

The City of Belle Plaine

Welcomes You!

Discover the many great things we have to offer.



A CITY THAT WORKS

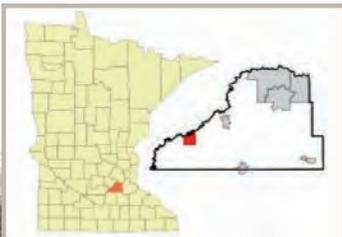
www.belleplainemn.com

Welcome to Belle Plaine, MN

Community Highlights

Location

Belle Plaine, MN, "A City That Works!" is conveniently located between Minneapolis and Mankato, approximately 40 miles from each, along the Hwy 169 corridor. Serving as a gateway between Southwest Minnesota and the Twin Cities, Belle Plaine has a total area of just over six square miles tucked into the Minnesota River Valley, with Hwy 169 and Hwy 25 as the major routes into and through the City. Belle Plaine has many attractions to offer the citizens and business owners of the City. We invite you to explore the information included within to learn more about the many amenities of Belle Plaine!



Education

Belle Plaine is proud to offer both public and parochial educational facilities to meet the needs of our community. The Belle Plaine Independent School District (No. 716) educates approximately 1,600 students from grades K to 12. The two elementary schools located in the District are Chatfield Elementary, which has a learning environment for students pre-school through second grade; and Oak Crest Elementary with third through sixth grades. Belle Plaine Junior/Senior High School serves students in grades seven through twelve. For those who are interested in a parochial atmosphere, Our Lady of the Prairie Catholic School or Trinity Lutheran School may be the educational experience for you.

Independent School District 716:

District Office/Community Ed/ Performing Arts

130 South Willow Street
952.873.2400
www.belleplaine.k12.mn.us

Chatfield Elementary

PreK-Grade 2
330 South Market Street
952.873.2401

Oak Crest Elementary

Grades 3-6
1101 West Commerce Drive
952.873.2402

Belle Plaine Jr./Sr. High

Grades 7-12
220 South Market Street
952.873.2403

Parochial Schools:

Our Lady of the Prairie

PreK-Grade 6
200 East Church Street
952.873.6564
www.ourladyoftheprairie.com

Trinity Lutheran

K-Grade 8
500 West Church Street
952.873.6320
www.trinitybelleplaine.org



218 North Meridian St.
P.O. Box 129
Belle Plaine, MN 56011
Phone: 952.873.5553 | Fax: 952.873.5509
www.belleplainemn.com

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A City That Works!

Health Care

Belle Plaine is well served by the Mayo Clinic Health System, offering residents family medicine at the local clinic and convenient care site. The Lutheran Home Skilled Care Center offers the community transitional care, wellness and rehabilitative therapies, long-term care, memory care and respite and adult day programs. The attractive, expansive Kingsway Retirement Center provides independent and assisted living options. The availability of housing for senior residents makes Belle Plaine the perfect location to age in place.

*Independent Living/Assisted Living/
Memory Care*

Kingsway Retirement Living

815 West Main Street

952.873.5902

www.tlha.org

*Nursing Home/Memory Care/
Transitional Care*

The Lutheran Home

611 West Main Street

952.873.2131

www.tlha.org

Downtown

We encourage you to visit our downtown, easily accessible from Main Street or County Road 3/Meridian St. North Exit from Hwy 169. This business center is full of eclectic store fronts; including eating and entertainment establishments, retail stores, trades and services. It is also the heart of several annual festivals, including German Days, St. Patrick's Day Festival, Bar-B-Q Days Parade, and the Scenic Byway Half Marathon.



A CITY THAT WORKS

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Parks

Belle Plaine takes pride in supporting an active community with many amenities to offer. Not only does the Chamber of Commerce host an annual fall half marathon and 5K, the City is home to 15 parks covering over 100 acres, along with over 108 miles of sidewalk and trail. Park amenities range from tot-lots up to a retired U.S. Army UH-1H Iroquois "Huey" Helicopter, which was in service from 1968 to 1987 including a tour in Vietnam. The City is also home to a community outdoor pool and a beautiful baseball facility, known as Tiger Park; host of two State Amateur Baseball Tournaments in ten years.

There are several parks within the City limits, offering a vast selection of recreational amenities such as baseball and softball fields, playgrounds, tennis courts, ice and hockey rinks, a dog park, archery range, disc golf course, and picnic shelters. Belle Plaine also offers the residents the picturesque Episcopal Church, built in 1855; and the Hillstrom Historical House, built in 1871; both of which are included on the National Register of Historic Places. In the historic downtown area visitors and residents alike can visit Townsend Park; a serene gathering spot. Belle

Plaine Veterans Memorial Park, a focal point along the Hwy 169 corridor, honors those who have served our country.

The Minnesota Valley Trail is perfect for guests interested in horseback riding, snowmobiling, hiking, cross-country skiing and mountain biking. This trail runs from Belle Plaine to Chaska, then connecting to a paved path from Chaska to Shakopee. While navigating this trail, visitors will see and hear the Minnesota River, which flows northeast through the City.



Welcome to Belle Plaine, MN

A City That Works!

Local Churches

St. John Lutheran Church ELCA
148 South Chestnut Street
952.873.6492
www.stjohnbelleplaine.org

First Presbyterian Church
219 West Main Street
952.873.2966
www.fpcbelleplaine.org

**Trinity Evangelical
Lutheran Church WELS**
500 West Church Street
952.873.6545
www.trinitybelleplaine.org

**Our Lady of the Prairie
Catholic Church**
200 East Church Street
952.873.6564
www.ourladyoftheprairie.com

River Rock Church
P.O. Box 184
Belle Plaine, MN 56011
952.873.5453
www.riverrockchurch.com

Presence Church
700 West Main Street
952.807.6168
www.ipresencechurch.org



Government

Belle Plaine, MN

Belle Plaine City Hall

218 North Meridian Street
P.O. Box 129
952.873.5553
952.873.5509-fax
website: www.belleplainemn.com

Belle Plaine Fire Department

700 East Main Street
952.873.6820

Belle Plaine Police Department

420 East Main Street
952.873.4307

Belle Plaine Public Works Department

891 Diversified Drive
952.873.6742

The Organization

The City of Belle Plaine operates under the council- administrator form of government. The City Council is comprised of a mayor and four council members, all of whom are elected at-large. The mayor serves a two-year term, while council members serve four-year terms. City Council elections are held in the even-numbered years.

The City Administrator is responsible for implementation of Council decisions and policies, and is charged with overseeing the day-to-day operation of the City's Finance, Public Works, Community Development, Ambulance, Police and Fire Departments.

The City's organizational culture encourages collaboration with surrounding communities, on-going learning and training for staff, and a high level of responsiveness to the ever changing needs of the community.

City Council

Mayor

Mike Pingalore
mpingalore@ci.belleplaine.mn.us

Council Members

Cary Coop
ccoop@ci.belleplaine.mn.us

Paul Chard

pchard@ci.belleplaine.mn.us

Gary Trost

gtrost@ci.belleplaine.mn.us

Scott Schneider

sschneider@ci.belleplaine.mn.us

City Administration

Holly Kreft- *City Administrator*

Dawn Meyer- *Finance Director*

Chelsea Alger- *Community
Development Director*

Tom Stolee- *Police Chief*

Al Fahey- *Public Works
Superintendent*

Matt Stier- *Fire Chief*

Council and Committee Meetings

*(occurring at City Hall,
unless otherwise noted)*

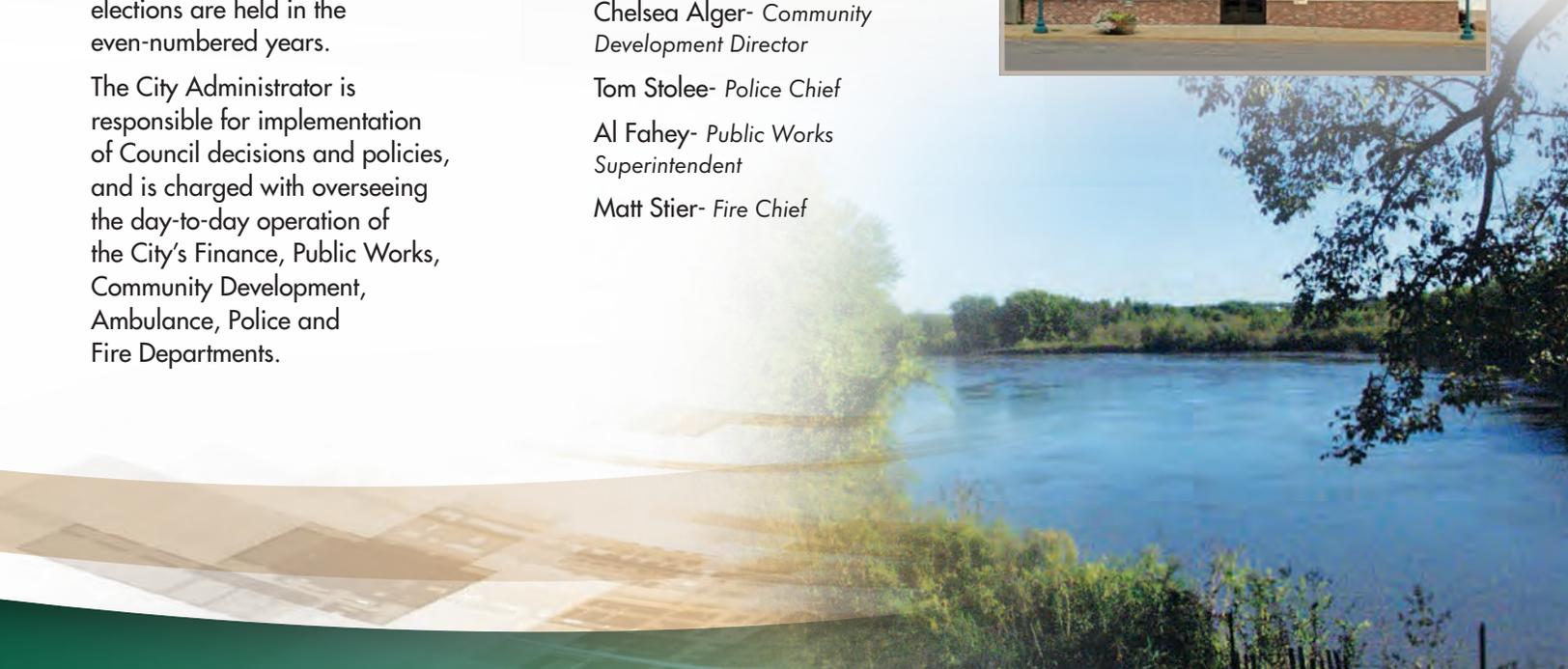
City Council- 1st and 3rd
Mondays of the month
at 6:30pm

Design Committee- 1st Monday
of the month at 5:15pm

**Economic Development
Authority**- 2nd Monday of the
month at 5:00pm

Park Board- 3rd Monday of
the month at 5:00pm

**Planning and Zoning
Commission**- 2nd Monday of
the month at 6:30pm



Chamber / Festivals & Events

Belle Plaine, MN

Chamber of Commerce

The Chamber of Commerce is organized to develop, encourage, promote and protect the commercial, professional, financial and general business interests of Belle Plaine and surrounding areas; educating the business community and representing them in city, county, state and national legislative and political affairs.

Membership in the Chamber of Commerce has many benefits for your business. Take a peek at some of the things we have to offer!

Network

You are invited to attend our Networking meetings. This is a great way to get your name out in the community and meet other business owners in Belle Plaine. Chamber After Hours, Coffee with the Chamber and networking meetings with surrounding Chambers are just a few fun networking events!

Community Events

Small Business Saturday, progressive chamber party, Downtown Trick or Treating, Chamber BBQ and the best part is by being a member of the Chamber these are all FREE.

Bulk Mail Permit

Tackling a large mailing to promote your business or communicate to your clients? Using the Chamber's bulk mail permit allows you to send out your mailing and receive a postage discount.

Residential Mailing List

Annually the Chamber purchases the updated Residential Address List from the City and provides it free of charge to our members. What a great way to keep up to date with the members of our community!

Constant Contact

Constant Contact is a great e-mail marketing tool. The Chamber utilizes its tools and resources to keep in touch with members. As a Chamber member, YOU are eligible to receive a discount on e-mail marketing through Constant Contact.

Advertise

There are many opportunities for FREE and reduced priced advertising for our Chamber members. Opportunities include: information in our New Resident Information Packets, participation in the Belle Plaine Bucks, ads in the

Belle Plaine Herald on special occasions, Facebook Chamber page and the Chamber E-newsletters each month.

Business Development

The Chamber of Commerce hosts "Lunch and Learns". These events give you the opportunity to network with other businesses, and learn something new from a guest speaker that will help you expand and improve your business.

Promote Yourself & Your Business

Being an active part of our Chamber of Commerce gives you the opportunity to meet others and share what you do! Consider joining one of our many committees and "help us build a stronger community together".

Keep Us Updated

As a business we want to know what is going on with you! Come to an event and network with other businesses and talk with your Chamber Executive.

Business Directory

Our on-line Directory is for Chamber member businesses only. We'll add your business name, contact information and link your website to ours.

Stay Informed

Join us on Facebook to get connected with what is happening with other businesses!

Chamber Helps

Address labels and e-mail



www.belleplainemn.com

distribution lists are available to members. Business magazines, periodicals, and office equipment use are available through the Chamber.

Belle Plaine Bucks

Give and accept Belle Plaine Bucks, encourage shopping in Belle Plaine.

First Referrals

The Chamber office has a policy of referring Chamber member businesses first!

Join Us!

Like all chambers the Belle Plaine Chamber of Commerce is a volunteer organization driven by its members to support and encourage a vital and prosperous business community. We are a business advocate and resource as well as a community partner. We believe that "Business Building Businesses Together" is what it's all about!

Get Connected!

Becoming a member of the Belle Plaine Chamber of Commerce is simple! Join the 100+ members who have made the decision to be part of the Belle Plaine Chamber of Commerce. Download our Membership Form and Brochure today and join one of the fastest growing Chambers in the county!

Chamber of Commerce

204 North Meridian St.
952.873.4295
[www.belleplainemn.com/
chamber/chamber-commerce](http://www.belleplainemn.com/chamber/chamber-commerce)

Festivals and Events

Belle Plaine Festivals and Events was organized in 2013 as a branch of the Chamber of Commerce in order to focus additional efforts on community events. The goal of Festivals and Events is to promote, encourage, support, and foster the community of Belle Plaine by sponsoring community events and enlisting volunteers to assist in planning and carrying out events and activities. In turn, Belle Plaine Festivals and Events raises funds in order to contribute to other charitable organizations and causes within the community.

Annual Events

Bar-B-Q Days

Bar-B-Q Days, founded in 1959, is a long standing tradition and one of the greatest town festivals in Minnesota. Held the third weekend of July, it's a time for families and friends to get together and celebrate. Festivities include carnival rides,

beef sandwiches, beer garden with live music, parade, and the queen coronation; ending with a spectacular fireworks display at Tiger Park on Sunday evening. The majority of profits generated by Bar-B-Q Days are donated back to the community.

Scenic Byway Half Marathon and 5K

The Belle Plaine Scenic Byway Half Marathon, 5K and Kids Run has quickly become a premier event for runners of all ages in Southern Minnesota. Enjoy the events and the beautiful autumn scenery of the Half Marathon course as it winds along either side of the Minnesota River between Belle Plaine and Blakeley; the last stop on the 287 mile stretch of the MN River Valley Scenic Byway.

We invite you to join us in the fun and festivities, which is what makes Belle Plaine a great place to live!

Belle Plaine Festivals and Events

204 North Meridian Street
952.873.0855
www.belleplainefestivals.org



Courtesy of Belle Plaine Festivals & Events

Industrial Market

Belle Plaine, MN

Location

Belle Plaine is conveniently positioned along the U.S. Highway 169 corridor between two major markets, the Twin Cities metropolitan area and Mankato, benefiting from its close proximity to these markets, while retaining its small-town charm. Belle Plaine offers a thriving business community and beautiful residential areas. The Hwy 169 corridor provides quick, easy access to local businesses, while our vibrant highway commercial district provides residents with an array of services and retail stores.

Distance to:

I-494: **20 miles**

Minneapolis- St. Paul
International Airport: **40 miles**

Downtown Minneapolis: **43 miles**

Mankato: **38 miles**



Key Belle Plaine Statistics

Population: **6,700 +**

Percent of population 16 and over in the workforce: **78.9**

Percent of population 25 and over with high school education or higher: **95.7**

Percent of population 25 and over with Bachelor's degree or higher: **27.8**

Median household income: **\$70,375**

Economic Climate

Recent statistics from the MN Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) illustrate a positive trend in the economic climate of Belle Plaine. The City's employment increased 8% from 2008 to the third quarter of 2012 resulting in an additional 141 jobs in the five year period. Between 2008 and 2011, employees within the community saw an overall increase of 15% in wages paid.

Infrastructure

Investment in infrastructure improvements is a high priority for the City of Belle Plaine. Beyond roadways constructed

through the development process, the City has constructed three and a half miles of new roads and utility lines to accommodate development, along with the reconstruction of nearly six miles of street surface, over the last decade. Additionally, the City has replaced or improved several existing water and sewer mains, and constructed 1.5 miles of new sanitary sewer interceptor, a 400,000 gallon elevated water storage tank, a 500,000 gallon ground storage tank, a new booster station, and a new water treatment facility in 2006. This investment has contributed to a strong infrastructure system equipped to accommodate development well into the future.

Community Partners

City of Belle Plaine EDA
www.belleplainemn.com
952.873.5553

Belle Plaine Chamber of Commerce
www.belleplainemn.com/chamber/chamber-commerce
952.873.4295

Belle Plaine School District 716
www.belleplaine.k12.mn.us
952.873.2400

Scott County First Stop Shop
www.scottcda.org/first-stop-shop
952.496.8613

Commercial / Retail Market

Belle Plaine, MN

Location

Belle Plaine is conveniently positioned along the U.S. Highway 169 corridor, providing great visibility and access to the Highway Commercial District; and easy navigation to the Central Business District. Belle Plaine is the first convenient community stop when traveling north from St. Peter, MN, which is 25 miles to the south. The next major commercial corridor along Hwy 169 is Shakopee, 15 miles to the north. The proximity between these two regions creates a strong market area for the City.



Retail and Service Potential

A retail sales potential study completed in 2009 identified three key market areas for the City of Belle Plaine: Supermarkets, Drug & Proprietary Stores, and Discount Stores. 2015 estimates of supportable retail space for the existing trade area are 316,098 square feet, according to the study. The community trade area, anchored by a discount store, would support more retail space, estimated at 551,000 square feet by 2015. Since the study was completed, the City has added over 62,000 square feet in retail space, including Coborn's grocery, liquor and fuel store; Kwik Trip; and McDonalds, with additional retail space. There are several acres of shovel ready sites available along the 169 corridor, just waiting for your commercial development.



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Residential Market

Belle Plaine, MN

Location

Located along the Minnesota River Valley with panoramic views of the landscape, Belle Plaine is an excellent location to invest in residential development. Residential housing is integrated within the expansive, native prairie lands and preserved bluff lines of Belle Plaine, allowing for the perfect blending of these serene landscape features. Trail and sidewalk connectivity creates connectedness to parks, schools and commercial areas, promoting an active family lifestyle.

Housing Incentives

The City of Belle Plaine's Housing and Redevelopment division works to ensure that an array of housing choices exist to meet the needs of Belle Plaine's current residents, as well as attract new residents to the City. In 2012 the Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) adopted several Housing Incentive Programs, which have contributed over \$46,000 toward home rehabilitation, housing development and residential clean-up projects. Funding has been available through grant funds. The Belle Plaine City Council reviews these programs annually and has reauthorized them each year since their inception. Programs available to the community members and builders are as follows:

Single Family Home Down Payment Grant

This grant encourages ownership of newly constructed single-family residences within the City of Belle Plaine. Homeowners may apply for down payment assistance in an amount of \$2,000 upon occupancy and proof of ownership of a home that is constructed in 2012 or newer. The newly constructed home must be completed with the assistance of at least one contractor located in the 56011 zip code.

Christmas in October Program

This program is a community wide home rehabilitation assistance program, organized and funded by HRA. Volunteers from the community will help complete the home rehabilitation projects. Projects will be selected based on need, geographic location and income. Past projects from this program have included such things as exterior painting, window replacement, tree and brush trimming, and overgrowth removal.



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Energy Efficient Improvements Matching Grant

Homeowners wishing to renovate their homes with windows, doors or mechanical equipment that are energy efficient may apply for grant to reimburse homeowners up to \$1,000 of the cost of such items. Homeowners must provide matching funds and meet income requirements.

Residential Façade Beautification Matching Grant

Homeowners wishing to renovate and improve the exterior of their residential property may apply for grant to be reimbursed up to \$1,000 of the cost of such items. Examples of improvements include windows, siding, doors, landscaping, painting and roofs. Income limits apply.

For more information or to apply, contact:

City of Belle Plaine
www.belleplainemn.com

Community Development
Department
952.873.5553

