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## **Shape Your Community: Wadena County Invites Public Input for Comprehensive Plan Update**

**WADENA, MN** — What should Wadena County look like in ten or twenty years? Whether you're concerned about how and where the County allows new homes, the future of our local parks, the strength of our economy, or how the transportation system works, now is the time to make your voice heard.

Wadena County is officially launching a process to update its 2013 Comprehensive Plan. This document serves as the roadmap for the County's future, and after over a decade, it's time for a refresh. We are seeking direct input from residents, business owners, and community members to identify the most critical issues facing our region today.

County officials are looking for feedback in five key areas:

- **Land Use:** Where should more housing or business development be allowed? Where should land be preserved for agricultural and recreational uses?
- **Economic Development:** How do we attract new businesses and support those that are already here?
- **Transportation:** Where are improvements needed for our roads and other transportation systems?
- **Facilities & Services:** Are our county buildings and services meeting your needs?
- **Parks & Recreation:** What would make our public outdoor spaces even better?

### **Join the Conversation**

To ensure everyone has a seat at the table, the County will host two public input meetings. Both sessions will begin at **6:00 PM**.

- Thursday, February 26 – Wadena County Courthouse, 415 Jefferson St S, Wadena, MN
- Thursday, March 19 - Sebeka Senior Center, 114 Minnesota Ave NW, Sebeka, MN

### **Think Big: A Few Questions to Get You Started**

There will be a short presentation at the beginning of each meeting, but they are both primarily for the purpose of hearing from you. To help spark some ideas before you arrive, consider these questions:

- *What types of businesses are most needed in Wadena County? How can we support people starting and growing businesses?*
- *What are the most significant barriers to new residents moving to Wadena County and how can we help eliminate them?*
- *How can we allow more homes while still preventing conflict with agricultural and recreational (i.e. hunting) uses of land?*
- *If you were in charge of the county budget, what are 2-3 improvements to transportation, facilities or services that you would prioritize?*

### **Why Attend?**

These meetings aren't just about "checking a box." The feedback gathered at these meetings will directly influence policy decisions, grant applications, and infrastructure projects for years to come. Whether you have a specific concern or just want to learn more about the process, we encourage you to attend.

For more information regarding the update process, please visit:

<https://www.hometownplanning.com/wadena-county-comprehensive-plan-update>