

BENTON COUNTY STRATEGIC PLAN

2019 - 2024

Located in Central Minnesota, Benton County is part of the St. Cloud Metropolitan Statistical Area. Benton County is one hour north of the Twin Cities and one hour south of premier lake and resort areas. The center of the County is the City of Foley, the County Seat. Most of the County's larger communities (St Cloud, Sauk Rapids, and Rice) are located on its western edge.

The Benton County Board of commissioners consisting of : Warren Peschl; Jake Bauerly; Spencer Buerkle; Steve Heinen; and Ed Popp approved our strategic plan on March 18, 2019. Our Strategic Plan was developed to enable the most efficient and effective use of public resources; provide the highest quality customer service; and create a supportive, rewarding work environment. The plan incorporates eight strategic priorities developed by the Board of Commissioners and County Department Heads aligning with our vision to accomplish our mission. While the Board of County Commissioners sets direction through the strategic priorities, the "Things" (or tasks) that contribute to accomplishment of the strategic priorities are carried out at the departmental level. Benton County is committed to high standards of quality service, respectful engagement, and responsible resource management. Every aspect of our strategic plan serves to fulfill these standards.

Vision: Benton County strives to be a key partner in creating an inviting environment in which people can live, work and grow.

Mission: Providing excellent customer service in a fiscally responsible manner.

Strategic Priorities:

1. Promote economic development/reduce the County tax rate.
2. Encourage innovation and efficiency through Continuous Improvement.
3. Use technology to improve service and increase productivity.
4. Maintain and improve a safe working environment for our employees.
5. Improve communication with County residents and within the organization.
6. Support health and wellness for county employees and residents.
7. Recruit and retain a talented county workforce.
8. Maximize partnerships and collaboration with other organizations.

The following pages cover Benton County Goals and Objectives that support the Strategic Priorities for the next five years.

