city have witnessed an increased emphasis on regional planning. Two members of the Hinton Planning Commission also serve on the Summers County Planning Commission.



### *Historic Preservation*

Historic preservation serves an important an important role in revitalizing the city. Many projects have been completed to preserve important structures in the city. Renovations have been made to the Campbell-Flannagan-Murrell House Museum, which is the oldest house in

town. Repairs included installation of a dehumidifier system and drainage and gutter work to keep the house dry. In 2018, the City of Hinton updated design guidelines to preserve the character of the historic district in downtown Hinton. The City of Hinton Historic Landmarks Commission reviews applications for construction, alteration, relocation, demolition, or repair of any building or site within the historic district. As previously mentioned, MountainPlex Properties has renovated several key historic buildings in downtown Hinton.

## Goal 4: Encourage appropriate land use to protect the character and resources of the city.

Objective: Support historic preservation efforts

Objective: Update land use ordinances to be consistent with comprehensive plan

### Update the zoning ordinance to be consistent with the comprehensive plan

The zoning ordinance, adopted in 1996, should be updated to be compliant with recent changes to West Virginia Code, Chapter 8A. The zoning ordinance update should be consistent with this comprehensive plan, including the **Map 6: Future Land Use**, and include updated definitions and sign regulations.

### Continue historic preservation efforts

There is a need to preserve existing historic buildings within the City of Hinton. Grant money is needed to help with these efforts. The city should work with the West Virginia Historic Preservation Office to obtain grants and technical assistance.

### Explore the feasibility of developing a memorial celebrating Hinton's railroad history

The City is interested in constructing a railroad memorial in city limits. The memorial would include a repurposed caboose. The city would like to construct the memorial in a high

visibility area, such as 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. The creation of a memorial would address vacant and dilapidated buildings in the area and provide open space in the community.

### **Update the floodplain ordinance**

The City should update the floodplain ordinance based on the most recent model floodplain ordinance developed by the West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

### **Consider annexation of property adjacent to city limits**

To continue to grow and increase the tax base, the City should consider annexation of the properties discussed on **Page 57**. Mailings and editorials in the local newspaper should be supportive measures considered by the City to educate residents and property owners on the benefits of annexation.

# Implementation



*Source of picture 1: Live in Hinton Facebook Page.*

*Source of pictures 2, 3, and 4: City of Hinton Facebook Page*

# OVERVIEW

The work is not completed after a comprehensive plan is adopted. One of the most important and commonly overlooked aspects is the implementation of action items detailed in the plan. To guide implementation for local elected officials, an implementation matrix was created, which details the priority level of each action item, a timeframe for completion, potential partners for financial or technical assistance, estimated costs, and potential funding sources. The Planning Commission should use the implementation matrix to begin implementation of the plan immediately after its adoption by City Council. The Planning Commission should review the plan annually to determine the status of each action item and any obstacles that have been encountered.

The City of Hinton has a limited budget and staff. Therefore, each action item is identified as either high, medium, or low priority. High priorities are those that were identified during the planning process as being the most important to implement. A timeframe for each action step was also identified. While some projects may be high priority, they may take longer to implement due to funding and resources.

The cost of the action items depends on the size and scope of the project. The listed costs are estimates only and not actual costs. To help the City with implementation, a list of funding sources can be found in **Appendix 5**. The City should work with Summers County to find opportunities for cost efficiency and savings. Additionally, the City should collaborate with Region IV Planning and Development Council to implement and fund projects detailed in the comprehensive plan. The City should also look to area foundations for help with implementation. Both the Hinton Area Foundation and Hinton Hope Foundation fund community projects.

Recommendation	Priority	Timeframe	Reference page #	Responsible Party	Recommended Partners	Estimated Costs	Funding Sources
<b>Goal 1: Improve the quality of life for residents by revitalizing the City</b>							
Complete paving projects throughout the city	High	Immediate	15	City of Hinton	N/A	Dependent on scope of project	General Fund
Develop a sidewalk plan to help prioritize sidewalk repairs and construction	High	Immediate	15	City of Hinton	N/A	Dependent on scope of project	General Fund
Provide additional parking lots in downtown	Medium	Mid-Term	16	City of Hinton	Summers County, Summers County Board of Education	Dependent on scope of project	General Fund
Provide additional parking at the Amtrak Station	Medium	Mid-Term	16	City of Hinton	Amtrak	Dependent on scope of project	General Fund; Amtrak
Explore opportunities to provide public transportation	High	Mid-Term	16	City of Hinton	Summers County, local businesses, non-profit groups	Dependent on scope of project	General Fund, Grant Sources
Install a unified signage system throughout the city	High	Immediate	16	City of Hinton	New River Gateway CVB; local artists	Interpretive Kiosk- \$3,000-\$5,000 Pedestrian directional mini-kiosk- \$1,500-\$2,400 Parking directional signage- \$300-\$1,000 Vehicular signage- \$2,000-\$3,000	General Fund; Grant Sources
Continue to provide resources to the police department	High	Immediate	20	City of Hinton	N/A	N/A	General Fund
Develop community-orientated policing	High	Mid-Term	20	City of Hinton	City of Hinton Police Department	Dependent on scope of project	General Fund
Partner with Summers County to provide a School Resource Officer for schools	Low	long-term	21	Summers County Board of Education	Summers County, City of Hinton	Dependent on scope of project	General Fund; Grant Sources
Continue to provide resources to the fire department	High	Immediate	21	City of Hinton	N/A	N/A	General Fund
Prepare for emergencies	High	Immediate	21	City of Hinton	Summers County Office of Emergency Management	Dependent on scope of project	General Fund; Grant Sources
Provide water and sewer infrastructure for all residents	High	long-term	22	City of Hinton	West Virginia American Water; Region 1 PDC	Dependent on scope of project	General Fund; Grant Sources
Explore the feasibility of providing additional recreation facilities	High	Immediate	25	City of Hinton	N/A	Dependent on scope of project	General Fund; Grant Sources
Provide recreational programs	Medium	Mid-Term	27	City of Hinton	Active Southern West Virginia	Staff time; dependent on scope of project	General Fund; Grant Sources
Consider partnering with nearby facilities to provide additional recreational opportunities	Medium	Mid-Term	27	City of Hinton	Pipestem Resort; Bluestone Lake State Park	Dependent on scope of project	General Fund
Promote Bluestone State Park and Pipestem State Park to residents and visitors by hosting an annual Summers County Park Appreciation Day	High	Immediate	28	City of Hinton	Summers County Board of Education; Summers County Council on Aging	Staff time; dependent on scope of project	N/A
Explore the feasibility of installing a splash pad at the Wildwater Express Waterslide	Low	long-term	28	City of Hinton	N/A	Dependent on scope of project	General Fund; Grant Sources

Recommendation	Priority	Timeframe	Reference page #	Responsible Party	Recommended Partners	Estimated Costs	Funding Sources
<b>Goal 2: Enhance the appearance of the City by improving housing and building quality.</b>							
Increase code enforcement efforts	High	Immediate	33	City of Hinton	WV Bad Building Program	Staff time	General Fund
Enforce the vacant property registry	High	Immediate	33	City of Hinton	N/A	Staff time	General Fund
Apply for home rule status	Medium	Mid-term	34	City of Hinton	WVU LUSD Clinic	Staff time	General Fund
Extend beautification efforts	High	Immediate	34	City of Hinton	Hinton Full Steam Ahead	Dependent on scope of project	General Fund; Grants
Develop community gardens on vacant lots	Low	long-term	35	City of Hinton	N/A	Staff time	General Fund
Continue to host annual city-wide clean-up events	High	Immediate	36	City of Hinton	City of Hinton Police Department; Hinton Full Steam Ahead	Staff time	General Fund
Sponsor a monthly home and yard contest	Low	long-term	36	City of Hinton	Hinton Full Steam Ahead	Staff time	General Fund
Encourage remote workers to live in Hinton	High	Immediate	36	City of Hinton	West Virginia Development Office	N/A	Grants
Consider adopting the West Virginia Building Code	Medium	Immediate	37	City of Hinton	Summers County	Staff time	General Fund
<b>Goal 3: Strengthen economic development by attracting and supporting new businesses and retail.</b>							
Increase marketing and promotion of local businesses and attractions	High	Immediate	45	New River Gateway CVB	City of Hinton; local businesses	N/A	N/A
Market tax credits for historic preservation and designated opportunity zone	High	Immediate	46	City of Hinton	Hinton Historic Landmarks Commission; State Historic Preservation Office	Staff time	N/A
Consider the formation of a local business group to promote city businesses	High	Immediate	46	Hinton businesses	Hinton Full Steam Ahead	N/A	N/A
Explore opportunities for the Hinton Technology Center	High	Immediate	46	City of Hinton	N/A	Staff time	N/A
Hold additional events to attract visitors	High	Immediate	47	Hinton 2nd Saturdays	City of Hinton	N/A	N/A
Encourage the expansion of internet and cell phone service	High	Immediate	47	City of Hinton	Local businesses	Staff time	N/A
Market Hinton as a destination and venue for conferences	Medium	Mid-term	48	New River Gateway CVB	City of Hinton	Staff time	N/A
Consider hiring a business specialist	High	Immediate	48	City of Hinton	N/A	Staff time	General Fund

Recommendation	Priority	Tiemframe	Reference page #	Responsible Party	Recommended Partners	Estimated Costs	Funding Sources
<b>Goal 4: Encourage appropriate land use to protect the character and resources of the City</b>							
Update the zoning ordinance to be consistent with the comprehensive plan	High	Immediate	59	City of Hinton	WVU LUSD Clinic	New zoning ordinance-\$20,000-\$30,000	N/A
Continue historic preservation efforts	Medium	long-term	59	Hinton Historic Landmark Commission	MountainPlex Properties	N/A	Grants
Explore the feasibility of developing a memorial celebrating Hinton's railroad history	Medium	long-term	59	City of Hinton	Hinton Railroad Museum	Dependent on scope of project	General Fund; Grants
Update the floodplain ordinance	Low	long-term	60	City of Hinton	WVU LUSD Clinic	N/A	N/A
Consider annexation of properties adjacent to city limits	Medium	mid-term	60	City of Hinton	Summers County	Staff time	General Fund

# Top Priorities

There are 39 action items detailed in the comprehensive plan. As funding and staff capacity and resources are limited, the Planning Commission decided to choose eight (8) action items to focus efforts on immediately in order to jump start the implementation of the comprehensive plan. All the action items listed in the plan are important, but the top eight should be considered high priorities for the city. The last three action items listed address abandoned and dilapidated buildings. The Planning Commission feels that these 3 (three) action items should be completed in steps.

**Complete paving projects throughout the city**

**Develop a sidewalk plan to help prioritize sidewalk repairs and construction**

**Explore the feasibility of providing additional recreation facilities**

**Increase marketing and promotion of local businesses and attractions**

**Hold additional events to attract visitors**

**Increase code enforcement efforts (Step 1)**

**Continue to host annual city-wide clean-up events (Step 2)**

**Enforce the vacant property registry (Step 3)**

The Planning Commission created a survey to solicit input from the general public on recommendations and how to pay for them. The survey asked residents to select the top five action items they felt the City should focus on implementing first. A total of 402 people participated in the survey. The top five action items chosen by the public are:

### Top 5 Action Items

1. Complete paving projects of roads that are determined to be in particularly bad condition
2. Provide recreational programs for youth, adults, and seniors (programs could include arts and crafts, outdoor adventure, technology, sports, youth soccer league, health/fitness, educational programming, senior fitness, book club, excursions and card games)
3. Continue to provide resources to the police department through budgeting and grants by replacing aging police vehicles, hiring additional police, and increasing patrols
4. Partner with Summers County to provide a School Resource Officer for schools
5. Explore the feasibility of providing an indoor recreation facility, constructing a park in the West End neighborhood, providing additional recreational amenities in Town Square Park, and constructing an amphitheater

*NOTE: The online survey identified adopting an ordinance under WV Code Section 8-12-16 to address structures that are dangerous or detrimental to the community. Hinton adopted that ordinance in February of 2021, so this action step has been removed as a priority.*

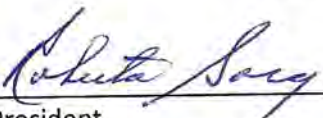
**APPENDIX 1:  
PUBLIC INPUT  
PROCEDURES**

**City of Hinton, West Virginia**  
**Planning Commission**  
**The Comprehensive Plan Procedures for Public Input**

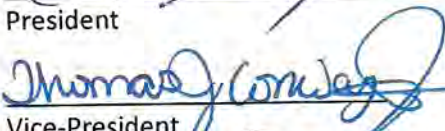
Pursuant to the requirements of W. Va. Code § 8A-3-6(c), the Planning Commission of the City of Hinton, West Virginia ("Hinton Planning Commission") hereby adopts the following procedures to encourage and promote public participation in the drafting of the Hinton Comprehensive Plan ("comprehensive plan"). The comprehensive plan is being drafted pursuant to W. Va. Code § 8A-1-1.


- (1) The Hinton Planning Commission will request input from other affected governing bodies and units of governments that may be affected by the adoption of the comprehensive plan.
- (2) Under W. Va. Code § 8A-3-6(b), once the Hinton Planning Commission has completed a draft of the comprehensive plan, and before the Hinton Planning Commission submits a plan to the City Council for adoption or consent, it must publicize and hold a public hearing on the draft of its plan.
  - a. More particularly, under W. Va. Code § 8A-3-6(b), at least thirty (30) days prior to the date set for the public hearing, the Planning Commission will publish a notice of the date, time and place of the public hearing as a Class I legal advertisement in compliance with the provisions of article three, chapter fifty-nine of the West Virginia Code. The notice shall run in a general circulating publication, the publication area will be the area that will be covered by the comprehensive plan.
  - b. In addition to the requirements at W. Va. Code § 8A-3-6(b), above, the Hinton Planning Commission will publish its draft of the comprehensive plan at least thirty (30) days prior to the public hearing. Specifically, the Planning Commission will post hardcopies for public review at Hinton City Hall.
- (3) Public notice of Hinton Planning Commission meetings will be given pursuant to the West Virginia Open Governmental Proceedings Act, where applicable.
- (4) No provision herein shall be construed as limiting the Hinton Planning Commission's ability to engage in additional public participation efforts as the Hinton Planning Commission deems appropriate. No provision herein shall prohibit the Hinton Planning Commission from amending these procedures.

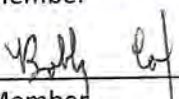
Adopted this 26<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2019.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Vice-President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Member

**APPENDIX 2:  
OPEN HOUSE  
RESULTS**

## Hinton Open House Results from Monday April 29, 2019

*First Question (leave open-ended)*

### **1. Why do you live in Hinton? Why did you stay in Hinton?**

- Moved to Summers County 10 years ago on a full-time basis because of the community feeling (small town, cozy, friendly) and that appealed to my family.
- Lived here over 54 years. When property around me was better taken care of, but owners passed and now homes are rentals or falling in.
- We moved to Hinton after 40 years in Florida for the peace and quiet. However, if the slumlords are not made to clean up their properties, we may move away.
- 42 years later.. natural beauty, exciting architecture, it's home
- Own a business here, but don't live here. I appreciate the quality of life in a small town.
- I visit for the people and the access to the outdoors and the great shops on Main Street.

*Abandoned and dilapidated housing questions*

### **1. What would you be willing to do to remedy or prevent dilapidated buildings?**

- Organize a winter weather group where community members go around and help people prep for the winter – 0
- Spring exterior home painting contest – 0
- Monthly beautiful garden recognition – 1
- Trash removal group – 5
- Support the adoption of building code and/or other regulations – 6
- Donate expert skills to those in need (roof repair, weather-proofing, etc.) – 0
- Others (please list here)
  - i. Not only adopt regulations, but the city needs to enforce existing regulations. Some landlords are allowed to let their properties become dumps and nothing is done about it.
  - ii. Community Development Fund
  - iii. Mandatory Fire Insurance, enough to remove and demolish burned out buildings
  - iv. Housing repurpose/rehab housing
  - v. Support the team in connection to resources through the WV Community Development Hub

### **2. The city owns the Hardwoods building. If funding were not an issue, how should this building be repurposed in the future?**

- Tear it down
- Motel and conference center – 1
- Market concept similar to Capitol Market in Charleston – 1
- Retail shops
- Skating rink – 2
- Community center/after school program
- Training center in cooperation with Workforce or other jobs programs
- Small technology group
- Group home for foster children/recovering addicts
- Arts/Culture/community use – 1

**3. The city owns the Ice Plant. If funding were not an issue, how should this building be repurposed in the future?**

- Industry/manufacturing
- Meetings
- Jazz/music club
- Micro-brewery – 3
- Tourism draw
- Amphitheater – 1

**4. It is a challenge for the city to fund the renovation of the Hardwoods Building and the Ice Plant. Do you have any ideas on how the city could raise money to help with renovations?**

- Grants
- NEA if arts programs are available
- Check into state preservation office, any historical value?
- Community Development Fund (establish this)
- Collaborate with developers for renovations, creative process like sweat equity

**5. Of the two buildings, which should the city focus its efforts on first?**

- **Hardwoods** – 7
- **Ice Plant** – 2

*Recreation questions*

**1. What recreational activities do you participate in when the weather is warm?**

Outdoor

- Bicycling – 0

- Walking/running – 8
- Playground – 0
- Swimming – 4
- Mountain biking – 2
- Hiking – 4
- Fishing – 2
- Boating – 1
- Baseball/Softball – 1
- Football – 0
- Soccer – 0
- Basketball – 0
- Skateboarding – 0
- Camping – 1
- Golf – 0
- Tennis – 0
- Disc Golf – 1
- Volleyball – 0
- Horseshoes – 0
- Climbing – 1
- Mini-golf – 0
- Birdwatching – 1
- Gardening – 3
- Others (please list here)
  - SUP, canoeing, kayaking – 3

### Indoor

- Go to the gym – 2
- Bowling – 0
- Basketball – 1
- Soccer – 0
- Crafting/scrap-booking – 0
- Knitting – 0
- Painting, music, or other art – 2
- Bingo – 0
- Board Games – 1
- Others (please list here)
  - Eating

**2. What recreational activities do you participate in when the weather is cold?**

Outdoor

- Ice fishing – 0
- Ice skating – 2
- Skiing – 2
- Snowshoeing – 1
- Hockey – 0
- Sled-riding – 2
- Others (please list here)

Indoor

- Go to the gym – 2
- Bowling – 0
- Basketball – 1
- Soccer – 0
- Crafting/scrap-booking – 0
- Knitting – 0
- Painting, music, or other art – 2
- Bingo – 0
- Board Games – 0
- Others (please list here)
  - Skating

**3. What activities do you leave Hinton to participate in when the weather is warm, that you would like to see offered in Hinton?**

- Need more shops, etc. – 1
  - Clothing, everyday items, gardening supplies, plants, etc.
- Boating access to river, need something in town in addition to Avis Landing and need to take better care of Bellepoint – 1
- Housing – rooms to fix up dilapidated housing – 1
- Gyms
- Baseball and softball fields

**4. What activities do you leave Hinton to participate in when the weather is cold, that you would like to see offered in Hinton?**

- Gyms
- Snowboarding/snowshoeing/skiing
- Snow/ice building contests

**5. Would you use an amphitheater?**

- Yes – 9
- No – 0

**6. If the answer was yes to the question above, what types of events would you like to see an amphitheater?**

- Music – 8
- Plays – 7
- Recitals – 3
- Comedy – 5
- Magic – 3
- Others (please list here)
  - Network “regionally” to bring artists/performers to get gigs in multiple locations
  - Work with state arts and culture agencies

**7. What kind of special events would you like to see or see more of held in Hinton?**

- Movies in the park – 5
- Kids fishing derby – 3
- Adult fishing derby – 3
- Wild Game Cookoff – 3
- Rubber ducky race – 0
- Arts walk – 3
- Haunted houses – 4
- Oversized waterslide – 2
- Gun shows – 1
- Car shows – 1
- Races (5K) – 3
- Parades – 1
- Holiday events – 2
- Community barbeques – 4
- Carnival – 1
- Others (Please list here)
  - i. Tours of Hilltop Cemetery
  - ii. Tours of town
  - iii. Pup up businesses in empty buildings

- iv. History Alive events
- v. Historic/interesting stories in plays

**8. What types of recreational programs would you like to see offered in Hinton?**

- Aerobics – 5
- Drama – 4
- Art – 5
- Nature – 5
- Programs geared for senior citizens – 4
- Others
  - Self-defense, martial arts
  - Workshops

*Economic development questions*

**1. What could the city do to encourage people to spend money when visiting Hinton?**

- Market with Amtrak (transportation link)
- Make the city look attractive, make property owners and slumlords clean up.
- Brewpub – 1
- Offer an overnight stay package in cooperation with other businesses – 1
- Better shopping. Needs for everyday items, shoes, clothing, household goods. – 1
- Downtown businesses. Too many empty storefronts, particularly on Temple Street.
- Hotel/motel rooms or a B&B
- Connectivity of shops and activating empty spaces between where the businesses/green spaces are, more marketing of natural resources

**2. How could 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays' be improved to get more people to attend?**

- Not sure, I love 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays
- Marketing/advertising/comprehensive
- Alcohol/beer
- Partner with more local organizations

**3. How could the Railroad Festival be improved?**

- Bring the train back – 2
- Get new, better quality vendors

- Focus on bringing railroad collectors to bring their collections for this event. ID other train (mobile) events and bring them here.

#### **4. How could Festival of the Rivers be improved?**

- Don't understand low attendance, maybe this year August 10<sup>th</sup> will bring more people – 1
- Better publicity of all events – 1
- More support from City, more advertising from the state, more support from County Commission, joining with 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays is a great move. – 1
- Find other funding sponsors and sources
- Collaborating more with businesses

#### **5. Which festival is your favorite and why?**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays – 4
- Railroad Festival – 5
- Festival of Rivers – 2
  - I love the Freight Depot
- Others (please list here) – 0

#### **6. How do you find out about events in Hinton?**

- Newspaper – 5
- Church – 0
- Local bulletin board – 1
- Word of mouth – 6
- Social media – 11
- Others (Please list here)

#### **7. What types of events would you like to see in Town Square Park?**

- Country/any music concert
  - For youth and adults
- Flower show
- Story time
- Nature programs
- Music
- Community picnic
- Pop-up businesses

## **8. Is your internet good?**

- Yes – 4
  - But expensive, is there an alternative to SuddenLink?
- No – 4

## **Do you use it for your job?**

- Yes – 6
- No – 0

## **Do you take advantage of the internet to obtain education or work?**

- Yes – 9
- No – 0

### *Land Use*

## **1. How would you like to see Hinton beautify the city?**

- Additional murals – 3
- Public art – 3
- Benches – 1
- Develop gateways at city entrances – 6
- Community gardens – 7
- Landscaping – 4
- Improved signage – 6
- Litter removal – 6
- Other (please list here)
  - Wayfinding for visitors (where Save A Lot is, for instance)
  - Clean up loose grocery carts
  - Tear down homes that are falling in
  - Force landlords to clean up their properties

## **2. How would you like to see Hinton better preserve and highlight its history?**

- Historic walking tour – 9
- Historic plaques on historic buildings - 2
- Signs placed throughout the city explaining the city's rich history – 4
- Historic home tour – 5
- New local holidays – 0
- Celebratory events – 5
- Other (please list here)

- i. We have 5 museums, each works independently, should have more cooperation between groups
- ii. Folk arts school program – 1
- iii. Enforcement of property zoning, clean up rental houses – 2
- iv. Preservation skills workshops
- v. Façade improvement programs

*Public Safety*

**1. What public safety improvements do you see as most needed Hinton?** For example, foot patrols, citizens police academy, DARE program, etc.

- More focus on drug problems, DARE and such for teens
- Give hope to hopeless
- Foot patrol, curb prostitution
- Drug prevention programs

**2. What public safety improvements do you most need or would most likely take advantage of?**

- Neighborhood Watch program?

*Transportation*

**1. How did you get around the city today?**

- Car – 8
- Walk – 7
- Bike – 0
- Public transit – 0

**2. Is the city walkable where you need it to be?**

- Yes – 8
- No – 0

**3. Where do you think the city needs to be more walkable? (Highlight on the map)**

- Whole Temple Street needs fixed
- Save A Lot area could be walkable to the river
- Crossing railroad tracks to the river, for access
- Bluestone Museum
- More scheduled stops for the Cardinal Line

- Amtrak is public transit
- Issues on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street
- Has Uber (one person)
- Connect with other bus systems
- New recreation around 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue

*Catch-all*

**1. What did we miss? What issues do you think need addressed in Hinton? What ideas do you have for improving Hinton?**

- Community development fund
- Information kiosk
- Sport facilities for youth (complex with gym, baseball fields, basketball court, etc.)
- Strong collaboration between groups
- Marketing of natural resources
- Spring clean-up
- 50-billion dollars

**APPENDIX 3:  
ONLINE SURVEY  
RESULTS**

# Q1 In your opinion, what is the most important service that the City of Hinton provides to its residents?

Answered: 124 Skipped: 28

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	The work crews that work to keep Hinton Clean	7/11/2019 12:30 AM
2	The Narcotics Anonymous meeting at the church. The food pantry at the church. But the church by the highrise is not in town. So loaves and fishes would be the service that benefits the community.	6/28/2019 12:06 AM
3	Police protection	6/27/2019 8:19 PM
4	2 fire depts.	6/27/2019 7:58 PM
5	Police, fire and economic incentive.	6/27/2019 4:09 PM
6	Caring first responders	6/27/2019 11:57 AM
7	Police protection	6/27/2019 9:35 AM
8	not a great question - do you mean what Hinton is obligated to provide or extras? Law enforcement, firemen top the list.	6/27/2019 7:56 AM
9	Seems the city has a good law enforcement presence.	6/27/2019 1:34 AM
10	A safe environment	6/26/2019 9:32 PM
11	Fire and police protection.	6/26/2019 8:52 PM
12	How the community pulls together to help each other	6/26/2019 7:13 PM
13	Police protection and security	6/26/2019 2:30 PM
14	The most important service the COH provides would be law enforcement, as a visible deterrent, both to criminals and anyone making wrong a moral choice.	6/26/2019 11:52 AM
15	??????	6/26/2019 7:56 AM
16	Haha is this a joke	6/26/2019 5:53 AM
17	Safety	6/26/2019 5:18 AM
18	Safety	6/25/2019 11:10 PM
19	Sewage	6/25/2019 11:03 PM
20	The hospital and the school. Without these 2 facilities the town would die	6/25/2019 10:09 PM
21	Community support for the athletic teams	6/25/2019 9:42 PM
22	safety by the police department and fire department.	6/25/2019 9:39 PM
23	Street lights, dog catcher, police, and snow plow and road treatments, but stop burying cars.	6/25/2019 9:20 PM
24	Tourism	6/25/2019 9:09 PM
25	I'm not sure	6/25/2019 9:06 PM
26	Police protection	6/25/2019 10:25 AM
27	I'm not sure.	6/25/2019 9:15 AM
28	City police and city workers	6/23/2019 9:09 PM
29	Protection	6/23/2019 4:46 PM
30	A true feeling of security.	6/23/2019 2:51 PM
31	Police & Fire	6/23/2019 7:09 AM
32	Things to do	6/22/2019 5:18 PM

33	The Freight Depot	6/22/2019 3:40 PM
34	Safety	6/22/2019 3:28 PM
35	What does the City actually provide and I will tell u which I think is important.	6/22/2019 3:18 PM
36	police protection	6/22/2019 9:21 AM
37	I really dont have an answer because Im sure that there are things that im unaware of that the city does.	6/21/2019 10:35 PM
38	Police service	6/21/2019 9:40 PM
39	Street cleaners	6/21/2019 9:19 PM
40	Making it a safe place to live.	6/21/2019 6:59 PM
41	Police	6/21/2019 6:39 PM
42	Keeping the river bank mowed	6/21/2019 6:36 PM
43	The most important service any local government can provide is the service of making its citizens safe through the use of a professional police department. In that area, the city of Hinton is doing a great job.	6/21/2019 5:18 PM
44	Beauty	6/21/2019 5:10 PM
45	Safety	6/21/2019 4:56 PM
46	The city clean up done by the officers. It is an amazing example set and shown by the force that shows us just how much love and commitment they have for our city.	6/21/2019 4:46 PM
47	Safe place to live. Well-manicured public environment.	6/21/2019 4:02 PM
48	Fire	6/21/2019 3:26 PM
49	Safety and assistance any time needed.	6/21/2019 2:38 PM
50	Safe place to grow and raise a family	6/21/2019 2:28 PM
51	Fire and Police	6/21/2019 1:34 PM
52	nothing	6/21/2019 1:16 PM
53	Police	6/21/2019 1:16 PM
54	N/A	6/21/2019 12:49 PM
55	Trying to bring the old Hinton back and beautifying it to entice more folks to come here.	6/21/2019 11:43 AM
56	911 services	6/21/2019 11:32 AM
57	safe and clean streets.	6/21/2019 11:25 AM
58	The city workers who work very hard to keep things running smooth.	6/21/2019 10:05 AM
59	Water slide	6/21/2019 9:56 AM
60	None	6/20/2019 10:59 PM
61	Safe and clean environment in which to live and play.	6/20/2019 10:35 PM
62	maintenance all around....	6/20/2019 1:46 PM
63	POLICE DEPARTMENT	6/20/2019 11:53 AM
64	Emergency services	6/20/2019 10:37 AM
65	Law Enforcement	6/19/2019 11:30 PM
66	Police	6/19/2019 9:43 PM
67	Public safety, Fire	6/19/2019 8:09 PM

68	Having what little amenities and resources available whereby residents have to pay in order to utilize does not warrant the recognition of provided services. Even these services are poorly managed. The gym, for example is always filthy, the equipment is always broken and there is not enough equipment considering the monthly revenue generated from the gym alone. There is not a kid friendly area there that parents can confidently leave their children without receiving threats of having membership revoked by the "manager". There should be a kid friendly exercise equipment area so that they can mirror what they see.	6/19/2019 7:45 PM
69	No sure what are all the services you provide.	6/19/2019 6:52 PM
70	Police and fire	6/19/2019 6:32 PM
71	Just asking for our input is good. The ramps on the sidewalks, the tree plantings, watering all the plants, repairing the sidewalks.	6/19/2019 2:11 PM
72	Safety to reside, work, and exist in the area. Strict enforcement of being off the streets after hours.	6/19/2019 12:47 PM
73	Police	6/19/2019 12:41 PM
74	The presentation of an orderly town (looks civilized).	6/19/2019 12:23 PM
75	Fire & police protection	6/19/2019 9:47 AM
76	Fire department and law enforcement services.	6/19/2019 9:10 AM
77	Growth	6/19/2019 8:50 AM
78	Providing a safe and welcoming environment	6/19/2019 8:02 AM
79	Is there any service that they provide adequately?	6/19/2019 6:48 AM
80	Train days	6/19/2019 1:34 AM
81	Police protection	6/18/2019 6:05 PM
82	Fire service with a rapid response time	6/18/2019 5:11 PM
83	safety	6/18/2019 4:52 PM
84	...	6/18/2019 2:45 PM
85	Security	6/18/2019 2:33 PM
86	Public safety	6/18/2019 2:11 PM
87	First responders Maintain streets Support for the schools	6/18/2019 1:55 PM
88	Clean water	6/18/2019 1:28 PM
89	Fire Department	6/18/2019 1:28 PM
90	Police protection/Police involvement in public volunteer programs.	6/18/2019 1:03 PM
91	Emergency Services Fire Police EMS	6/18/2019 12:41 PM
92	I think the most important service that the city of Hinton provides is the police and ambulance services. Considering how many bad things happen in Hinton.	6/18/2019 12:36 PM
93	Fire and police	6/18/2019 12:30 PM
94	Support for businesses, including street and sidewalks	6/18/2019 12:29 PM
95	Fire protection	6/18/2019 12:21 PM
96	Sewer & clean water	6/18/2019 12:01 PM
97	Police protection	6/18/2019 11:50 AM
98	First responders	6/18/2019 11:50 AM
99	Emergency services/public works	6/18/2019 11:21 AM
100	Emergency services	6/18/2019 11:15 AM
101	Protection via law enforcement.	6/18/2019 11:04 AM
102	Community spirit	6/18/2019 10:51 AM

103	One is hard when schools, health, safety, and first responders fall in there. Let's say things that lead to a clean and safe place.	6/18/2019 10:50 AM
104	New development	6/18/2019 10:46 AM
105	Guidance	6/18/2019 10:40 AM
106	Development of new business, jobs and perhaps art and craftsmanship to pull in trade	6/18/2019 10:34 AM
107	Police dept	6/18/2019 10:29 AM
108	Keeping the town clean and providing the residents with a beautiful town to live in.	6/18/2019 10:28 AM
109	Police	6/18/2019 10:16 AM
110	Public parks, assistance to the elderly	6/18/2019 10:11 AM
111	Police	6/18/2019 9:58 AM
112	Fire Department	6/18/2019 9:50 AM
113	Im not sure the city does anything at all for its residences.	6/18/2019 9:48 AM
114	Managing infrastructure	6/18/2019 9:48 AM
115	Police and fire protection	6/18/2019 9:43 AM
116	Trying to assist rehabilitation of homes. Beatification of West End	6/18/2019 9:40 AM
117	City Police Dept.	6/18/2019 9:33 AM
118	I feel that fire & police services are vital to Hinton, I also feel that the city maintenance services are extremely important as well.	6/18/2019 9:31 AM
119	Safety	6/18/2019 9:29 AM
120	Sewer	6/18/2019 9:05 AM
121	?	6/18/2019 8:56 AM
122	Police protection/firefighters	6/18/2019 8:52 AM
123	Activities for the community such as Train Days, Second Saturday's, the Water Festival, etc.	6/18/2019 8:22 AM
124	Safety and cleanliness	6/18/2019 8:11 AM

## Q2 In your opinion, what does the City of Hinton lack in accomplishing?

Answered: 133 Skipped: 19

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	making it more appealing to attract more Visitors from out of the area and out of the state.	7/11/2019 12:30 AM
2	Having trash cleaned up in yards and sidewalks. dilapidated homes tore down and landlords made responsible for trashy properties. Dogs allowed to roam and owners not being fine. People living in properties with no electricity ,should not be allowed to run electric cord from neighbor	6/28/2019 3:07 PM
3	Giving hope to the community for a better future for children.	6/28/2019 12:06 AM
4	Tearing down these old abandoned houses. You need to get rid of all the druggies hanging around on the streets.	6/27/2019 9:40 PM
5	Public service announcements.	6/27/2019 8:19 PM
6	demolition of ruin down homes n buildings	6/27/2019 7:58 PM
7	No offense, but the fire department could do better at putting out more than the remains of the foundation.	6/27/2019 4:09 PM
8	Business growth and lack of youth services	6/27/2019 11:57 AM
9	Control of drug situation	6/27/2019 9:35 AM
10	Bringing in new business/jobs, INTERNET access that doesn't throttle, tearing down old burnt buildings, pothole repair (not just drawing a circle or patching poorly) a variety store (not dollar store) Healthier foods- better produce when farmer's markets aren't running, pressure to reduce drug users, helping homeless return to a productive life and on and on	6/27/2019 7:56 AM
11	More for children and your generations to do.	6/27/2019 1:34 AM
12	Attracting outside business	6/26/2019 9:32 PM
13	Lack of retail businesses	6/26/2019 8:52 PM
14	More places to shop and things for children and teens to do	6/26/2019 7:13 PM
15	Enforcing the clean up of property and homes. Asphaltting of streets and alleys. We have a real problem with stray cats.	6/26/2019 2:30 PM
16	The COH appears to be lacking new business growth opportunities for new job hirings and a growing economy.	6/26/2019 11:52 AM
17	Drug control	6/26/2019 7:56 AM
18	Getting rid of all the filthy dopeheads aka the walking dead from the streets of the city	6/26/2019 5:53 AM
19	Something for kids to do	6/26/2019 5:18 AM
20	Family friendly activities	6/25/2019 11:10 PM
21	Removing inhabitable buildings and correcting the eventual landslide at the top of 11th Avenue	6/25/2019 11:03 PM
22	Decrease the speed limit to 25 on Greenbrier Drive. The Riverfront is being utilized and landscaped by the owners but the speed of traffic is a deterrent to the beauty of Hinton, safety and the property values. Slow down the cars and let the view sink in. Hinton is beautiful. The most valuable free asset of Hinton is the water access to 3 rivers and the lake.	6/25/2019 10:09 PM
23	Creating soup kitchens or shelter for homeless.	6/25/2019 9:42 PM
24	Getting rid of drugs and criminals.	6/25/2019 9:39 PM
25	Indoor recreation for the winter.	6/25/2019 9:20 PM
26	Keeping up on the times	6/25/2019 9:09 PM
27	Again, I am not sure	6/25/2019 9:06 PM

28	Police Protection and patrol	6/25/2019 10:25 AM
29	Activities for youth. During a big snow this winter they blocked my driveway completely with a four foot mound of compacted snow. This was not satisfactorily resolved and I was told that they 'had to put the snow somewhere' the driveway is the only access to the house and I was unable to get in and out. I had to pay to have the snow removed. It was complete and total BS.	6/25/2019 9:15 AM
30	Attracting tourism or event that attract tourist	6/23/2019 9:09 PM
31	Inforcement of trash laws for residences	6/23/2019 4:46 PM
32	New members of the community are not made to feel welcome here. If you are "an outsider" not born and raised in Hinton people shut you out.	6/23/2019 2:51 PM
33	Addressing the needs of ALL residents. We have many residents who are financially and/or physically limited in the downtown area.	6/23/2019 7:09 AM
34	Fixing up places that need help	6/22/2019 5:18 PM
35	City Officials, including the Mayor, City Manager, City Officials, etc do not come out and support a lot of community events. The Mayor is rarely seen supporting events (except sports).	6/22/2019 3:40 PM
36	Fix our sidewalks.	6/22/2019 3:28 PM
37	Justice. Compassion. Follow thru. Our kids are out there on drugs they need something free to do. Something that interests them not us as a different generation..	6/22/2019 3:18 PM
38	community support except for sports	6/22/2019 9:21 AM
39	revitaization	6/21/2019 10:35 PM
40	Getting rid of the drugs	6/21/2019 9:40 PM
41	Cleaning up the disgusting houses on summers and temple	6/21/2019 9:19 PM
42	Cleaning up abandoned property	6/21/2019 6:59 PM
43	Tourism	6/21/2019 6:39 PM
44	Bringing in new business to replace the ones that left or went bankrupt.	6/21/2019 6:36 PM
45	I think the city of Hinton is lacking in providing public assistance to its citizens in the form of a Women's shelter.	6/21/2019 5:18 PM
46	Cleaning up old Coast to Coast/Sweet Rose lot. Major eye sore.	6/21/2019 5:10 PM
47	Road maintenance.	6/21/2019 4:56 PM
48	Keeping the derelict buildings and houses around in claims of it being part of the historical district. The so called 'historical district' is an eyesore with the old buildings and houses with broken out windows, roof and ceilings falling in, porches falling in, etc. If a house or building is left in claims of it being part of the historical district then it needs to be repaired to not only fit the title but also be a safe and attractive viewing of our history. Not looking like an abandoned trailer trash town.	6/21/2019 4:46 PM
49	Proper enforcement of city/county building codes. Too many home safety violations go unchecked.	6/21/2019 4:02 PM
50	Hinton seems to be just another dying town. There are few jobs available, few opportunities for even basic growth, and programs seem aimed at keeping an aging population there instead of growing any youth population.	6/21/2019 3:26 PM
51	Doing stuff with old unmaintained buildings. The house next to mine is abandoned and is infested with bees that swarm my house in the summer, and I'm allergic to bees and my kids can't play outside. There are many places like this, and I feel it really make Hinton look unappealing and run down.	6/21/2019 2:38 PM
52	Further growth to expands Hinton's economy	6/21/2019 2:28 PM
53	Cleaning up the area and better control of crime	6/21/2019 1:34 PM
54	taking care of the children	6/21/2019 1:16 PM
55	Better roads and sidewalks	6/21/2019 1:16 PM
56	Growth and equal opportunities	6/21/2019 12:49 PM
57	More businesses and activities	6/21/2019 12:09 PM

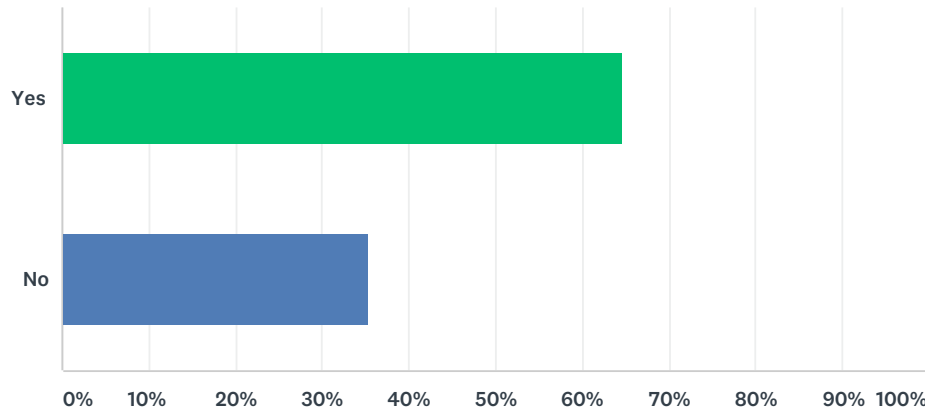
58	Places to eat. The market is a wonderful asset to Hinton. However they close at 8 and lots of times people have thing going on and need to eat later. Pizza Hut was a good option, but the service has become terrible. Kirk's great place to eat but they close at 8. DQ is not what it use to be. A hometown homecookin restraurant would be awesome. Also shopping. No where to buy simple things.	6/21/2019 12:08 PM
59	Getting rid of the drugs and other promiscuous things that take place.	6/21/2019 11:43 AM
60	Assisting poor elderly without resources (l.e. transportation)	6/21/2019 11:32 AM
61	Lack of having the citizens feel safe and secure in their homes.	6/21/2019 11:25 AM
62	The ability to work with and or welcome new purposeful businesses to the area.	6/21/2019 10:05 AM
63	promoting a healthy, active lifestyle	6/21/2019 9:56 AM
64	More jobs	6/20/2019 11:40 PM
65	Getting rid of drugs/dealing with the problem	6/20/2019 10:59 PM
66	Paying Sanitary Bills on line	6/20/2019 10:35 PM
67	community development money	6/20/2019 1:46 PM
68	NEW BUSINESSES AND NEW BUILDINGS	6/20/2019 11:53 AM
69	Repeat Offenders and Substance Abuse	6/19/2019 11:30 PM
70	More patrol in town. People constantly fighting on streets In business areas. Carrying bats ,steel bars etc pacing streets.	6/19/2019 9:43 PM
71	Coummunity and buisness owner buy in and involment seperate of the self serving politics that are stuck in their ways with closed minds.	6/19/2019 8:09 PM
72	Establishing an administration that is qualified to preside in their respective stations.	6/19/2019 7:45 PM
73	Dealing with falling down houses and abandoned cars, etc.	6/19/2019 6:52 PM
74	Taking care of the drug problem	6/19/2019 6:32 PM
75	Wish abandon housing were taken care of, HUD inspections and landlord oversight. Why was the skateboard facility moved to Bellepoint?	6/19/2019 2:11 PM
76	The houses are in terrible condition in this areas and it's a total eye sore. Make them fix it or tear it down! Stop allowing a dump in the area with nicer homes. Enforce city codes!	6/19/2019 12:47 PM
77	Lack of a store to purchase needed items some people can't travel an hour to a store so they do without	6/19/2019 12:41 PM
78	The trash on the main streets. Make the Hub building stop putting garbage out front even if it takes negotiations with Southern Sanitation. Needles laying all around downtown til I am SICK of finding them. Also stop letting lazy people park on our sidewalks, especially Temple St & Summers St. - they can carry groceries 12 ft across a road.	6/19/2019 12:23 PM
79	Keeping individual responsible for the upkeep of their property. Example, mowing lawns, cleaning junk/trash off porches & out of yards. Not keeping the alley ways clean of trash, junk cars/parts & run down buildings. Not making individuals take down burnt overgrown buildings. Example the street near the elementary school & up the road to the cemetery. That house burned how many years ago & the debris are falling into the street. The lots up that way are never mowed or cleaned. The property on Temple Street which was condemned several years ago, the houses not taken down nor the hillside cut. Just examples of improvement to make our city look better to residents & visitors. Ticket those individuals who work on their vehicles on the street, leaving oil stains & old parts laying around. It makes the property of those if us who keep our property up look bad & reduce the price if we try to sell.	6/19/2019 9:47 AM
80	Jobs. Good police. Not doing anything about the drugs or prostitution	6/19/2019 9:26 AM
81	Removing drugs from streets.	6/19/2019 8:50 AM
82	Lack in trying to get rid of the drug problem. The mayor and city manager are more concerned about looking good in the public eye rather than protecting the city from drug related crimes	6/19/2019 8:02 AM
83	Dealing with condemed houses and buildings. The land that is shifting on West End. Getting more new businesses	6/19/2019 6:48 AM

84	Jobs... there arent many	6/19/2019 1:34 AM
85	Community events, events for kids & teenagers & the lack of tearing down falling buildings & homes.	6/19/2019 1:20 AM
86	Indoor activities for children during the winter	6/18/2019 5:11 PM
87	There are few jobs or other opportunities for bettering the economy. Many streets lack sufficient lighting, or sidewalks. The place is littered with used needles.	6/18/2019 4:52 PM
88	Making it feel like a community. Young old poor rich, all equal. Instead of like a clique where your belongingness is all in who you know.	6/18/2019 2:45 PM
89	Getting more places to shop	6/18/2019 2:33 PM
90	Getting rid of decrepit buildings, enforcing housing standards (tall grass. Etc). Small businesses need more support and make city more tourist friendly.	6/18/2019 2:11 PM
91	We need to create green space for the community in the areas where the buildings should be condemned.	6/18/2019 1:55 PM
92	structures that need to be torn down	6/18/2019 1:52 PM
93	Clean up of dilapidated buildings/homes	6/18/2019 1:28 PM
94	The city lacks activities such as shopping, restaurants, and places for kids to hang out. I'd like to see a bowling alley and new stores.	6/18/2019 1:28 PM
95	Police foot patrols through city. Faster response time.	6/18/2019 1:03 PM
96	People that know what they are doing	6/18/2019 12:38 PM
97	In my opinion I feel as if the city of Hinton lacks places for teens and young adults to socialize and hangout. I feel like something like that would get more teenagers off the streets and allowing them to have more fun.	6/18/2019 12:36 PM
98	Fleet and tool updating	6/18/2019 12:30 PM
99	Economic development. Bring in the jobs	6/18/2019 12:29 PM
100	Modern equipment and trucks for fire	6/18/2019 12:21 PM
101	Improving public areas, like " needle park". Aggressively seeking a new tenent for the old Magic Mart. A specialist is needed to bring business in...a phone call is not enough!	6/18/2019 12:01 PM
102	Demolition of unsafe or abandoned buildings. Need a system of inspection of rental properties on a regular basis to insure compliance with city code.	6/18/2019 11:50 AM
103	Entertainment for children	6/18/2019 11:50 AM
104	Providing enough extracurricular activities for people in general. Not everyone has a car to drive to Pipestem. There should be more activities in Hinton.	6/18/2019 11:40 AM
105	Transportation, affordable housing (not HUD)	6/18/2019 11:18 AM
106	Code enforcement	6/18/2019 11:15 AM
107	Places for youth and teens throughout town. Free places like the old skate park.	6/18/2019 11:09 AM
108	Getting big business to set up shop so that good jobs are created. Manufacturing jobs of some sort would be good. We have have a Railroad in to haul parts in & products out. For a change, Stop focusing on entertainment & places to eat. That doesn't pay the bills & it's pretty much seasonal.	6/18/2019 11:04 AM
109	Confidence	6/18/2019 10:51 AM
110	Public information, which is improving lately. Let people know what the City is doing for them, they will be more willing to support it (participate and vote for levies). Also catalog and send notices to abandon property owners. Don't allow slum lords.	6/18/2019 10:50 AM
111	Not sure	6/18/2019 10:46 AM
112	Doing ok	6/18/2019 10:40 AM
113	Meth crackdowns	6/18/2019 10:34 AM
114	Town has cleaned up in certain areas but like when you are coming in to town and west end is the first thing you see it look horrible.	6/18/2019 10:29 AM

115	Providing opportunities for entertainment, especially for young people.	6/18/2019 10:28 AM
116	Getting the drug dealers off the streets!!	6/18/2019 10:16 AM
117	Things for our youth. We have nothing for the tween/teenagers/younger children. The park is the only thing we have and teenagers do not go there often. Our town us also very run down and is not as beautiful as it once was. We are turning tourists away by not keeping up with the buildings and roads.	6/18/2019 10:11 AM
118	Efficient police work	6/18/2019 9:58 AM
119	Cleaning up the abandoned houses	6/18/2019 9:50 AM
120	Government transparency.	6/18/2019 9:48 AM
121	Social media and general promotion	6/18/2019 9:48 AM
122	Truly cracking down on drugs and littering	6/18/2019 9:43 AM
123	Jobs. Ability to attract college and technical schooled back home for their work future. Replacement for Magic Mart	6/18/2019 9:40 AM
124	Drugs Control	6/18/2019 9:33 AM
125	The city of Hinton lacks in attracting new businesses, advocating for services to address substance use disorders, addressing dilapidated structures/properties (not only are these an eyesore but also pose safety risk).	6/18/2019 9:31 AM
126	Bringing in new businesses	6/18/2019 9:29 AM
127	Stores to shop	6/18/2019 9:18 AM
128	Bringing in new business	6/18/2019 9:05 AM
129	Get rid of all these falling apart abandoned houses . They look terrible and hurt our town and invite drugs and vandalism	6/18/2019 9:03 AM
130	I feel like all of the attention is focused on the areas around the market/courthouse. The West end gets no attention & is starting to look extremely trashy especially with the houses on the hillsides starting to shift	6/18/2019 8:56 AM
131	Bringing in new businesses that will in turn drive the economy and bring more tourism to the area. We should be focusing on bringing tech businesses to the area, Like Intuit coming to Bluefield, that should and could have been Hinton.	6/18/2019 8:34 AM
132	Having safe places for kids to play in ALL areas of Hinton, not just Bellepoint Park. Having kid friendly places to go, for free/cheaply.	6/18/2019 8:22 AM
133	the city needs more focus on advertising our beautiful town.	6/18/2019 8:11 AM

### Q3 Are you satisfied with the services provided by the police department?

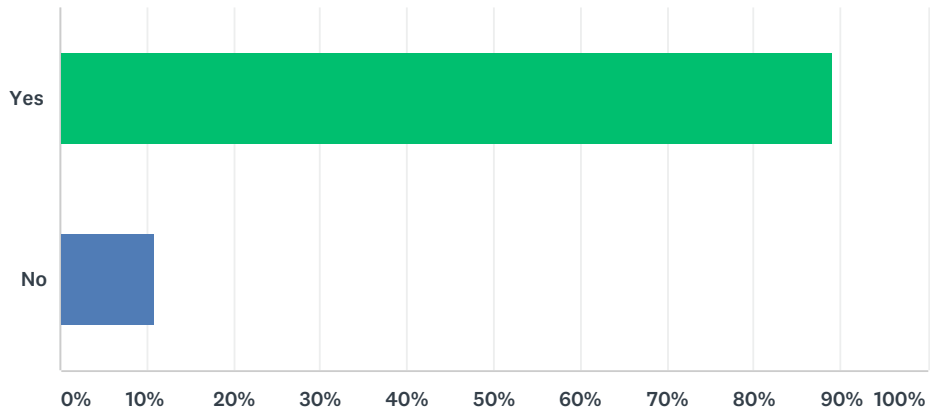
Answered: 147 Skipped: 5



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	64.63%	95
No	35.37%	52
TOTAL		147

### Q4 Are you satisfied with the services provided by the fire department?

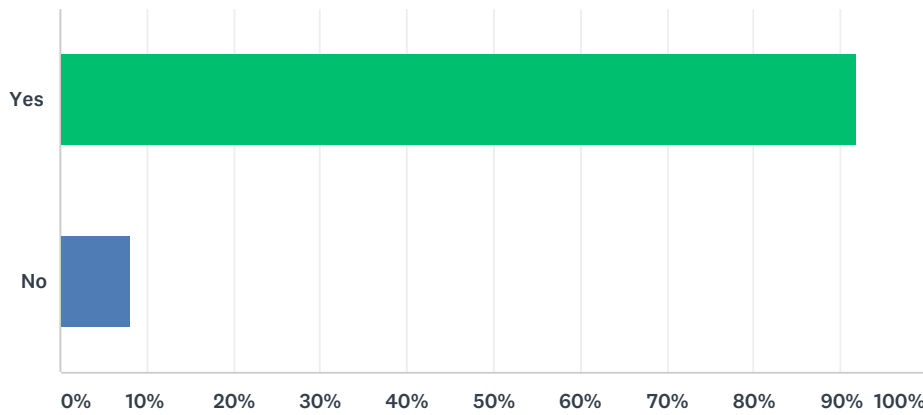
Answered: 148 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	89.19%	132
No	10.81%	16
TOTAL		148

### Q5 Would you support increased code enforcement to address abandoned and dilapidated buildings?

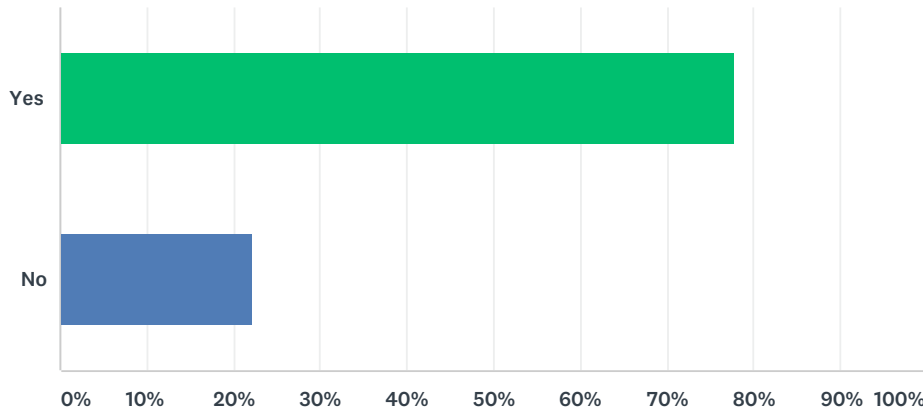
Answered: 148 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	91.89%	136
No	8.11%	12
TOTAL		148

### Q6 Would you support the adoption of the WV State Building Code?

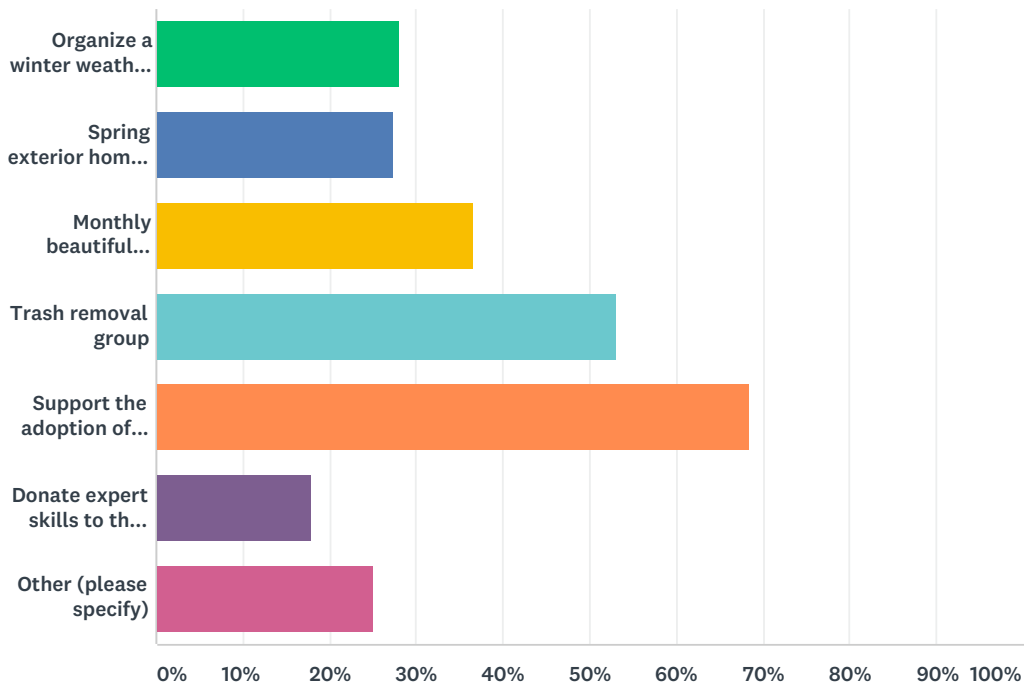
Answered: 140 Skipped: 12



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	77.86%	109
No	22.14%	31
TOTAL		140

### Q7 What would you be willing to do to remedy or prevent dilapidated buildings? (Check all that apply)

Answered: 139 Skipped: 13



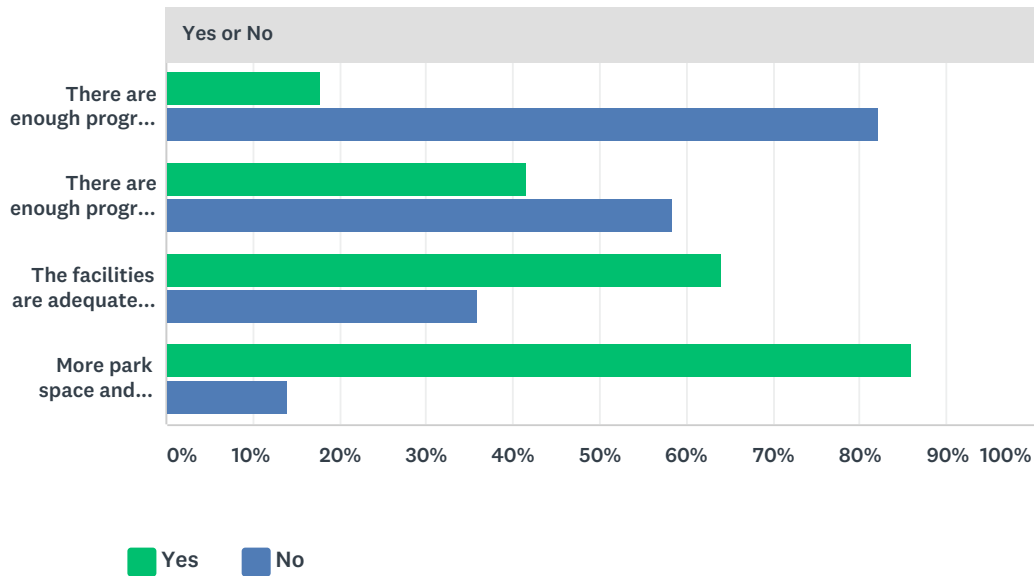
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Organize a winter weather group where community members go around and help people prep for the winter	28.06%	39
Spring exterior home painting contest	27.34%	38
Monthly beautiful garden recognition	36.69%	51
Trash removal group	53.24%	74
Support the adoption of building code and/or other regulations	68.35%	95
Donate expert skills to those in need (roof repair, weather-proffing, etc.)	17.99%	25
Other (please specify)	25.18%	35
Total Respondents: 139		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	enforcement the ordinance on the books about building up keep and maintainance, and come down on the Landlords that are the problem with the bad buildings.	7/11/2019 12:30 AM
2	I would make the people who break the laws and damage the town work to fix those buildings up. No matter who they are	6/28/2019 12:06 AM
3	Tax break for renovations or new construction.	6/27/2019 4:09 PM
4	Tearing down dipapidated buildings	6/27/2019 11:57 AM
5	Tax benefits for those that keep their property clean.	6/26/2019 2:30 PM
6	Tear them all down	6/26/2019 5:53 AM
7	Something for young people too do	6/26/2019 5:18 AM
8	Adopt a town ordinance to comply with rules. Or historic district rules. Also buildings can be fire and safety hazards governed by standard law. These buildings may already be in safety violation. Town ordinances can be adopted based on safety and fire hazards to implement fines. Possibly without moving federal code and certified inspectors. Alderson has town ordinances. They hang notices, fine, tear down, condemn.	6/25/2019 10:09 PM
9	legal action against owners who violate the codes.	6/25/2019 9:39 PM
10	Strict enforcement for landlords and get rid of slumlords. They either keep up or sell.	6/21/2019 10:35 PM
11	Ticket those not cleaning up	6/21/2019 9:19 PM
12	Tear them down	6/21/2019 5:10 PM
13	I am working to make my own home safe, and an asset to the neighborhood first.	6/21/2019 4:02 PM
14	have tryed multiple things a house next door is 10 feet away and has been abandoned over 25 years, ya'll don't do anything to help	6/21/2019 1:16 PM
15	Unless it's to help elderly, disabled and such, I am afraid if you offered trash removal, mowing and such, people will become lazier and expect things done by others without a type of actual need application. Some may need grants or assistance for repairs according to codes. Again, on a true need application.	6/21/2019 11:43 AM
16	meet with the owners and discuss remedies for their property.	6/21/2019 11:25 AM
17	Would be open to all of these as long as programs apply to all owners equally and not used to bully certain citizens.	6/21/2019 10:05 AM
18	In Huntington and Charleston I understAnd they have found a way to be able to legally demolish old dilapidated structures even though they are owned by absent landowners. Look into this	6/20/2019 10:35 PM
19	repurpose and upgrade housing stock	6/20/2019 1:46 PM
20	Some buildings would cost thousands to bri g to code. I would support this if there was help available for the cost	6/19/2019 9:43 PM
21	Fund raisers, events to help home owners on fixed incomes update and paint. Hold building owners accountable for condition of rental properties.	6/19/2019 8:09 PM
22	Conduct a performance appraisal on the individual who is responsible for making sure these objectives are met. Ultimately it is the responsibility of the building owner.	6/19/2019 7:45 PM
23	Wish I could be more involved.	6/19/2019 2:11 PM
24	Free trash pick up quarterly	6/19/2019 12:47 PM
25	If the cops cared, I would report on a non-emergency line when I saw a known heroin addict going to a heroin dealer's home so that cases could be built to stop the dealer.	6/19/2019 12:23 PM
26	We need to encouraged local residents to do community gardening on some of the abandoned or vacant lots. Help to set up compost bins at each site to encourage replenishing the soil & to	6/19/2019 9:47 AM

	keep garden spots clean & cleared of vegetation. The WVU extension service use to provide fee seeds & offer gardening expertise free to local individuals lots	
27	Many of the condemned buildings should be demolished, even if it is at the city's expense. The lots could be sold or used as gardens or playgrounds.	6/18/2019 4:52 PM
28	Open a space up for a community garden.	6/18/2019 2:45 PM
29	Vacant buildings/old burnt buildings need to be addressed or torn down	6/18/2019 1:03 PM
30	Spring or fall cleanup	6/18/2019 11:15 AM
31	Don't waste the Paint. If it's dilapidated get rid of it.	6/18/2019 11:04 AM
32	House by house beautify, start with historic district and work out. Paint and facade help for owners who can't afford, labor help for those who can.	6/18/2019 10:50 AM
33	Educational team in the community to help educate people on weatherization methods	6/18/2019 9:05 AM
34	Possibly some type of grants for people who cannot afford to make needed repairs.	6/18/2019 8:52 AM
35	Hire a incensed and insured building inspector or general contractor to enforce code, similar to beckley.	6/18/2019 8:34 AM

### Q8 What is your opinion about the recreation provided in the City of Hinton? Please answer yes or no.

Answered: 149 Skipped: 3



Yes or No			
	YES	NO	TOTAL
There are enough programs and facilities for teens and children	17.69% 26	82.31% 121	147
There are enough programs and facilities for senior citizens	41.67% 60	58.33% 84	144
The facilities are adequately maintained	64.03% 89	35.97% 50	139
More park space and facilities are needed	85.92% 122	14.08% 20	142

## Q9 What types of recreation would you like to see in Hinton?

Answered: 120 Skipped: 32

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	More water activities, and more access to the river aka public beaches,	7/11/2019 12:30 AM
2	More cultural activities	6/28/2019 3:07 PM
3	I would like to see something for the young people.	6/28/2019 12:06 AM
4	Evening rec center intramurals.	6/27/2019 8:19 PM
5	A youth soccer league, maybe a babe ruth baseball league, swimming pool, more picnic shelters, a place for tents for people to camp on river, a walking track for Adults	6/27/2019 7:58 PM
6	Something not owned by Ken allman, get some other investors to put money in the town.	6/27/2019 4:09 PM
7	Bowling skating dances fishing tournament for kids art music center	6/27/2019 11:57 AM
8	Roller skating. Swimming lessons. Local history theatre performances. Shooting/archery contests. AQUATIC and FISHING activities using the Lake and rivers. Partner more with Pipestem Stste Park...shuttle into town and back?	6/27/2019 9:35 AM
9	Bluestone lake activities	6/27/2019 7:56 AM
10	Perhaps a small skating rink for kids and adults.	6/26/2019 9:32 PM
11	Outdoor (camping, fishing and General water sports.	6/26/2019 8:52 PM
12	Roller skating rink Game Rooms bowling alley	6/26/2019 7:13 PM
13	Bowling alley	6/26/2019 1:46 PM
14	1. Rock-Wall climbing. 2. Water theme park, multiple slides, lazy river, kid friendly water area, easy access paved parking... 3. Hiking club, especially to encourage new walkers on trails, etc 4. Ski/boat club teaching water safety, CPR, and non alcoholic family fun. 5. Riverboat rides w/evening dinner and live entertainment. 6. Improving Bellpoint Ballpark. 7. Winter easy ski runs (rather than travelling to other State locations). 8. 'Duck' mobile amphibious rides tours of Hinton then ride on Lake Bluestone. 9. Annual "Hinton Mountain" 3K/5K running event with money awards from registration. (Area like from Memorial Bldg, up James St, to 5th, to Ballengee St, to 7th Ave, to Temple St to old Riverview School/Eades to Summers St, to 2nd Ave, to Memorial Bldg/Veteran's Wall area. 10. Walker's Club (lo-impact).	6/26/2019 11:52 AM
15	Running the dope heads out of town	6/26/2019 5:53 AM
16	Skate ring or bowling alley	6/26/2019 5:18 AM
17	Family friendly roller rink	6/25/2019 11:10 PM
18	I would like to see the old skate park be used	6/25/2019 11:03 PM
19	Baseball leagues for kids need to get back in action. Rec leagues for basketball and football. Anything for kids would be awesome.	6/25/2019 10:09 PM
20	Skating, or a rec center for the youth / pool tables, arcade games, fountains concessions. Brother/sister program for the youth in bad homes.	6/25/2019 9:42 PM
21	Bowling alley, skating rink, more movie theater days and longer hours of operation.	6/25/2019 9:39 PM
22	Indoor recreation. Something that people can go to in the winter who can't afford movies and sports. Just a basketball court with a vending machine or carpet pool and football table.	6/25/2019 9:20 PM
23	More camping grounds	6/25/2019 9:09 PM
24	Hinton needs a taxi. Some elderly have no means of transportation	6/25/2019 10:25 AM
25	Park for children downtown. Bellepoint is nice but not accessible for everyone.	6/25/2019 9:15 AM
26	Indoor pool, basketball gym& rails to trails or other safe bike paths/routes	6/23/2019 9:09 PM

27	Parks	6/23/2019 4:46 PM
28	More family oriented events, especially for the teenagers and younger children.	6/23/2019 2:51 PM
29	Walking groups/Bridge walks.	6/23/2019 7:09 AM
30	More shops and fun things to do	6/22/2019 5:18 PM
31	More activities for families that the Gym would sponsor.	6/22/2019 3:40 PM
32	Safe walking areas and/or trails.	6/22/2019 3:28 PM
33	Free .. made for the new generation. Get them involved.. I dont know how true but still a thought.	6/22/2019 3:18 PM
34	skating rink, bowling	6/22/2019 9:21 AM
35	Main thing is something for the kids to do. I feel that would be a major deterrent in kids getting in trouble and getting on drugs.	6/21/2019 10:35 PM
36	Bowling alley skate park a place where the youth and teens can go somewhere safe to hang out	6/21/2019 9:40 PM
37	Teen opportunities in main st area	6/21/2019 9:19 PM
38	A recreation center for teens. Inside basket ball court, corn hole, shuffle board, etc. Get them off the street in a positive setting.	6/21/2019 6:59 PM
39	Concerts	6/21/2019 6:39 PM
40	I think there is enough recreation in Hinton already, and our local government needs to focus more social problems within our community.	6/21/2019 5:18 PM
41	Add a large pool (Bluestone or Pipestem's as example) which would attract a considerable amount of summer business to the town. The waterslide is a nice attraction, but only on a small scale. Offer more water activities. Open advertisement of hot spots to swim, fish and boat (more then just the lake). Bring in a gardening or greenhouse center. A way to educate people on growing their own foods or decorative plants, plant care and personal care from plant derivarives, identification of local plants and how to live with or around them. We are a small town with a lot of kids who smother from little to do at all, or safely; beautiful rivers and a lake, with a town full of people with little to no water education or even basic swimming knowledge; and abundant wildlife in all directions, that most people don't know how to recognize or handle. The city should take an open incentive to educating and involving it's people in what we always have around us. These woods and rivers are as much of our city as these buildings and roads, all of which a public attraction in its own right.	6/21/2019 4:46 PM
42	Safer places to ride a bicycle. More opportunities in winter months for hiking, ice skating, cross country skiing, etc.	6/21/2019 4:02 PM
43	Literally any. Beyond Bellpoint Park, there seem to be zero green public spaces, and absolutely no spaces for interesting things for adults to do such as festivals.	6/21/2019 3:26 PM
44	Bowling alley, roller skating, indoor pool for year round swim, community garden	6/21/2019 2:38 PM
45	Bowling would be a great thing for teens and adults. Would be perfect in the old magic mart in my opinion.	6/21/2019 2:28 PM
46	All season activities	6/21/2019 1:34 PM
47	Bowling alley indoor pool and bring back 4th of July celebrations	6/21/2019 1:16 PM
48	Something free for unprivileged children. Everything the city provides now is priced to keep poor children from enjoying them.	6/21/2019 12:49 PM
49	Family oriented. Affordable places and activities so those with small incomes can go instead of hanging on the streets	6/21/2019 11:43 AM
50	Anything that is easily accessible for people that live anywhere but Bellepoint would be an improvement:)	6/21/2019 11:32 AM
51	teen town, where all the teens can gather to have fun, as in games (pin pong, checkers, chess, dancing, cards and other fun games and field trips (like snow skiing, water skiing, swimming and billiards.	6/21/2019 11:25 AM
52	Would like to see a community center in place as well as programs to encourage positive community interaction/participation.	6/21/2019 10:05 AM

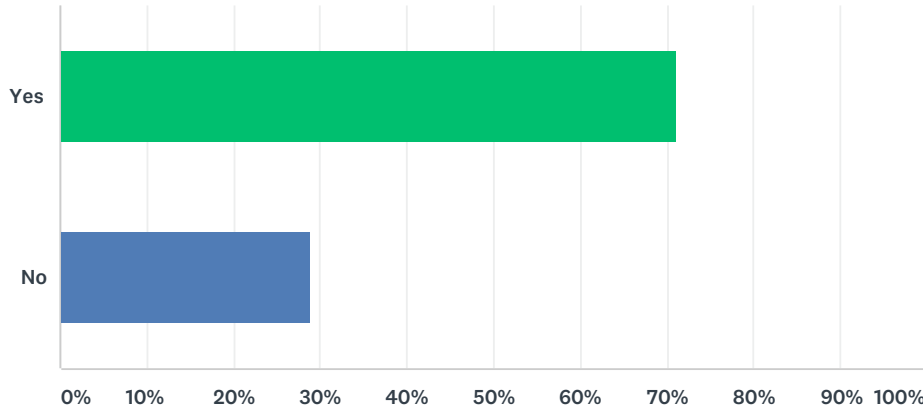
53	Indoor recreational area, arcade, places to sit outside and work on a computer,	6/21/2019 9:56 AM
54	river walk, boat launch/lockers, river water trail for boaters	6/20/2019 1:46 PM
55	BICYCLE TRAILS/ OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES	6/20/2019 11:53 AM
56	Riverwalk	6/20/2019 10:37 AM
57	Youth need more year round opportunities to exercise with Obesity a current health issue.	6/19/2019 11:30 PM
58	More uses of the park on temple. Bicycle trail, large playground, ice skating or skating . DJ for dances in the park on weekends. Coffee shop with wifi. More small restaraunts.	6/19/2019 9:43 PM
59	Set up fee based activities, Rafting, kyaking, river floats could even do snorkling in some locations of Greenbriar river.	6/19/2019 8:09 PM
60	A modernized park that is independent and out of the control of the corps of engineers.	6/19/2019 7:45 PM
61	An indoor pool	6/19/2019 6:52 PM
62	Bowling, roller skating.	6/19/2019 6:32 PM
63	Again, why was the skateboard facility moved, not being available to a lot of kids.	6/19/2019 2:11 PM
64	A park in downtown Hinton with swings, outdoor equipment like slides, basketball area, picnic area... Needs to be GATED with specific hours posted and monitored. Youth and elderly deserve a place to play, rest, or sit.	6/19/2019 12:47 PM
65	None	6/19/2019 12:41 PM
66	It would be great to see people in Hinton exercising outdoors. It seems many people utilize the fitness center but driving through town you would have no idea anyone ever exercises in this town. Establish a safe walking path through town on which side walks are not caving in. Build a walking path similar to that at Ritter Park in Huntington.	6/19/2019 12:23 PM
67	Swimming instructions, create a city bus which would schedule time/day to drive seniors & parents with children to Bluestone/ Pipestem Parks for a day if picnic, swimming, hiking, biking. Encourage the Senior Citizens to participate in oral history at the public library or city build to encourage young adults or child to learn about the history of Hinton & Summers Co. Have a walking promotion to educated locals on the facade of our buildings, why w the planters are planted & hung each year. Tour front street to explain the repairs & upgrade the City plans for the future. Winter fun for kids at the courthouse lawn, example build snow man/ house competition w/hot chocolate. S do a Touch the Truck charge 1.00 to let kids & old sit inside the trucks, tractors, get an old car have washable paints let the kids/adults paint or do hand prints (2.00\$) pays for paint. Have a 50' car hop w music, rootbeer & coke floats, dress in 50's atire & give prizes(ticket for outdoor drive in@ Lerona). Do a 70' disco on the deck ifvthe train baggage building reasonable hours for the neighborhood. Many other ideas	6/19/2019 9:47 AM
68	Bowling more movies more activities	6/19/2019 9:26 AM
69	Something for our youth besides swimming activities. Those are great but not everyone swims and in the winter they aren't an option.	6/19/2019 9:10 AM
70	Things for our children like bowling or skating etc	6/19/2019 8:50 AM
71	Indoor recreation area, more non athletic activities	6/19/2019 8:02 AM
72	A bowling alley, roller skating, recreation center	6/19/2019 6:48 AM
73	I would like to see the high school get an ROTC program or a few other choices for students to participate in. I would like to see more things geared for younger children to participate in	6/19/2019 3:57 AM
74	Bowling alley, indoor basketball gym, skating ring. Etc. Anything would be nice	6/19/2019 1:34 AM
75	Bowling alley, skating rink, amphitheatre	6/19/2019 1:20 AM
76	Utilization of the waterfront with increased access.	6/18/2019 10:20 PM
77	Indoor activities for children. Affordable outdoor activities in the summer such as the water slide. A family of 4 would be \$32 before any snacks or drinks.	6/18/2019 5:11 PM
78	I would really like to see additional equipment at the gym. The gym needs a quality rowing machine and an Assault bike. Physical exercise programs beyond organized school sports for children. This is especially important during fall through early spring when the weather can be nasty.	6/18/2019 4:52 PM

79	Indoor pool, adult only swim night at the outdoor pool, places to play pool or family games with no drinking. Open Mic night. Karaoke. Better skate park for the teens.	6/18/2019 2:45 PM
80	More shopping areas	6/18/2019 2:33 PM
81	A recreational center; mentoring and coaching for children; swimming lessons; sports facilities, including a basketball court and tennis court; bike path	6/18/2019 1:55 PM
82	community gatherings	6/18/2019 1:52 PM
83	Bowling or trampoline park	6/18/2019 1:28 PM
84	Bowling alley, shops, activities for the river. Maybe hold fishing contest at the lake.	6/18/2019 1:28 PM
85	We need FAMILY places in Hinton. Bowling alley/Skating rink/safe bicycle trail etc.	6/18/2019 1:03 PM
86	Kids have nothing to do. Activity center would be a good start, somewhere kids could go and stay outnif trouble. Place to have dances and get together.	6/18/2019 12:41 PM
87	I would like to see more places for young adults and teenagers. More stores to choose from. And maybe even a better park for the children	6/18/2019 12:36 PM
88	Outdoor recreation	6/18/2019 12:30 PM
89	Activities for young people	6/18/2019 12:29 PM
90	Arcade, kids activities, skating rink	6/18/2019 12:21 PM
91	Bowling	6/18/2019 12:15 PM
92	Community dances. Community pot luck meals. City involvement in community Fire & Police Day to improve relationship with public.	6/18/2019 12:01 PM
93	Safe, marked walking routes. Silver Sneakers-type exercise classes.	6/18/2019 11:50 AM
94	Go cart tracks and small roller coasters on the sides of the mountain like in pigeon forge. It's fun for all age groups.	6/18/2019 11:50 AM
95	More indoor activities, a better park, something that isn't just basketball.	6/18/2019 11:40 AM
96	Some type of play area closer to West End for people that do not have transportation to go to Bellpointe Park. Maybe put swings or play equipment at the old burned down complex on 8th Ave.	6/18/2019 11:38 AM
97	The rivers utilized more, bike trails, camping areas	6/18/2019 11:21 AM
98	We have recreation. The city needs to take advantage of the vacant property & invite big business in. That will create jobs & tax money. We need to get out the Recreation frame of mind for awhile & really do something here.	6/18/2019 11:04 AM
99	Picnic and lunch spaces	6/18/2019 10:51 AM
100	Buy magic mart building, sell part to roger, make the rest a family fun center. Room for a few lanes to bowl, laser tag, arcade. There is nothing for 100 miles around. Put it in a Levy , alone, it would pass.	6/18/2019 10:50 AM
101	Public grassed spaces	6/18/2019 10:46 AM
102	Art and craft festival, hiking trails, adult education classes at the high school and Ymca	6/18/2019 10:34 AM
103	Some sort of center where young people could go to keep them off of the streets. A dance hall or skating rink where they can have fun in a safe environment.	6/18/2019 10:28 AM
104	A recreation league for sports other than basketball and adult baseball. Allow teens to play soccer, or perhaps a building thst offers free wifi so teenagers who are not athletic can go and play games or hang out. The library offers wifi but not for things such as games or media. Esports are on the rise and they are in our area. It would be nice to get a recreation league started for that as well. Esports are the new thing at Concord University and it would provide another scholarship opportunity for kids if they were involved.	6/18/2019 10:11 AM
105	More evening/weekend activities for elderly people other than a senior center that is only open during day hours.	6/18/2019 9:58 AM
106	Parks with playgrounds	6/18/2019 9:50 AM
107	I want to see the islands utilized.	6/18/2019 9:48 AM

108	One idea I have seen is that in Germany, parks and rec provides supervised "free play" in local parks, with things like large foam building blocks, and other inexpensive play/game materials. It happened once a week and really encouraged use of parks.	6/18/2019 9:48 AM
109	The kids in town need a park and safe place to play. They can't get to Bellepoint! A boys/girls club here would be awesome! We have great options with the movie and waterslide, but they cost money. We need some great free options in town.	6/18/2019 9:43 AM
110	Youth center for dances and coffee and soda. Computer/coding activities, Group day trips to interesting close by places- re: historical places, organic farms, other cities in Summers county and what they have to offer. Fishing lessons. Trip to Pipestem State Park for archery, horseback riding, etc.- hopefully work out reduced or free times for Hinton children.	6/18/2019 9:40 AM
111	Would LOVE to see a large community center building that could be used for a variety of activities such as Art lessons at free/reduced rate, music lessons free/reduced rate, activities that engage multi-generations (workshops like teens teaching tech to seniors, etc), drop-in tutoring. It would be great to have the City of Hinton involved with Active Southern WV's initiatives!	6/18/2019 9:31 AM
112	Bowling	6/18/2019 9:29 AM
113	We have some activities for children and some for seniors. We need more to make the city more attractive to people in their mind 20 to 40s.	6/18/2019 9:05 AM
114	More for kids to do to keep them out of trouble.	6/18/2019 9:03 AM
115	There is nothing for the kids or a family to do besides the water slide especially uptown. Any type of bowling/skating facility would be amazing..or arcade type facility.	6/18/2019 8:56 AM
116	We need some type of indoor activities for winter and inclement weather days. We have a strong focus on outdoor activities.	6/18/2019 8:52 AM
117	Something indoor for children and teens. Bowling, skating, game room, etc.	6/18/2019 8:46 AM
118	Our area should be catered to the arts and outdoor community. Think if Lewisburg and Fayetteville had a baby, that should be Hinton. There is no reason we could not be as big as hub as our counterparts.	6/18/2019 8:34 AM
119	An area where teens and youth can play.	6/18/2019 8:22 AM
120	More playgrounds, safer walking, and biking between Bellepoint and downtown. Better facilities on the river entrances.	6/18/2019 8:11 AM

### Q10 Would you use an amphitheater?

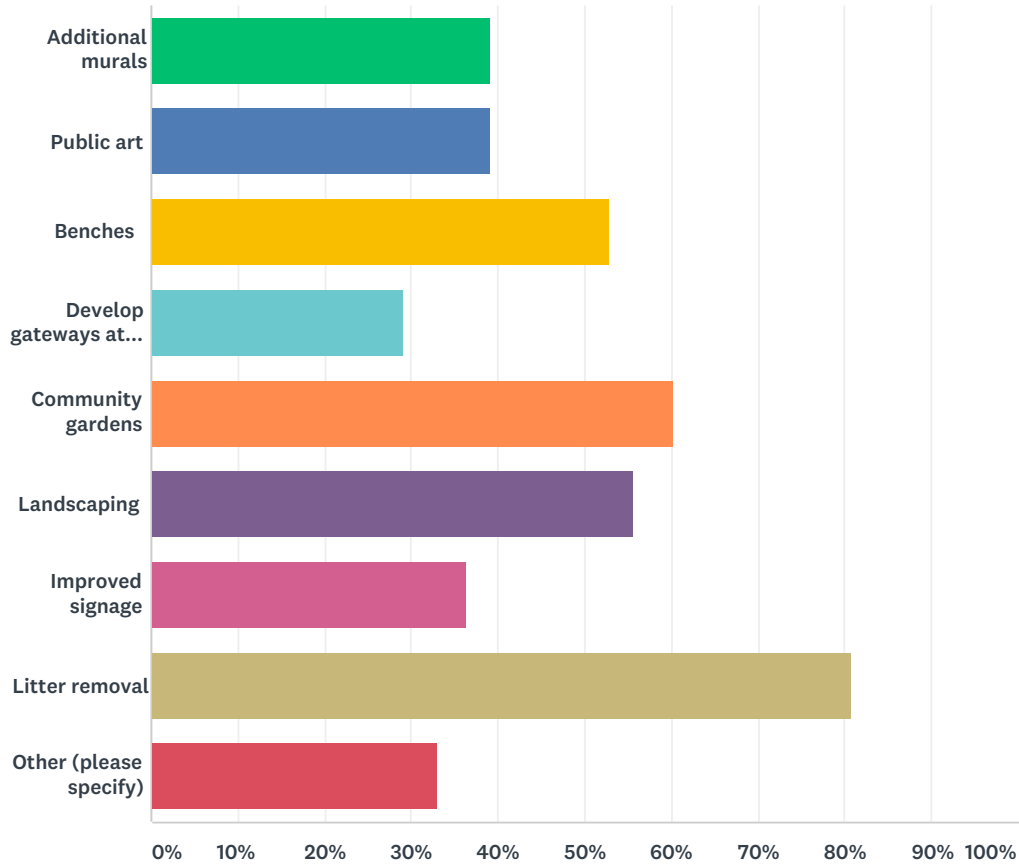
Answered: 149 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	71.14%	106
No	28.86%	43
TOTAL		149

### Q11 How should Hinton beautify the city?

Answered: 151 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Additional murals	39.07%	59
Public art	39.07%	59
Benches	52.98%	80
Develop gateways at city entrances	29.14%	44
Community gardens	60.26%	91
Landscaping	55.63%	84
Improved signage	36.42%	55
Litter removal	80.79%	122
Other (please specify)	33.11%	50
Total Respondents: 151		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Get rid of grocery carts left all over town and cars with no tags towed away	6/28/2019 3:07 PM
2	Condem abandoned buildings, allow developers a fast track to building residential or multifamily units in city limits.	6/27/2019 4:09 PM
3	KEEP BRICK and Cobblestone streets!!!	6/27/2019 9:35 AM
4	Tear down old buildings!	6/27/2019 7:56 AM
5	More visible signs directing to the Veterans Museum.	6/26/2019 9:32 PM
6	Follow the directions of other cities...such as Lewisburg	6/26/2019 2:30 PM
7	Lighted Street signs at night (mai street areas).	6/26/2019 11:52 AM
8	Get the town filled with stores. Empty spaces are turn off to visitors	6/26/2019 7:56 AM
9	Get rid of all the white trash and filthy dope heads littering the streets of town	6/26/2019 5:53 AM
10	Develop the waterfronts and public access to them. Develop the commercial side of the New River with businesses that have waterfront dining and river based business. Lodging is needed. Bluestone cabin are sold out every year. Light up the town and the waterfront at night. It's easy and makes it feel special. Shine white lights and color on the water from amthe bridges and the roadways. Its inviting and lovely.	6/25/2019 10:09 PM
11	To	6/25/2019 9:42 PM
12	brush and overgrown grass areas need removed.	6/25/2019 9:39 PM
13	More trash cans in Historic District	6/25/2019 9:20 PM
14	I visit Hinton every 2 weeks to see my Mom. I was born and raised there, having left 20 years ago. I would like to come back, but the city seems so run down and with the drive time to bigger cities with more jobs, it just doesn't seem worth it.	6/25/2019 9:06 PM
15	Stop the addicts from hanging out on the street.	6/23/2019 2:51 PM
16	remove falling-down & burned-out buildings	6/22/2019 3:28 PM
17	Get rid of the hard core drugs . Be more diligent about the break ins .	6/22/2019 3:18 PM
18	Incorporate the national park into the town since it is the gateway to park	6/21/2019 9:19 PM
19	Trash cans on James Street and better lighting of the sidewalk. Also require pet owners to clean up after their pets.	6/21/2019 6:59 PM
20	Tear down old houses and clean up Sweet Rose motel lot.	6/21/2019 5:10 PM
21	Tear down abandoned, crumbling buildings and repurpose the lot with a new building or greenery.	6/21/2019 4:46 PM
22	Tree planting in large pots along Route 3 between the two bridge crossing of the New River.	6/21/2019 4:02 PM
23	make people take care of their yards	6/21/2019 1:16 PM
24	The beautification of the downtown area is great it is the old building and unkempt lawns that make it look bad.	6/21/2019 12:08 PM
25	remove or repair damaged buildings and/or houses.	6/21/2019 11:25 AM
26	Need to focus on not just painting buildings but attracting new business. A painted empty build is still just a empty building.	6/21/2019 10:05 AM
27	Signage showing parking lots, public restrooms, restaurants, shopping area	6/20/2019 10:35 PM
28	kiosks and bulletin boards for communication	6/20/2019 1:46 PM
29	No loitering	6/19/2019 11:30 PM
30	Take the streets off the historical and only designate certain buildings as historical. This will allow businesses to change store fronts to stone or brick like lewisburg	6/19/2019 9:43 PM

31	Dilapidated buildings and homes need attention driving through town shows how poor the area is.	6/19/2019 8:09 PM
32	It is very beautiful already, but removing abandoned houses and building would help.	6/19/2019 2:11 PM
33	None	6/19/2019 12:41 PM
34	No more murals for the love of God, we have plenty for a small town. Safe space to walk without the presence of dirty needles is far more important than questionable quality artwork.	6/19/2019 12:23 PM
35	Have individuals volunteer as representatives of welcome for the city in various costumes & have them educated to the history & facts of the town. Encourage older individuals by going through their churches & ministers to encourage participation & inclusion.	6/19/2019 9:47 AM
36	Cleaning up old buildings is a great idea, especially West End	6/19/2019 9:10 AM
37	Drug and needle removal	6/19/2019 8:02 AM
38	Removal of dilapidated houses/buildings	6/19/2019 1:34 AM
39	Landscape the area by the old overhead bridge, with a couple of benches this would make a very nice mini park to look at the river.	6/18/2019 4:52 PM
40	Places all are welcome. More stores uptown for people on a small income.	6/18/2019 2:45 PM
41	Get rid of dilapidated buildings	6/18/2019 1:28 PM
42	Tear down run down vacant buildings	6/18/2019 12:41 PM
43	Pull down crumbling buildings. Remove druggies & hookers.	6/18/2019 12:01 PM
44	Get rid of the dilapidated houses & the bums sitting and standing on the sidewalks	6/18/2019 11:04 AM
45	Signage to help tourists find shops and restaurants	6/18/2019 10:34 AM
46	Landscape for birds and butterflies, and promote a culture of gardening.	6/18/2019 9:48 AM
47	Clean up and find usable activity for vacant lots downtown..Advertising Freight Depot- it's a great place but many residents don't even know it exists.	6/18/2019 9:40 AM
48	Continue improving sidewalks throughout the city	6/18/2019 9:31 AM
49	Redevelopment of our city's existing historical homes. Check out what Tighe Bullock is doing in the West Side of Charleston. Two of his biggest contractors reside in the county, a Massie boy is one of them. Valuable asset we could embrace.	6/18/2019 8:34 AM
50	Demo old houses	6/18/2019 8:11 AM

## Q12 How could the City of Hinton increase communication to residents?

Answered: 118 Skipped: 76

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	have a neighborhood gab session every 2 months for the purpose of keeping (our) neighborhoods safe and sound and clean and doing a follow up to make sure it happens	7/11/2019 12:30 AM
2	The newspaper	6/28/2019 3:07 PM
3	Publications	6/28/2019 12:06 AM
4	Thus is hard to figure out since many don't have internet. Maybe a monthly e-newsletter.	6/27/2019 8:19 PM
5	Publication thru newspapers, newsletters, radio,posters n town hall meetings	6/27/2019 7:58 PM
6	Increase broadband to the rest of the county.	6/27/2019 4:09 PM
7	News letters placed in public buildings such as bank drug store grocery stores	6/27/2019 11:57 AM
8	Fully use existing newspaper and radio station. FACEBOOK and Twitter	6/27/2019 9:35 AM
9	This is a good start! Periodic town hall meetings. Not everyone has FB	6/27/2019 7:56 AM
10	A text or phone notification system	6/27/2019 1:34 AM
11	Perhaps small classes 2-4 times a year on how to use the city website to obtain news about up coming events, how to pay bills like sewerage on the city site.	6/26/2019 9:32 PM
12	The biggest complaint I have heard is the difficulty that exists with city government to try to get permits and a overbearing attitude of some officials.	6/26/2019 8:52 PM
13	Put out news paper more than one a week	6/26/2019 7:13 PM
14	We have a great radio station...use it for community service at a certain day/days and hour	6/26/2019 2:30 PM
15	Secure the strongest internet upload/download provider possible. Internet is weak for most areas, or so I have been told...= )	6/26/2019 11:52 AM
16	????	6/26/2019 7:56 AM
17	The city is run by inept people , along with the county , the nepotism is sickening.	6/26/2019 5:53 AM
18	Listrn to them	6/26/2019 5:18 AM
19	Hinton does a pretty good job of communicating with the residents.	6/25/2019 11:03 PM
20	Text or facebook	6/25/2019 10:09 PM
21	More public announcements	6/25/2019 9:42 PM
22	Use the community channel on tv to help spread current events, also a regular column in the weekly newspaper.	6/25/2019 9:39 PM
23	You're doing good.	6/25/2019 9:20 PM
24	Advertise on tv or radio	6/25/2019 9:09 PM
25	Facebook	6/25/2019 9:06 PM
26	IDK	6/25/2019 10:25 AM
27	I didn't realize they communicated to residents.	6/25/2019 9:15 AM
28	Social media.. mailers	6/23/2019 9:09 PM
29	Facebook	6/23/2019 4:46 PM
30	Unsure.	6/23/2019 2:51 PM
31	I don't know how to increase communication, but there is definitely a need.	6/23/2019 7:09 AM
32	Town Hall Meetings	6/22/2019 3:40 PM

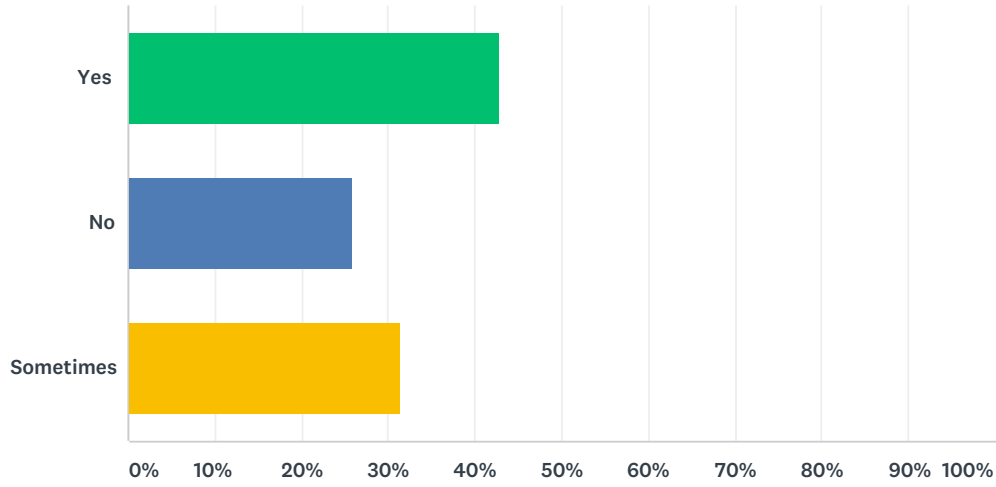
33	Post minutes from city council meetings on FB.	6/22/2019 3:28 PM
34	We live in a below poverty town.. not everyone has internet.. do I'm not sure about this one.	6/22/2019 3:18 PM
35	More social media	6/21/2019 9:40 PM
36	I feel you do a good job at it through social media.	6/21/2019 6:59 PM
37	Web presence	6/21/2019 6:39 PM
38	The City of Hinton should increase its presence on social media to better communicate with residents and potential residents alike.	6/21/2019 5:18 PM
39	Notices taped to the doors would help	6/21/2019 4:56 PM
40	Have a open source notification/news board of some kind to keep information more easily accessible to people who can't go to the meetings or have online/etc access.	6/21/2019 4:46 PM
41	Peace walks with the Mayor or City Counselors. Meet and greet Town meetings with a presentation about a current project of the city. Recorded Winter weather alerts via phone message, texts or emails re: road safety or clean up updates.	6/21/2019 4:02 PM
42	I think the facebook page is a good tool, but even that seems to be lacking unless other residents specifically share things of interest. Perhaps a city wide mailer once a month would be better.	6/21/2019 3:26 PM
43	Text and email alarm system that citizens can sign up for	6/21/2019 2:38 PM
44	Social media has gotten better but the towns main website is lacking in my opinion	6/21/2019 2:28 PM
45	Send out a news letter and more info on social media	6/21/2019 1:16 PM
46	By providing the local newspaper with everyday information because older adults don't necessarily have social media.	6/21/2019 12:49 PM
47	Publish in newspaper a 2 weeks BEFORE events, not after event, Facebook page, development of information area in town to advertise everywhere	6/21/2019 12:09 PM
48	Not everyone has the internet/Facebook so possibly flyers given at various stores. Unless you're looking for a particular item, most folks walk right by posters or bulletin boards.	6/21/2019 11:43 AM
49	Social media is a great way...public meetings is great, but becoming outdated, and people feel like it is too segregated.	6/21/2019 11:32 AM
50	electronic signage on our city buildings displaying daily messages, like current/upcoming events, meetings, citizens' announcements and projects in the works or ongoing, etc. Provide Low cost internet, tv and phone services to all our citizens.	6/21/2019 11:25 AM
51	Be better at announcing meetings open to the public as well as encouraging attendance through social media, monthly mailings and or mass texts to residents est. Newspaper ads are outdated...	6/21/2019 10:05 AM
52	Provide a resource of job listings.	6/20/2019 11:40 PM
53	Not everyone in Hinton is computer savvy. Use the newspaper more Question other small communities to find out what method they use	6/20/2019 10:35 PM
54	above more internet access...and regional information could also could be improved so we know what's happening in the area as well.	6/20/2019 1:46 PM
55	UNSURE	6/20/2019 11:53 AM
56	Social media seems to be the best way to communicate with the public but I think the City of Hinton has that covered.	6/20/2019 10:37 AM
57	Hinton News. Publish minutes from meetings. A monthly article from Mayor or City Manager. Open meetings to discuss issues.	6/19/2019 11:30 PM
58	Flyers or posters. Elderly do not use FB	6/19/2019 9:43 PM
59	Identify a volunteer to manage Social media daily, weekly.	6/19/2019 8:09 PM
60	Monthly or quarterly meetings held in a location adequate enough to accommodate a large quantity of residents whereby open discussions can be conducted on how and what our tax dollars should be used for.	6/19/2019 7:45 PM
61	More information provided through numerous platforms.	6/19/2019 6:52 PM

62	Monthly or quarterly newsletter	6/19/2019 6:32 PM
63	This is a good start. But we also need to go to City meetings.	6/19/2019 2:11 PM
64	An updated website or Facebook page that's updated daily.	6/19/2019 12:47 PM
65	None	6/19/2019 12:41 PM
66	Facebook more frequently. A free service similar to Remind101 for schools that sends out text alerts when there's a boil water advisory or other urgent situation.	6/19/2019 12:23 PM
67	Have the police interact on the streets with business owners, residents, etc. Have open bimonthly refreshment hour for residents to view posters or video of what us happening in Hinton. Encourage Mr. Monti & Mr. Allman do a YouTube presentation for resident regarding their vision for Hinton. Keep residents informed.	6/19/2019 9:47 AM
68	More Facebook interaction, maybe an occasional live Facebook video to discuss what's going on. Everyone's busy and can't always attend meetings, but that doesn't mean we don't care or don't want to be involved.	6/19/2019 9:10 AM
69	Set up a text app to be added to our phones	6/19/2019 8:50 AM
70	Maybe have some sort of pubic ad or info by mail	6/19/2019 6:48 AM
71	Carnivals	6/19/2019 1:34 AM
72	Flyers mailed to the home! Like a monthly event calendar. I'm the type of person that needs something in hand, than just reading it online.	6/19/2019 1:20 AM
73	Text alerts. Advertisement of events better in advance	6/18/2019 5:11 PM
74	More frequent engagement on social media.	6/18/2019 4:52 PM
75	Utilize Facebook for community q&ad's.	6/18/2019 2:45 PM
76	Facebook page	6/18/2019 2:33 PM
77	Mayor is nowhere to be seen	6/18/2019 2:11 PM
78	Radio station announcements and programs, advertise at the Ritz, community bulletin board at the library, Kroger, the courthouse.	6/18/2019 1:55 PM
79	news letters	6/18/2019 1:52 PM
80	Digital sign at City Hall	6/18/2019 1:28 PM
81	Social media	6/18/2019 1:28 PM
82	It would be nice if the local businesses would let you put up flyers. Hinton paper at least a week ahead of the event/Facebook notifications at least a week in advance.	6/18/2019 1:03 PM
83	Be more involved with the community. Instead of Facebook get out in the city make an appearance.	6/18/2019 12:41 PM
84	N/A	6/18/2019 12:36 PM
85	I believe communication to residents is adequate.	6/18/2019 12:30 PM
86	Social media Newspaper articles	6/18/2019 12:29 PM
87	Further promoted facebook, better built webpage	6/18/2019 12:21 PM
88	Public announcement on local news plus daily postings on FB page. Lots of advance notice, with follow-up announcements for all meetings.	6/18/2019 12:01 PM
89	I'm not familiar with what you already have.	6/18/2019 11:50 AM
90	I think they do a fair job	6/18/2019 11:50 AM
91	More in the papers, use flyers, use social media.	6/18/2019 11:40 AM
92	Mail out a monthly newsletter to all residents in Hinton.	6/18/2019 11:38 AM
93	Local TV station	6/18/2019 11:21 AM
94	Social media posts	6/18/2019 11:15 AM
95	More public meetings	6/18/2019 11:04 AM

96	Town crier for public events walks the town announces events in a costume with a bell	6/18/2019 10:51 AM
97	Doing well with social media lately. A weekly newspaper update could reach non-tech residents.	6/18/2019 10:50 AM
98	Community noticeboard	6/18/2019 10:46 AM
99	Just fine	6/18/2019 10:34 AM
100	The fb page is good.	6/18/2019 10:29 AM
101	Anymore I feel like more people are using the internet to stay connected. Surveys like this or updates on Facebook are the ways I normally see things from the City of Hinton	6/18/2019 10:28 AM
102	A community bulletin board outside of the dog park across from big four would be nice. That or simply fix the Hinton news paper. For the people that have emails you could send out a monthly news letter.	6/18/2019 10:11 AM
103	Billboard announcements about important news or fliers.	6/18/2019 9:58 AM
104	Facebook page	6/18/2019 9:50 AM
105	Let's see them tax codes.	6/18/2019 9:48 AM
106	More and better use of social media.	6/18/2019 9:48 AM
107	A lot of people use Facebook but many don't. Old fashioned mailings are a great way to communicate.	6/18/2019 9:43 AM
108	Run ads/Information on local TV channels Establish telephone notification list and send out important information to residents who opt in to program.	6/18/2019 9:40 AM
109	Through various means. A kiosk/ bulletin board would be very helpful. Maybe a monthly newsletter to city residents & business (you could poll residents & ask if you could email the newsletter or mail a paper version for those w/o internet access).	6/18/2019 9:31 AM
110	Facebook	6/18/2019 9:29 AM
111	I think you do an okay job now. Thank you	6/18/2019 9:05 AM
112	Social media	6/18/2019 9:03 AM
113	Update more on social media	6/18/2019 8:56 AM
114	Facebook page, newspaper which already being done. Maybe some type of community bulletin board in a location that is easy to access.	6/18/2019 8:52 AM
115	Bulletins mailed. Some citizens, especially older don't have internet.	6/18/2019 8:46 AM
116	Being present and forthcoming on all issues	6/18/2019 8:34 AM
117	Mail, text messaging, Social Media, sending information through schools to families.	6/18/2019 8:22 AM
118	Monthly articles in the paper from the mayor about whats happening.	6/18/2019 8:11 AM

### Q13 Is your internet good?

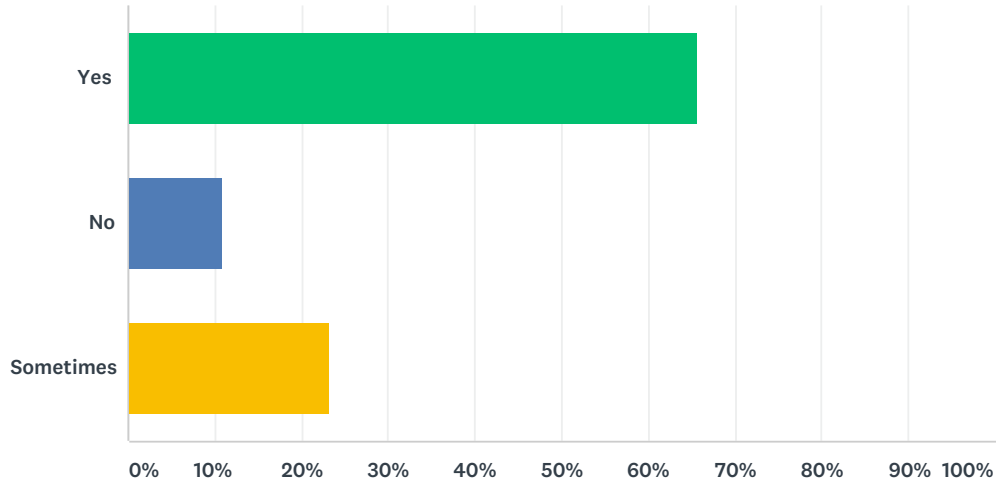
Answered: 147 Skipped: 5



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	42.86%	63
No	25.85%	38
Sometimes	31.29%	46
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>147</b>

### Q14 Is your cell service good?

Answered: 146 Skipped: 6



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	65.75%	96
No	10.96%	16
Sometimes	23.29%	34
TOTAL		146

## Q15 Where do you think the city needs to be more walkable?

Answered: 114 Skipped: 38

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Downtown Hinton..... cut some of those trees down , because they are blocking half of the Sidewalk in front of the stores	7/11/2019 12:30 AM
2	All over town should be safe and senior friendly	6/28/2019 3:07 PM
3	Fix the sidewalks.	6/27/2019 9:40 PM
4	Bellepoint	6/27/2019 8:19 PM
5	Thru town	6/27/2019 7:58 PM
6	Side of the river with DQ and Subway.	6/27/2019 4:09 PM
7	Some places the sidewalks are dangerous and uneven	6/27/2019 11:57 AM
8	Isn't bad now	6/27/2019 9:35 AM
9	by the river.	6/27/2019 7:56 AM
10	Most sidewalks need upgrades. Whether it be patching of cracks, or holes.	6/27/2019 1:34 AM
11	Temple, Summers, and Front Streets. Perhaps with old photos of the railroad.	6/26/2019 9:32 PM
12	Views of the greenbrier and new rivers.	6/26/2019 8:52 PM
13	NO	6/26/2019 7:13 PM
14	Yes...healthy choice to walk.	6/26/2019 11:52 AM
15	I think that the places people need to get to are pretty accessible	6/26/2019 5:53 AM
16	Near kroger	6/25/2019 11:10 PM
17	11th Avenue to 1500 block of Temple	6/25/2019 11:03 PM
18	Everywhere should be walkable	6/25/2019 10:09 PM
19	The west end sidewalks are horrible	6/25/2019 9:42 PM
20	they need to go all over the city wide area and replace every old sidewalk and build new sidewalks where they are needed.	6/25/2019 9:39 PM
21	Lower Second Avenue	6/25/2019 9:20 PM
22	Downtown	6/25/2019 9:09 PM
23	IDK	6/25/2019 10:25 AM
24	Bellepoint	6/25/2019 9:15 AM
25	Avis, Greenbrier Drive	6/24/2019 8:49 AM
26	River road	6/23/2019 4:46 PM
27	Unsure.	6/23/2019 2:51 PM
28	Between Avis and Hinton Courthouse area	6/23/2019 7:09 AM
29	The west end of town.	6/22/2019 10:42 PM
30	idk	6/22/2019 5:18 PM
31	I worry that parts of old buildings are going to fall on our heads as we walk by. This includes the buildings where Boho is located, around The Hub, & the metal fire escape near Danny's old bar, also the building 3rd Ave. on the corner of the alley between Temple & Summers Streets.	6/22/2019 3:28 PM
32	Dont understand what you mean by walkable?	6/22/2019 3:18 PM

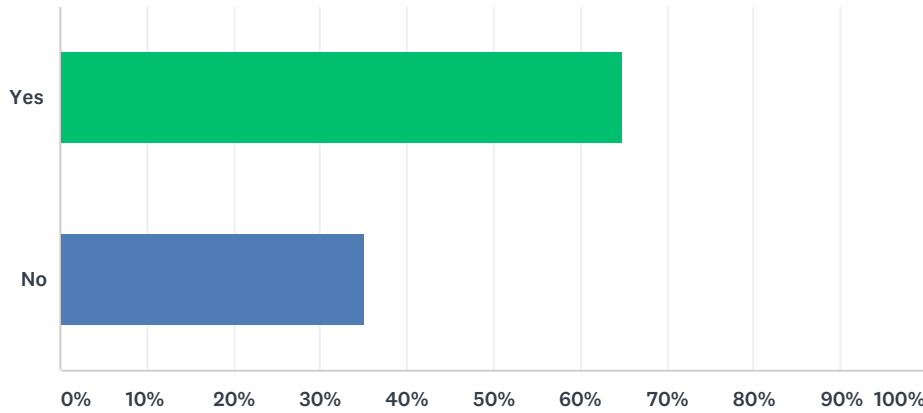
33	Avis, Bellepoint, require property owners to restore sidewalks in which they removed	6/22/2019 9:21 AM
34	All the sideqalk were just redone in town, how about putting money into stuff that you can really notice ie; buildings, tear down falling, if its been burnt make owner rebuild ir tear down.	6/21/2019 10:35 PM
35	River walk would be nice	6/21/2019 9:19 PM
36	Outside of Historic District	6/21/2019 6:59 PM
37	North end	6/21/2019 6:39 PM
38	Sidewalks in town need some serious repair. Most of the sidewalks are a major safety hazard.	6/21/2019 6:36 PM
39	The city should focus on repairing and maintaining current walkways	6/21/2019 5:18 PM
40	Along the river and all of Temple st as well as Hlnton....The sidewalks are in bad shape in many areas as well as the side streets	6/21/2019 4:56 PM
41	City buildings need more handicap capable accesses, most have none what-so-ever. The majority of the sidewalk on Ballengee, Temple and Summers through the stretch of town. Much of the sidewalk is badly broken.	6/21/2019 4:46 PM
42	Along the Greenbrier and New Rivers. How about a river walk project?	6/21/2019 4:02 PM
43	Beyond specifically downtown, none of Hinton is very walkable. Being on the mountain like it is, I doubt there's much that can be done to make it a more pedestrian friendly place.	6/21/2019 3:26 PM
44	Everywhere except bellepoint	6/21/2019 2:38 PM
45	Greenbrier drive.	6/21/2019 2:28 PM
46	along the rivers	6/21/2019 1:16 PM
47	Not sure	6/21/2019 1:16 PM
48	Everywhere! Every neighbor in town.	6/21/2019 12:49 PM
49	Everywhere	6/21/2019 12:09 PM
50	Near the middle school and elementary school and third Avenue. Do not always feel safe going in Big Four Drug Store.	6/21/2019 12:08 PM
51	Great improvement in this area	6/21/2019 11:32 AM
52	where the sidewalks are located now, just improve on their condition as in repair, replace or add new walkways.	6/21/2019 11:25 AM
53	From Bellepoint to the Bridges between state Police and Pizza hut.	6/21/2019 10:05 AM
54	avis area by fire department. The sidewalks are very poor	6/21/2019 9:56 AM
55	Somewhere along the river	6/20/2019 10:35 PM
56	river front	6/20/2019 1:46 PM
57	Better lighting	6/19/2019 11:30 PM
58	In town. Isn't very safe feeling now to walk around.	6/19/2019 9:43 PM
59	Downtown.	6/19/2019 8:09 PM
60	Along the bypass between the new river bridge and the state police department.	6/19/2019 7:45 PM
61	Temple St through West end	6/19/2019 6:32 PM
62	Wish the River was more accessible.	6/19/2019 2:11 PM
63	Depot needs to be more walkable	6/19/2019 12:47 PM
64	None	6/19/2019 12:41 PM
65	Keep the walking part of the bridges (near 1st Baptist & going down to Dollar General) clear of broken beer bottles and gravel. There's a house across from 1st Baptist that may fall out onto a pedestrian at any moment. Long-term, we should be able to jog or walk safely along Summers St to Riverview & also Temple to Riverview.	6/19/2019 12:23 PM

66	Everywhere, bike lane as well. We worked in walkable trail years back, but got very little support. Mist visitors coming to Hinton are in to exercise, walking, healthy foods ,community involvement, education, etc.	6/19/2019 9:47 AM
67	Everywhere	6/19/2019 8:50 AM
68	Avis area, parts of downtown	6/19/2019 6:48 AM
69	Yes, some sidewalks are dangerous	6/19/2019 1:34 AM
70	I would love to be able to walk downtown & across the New Bridge & out to West End, but I can't because of fear of druggies & the horrible shape of the sidewalks.	6/19/2019 1:20 AM
71	Along the waterfront.	6/18/2019 10:20 PM
72	In town and Avis. If you live in town you can not walk to Avis.	6/18/2019 5:11 PM
73	The most important place would be to make the sidewalk going down to Avis, from Hinton, safer. Many people rely on this path for getting to the stores and it is totally unsafe and surprising that more people haven't been hit. I would focus on this area. It might be able to be made safer with signage and/or lighting. There are huge gaps of missing and broken sidewalks from 6th ave to the West End.	6/18/2019 4:52 PM
74	Cobblestone areas.	6/18/2019 2:45 PM
75	Summers St., Temple past 6th	6/18/2019 1:55 PM
76	Along river near Kroger, near Exxon to Hospital	6/18/2019 1:28 PM
77	City sidewalks are horrible, broken, chipped up, new ends but the middle is not worth walking on.	6/18/2019 12:41 PM
78	I think it needs to be more walkable near the Market/ Movies and Post Office.	6/18/2019 12:36 PM
79	Greenbrier Dr	6/18/2019 12:30 PM
80	Businesses	6/18/2019 12:29 PM
81	Temple street	6/18/2019 12:21 PM
82	Greenbrier Drive. There are always people walking or riding bicycles and there's really not a lot of room for them to do so.	6/18/2019 12:15 PM
83	Developed those islands! The river is a goldmine. Use it! Developed it into a place for walkers in addition to those who are on the water.	6/18/2019 12:01 PM
84	Anywhere that would create a safe walking route for exercise.	6/18/2019 11:50 AM
85	Anywhere its possible	6/18/2019 11:50 AM
86	Everywhere	6/18/2019 11:40 AM
87	The sidewalks between 13th Ave and 17th Ave on Summers Street; the alley between 2nd and 13th	6/18/2019 11:38 AM
88	8th ave - West End	6/18/2019 11:18 AM
89	Avis	6/18/2019 11:15 AM
90	The sidewalks are good.	6/18/2019 11:04 AM
91	Curbs and walkways	6/18/2019 10:51 AM
92	Brighter lighting in parking areas and alleys of the business area.	6/18/2019 10:50 AM
93	Pavement repair	6/18/2019 10:46 AM
94	Trails	6/18/2019 10:34 AM
95	Avis and west end are both horrible.	6/18/2019 10:29 AM
96	The area between pizza hut and the park and the west end.	6/18/2019 10:28 AM
97	No	6/18/2019 10:16 AM
98	Yes! A lot of people in our area have to walk to work or ride bikes.	6/18/2019 10:11 AM
99	It'd be nice to walk by 3rd Avenue or out of Big 4 without being propositioned by a prostitute or drug addict.	6/18/2019 9:58 AM

100	Along the river	6/18/2019 9:50 AM
101	The city sidewalks need repaired from 6 Avenue, onward through the west end.	6/18/2019 9:48 AM
102	Avis	6/18/2019 9:48 AM
103	The new sidewalk ramps are wonderful!	6/18/2019 9:43 AM
104	Freight Depot area	6/18/2019 9:40 AM
105	Along the River such as the public "beach" near advance auto. A river walking trail would be great!	6/18/2019 9:31 AM
106	West end	6/18/2019 9:29 AM
107	The state is working to fix that. I think you need to make a designated "Mile" that will have resources for walking pets and for joggers. This area should also have increased patrolling for security.	6/18/2019 9:05 AM
108	I would walk more in town if it was cleaner and safer	6/18/2019 9:03 AM
109	Trails along the river would be nice. Some of the sidewalks in west end need attention	6/18/2019 8:56 AM
110	I love walking in our city but sidewalks outside the historic district are in poor repair making walking less safe.	6/18/2019 8:52 AM
111	Whole thing	6/18/2019 8:46 AM
112	Downtown	6/18/2019 8:34 AM
113	West End, walking to the Waterslide.	6/18/2019 8:22 AM
114	greenbrier drive to Gomart,	6/18/2019 8:11 AM

### Q16 The City of Hinton is always in need of volunteers to help with projects, festivals, etc. Would you be willing to help?

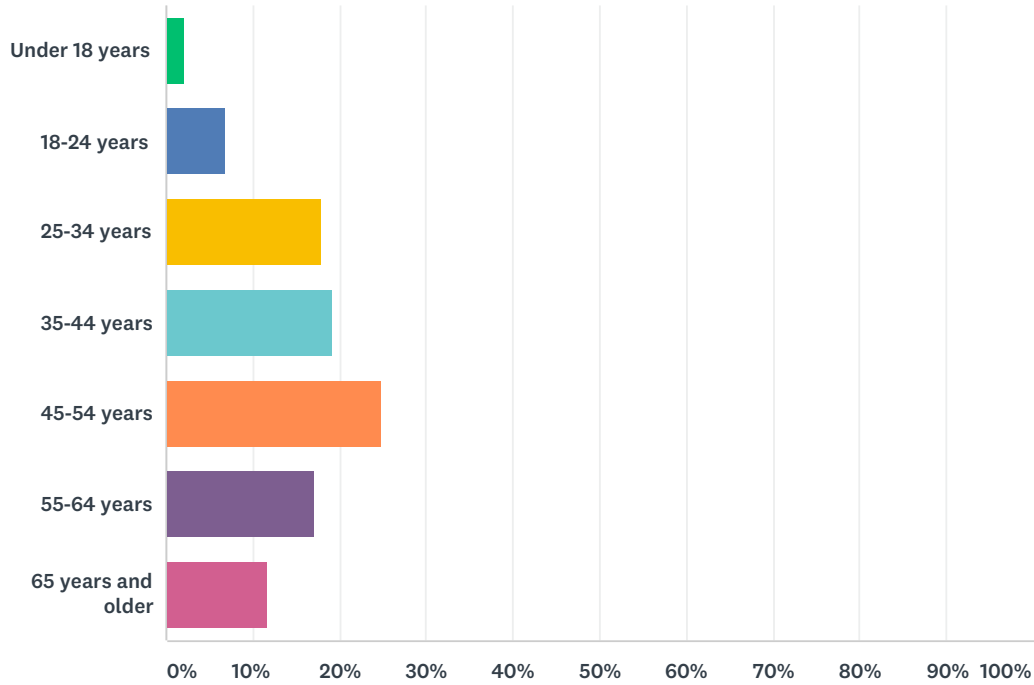
Answered: 122 Skipped: 30



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	64.75%	79
No	35.25%	43
TOTAL		122

### Q17 How old are you?

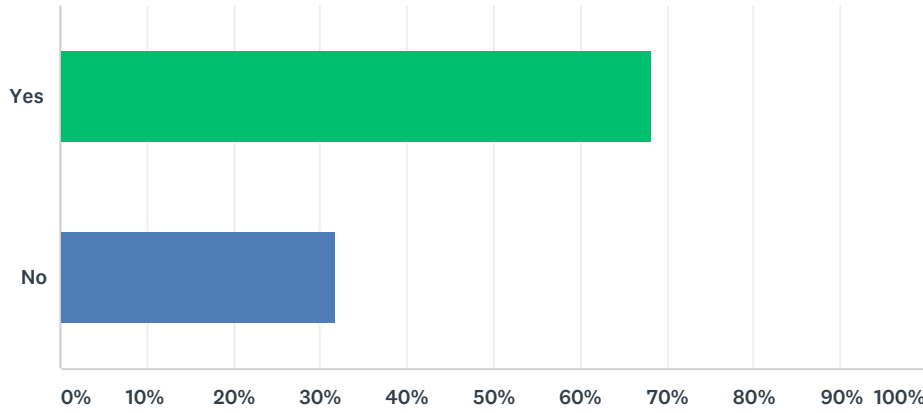
Answered: 145 Skipped: 7



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Under 18 years	2.07% 3
18-24 years	6.90% 10
25-34 years	17.93% 26
35-44 years	19.31% 28
45-54 years	24.83% 36
55-64 years	17.24% 25
65 years and older	11.72% 17
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>145</b>

### Q18 Do you live in the City of Hinton?

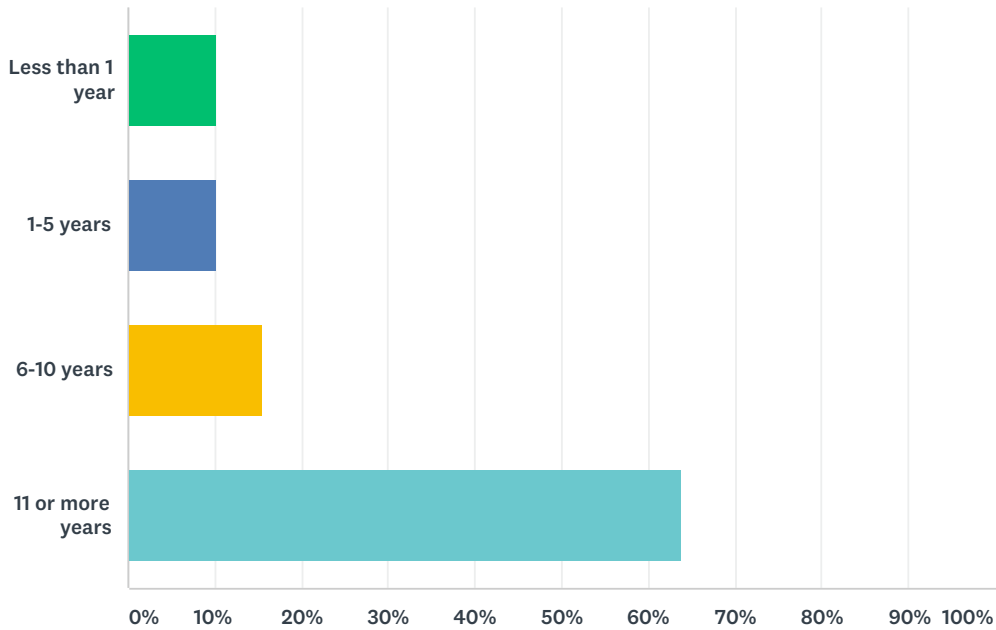
Answered: 145 Skipped: 7



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	68.28%	99
No	31.72%	46
TOTAL		145

# Q19 How long have you been a resident of the City of Hinton?

Answered: 116 Skipped: 36



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less than 1 year	10.34%	12
1-5 years	10.34%	12
6-10 years	15.52%	18
11 or more years	63.79%	74
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>116</b>

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Complete paving projects of roads that are determined to be in particularly bad condition	40.55% 163
Provide recreational programs for youth, adults, and seniors (programs could include arts and crafts, outdoor adventure, technology, sports, youth soccer league, health/fitness, educational programming, senior fitness, book club, excursions and card games)	34.33% 138
Enact 8-12-16 which allows municipalities to address structures, dwellings, or buildings that are unsafe, unsanitary, dangerous, or detrimental to the public safety or welfare	31.34% 126
Continue to provide resources to the police department through budgeting and grants by replacing aging police vehicles, hiring additional police, and increasing patrols	30.35% 122
Partner with Summers County to provide a School Resource Officer for schools	22.89% 92
Explore the feasibility of providing an indoor recreation facility, constructing a park in the West End neighborhood, providing additional recreational amenities in Town Square Park, and constructing an amphitheater	21.89% 88
Encourage the expansion of internet and cell phone service	21.64% 87
Provide water and sewer infrastructure for all residents	20.40% 82
Explore opportunities to provide public transportation	19.65% 79
Continue to provide resources to the fire department through budgeting and grants by replacing aging fire vehicles, hiring additional fireman, and providing additional fire hydrants	19.40% 78
Continue to host annual city-wide clean-up events	18.66% 75
Extend beautification efforts to the West End and Avis neighborhoods. Beautification should include installation of lamp posts, flower baskets, and tree boxes. Also consider additional public art, such as sculptures and town symbols, throughout the community.	15.42% 62
Consider partnering with Bluestone and Pipestem State Parks to provide a bus or shuttle to and from Hinton to either or both state parks so residents can enjoy the many recreational opportunities provided at the state parks	14.68% 59
Apply for home rule status to better address issues with abandoned and dilapidated buildings and to more quickly make decisions that would benefit residents, businesses, and visitors	14.43% 58
Develop community-orientated policing by involving the public through email alerts, neighborhood watch meetings, a text messaging system, press releases, police academy, and classes at the high school	13.93% 56
Enforce the vacant property registry which requires all vacant property owners to register their property and pay an annual fee	13.93% 56
Develop a sidewalk plan to help prioritize sidewalk repairs and construction	11.94% 48
Explore opportunities for the Hinton Technology Center	11.94% 48
Hold additional events to attract visitors	11.19% 45
Prepare for emergencies by providing information on the city's website regarding emergency shelter locations, developing an emergency alert system, and purchasing an emergency generator	10.95% 44
Develop community gardens on vacant lots	9.95% 40
Consider public shaming by publicizing the most notorious property violations to pressure the property owner to clean up the property	8.21% 33
Increase code enforcement efforts	7.96% 32
Preserve existing historic buildings within the City of Hinton. The city should work with the West Virginia Historic Preservation Office to obtain grants and technical assistance.	6.72% 27

Increase marketing and promotion of local businesses and attractions	6.22%	25
Provide additional parking lots in downtown	5.97%	24
Market Hinton as a destination and venue for conferences	5.72%	23
Explore the feasibility of installing a splash pad at the Wildwater Express Waterslide	5.47%	22
Consider hiring a business specialist to focus on working with merchants, establishing E-commerce, developing and expanding events, and marketing the city to visitors	5.47%	22
Consider adopting the West Virginia Building Code. The West Virginia Building Code is a set of rules for construction. The building code protects public health, safety and general welfare as they relate to the construction of and occupancy of buildings and structures.	4.98%	20
Install a unified signage system throughout the city	3.48%	14
Consider the formation of a local business group to promote city businesses	2.99%	12
Consider annexation of properties adjacent to city limits	2.74%	11
Provide additional parking at the Amtrak Station	2.49%	10
Sponsor a monthly home and yard contest to incentivize residents to clean up their property	1.49%	6
Market tax credits for historic preservation and designated opportunity zone	1.00%	4
Update the floodplain ordinance	1.00%	4
Update the zoning ordinance to be consistent with the comprehensive plan	0.50%	2
Explore the feasibility of developing a memorial celebrating Hinton's railroad history	0.00%	0
Total Respondents: 402		

**APPENDIX 4:  
STAKEHOLDER  
LIST**

Identified Key Stakeholders
Stakeholders that completed questionnaire
Hinton Fire Department
Hinton Parks and Recreation
Hinton Police Department
Hinton Public Works
Hinton Railroad Museum
Hinton Sewage Department
Hinton Wednesdays Club
RE/MAX
Summers County Library
Summers County Visitors Center
WVU Extension
Stakeholders who did not complete questionnaire
Bluestone Dam
Bluestone State Park
Campbell-Flannagan-Murrell House Museum
Hinton Area Foundation
Hinton Rotary Club
Pipestem State Park
Practice Link
Summer Countys 4-H
Summers County Council on Aging
Summers County School

**APPENDIX 5:  
FUNDING  
SOURCES**

## *Funding Opportunities*

### *Appalachian Regional Commission*

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) provides federal grant funds for the support of economic and community development in West Virginia. The goal of ARC is to create opportunities for self-sustaining economic development and improved quality of life.

Projects approved for ARC assistance must support one of the four general goals:

- Strengthen the capacity of the people of Appalachia to compete in the global economy.
- Increase job opportunities and per capita income in Appalachia to reach parity with the nation.
- Develop and improve Appalachia's infrastructure to make the Region economically competitive.
- Build the Appalachian Development Highway System to reduce Appalachia's isolation.

Activities generally eligible for funding include, but are not limited to, projects that:

- Improve infrastructure for community and economic development.
- Improve educational opportunities and workforce skills.
- Increase civic and leadership capacity.
- Increase entrepreneurial opportunities.
- Improve health care resources.

### *Benedum Foundation*

The mission of the Benedum Foundation is to encourage human development in West Virginia and Southwestern Pennsylvania through strategically placed charitable resources. The foundation gives two types of grants; education and economic development.

### *Governors Community Participation Grant Program*

The Governor's Community Partnership Grant program provides state grant funds for community and economic development projects throughout West Virginia. The program enables communities to expand, build and improve a variety of public facilities and services.

Eligible activities include but are not limited to permanent public improvements related to the following:

- City hall and courthouse facilities
- Community centers
- Construction and renovation of public facilities
- Demolition
- Economic development
- Flood and storm drainage
- Business and industrial parks
- Land and property acquisition
- Libraries
- Parks and recreation
- Parking facilities
- Preservation and beautification
- Street and sidewalk repair

- Technology
- Water and wastewater facilities and services

### *KaBOOM*

KaBoom is a non-profit organization that is dedicated to creating play spaces for children throughout the United States. KaBoom offers three types of grants:

- Build it with KaBOOM!- work with KaBOOM! and their corporate partners. This grant provides coaching and facilitation of an experienced Project Manager to help design and build a permanent play structure
- Build it Yourself- grant (\$15,000) to be used toward the purchase of playground equipment
- Creative Play Grants- used to design play equipment that encourages creativity, communication, and collaboration in play

### *Land and Water Conservation Fund*

The Land and Water Conservation Fund program (LWCF) provides supplemental federal funding for the acquisition and/or development of high- quality, public outdoor recreational areas throughout West Virginia. Proposed projects must be consistent with the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). Park renovations, expansions to promote active lifestyles, innovation in community cores, attracting or retain visitors to an area, development of trailheads or preservation of other natural areas to impact community health objectives and brownfields renewal efforts will receive funding priority.

Eligible activities include but are not limited to the development of outdoor recreation resources related to the following:

- Land acquisition for parklands
- Development or renovation of the following types of outdoor recreational facilities:
  - Campgrounds
  - Picnic areas
  - Sports and playfields
  - Golf courses
  - Swimming facilities
  - Boating facilities
  - Fishing facilities
  - Hunting areas
  - Trails
  - Winter sport facilities
  - Support facilities (walks, utilities, bathrooms, etc.)
  - Amphitheaters
  - Lake impoundments
  - Visitor information centers
  - Interpretive centers

### *Neighborhood Investment Program*

The Neighborhood Investment Program (NIP) increases charitable giving to local nonprofit organizations. The program allows 501(c)3 designated charitable organizations to apply for tax credit vouchers. These organizations distribute the vouchers to contributing businesses and individuals. By donating to approved NIP organizations, contributors can support their communities and earn credits to reduce certain West Virginia taxes.

The West Virginia Legislature sets aside \$2.5 million annually in state tax credits for the NIP. To participate, a 501(c)3 charitable organization must apply to the West Virginia Development Office. Upon meeting program requirements and obtaining approval from the NIP Advisory Board, organizations are awarded tax credit vouchers. Businesses and

individuals that contribute to NIP-approved organizations are eligible to receive up to 50 percent of the contributed amount in the form of state tax credits. Donors may use the credits to reduce liability for the Corporate Net Income Tax, the Business Franchise tax or the Personal Income Tax.

Projects generally eligible for program participation include but are not limited to the following:

- Health clinics
- Homeless shelters
- Educational programs
- Housing programs
- Preservation/revitalization activities
- Domestic violence shelters
- Children's shelters
- Meal delivery programs
- Senior citizens' centers
- Community foundations
  
- Scholarship programs
- Hospice care
- Transportation programs
- Day care centers
- Counseling services
- Services for the disabled

### *Small Cities Block Grant Fund*

The Small Cities Block Grant program (SCBG) provides federal funds for community and economic development projects throughout West Virginia. The program supports job creation and retention efforts, local government efforts to provide affordable infrastructure systems and community efforts to improve the quality of life for low- to moderate-income citizens. Eligible units of local government may receive SCBG funds if they are documented to fulfill one of three national objectives:

- Activities benefiting low- and moderate-income people.
- Activities that aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight.
- Activities designed to meet community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community and where other financial resources are not available to meet such needs.

Activities generally eligible for funding include but are not limited to permanent public improvements related to the following:

- Community centers/senior citizen centers
- Construction and renovation of public facilities
- Demolition
- Economic development
- Flood and storm drainage
- Acquisition
- Parks and recreation
- Preservation and beautification
- Technology
- Water and wastewater facilities and services
- Community facilities renovation/construction

### *Smart Growth Implementation Assistance*

The Smart Growth Implementation Assistance (SGIA) program provides assistance from national experts to help communities explore barriers to smart growth implementation and pilot innovative ideas that create more sustainable communities. EPA will provide technical assistance to successful applicants.

### *Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)*

TAP provides funding for programs and projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation; recreational trail program projects; safe routes to school projects; and projects for planning, designing, or constructing boulevards and other roadways largely in the right-of-way of former Interstate System routes or other divided highways.

The TAP program now funds projects that would have previously been considered under the Transportation Enhancement and Safe Routes to Schools Programs.

### *The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation (GKVF)*

The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation (GKVF) encompasses Kanawha, Putnam, Boone, Clay, Lincoln, and Fayette Counties in West Virginia. The Foundation helps individuals, families, businesses, and nonprofits improve the lives within the community now and for generations to come. They assist donors in creating charitable funds, each with its own philanthropic purpose, and provide grants to nonprofits that meet the needs of the community.

There are two discretionary grantmaking tracks:

- Proactive collaborative grants in education, health, and civic engagement and community building
- Responsive grants in basic needs or arts and culture

To be eligible for both discretionary grantmaking programs, an applicant must:

- Be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, public school, or government entity
- Demonstrate the ability to build community wealth
- Serve Kanawha, Putnam, Lincoln, Boone, Clay, and/or Fayette Counties of WV
- Have an audit, financial review, or financial compilation

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