

We are excited to announce that Waukon recently applied to become a designated Thriving Community.

IEDA and IFA have introduced the Iowa Thriving Communities designation to elevate best practices from communities that are going above and beyond to leverage innovative methods to attract housing opportunities for their workforce. Each year a small number of communities are awarded the designation and incentive points for the Federal Housing Tax Credit and/or Workforce Housing Tax Credit programs. Iowa Thriving Communities serve as models for other communities on both a statewide and national level in attracting housing development for all income levels.

Applications are scored on six categories:

- Financial Support
- Iowa Thriving Community Attributes
 - Promoting health and public safety, fostering cultural vibrancy and transportation infrastructure within communities
 - Access to jobs, healthcare, schools, groceries, and other essential services, broadband, and childcare
 - High school or community college trade program
- Planning and Assessment
- Proposed Neighborhood or Site for Housing Development
- Strategic Leadership and Partnerships
- Workforce Attraction and Retention

Completing the application required a lot of time and research. Fortunately, we had a lot of information to share thanks to all the hard work of everyone in the community. Submitting an application like this isn't possible without you.

We are hopeful that Waukon will be selected as a finalist to give an in-person presentation. Iowa Thriving Communities will be announced the week of July 14th.

Thank you to all of you for your efforts in making our community thrive and be such a wonderful place to live and visit.