

2025 ANNUAL CITY REPORT

JUNE 2026

Annual City Report for Year Ending 2025
City of Hutchinson



CITY OF HUTCHINSON 2025 ANNUAL REPORT TABLE OF CONTENTS

OVERVIEW	2
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3
Our Story	5
Broad Indicators	7
Community Surveys	12
Organization of the City	16
Grants and Donations	17
City Partnerships	19
Awards and Recognitions	24
DEPARTMENTS	
Administration	25
Economic Development	27
Finance	43
Fire	50
Housing & Redevelopment Authority	58
Human Resources	68
Information Technology (IT)	73
Legal	76
Parks/Recreation/Community Education	80
Planning/Zoning/Building	122
Police	135
Public Works	153

2025 Annual Report

Overview

The City of Hutchinson's Annual Report provides an overview of the services provided over the previous year. This report is attempting to measure the "performance" of the city on an annual basis. All data and information referenced is accurate from January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025. To the extent possible, information is compared with the previous year(s) to provide a base from which to measure services and accomplishments.

Organization of Report

This annual report is arranged according to the City's organizational department model, with data reported by the major departments within the city. This report is intended to show:

- Alignment of City services with the City's Core Values, Mission Statement and Vision Statement
- Priorities within the annual budget
- Trend data impacting City services

Limitations of Performance Measure

Applying performance measures in the public sector presents a number of limitations:

- Information can be subjective and highly dependent upon each individual's source used
- There is no single measure of success, such as profit in the private sector
- Data is not all-inclusive, a precise science, a quick fix nor the only tool available for decision-making

Even with these limitations, there is still a need to measure performance and develop standards for comparing Hutchinson to other cities. The city has historically used the other 18 outstate small regional centers¹ as market comparisons for a variety of data points.

Performance measurement can mean different things to different people. One of the goals of this report is to tell a story about whether or not the City and its activities are achieving the objectives of and if progress is being made toward attaining city policies and/or goals. Another goal of this report is to provide the Hutchinson City Council with information to help them determine if their desired results are accomplished.

¹ Albert Lea, Alexandria, Austin, Bemidji, Brainerd, Cloquet, Fairmont, Faribault, Fergus Falls, Hibbing, Marshall, New Ulm, Northfield, Owatonna, Red Wing, Willmar, Winona, Worthington

2025 Annual Report

Executive Summary

I'm pleased to present to you the sixth annual City of Hutchinson Annual Report. It is the City's intention to produce this report on an annual basis so that the City Council, residents and businesses of Hutchinson can be informed of and engaged in city services and the measurement of how the city is performing. We continue to build upon this report and will continue to do so in the future. Any suggestions for additional information and/or measurements are more than welcomed.

While 2024 was a year of anticipating what that future will look like, 2025 was a year of unexpected growth within the community. We spent a lot of time in 2024 planning for the future of Hutchinson. The fruits of our labor seem to come to fruition in 2025 with several projects taking place. We saw our first new housing development in over 20 years get built in the Elk Ridge Estates. On top of that, we also saw work start on the 81-unit apartment complex, the Landing, in downtown Hutchinson. We also saw interest in new retail in the south side of town and new businesses opened in our downtown main street district. The future of the city looks to be exciting and bright with more growth planned for next year.

The City's average monthly unemployment rates continue to remain low with an average monthly rate of 3.8% in 2025. These rates continue to remain in line with the State (3.4%) percentages and below the Federal (4.2%) percentages. Vacancy rates for our market rate rental units also continue to be at historic lows and our median sales price of our residential homes continue to rise, having increased from \$257,450 last year to \$279,500² in 2025, the thirteenth straight year of an increase. Home resales continue to remain steady (as inventory presents itself) and home foreclosures (lack thereof) continue to remain low. While home resales continue to remain steady, we have seen a tighter housing market, which has resulted in new homes continuing to be constructed in town. Although the lack of available lots has made the housing market tighter, a new housing development in 2025 with the possibility of more next year will assist in relieving this pressure throughout town. We issued 23 building permits for new homes in 2025. 2025 was the thirteenth straight year in where we have issued 20 or more new home permits.

The new homes being built this past year will push our ten-year total to over 270. Along with new housing, we saw the completion of the Les Swab Tire building on Highway 15 south, and the Family Dollar building on Highway 7 west. Main Street saw The Book Keepers, Sips, Grounded Gardens, Rowen and Raye, and Garden Nook Tea & Gifts all open in the past year. Smokey Dukes and Deimos Materials moved into the Enterprise Center. Zephyr Wind Services expanded their operations into the

² Source: Minneapolis Area Realtors

old Hutchinson Manufacturing site, and Miller Manufacturing expanded their operations from Glencoe into the old Rite Way building in the industrial park. Outside of private investment, construction was finished this past spring on a new grandstand at VMF, and the city successfully hosted the 2025 State Amateur Baseball Tournament this past August/ September. The city has added over \$380 million in new value to the community over the past ten years as well, and we are anticipating continued growth in the next year.

2026 hopes to continue the recent trend of investments within the community. 2026 should see the completion of the Sherwin Williams Paint Store on Highway 15 south, and the Landing Apartment complex in the downtown area. The hospital is working on an emergency room expansion, and the Mall is working on a large renovation project in advance of a new tenant moving into the space. We are also expecting a new Cannabis Testing Facility to come into town, along with the construction of a Data Center out in the industrial park. New businesses (Scooters Coffee?) and business expansions continue to explore Hutchinson, with interest in the community continuing to be high. More single-family homes will be constructed and the construction of a new 126-unit (3 buildings) apartment complex at the old Burns Manor site could start in 2026 as well. Demolition of the old Jorgenson Hotel has begun, and we could see development on that site as early as next year. The city will continue to market the Industrial Park, and we are hoping that a lot of the interest that is brewing currently in Hutchinson will result in projects or the start of projects in 2026.

One of the goals I have for this City is for it to be the best and most attractive small regional center in outstate Minnesota. In an effort to be the most attractive small regional center, it is our responsibility to create an atmosphere that is conducive to growth and achievement throughout the community. This report is a culmination of the effort staff put forth in 2025 in providing quality services hopefully at a cost of government similar to, or less than, comparable outstate regional centers. As we look at the year ahead of us, many projects that were started in 2025 will continue into 2026 and rumors of projects from 2025 will become a reality in 2026. I strongly believe that the year ahead of us will be better than the previous one. There is a lot to be excited about, and I look forward to what the future holds!

Matt Jaunich
City Administrator

2025 Annual Report

Our Story

In late 2019, the City of Hutchinson embarked on a community branding initiative, along with a marketing strategy to assist city staff and elected officials in promoting the city of Hutchinson to new residents and young families along with prospective businesses and developers. The study was to provide insights regarding current perceptions of the city and help to drive the recruitment of new residents and young families; energize current residents and instill a sense of pride in the community; and position the city as a desirable place for relocation and redevelopment to increase new resident attraction and economic growth. Below is the City's brand story or message.

Brand Message

On a late November afternoon standing on the crest of a hill overlooking the Crow River, three Hutchinson brothers knew they had found what they had been looking for: the perfect place to establish a community that stood for the values and human rights they had been expounding for years through their popular music. Only now they could actually put those lyrics into practice by advocating for principles, such as the abolition of slavery and women's equal rights through laws enacted on the town's very first day. So it was, long before the rest of the country would come around to their forward-thinking ideas, Hutchinson, Minnesota established a reputation for blazing trails as a town ahead of its time.

More than 160 years later, Hutchinson still stands apart as a city with a vision for the future. A city that thinks and acts differently because of its solid commitment to plans and decisions that first and foremost improve the quality of life – the economic, physical, social, emotional and environmental wellness for all its residents, workers and visitors.

Like the Crow River, generations of wisdom have flowed through this area's rich history, gleaning and drawing deeply from its abundant woods, wildlife and surrounding lakes. Here is a community shaped not only by the natural beauty and forces that come together only here in this part of rural Minnesota, but also by its legacy and its people.

Somewhere between small town and big city, farm community and metropolis, lies Hutchinson. Though a small town by some standards, it's more big city in its vision for the future and ability to get things done. You'll find small town charm in its historic downtown where quaint shops, local businesses, a cozy coffee shop and restaurants line Main Street. But you'll also find big city appeal in an exceptional school system and a vibrant arts and cultural community that includes the Hutchinson Center for the Arts, Hutchinson Theater Company, the Minnesota Pottery Festival, Orange Spectacular, Minnesota Garlic Festival and celebrated RiverSong Music Festival.

A friendly, personalized, supportive approach to doing business, more indicative of a small-town welcoming spirit is alive and well in this community. Yet, it's also recognized as a pioneering, highly productive, forward-thinking manufacturing, agricultural and industrial regional hub that finds creative ways of working with new businesses and entrepreneurs. In fact, Hutchinson is already preparing tomorrow's workforce today with the state's most ambitious skilled workforce development initiative,

TigerPath, where high school students discover their interests and talents by learning, exploring and building career and technical skills.

Some cities talk. Hutchinson acts. Wasting no time doing things “because that’s the way it’s always been done”, over the years the city’s leaders have seen the opportunity in challenges instead, acting decisively on the most efficient, effective solution for all. The fact that they hatched the idea of selling their own compost is certainly testament to that.

Much can be owed to a local spirit of cooperation and collaboration. And the ability to discern what is worth saving, such as the State Theater, and what can fall away. Hutchinson is a micropolitan that has managed to balance growth with preservation. Where development doesn’t compromise its cultural or environmental character. The downtown redevelopment project is a great example of that, going forward even in the midst of challenging times.

Just as the Hutchinson brothers first recognized, the city’s abundant natural resources and beauty greatly add to a higher quality of life. With hiking, biking and snowmobiling trails, such as the Luce Line Trail, walking paths, a wildlife sanctuary and access to fishing, boating, kayaking and water sports on the area’s more than 50 lakes, there are ample opportunities to experience Minnesota’s great outdoors right out your back door. Or, as a great escape from bigger cities.

Here you’ll find a community confident in itself and its direction. Unwavering in its focus and sense of mission. With a way of thinking about the world that inspires them to set their sights on noble and bold, but also achievable goals. This is a city whose marching orders are clear: to serve its people, commerce and industry with a clear focus, staying on point with intention and purpose. Charting a better course for the future while still cherishing what is right before us.

The City of Hutchinson
A City On Purpose

MISSION STATEMENT

The City of Hutchinson exists so that residents, businesses, property owners and visitors are provided with quality services and programs that support a safe, healthy, sustainable and business-friendly community with a small-town atmosphere, for a cost of government similar to, or less than, comparable out-state Minnesota Cities

VISION STATEMENT

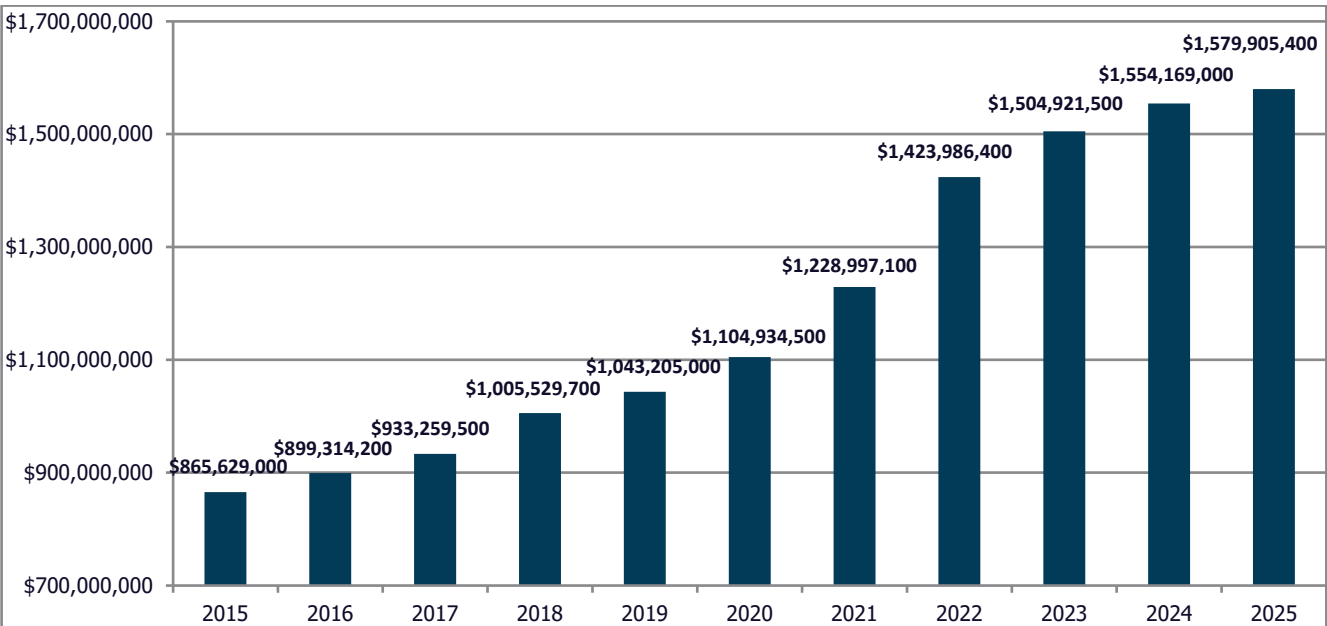
Our vision for the City of Hutchinson is that we will continue to be an involved, progressive and innovative community that promotes our regional prominence while preserving our hometown character and delivering quality, cost-effective services

2025 Annual Report

Broad Indicators

Assessed Market Value

One of the most significant indicators of Hutchinson’s success is demonstrated in the consistent growth in total assessed market value.



The total assessed market value of the city increased 1.7% in 2025. Residential values increased 1.4%, commercial/industrial values increased 4.1%, apartment values remained steady, and agricultural values saw a decrease in value to the tune of 9.7%. 2025 was the thirteenth straight year that the assessed market value of the city increased.

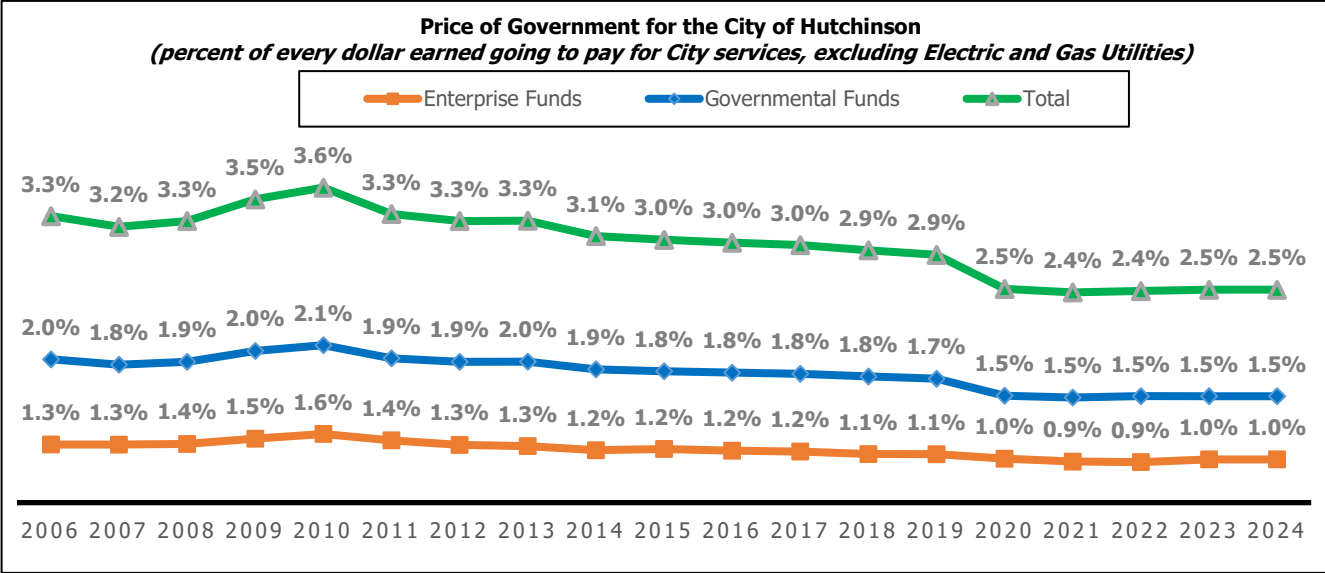
The bottom year of 2015 reflect the end of the “great recession”, and values have increased 83% since that time; an average of 6.3% each year. Current values are at all-time high for the city. The market value for each year is determined as of January 1 based on prior year sales. It is anticipated that the 2026 assessed market values will also show an increase.

Price of Government

In recent years the city has tracked it’s “Price of Government” as a means to measure local government affordability. The “Price of Government” involves examining how much residents pay for all City services compared to the estimated income in the community. This analysis allows the city to compare how much residents pay for those municipal services on an annual basis and see how that amount has changed over time.

The graph below shows the City’s price of Government since 2006. The price has been stable throughout the analysis period but did increase during the recession to its highest level in 2010. Since 2010, the price has slowly decreased and somewhat leveled off in recent years, indicating that personal income is growing at a faster rate or at the same level as the cost of city services.

Data is always a year behind due to the lag in the availability of data from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis. For 2024, Hutchinson Citizens spent 1.5% of each dollar earned on the day-to-day operations of the City and 1.0% on the City’s enterprise funds. In total, approximately 2.5% of each dollar earned by Hutchinson citizens was spent on City services.



Bond Rating

An important indicate of financial stability is the credit rating assigned by independent rating agencies.

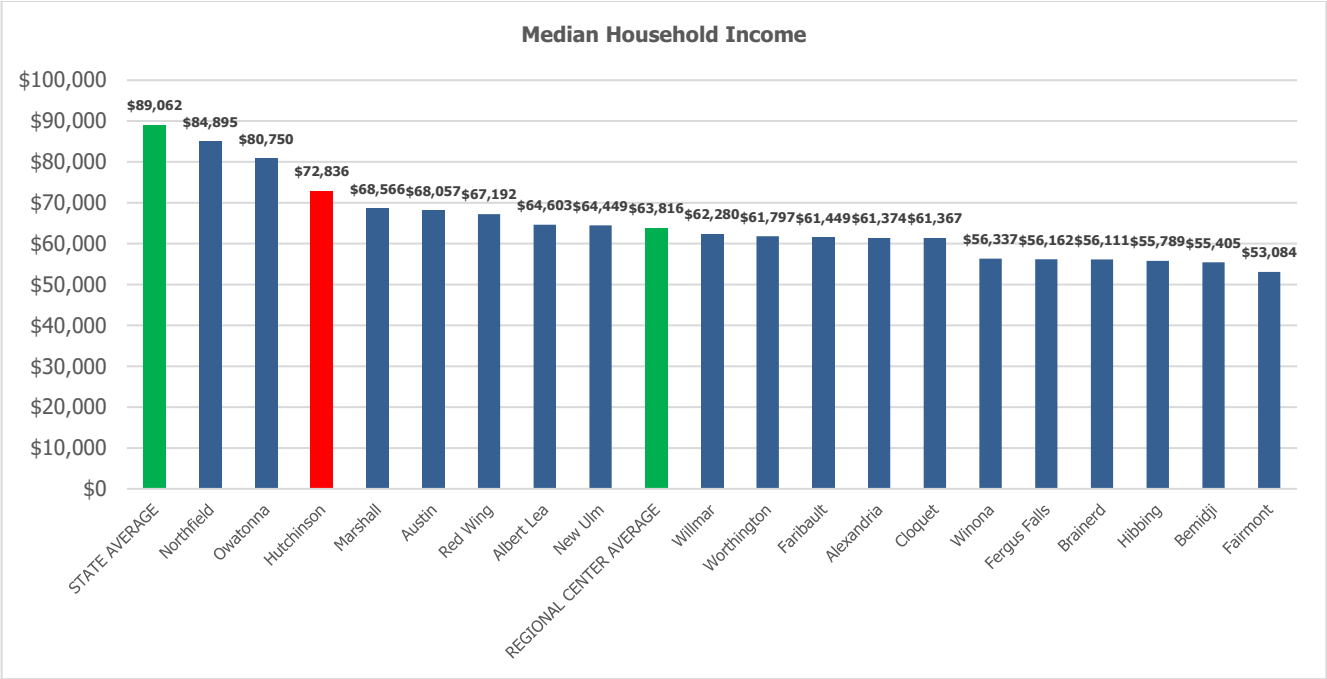
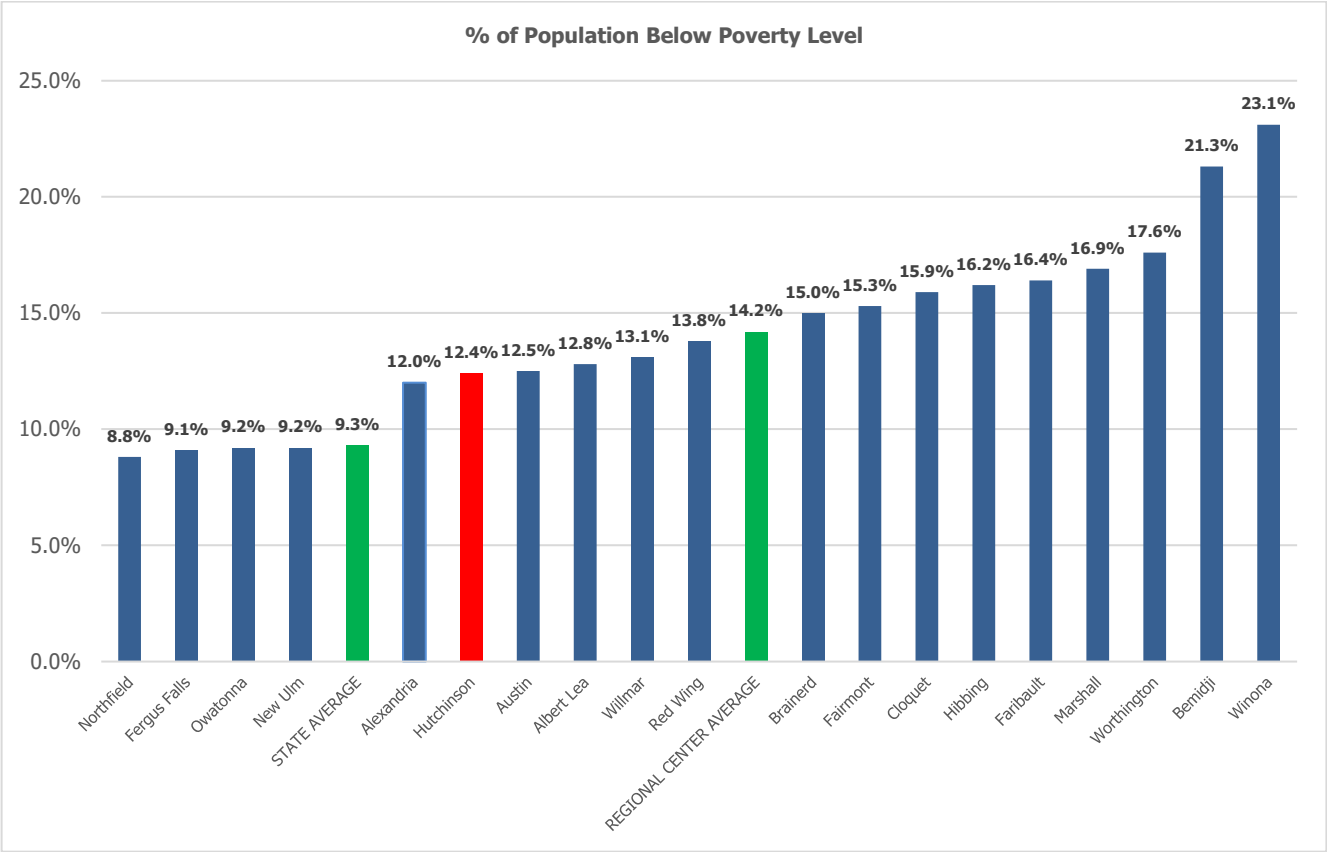
In 2025, Standard & Poor’s (S&P) Rating Services reaffirmed its AA- rating for the City of Hutchinson. This rating is 4th strongest on S&P’s rating scale and identifies the city has having a “stable outlook”. The independent evaluation of a municipalities credit risk is one of the single most important indicators of prudent financial and administrative management. The evaluation considers many factors including the local economy, budgetary management, debt load, and budgetary performance.

Poverty Levels and Household Incomes³

The City of Hutchinson monitors poverty levels and household income levels in an effort to gauge the economic strength of the community. Historically the City has had poverty levels below that of the

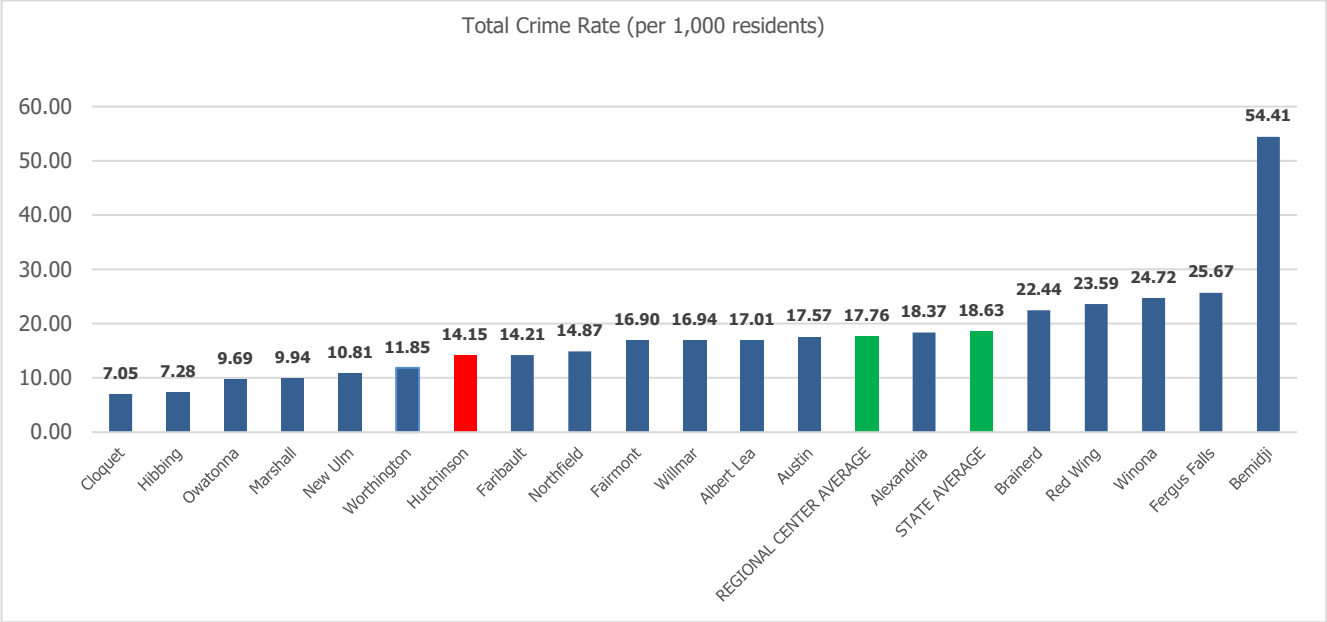
³ Poverty and household income data was from the 2024 Census Estimate information.

State and Regional Center averages. While household incomes have been below that of the state average, it has remained in the upper third and above average of the outstate regional centers that Hutchinson compares itself to.



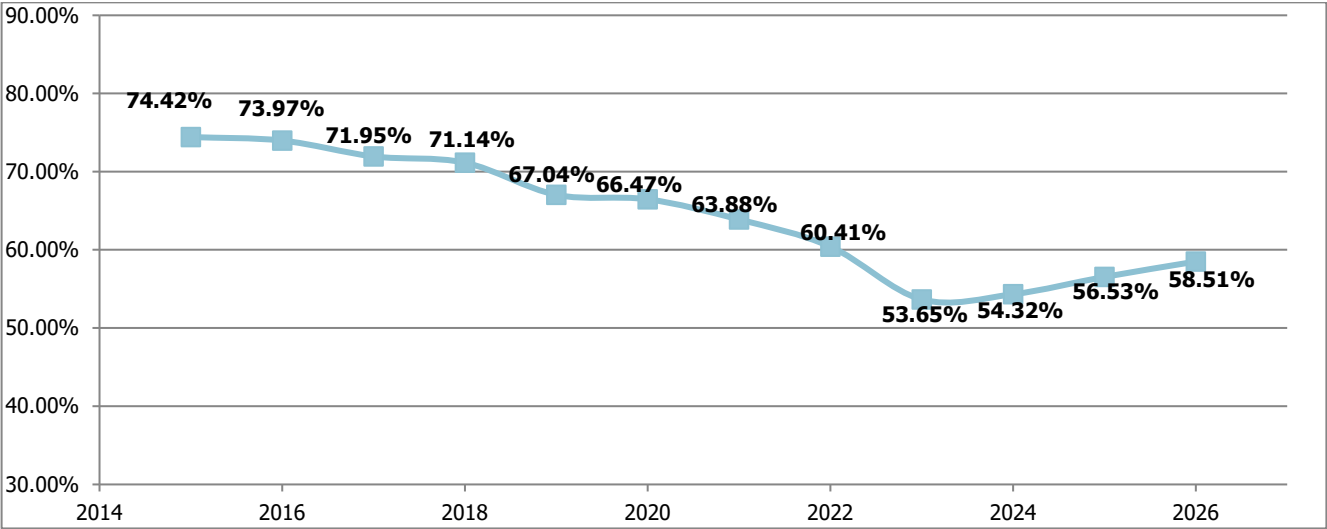
Crime Rates⁴

The City of Hutchinson monitors crime rates in an effort to gauge the safety of the community. Historically the City has had crime rates below that of the State and Regional Center averages. Crime rates are a combination of violent and property crimes per 1,000 residents.

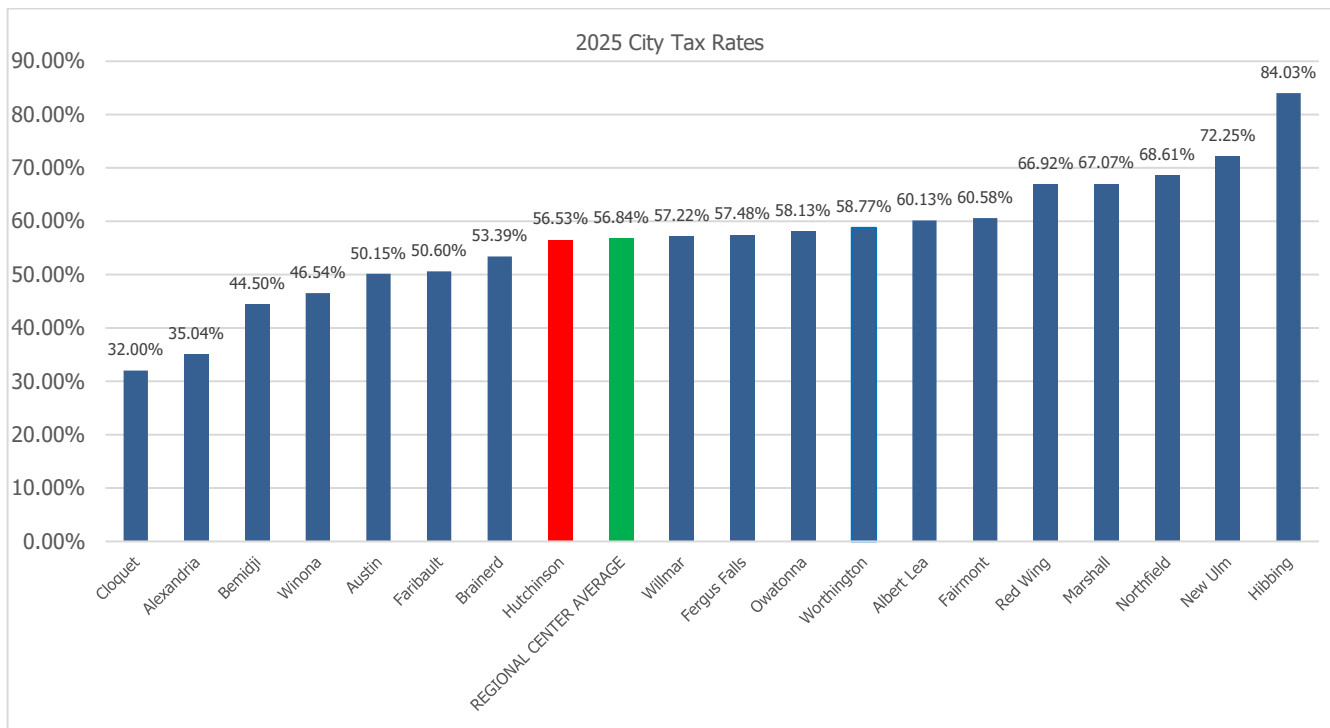


City Tax Rates

The following tables show a comparison of city tax rates to other outstate small regional centers. The first table shows the trend of the City’s tax rate since 2015. The second is a comparison of the 2025 tax rates of out-state regional centers. The following tables reflect only the city portion tax levies and do not include special levies that cities may also certify.



⁴ 2024 Calendar Year Data; released by the FBI in October 2025



The table below shows a comparison of Hutchinson's 2025 city tax rate for city services with other outstate regional centers. Hutchinson's tax rate was the eighth lowest out of the 19 regional centers.

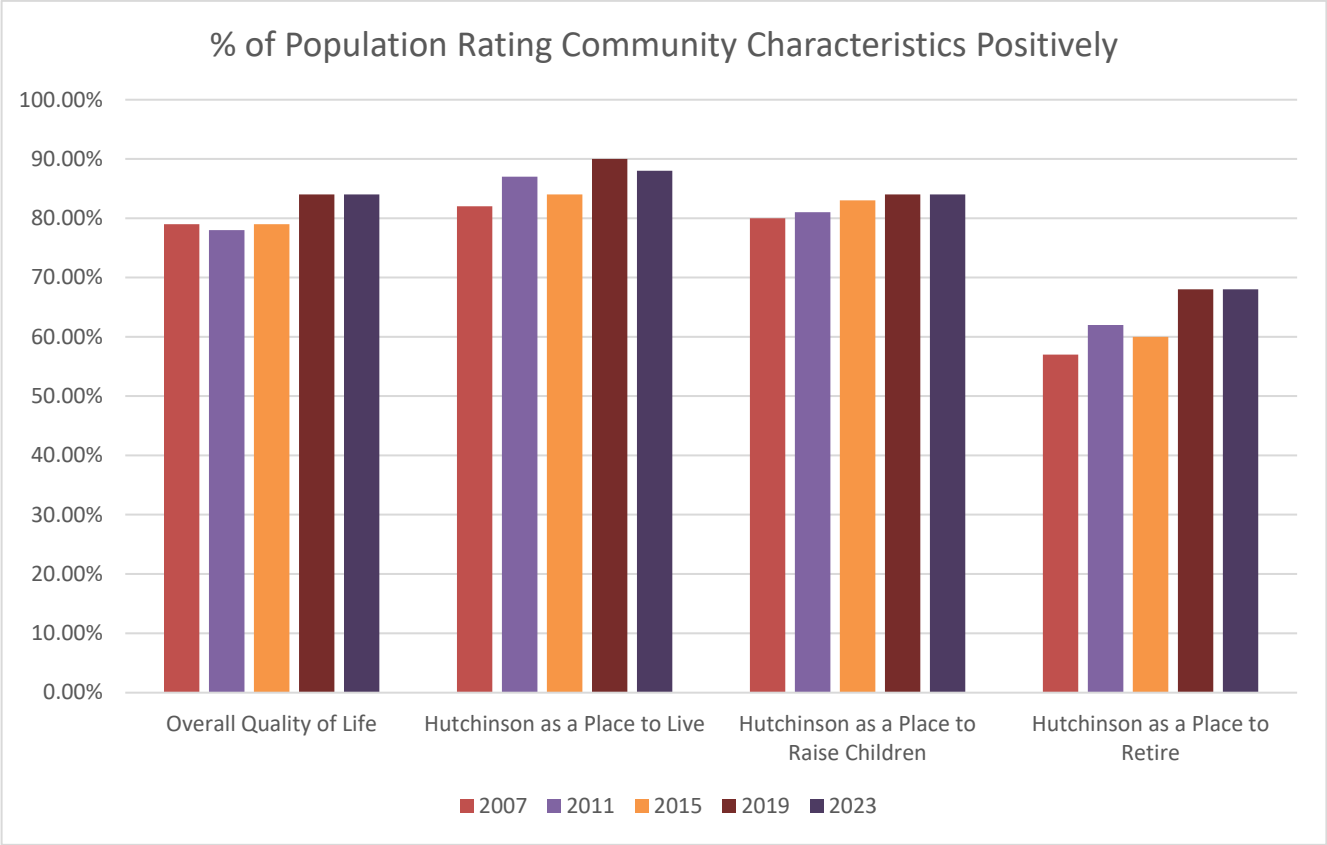
	<u>19 Regional Centers</u>	<u>2025 Tax Rate</u>	<u>2024 Tax Rate</u>
1	Cloquet	32.00%	29.07%
2	Alexandria	35.04%	35.94%
3	Bemidji	44.50%	44.12%
4	Winona	46.54%	42.64%
5	Austin	50.15%	45.88%
6	Faribault	50.60%	46.73%
7	Brainerd	53.39%	53.71%
8	Hutchinson	56.53%	54.32%
9	Willmar	57.22%	54.02%
10	Fergus Falls	57.48%	54.32%
10	Owatonna	58.13%	57.62%
12	Worthington	58.77%	55.16%
13	Albert Lea	60.13%	54.03%
14	Fairmont	60.58%	56.57%
15	Red Wing	66.92%	67.19%
16	Marshall	67.07%	62.78%
17	Northfield	68.61%	62.16%
18	New Ulm	72.25%	68.54%
19	Hibbing	84.03%	77.54%
Average of 19 Regional Centers		56.84%	53.81%

2025 Annual Report

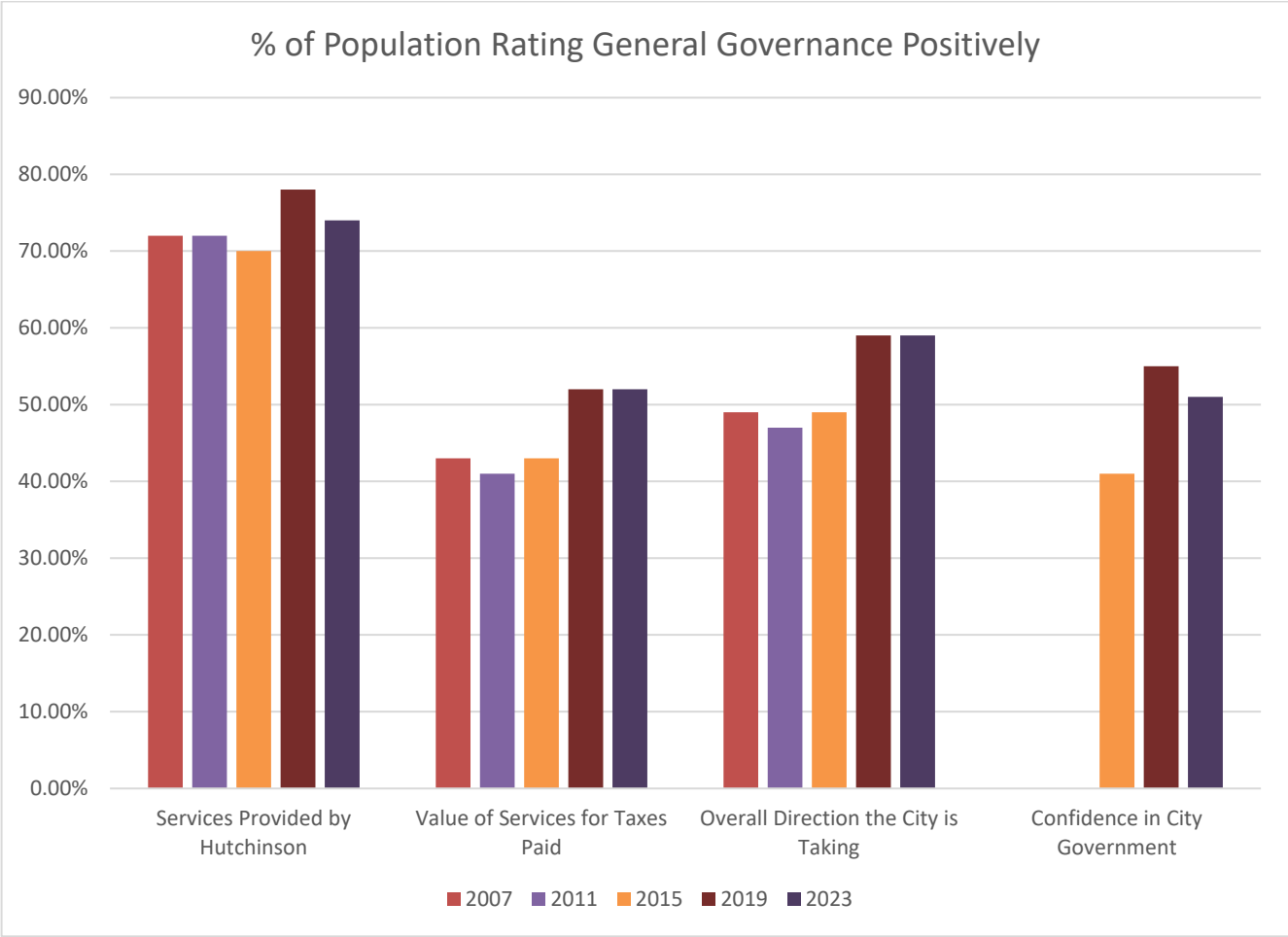
Community Surveys

Feedback from the community is also an important measuring tool for the city. The City of Hutchinson conducts statistically valid community surveys every four years through the National Community Survey (NCS). The community survey assesses aspects of community life, local government service quality, and resident participation in community activities. The survey captures residents’ opinions, and the results are based on resident perceptions. Overall, the survey describes areas where the community believes things are going well and sheds light on the areas that could benefit from improvement.

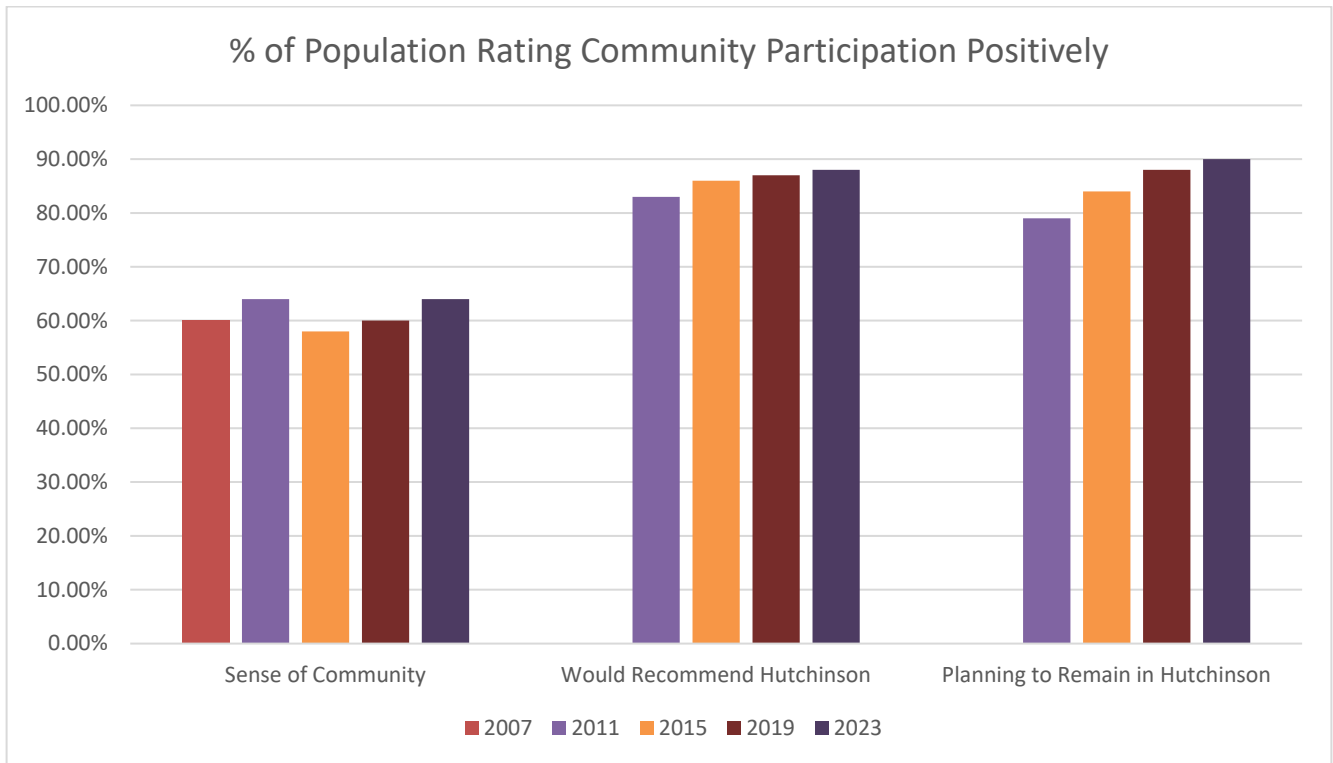
When it comes to aspects of making a community livable, attractive and a place where people want to be, the latest survey (2023) showed that the percentage of residents responding “excellent” or “good” stayed pretty steady from previous years. The majority of our residents (84%) rated the quality of life in Hutchinson as excellent or good; 88% rated the city as an excellent or good place to live; 84% rated Hutchinson as a place to raise children as excellent or good; and 68% viewed Hutchinson as an excellent or good place to retire.



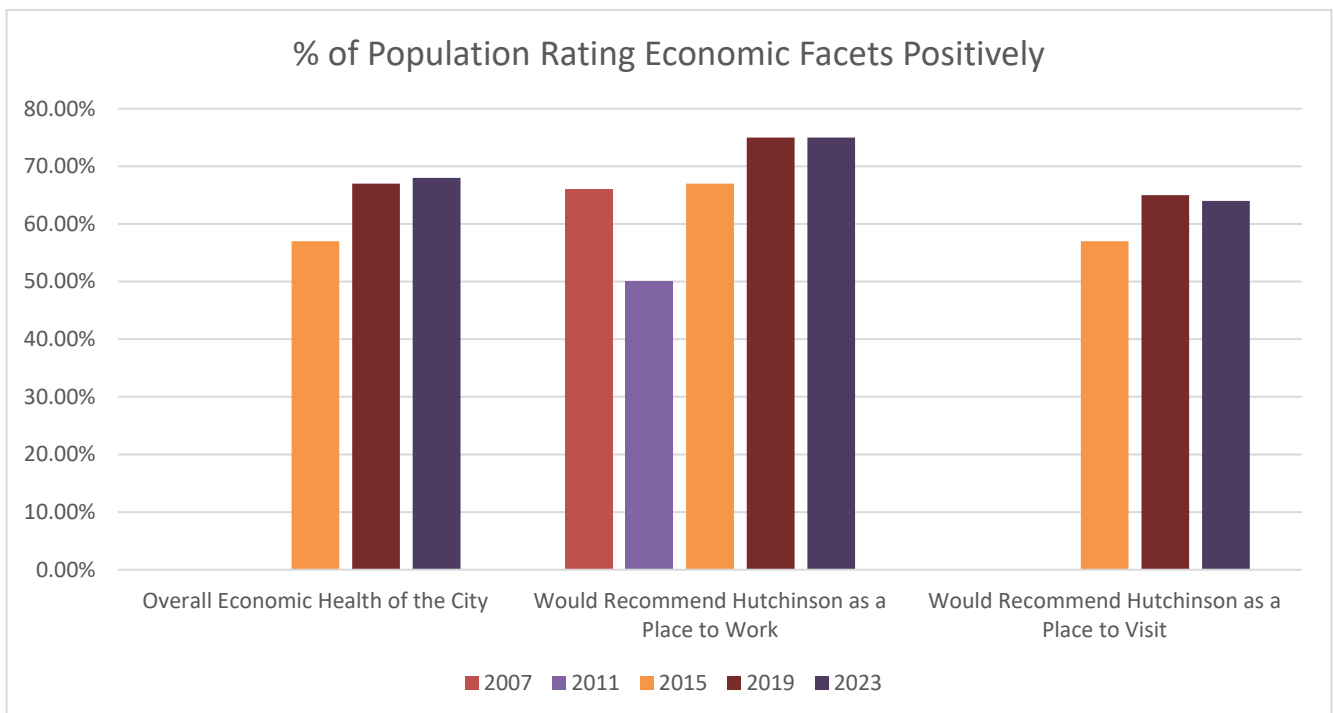
When it comes to how well the government of Hutchinson meets the needs and expectations of its residents, the latest survey showed that the percentage of residents responding “excellent” or “good” remained relatively steady from previous years. The majority of our residents (74%) rated the overall quality of services provided by the City of Hutchinson as excellent or good; 52% rated the value of services for taxes paid as excellent or good. 59% rated the overall direction city government is taking as excellent or good, and 51% viewed confidence in city government as excellent or good.

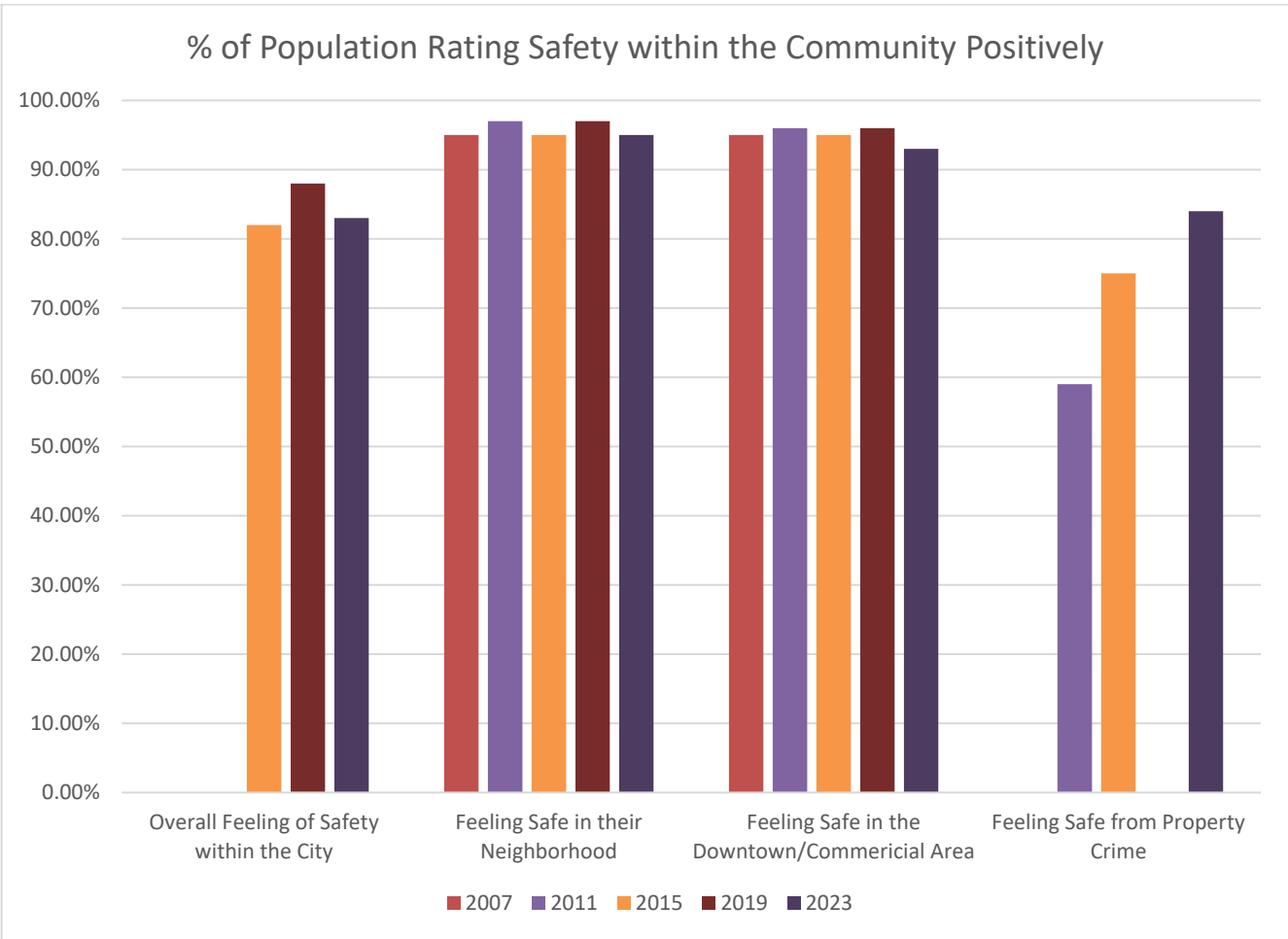


When it comes to how well the residents of Hutchinson are connected to the community and each other, the survey showed that the percentage of residents responding “excellent” or “good” improved from the previous surveys. 64% of our residents rated the overall sense of community as excellent or good, while 88% of the residents would recommend living in Hutchinson to someone else and another 90% planned to remain in the community for the next five years.



The last two graphs show how residents feel about two important aspects of the community, the economy and safety. The data highlights that the percentage of residents responding “excellent” or “good” remained steady or improved from the previous surveys on these two important topics.



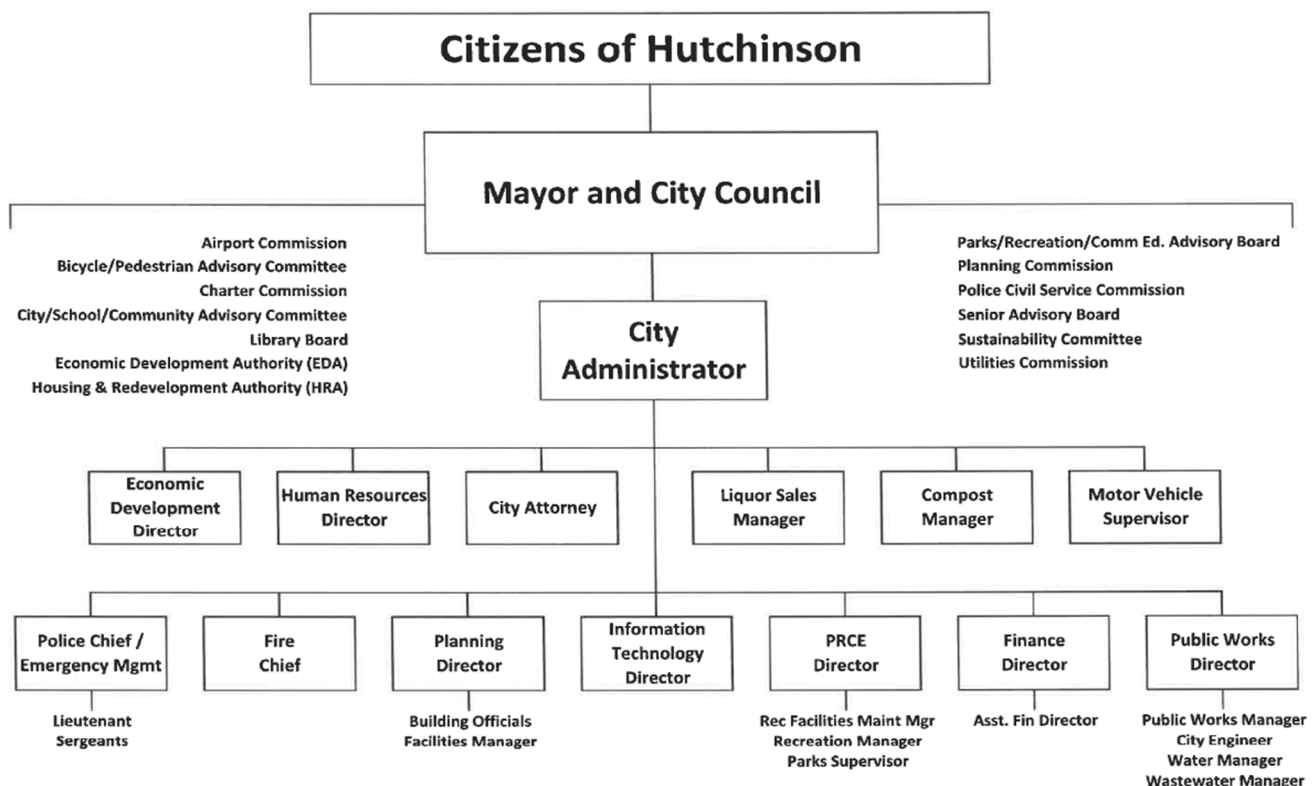


2025 Annual Report

Organization of the City

The city of Hutchinson is governed by a home rule charter and operates as a Council-Manager/Administrator form of local government. The city council consists of a mayor and four designated council seats, all elected at large. The city council serves as the governing authority in the “weak mayor-council” form of government. The mayor serves as the chair of the council but does not have greater authority than the other council members do. The mayor and council are responsible for making policy and legislative decisions that govern the City, while relying on the city administrator and staff to handle the administrative and day-to-day operations of the City.

As chief executive officer, the city administrator is the sole employee of the city council and is responsible for ensuring the day-to-day operations of the city are being met. The city administrator is appointed annually by the city council. The city of Hutchinson has approximately 140 regular staff, who provide residents with a wide array of municipal services including administration/legal, finance, public safety (police & fire), streets, economic development, culture/parks/recreation, engineering, public improvements, building permits/inspections, planning and zoning, and motor vehicle/DNR licensing. The city also operates public water, sanitary and storm sewer collection and treatment utilities, a soils manufacturing/compost business, an off-sale liquor store, and owns a municipal airport.



2025 Annual Report

Grants and Donations

Another way to consider the effectiveness of how a community is built is by how the city leverages its resources. How does the city save local tax dollars through grants, donations, sponsorships and state and federal assistance? The following are major grants, donations and state or federal aid from the past year that help fund major services provided by the City:

Parks & Art

• Various donations for Fireman's Park –	\$9,446.36
• Donation for Rotary Park –	\$1,500
• Donation for VMF netting over grandstand –	\$1,000
• Various grants and donations for Bike Fleet project –	\$1,125
• Hutch Huskies banner monies for future VMF expenses –	\$5,800
• State grant for prairie grass maintenance/restoration –	\$18,842.50
• Grants and donations for the new VMF Grandstand –	\$84,881.92
• Grants and donations for the new reader board outside Civic Arena –	\$40,000
• Grants and donations for boy's locker room upgrades at Civic Arena –	\$10,631.10
• Private donations to the public arts sculpture stroll –	\$500
• SWIF grant for public arts statue maintenance –	\$1,500

Public Safety

• General donations to police department equipment needs –	\$3,000
• VMF donation for rifle suppressors –	\$14,000
• Federal grant for bulletproof vests –	\$7,205.18
• State Training Aid for police department –	\$21,877.45
• State DARE monies –	\$822.70
• State grant to police department vests and body armor –	\$12,548.46
• State grant to police department for "Toward Zero Deaths" –	\$453.78
• General donations to the fire department –	\$50
• State grants for fire training –	\$17,736.23

Transportation

• Municipal State Aid (General Maintenance) –	\$29,280
• State Transportation Advancement Account (delivery fees) –	\$22,221
• 2025 Dale Street roadway improvement project (MSA) –	\$1,265,898.28
• Bridge inspection signing –	\$2,293
• State grant – new plow for 1-ton truck –	\$13,676.47
• Grants for 2023 airport new hanger construction –	\$309,969.83

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- Airport Aid – \$23,595.50
 - Airport runway obstruction removals grant – \$19,006.97
 - Airport runway 15/33 RSA Grading project grant – \$59,431.19

Recreational Program Sponsorships/Contributions

- Youth Sports – \$32,750
- Senior Center activities – \$1,624
- Civic Arena sponsorships – \$11,650
- Sponsorships of various PRCE programs – \$3,891.60
- PRCE brochure sponsorships – \$14,368.32

State Pension Aid

- Police Pension Aid – \$292,183.68
- Fire Pension Aid – \$192,033.94

Housing

- State Affordable Housing Aid – \$30,649

Other

- EDA – childcare grants (pass-thru to Guiding Light – \$14,650.75
- EDA – grant for downtown app development – \$10,000
- EDA – grant for 5th Ave property improved for future development – \$26,483.62
- State MPCA grant for new SSOM process – \$12,870.28
- State Bonding Grant – Lakes & River Basin Project – \$82,079.50
- State grant for storm water resiliency study – \$81,200
- Cemetery general donation – \$900

In total, the city received **\$2,805,627.61** in grants, donations, and state and federal aid in 2025.

2025 Annual Report

City Partnerships

Partnerships save city resources and help ease the tax burden on city residents. The city has pursued partnerships with a variety of other government agencies as well as private groups and community service organizations to provide for better community services. All city departments take advantage of opportunities to join forces with different agencies and groups on an on-going basis. Below is a list of many of the partnerships that have had and will continue to impact city operations:

Administration

- Member of the MCMA – Information and Resource Sharing Network
- Member of the ICMA – Information and Resource Sharing Network
- Member of LMC – Information and Resource Sharing Network
- Member of CGMC – Information and Resource Sharing Network
- McLeod County Administrators/Clerks (quarterly meetings/resources)

Finance Department

- Partners with the County in the area of Assessing Services. This service includes on-site property reviews of approximately 25-30% of total parcels each year.

Creekside

- Per the McLeod County Solid Waste Plan, Creekside receives organic waste material from all McLeod County residents at no charge.
- Creekside also provides a disposal service to all McLeod County municipalities' compost sites.

Fire Department

- Mutual aid agreements with all neighboring fire departments (frequently utilized for large scale events)
- McLeod County Fire Chief's Association (quarterly meetings, resources)
- Minnesota Fire Chief's Association (membership, meetings, training, resources)
- Minnesota State Fire Marshal's Office (fire code review)
- Meeker/McLeod Fire Safety Trailer (shared regional trailer for teaching fire safety, resources housed at our station and used throughout our multi-county region)
- Minnesota Department of Human Services (conduct fire safety inspections for daycare and foster care centers and homes)
- McLeod County Fair (inspections, grandstand event coverage, facility usage for training)
- McLeod County Sheriff's Dept. (emergency calls, resources & equipment)
- McLeod County Social Services (protection services, child/vulnerable adult)
- McLeod County (community service partnership for troubled youth)
- Project Life Savor (McLeod County partnership, resources housed at our station)
- Regional Disaster Response Unit (Partnership with Immanuel-St. Joseph's Hospital Mankato, resources housed at our station)
- Allina ambulance (emergency calls, joint training)
- 3M (promoting community fire safety and awareness with the use of the jointly owned, "Bullex" digital/electronic fire extinguisher training device).

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- Village Ranch, Inc. (projects and assistance for young men)
 - Internal – Police Dept. (emergency calls, training site, resources & equip., EOC)
 - Internal – Building Dept. (shared resources for rental inspections, new building plan reviews and final inspections)

Human Resources

- HRA – Provide bi-weekly payroll and all payroll related services. HRA is included in our employee insurance benefit plans and work comp coverage.
- Member of SHRM – Information and Resource Sharing Network
- Complete salary related and other surveys or provide other information as requested – annual LMC survey, ICMA, federal govt. requests, other MN cities, unions, etc.

Information Technology

- Provide, for a fee, fiber connectivity for McLeod County Solid Waste and the fairgrounds for the County network.
- Provide, for a fee, fiber connectivity to Ridgewater East campus for the State of Minnesota network.

Legal

- Hutchinson Utilities Commission – Provide all legal related services as needed through the City Attorney.

Planning & Zoning

- Hutchinson Area Joint Planning Board – City of Hutchinson, McLeod County, Acoma Township, Lynn Township, Hassan Valley Township.
- Backup building inspection services with Meeker County on an as needed basis (has not been utilized recently but contract is in place).
- Partnership with Pioneerland Library services to manage and operate the Hutchinson Public Library. City owns building, provides custodial staff, and manages building and associated improvements.
- Partnership with Lutheran Social Services for Senior Dining Service at Evergreen.
- Partnership with Hutchinson HRA to provide rental rehab inspections both in Hutchinson and County wide for HRA rental rehab projects.

Police Department

- Mutual Aid: An agreement with McLeod County including all municipalities, all emergencies as needed.
- Emergency Management:
 - McLeod County including all municipalities
 - Planning
 - Training for licensed and civilian staff
 - Civil Defense siren testing and alerts
 - Coordinated County-wide response
 - Weather spotters through the county
 - County-wide inventory of equipment and resources for emergencies both public and private
- Communication Advisory Board:

-
- Made up of police, fire, and medical agencies throughout McLeod County
 - Addressing radio programming, radio protocols, call out procedures and priorities, resolving issues
 - Southwest Metro Drug Task Force:
 - We currently have one licensed police officer assigned to the Task Force
 - McLeod, Carver, Scott, West Hennepin, Glencoe, Lester Prairie, Winsted, Brownton, Shakopee, New Prague, Jordan
 - Monthly McLeod County Chief's Association (Region VI) meetings:
 - All county Chiefs
 - Sheriff
 - County Attorney
 - State Patrol
 - County-wide training hosted and supported by McLeod County Chief's Association and MPPOA:
 - Active Shooter
 - Mental Health training for licensed and civilian staff
 - Police and Fire Training facility:
 - We allow any law enforcement in the state to utilize our range
 - We allow McLeod County to utilize our range
 - We allow McLeod County to utilize our EOC
 - Special Response Team (SRT):
 - The Hutchinson and McLeod teams train together
 - Respond to all emergencies together
 - Share equipment
 - This approach allows each agency the ability to control costs
 - This approach allows each agency to manage liability
 - This approach allows each agency to control utilization of team within their jurisdiction
 - School Liaison Officer:
 - Hutchinson School District
 - High School and Middle School
 - Shared compensation
 - Park Patrol Officer:
 - Park and Rec. Department
 - Shared compensation
 - DARE Program:
 - McLeod County teaches this program to all schools throughout the County
 - Our contribution is \$8,000.00 annually
 - Project Lifesaver:
 - All police and fire agencies in the county participate
 - The equipment is purchased by the County
 - McLeod County Fair:
 - The two agencies share a display booth during the fair
 - We back up the Sheriff's Pose as needed throughout the fair
 - Susteen Secure view mobile forensic software:
 - Shared service allowing access to mobile phone data
 - Shared fee
 - Safe and Sober:
 - Headed up by the State

-
- Enforcement program partnered with agencies throughout the state
 - ICAC:
 - Computer forensics partnered with the BCA
 - CARE Council:
 - HPD has an officer on the Board
 - County-wide participation
 - Parent Connection Team:
 - HPD has an officer on the Board
 - County-wide participation
 - McLeod County Public Health Nuisance Provider Roundtable:
 - HPD has an officer on the Board
 - County-wide participation
 - Adult Protection Team:
 - HPD has an officer on the Board
 - Courts, Prosecutors, Social Services, Probation, Advocates
 - Child Protection Team:
 - HPD has an officer on the Board
 - Courts, Prosecutors, Social Services, Probation, Advocates
 - Take it to the box program:
 - Hutchinson PD, Winsted, and the Sheriff's Office have drop boxes in their lobbies
 - MEADA Coalition (Meth Education and Drug Awareness):
 - HPD has an officer on the Board
 - County-wide participation

Park & Rec

- ISD 423 PRCE Joint Powers Agreement
- ISD 423 Grounds Maintenance Agreement
- ISD 423 Partnership on the Safe Routes to School Program
- Hutch Utilities Maintenance Agreement
- HPD shared Bike Patrol
- Youth Associations: Shared programming for Baseball, Softball, Hockey, Figure skating, Basketball, High Tides, Wrestling, Volleyball, Lacrosse, and Soccer
- Fraternal Organizations: Park Development/Maintenance: Rotary, Oddfellows, Masons, VFW, Legion, Elks, Kiwanis, Jaycees, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts Lions, Maplewood Academy, and Historic Hutchinson
- Associations: Programs and Events: Chamber of Commerce, River song, Center for the Arts, Little Crow Archery, EDA and Hutch Health
- Adopt-a-Park with the Hutchinson Huskies on Veterans Memorial Field

Public Works

- Engineering – The engineering department staff utilizes and is utilized as a resource to the local MNDOT District 8 and McLeod County Highway Department staffs on projects impacting the city and the region. These projects have leveraged city resources to achieve significant infrastructure improvements.
- Work with the MNDNR – City staff has worked well with MNDNR to address the replacement of the Crow River Dam and improve the Luce Line/River trails corridor, and for improvements to our Lakes/River Basin.

-
- Area Transportation Partnership (ATP) – City staff is continually engaged in ATP activities to promote MNDOT trunk highway system improvements in our region and to capitalize on Federal Aid funds to assist in City projects.
 - Hutchinson Area Transportation Services (HATS) – HATS has facilitated the establishment of a great working relationship with McLeod County and MNDOT. Equipment is shared routinely at the operator/lead level. Examples include the city routinely using a county dump truck to haul biosolids and having MNDOT assist the city by coring concrete for sign installations. MNDOT provides facility maintenance assistance. Fuel purchases are made jointly, and fuel is purchased by the State, County and City departments. We are also reimbursed by the State for spring sweeping and snow removal operations and trade for materials with the County to offset spring sweeping costs. We also routinely share aggregate materials stockpiled at HATS amongst the three entities. The City and County jointly purchase winter salt.
 - Airport – At the airport there is significant cooperative efforts between the FAA and MNDOT. Without these entities, it would be unfeasible for the City to effectively operate an airport. Both FAA & MNDOT personnel routinely assist us in troubleshooting problems, determining cost-effective solutions and helping ensure the airport is safe.
 - Cemetery – The chapel at the Cemetery is a joint venture with Dobratz-Hantge Chapel. The Cemetery also partners with local businesses to provide employee parking
 - Safety – Public Works is part of a network made up of other Public Works Departments that serve as a “think-tank” for safety/operational issues related to Public Works operations. While this group meets regularly, off-line various entities are able to provide resources to each other and act as a sounding board for safety/operational issues.
 - Signs – The City has a great working relationship with the County when it comes to utilizing one another’s sign inventory and equipment. This helps to offset the typical lead time or ordering signs.
 - Equipment – The City is part of the MNDOA Cooperative Purchasing Agreement (State Bid) for purchasing equipment other items. This saves a significant amount of time as staff does not have to prepare separate bid documents for each purchase
 - Streetlights – The City has a relationship with HUC relative to energizing and maintaining streetlights.
 - Snow Removal – The County snow blower serves as the City’s backup snow blower.
 - Wastewater – City staff administers an industrial waste permitting process which allows for the city to collect materials from other agencies and organizations for an established fee resulting in City revenues. Also, city staff coordinates a biosolids spreading program with local farmers to cost-effectively dispose of sludge materials.
 - MNWARN – The City is part of MNWARD (Minnesota Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network). This is a formal emergency response program in MN which is facilitated by a standard mutual aid agreement. All of the communities with a 25-mile radius of Hutchinson are part of this network.

2025 Annual Report

Awards and Recognitions

One way to consider the effectiveness of city services is through independent awards and recognitions received by the city and its departments over the past year.

Public Works Department

- Received the 2025 Merit Award for Bituminous Surfacing for the Dale Street Project that was completed in 2025.

Environment

- City reconfirmed its status as a step 4 & 5 city of the Green Steps City Program
- 46th year as a Tree City USA Community

Finance

- 29th Straight year being recognized by GFOA for Excellence in Financial Reporting

City Administration

Primary Services

The city administrator and the administration department provide the following services:

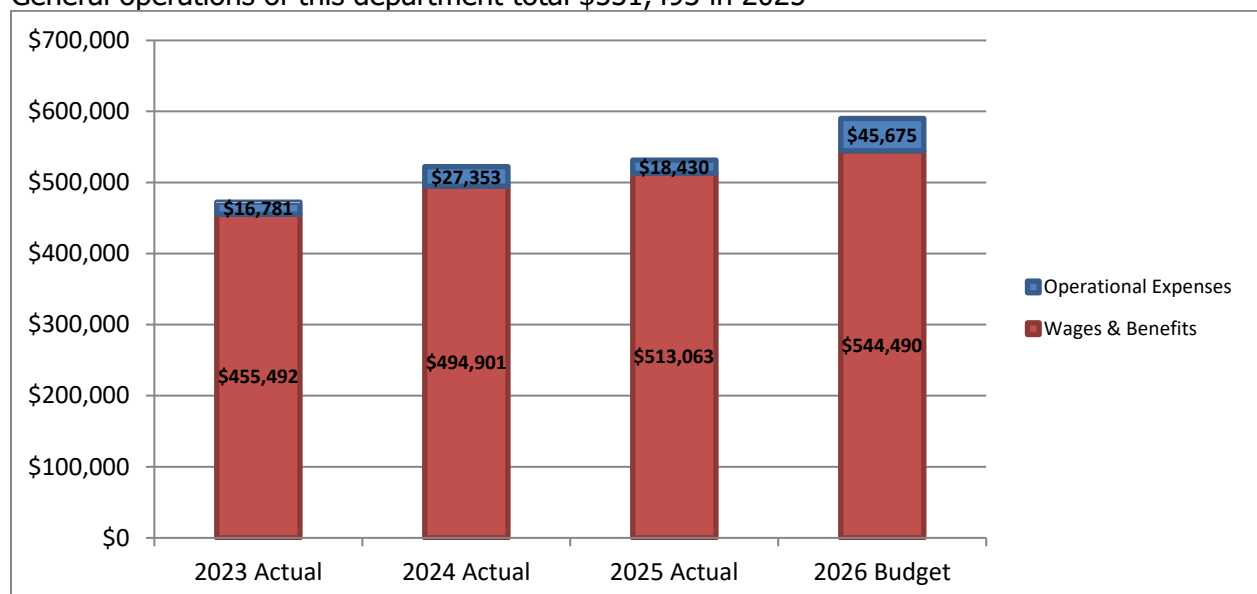
- Directs the general operation of city government and oversees the day-to-day operations of the City
- Provides overall organizational leadership and direction
- Provides direct supervision to all department directors
- Provides staff assistance to the mayor and city council in research, investigation, and resolution of problems, budget analysis, policy review, and public relations
- Assists the City Council in preparation of public meetings
- Responsible for implementing the City Council's vision (programs & policies)
- Responsible for seeing that City Charter and laws (ordinances) are enforced
- Serves as the city's Chief Negotiator for Union contracts and has ultimate authority over the hiring and firing of city employees
- Provides direction to Human Resources on the functions, policies and procedures of the City (Human Resources is a component of administration)
- Works in conjunction with the finance department on preparing and managing the development of the city budget and CIP
- Provides recommendations on policies that govern the financial affairs of the City
- Oversees municipal elections
- Oversee the City's permitting processes (except for building & planning/zoning)

2025 Staffing Levels

3.40 Full-time Equivalent Staff

Budget

General operations of this department total \$531,493 in 2025



2025: The Year in Review

2025 Accomplishments

- Worked with the City Council on putting together the City's "Legislative Priorities" for 2025.
- Completed 14 employee performance reviews of the City's Management Team, along with mid-year check-ins.
- Worked with city staff and our new architect to complete a City Center Space Needs Study.
- Conducted a work session with the City Council on the City's compensation system and pay philosophy.
- Successfully contested the City's population estimate provided by the State Demographer's office.
- Established a plan for use of the Housing Aid money.
- Began preparing for the 2026 Wage Study
- Assisted the City Council in adopting a "Chicken Ordinance" for the community.
- Continued attending Compass Peer Group Meetings in 2025 (once a month).
- Completed strategic planning sessions with the Council and established a new 5-year plan.
- Worked with the police and legal to put together a Downtown Business Toolkit for the Chamber to assist business owners with homelessness and loitering
- Oversaw the 2026 budget preparation process and delivery of a balanced budget with a tax levy increase at 6.3%
- Put together the Truth-in-Taxation presentation and budget message for the 2026 budget.
- Produced several reports as requested by the Council on various issues relating to the city and the budget process.

2026: A Look Forward

The 2026 goals for the Administration Department are as follows:

- Evaluate what it would take to renew the City's Sales Tax
- Determine what to do with the Event Center
- Update the City's lodging tax to include short-term rentals (VRBO's, airBNB's, etc.)
- Complete a Wage and Classification Study for the entire organization
- Complete the next phase of the City Center remodel (Plans and Specs and bidding documents)
- Conduct a "So you want to be a council member" class
- Explore hiring a Communication's Director in 2027
- Update the City's Performance Review System
- Continue work on the next Steps of the City's Branding and Marketing Plan
- New Employee Orientation from the City Administrator
- Create a "Policy Book" or "Archive" for the City

Economic Development Authority

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overall, 2025 was a transformational year for economic development in Hutchinson. The year was marked by major downtown redevelopment milestones, the launch of significant new housing construction, expansion of childcare capacity, continued industrial growth, and strengthening of workforce initiatives.

Highlights of 2025 included:

- Acquisition of the Kock Jewelry building and demolition start of the Jorgensen Hotel
- Construction launch of The Landing, an 81-unit market-rate apartment development
- Completion of the Festival Street & Public Parking Wayfinding schematic design
- Relaunching the Downtown Association
- Launch of the Downtown Smartphone App (Mutch-in-Hutch)
- Recruitment of Deimos Materials to the Enterprise Center, occupying 2,000 sf
- Opening of a new childcare center: Guiding Light Early Learning
- Expansion of childcare grant programs

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT

Downtown Hutchinson is the economic and cultural heart of the community - a place where public investment, private development, small business vitality, housing growth, and community identity intersect. 2025 projects advanced by the EDA and Chamber of Commerce reflect a coordinated strategy to strengthen downtown as a destination and economic engine for the community.

The Landing

In 2025, The Landing redevelopment emerged as the most consequential and complex economic development initiative undertaken by the Hutchinson Economic Development Authority in decades.

After 10 years of work, The Landing apartment development advanced from concept and planning into active construction, marking one of the most significant housing investments in Hutchinson in recent years (\$20 million}. Developed by GC Real Estate Partners, The Landing is an 81-unit market-rate apartment complex located on a former professional building/ residential site overlooking the Crow River. The project represents a central component of the City's broader

strategy to address workforce housing needs while strengthening downtown vitality and activating the riverfront.

Early in the year, the developer met with City staff to refine project details and establish a construction timeline. By spring, site plans had been submitted and planning processes were moving forward. Preliminary and final plat approvals were granted by the Planning Commission in July, followed by review of variances and a Conditional Use Permit in August. A public hearing to establish a Housing Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District was held in September, after which the land sale closed and building permits were issued. Construction commenced in October 2025, on schedule with earlier projections.

The public assistance package for The Landing was carefully structured to support project feasibility while protecting public interests. Key elements included establishment of a Housing TIF District, sale of the City-owned lot for \$1, and approximately \$930,000 in present-value tax increment assistance to help the developer achieve a competitive rate of return. Additional City contributions included funding for construction of a stormwater retention pond, realignment of a sanitary sewer line that bisected the site, and initial soil correction allowances. Importantly, EDA discussions emphasized that tax increment financing derives from new property taxes generated by the project itself and does not divert existing taxpayer resources.



As construction began, unforeseen soil conditions were encountered that required additional site preparation work. In response, the developer requested an additional \$263,563 in tax increment support. The EDA reviewed the request and unanimously recommended approval, extending the projected duration of the TIF district from approximately 16 years to roughly 21½ years. While this adjustment increased total public participation to approximately \$1.55 million over the life of the district, the Board determined that additional assistance was necessary to address legitimate site conditions and keep the project moving forward.

The Landing has been designed as an amenity-rich residential development intended to attract and retain workforce residents. Plans include a rooftop patio, an outdoor patio with firepit, an enclosed dog park, and river-facing trail connections. The project also incorporates improvements to surrounding public infrastructure, including removal of the former Glen Street boat landing and installation of new curb and gutter. These features are intended not only to serve residents but to enhance the broader downtown and riverfront environment.



When completed, The Landing will be home to approximately 140 people, adding considerable vibrancy to downtown Hutchinson.

By the end of 2025, construction was well underway, with completion projected for December 2026, following an approximately 15-month construction schedule. In sum, 2025 marked the transition of The Landing from planning-stage redevelopment to visible, active construction. The \$20 million project stands as a major step forward in addressing housing availability, supporting workforce development, and advancing long-term downtown revitalization.

Jorgensen Hotel Redevelopment

Rivaling The Landing in complexity and scope, the Hotel Jorgensen redevelopment project reached a pivotal turning point in 2025.

Long regarded as the most prominent stalled redevelopment site in downtown Hutchinson, the Jorgensen property has remained underutilized for more than forty years. In 2025, meaningful and measurable progress was finally achieved.

Early in the year, Titanium Partners advanced plans for construction of a new 45-room upscale hotel on the combined Jorgensen and Kock sites. As negotiations progressed, it became clear that full control of the Kock Jewelry building was essential to assembling a viable redevelopment footprint. With considerable EDA assistance, the developer reached agreement with the Kock family on a purchase price of \$350,000 for the property.

In discussions with the EDA at the same time, the developer noted that the project pro-forma would not support this level of investment in property acquisition. Financial assistance would be needed to keep the project economically viable.

As project underwriting evolved, the developer formally requested a \$350,000 loan structured at zero percent interest with no payments for five years and full loan forgiveness tied to completion timelines. After extensive review by both the EDA Board and Finance Team, the EDA authorized a \$350,000 forgivable loan package. Final terms required that a Certificate of Occupancy be obtained within sixty months for loan forgiveness eligibility, and the loan was secured by a first mortgage on the Kock property, a second mortgage on the Jorgensen property, and a personal guaranty from the developer. A funding model was adopted utilizing \$250,000 from the Downtown Revolving Loan Fund and \$50,000 each from the EDA Operations Fund and Economic Development Loan Fund.

In parallel, the project relied upon a \$150,000 demolition grant from the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED). The grant required that demolition activity occur and invoices be submitted before year-end 2025. Throughout the fall, milestones were revised to maintain grant eligibility, and the first demolition invoice was successfully submitted prior to the deadline.



Originally built in 1917, the Kock and Hotel Jorgensen buildings will pass into history in early 2026.

Tax increment financing (TIF) also played a central role in the project's feasibility. Updated financial analysis by Ehlers & Associates, the city's TIF consultants, concluded that the full 26 years of projected increment would be required to support the development, totaling approximately \$2.27 million over the life of the district.

By the end of 2025, the Kock building had been acquired, development and loan agreements were executed, TIF approvals were in place, and demolition was imminent. While the total public participation - including the DEED grant, forgivable loan, and projected TIF - represents a significant investment, the EDA structured the assistance with clear performance benchmarks, collateral protections, and site stabilization requirements.

In sum, 2025 marked the most substantial forward movement on the Jorgensen site in more than four decades. Through careful structuring of financial tools, strategic risk management, and sustained commitment, the EDA positioned the property for transformative redevelopment and long-awaited revitalization of a cornerstone downtown location.

Festival Street & Public Parking Wayfinding

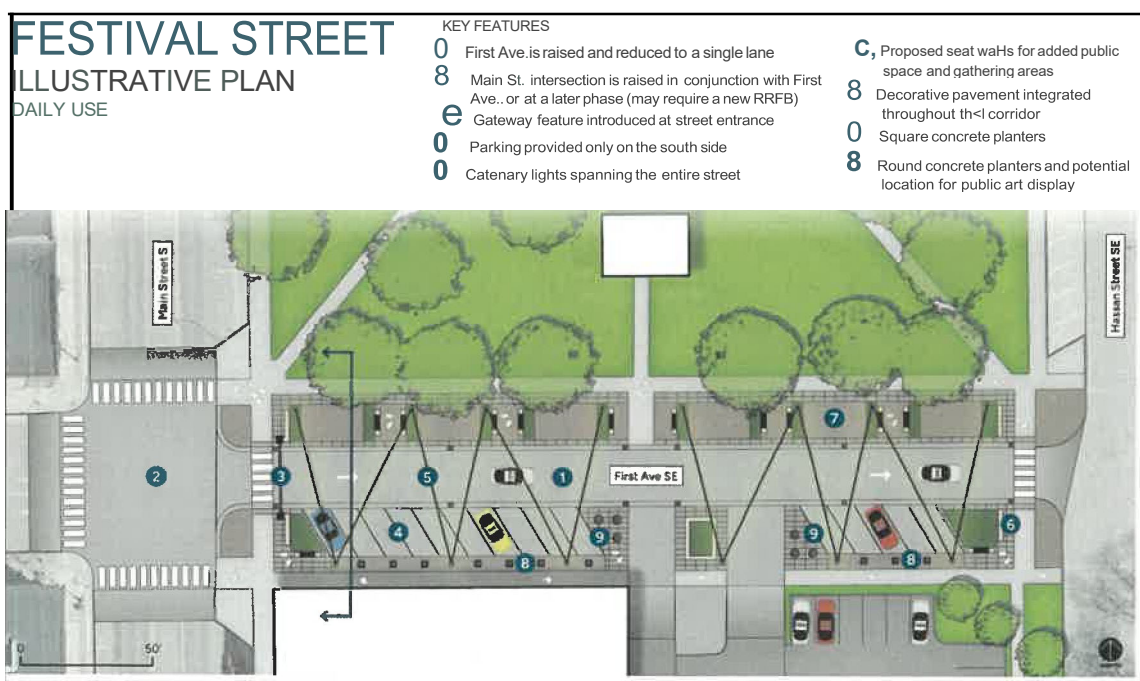
In 2025, the EDA continued advancing implementation of the Downtown Plan through design work on the festival street and downtown wayfinding signage projects. These initiatives are intended to strengthen downtown functionality, improve visitor experience, and support increasing activity levels driven by new

housing and redevelopment. While much of the year's public attention focused on downtown building construction projects, the Festival Street and signage efforts represent foundational infrastructure investments that will help downtown operate more effectively as density and event programming grow.

The festival street concept centers on improvements to 1st Avenue SE to better accommodate community events, pedestrian activity, and creating a downtown "sense of place." The goal is to create a more flexible and inviting public space capable of hosting festivals, markets, and gatherings while maintaining accessibility and safety. In 2025, the City's consultant, Hoisington-Koegler Group, completed design concepts and submitted a final report outlining recommended improvements.

Complementing festival street is the downtown parking & wayfinding signage initiative. As new residential units and redevelopment projects increase traffic downtown, clear and intuitive navigation becomes increasingly important. The signage project is designed to improve visibility of public parking areas, reduce visitor confusion, and create a cohesive wayfinding system that enhances the overall visitor experience.

Together, these projects reflect a strategic approach to downtown revitalization that extends beyond individual buildings. By pairing physical redevelopment with thoughtful infrastructure planning, the EDA is working to ensure that downtown Hutchinson remains accessible, vibrant, and prepared to support continued growth. With design work completed in 2025, both initiatives are well-positioned for future implementation as part of the City's long-term investment in a stronger, more dynamic downtown.



Hutchinson Downtown Association

In 2025, the Hutchinson Downtown Association underwent an important organizational reset that positioned it to more effectively support the community's broader downtown revitalization efforts. A new board was established during the year, stabilizing leadership and reenergizing the organization's role within the downtown business community. The Downtown Association serves as a critical partner focused on merchant coordination, promotion, and event support.



The re-establishment of an active and engaged board aligns with expanded marketing initiatives such as increased social media outreach and the launch of the Much-in-Hutch app. As downtown Hutchinson experiences new residential density and redevelopment momentum, a strong Downtown Association provides the grassroots structure necessary to enhance branding, organize events, improve communication among businesses, and sustain long-term vitality. By the close of 2025, the Association was better positioned to play an active and complementary role in shaping the next phase of downtown growth.

Downtown Grant & Loan Programs

Downtown Hutchinson remains central to the community's long-term competitiveness, tax base stability, and civic pride. In recognition of this, the EDA operates three downtown financial assistance programs designed to maintain and enhance the downtown area.

Sign & Awning Grant Program

The EDA's Sign & Awning Grant program provides grants up to \$2,000 for business owners to purchase signs and/ or awnings for their downtown businesses. No match is necessary. In 2025, six grants were awarded totaling \$10,698. These are shown in Table 1, on the following page:

Table 1- Sign & Awning Grants, 2025

Date Approved	Recipient	Amount Awarded
March 26, 2025	The Book Keepers	\$2,000
April 23, 2025	Atlantic Properties	\$2,000
September 24, 2025	Act Your Age	\$2,000
November 26, 2025	Grandome Cinemas (State Theatre)	\$2,000
December 23, 2025	Firefly Adventures, LLC	\$2,000
December 23, 2025	Rowen & Raye	\$698
TOTAL		\$10,698

Facade Improvement Matching Grant Program

The Facade Improvement Program is a matching grant whereby property owners can receive a dollar-for-dollar match up to \$7,500 to make necessary repairs and/ or improve the curb appeal of their buildings. In 2025 five matching grants were awarded totaling \$27,108 as detailed in Table 2, below.

Table 2 - Facade Improvement Matching Grants, 2025

Date Approved	Recipient	Amount Awarded
April 23, 2025	Grand Lodge of Minnesota	\$4,375
May 28, 2025	Grounded Gardens	\$7,500
September 24, 2025	Act Your Age	\$3,333
November 26, 2025	Main Street Antiques	\$4,400
November 26, 2025	Grandome Cinemas (State Theatre)	\$7,500
TOTAL		\$27,108

Commercial Rehabilitation Loan Program

The purpose of the Commercial Rehabilitation Loan Program is to preserve the building stock of downtown Hutchinson by providing subordinate loans to complement traditional bank financing. Loans are made at the prime interest rate. For the year, two loans were authorized totaling \$97,000. These are detailed in Table 3, on the following page:

Table 3 - Commercial Rehabilitation Loans, 2025

Date Approved	Recipient	Loan Authorized
October 22, 2025	8 Main Street North	\$37,000
December 23, 2025	River House – Eric Labraaten	\$60,000
TOTAL		\$97,000

Community Smartphone App

The EDA partnered with the Hutchinson Chamber of Commerce to launch the "Much-in-Hutch" Community Smartphone App as part of its broader strategy to strengthen downtown vitality through modern marketing tools. The app was developed to provide a centralized digital platform promoting downtown businesses, events, and special promotions. Designed to enhance connectivity between merchants and consumers, the platform allows for business listings, advertising opportunities, and push notifications to keep users informed of sales, happenings, and community activities.

The Much-in-Hutch app serves as a complementary tool aimed at increasing foot traffic, supporting small businesses, and reinforcing the downtown brand. By leveraging digital technology to promote local commerce, the EDA added an important layer to its efforts to ensure downtown Hutchinson remains vibrant, competitive, and well-positioned for continued growth.

CHILDCARE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

In 2025, Guiding Light Early Learning Center became one of the Hutchinson Economic Development Authority's most significant workforce-support initiatives, reflecting the community's growing recognition that childcare availability is directly tied to economic vitality. Located in the former Peace Lutheran Church daycare facility, the Guiding Light project reopens an existing facility and expands childcare capacity at a time when local employers continue to face workforce shortages. The project will create approximately 46 childcare slots initially, with capacity to ramp up to roughly 62 slots over time.

At the outset of the year, the Center required approximately \$80,000 in capital to launch operations. The EDA played a central role in assembling a multi-source funding package. In 2024 the EDA obtained a \$40,000 Childcare Economic Development Grant from the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED).

To provide the local match the EDA authorized the use of \$19,919 from a First Children's Finance grant obtained previously. To close the remaining funding gap, additional

support was pursued from local and regional partners. The Southwest Initiative Foundation committed \$5,000, and the Burich Foundation provided \$5,000. To complete the local match, the EDA approved \$10,081 in local assistance under its Childcare Business Assistance Grant Program. By mid-year, the full \$80,000 funding package had been secured.

Operational progress was monitored throughout the year. Early timelines targeted a late spring opening; however, hiring and licensing processes extended the schedule. An Executive Director was hired mid-year, and a State licenser was assigned to oversee compliance requirements. By fall, an early November opening was anticipated, though final preparations pushed the launch into December. Despite modest delays, the Center officially opened before year-end.

Throughout EDA discussions, childcare was consistently framed as "workforce behind the workforce." Local employers have reported ongoing difficulty filling positions, and the lack of childcare capacity has been identified as a contributing factor. By increasing the number of available slots, the Center directly supports parents' ability to participate in the labor force, strengthens employee retention for local businesses, and enhances Hutchinson's overall economic competitiveness.

By the close of 2025, Guiding Light Early Learning Center had transitioned from concept and funding assembly to operational reality. With full funding secured, leadership in place, licensing approved, and doors open, the project stands as a clear example of strategic economic development intervention. - targeted not at buildings or infrastructure, but at removing a critical barrier to workforce participation and long-term community growth.

Additionally, the EDA enacted broader policy adjustments to strengthen its childcare incentive tools. In February, the Board revised the Childcare Business Assistance Grant formula from \$200 per childcare slot to \$225 per slot, with a maximum grant amount of \$15,000. The program language was expanded to provide additional flexibility and to allow grant funds to be used for staffing expenses. This latter change recognized that obtaining qualified workers was a common barrier faced by childcare centers. These program enhancements not only supported Guiding Light but also positioned the community to respond more effectively to future childcare expansion efforts.

For the year the EDA approved four grants through its Childcare Business Assistance Grant Program totaling \$16,381. These are detailed in Table 4, on the following page.

Table 4 - Childcare Business Assistance Grants, 2025

Date Approved	Recipient	Amount Provided
February 26, 2025	Paityn's Childcare	\$1,800
February 26, 2025	Guiding Light ELC	\$10,081
August 27, 2025	Carol Harder Day Care	\$2,250
August 27, 2025	Bright Beginnings	\$2,250
TOTAL		\$16,381

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Business Retention & Expansion

Business Retention & Expansion (BR&E) is arguably the single most important and cost-effective economic development strategy available to a community. While business recruitment often receives public attention, the majority of job growth typically comes from existing employers. By maintaining regular communication with local companies, identifying operational challenges, and connecting businesses with resources, communities can help firms expand, modernize, and remain competitive. BR&E efforts strengthen relationships, identify workforce or infrastructure concerns early, and reduce the risk of unexpected closures or relocations. In short, supporting the success of existing businesses protects the tax base, sustains employment, and builds long-term economic resilience.

Recognizing these benefits, the EDA maintains a robust BR&E program. In 2025 EDA staff conducted 10 BR&E visits, detailed in Table 5, below.

Table 5 - Business Retention & Expansion Visits, 2025

Date	Company	Emp.	Notes
2/19/2025	Innovative Foam	4	Busy, doing well
2/20/2025	GVL Medical, Inc.	3	
2/27/2025	Titan Machinery	90	Doing well
2/27/2025	Hillyard	30	Business steady
3/13/2025	MITGI	75	Steady. Childcare / housing concerns
3/31/2025	Pride Solutions	31	Ag economy down a bit
4/2/2025	Redline Systems	2	Needs more physical space
4/9/2025	Resonetics	174	Growing / need more workers
10/3/2025	Zephyr Wind Services	29	300-400% growth in past 2 years
11/20/2025	3-D CNC	16	Needs 4 more workers

Hutchinson Enterprise Center

In 2025, the Hutchinson Enterprise Center continued to serve as a cornerstone of the City's industrial and small business development strategy. As a municipally owned incubator, the Enterprise Center provides low-cost, flexible space for startup and early-stage companies.

After one year of residency, Smokey Dukes Pretzels remained an active and productive client, with steadily growing demand for its products. Similarly, GVL Medical (dba Laser Dynamics) had a successful year, with its third and fourth quarters being the best in company history.

Towards the end of the year, Deimos Materials, a new business start-up founded by a group of University of Minnesota PhD's, was granted a lease for 2,000 square feet of incubator space. The company has developed bio-degradable resins that other companies will use to make products out of plastic. At the end of 2025 the company was setting up operations and hoped to be in production sometime during the first half of 2026.

The Enterprise Center finished the years with an occupancy rate of 100%.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Workforce development remains one of Hutchinson's most pressing economic priorities. Local manufacturers continue to report difficulty filling open positions, and a spring employment survey identified approximately 97 to 150 unfilled manufacturing jobs. These ongoing labor shortages underscore the importance of building a stronger local talent pipeline and expanding participation in high-demand career fields.

One key response has been the EDA-funded Women-to-Workforce internship program at Hutchinson High School, which is designed to encourage female participation in skilled trades and manufacturing - fields that have historically been male-dominated. The program has produced measurable results, including record female enrollment in welding classes at the high school. In the fall, Jocelyn Christensen was hired as the 2025-2026 intern. Beyond immediate workforce recruitment, the internship serves as a strategic effort to diversify the local labor force and broaden career pathways for young women in Hutchinson.

Collectively, the EDA's 2025 workforce initiatives (including TigerPath, the Women-to-Workforce internship, housing development, and childcare expansion) reflect a coordinated, multi-layered approach to resolving the workforce shortage problem.



Through the efforts of the EDA's Women-to-Workforce intern (Lauren, extreme right) Hutchinson High School has more young women taking welding classes than ever before.

MARKETING

For the year the EDA maintained a strong emphasis on digital engagement, with 67 Facebook entries and 22 website updates completed. By the end of the year, cumulative Facebook engagement has surpassed 1,100 followers.

In addition, the EDA maintained its membership in the Community Venture Network (CVN) and leveraged its relationships with the Southwest Initiative Foundation (SWIF), Mid-Minnesota Development Commission (MMDC), and the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) to promote Hutchinson as an attractive option for manufacturing expansion.

BUDGET & FUND REPORT

The Hutchinson Economic Development Authority concluded 2025 in a financially stable and strategically positioned condition. While the General Fund experienced a modest reduction in unreserved fund balance due to higher-than-budgeted grant activity and interfund transfers, overall reserves remain solid and sufficient to support ongoing operations. Revenues performed well and routine operating expenses remained within a manageable range relative to total fund balance.

The EDA's Revolving Loan Funds remain healthy and continue to function as effective tools for economic development. The Economic Development Loan Fund and Downtown Loan Fund both show strong equity positions, steady interest income, and performing loan portfolios. FireLake Manufacturing and MOXY paid off their loans during the year.

Although significant capital was deployed in 2025 - most notably the Jorgensen Hotel forgivable loan and expanded childcare and downtown grant programs - these investments were structured within the EDA's financial capacity. The Enterprise Center improved operationally during the year, generating positive net revenue while reducing its debt to the Economic Development Loan Fund.

Overall, the EDA's financial condition reflects a transition from reserve accumulation toward strategic capital deployment. The organization remains liquid, loan funds are stable, and fund balances - while selectively reduced to support catalytic projects - remain strong.

Going forward, steps will need to be taken to restore the cash position of the Downtown Revolving Loan Fund so the EDA will be adequately positioned to take advantage of future downtown redevelopment opportunities.

Table 6, below, summarizes the change in cash position of each EDA fund over the past 12 months.

Table 6 - Fund Cash Position Changes, 2024 to 2025

Fund	Cash 12/31/2024	Cash 12/31/2025	Percentage Change
EDA General Fund	\$224,769	\$228,583	1.7%
Economic Development Loan Fund	\$120,079	\$184,530	53.7%
Downtown Loan Fund	\$341,643	\$61,158	-82.1%
Minnesota Investment Loan Fund	\$7,991	\$10,750	34.5%
Hutchinson Enterprise Center	\$11,104	\$30,489	174.6%
TIF #4-5 – Shopko Redevelopment	\$7,471	\$16,789	124.72%

GOVERNANCE

EDA Board of Directors

The Hutchinson Economic Development Authority is governed by a seven-member board appointed by the City Council for six-year terms. Two City Council members serve as liaisons. After many years of service, Mike Cannon retired from the board, with the open slot being filled by Anthony Hanson, President of Citizens Bank. Membership for 2025 is detailed in Table 7 below.

Table 7 - Economic Development Authority Board of Directors, 2025

Member	Position	Years' Service	Affiliation
Mike McGraw	President	21	State Farm Insurance
Jonny Block	Vice-President	13	Hillyard
Chad Czmowski	City Council Liaison	17	City Council / Outdoor Motion
Jack Daggett	Commissioner	4	Pride Solutions
Pat May	City Council Liaison	3	City Council
Corey Stearns	Commissioner	11	Stearnswood / Retired
Anthony Hanson	Commissioner	1	Citizens Bank
Jeremy Carter	Ex-Officio		Hutchinson Utilities Commission

Overseeing the financial aspects of the Economic Development Authority is the EDA Finance Team. Comprised of two EDA Board members and six other members of the community, the Finance Team provides recommendations to the EDA Board on everything from budgets to proposed financial incentives. Mike Cannon retired, reducing the number of Finance Team members from eight to seven in May. Anthony Hanson was selected to be the new Finance Team chair. Finance Team membership for 2025 is detailed in Table 8 below:

Table 8 - EDA Finance Team, 2025

Member	Position	Affiliation
Mike Cannon	Chair / EDA Board	Citizens Bank
Scott Ziegler	Member	Piehl, Hanson, Beckman
Anthony Hanson	Member / EDA Board	Citizens Bank
Jack Daggett	Member / EDA Board	Pride Solutions
Josh Karg	Member	Heartland Ag Systems
Eric Lipke	Member	MITGI
Josh Laffen	Member	MBFC
Dan Mahon	Member	McGraw-Mahon Law Office

SUMMARY

Characterized by a strong emphasis on downtown redevelopment, 2025 was a very busy year for the Hutchinson Economic Development Authority.

Key accomplishments included launching construction of The Landing, advancing the long-awaited Jorgensen Hotel redevelopment, completing design work for a Festival Street and wayfinding signage, relaunching the Downtown Association, and introducing the Much-in-Hutch smartphone app to strengthen digital engagement.

In addition, the EDA facilitated the opening of a new childcare center and identified a new client for the Hutchinson Enterprise Center.

In many ways, 2025 was a transformational year for economic development in Hutchinson.

Finance

Primary Services

The Finance Department provides customer service to all city departments as well as the city's residents and businesses. The department operates under the management of the Finance Director and is guided by Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, Minnesota State Statutes, City Policy and departmental procedures. Finance's various functions include:

- Accounts payable, Accounts receivable and Payroll
- Utility billing for Water, Sewer, Storm Water and Refuse services
- Submit work orders to Public Works staff for Water and Sewer services and repairs
- Coordinate with the refuse hauler for carts related to new service or change in cart sizes
- Financial analysis and reporting for the City, EDA and HATS Facility
- TIF administration and reporting to the State
- Tax levy administration
- Certification of Special Assessments and Delinquent Utility Billing amounts to the County for collection on the following year's property tax statements
- Maintain and manage the Special Assessment database
- Administer the Assessment Search process for title companies
- Certifications to the County and State for the City's budgets, tax levies, truth in taxation meetings, outstanding debt and annual financial reports
- Administration of the EDA and HRA grant and loan programs
- Administration of the City's lodging tax, cable TV franchise tax and excise tax
- Grant administration and reporting
- Budget development
- 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)
- Annual debt issuance, debt covenant compliance, debt service analysis and bond payments
- Long-range financial planning
- Cash and investment management
- Banking relations
- Administration and oversight of departmental purchasing cards
- Risk Management and insurance coverage
- Budgetary and policy support for other city departments

Finance Budget

Other than labor, auditor fees (\$52,500) and software costs (\$18,879) represent the largest expenditures for the 2026 Finance budget.

	<u>2024 Actual</u>	<u>2025 Actual</u>	<u>2025 Budget</u>	<u>2026 Budget</u>
Wages & Benefits	\$345,615	\$357,885	\$358,120	\$378,352
Supplies	1,597	2,201	2,800	2,000
Services & Charges	95,174	81,582	86,461	82,729
Miscellaneous Expenses	1,459	1,320	1,450	1,450
	\$443,845	\$442,988	\$448,831	\$464,531

Full-time Equivalent Staffing

General Fund	3.0	Finance Director, Payroll Specialist, Senior Accounting Specialist
Enterprise Funds	2.0	Assistant Finance Director, Utility Billing Specialist

2025 Accomplishments

- 1) Received the GFOA's Certification of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 2024 audit report. We have received this award each year since 1996.
- 2) Received an unmodified (clean) opinion from the City's independent auditors that the 2024 financial statements were fairly presented in conformity with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.
- 3) Reaffirmed the City's AA- bond rating.
- 4) Formulated our debt needs using Statute 429 bonding authority (Special Assessment Improvement bonds).
- 5) Reinvested \$4,291,000 from matured investments for an average annual return of 4.37%, which increased our interest revenue by \$49,300. The average return for the matured investments was 3.22%. The City is well positioned over the next 5 to 6 years with higher interest earnings to help fund operations in the various City departments/funds.
- 6) Renewed the City's insurance policies for general liability, property, airport liability, solar array liability and workers compensation.
- 7) Coordinated with LMCIT for the appraisal of all city-owned facilities covered by our property insurance policy. This is done every seven years.
- 8) Worked with LMCIT insurance adjusters on various auto, property and liability claims.
- 9) Managed the water meter replacement project, working with Water department staff and the company contracted to perform the replacements.
- 10) Completed all required financial reporting to the State and the County for the City's annual budget, tax levies, indebtedness, annual financial audit and TIF districts.
- 11) Guided city departments through the process for the following annual documents, creating several iterations prior to being approved by council.
 - a. General and Enterprise fund budgets
 - b. 5-Year CIP
 - c. Fee Schedule
- 12) Established the reporting process for use of the State's affordable housing monies. Reporting is required each December until the monies have been fully spent.
- 13) Updated the City's plan for use of the State's public safety monies for Police and Fire projects.
- 14) Developed funding plans for the new fire ladder truck, potential remodel of City Center, major repairs to the Civic Arena and Aquatic Center, and the lighting project at Roberts Park.

2025 Performance Measurement Monitoring Data

Accounts Payable

Use of automated payment solutions continues to provide efficiencies to departmental purchasers and enhances internal controls through established approval processes.

- Processed 123 electronic purchase orders totaling \$5,036,626, compared to 152 totaling \$8,668,702 in 2024. The fire ladder truck totaling \$2,094,304 contributed to the larger amount in 2024.

- Issued 4,090 disbursement checks totaling \$28,983,749 compared to 4,196 checks totaling \$30,065,860 in 2024.
- Issued electronic payments related to payroll taxes and benefits totaling \$4,809,888 compared to \$4,677,818 in 2024.
- Use of departmental procurement cards totaled \$311,338, down 2.2% from 2024.

Utility Billing

- Monthly billed an average of 5,365 accounts compared to 5,282 in 2024, with 23 new accounts added during the year due to new construction.
- Averaged 11 accounts per month (18 in 2024) that had water disconnected due to failure to pay balances delinquent for two months.
 - Averaged 124 shut-off letters each month (133 in 2024), resulting in 113 accounts resolving their delinquency prior to a shut-off event
- Coordinated the monthly billing process with the third-party printer/mailer.
- Coordinated 385 work orders related to Water, Sewer and Refuse service.
- Monitored water usage for large fluctuations or leaks, and informed customers.
- Provided notes or inserts within the utility bill mailings for City related information.
- Managed and promoted the various electronic payment options available to customers.
 - We increased our electronic payers by 3.9% in 2025
 - 80% of our accounts are now paying electronically, up from 77.8% last year
- Increased the number of paperless customers to a total of 2,132, up 10.3% from last year's total of 1,933.
- Mailed 281 letters to certify delinquent balances to next year's property tax statements, compared to 290 letters last year.

Payroll

- Issued 343 W2s compared to 389 in 2024. Last year was higher due to an election year and having election judges on the payroll.
- Gross wages totaled \$9,346,754 compared to \$8,822,921 in 2024.
- Issued 5,264 total paychecks compared to 5,334 in 2024 (election year).
- Hired and terminated 110 summer seasonal employees compared to 117 in 2024.

Insurance

The City's insurance policies are administered by the finance department. Other than a few exceptions, the City's policies are with the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT). LMCIT is a self-insurance pool of cities, formed to meet the specific coverage and risk management needs of cities. The coverage included in the City's policies are property, crime, bond, petrofund, automobile damage, liability, equipment breakdown, municipal liability, liquor liability, volunteer accident coverage and workers' compensation. The finance staff processes loss claims, premium payments, deductible payments, and coordinates the insurance renewal process each year. The City's human resource staff processes workers' compensation claims. LMCIT requires that cities retain a representative insurance agency. The City's agent is Arthur J. Gallagher & Co (AJG), whose staff is extremely helpful in analyzing the City's coverage and explaining areas where the City may have increased or decreased liability/risk. AJG also serves as the liaison between the City and LMCIT's underwriters for renewals and questions related to coverage or claims.

The City also administers the insurance coverage for the HATS Facility through LMCIT and AJG. The facility, which is co-owned by the State, County and City, consists of five buildings. Two buildings are shared by all three entities for office space, a mechanics bay and salt storage. The other three buildings are separately owned by each entity for equipment storage. This policy includes property coverage only for the two buildings that are shared by all three entities. The individually owned storage buildings are insured

separately by the applicable entity's own insurance coverage. This policy also covers crime, petrofund for the fuel system and some minor shared equipment.

The City's LMCIT policy has automatic builders risk coverage for building projects with total estimated cost less than \$3,000,000. For projects estimated to exceed \$3,000,000, finance staff must procure a separate policy, with AJG's assistance, through another insurance provider prior to the start of construction.

The City has three other insurance policies for specialized facilities not normally covered by LMCIT. The solar array located at the Wastewater Treatment Facility has a policy through The Hartford, which covers equipment damage and breakdown. The City has a policy for the municipal airport through Old Republic Insurance Co, which includes coverage for liability, property, and terrorism. The third policy is for FEMA flood coverage for the new police facility as it sits within the 100-year floodplain.

Banking and Investments

City monies are deposited locally at Citizen's Bank. We maintain several accounts to manage our various operations, including a high-yield money market account. Sufficient cash balances are available to address our working capital needs and capital improvement projects, with idle cash invested in various options as highlighted below. The City's bank balances above the \$250,000 FDIC limit are protected by pledged securities held by the bank, with those securities monitored on a monthly basis by both bank officials and the City's finance staff.

Finance staff strives to maximize investment income by actively managing the City's cash. We maintain a portfolio with our investment custodian (Oppenheimer & Co.) consisting of Certificates of Deposit, Municipal bonds, Federal Agency bonds and a money market account. Investment yields continued to drop in 2025, driven by three reductions to the federal lending rate. The federal rate ended the year at 3.75%, down from 4.50% in December 2024.

Finance was able to reinvest \$4,254,000 during the year for an average annual return of 4.37%. For comparison purposes, investments that matured in 2025 totaled \$4,918,000 and had an average annual return of 3.21%, so we picked up more than 1.1%. We locked into higher rates for 5 to 7 years, setting us up well for higher interest revenue into 2030 and 2031.

The table below shows the total interest earnings for the past two years along with the earnings for the City's General fund. The earnings for our investment account increased due to matured investments with lower rates being replaced by higher rate investments. Additionally, we shifted more idle cash to the investment account money market as the rates continued to out-perform the Citizen's Bank rates throughout 2025, by as much as 0.75%. This equates to additional annual revenue of \$37,500 on a \$5,000,000 balance. The significant decrease in earnings from Citizen's Bank in the table is due to the rate decreases during the year in addition to moving monies to the investment account money market.

	Annual Investment Earnings			
	12/31/2024	12/31/2025	Change	% Change
Investment Account	\$790,181	\$886,243	\$96,062	12.2%
Citizen's Bank	\$650,670	\$489,952	-\$160,718	-24.7%
Total	\$1,440,851	\$1,376,195	-\$64,656	-4.5%
General Fund	\$291,449	\$284,910	-\$6,539	-2.2%
Budget	\$140,000	\$140,000	\$0	0.0%
Budget Surplus	\$151,449	\$144,910	-\$6,539	-4.3%

Debt Issuance and Debt Management

The City annually issues General Obligation to finance street and utility infrastructure improvements. Finance staff works closely with Engineering and the Resource Allocation Committee to determine the appropriate bond issuance amount to finance the estimated project costs. Finance consults with its financial advisor, Ehlers & Associates, while structuring the debt to fit within the parameters of the City's Debt Management Plan. Finance, with the assistance of Ehlers, holds a bond rating phone call with Standard & Poor's (S&P) prior to each year's bond issuance. The purpose of the call is to discuss the bonded projects in addition to the City's financial policies, financial health and economic outlook in order for S&P to determine the City's bond rating. The City's current bond rating of AA- has been reaffirmed by S&P for the past several years and is likely the highest rating we can attain. The bond rating is an important factor used by potential investors in assessing the risk related to the City's ability to pay its debts.

Financial Reporting

Finance staff annually prepares two major documents related to the City's finances. The first and perhaps most important document is the annual budget. Finance coordinates the budgeting process in accordance with the City Administrator's calendar and direction. Five budgets are created throughout the year:

- Initial budget – late May
- Department budget – July/August
- Preliminary budget – September
- Truth in Taxation budget – early December
- Final Approved budget – end of December

The initial budget consists of the same revenue and expense levels as the previous year's budget with the exception of updated assumptions for wage and benefit increases. Any one-time budget amounts are removed. Departments use the initial budget to work through their operating needs and submit a Department budget to Finance. Finance and the City Administrator review and meet with departments to discuss budgetary needs. Any changes are reflected in the Preliminary budget which is used to certify preliminary tax levies to the county auditor by September 30. Further discussion with departments occur after the preliminary budget in order to produce a budget that falls within the parameters directed by city council. That budget is presented at the annual truth in taxation (TNT) public hearing. The final budget, which may include revisions from

the TNT budget, is approved by council in December. Final tax levies are certified to the county by the end of December.

The second major finance document is the annual comprehensive financial report. Finance begins planning and performing initial audit work in December of each year. The process continues through the end of March, leading up to the auditor fieldwork in early April. The audit report itself is produced by the auditors in late May or early June, with review performed by the lead auditor, the audit firm's partner and city staff. We are required to submit the audit report to the State Auditor by June 30 of each year. We are also required to publish summary audited financial statements in the local newspaper by the end of July. The cost of the audit is expensed to the Finance department each year.

Financial reporting to the State for the City's tax increment financing (TIF) districts is required by July 31. We contract with Ehlers & Associates to prepare the reports based on data provided by Finance, which can be a complex process. Finance staff ensures that the audited financial statements for the TIF districts are complete and accurate. Finance also performs a thorough review of Ehlers reports prior to the data being transmitted to the State Auditor. Fees charged by Ehlers are paid by the TIF districts, utilizing 10% of the TIF revenue that can be dedicated to administrative costs, per State statute.

Other important reporting functions include the financial and investment reports provided on a monthly basis to the city council, the five-year capital improvement plan and the fee schedule. S&P and the city's auditors confirm each year that these reports are being provided to the city council.

2026 Finance Department Goals

- 1) Formulate financing for the 2026 roadway and infrastructure improvements, fire ladder truck and the wastewater biosolid project. This includes issuing tax exempt bonds in addition to other internal funding sources.
- 2) Determine appropriate funding sources for the anticipated renovation to City Center and other potential projects, such as the river trail between Girl Scout and Cedar parks, the festival street and the downtown parking lot signs.
- 3) Procure separate insurance coverage for the solar arrays being installed at various City facilities.
- 4) Implement the updated lodging tax ordinance to begin capturing taxes from short-term residential rentals.
- 5) Look at having departments itemize budgetary needs for certain expense accounts as opposed to a lump sum amounts that can be used for anything that may arise in the year. This would lead to greater accountability by departments for planned spending versus reactionary spending. Likely areas of concentration include:
 - a. Contract R&M
 - b. Professional Services
 - c. Operating Supplies
 - d. Small Tools & Equipment
 - e. Street Maintenance Materials
- 6) Continue to look for process efficiencies and budgetary savings. Right-sizing charges for services (fee schedule increases) would help take pressure off the increasing tax levy.

- 7) Analyze and propose a revision to the Debt Management Policy to increase the annual cost limit of \$1.9Million to address the impact of rising costs on our roadway projects.
- 8) Continue to increase the number of utility customers receiving bills electronically and paying electronically.
- 9) Receive the GFOA's Certification of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 2025 audit report.
- 10) Receive an unmodified (clean) opinion from the City's independent auditors for the 2025 financial statements.
- 11) Reaffirm the City's AA- bond rating.

Fire Department

Accomplishments

-We completed a hiring and took on four new Firefighter recruits. We were able to quickly get them into an Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) program which they completed and are now certified and responding to medical calls.

-Working with a local fire education company we planned out and began a FFI-FFII class hosted here at our station and training facility. There are 18 local Firefighters enrolled in the class (including our four) meeting twice a week and occasionally on Saturday's. The class runs through May 2026 at which time they will all be certified and licensed.

-Hosted the first ever Region 10 one day spring fire school. We had over 40 Firefighters attend this 8-hour session with a variety of educational course options. Feedback received was excellent and we are looking to make this an annual event with 2026 plans already in the works.



-Five of our Firefighters completed intensive Technical Rescue Training partnering with Firefighters from Winsted, Silver Lake and Lester Prairie. They have now formed a county-wide Technical Rescue Response Team. We will also be looking for future additions to the team.

-Installed additional I-pads in several trucks which we use for emergency alert notification, navigation, preplans, underground utility mapping and ERG lookups. A couple of our oldest I-pads were also updated with new ones.

-Worked on maintaining compliance with many of the new OSHA and NFPA requirements that have recently been put into effect.

-Approximately every 10 years we have to complete an ISO audit which we successfully did. We are still working through some follow-up items with them that will continue into 2026.

-All final details and specifications were completed for the NEW ladder truck and the contract was signed. Phase one production build was just getting under way as 2025 came to a close.

-Lieutenant Eric Inselmann was hired as a second full time person to fill a new Firefighter/Inspector position. His job duties are a combination of emergency response, commercial inspections and fire safety education/public relations. This first full year will also be focused heavily on developing better building pre-plans and working on technology options to get that information more easily assessable to the Firefighters in the trucks and on scene. This position will also allow for the two of us to take some more of the less emergent calls that come in and not have to page out the whole department...we expect our % of officer only calls to increase and our full page out % of calls to decrease. We are excited the opportunities this position brings to our organization.



-Fitness area/gym was installed in the apparatus bay as another way to improve on fitness, promote health and wellness and promote team building. This project was funded 100% with donations.

-Prepped, trained all officers on the new NERIS fire reporting system and implemented.

-The temporary Assistant Lieutenant position was filled by Matt Schmidt. This provided another opportunity for a Firefighter to build leadership skills and help themselves as well as the department.

-Final touches were completed on Fireman's Park bringing that project to a close. Special thanks to Assistant Chief Abelson and his committee seeing this through to the end.

Operational Data

Emergency Call Breakdown

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
FIRE-General	42	40	41	33	27	47	57	35	28	34	41
FIRE-Structure	12	16	19	17	7	12	11	8	18	13	21
Rescues & MVA	46	75	81	69	70	74	81	71	73	86	66
Medicals	125	156	167	170	155	155	178	190	213	227	227
Alarms & Sprinklers	105	92	83	91	70	85	63	90	85	61	76
Hazardous Condition	87	78	89	64	95	67	60	60	55	61	77
Other	50	48	52	48	39	44	48	43	45	40	71

Emergency Calls Total

Year	1990	2000	2010	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
City	156	215	319	307	318	332	318	318	350	329	371
Rural	76	132	117	185	145	152	180	179	167	193	208
Total	232	347	436	492	463	484	498	497	517	522	579

Structure and General Fires

Year	2001	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
General Fires	50	56	60	50	34	59	68	43	46	47	62

Firefighter Injuries (per OSHA)

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Injuries	1	0	2	2	1	4	1	1	3	2	0

Fire Event Fatalities

Year	2001	2002	2003 - 2010	2011	2012 - 2020	2021	2022-2024	2025
Fatalities	*3	1	0	1	0	2	0	0

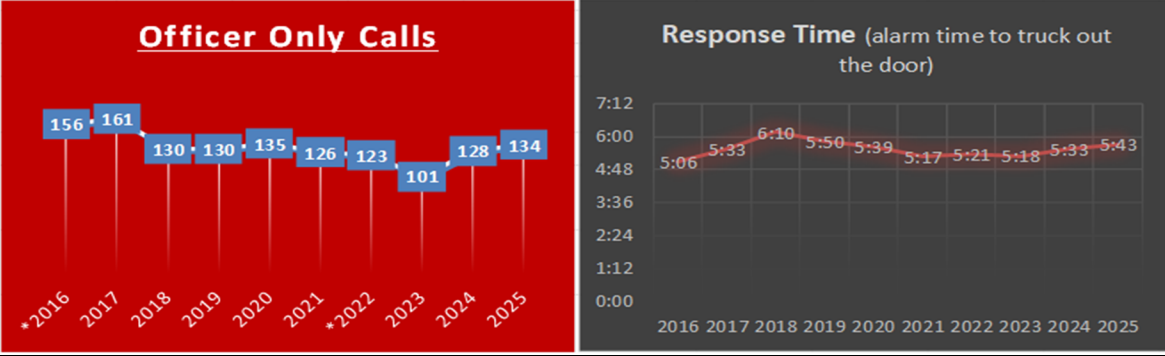
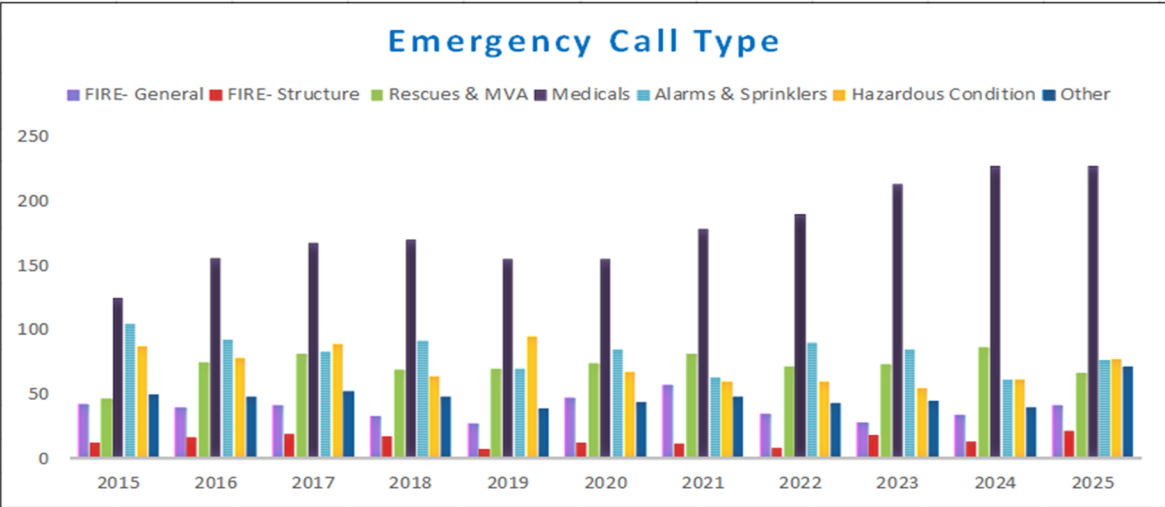
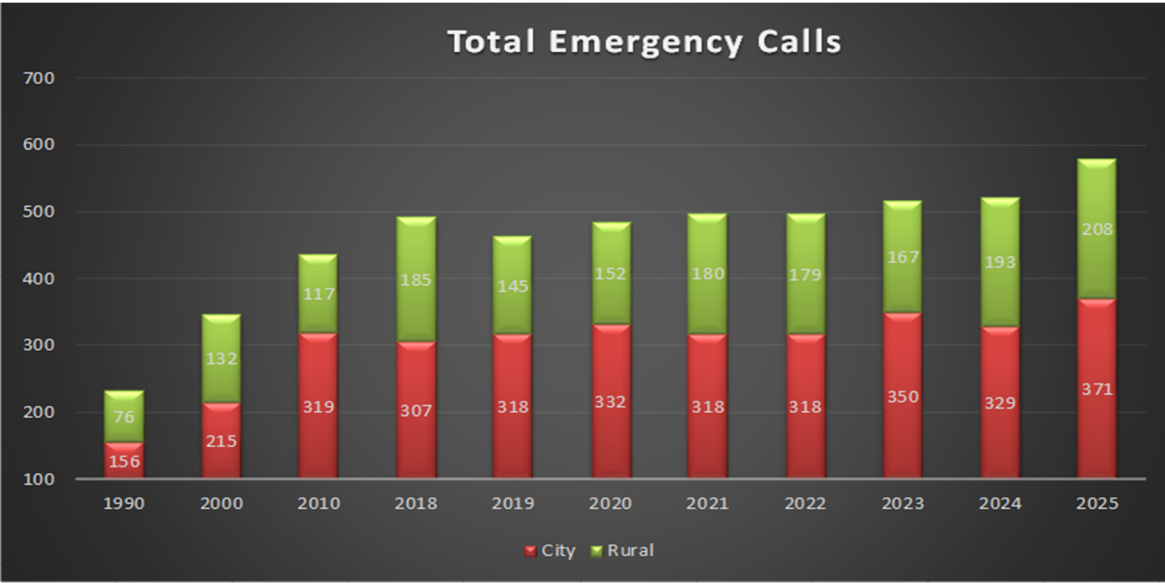
Response Time (Alarm to Truck Out the Door for All Full Page Out Calls)

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Time	4:27	5:06	5:33	6:10	5:50	5:39	5:17	5:21	5:18	5:33	5:43

Officer Only Calls (*Indicates Hourly Pay Multiplier Increase)

Year	2015	*2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	*2022	2023	2024	2025
Number of Calls	143	156	161	130	130	135	126	123	101	128	134
Dollars Saved	\$26,026	\$30,576	\$31,564	\$25,480	\$25,480	\$26,460	\$24,696	\$27,675	\$22,725	\$28,800	\$30,150
Hours Saved	2,145	2,340	2,415	1,950	1,950	2,025	1,890	1,845	1,515	1,920	2,010

Operational Data



Operational Data:

Emergency Calls by Time of Day and Day of Week

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday		Key
00:00	2	1	1	1	0	2	0	00:00	90th percentile
01:00	0	1	1	2	0	0	1	01:00	80th percentile
02:00	1	2	2	1	3	0	2	02:00	70th percentile
03:00	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	03:00	60th percentile
04:00	0	2	0	2	0	2	0	04:00	50th percentile
05:00	1	3	1	1	1	3	1	05:00	40th percentile
06:00	3	3	1	0	2	2	0	06:00	30th percentile
07:00	13	5	5	9	4	2	1	07:00	20th percentile
08:00	5	6	7	7	4	5	2	08:00	10th percentile
09:00	1	7	7	10	5	4	4	09:00	1st percentile
10:00	5	4	8	6	6	4	5	10:00	
11:00	7	3	10	8	11	6	4	11:00	
12:00	7	3	7	7	3	3	4	12:00	
13:00	7	4	2	8	10	6	8	13:00	
14:00	8	8	5	5	3	6	6	14:00	
15:00	5	3	8	4	5	7	3	15:00	
16:00	11	5	0	7	6	5	8	16:00	
17:00	9	6	9	1	10	4	7	17:00	
18:00	2	5	11	5	2	5	4	18:00	
19:00	5	6	8	6	2	2	4	19:00	
20:00	5	8	3	0	8	5	5	20:00	
21:00	3	6	3	3	6	6	3	21:00	
22:00	4	3	3	2	2	4	3	22:00	
23:00	4	1	3	2	0	1	1	23:00	
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday		

Emergency Calls by District

Acoma Twp:	43	Boon Lake Twp:	8	Cedar Mills Twp:	24
City of Biscay:	3	City of Cedar Mills:	3	City of Hutchinson:	371
Collins Twp:	1	Ellsworth Twp:	1	Hassan Valley Twp:	29
Hutchinson Twp:	59	Lynn Twp:	25	Mutual Aid Given:	12

Estimated Property Value Saved: \$2,376,000 **Lives Saved: 7**

Property Value Lost: \$1,022,650

Emergency Call Hours: City- 3,048 **Rural- 3,434**

Total Training Hours: 3,103 **Total Training Events: 61**

Public Relations and Fire Safety Education

We hosted multiple tours and education events at the fire station as well as on location at businesses and schools as requested.

We appreciate the relationship we have with the Hutchinson Schools including fire safety education for the 2nd graders at Tiger Elementary School and kindergartners at the West Elementary School as normal. We provided a Fire Safety Day at the Fire Station for all private, perochial and charter schools. Education also provided for many senior living, childcare and other such facilites.

43 Public Relations Events / 787 Hours

***14 Fire Safety Education Events / 76
Hours***

1,875 Total Students



Inspections and Permits

-Continue to assist the City of Hutchinson Building Department utilizing a hybrid model to conduct rental inspections in large 10+ unit apartment buildings and other rental type properties.

-Daycare and Foster Care facilities were inspected (13) as requested through our partnership with the county/state. We completed commercial inspections (46) on new and remodeled construction propertites to ensure proper installation and operations of fire alarm, sprinkler systems, egress components and other life safety requirements as identified in MN building and Fire Code.

-Building plan reviews were also conducted jointly with the City of Hutchinson Building Department.

-Paperless burn permit system for McLeod County continues to function well with no changes.

Goals for 2026

-Finish all training and certifications for the four new Firefighter recruits that just started.

-Expand on technology upgrades where possible for apparatus and tools.

-Work with our MCSO partner and all McLeod Fire Departments to finalize last details fully implementing a new high tech emergency resource management system. This will be used by all Fire emergency response stakeholders to expedite and streamline, mutual aid, box alarms, etc. McLeod will be the pilot county in Minnesota with presumably many more to follow.

-Continue our Firefighter health and safety initiative by making facility and equipment improvements and by providing opportunities for improved personal health and well-being.

-Ensure timely replacement of PPE items as needed to ensure NFPA compliance.

-Utilize and fill the temporary Assistant Lieutenant position each year as an opportunity for a Firefighter to build leadership skills, gain confidence, better themselves as well as the department and get them ready to go for future officer positions as they arise.



-Proactively conduct maintenance and upgrades to all apparatus and analyze future CIP needs.

-Continue to monitor and adjust staffing needs and response capabilities to ensure we can provide the community we serve with the best possible product.

-We need to prepare and be ready for several Firefighter and Officer retirements coming in the next few years.

-Utilize grant opportunities to offset costs whenever and wherever possible.

-Modernize building pre-plan information to all the truck I-pads (new FF/Insp position).

- Fully implement the new NERIS fire reporting system and work through any and all hurdles.
 - Research and implement new monthly truck/small tools maintenance process and tracking.
 - Draft, review, gather feedback and implement new fire service agreements/contracts for all the rural partners we serve.
 - Draft, review, gather feedback and implement new mutual aid agreements for all the fire departments in McLeod County.
 - Promote growth and training for the county-wide Technical Rescue Response Team.
 - Add additional props at our training facility with the addition of a grain bin and possible burn room options for our training tower.
 - Host 2nd annual Region 10 one day fire school in May with expanded courses/curriculum.
- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Finalize rescue boat shared ownership project with MCSO and put into service. -Finish 2nd phase of the station overhead door enlargement project. -Continue to promote Firefighter & Officer participation in Regional/State training school opportunities and remain active in the MCFCA and MSFCA. -Continue with summer duty crews on weekends from Memorial Day to Labor Day. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Finalize specifications and install emergency power generator utilizing a public safety grant. -Finalize and implement SOG/policies project...hard copies and on I-pads. -Increased focus on officer development by delivering more frequent leadership training opportunities. -Work through all phases of the new ladder truck build with the manufacturer. |
|--|---|

Primary Services

We will continue to delivery excellent emergency response with a focus on professionalism and consistency. Community fire safety education will remain one of our cornerstone programs. Utilizing technology, analytics, thoughtful planning and hard work, we will strive to make improvements to our operations whenever and wherever possible. High quality and frequent training will continue ensuring Firefighter proficiency in all duties. Firefighter health and safety is, and will continue to be, our #1 priority to ensure that **"Everyone Goes Home."**

Hutchinson Housing & Redevelopment Authority

Executive Summary

The Hutchinson HRA (HHRA) was formed by the Hutchinson City Council in 1969 to address a shortage of housing for low to moderate income families and to address substandard housing in areas of Hutchinson. The HHRA owns and manages Park Towers Apartments, plus administers other housing rehabilitation programs throughout the city to preserve housing stock.

2025 Hutchinson Yearly Comparisons:

- Below 5% apartment vacancy rate for the last 12 years
- A full-time worker in McLeod County must earn an hourly wage of \$19.21 to afford a 2-bedroom apartment with a rent of \$999
- Hutchinson's average annual wage for Manufacturing in 2024 was \$77,792, which would afford a monthly rent of \$1,945
- Hutchinson's average annual wage for Retail Trade in 2024 was \$30,992, which would afford a monthly rent of \$775
- Median home sale price of \$265,500
- The lowest home mortgage interest rate was 6.15% for a 30-year mortgage
- 23 newly constructed single-family units, plus 43 Manufactured Home Installation Permits
- 87 vacant residential lots
- Foreclosures doubled in 2025 to 10 sales

Summary of HHRA Activities and Accomplishments:

Park Towers:

- 16 move-ins, 22 move-outs in 2025
- Management worked on the relocation of the AT&T antenna on the roof at Park Towers; getting an updated office copier/printer; started digital marketing with 8Bitstudio; updated 2 desktop computers and started IT services with West Central Technology
- Updated/Repaired/Installed: Installed 5 new washers & 5 new dryers; installed a mini-split in the second-floor laundry for supplemental heating and cooling; total building door lock system replacement; all unit smoke detectors replacement; replaced the front entry handicapped door opener; replaced the laundry handicapped door opener; multiple boiler & exhaust system repairs; installed vinyl planking in 6 units at unit turns; installed 4 power flush water saver toilets and 1 standard toilet; replaced 4 units' 110 AC's; replaced 5 units' zone valves; repaired 2 units' shower drains; repaired 1 unit's water damaged kitchen cabinets; repaired multiple unit bathroom ceilings when exhaust fan motors stopped working; re-striped all 3 parking lots; and coordinated with the Hutchinson Chamber's Leadership Group to cleaned up landscaping, painted patio furniture, painted exterior light poles and prepared the raised gardens.

City Center:

- City Council approved the use of the SCDP Revolving funds for Hutchinson Downtown Housing Rehabilitation Program. Rental Rehabilitation is Phase I and if the funds are not used, Phase II is Owner Occupied Rehabilitation.
- City Council approved the use of State Affordable Housing Funds for the continuation of the City Home Improvement Program in 2026.
- City HIP Programs – 11 applicants: 6 approved (4 complete; 2 open)

Hutchinson HRA Priorities for 2026:

Park Towers:

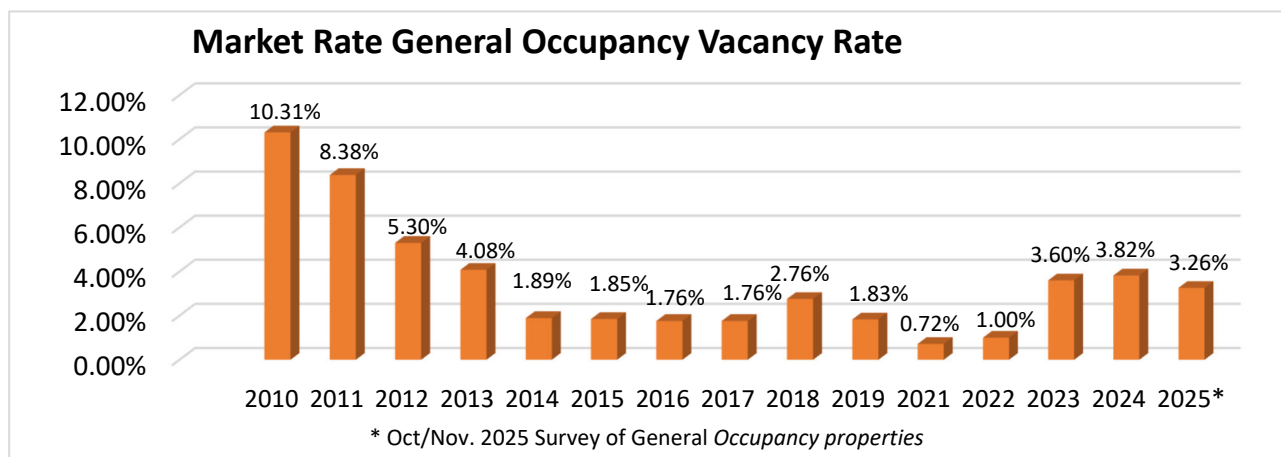
- Reach a vacancy Rate above 89%.
- Administer the RAD Multifamily, Section 8 PBRA program at Park Towers.
- Staff training in new HUD programs.
- Housing Specialist acquire a Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry issued Special Engineer boiler license.
- Continue to install vinyl planking and power flush water saver toilets at unit turns.
- If needed, start re-facing kitchen cabinets, replacing A/C and Refrigerators at unit turns.
- Potential improvements: Repacking of fire pump, sewer main lining coordinated with City of Hutchinson, common areas flooring replacement near the elevators and new fire door system.
- Start process to replace oldest boilers and improve ventilation system.
- Start process to repair/replace concrete walkways and steps around the building.
- Continue to work with AT & T on relocation of antennas on the roof. Possible coordination with roof replacement.
- Survey tenants on needs for community room.
- Follow legislation for grant funds to retrofit sprinklers in high rise residential buildings.
- Support the Tenant Council activities.

City Center:

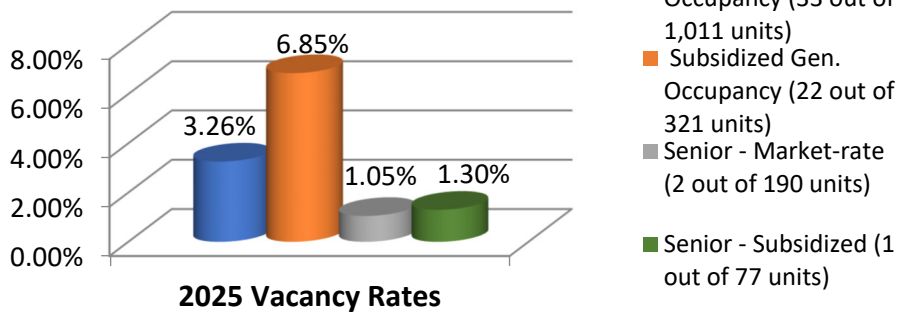
- Administer the City Home Improvement Grant Program, the Hutchinson Downtown Housing Rehabilitation Program and the Minnesota Housing Rehab Loan Program.
- Market available programs throughout the community.
- Identify and determine interest of potential SCDP owner occupied rehab project.
- Identify and determine interest of potential SCDP rental rehab projects.
- Explore other housing resources available to address the housing needs identified in the Maxfield Comprehensive Housing Study/Market Analysis for the City of Hutchinson
- Build houses on the remaining 2 HHRA Island View Heights lots.

Hutchinson Yearly Comparisons

Rental Data from the 2025 Apartment Survey:



Hutchinson 2025 Vacancy Rates



Average Rents*

Size	Ave. Rent	Increase from 2024
Studio	\$600	+\$120
1 Bedroom	\$858	+\$132
2 Bedroom	\$1,029	+\$107
3 Bedroom	\$1,204	+\$63

* Oct/Nov 2025 survey.

Income and Rent

A full-time worker (40 hours/week for 52 weeks) in McLeod County must earn an **hourly wage of \$19.21** to afford a 2-bedroom apartment with a monthly **rent of \$999**, which is the McLeod County Fair Market Rent (FMR) set by HUD effective 10/1/2025. Annualized household income would be \$39,960. Rent is calculated at 30% of the household's monthly income. To afford the average 2-bedroom rent of \$1,029 (Oct/Nov 2025 Hutchinson survey) a worker would need to earn an **hourly wage of \$19.78**.

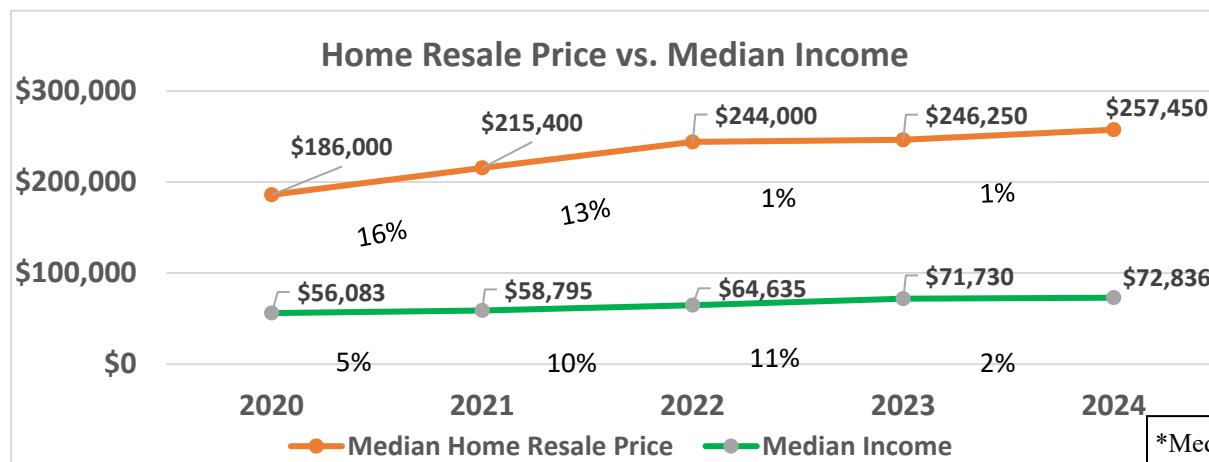
Using the State of MN's FMR, a full-time worker must earn an **hourly wage of \$28.23** to afford a 2-bedroom apartment with a monthly **rent of \$1,468**.

If a person is working at the 2025 MN minimum wage (**\$11.13**), they would have to work **69.04 hours** per week to afford a 2-bedroom apartment at the McLeod County FMR.

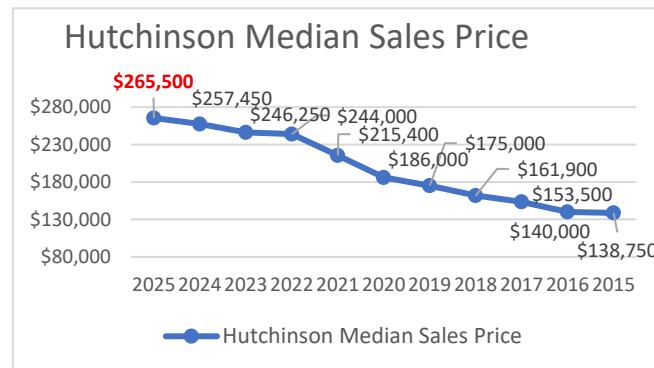
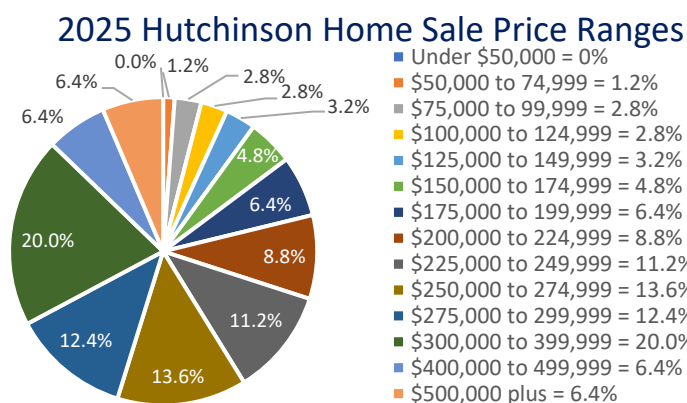
DEED's Quarterly Census of Employment and wages (QCEW) data for 2024 employment reports that the State average annual wage for Manufacturing is \$83,252. Using 30% of this household's monthly income, the household could afford a rent of \$2,081. **Hutchinson's average annual wage for Manufacturing is \$77,792** which would equate to a **rent of \$1,945**. The State's average annual wage for Retail Trade is \$39,312 which would equate to a rent of \$983 vs. **Hutchinson's average annual wage for Retail Trade is \$30,992** which would equate to **a rent of \$775**.

Home Resales Data from McLeod County Assessor's Office:

HOME RESALES CITY OF HUTCHINSON 2025 through 2015																						
Year	2025		2024		2023		2022		2021		2020		2019		2018		2017		2016		2015	
Price Range	No.	Pct.	No.	Pct.	No.	Pct.	No.	Pct.	No.	Pct.	No.	Pct.	No.	Pct.	No.	Pct.	No.	Pct.	No.	Pct.	No.	Pct.
Under \$50,000	3	1.2%	0	0.0%	2	0.8%	2	0.7%	4	1.1%	7	2.0%	1	0.3%	7	1.9%	9	2.7%	10	3.0%	15	4.2%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	7	2.8%	0	0.0%	3	1.1%	4	1.3%	5	1.3%	10	2.9%	5	1.6%	11	3.1%	10	3.0%	15	4.6%	26	7.3%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	7	2.8%	3	1.3%	11	4.2%	11	3.7%	13	3.5%	10	2.9%	8	2.5%	15	4.2%	22	6.6%	38	11.6%	39	11.0%
\$100,000 to \$124,999	8	3.2%	2	0.9%	6	2.3%	7	2.3%	10	2.7%	19	5.5%	27	8.6%	46	12.8%	46	13.8%	54	16.4%	58	16.3%
\$125,000 to \$149,999	12	4.8%	12	5.2%	7	2.7%	12	4.0%	29	7.8%	49	14.3%	50	15.9%	67	18.7%	70	21.0%	76	23.1%	68	19.1%
\$150,000 to \$174,999	16	6.4%	10	4.3%	12	4.5%	21	7.0%	34	9.1%	51	14.9%	64	20.3%	70	19.5%	73	21.9%	55	16.7%	60	16.9%
\$175,000 to \$199,999	22	8.8%	17	7.3%	22	8.3%	30	10.0%	58	15.5%	55	16.0%	59	18.7%	55	15.3%	39	11.7%	23	7.0%	27	7.6%
\$200,000 +	175	70.0%	188	81.0%	201	76.1%	212	70.9%	220	59.0%	142	41.4%	101	32.1%	88	24.5%	64	19.2%	58	17.6%	63	17.7%
Total	250	100.0%	232	100.0%	264	100.0%	299	100.0%	373	100.0%	343	100.0%	315	100%	359	100%	333	100%	329	100%	356	100%
Median	\$265,500.00		\$257,450		\$246,250		\$244,000.00		\$215,400		\$186,000		\$175,000		\$161,900		\$153,500		\$140,000		\$138,750	
Percent Increase	3.1%		4.5%		0.9%		13.3%		15.8%		6.3%		8.1%		5.5%		9.6%		0.9%			



*Median Income data from USCB



Year End Hutchinson Home Resales Data from the Minneapolis Area Association of Realtors:

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Median Sales Price	\$279,500	\$268,900	\$261,750	\$262,900	\$236,250	\$200,000	\$181,000	\$170,000	\$161,750	\$147,200	\$145,000
# of Sales	234	198	236	265	317	324	315	330	318	315	338

- 18.2% more home sales in 2025 than in 2024.
- 47 days on the market in 2025 vs. 35 in 2024.

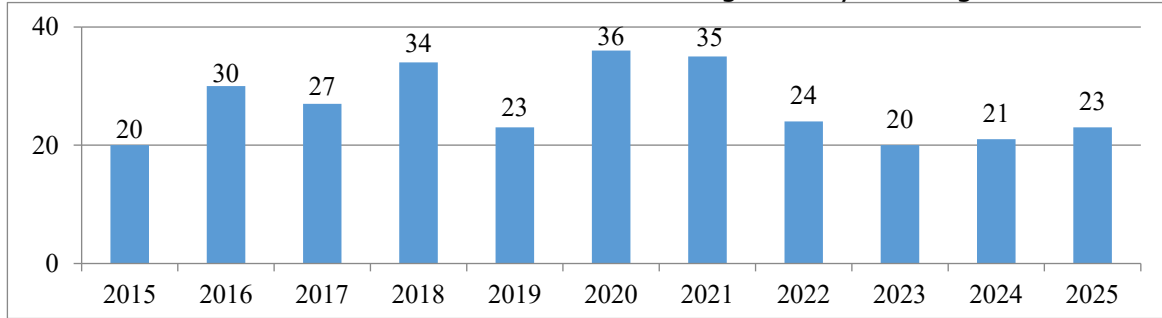
The ***Minneapolis Area Association of Realtors Annual Housing Market Report***, reports that by mid-2025 the typical age of a first-time homebuyer in the U.S. reached a record high of 40. The median age of all U.S. homebuyers reached 59. Also, U.S. homeowners are staying in their homes longer: median of 11 years before selling now.

2025 Home Mortgage Rates:

The 30-year fixed home mortgage rate was highest in the third week of the year at 7.04% and ended the year at 6.15%, the lowest of the year according to Freddiemac.com.

New Construction Units (the following 4 graphs are based on information from the Department of Planning, Zoning and Building Department):

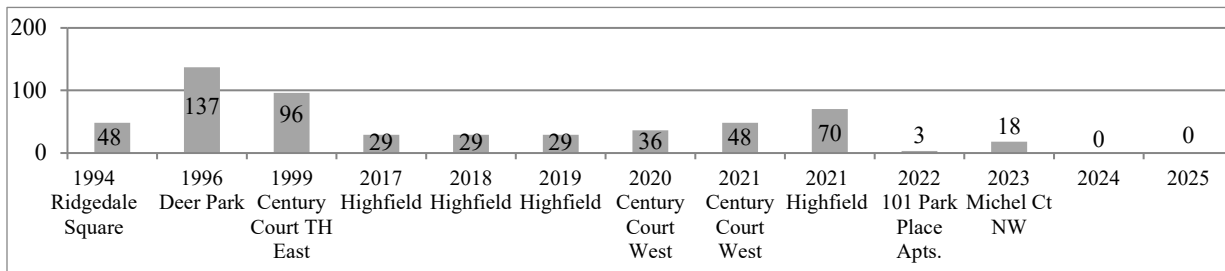
Number of New Construction Single-Family Dwelling Units



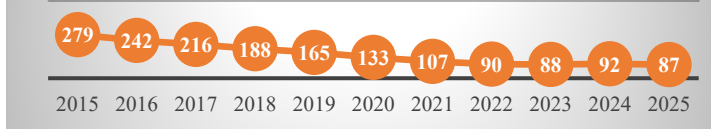
Manufactured Home Permits (Installation of Manufactured Home in a Park)

October – December 2024: 20 permits
 January – December 2025: 43 permits

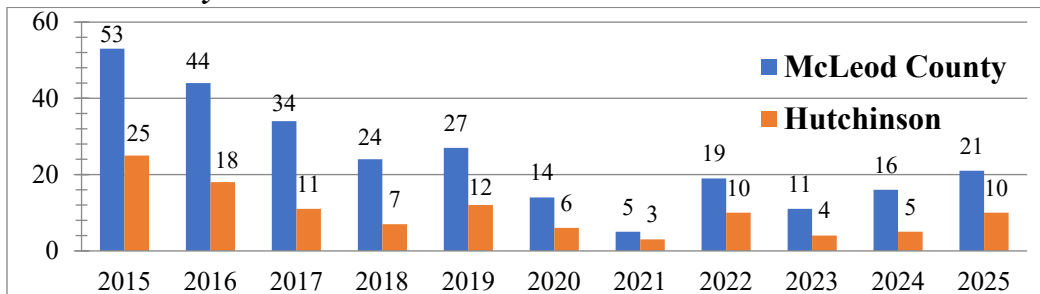
Number of Certificate of Occupancy for General Occupancy Multi-Family Dwelling Units



Residential Lots Available



McLeod County & Hutchinson Foreclosures:



Summary of HHRA 2025 Accomplishments:

Park Towers Apartments Management - Multifamily, Section 8 Project Based Rental Assistance Program (PBRA):

Park Towers Property Management

- 16 move-ins; 22 move-outs in 2025.

Reasons for move-outs:

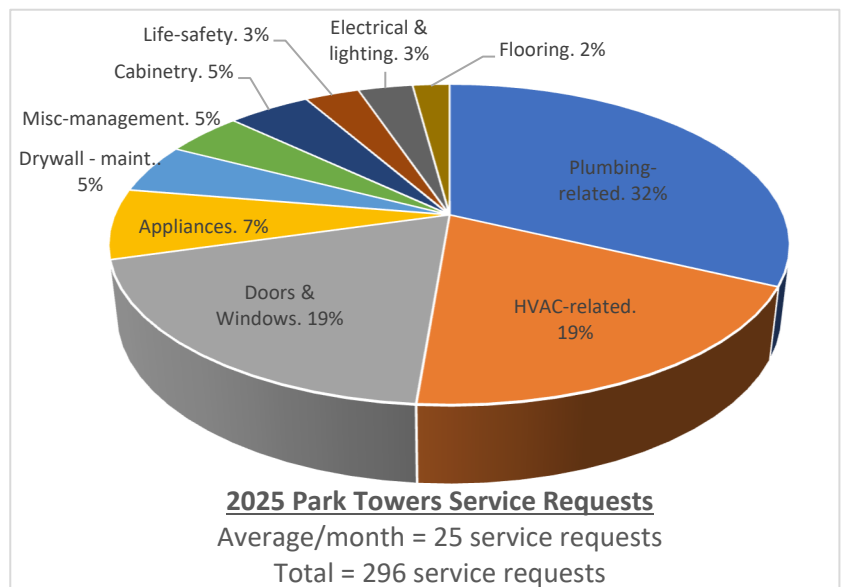
2	Owner initiated nonpayment of rent
3	Owner initiated other than nonpayment of rent
17	Tenant initiated



- November 2025, annual unit inspections were completed.
- Working with AT&T and Bolton & Menk, Inc. on the relocation of the antenna on the roof at Park Towers.
- Updated office copier/printer.
- Started digital marketing with 8Bitstudio
- Updated 2 desktop computers and started IT services with West Central Technology

Asset Preservation, Property Improvements and Energy Conservation

- Installed 5 new washers & 5 new dryers
- Installed a mini-split in the second-floor laundry for supplemental heating and cooling
- Total building door lock system replacement
- All unit smoke detectors replacement
- Replaced the front entry handicapped door opener
- Replaced the laundry handicapped door opener
- Boiler & Exhaust System repairs: repaired/replaced some of the boilers' controls, auto vents & gaskets; replaced 1 exhaust fan; repaired north stairwell heater; and repaired the north & south hallway makeup air circulation pumps; repaired the water heater boiler assembly and repaired the elevator room AC unit.
- Installed vinyl planking in 6 units at unit turns
- Installed 4 power flush water saver toilets and 1 standard toilet
- Replaced 4 units' 110 AC's
- Replaced 5 units' zone valves
- Repaired 2 units' shower drains
- Repaired 1 unit's water damaged kitchen cabinets
- Repaired multiple unit bathroom ceilings a result of the exhaust fan motors not working properly.
- Re-striped all 3 parking lots
- The Hutchinson Chamber's Leadership Group project: cleaned up landscaping, painted patio furniture, painted exterior light poles and prepared the raised gardens.



Tenant Demographics

- Average age of head-of-household is 53.
 - 32 Sixty-two or older
 - 40 Disabled
 - 33 No special status
- Income Categories:
 - 6% = \$0 - \$1,999
 - 4.8% = \$2,000 - \$3,999
 - 2.4% = \$4,000 - \$5,999
 - 1.2% = \$6,000 - \$7,999
 - 1.2% = \$8,000 - \$9,999
 - 84.3% = \$10,000+ (below \$35,900)

Tenant Services

- Hosted National Night Out and a Christmas Dinner for the tenants.
- Park Towers continued as a Senior Dining Program Site through a lease with Lutheran Social Services. Meals are prepared offsite and delivered to Park Towers Monday through Friday. There were 16 unduplicated Park Towers residents receiving meals in 2025 (average 11 per month).
- Throughout the year different community organizations, such as the Elks and the youth from Foundation Church brought care packages to the residents.
- Coordinated activities with the Tenant Council.

City Center Operations:

Operations:

In June, a Public Hearing on housing was held. The City Council approved the use of the SCDP Revolving funds for Hutchinson Downtown Housing Rehabilitation Program. Phase I is Rental Rehabilitation and if the funds are not used, Phase II will be Owner Occupied Rehabilitation.

October 2025 City Council approved the use of State Affordable Housing Funds for the continuation of the City Home Improvement Program in 2026.

Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Programs Available:

1. City Home Improvement Program Grants (HIP): This program was established in 2015 as a flexible tool, consisting of four targeted programs (*Live and Work in Hutchinson, 1st Time Homebuyer Workforce Initiative, City Home Repair Grant Program {50% owner match}, City Accessibility Grant Program & Hutchinson Emergency Home Repair Grant Program*) to assist with owner-occupied housing improvements/repairs.

City HIP Programs – 11 applicants: 6 approved (4 complete; 2 open)

Address	Amount	Program	Project Description	App. Date	Completed
1162 Oakwood Ct SW	10,000.00	HRGP	Replace windows	06/17/25	8/26/25
231 Monroe St SE	6,572.50	HRGP	Replace furnace & AC, plumbing repairs	06/17/25	10/08/25
586 Jefferson St SE	9,590.00	HRGP	Replace roof decking, install roofing	07/15/25	08/15/25
302 Dale St SW	5,000.00	Emerg	Replace furnace, HVAC work	11/18/25	12/29/25
534 Bluff St SW	6,213.50	HRGP	Install Accessible shower	09/16/25	Open
417 Boulder St SW	7,507.86	HRGP	Replace windows	10/21/25	Open
	44,883.86				

- City HRGP - 586 Jefferson St SE: Replace roof decking, remove chimney, roofing.



- City HRGP - 534 Bluff St NE: Install accessible shower.



2. Minnesota Housing Rehab Loan Program (RLP) – One applicant in 2024, closed/completed in early 2025. Total Project Cost \$33,920



Hutchinson Downtown Housing Rehabilitation Program (Revolving SCDP Funds)

After the Public Hearing at the City Council meeting on 6/24/2025 the City Council approved the use of the City Revolving SCDP Funds for the Hutchinson Downtown Housing Rehabilitation Program. Once the environmental review process was complete, DEED gave approval to use funds on 8/4/25.

Phase I, Rental Rehabilitation:

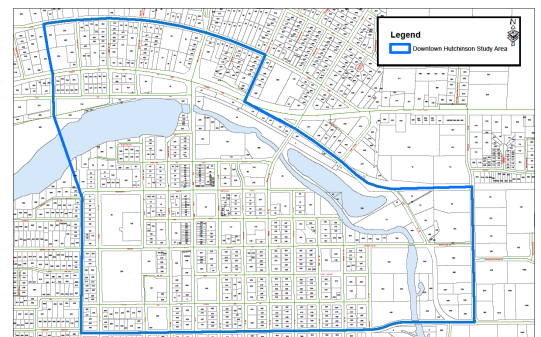
72 letters sent to rental property owners of 4 units or less:

- 7 property owners returned interest
- 1 property preliminarily met all qualifications but at the end of the year the owner decided not to move forward with the application.

Phase II Owner Occupied Rehabilitation:

247 homeowners notified:

- 9 preapplications returned
- 7 potential projects



Status of Hutchinson HRA Priorities	
<u>Park Towers Apartments Management:</u>	<u>Status</u>
Administer the RAD Multifamily, Section 8 PBRA program at Park Towers.	On-going
Staff training for RAD Multifamily, Section 8 PBRA program and new HUD program changes such as AFFH rule, HOTMA, VAWA and NSPIRE.	Staff attended various training through the year.
Housing Specialist attain a Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry issued Special Engineer boiler license.	Scheduled in 2026
Continue to install vinyl planking and power flush water saver toilets at unit turns.	On-going; 2025: 6 vinyl planking & 4 pf toilets
Potential improvements: new door card entry system, installation of mini split, heating/cooling system in the laundry room, unit smoke detectors, common areas flooring replacement near the elevators and sewer main lining coordinated with City of Hutchinson.	Done except common areas flooring & sewer main lining.
Follow legislation for grant funds to retrofit sprinklers in high rise residential buildings.	Nothing new in 2025 that Park Towers was eligible for.
Support the Tenant Council activities.	On-going
<u>City Center Operations, Owner Occupied Rehab:</u>	<u>Status</u>
Administer the City Home Improvement Grant Program, Minnesota Housing Rehab Loan Program and the Fix Up Fund Home Improvement Loan Program.	4 CHIGP and 1 MH RLP
Follow rollout of new State housing programs and determine interest/need in Hutchinson.	City Council approved State funds to continue CHILP.
Market available programs throughout the community.	Hired 8Bitstudio for digital marketing.
Identify and determine interest of potential SCDP owner occupied rehab project.	Focusing on Hutchinson Downtown Housing Rehabilitation Program
<u>City Center Operations, SCDP Rental Rehab Program:</u>	<u>Status</u>
Identify and determine interest of potential SCDP rental rehab projects.	Focusing on Hutchinson Downtown Housing Rehabilitation Program
<u>City Center Operations, Housing Development</u>	<u>Status</u>
Explore other housing resources available to address the housing needs identified in the Maxfield Comprehensive Housing Study/Market Analysis for the City of Hutchinson	Private Developers are working with the City to address some of the housing needs.
Determine best use of the remaining 2 HHRA Island View Heights lots.	Working on house plans and budgets for new construction on the lots.

Hutchinson HRA Priorities for 2026:

Park Towers Apartments Management:

- Reach a vacancy Rate above 89%.
- Administer the RAD Multifamily, Section 8 PBRA program at Park Towers.
- Staff training in new HUD programs.
- Housing Specialist acquire a Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry issued Special Engineer boiler license.
- Continue to install vinyl planking and power flush water saver toilets at unit turns.
- If needed, start re-facing kitchen cabinets, replacing A/C and Refrigerators at unit turns.
- Potential improvements: Repack of fire pump, sewer main replacement coordinated with City of Hutchinson, common areas flooring replacement near the elevators and new fire door system.
- Start process to replace oldest boilers and improve ventilation system.
- Start process to repair/replace concrete walkways and steps around the building.
- Continue to work with AT & T on relocation of antennas on the roof. Possible coordination with roof replacement.
- Survey tenants on needs for community room.
- Follow legislation for grant funds to retrofit sprinklers in high rise residential buildings.
- Support the Tenant Council activities.

City Center Operations, Owner Occupied Rehab:

- Administer the City Home Improvement Grant Program, the Hutchinson Downtown Housing Rehabilitation Program and the Minnesota Housing Rehab Loan Program.
- Market available programs throughout the community.
- Identify and determine interest of potential SCDP owner occupied rehab project.

City Center Operations, SCDP Rental Rehab Program:

- Identify and determine interest of potential SCDP rental rehab projects.

City Center Operations, Housing Development

- Explore other housing resources available to address the housing needs identified in the Maxfield Comprehensive Housing Study/Market Analysis for the City of Hutchinson
- Build houses on the remaining 2 HHRA Island View Heights lots.

Human Resources

Primary Services

Under the direction of the Human Resources Director, the human resources department provides the following organizational development and services:

- Recruitment
- Compensation
- Benefit administration
- Employment policies and laws
- Workers' compensation
- Employee safety
- Labor relations
- Performance evaluations
- Organizational development
- Training and development
- Employee and Supervisor support

2025 Human Resources Staffing

1.875 Full-time Equivalent Staff – Human Resources Director and Human Resources/Administrative Technician

Budget

The Human Resources budget is contained within the City Administration budget.

Alignment with Council CORE VALUES and OUTCOMES

The primary purpose of the Human Resources Department is to provide strategic management of the City's workforce by giving information, support and consultation to internal customers to assist them in delivering quality, cost effective City services to the public and accomplishing the ends and outcomes identified by the City Council.

2025 Accomplishments

- Completed 17 recruitment processes
 - Aquatics & Recreation Programmer
 - City Engineer/Asst. Public Works Director
 - Community Service Officer (2)
 - Compost Equipment Operator
 - Compost Facility Maintenance Assistant
 - EDA Intern
 - Women to Workforce Intern
 - Fire Inspector/Firefighter
 - Parks Maintenance Operator
 - Compost Sales & Marketing Coordinator
 - Senior Engineering Specialist

- Senior Public Works Maintenance Operator (internal)
- Hired approximately 145 summer seasonal employees
- Launched “Health Insights” monthly newsletter, New Employee Questionnaire
- Organized 1st annual UCAP holiday gift drive
- Completed internal I9 audit for compliance
- Finalized and communicated new Minnesota Paid Leave policy
- Maintained quality benefits offered to employees, transitioned to MetLife for Life and LTD in order to offer Minnesota Paid Leave through MetLife
- Planned and hosted successful employee events, including the Summer Picnic and Holiday Party

2025 Performance Measurement Monitoring Data

Consistent with the council's adopted governance statements, priority indicators follow:

Employee Efficiency

The department provides human resource services to all City employees and strives to assist them in increasing productivity, and balancing resource constraints and increased demand for services.

POPULATION PER EMPLOYEE						
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024**
Population	14,282	14,599	14,703	14,703	14,828	14,910
Number of Employee FTEs	125	124	124	130	130	124
Population per Employee	114	118	118	114	116	121

* The employee numbers include full-time and regular part-time employee Full Time Equivalents (FTE) only, includes HRA Employees. FTE's are not calculated for seasonal part-time staffing. The population is based on best available estimates provided by the Minnesota State Demographer.

** 2025 population estimates are not available via the Minnesota State Demographer or US Census Bureau at the time of this report (April 2026)

Employee Decision-Making

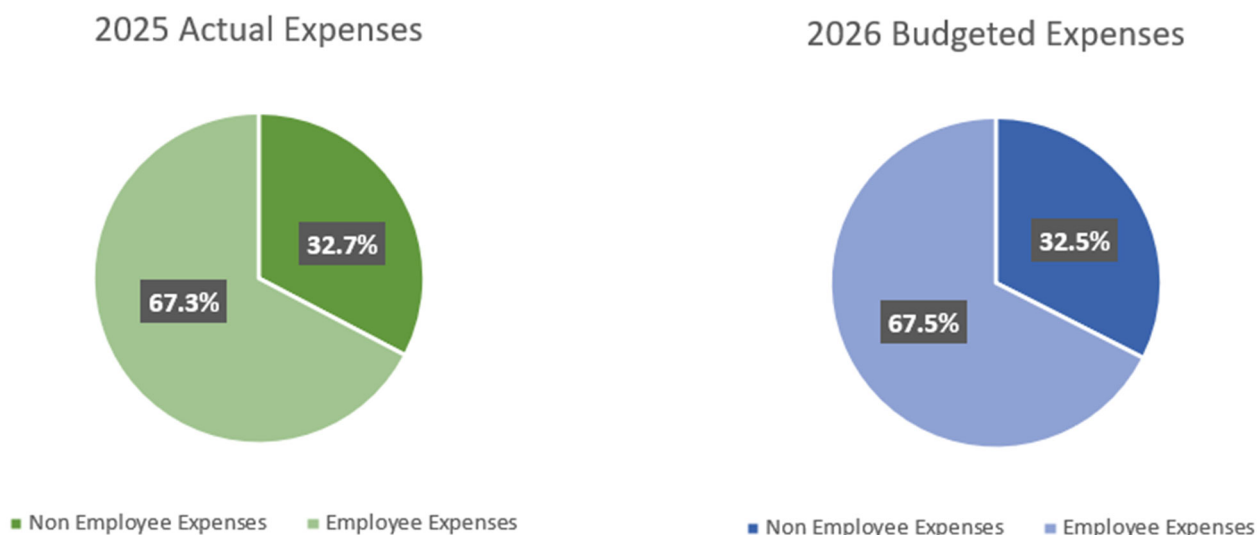
In order to accomplish the City's mission, employee involvement in the decision-making process as well as employee feedback and participation is essential.

Employees participate in significant decision-making processes such as:

- Evaluation and selection of new employees
- Employee Wage Committee recommendations
- Employee benefit program provider and program selections
- Development of safety program components and safety program administrative functions
- City website and social media content
- Leadership Team and Executive Team participation
- HR Director open door policy

Cost of Employee Services

For 2025, Employee Expenses continued to be a large percentage of the city budget at 67.3%, or \$10,630,785. This includes all wages, taxes, health insurance and other benefits, and PERA. For 2025, all Other General Fund Expenses are estimated to cost \$5,167,129 (32.9%). In comparison, 2026 Employee Expenses are estimated to cost \$11,157,239, or 67.5%.



Health Insurance

A portion of employee costs are for health insurance premiums. Each year, the City considers vendor and plan design changes in order to keep premium costs as low as possible while maintaining meaningful coverage. Hutchinson strives to keep premiums competitive with the market average.

Similar to last year, the City was not in a position of power to renegotiate for 2026 based on claims utilization data. For 2026, the City plans saw a total premium increase of approximately 14%, compared to the 25% increase for 2025. The increase that Health Partners initially proposed was 21%, but our benefit brokers, USI, were able to negotiate down to 14%. In comparison, the USI fully insured book of business saw increases as high as 50% and as low as single digits, with an average increase around 15%, putting the City's increase just below average.

After the plan adjustments in 2025, the City opted to keep the plan design and deductibles the same, only increasing premiums. Though Health Partners applies premium increases to each level of coverage at a different rate, the City opted to apply the average premium increases (14%) evenly to all deductibles and groups. As a reminder, the plan adjustments for the 2025 plan year included increasing the deductible for the higher deductible plan to make it the "base plan" and adjusted the premium split for the lower deductible plan, the "buy-up plan", so the employee cost between the two plans encouraged election of the "base plan". That strategy worked and there is more even participation between the two plans, which was the goal.

There appears to be little relief in the future, considering the ongoing challenges with the health care industry, so the Wage Committee and City Leadership is prepared to consider alternative plans in the near future to ensure costs remain manageable while still offering a solid benefit.

2026	Employee Cost		Employer Cost		Total Monthly Cost	
	<u>\$2k/4k</u>	<u>\$3.5k/7k</u>	<u>\$2k/4k</u>	<u>\$3.5k/7k</u>	<u>\$2k/4k</u>	<u>\$3.5k/7k</u>
Emp Only	\$206.13	\$154.40	\$ 618.38	\$ 617.58	\$824.51	\$771.98
Emp + Spouse	\$566.86	\$424.59	\$ 1700.56	\$ 1698.36	\$2267.42	\$2122.95
Emp + Child(ren)	\$350.42	\$262.48	\$ 1051.26	\$ 1049.88	\$1401.68	\$1312.36
Family	\$597.78	\$447.75	\$ 1793.32	\$ 1790.99	\$2391.10	\$2238.74

2025	Employee Cost		Employer Cost		Total Cost	
	<u>\$2k/4k</u>	<u>\$3.5k/7k</u>	<u>\$2k/4k</u>	<u>\$3.5k/7k</u>	<u>\$2k/4k</u>	<u>\$3.5k/7k</u>
Emp Only	\$180.92	\$135.29	\$542.75	\$541.17	\$723.67	\$676.46
Emp + Spouse	\$497.52	\$372.06	\$1,492.58	\$1,488.22	\$1,990.10	\$1,860.28
Emp + Child(ren)	\$307.56	\$230.00	\$922.68	\$919.99	\$1,230.24	\$1,149.99
Family	\$524.66	\$392.35	\$1,573.99	\$1,569.40	\$2,098.65	\$1,961.75

REGULAR EMPLOYEE HEALTH PLAN PARTICIPATION							
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Health Plan Participants	94	91	95	95	95	95	100
% of Eligible Employees	84.7%	82.7%	82.7%	90.5%	90.5%	90.5%	90.9%

Labor Contracts

Two bargaining units represent two groups within the Hutchinson Police Department. Labor contracts are negotiated and administered by the City and one contract has gone to arbitration since the first unit was organized. 2025 brought another round of settled wage reopeners for both the MNPEA Police Officers and LELS Police Sergeants.

Labor Measurements

REGULAR FULL TIME AND REGULAR PART TIME RECRUITMENTS								
	2018	2019	2020*	2021*	2022*	2023**	2024**	2025
# of Recruitments	11	22	17	25	14	15	25	16

# of Applications Received	145	311	266	206	114	198*	149	178
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* Includes Hutchinson Utilities Commission and/or Hutchinson Redevelopment Authority position recruitments.

** Includes Hutchinson Redevelopment Authority position recruitments

* 81 applications were submitted for the Utility Billing Specialist position

ATTRITION %								
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023**	2024	2025
* Attrition %	5.6%	13.7%	10.5%	15.0%	13.8%	17.9%	9%	9%
Full Time Employee Attrition %	5.8%	7.2%	10.1%	8.3%	7.4%	11.4%	9%	7.3%

* Includes full-time and regular part-time employees and no seasonal/temporary employees.

** Hospital security is included in these numbers

2025 Employee Retirements:

- Peter Dehn – Public Works Streets
- Jody Harms – PRCE
- Eric Kilian – Police
- Keith Messner – Engineering

89.5 years of experience!

2026: A Look Forward

The 2026 human resources department budget allows for continued services including:

- Negotiation of new labor contracts with the Police Officer and LELS groups for 2026
- Annual employee insurance renewals.
- MN Paid Leave implementation (Live Jan. 1, 2026)
- Personnel policy review, updates, and implementation (in process from 2025)
- Updates to Drug and Alcohol Testing policy and other related policies/procedures (in process from 2025)
- Finalize Wage Study and Compensation Plan updates (eff. Jan 1, 2027)
- Identify solution for seasonal background checks
- Review and purge files/documents to ensure compliance with record retention schedule; transfer permanent documents to Laserfiche

Information Technology

Primary Services

Under leadership from the Information Technology Director, the Information Technology (IT) Department is responsible for most technology systems across all City departments including Hutchinson Utilities. The range of items supported is technologically diverse and includes:

- Retail Point of Sale systems (Liquor Hutch)
- Manufacturing process software (Creekside)
- Law Enforcement applications with strict security standards imposed by the FBI
- Electrical Generation systems (Hutchinson Utilities Production)
- Mobile work systems (Field Crews)
- Network Architecture for Electric, Gas, Water and Waste Water SCADA systems
- General Government applications
- Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) phone systems and related contracts
- Radio Systems for Emergency Services. (IT supports the network, server and workstations)
- Cell phones and related contracts
- Cyber Security
- Managing, supporting & expanding, when appropriate, City owned fiber optic network. (Hutchinson is unique in that the City owns, manages, and leases fiber to other entities)
- We are available 24x7 to support law enforcement, Liquor Hutch and Hutchinson Utilities.
- Manage 50+ yearly software contracts
- Web page management and upkeep
- Credit Card Processing & Security
- PD Body camera support for PD & Legal
- 55 Security Cameras throughout City Buildings and Parks
- GIS

2025 Information Technology Budget

General Operating: \$723,131

Revenue: \$155,545

Water: \$29,521

Waste Water: \$28,060

Liquor Hutch: \$9,444

EDA: \$17,723

HRA: \$19,653

Creekside: \$10,546

2024

LOADING

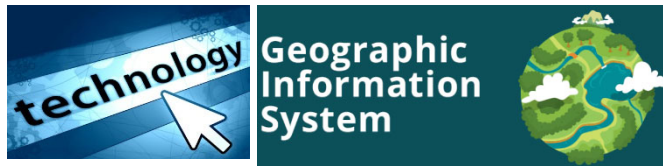
2023

HUC: \$283,391

Total Managed Budget \$1,121,019

Staffing

3.5 Full-Time Equivalent Staff including GIS

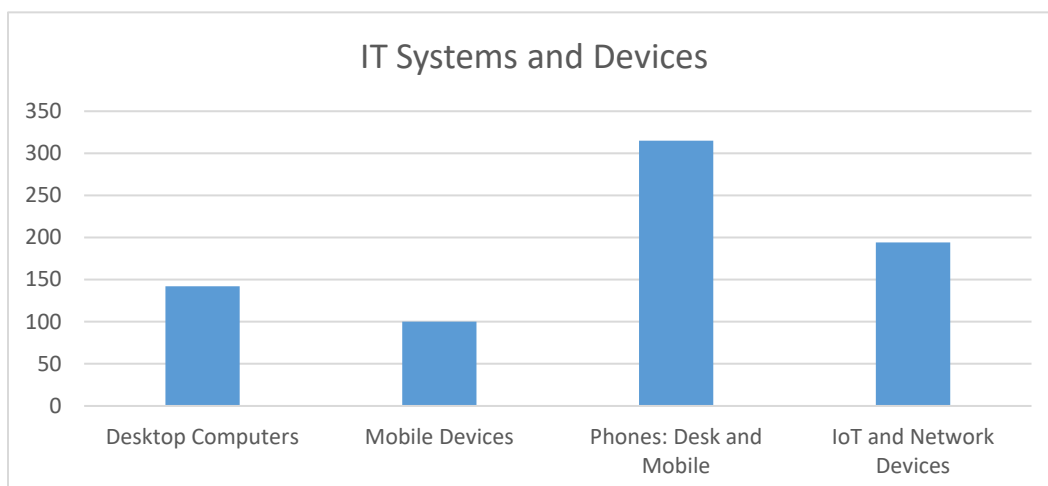


2025 Narrative

The IT industry is ever changing and Cyber Security continues to be the top issue. Much of our time is focused on network security to protect employees and customers. Day to day support end user tends to demand the majority of our time, which is a good indicator of how technologically sophisticated the City has become. All departments embrace technology in an effort to create efficiencies and increase service to the public.

2025 Accomplishments

- Converted to Microsoft 365
 - This project consumed the bulk of our time
- Core host servers were upgraded and expanded to fulfill current growth
- Rewrite of all web pages which included formatting to comply with 2027 ADA laws
- Continued automation for desktop setup and rebuilds
- Desktop and network security upkeep
- Expanding network to the Civic Arena to monitor the compressors remotely
- Expanded the network to the Water Park Pump House to monitor pool systems remotely
- Ongoing Cyber Security Programs



2026 Information Technology Budget

General Operating: \$833,733

Revenue: \$193,974

Other General Fund \$99,849

Water: \$25,758

Waste Water: \$27,228

Liquor Hutch: \$18,680

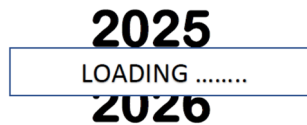
EDA: \$14,876

HRA: \$9,753

Creekside: \$12,374

HUC: \$134,386

Total Managed Budget \$1,176,636



Looking Forward to 2026

2026 will include an additional Network Administrator to expand our network security program and work closely with the Police Department on digital evidence gathering.

Projects for 2026:

- Adding a Sr. Network Administrator
- Upgrade of 34 desktops/Laptops
- Upgrade of 1 network switch
- Continue efforts to leverage the network against Cyber Security attacks
- Door access system upgrade for the Police Department
- Upgrade Video Surveillance system at the Liquor Hutch
- Extend the fiber network to the new Hutchinson Substation

Technology Department Philosophy

Information technology is a cornerstone of all modern organizations, supplying the communication and business systems necessary to perform daily tasks in the most efficient manner possible. IT provides a central coordination point to technology solutions and services for both internal and external customer needs. The IT Department has made great strides in implementing new technology solutions, enhancing the technology environment, and collaborating with other departments to provide cost efficient and effective solutions to their technology needs.

Legal Department

The City of Hutchinson's Legal Department's duties are divided into two main areas – one pertaining to civil law and the other pertaining to criminal law. Regarding civil law, the City of Hutchinson Legal Department provides legal advice to the City Council, Economic Development Authority, Housing and Redevelopment Authority, Creekside Soils, Liquor Hutch, city administration, city departments, and the other 11 boards and commissions of the city. The legal department reviews and negotiates contracts, provides ordinance interpretation to city staff, serves as the revisor of city ordinances, assists in fulfilling data practices requests and serves as the City Parliamentarian. The city's legal department also serves as the general counsel for the Hutchinson Utilities Commission.

Some of the activities of the legal department pertaining to civil law in 2024 included:

1. Attending City Council meetings, planning commission meetings, charter commission meetings, airport commission meetings, and police commission meetings.
2. Fulfilling data practices requests.
3. Drafting and revising city ordinances.
4. Conducting three dangerous animal hearings.
5. Assisting city administration in the purchase and sale of real property.
6. Assisting the Hutchinson housing and redevelopment authority with landlord – tenant issues.
7. Assisting the Hutchinson economic development authority in developing tax increment financing districts, the purchase and sale of property for economic development in the city and with landlord-tenant issues.
8. Assisting Hutchinson Police Services and the planning and zoning and building department with nuisance property abatement.
9. Assisting the city public works department with airport, property acquisition and city development matters.
10. Drafting or reviewing 89 contracts on behalf of city departments, The Economic Development Authority, The Housing and Redevelopment Authority and Hutchinson Utilities.

Concerning criminal law, the legal department also serves as the criminal prosecutor for the City of Hutchinson; prosecuting violations of city ordinances, misdemeanor crimes and some gross misdemeanor offenses that occur within the city limits of Hutchinson. The city has a contract with the Gavin Law office in Glencoe to assist in criminal prosecution work.

In 2025 the legal department prosecuted 263 criminal cases against 204 different individuals. The prosecution of these individuals required the attendance by the legal department at 799 court hearings an increase of 13% from 2024. The legal department also conducted 14 court trials and one jury trial.

The following table illustrates the number of cases prosecuted by the legal department over the past few years.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Cases Prosecuted</u>
2019	357
2020	306
2021	235
2022	343
2023	183
2024	193
2025	263

As shown above, there was a 36% increase in the number of charges prosecuted between 2024 and 2025, but overall, prosecutions have decreased the past few years. While it is too early to say that it is an ongoing trend, the drop in the number of prosecutions may be linked to a few possible factors. First, the legislature has decriminalized cannabis and several other drug related offenses and has made some misdemeanor driving offenses payable without requiring court appearances. Second, the way local merchants take payments from customers is changing in that many merchants no longer accept checks (reducing the number of bad check offenses) and gas stations now mainly require pre-payment for gasoline (which reduced the number of gas drive-off offenses)

Criminal Charges Filed by The City Attorney's Office In 2025

Crimes Against the Administration of Justice

<u>Charge</u>	<u>Number of Violations</u>
Violate Domestic Abuse No Contact Order	5
Flee Police Officer	3
Violate Order for Protection	3
Violate A Harassment Restraining Order	2
Obstruct Legal Process	9

Assault Related Crimes

<u>Charge</u>	<u>Number of Violations</u>
Domestic Assault	17
Disorderly Conduct	23
5 th Degree Assault	2

Driving Related Crimes

<u>Charge</u>	<u>Number of Violations</u>
Driving After License Revocation	13
Driving After License Cancellation – Inimical to Public Safety	4
Driving After License Suspension	4
Hit and Run	7
Failure to Yield the Right-Of-Way	5
4 th Degree Driving While Impaired	17
4 th Degree Driving While Impaired - Cannabis	3
3 rd Degree Driving While Impaired	2
2 nd Degree Driving While Impaired	2
Refusal to Submit to Chemical Testing	2
Open Bottle	3
Failure to Drive with Due Care	5
Illegal Transportation of Cannabis	1
School Bus Stop Arm Violation	2
No Insurance in Possession	7
No Valid Driver's License	1
Window Tint Violation	4
Open Package of Cannabis in Vehicle	2
Follow Too Close	4
Open Container of Cannabis in Motor Vehicle	3
Fail to Obey Traffic Control Device	8
Violation of Learner's Permit	2
Improper Lane Change	2
Expired Registration	1
Seatbelt Violation	2
Display Cancelled License Plates	1
Speeding	4
Illegal Backing	1
Cell Phone Hands Free Violation	4

Property Related Crimes

<u>Charge</u>	<u>Number of Violations</u>
Trespassing	13
Criminal Damage to Property	3
Motor Vehicle Tampering	1

Theft Related Crimes

<u>Charge</u>	<u>Number of Violations</u>
Misdemeanor Theft-Shoplifting	28
Possession of Stolen Property	2
Misdemeanor Theft	16
NSF Check	1

Animal Related Crimes

<u>Charge</u>	<u>Number of Violations</u>
Animal Running At Large	2
No Animal License	2
Attack by Animal	5
Animal Neglect	1
Animal Cruelty	1
Excessive Dog Barking	1
Possession of Dangerous Animal	2

Miscellaneous Crimes

<u>Charge</u>	<u>Number of Violations</u>
Minor Consumption of Alcohol	2
Open Burning	2
Maintain hazardous building	2
Failure to Obtain Building Permit	2
Building Maintenance Code Violation	1
Nuisance Storage	4
Possession of Alcohol Under 21	1
Urinating in Public	2
Failure to Pay Lodging Tax	1
Reckless Handling of a Firearm	1
Possess False Vehicle Insurance Card	1
Violation of No Smoking Ordinance	1
Maintain Public Nuisance	19
Park Hours Violation	14
Harassing Phone Calls	2
Nuisance Violation- Inoperable Vehicle	1

Parks, Recreation, Community Education

Hutchinson PRCE System at a Glance

- 41 City Parks
- 4 Shared School-Park sites
- Aquatic Center
- Recreation Center
- Ice Arena with 2 Sheets of Ice
- Farmers Market
- Overnight Campground
- 237.5 Acres of Park
- 138 Acres of Natural Areas/Open Space
- 35.5 Miles of Paved Trails
- 3 Miles of Un-paved Trails
- 16 Miles of Bike-Friendly Streets
- 33.5 Miles of Sidewalks
- Terrain Park and Skate Park
- 3 Miles of Bike Lanes



Bike and Pedestrian Network

Hutchinson has made it a priority to create a connected system of bike trails, sidewalks, and on-street bike lanes. Paved trails are typically along major collector roads and through parkland. Sidewalks and bike lanes are mainly within the core downtown neighborhoods. The existing system includes:

- 33.5 miles of sidewalks
- 35.5 miles of paved trails + 3 miles of unpaved trails
- 16 miles of bike-friendly streets
- 3 miles of bike lanes
- Luce Line State Trail

The City is served regionally by the Luce Line State Trail, a 63-mile-long former railroad grade which was developed for biking, hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, snowmobiling, and skiing. The trail connects the western Twin Cities with Independence, Watertown, Winsted, Silver Lake, Hutchinson, Cedar Mills, and Cosmos. The trail surface varies along its course, including limestone, with a parallel treadway of horseback riding, paved bituminous, crushed granite, and natural (mowed grass). Snowmobiles are allowed on the trail west of Stubbs's Bay Road.

(Source: www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_trails/luce_line)



Hutchinson PRCE Advisory Board

The PRCE Board meets at 5:15 p.m. on the first Monday of the month at the City Center. The PRCE Board shall be composed of seven representatives from the community at large, one representative from the School Board, and one representative from the City Council. Except for the School Board and City Council representative, all members shall be jointly appointed by the Mayor and the School Board President, with the consent of the respective boards and Council, and shall serve staggered three-year terms. The Board shall study and determine the park, recreational, and community education needs of the city and make recommendations to the City Administrator relating thereto, and shall submit an annual operating budget to the City Administrator. In addition to the PRCE Advisory Board, there is an opportunity for involvement on the Senior Advisory Board.

PRCE Advisory Board Members:

Lynn Neumann – PRCE Director

Leslie Alberts – PRCE Administrative Specialist

Erin Knudtson – Hutchinson Public Schools Representative

Chad Czmowski – City Council Representative

<i>Member</i>	<i>Term Expires</i>	
Steve Kropp	August 2027	First Full- term
Elizabeth Stearns	August 2025	First Full-term
Margo Kaping	August 2025	First Unexpired Term
Joshua Kamrath	August 2026	Second Full-term
Ann Lamecker	August 2026	First Unexpired Term
Kyle Wendling	August 2027	Second Full-term
Eric Thovson	August 2027	First Full-term

Hutchinson PRCE Senior Advisory Board

The Senior Advisory Board meets at 10:00 a.m. on the fourth Monday of the month at the Senior Center. The Board consists of seven members who serve staggered three-year terms. The board shall advise the PRCE Board and staff concerning the management and use of the multi-purpose senior center and shall develop and maintain a management plan that provides the opportunity for all senior-related activities to flourish.

Senior Advisory Board Members:

Jennifer Behrendt – Event Center/Senior Center Programmer

Susan Cosner
Kathy Hochsprung
Connie Dahl
Priscilla Rauch
Dave Husfeldt
Ced Steinkraus
Jody Stoffels

Public Arts Commission

The Public Arts Commission shall be composed of seven members, six of whom shall serve staggered three-year terms and one of whom shall be a member of the City Council. Commission members shall be appointed by the Mayor with Council approval. The Director of Planning/Zoning/ Building and the Director of Parks/Recreation/Community Education shall be ex officio members. The Public Arts Commission shall act in an advisory capacity to the City Council for the city and shall make recommendations to the City Council on issues regarding public art within the city limits. The Public Arts Commission may develop and implement policies and procedures, as necessary, with approval by the City Council, to meet the purpose and objectives of the Commission. The Public Arts Commission shall review all projects that meet specific criteria in accordance with its written Policies and Procedures. Commission Members:

Public Arts Commission Members:

Lynn Neumann – PRCE Director

Pat May – City Council Representative

Vacant Seat
Andrew Webster
Patrick Hiltner
Kris Haag
Justin Beck
Wanda Lambert

Bike and Pedestrian Committee

The Hutchinson Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) serves as an advisory committee to the City Council and the Park, Recreation, and Community Education Board. The BPAC provides advice on bicycling and pedestrian needs in Hutchinson, advocates for pedestrian and bicycling infrastructure improvements, and promotes recreational walking and bicycling in the city.

Bike and Pedestrian Committee Members:

Sara Witte - Parks Manager

Lynn Neumann – PRCE Director

Mike Stitfer – Public Works Director

Donovan Schuette- Public Works Manager

Pat May - City Council Representative

Deb Card

Mark Hanneman

Mike McDowell

Tracy Marquardt

Heidi Tague



Silver Bicycle Friendly Community Designation

Hutchinson is proud to be recognized as a Silver Bicycle Friendly Community by the League of American Bicyclists! This certification, awarded in spring 2023, highlights our commitment to making biking safer, more accessible, and enjoyable for all.

We believe that safer streets for cyclists mean safer streets for everyone, from kids riding to school to commuters and recreational riders. As one of 506 certified Bicycle Friendly Communities, we are working to create a more connected, active, and bike-friendly Hutchinson. Let's keep pedaling toward a healthier, more vibrant community!

Sponsorships and Donations

The Parks, Recreation, and Community Education Department wishes to express our heartfelt gratitude for the generous sponsorships and donations received from local businesses, organizations, and individuals throughout the year. Your support directly contributes to the enhancement of our parks, programs, and facilities, making Hutchinson a better place for all. We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to the numerous volunteers who have dedicated their time and energy to our programs, events, and facilities. Your commitment strengthens our community, and we truly could not accomplish this without you! Together, we are creating a stronger, more vibrant Hutchinson—one park, program, and partnership at a time. Thank you!



General Fund Sponsorships/Donations

Department Fund	Donation/Sponsorship Amount
Park & Recreation Admin	\$16,368
Recreation	\$32,750
Senior Center	\$1,624
Civic Arena	\$11,650
Parks Department	\$7,517
Water Park	\$2,500.00
TOTAL Donations/Sponsorships	\$72,409

***Donation/sponsorship amounts do not reflect donations/sponsorships collected and utilized for capital projects or community improvement funds.*



✓ Environmentally friendly

Introducing Frank the Tank!

With staffing changes and improvements in park maintenance operations, Hutchinson PRCE was fortunate to add a Turf Tank One to our operations in 2025.

Turf Tank One Overview

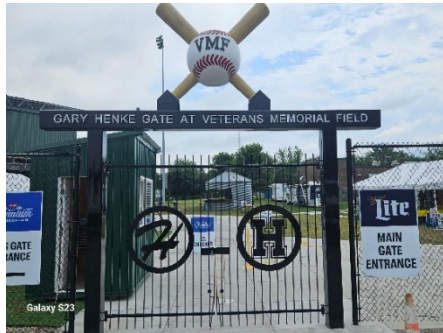
- ✓ Saves time and money
- ✓ Improves field quality
- ✓ Supports student athletics
- ✓ Reduces staff strain

Veteran's Memorial Field Project

In 2025, the Hutchinson Huskies, Hutchinson's local amateur "town ball" team, played a dual role as both a competitor and host of the Minnesota Baseball Association (MBA) State Amateur Baseball Tournament. Hutchinson was a primary venue for the tournament, with games taking place at Veterans Memorial Field (Dave Mooney Baseball Complex). Additional co-hosting cities included Brownston at Barney Tadsen Field, Gaylord at Walsh Field, and Glencoe at Vollmer Field.



The 2025 Minnesota Baseball Association (MBA) State Amateur Baseball Tournament was held over three consecutive weekends during late summer, concluding on Labor Day. The Huskies managed the state tournament with considerable support from the City of Hutchinson, contributing to its success. The Huskies reported an attendance of 9,261 at the Veterans Memorial Field (VMF), just shy of the 10,000 mark. Overall, the total attendance for the entire tournament across all locations, including VMF, reached 23,744 participants.



In preparation for the 2025 state tournament, the City of Hutchinson and the Huskies organization undertook several enhancements to the complex:

New Grandstand: The existing 250-seat grandstand is being replaced with a larger, ADA-compliant structure that features handrails and accessible seating. The grandstand project also included the addition of new concrete walkways. Beneath the grandstand, a stunning new wooden wall has been crafted, providing the Huskies with a dedicated space to express gratitude to sponsors and donors who contributed to the renovations at the complex.

Enhanced Landscaping: Landscaping has been finalized to improve the aesthetics of the facility alongside the new grandstand. Artificial turf has been installed in high-traffic areas, with plans for its addition to the batting cage as well. A row of Arborvitae has been planted along the fence line, and as they mature, they will offer natural screening for the complex.

Complex Lighting: The lighting systems were upgraded in 2024 to align with modern illumination standards for evening games.

Restroom Renovations: The restroom facilities have been renovated to meet ADA compliance.

New Speakers and Sound System: Enhanced sound systems have been installed throughout the complex.

New Entrance Walk Gate: Custom-made walk gate enhances facility entrance while maintaining original look.

Existing Building Structures Updated: The concessions stand and restroom building, along with the picnic shelter, were painted gray to modernize their exterior appearance. Additionally, the City-owned facility adjacent to these structures, as well as the Huskies' maintenance garage, received new gray siding to create a cohesive aesthetic throughout the complex. This upgrade has successfully established a uniform look for the entire facility.

To support these improvements ahead of the tournament, the City of Hutchinson received a total of \$134,882 from the Huskies during 2024 and 2025. The City of Hutchinson will receive another \$50,000 in 2026 to complete the donations for the project.

Park, Recreation, and Community Education Administration

Staff Responsible: Lynn Neumann, PRCE Director

The Hutchinson Parks, Recreation, and Community Education Department is dedicated to enhancing Hutchinson's parks, trails, open spaces, and recreational facilities, while also providing community education programs. With nearly 401 acres of parks and 38 miles of trails, PRCE works to maintain, improve, and expand opportunities for residents of all ages.

Our work is funded through city taxes, grants, program fees, sponsorships, and donations, allowing us to offer high-quality recreation and educational programs while maintaining beautiful, accessible spaces for the community.



Hutchinson Parks, Recreation, and Community Education Administration:

- ✓ Park Maintenance – Keeping parks, trails, and green spaces safe and enjoyable.
- ✓ Recreation Programs – Offering activities for all ages and interests.
- ✓ Community Education – Providing learning opportunities for residents.
- ✓ PRCE Facilities – Managing event spaces, sports complexes, and public amenities.
- ✓ Capital Improvements – Planning and executing park and facility upgrades.

PRCE collaborates with City departments and Hutchinson Public Schools (District 423) to ensure efficient use of facilities, resources, and funding. The department also works with the City Council, PRCE Advisory Board, and School Board to make strategic decisions that benefit the community.

PRCE Administration Objectives:

Establish and build upon the Joint Powers Agreement between the City of Hutchinson and Hutchinson Public Schools.

Provide excellent customer service and public relations in representation of the City of Hutchinson and Hutchinson Public Schools.

Prepare all PRCE department budgets.

Expand sources of revenue by promoting sponsorship and donations.

Solicit and apply for grants, donations, and other funding for park improvements and activities.

Provide for a safe and efficient delivery of program services.

Nurture collaborations between service agencies in the community.

Plan and provide park development, capital improvement plans, construction, renovation, and maintenance for all PRCE facilities and parks.

Monitor and evaluate all department personnel and activities.

Plan and implement recreational programs for the community that reach a diverse population with a wide variety of ages and cultures represented.

Encourage activities that promote intergenerational participation and strengthen community, families, and neighborhoods.

Hutchinson Parks, Recreation, and Community Education is committed to making Hutchinson a great place to live, work, and play.

Parks and Natural Resources

Staff Responsible: Sara Witte, Parks Manager

The Hutchinson Parks Department takes pride in partnering with groups, classes, and organizations to extend our impact and efforts throughout the community. Each year, the Hutchinson Chamber Leadership Institute offers local employees and business owners the opportunity to participate in a nine-month leadership program, culminating in a capstone project and a large-group volunteer activity on the morning of graduation. The Parks Department benefits from both small and large groups, as substantial projects can be completed in just one or two days with many hands.



Funding from Meeker, McLeod, and Sibley SHIP (Statewide Health Improvement Partnership) and the Hutchinson Health Foundation has allowed us to add additional adaptive bikes to the community bike fleet. This funding also supports ongoing maintenance for the bikes, ensuring they remain operational for schools and activities. Hutchinson schools, as well as nearby community schools, have greatly benefited from the Community Bike Fleet, which is used to teach the BIKEMN's Walk!Bike!Fun! curriculum. For the first time last summer, Hutchinson Community Education utilized the bike fleet for a community education class. Additionally, New Discoveries Montessori Academy benefited from the bikes during their annual June safety camp.

As in previous years, staffing changes and challenges arose just before the busy season began. In May 2025, long-time Parks Maintenance employee Brian Magnusson departed. Brian had overseen many athletic field operations within the department for 15 years. Other full-time employees, along with seasonal staff, needed to step up to fill the void during one of the busiest times of the year. Multiple Park projects were put on hold to accommodate the daily schedule of ball games and field maintenance. Contractors were also hired to complete projects that could be outsourced. Despite these staffing changes in the PRCE Department, the Parks Division was pleased to welcome two new employees, Eric Stiles and Becky Kobow. Both have extensive experience in golf course maintenance, farming operations, equipment management, and possess a variety of strong skill sets necessary for the diverse operations within parks.



New innovations and equipment have improved the efficiency of park maintenance, allowing us to accomplish more in a day, week, month, and year. Using the appropriate tools for the right tasks reduces waste and increases productivity. Due to staffing changes early in the summer of 2025, we added the lease of an automated robot painter to our fleet. This robot allowed our full-time maintenance staff to focus on other essential maintenance tasks while it handled most of the painting work. We also continued to seek out durable materials that require less

ongoing maintenance. For the first time, artificial turf was installed in a park setting as part of the VMF renovations, in the high-traffic area just inside the main gate. We received many positive comments about this new surface and its user-friendly design in a busy area. Looking

ahead to 2026, we plan to explore the use of synthetic turf around the Middle School baseball field.

2025 Parks and Natural Resources Accomplishments

General Site Improvements

- Bike Fix It Station installed at Depot Farmers Market location
- Roberts Park parking lot seal-coated and new diagonal lines
- Nature panel installed at Shady Ridge Park playground through donations
- Three ADA fire rings installed at Masonic West River full hook-up sites: 4, 5, and 6
- Plumbing improvements completed at Rotary Park restrooms
- Kiwanis shelter building improvements completed
- New asphalt connecting trail added in Kimberly Park between Luce Luce/Hilltop Dr NE
- Northwoods Park shelter: new windows installed
- Bike Fleet Program: fleet was utilized in spring and fall at surrounding schools that support Walk!Bike!Fun! curriculum: Dassel/Cokato MS, Litchfield MS, ACGC, Sibley East, Howard Lake/Waverly/Winsted, Hutchinson HS, and MS. The addition of 3 inclusive bikes added to the fleet with SHIP funds
- Completion of VMF improvements: front entrance gate, landscaping/turf, restroom renovations, umpire space, residing of old Parks garage building, new sound system etc.
- Remote Control (RC) track constructed at the site of the old terrain bike park in Tartan Park
- Fireman's Park sidewalk was installed around the perimeter of the playground to allow for ADA accessibility
- Contracted restoration of public bronze art sculptures throughout the City of Hutchinson
- Engineered playground safety surfacing delivered to various playground locations
- New playground modular systems and swing set installed at Oddfellows Park
- Trail lighting installed along the trail on south side of the Gopher Campfire Sanctuary

Athletic Field/Court Maintenance

- One load of ag-lime was applied on various PRCE fields
- ISD#423 irrigation project on football practice fields #1-#5 and soccer field #2
- Lighting project commenced at Roberts Park complex- completion spring 2026
- Infield edging done at both Northwoods, Tartan & Riverside ballfields- including backfilling with ag-lime material
- Replacement of damaged Disc Golf baskets and components at South Park
- Provided weekend field maintenance at seven summer baseball/softball tournaments
- "Frank the Tank" robot field painter leased for the season and used to put REACH logo on HHS main field for last Chad Greenway football camp
- Additional maintenance supplies ordered to support MN State Amateur Baseball Tournament at VMF baseball field
- 2.5 bulk totes (225 gallons each) or 565 gallons of white field marking paint were applied for activities in 2025: baseball, softball, football, lacrosse, PRCE soccer, etc. Approximately 105 gallons of yellow paint applied for the HHS soccer/lacrosse 20 totes (2.5 gallon) Starliner paint used at VMF for regular season and State Tournament

Landscaping

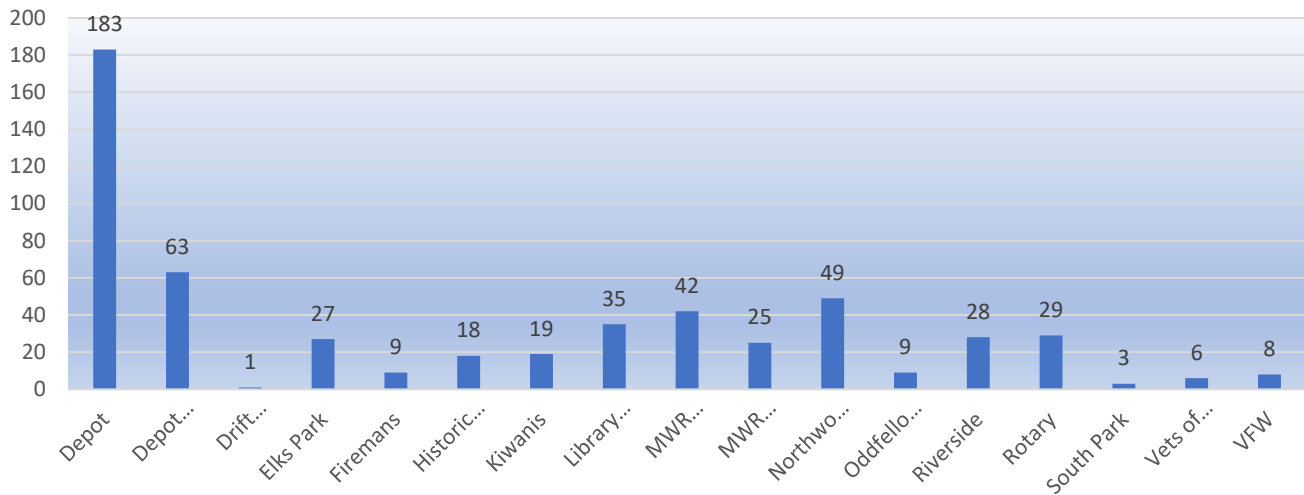
- Harrington Merrill Outdoor classroom installation, continuation of perimeter split rail fence, tree plantings, and completion of paver sidewalk, etc. (HLI small groups)
- Two panels from the traveling Vietnam Wall Memorial exhibit installed at McLeod County Veterans Park
- Park bench memorial pavers installed at Fireman's Park (2), Linden Park, and Hwy 15 South- Legion Park west
- Middle School sign planted and replacement plants added to other school signs
- Planting of perennial plants at South Grade/Dale intersection after completion of Dale Street project

Forestry/Natural Resources

- 50 trees planted in various Parks/School District properties with forestry/park staff, volunteer groups, and Park Elementary students
- Tree removals: 93 in various Parks/School District properties
- Tree plantings in park locations, from ash removal operations in South Park (HLI small group and New Century students) and Library Square, etc.
- HHS students mulched around entire ISD#423 campus and cleaned up around Police Memorial berm - added mulch to all areas where needed
- Invasive willow tree removal at AFS & Eheim Parks along the riverbank with help from Hutchinson High School Landscape and Natural Resource Classes and Faith Lutheran MS Youth
- Annual spring maintenance conducted at Depot rain garden with help from HHS Landscape students
- Hutchinson Prairie Management Grant completed and submitted for final funding from MN DNR Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program. Prairie locations benefited: Roberts, Millerwood's, East River Park, and Riverside
- Hutchinson Fire Department conducted native prairie burns along riverbank from Eheim Park - heading west to Masonic West River boat landing and Northwoods Park and stormwater pond spring 2025; then HMS pond, Roberts Park west prairie, Riverside prairie and berm, and Miller Woods large center section, fall 2025

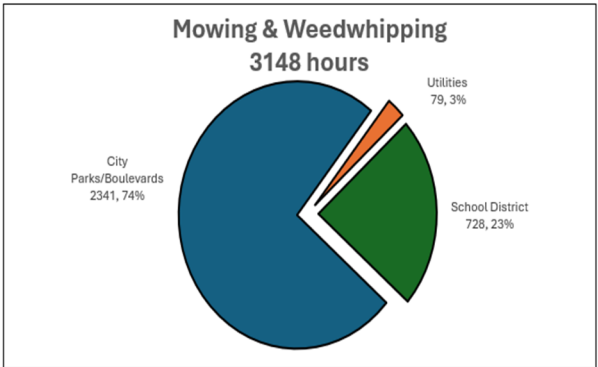
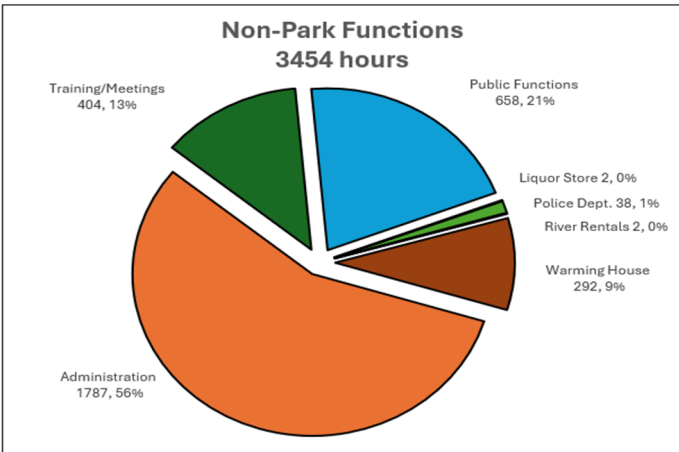
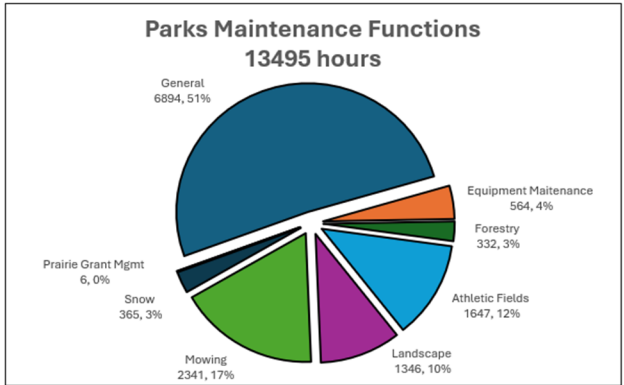
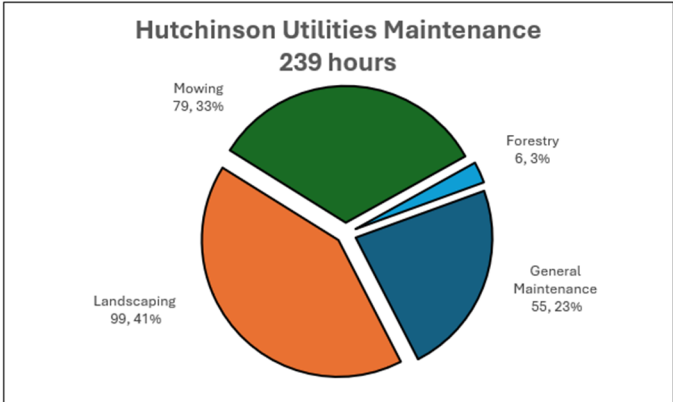
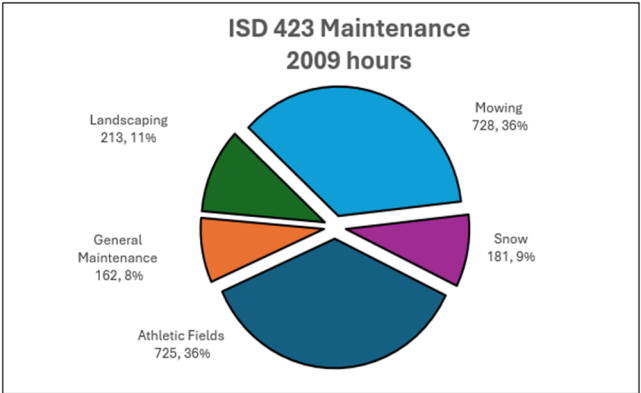


Shelter Reservations 2025



2026 Parks and Natural Resources Goals

- IPAD implemented for park maintenance tasks, playground inspections, etc. (March)
- Completion of block work on Library Square pump house (March)
- Research and implement Limble Maintenance tracking program, along with potential mowing operations app (March)
- AFS Park Improvements with HLI small group (April)
- Harrington Merrill property and barn improvements with HLI small group (April)
- New exterior doors to Northwoods enclosed shelter (April)
- Campground Host program implemented at Masonic West River Campground (May)
- Miller Woods entrance improvements, boundaries identified, media promotions with HLI small group (May)
- McLeod Veterans' Park improvements with Hutchinson Leadership Institute large group project day (May)
- Lighting Projects completed at Roberts Park 4-plex multi-use fields, along with new lighting added to sand volleyball courts (June)
- North Park Elementary Playground installation (July)
- Middle School East Baseball field-rebuild pitching mound (August)
- JC Women's Club: construction of an accessible trail from the road up to the playground (August)
- Northwoods Park batting cage project (August)
- Drift Rider Park metal overlook railing installed (Oct)
- Continue Prairie Maintenance plan implementation- prepping and seeding identified areas in the grant, along with additional burns and mowing conducted by city staff, along with additional prairie funding opportunities (Nov)



2025 Park Highlights

DNR Prairie Maintenance Grant

In 2022, Hutchinson received a \$50,000 Prairie Maintenance Grant from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. The grant was designated for prairie restorations in specified parks throughout Hutchinson and was successfully completed in 2025. Several parks in Hutchinson benefited from these funds, allowing for essential maintenance and enhancement of the existing native areas in our community:

- Roberts Park– west parcel
- Miller Woods – center section
- Riverside Park
- East River Park

South Park – Disc Golf Course Impact Report

Unique players	Holes	Throws
154	5,256	16,695

Total rounds played in 2025 = 625

A total of 472 hours were logged on the course, with players collectively taking an impressive 1,318,841 steps.

The easiest hole was identified as hole 7, while hole 9 proved to be the most challenging.

The busiest day recorded was Saturday, September 20th, with 59 rounds tracked on the U-Disc app. Notably, September emerged as the busiest month overall.

In 2025, the course welcomed 92 new players, including six newcomers to the sport of disc golf. It was surprising to find that many visitors traveled from beyond 30 miles, with 81 players coming from that distance, 13 from over 150 miles, and six from more than 300 miles away. Additionally, nine players hailed from other states, and one even came from a different country.



*Information furnished by U-Disc LLC- North Branch, MN

Hutchinson Community Bike Fleet



The Hutchinson Community Bike Fleet was rolled out in 2023 to support schools in the Meeker, McLeod, and Sibley County School Districts. Currently, the fleet comprises 50 bikes of various sizes, 7 strider bikes, and 3 inclusive bikes, all utilized by local school districts as part of the Walk! Bike! Fun! Curriculum is integrated into Physical Education classes. This program serves as a vital resource, enhancing community programs, recreational opportunities, and active transportation initiatives within schools.

In addition to its physical benefits, biking significantly contributes to mental health and well-being. Riding outdoors helps to reduce stress, elevate mood, and cultivate social connections through group rides, programs, and events. A reliable bike fleet ensures that individuals of all ages and backgrounds—including those without the resources to purchase or maintain a bike - can enjoy these advantages.

Since the program's inception, approximately 6,535 students have taken part in utilizing the bike fleet, alongside other opportunities related to community events and education classes. Physical education teachers have expressed their gratitude for this initiative, which provides students with a safe environment to learn and practice this lifelong activity.

One of the primary challenges moving forward will be the ongoing maintenance and upkeep of the bike fleet. PRCE staff and partners are continuously seeking funding opportunities to ensure the sustainability of the fleet, allowing us to continue providing access to it free of charge for local school districts.

Burich Arena

Staff Responsible: Randy Carter, PRCE Facilities Maintenance Manager

In 2025, Hutchinson PRCE concentrated on finalizing the new message board display to replace the previous one that had malfunctioned. The staff collaborated with the Burich Family Foundation to facilitate the installation of a new LED sign, along with new entrance signs. Ongoing landscaping around both arenas will ensure easier maintenance and enhance the overall appearance. The new HVAC equipment has been operating efficiently, maintaining the building's temperature at a consistent 55 degrees and relative humidity levels at 26%.



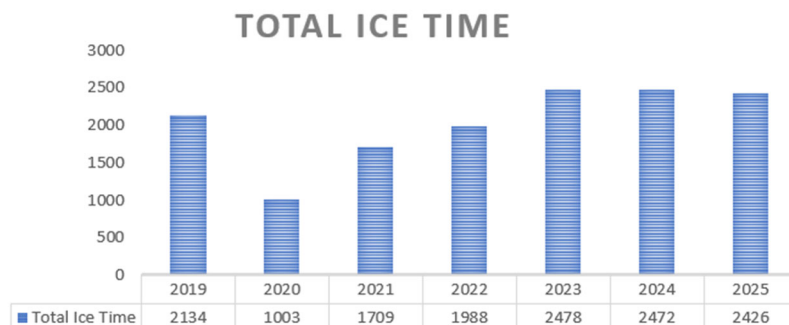
In June, Sam Sjoberg transitioned from the Parks Department to fill an open position as the Facilities Maintenance and Operations Specialist.

The staff has been working closely with multiple user groups to gather insights and ideas regarding the needs of various programs to optimize space utilization within both arenas.

The facilities plan for the Burich Arenas seeks to develop a comprehensive Facility Management Plan that encompasses a higher level of scheduled maintenance, a cleaner and more inviting environment for activities, and enhanced safety for all spectators, players, and employees. The staff will evaluate all aspects of the buildings to optimize space usage, improve user safety, and establish a routine maintenance schedule while aiming to attract additional user groups. Furthermore, they are collaborating with existing user groups to upgrade the sound systems in both the East and West Arenas.



In May, the refrigeration system of the ice arena underwent significant repairs and inspections carried out by Gartner Refrigeration. One compressor received a complete overhaul, accompanied by a glycol analysis to assess the quality of the glycol. Additional necessary repairs included replacing the oil separator filter and addressing electrical issues caused by undersized wiring. The cooling tower was inspected and cleaned by staff in preparation for the upcoming season.



2025 Burich Arena Accomplishments

- Ice time sold totaled 2,426 hours. A little down from previous years due to now including 2 months of overlapping maintenance to both rinks.
- The East Rink underwent a cleanup: removing old heaters and electrical items to enhance cleanliness.
- Zamboni Maintenance occurred during the 2 months of overlapping downtime.
- New advertising panels were relocated to the north wall instead of the dasher boards.
- Gartner Refrigeration conducted a comprehensive analysis of the refrigeration systems in both arenas.
- Staff is working on improving the functionality of the West Arena dehumidifier by connecting it to the East HVAC control system and the BAC network.
- Continuing to enhance our partnership with HFSA, Hutchinson Figure Skating Association, as participation numbers remain strong. PRCE offers the Ice Sports Industry (ISI) program for younger skaters, while HFSA provides a competitive program for more experienced skaters. The annual ice show is made possible through the city's support and volunteer assistance from HFSA.
- Working with the Burich family and the Hutchinson Hockey Association on funding for improvements to Burich Arena, including upgrading the sound system. These groups have committed to contributing to future enhancements at the facility.
- Collaborating with all user groups to implement new policies regarding safety practices, building policies, user group contracts, and special event opportunities.

2026 Burich Arena Goals

- Landscape the perimeter of the West Rink, remove shrubs, and align the appearance with the East Rink.
- Continue to enhance our partnership with HHA, HFSA, and other user groups. Regular meetings will be held to process feedback and improve our Level of Expectations.
- A Facility Asset Sheet and a Key Component Replacement Schedule will be developed.
- Collaborate with the Burich family and the Hutchinson Hockey Association to secure funding for improvements at Burich Arena. These groups have committed to contributing to future enhancements at the facility, and we hope to get assistance in replacing the Burich Arena Marquette Sign.
- Expand our ice season; This will include later session times and dedicated periods for scheduled maintenance.
- Replace the rubber flooring in the West Rink.
- Replace the Locker room seating boards with a composite board after the rubber floor is replaced.
- A new sound system will be installed in both arenas.
- Collaborate with city staff to provide better training in facilities maintenance, including scheduled and routine maintenance, as well as housekeeping.
- We will work with staff to find effective solutions for recruiting more employees during the winter months when ice usage is at its peak.
- Continued Contracts of inspections with multiple companies and contractors will be used to establish comprehensive records of equipment maintenance.
- Integrate the West dehumidifier with the East Rink BAC controller to facilitate easier maintenance and provide alerts for equipment failures.

Hutchinson Recreation Center/Hutchinson Aquatic Center
Staff Responsible: Randy Carter, Facilities Maintenance Manager
Christina Burmeister, Recreation Manager
Lyndsey Hodson, Recreation & Aquatics Programmer

Aquatic Center Overview:

The summer of 2025 was an exciting season for the aquatic center and aquatics programming, featuring new team members, updated staff training, updated processes, and procedural changes.

2025 Leadership Team

- **Aquatic Center Supervisor:** Lyndsey Hodson
- **Swim Lesson Supervisor:** Abby Radke
- **Concessions Supervisor:** Erika Smith
- **Head Guards:** Adeline Lundin, Dane Thovson, Isabelle Schmitz, Jackson Hartman, Madilyn Gherke, and Selma Moore



This season, the swimming lesson supervisor worked closely with office staff to oversee swimming lessons. Although the Aquatics Supervisor provided bi-weekly check-ins and support, the Swim Lesson Supervisor coordinated waitlist additions, designated instructors for private lessons, and monitored the quality of lessons being given.

The head guards assumed expanded leadership roles, actively participating in the planning and implementation of staff training, assisting with scheduling, coordinating lifeguard re-certifications, and contributing to policy updates.

To establish common goals and expectations, the department hosted a welcome orientation for all staff and conducted in-service training every three months, in addition to mandatory pre-season training. These training courses included:



Preseason Training – In-Water Skills and CPR Polish

Session: During this training, certified LGI (*Red Cross Lifeguard Instructors*) and head lifeguards evaluated all the Red Cross skills for every lifeguard working in our facility. *This ensures our staff can perform their skills to the high standard of care required by our facility.*

Mandatory In-Service #1 (June) – EAPs and First Aid

Emergencies: During this training, lifeguards were tested on their group response to a life-threatening emergency in all areas of the Aquatic Center. They were evaluated on their critical thinking, timeliness, and given areas to improve in each scenario.

Mandatory In-Service #2 (July) – Preventing Facility

Emergencies: During this training, staff were trained in the methods for keeping our facility clean and in identifying hazards in the Aquatic Center.

(Optional) In-Service #3 (August) – Red Cross Recertifications: Lifeguards were able to take a recertification course in August if their certifications were set to expire before next summer. This was provided by an LGI certified by the Red Cross.

Aquatic Center Maintenance and Improvements

The 2025 Aquatic Center season commenced with early March meetings involving our IT department to discuss the expansion of our network into the pool house. This initiative aims to bring our complete mechanical system online, allowing for more frequent monitoring to enhance operations and water quality. The online system became operational in late July.



In early April, we engaged Horizon Commercial Pools and Aqualogic to inspect and provide estimates for essential repairs identified during a fall 2024 inspection conducted by Minnesota Leak Detection.

The following issues were addressed:

- A significant foundation crack located in the southwest corner of the lap pool
- A large section of the wall in the lap pool that was delaminating from the foundation
- Five deteriorating and leaking expansion joints in the Lazy River pool
- Replacement of 200 linear feet of delaminating tile along the waterline

Additionally, city staff removed two umbrellas due to structural failure and canopy material degradation caused by sun exposure and wind. There have been discussions about replacing them with a more durable structure.

Aquatic Center Operations

The Aquatic Center was open from June 9th to August 18, with morning lap swim extending to August 29.

Total Entries into Facility Summer 2025: 30,808 community members served!

Typical Daily Schedule

- **Lap Swim & Fitness:** 5:30-9 am
- **Swim Team & Lessons:** 9:15-11:15 am
- **Open Public Swim:** 12:30-7 pm
- **Lap Swim & Fitness:** 7:30-9 pm

Daily Admissions Sales Report: Summer 2025

Type of Pass	Quantity Sold
\$4 Fitness	672

\$4 Spectator	870
\$5 after 5pm	1424
\$6 Group Rate (12 or more)	794
\$8 Standard Admission	14,235

Special Events and Pool Rentals:

- **Private Rentals:** 20
- **Free Family Swim Nights: 6**
(Sponsored by Hutchinson Health and Common Cup)
- **Total Attendance at Free Swim Nights: 2,113**



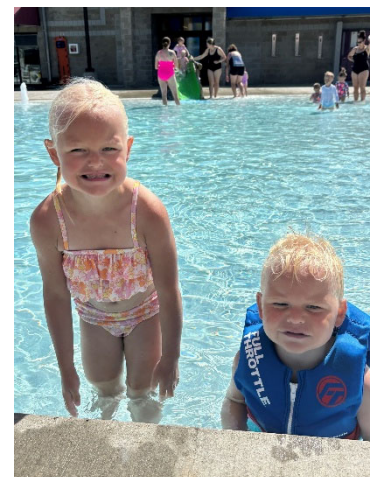
Facility and Procedural Updates:

Several operational changes were implemented:

- **Head Guard at Facility During Every Shift:** A head lifeguard was at the Aquatic Center from 5 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. every day. This ensured that management was always available to staff should the need for assistance arise.
- **Group Orientation:** Visiting groups were required to meet with a head guard before entering, discuss facility rules, and receive wristbands for identifying zip line and slide eligibility.
- **Updated Signage:** Signage was redesigned for consistency and clarity.

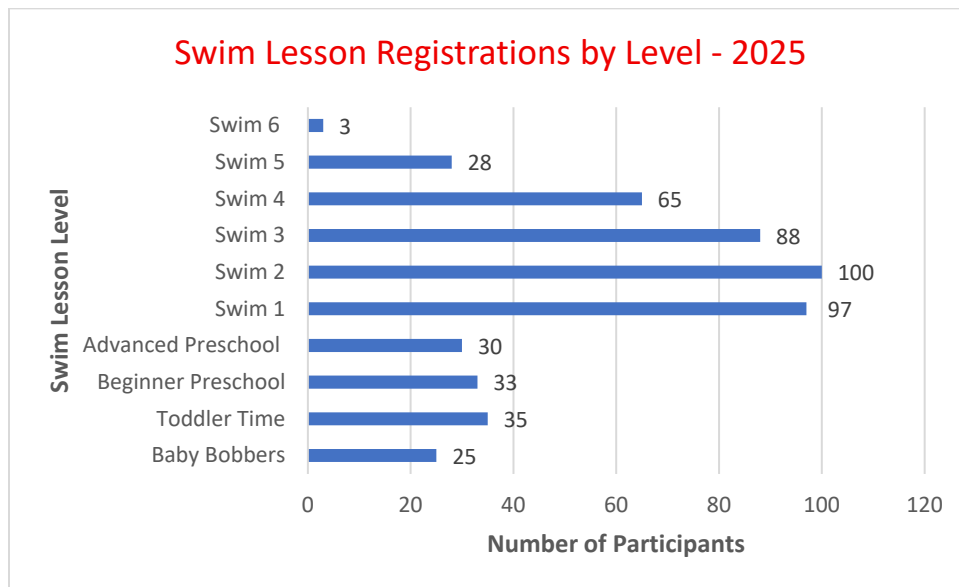
Swim Lesson Program Updates:

- **Curriculum Shift:** Mid-Minnesota Aquatics Swim Lessons continue to please both staff and the public. This curriculum allows for smaller class sizes, more instructor interaction, faster progression, and greater flexibility in instructor hiring.
- **Staggered Registration:** Allowing a staggered registration for swim lessons is still well-liked by both staff and the public. Registration for Sessions A & B opened in April, while registrations for Sessions C & D opened in June, allowing families to more accurately register for lessons and provide additional opportunities for registration.



2025 Swim Lesson Participation

Session	Date	# of Participants
A	June 3-13	170
B	June 17-27	163
C	July 8-18	98
D	July 22-Aug. 1	73
Total		581



**77 private lessons offered June-August 2025*

Concessions Improvements:

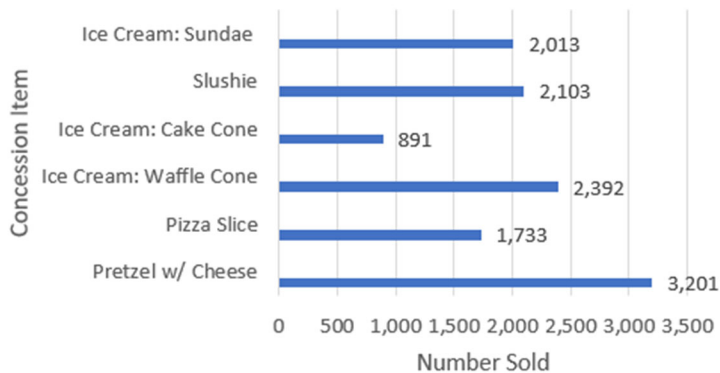
Menu Simplification: Our new menu, designed last season, worked well. PRCE surpassed overall sales from last season, while lessening staff frustrations and the lengthy product ordering process for our staff.

- **Enhanced Training:** Staff received coaching on time management techniques and speed of service.
- **Higher Quality Food:** Invested in better food products and preparation equipment.

2025 Concession Sales

- **Total Items Sold:** 24,580
- **Total Sales:** \$75,682.00

Concessions: Top Selling Items 2025



Hutchinson Recreation Center Overview:

The Recreation Center continues to promote healthy lifestyles and community engagement through various programs and community partnerships:

Programs Offered:

- Open Pickleball
- Walking
- Indoor Playground
- Open Soccer
- Open Gym
- Adult Leagues
- Youth Programming

Private Rentals & Community Groups:

- Birthday parties, tournaments, and special events
- Middle school sports and youth athletic associations

Pickleball continues to be one of our most popular programs, boasting 2,858 participants in the 2025 season. To enhance accessibility within the community, a season pass has been introduced to help reduce costs for players. Furthermore, recent investments in equipment—including top-tier nets at Park Elementary, a paddle rotation cart, balls, and a dedicated ball cart—have significantly improved the overall player experience, reflecting our commitment to quality and engagement.

The indoor playground program remains highly successful, primarily due to a generous grant from the Hutchinson Health Foundation in 2024. This funding facilitated the acquisition of new play equipment aimed at enriching the experience for children and families alike. Among these enhancements are the 'Big Blue Blocks,' which foster social interaction, aid in soft skills development, and promote gross motor skills. Additionally, we have replaced broken and outdated equipment with commercial-grade riding toys, ensuring a safer and more engaging play environment.

Beyond our internal programs, the Rec Center Gymnasium plays an active role in supporting the community by hosting a variety of groups, including middle school sports teams and youth

athletic associations. Throughout the school year, the facility serves as the home for numerous middle school sports—such as girls volleyball, girls basketball, boys basketball, and softball—accommodating daily practices and a multitude of games. Youth associations also extensively utilize the gymnasium, scheduling practices and tournaments throughout the year.



Hutchinson Recreation

Center/Hutchinson Aquatic Center 2025 Accomplishments

- Hired a full-time Aquatics/Recreation Programmer who is certified in LGI (*Lifeguard Instructor – Red Cross*) and AFO (*Aquatics Facility Operator*). Lyndsey can offer Lifeguard courses year-round and help monitor pool chemistry.
- Head Guards given more control of scheduling and more responsibility in leadership roles
- Offered one extra week of private swimming lessons from August 7-11
- Extended morning lap swim by two weeks to continue service through August
- Expanded scheduled opportunities for public gym access
- Implemented new aquatic center policies for improved safety
- Continued to a new swimming lesson curriculum
- Continued new swimming lesson registration process
- Implementation of online scheduling software for all positions and seasonal team members

Aquatic Center Maintenance and Improvements Goals for 2026

- Substitute gas chlorine with a safer and more user-friendly liquid chlorine option
- Replace umbrella structures with appropriate sunshade solutions
- Complete repairs to the pool in collaboration with Horizon Pools
- Arrange for contractors to inspect the waterslides and potentially carry out repairs
- Finalize the inspection and repairs of the mechanical room, including pool heaters and VFDs
- Complete the online adaptation for the new equipment to be added

Hutchinson Recreation Center/Hutchinson Aquatic Center 2026 Goals

- Explore options for school-year swim lessons
- Revamp private pool party rental process for better scheduling and consistency
- Continue developing head guard roles to encourage leadership and accountability
- Further improve efficiency in concessions

- Crosstrain staff to enhance teamwork and flexibility
- Enhance data tracking for employee scheduling, group visits, and facility attendance



Recreational Programming

**Staff Responsible: Christina Burmeister, Recreation Manager
Lyndsey Hodson, Recreation & Aquatics**

Programmer

PRCE offers a variety of programs for all age groups while also working with and supporting community organizations to meet the needs of the community.

Youth Programs

PRCE is a primary provider of programming for elementary-aged children, promoting physical activity and exploration in a low-stress, low-commitment, and cost-friendly atmosphere. Many of the PRCE programs have been a part of the community for years, including basketball, flag and tackle football, soccer, baseball, and more.

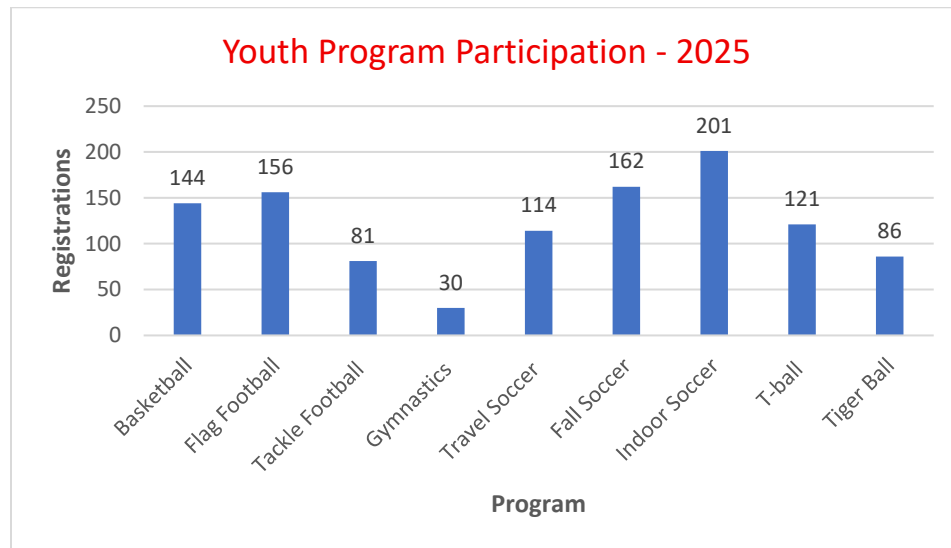


In 2025, PRCE focused on minor adjustments based on feedback and observations rather than drastic changes to improve program opportunities and participant experience. One adjustment included modifying the length and time for certain programs.

- **T-ball:** The program length was slightly reduced to better align with participants' attention spans, aiming to maintain engagement and ensure a positive experience.
- **Flag Football:** Multiple age groups were previously scheduled in 1.5-hour blocks with a 30-minute overlap between groups, causing congestion and parking issues. Adjustments

reduced congestion and improved safety while aligning program length with age-group attention spans.

In addition to youth league-style programming, PRCE oversees lesson-based opportunities such as tennis and skate lessons and manages the youth fastpitch program, coordinating teams from 8U through high school.



Warming Houses:

Winter 2025

- North Park (Park Elementary) Ice Arena
 - January Total Attendance – 616 attendants
 - February Total Attendance – 173 attendants
- Kiwanis Sledding Hill (Rocket Hill)
 - January Total Attendance -0 attendants
 - February Total Attendance -0 attendants
 - Hill Closed most of the Winter due to lack of snow!

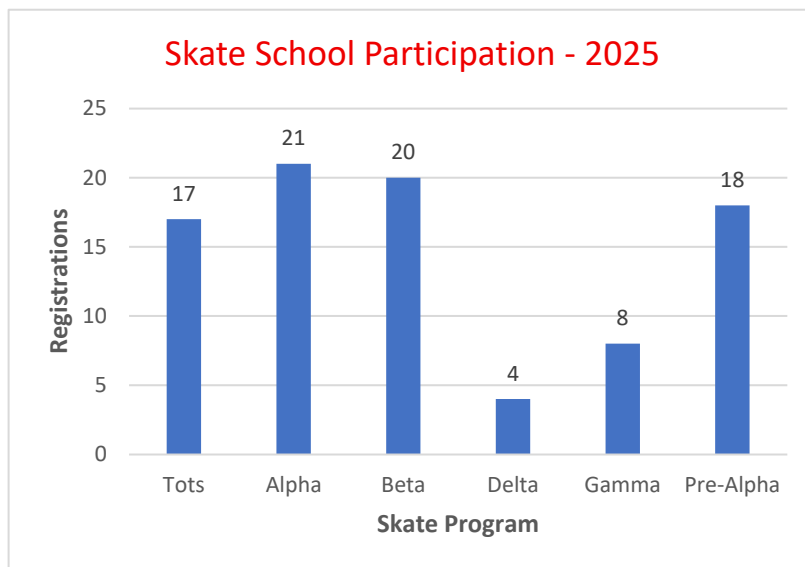
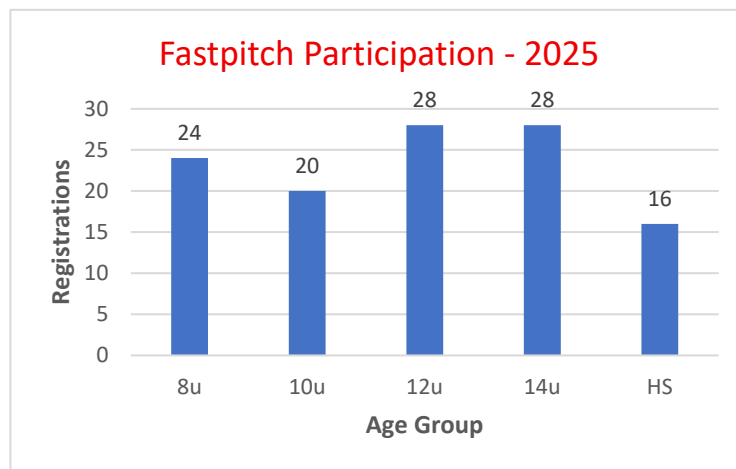
Winter 2026

- North Park (Park Elementary) Ice Arena
 - Opened January 20th – Closed February 8th
 - December Total Attendance – 0 attendants (*warm weather delayed freezing the arena*).
 - January Total Attendance – 106 attendants
 - February Total Attendance – 151 attendants
- Kiwanis Sledding Hill (Rocket Hill)
 - Opened December 15th-Closed February 14th
 - December Total Attendance – 514 attendants
 - January Total Attendance – 689 attendants
 - February Total Attendance – 244 attendants

Tournaments:

Local organizations utilize PRCE facilities to host tournaments such as baseball, basketball and volleyball. PRCE not only hosts tournaments but also plans and runs multiple in-house and league tournaments.

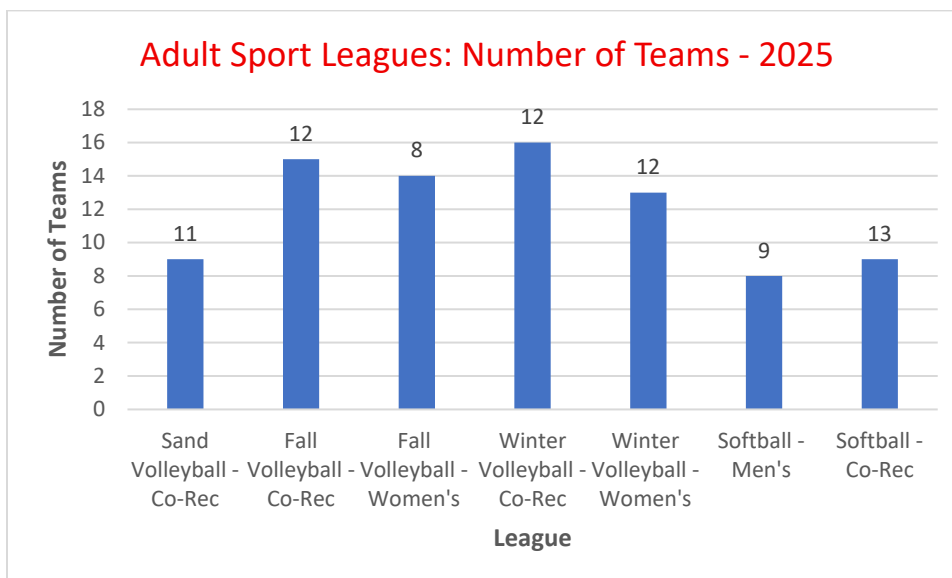
- **45th Annual Hutchinson Fastpitch Tournament 10U & 12U** – June 14
- **45th Annual Hutchinson Fastpitch Tournament 14U & High School** – June 21
- **Crow River Baseball League Tournament 12A** – July 19 & 20
- **Crow River Softball League Tournament 12U** – August 2 & 3



Adult Leagues

PRCE provides recreational opportunities for all age groups. In 2025, offerings included men's and co-rec summer softball leagues, sand volleyball leagues, and fall and winter volleyball leagues.

PRCE ended up with a waitlist for the adult women's volleyball league due to increased interest in the program. We will continue to look for solutions for a.) more space, or b.) scheduling changes to allow all teams the ability to participate in the program in the future.



Partnerships

PRCE plays a vital role in supporting community organizations by assisting with registrations, co-managing programs, providing, maintaining, and scheduling fields and facilities.

Facility & Field Scheduling

Scheduling fields and facilities is a key PRCE responsibility. Due to high demand and accessibility, field scheduling is complex and time-intensive.

- PRCE establishes which fields are best suited for different activities and age groups.
- Internal programs are scheduled first, followed by coordination with user groups such as VFW Baseball, Hutchinson Junior League Baseball, and Crow River Athletics.
- Baseball and softball games are scheduled through Crow River Athletics, and individual coaches schedule practices through PRCE.
- The master field schedule is updated accordingly, aiding the Parks Department in maintenance and setup.

Efficient scheduling reduces conflicts, enhances user experience, and ensures effective maintenance.

*Example of the June field maintenance schedule

Day	Date	Roberts Park West House (S)	Roberts Park Country Archery (J)	Roberts Park Citizens Bank (N)	Roberts Park Hutch Health (H)	Linden E	Linden W	Riverside	Tarzan	Northwoods North	Northwoods South	VFW	St. A	Middle S. East	Middle S. West	Rotary	HS South	HS North	Elks
Sunday	6/1/2025	Practice						Practice				Practice	Practice						
Monday	6/2/2025	Men's SB	Men's SB	Men's SB				Practice											
Tuesday	6/3/2025	Co-Rec SB	Co-Rec SB					Practice		Game - 10AA	*Game - 11AA	Practice			Game - 13AA				
Wednesday	6/4/2025	Middle School Activity Day - Will be playing kickball (10:30am-2pm)							Game - 12A				Practice						
Thursday	6/5/2025	Baseball Camp - 10am-1pm (Drag, no chuck)	Baseball Camp - 10am-1pm (Drag, no chuck)	Baseball Camp - 10am-1pm (Drag, no chuck)	Baseball Camp - 10am-1pm (Drag, no chuck)			Practice	Game - 12A	Game - 11AA	Game - 12AA	Practice		Game - 14AA					
Friday	6/6/2025																		
Saturday	6/7/2025																		
Sunday	6/8/2025	Practice						Practice											
Monday	6/9/2025	Men's SB	Men's SB	Men's SB				Game - 12U SB	Game - 12A	*Game - 11AA		Game - 14U SB	Practice				Game - 14U SB	Game - 18U SB	
Tuesday	6/10/2025	Co-Rec SB	Co-Rec SB			Tiger Ball	Tiger Ball	Game - 12A			Game - 12AA			Game - 14AA	Game - 13AA				
Wednesday	6/11/2025		Game - 10U SB	Game - 12U SB		Tiger Ball	Tiger Ball	Game - 12A				Game - 10A		Game - 14AA	Game - 12AA				
Thursday	6/12/2025					Tiger Ball	Tiger Ball	Game - 12A											
Friday	6/13/2025																		
Saturday	6/14/2025	Tournament 10U & 12U SB	Tournament 10U & 12U SB	Tournament 10U & 12U SB	Tournament 10U & 12U SB														
Sunday	6/15/2025	Practice																	
Monday	6/16/2025	Men's SB	Men's SB	Men's SB				Game - 12U SB											
Tuesday	6/17/2025	Co-Rec SB	Co-Rec SB			Tiger Ball	Tiger Ball	Game - 12A											
Wednesday	6/18/2025		Game - 12U SB	Game - 10A	Game - 10A	Tiger Ball	Tiger Ball			Game - 11AA	Game - 12A			Game - 14AA	Game - 12AA			Game - 18U SB	
Thursday	6/19/2025	Game - 10A		Game - 10A															
Friday	6/20/2025																		
Saturday	6/21/2025	Tournament 14U SB	Tournament 14U SB	Tournament 14U SB	Tournament 14U SB														
Sunday	6/22/2025							Practice			Game - 12A								
Monday	6/23/2025	Men's SB	Men's SB	Men's SB	Men's SB			Game - 12U SB				Game - 12A	Game - 10U SB	Practice					
Tuesday	6/24/2025	Co-Rec SB	Co-Rec SB			Tiger Ball	Tiger Ball	Game - 12A	Game - 10AA	Game - 12AA					Game - 13AA			Game - 14U SB	
Wednesday	6/25/2025	Game - 10U SB	Game - 10U SB	Game - 8U SB	Game - 8U SB			Game - 12U SB											
Thursday	6/26/2025	Game - 12A		Game - 10A	Game - 10A	Tiger Ball	Tiger Ball	Practice		Game - 10AA	Game - 12A							Game - 18U SB	
Friday	6/27/2025																		
Saturday	6/28/2025	Tournament 10A & 12A Baseball	Tournament 10A & 12A Baseball	Tournament 10A & 12A Baseball	Tournament 10A & 12A Baseball														
Sunday	6/29/2025	Practice						Practice											
Monday	6/30/2025	Men's SB	Men's SB	Men's SB					Game - 10AA				Game - 8U SB	JR Region				Game - 14U SB	

2025 Recreational Programming Accomplishments

- Adjusted programs to better align formats with participant age groups
- Developed partnership contracts & agreements
- Overhauled the sponsorship program
- Improved communication and processes with maintenance team members

2026 Recreational Programming Goals

- Provide paid coaching positions for youth sports – better quality instruction
- Use our partnership with the school district to provide more space for growing activities
- Provide one "Point of Contact" person for each activity; Avoid confusion from the public
- Renew facility and field sponsorship agreements
- Improve data tracking
- Continue to develop and implement policies & procedures to improve services
- Continuing efforts to improve concession stand operations
- Implement an equipment replacement program

Hutchinson Event Center/ Hutchinson Senior Center

Staff Responsible: Jennifer Behrendt, Senior Center/ Event Center Programmer

The Hutchinson Event Center continues to operate in a modified fashion, meaning all rentals are to be held Monday-Friday between the hours of 9:00 am- 3:00 pm. Throughout 2025, there were 125 requests to use the rental space. The Event Center was a host location for 57 events this past year, including 26 business events, 30 city events, and 1 private rental. Even with a limited



number of rentals, the Event Center had roughly 9,985 people through the doors. River of Hope continues to lease space from the City of Hutchinson for its worship services. Church meets at the Event Center every Sunday and many times throughout the week for various activities such as confirmation, bible studies, meetings, etc.

Event/Senior Center operations continue to be challenging. The facility was without heat for multiple weeks. The existing HVAC units are old and outdated, contributing to ongoing heating failures and service calls. Additionally, the fire alarm panel is outdated and frequently goes into alarm, causing repeated false alarms. Pipes in the kitchen froze up on three different occasions. Thankfully, pipes were able to thaw, and no damage was done. The building's aging roof began leaking during the July rainfall. As a result, several ceiling tiles collapsed inside the River of Hope worship space. Contractors were brought in to assess and repair the roof, during which six holes were identified and sealed to prevent further water leaks.



The Senior Center remains a welcoming gathering place for area seniors. The center did see an increase in attendance in 2025; around 14,595 seniors were through the door compared to 13,498 in 2024.



The Knot Just Knitters group hosts a knitting project every year to give back to the community. Over 200 handmade/knitted scarves, hats, and mittens were donated. All items were then distributed to the McLeod County Food Shelf and Common Cup to give to those in need.

Sr. Programmer, along with a fellow senior, held 7 "make and take" projects. Combined, 38 individuals attended these activities. These classes brought in new seniors who do not frequent the Center otherwise.

Several speakers were brought in to present on various topics. Presentations included fall prevention, Lutheran Social Services, advanced care health planning, home care, Dementia Friends, Medicare, wolves, fireflies, and Discovering Spain & Madrid. The firefly presentation had the largest attendance with 31, followed by the wolves with 17 attending. Classes were very informative, and seniors seemed to enjoy them when these resources are available to them. Roughly 118 patrons attended these classes combined.



The center offered one new activity in 2025: Mahjong. This group remains strong and has a core group that attends weekly. The River Walking/Lazy River, held at the Aquatic Center, was advertised in the monthly Senior Newsletter; only 6 seniors took advantage. The center handed out a one-day free pool pass for fitness time during the months the pool was open. Ping pong has a solid group that shows up 2

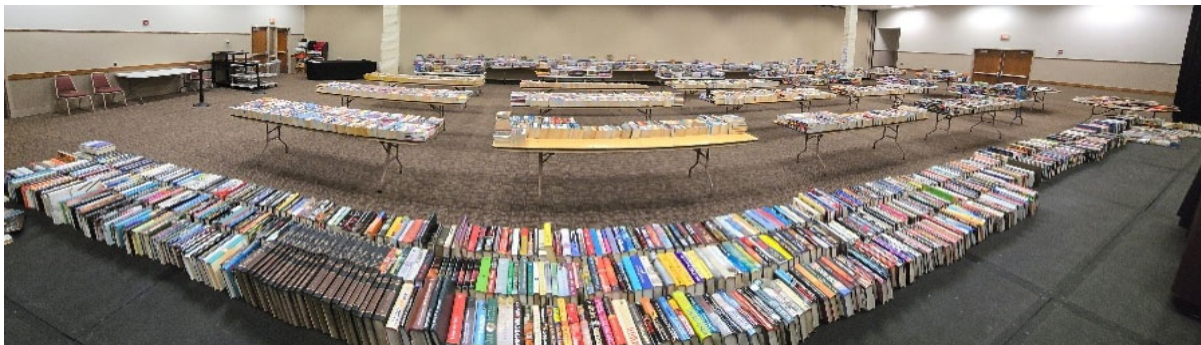
times a week. This is a unique group as it is not only seniors who participate. It is one of the few intergenerational activities. Our kayaking group remains strong with participation numbers. Depending on weather conditions, they met in May-September 2-3 times a month. There were 153 patrons who attended these outings combined.

The Senior Center Programmer and tour coordinator volunteer, Julie Jensen, attended two Tour Expos in 2025; locations included Plymouth and Bloomington. The expos are held two times a year and are very resourceful in finding new ideas for our tour program. Our tour program is well-received, and most tours sell out at a max of 45 participants. The tour program generated \$2,447.27 in 2025. October 2025 marked an incredible milestone. Julie has dedicated the last 25 years to planning our senior trips. Her passion shines through every itinerary she creates. Her tireless efforts have provided many opportunities for people to connect and explore. A "Thank you" party was held to show our appreciation; 70+ people attended.



The Card Making Club meets every Tuesday at 9:15 am. They recycle old, donated greeting cards into new ones and sell them for \$0.60 each. This is a fundraiser for the Senior Center. In 2025, they brought in \$727.20 (1,212 cards).

The Center held its 5th Annual Book & Puzzle Sale on August 25 & 26. This is a fundraiser that was started 5 years ago and continues to be very successful. All books and puzzles are donated. It takes roughly one week to set up for the two-day sale; this includes taping all puzzle boxes shut, pricing, and organizing all items. All books are \$0.25, and puzzles range from \$0.25-\$1.00.

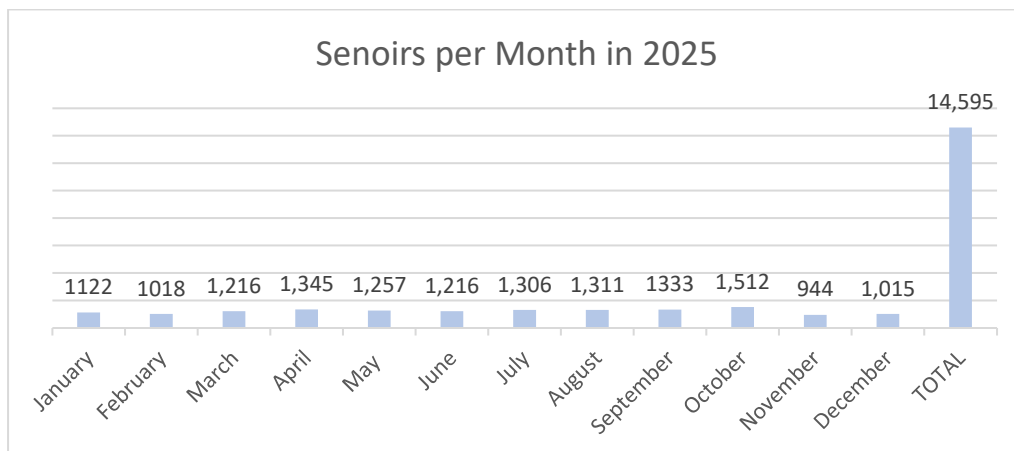
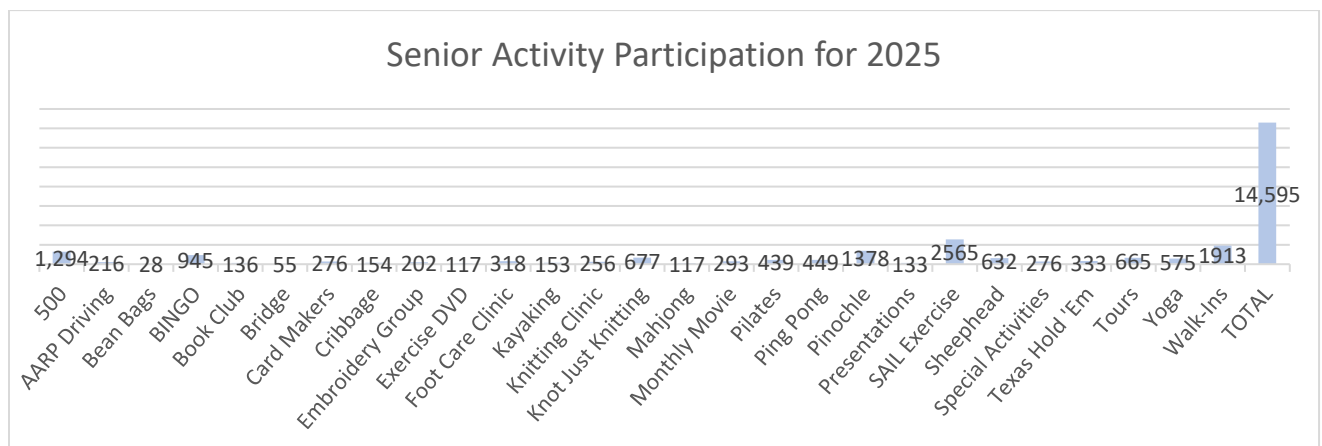


In 2025, the Book & Puzzle sale brought in \$1,624.00 for the Senior Center.

2025 Hutchinson Event Center/ Senior Center Accomplishments

- The Event Center was a host location for 57 events, including 26 business and 30 city events, and 1 private event; 4 events were canceled.
- Roughly 9,984 people went through the Event Center for rentals.
- The Senior Center had roughly 14,595 participants in 2025. This is up from last year, with 13,498 participants.
- The Senior Center donated 22 books to the Hutchinson Library. They will use these for book club kits.

- The knitting project was completed. The project brought in over 100 items that were donated to the McLeod County Food Shelf and Common Cup.
- One new activity was established, Mahjong. This has a solid group that shows up weekly.
- Held 7 different “make & take” classes; 33 people participated in these classes.
- 9 speakers were in to hold informational classes for seniors. Talks included fall prevention, Lutheran Social Services, advanced care health planning, home care, Dementia Friends, Medicare, wolves, fireflies, and Discovering Spain & Madrid.
- The Senior Center held its fifth annual Book and Puzzle Sale in August. The sale profited \$1,624.00.
- The Senior Center raised \$727.20 in card sales (1,212 cards), \$156.50 in hand-knit items, and \$84.79 in miscellaneous donations.



2026 Hutchinson Event Center/Senior Center Goals

- Accommodate as many Event Center rentals as possible with limited staffing
- Continue to offer more “active” Senior Programming

- Continue to look at establishing new activities, as space allows
- Recruit more educational speakers for seniors
- Continue to keep Seniors updated on the future of the Senior Center via the Senior Newsletter
- Hold Annual Book and Puzzle Sale Fundraiser
- Continue to work with PRCE Director on the future of the Event Center and Senior Center
- Attend MASS conferences for ideas and connections

Type of Event	Number of Events
Business Events	26
City Events	30
Private	1
TOTAL Event Rentals	57
Total Number of Rental Requests	125



Senior Programming: More Than Just the Numbers

Being a senior center programmer is about so much more than planning activities or filling a calendar.

It's about showing up—especially when no one else does. It's being there for seniors who may feel invisible, forgotten, or alone. It's knowing that sometimes the most important "program" you offer isn't a class, a game, or an event, but your time and your presence.

A senior center programmer is a listener before anything else. You notice when someone lingers after an activity, not quite ready to go home. You sit with them. You listen to their stories, their



worries, their grief, and their joys. You become a familiar face they trust, a steady voice in a world that can feel like it's moving too fast without them.

You are a shoulder to cry on during moments of loss, illness, or change. You celebrate milestones that might otherwise go unmarked. You create a space where seniors feel seen, valued, and understood—not for what they used to do, but for who they are right now. The activities matter, yes. But what matters more is the care behind them. Being a senior center programmer means building community, offering dignity, and reminding every person who walks through the door that they are not alone.

Helping a 95-year-old man learn to use a smartphone isn't really about the phone. It's about patience—sitting beside him as he learns how to tap a screen that feels unfamiliar, celebrating small victories like sending his first text or seeing a loved one's face on a video call. It's about respecting a lifetime of experience while gently guiding him through a world that has changed faster than anyone expected.

And then there are the moments that have nothing to do with technology. It's being there when a spouse, child, or friend dies, and the silence feels too heavy to bear. When words are hard to find, and all you can offer is your presence. It's listening to stories of love, of decades shared, of loss that reshapes everything. Sometimes you don't fix anything, you just stay.

It's being there for diagnoses that change how someone sees their future. Sitting quietly as



fear, confusion, or sadness settles in. Answering questions when you can and holding space when you can't. Offering reassurance, not false hope, but kindness and steadiness.

In these moments, help looks simple but means everything. A chair pulled close. A patient explanation. A handheld a little longer. These are the things that remind people—even at 95—that they are not alone, that they still matter, and that someone is willing to

walk beside them through whatever comes next.

Hutchinson Public Schools ISD 423 Community Education

Staff Responsible: Amy Scheele, Community Education Program Coordinator (hired July 2024)

Data for the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year



ISD 423 Community Education Accomplishments and Highlights:

- **Winter-Spring 2025:** Season length - January, February, March, April, and May. Community Education offered 92 activities, 20 new, with a total of 3,010 participants (up from 2,218 the prior year). Total includes attendance at open swim and lap swim.

- **Summer 2024:** Season length - June, July, and August. Community Education offered 86 camps and classes, 17 new, with a total of 1,637 participants (up from 1,218 the prior year).
- **Fall 2024:** Season length – September, October, November, and December. Community Education offered 59 activities, 2 new, with a total of 1,151 participants. Total includes lap swim
- **Summary:** The numbers for FY2025: 237 Activities and camps offered with 5,798 participants (FY24=201 Activities and camps offered with 4,708 participants)



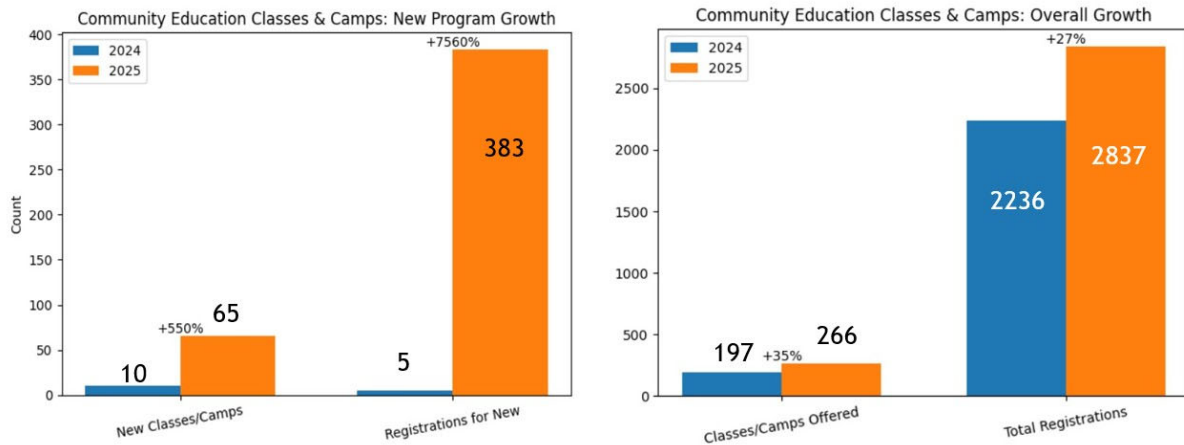
Hutchinson Community Education provides lifelong learning experiences for people of all ages, abilities, and cultures through programs and services. Classes are creatively designed and generated from interests and trends. Instructors and coaches offer activities in which they have knowledge, experience, or a skill creating a positive impact in our community with an opportunity to grow as individuals. Community

Education is located in the Recreation Center and activities are held at Hutchinson Public Schools, Recreation Center, park shelters, and local businesses.

Participation in activities is climbing! People are registering upon receiving the new brochures, but we still see some registrations closer to the start date of an activity. Communication with instructors continues to flow back and forth to assist in making decisions regarding holding or canceling their activity, requesting additional social media advertisements, and in some cases, direct email to past participants. Online activities are less popular with participants. Instructors like offering online classes because they can host multiple schools with combined registrations. In-person activities are still a favorite for providing wonderful, hands-on opportunities. Monthly newsletters are emailed to all families in the school district through Campus Messenger, posted on several Facebook sites, posted on the [ISD423.org/Community](https://isd423.org/Community) Ed page, in the school staff Tiger Tidbits, and on the bulletin board in the rec center. We are searching for new CE instructors through Facebook posts, Tiger Tidbits newsletter for school employees, and wanted posters. I've found many instructors by striking up conversations with people and their interests.



Classes/Camps 2024 & 2025 Comparison



Several pairs of snowshoes were purchased for rentals and a snowshoe class. We cancelled the Snowshoe Exploration class in 2025 due to lack of snow. Offered again in 2026.

Community Education is required to submit an annual report to the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) from school districts having community education levy. Report period is July 1 to June 30. This report is available to view at the Community Education office.

CIVICREC Hutchinson PRCE

PRCE continued using CivicRec for registrations. The program is fairly user-friendly. We are working on categories for the activities to clean up the system. There are a lot of random activities that make finding items more difficult as more are created. This is a work in process.

School Facility Rentals and Usage



**HUTCHINSON PUBLIC
SCHOOLS**



Community Education coordinates all rentals and facility use for Hutchinson Public Schools. What began as a simple, handwritten process has evolved into a detailed online system. Over the years, school renovations and expansions such as renumbered or removed classrooms, the construction of a new school, and changes to outdoor fields and parking lots—have required continual updates within rSchool Today. These updates ensure accurate layouts, room availability, and location details for each building.



rSchool Today, recently acquired by Arbiter, also requires ongoing calendar maintenance. This includes entering school-approved academic dates such as the first and last day of school, non-

school days, workshop and conference days, holidays, and scheduled late start or early release days. Each date is designated as reservable or non-reservable to help staff and customers easily understand building availability when creating reservations for the July 1–June 30 school year.

Staff are asked to enter their facility reservations for the upcoming school year by June 30. Public rentals typically open around July 15 each year.

The Activities Department proposed transitioning to Bound, as the Wright County Conference has moved from Arbiter to Bound. This change is being considered to avoid maintaining two separate facility scheduling systems.

In the past, associations holding weekend practices were required to pay for a custodian to be on site, which often resulted in concerns about custodial costs. This year, we introduced a Facility Use Agreement and Waiver that allows eligible associations to avoid this expense. Associations may participate if they have district employees within their group who are willing to complete building supervisor training and are available to supervise weekend practices. This process has been working well.

The Facility Use Agreement and Waiver applies only to associations connected to school-sponsored activities and to practices where only participants are present. It does not apply to events open to the public or to private rentals, such as dance studios.

The chart below shows the number of rooms within each building:

	BUILDING/LOCATION	# ROOM WITHIN
1	High School	81
2	Middle School	59
3	Park Elementary	30
4	West Elementary	31
5	Tiger Elementary	66
6	Parking Lot	8
7	Field - Outdoor School Campus	23
8	Field - Northwoods	2
9	Field - Roberts Park	4
10	Field - Veteran's Memorial	1
11	Recreation Center	5
	TOTAL	310

Facility Use by Building

Building	Groups	Permits	Est. # of Participants
High School	25	376	96,513
Middle School	26	147	37,745
Park Elementary	18	63	55,309
Tiger Elementary	14	77	29,145
West Elementary	7	44	48,381
Fields-Outdoor Campus	12	79	6,200
Parking Lot	4	4	50
TOTALS	106	790	273,343

Breakdown of reservation permits: ISD 423 staff (24) submitted 532 permits, Community Education submitted 79 permits, Rental Customers (27) submitted 149 permits, and Personnel Charges Only customers (3) submitted 12 permits. In summary, Hutchinson Public Schools' primary use is for school-related items.

Upcoming Facility Happenings

Submitted by Justin TenEyck

The School District, in partnership with PRCE, continues to make strategic investments in athletic fields that support students, athletes, and the greater community. In the fall of 2025, irrigation systems were installed on the last soccer field, as well as all football and lacrosse practice fields. This important improvement promotes healthier turf, more consistent playing conditions, and an enhanced experience for all users.



Looking ahead to the spring and summer of 2026, the School District and PRCE will build on this momentum through planned overseeding and proactive field maintenance. These efforts will improve turf quality, extend the life of the fields, and ensure safe, high-quality surfaces for practices, games, and community use.

As part of a shared three-year maintenance plan, the School District and PRCE are in the third year of collaboratively managing maintenance, budgets, and long-term field care. This forward-looking approach reflects a strong commitment to sustainability, responsible stewardship, and providing top-quality athletic and recreational spaces for the community now and into the future.

No big projects. We are doing some mechanical upgrades to the pool, Spring 2026.

Middle School Activities (CE Fund Since 2003)

Submitted by William Tschida

Middle School Activities opportunities are offered to students in grades 6, 7, and 8. They are under the Community Education funding umbrella and managed by the Activities Director at Hutchinson High School.

Middle School Participation Numbers:

- Fall 2024 season: Seven activities were offered with 167 participants.
- Winter 2025: Four activities were offered with 71 participants.
- Spring 2025: Seven activities offered with 182 participants.
- All Season Activities: Two activities with 50 participants
- Five fall activities were run as a 9-12 program.

6th Grade Participation Numbers:

Fall 2024 season: Four activities were offered with 31 participants.

Hutchinson Adult Basic Education

Submitted by Shari Brunes



Hutchinson Adult Education is located at Ridgewater College in room 445. Our mission is to provide adults age 17+ with educational opportunities to acquire and improve literacy skills. Licensed teachers are in the room to meet the needs of learners four days a week. Our schedule includes both daytime and evening hours and provides a total of 25 in-person instructional hours weekly for students. Additional hours are available for students who want to work remotely. Programming is offered twelve

months a year.

The Hutchinson Adult Education site is co-located with Ridgewater College and the CareerForce Center. Because of this, we have been able to develop programs to assist learners with academic skills, employment preparation, obtaining certifications, and college readiness goals.

We continue to build relationships with groups in the community, including the public library, employers, and community organizations. Adult Education is a valuable component of Hutchinson's Community Education program, meeting the needs of many individuals from the surrounding area by making them better family members, employees, and citizens.

Adult Basic Education 2024-2025

For the 2024-2025 state academic year (May 1, 2024, to April 30, 2025), 191 students attended for a total of 4,270 contact hours. Students who attend 12 or more hours are considered participants. Hutchinson Adult Education had 79 participants for the year. The average student attended for 22.5 hours.

The big news this year is that we moved! Ridgewater College and Central Minnesota Jobs and Training Services invited us to relocate to room 445. The college remodeled the new space to better meet our needs, and we are excited to be closer to our CareerForce partners. We launched in the new space on Monday, January 12, 2026.

Working with our Regional Transitions Coordinator, we have designed and delivered online career pathway courses with other Adult Education programs in Southwest Minnesota. We have received Transitions grant funding to offer courses in Paraprofessional Training, Child Development, Professional Leadership, English for Driving, and Digital Literacy Skills. We also continued to offer online GED courses in the evenings. Statewide courses in Commercial Driver's License Prep, Paraprofessional Prep, Personal Care Assistant, and Microsoft Office Certifications were also available. These courses are offered at no cost to qualified adults throughout Minnesota.



Engage, Equip, Empower
Glacial Lakes Consortium

Locally, Glacial Lakes Adult Education worked with Weaving Cultures to offer a Community Interpreter training course and certification testing for students in the spring of 2025. Fourteen students completed this course, and 100% passed their testing for certification. We plan to offer this course again in 2025-2026.

Regional Online English Language classes are offered three evenings per week. There are 5 different levels to meet the needs of all English language learners. These classes are very popular and are often full.



Students continue to take and pass GED tests. 21 Hutchinson Adult Education students earned a GED Diploma this year. The state of Minnesota has legislative appropriation this year that provides one free test in each subject area. Our local Adult Education Student Support Fund, in partnership with the Ridgewater College Foundation, is being used to provide free GED Ready practice tests.

We worked closely with Ridgewater College to hire and train a GED Test Administrator. Nikki Mallak served in this position for one year. The college is committed to hiring someone new for this position and we hope to have this accomplished in the coming months.

ABE Staffing

Shari Bruner manages the Hutchinson Adult Education program. Ann Trochlil serves as the Glacial Lakes Adult Education Consortium Program Manager. Current staff: Joyce Evenski, Mary Horrocks, Barb Haugen, Jean Abrahamson, Laura Cullip, and Lee Nelson.

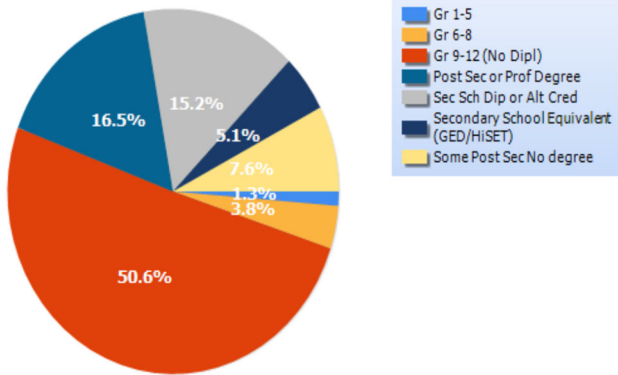
Most professional development opportunities for staff continue to be offered remotely. Staff attended Summer Institute, Spring and Fall Regional training courses, the Language & Literacy Conference, and many webinars.

ABE Data Summary Information

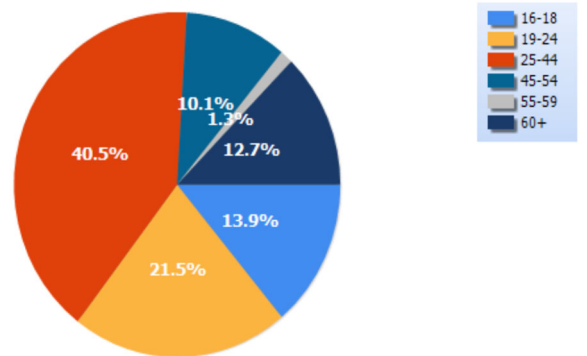
Hutchinson Adult Basic Education 2024-2025 Information		Notes
Total Enrollees	191	214 in 2023-2024
Total Hours	4,270	This is a 2% decrease from the previous year
Total Participants	79	Students who attend 12+ hours are considered participants. 87 in 2023-2024
Total GED Earners	21	27 GED earners in 2023-2024

**Hutchinson Adult Education
Program Summary 5/1/2024-4/30/2025**

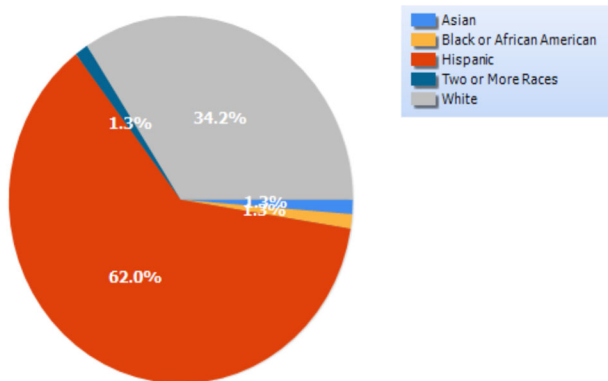
Education Level



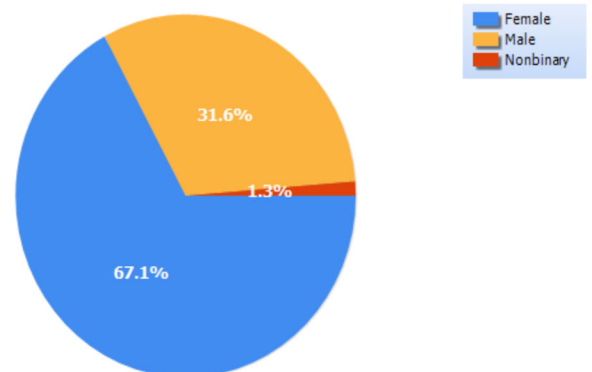
Age Group



Race/Ethnicity



Gender



Early Childhood Family Education

Submitted by Mary Myers-Reinarts

Data for January-December 2025

Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) offers a variety of class options for families with young children. We run during the Hutchinson Public School District's academic school year and also offer a short summer session. Sibling care is available for most classes upon request. A sliding fee scale and scholarships support and encourage families of all income levels to participate in our classes. NO family is ever turned away due to inability to pay.



ECFE classes include separating and non-separating classes, parent-only classes, family events, and special one-time classes. Offerings this year included parent-child classes that ran for 8 to 16 weeks per session, special one-time events, and an ongoing Open Play class. With the aid of a grant through the Southwest Initiative Foundation, in Spring 2025 we were able to offer the second part of a multilingual class for families with children ages three years through grade three. In June 2025, we offered a free ECFE in the Park opportunity outdoors on three Wednesday mornings. With the aid of a grant through the Hutchinson Health Foundation, in the fall of 2025, we offered a free Parental Wellness & Balance class for parents and children aged two years and up.

ECFE recognizes and supports parents/guardians as a child's first and most significant teacher. Our mission is to strengthen each family unit through education and support while providing the best possible environment for the healthy growth and development of their child. Our 2025 offerings included classes for specific age levels, such as Busy Babies, Wonderful Ones, Terrific Twos, and Playful Preschoolers, as well as classes for mixed age groups such as Ones & Twos, Family Times, Lunch Bunch, and Open Play.



Our Busy Babies classes had consistent attendance, with both morning and afternoon sessions running. Class registration is left open throughout the session to accommodate families as babies are born. For outreach, we welcome families by mailing parents a postcard offering a free baby class and a baby bag that includes a "Future Tiger" t-shirt, a hardcover children's board book, and assorted pamphlets/gifts from community agencies. Parents are invited to attend a free class with their new baby and to pick up a free baby bag from the Early Learning office. All baby classes are offered free of charge.

Our ECFE sliding fee scale keeps classes at a reasonable cost for all families. We offer three payment tiers: full, half, and free. Families continue to appreciate the ability to choose their rate at the time of registration, even if they choose the \$0 rate, and have been very responsive and respectful of this process. All classes offered in 2025 had enough participants to run the class. There was a particularly high demand for classes for two-year-olds.

For special events, in January 2025, ECFE offered Jammin' in Your Jammies. Families enjoyed a pizza supper and a dance party with a live deejay. In April 2025, we held a successful Week of the Young Child celebration called Work Together Wednesday. Families built structures using large boxes, created and navigated an obstacle course, and then made art projects and shared a snack in the cafeteria. The event was free with a free-will donation option. We also held two specialty "My Grandparent or Special Friend and Me" classes in the fall of 2025. Tree Time and Woodland Animals were both offered as late afternoon sessions, and both were full. Feedback indicated that families would like more of these classes in the future.

2025 was a very successful year for Hutchinson ECFE. Along with classes, we have a robust Parent Advisory Committee that meets on the first Tuesday evening of each month. Input from the members has been very helpful in enhancing programming, and the members are committed volunteers at our special events and with fundraising ventures.



2025-2026 Community Education Goals

Submitted by Amy Scheele

- Manage, organize, and develop activities throughout the year for multiple age levels, current trends, and interests to better serve customers and anticipate needs
- Network and collaborate with people in businesses or as an individual for community education programming
- Organize at least one new activity per brochure targeting community needs
- Attend Minnesota Community Education Association (MCEA) Conferences, Leadership Days, training, and classes correlating to Community Education operations
- Continue to participate in networking platforms with MCEA groups, sharing programming ideas, information, tips, and facility-use information
- Continue ongoing communication with instructors from the idea stage to the actual date of their activity and final payout
- Organize and maintain rSchool Today, Hutchinson Public Schools online reservation system
- Offer Free Open Swim – applied and received a grant from Hutchinson Health to offer Open Swim free Winter 2026. Grant received for all dates.
- Add classes to the Chamber of Commerce's Event Calendar
- Create a Google Form for instructors' class proposals
- Set up GroupMe or Team Reach app for lap swim communications for late start and closures

Open Swim 2023	
January	132
February	118
March	121
371	

Open Swim 2024	
January	436
February	209
March	238
883	

Open Swim 2025	
January	294
February	213
March	263
April	305
1075	

2025-2026 Adult Basic Education Goals

Submitted by Shari Brunes

- Provide a safe, inclusive learning environment that actively engages and supports the diverse needs of all learners
- Reach out to learners in the community in need of Adult Education services; ongoing
- Pretest and post-test students to successfully meet national targets of 36.8% achieving a measurable skill gain
- Collaborate with Southwest Minnesota ABE programs to offer online GED courses (ongoing)
- Develop grants with partners to assist students as they explore career pathways; ongoing
- Provide distance learning (online) opportunities using state approved platforms; ongoing
- Work with Ridgewater to hire and train a new GED Test Center Coordinator
- Offer a designated space for learners to take official GED tests via online proctoring
- Offer a local, online course and certification testing for Community Interpreter
- Redesign our Google site at www.hutchadulthood.com
- Offer digital literacy classes for CareerForce clients to empower them in their job search and increase employability; ongoing
- Collaborate with Ridgewater and CMJTS to offer career pathway training and certifications

2025-2026 Early Childhood Family Education Goals

Submitted by Mary Myers-Reinarts

- Maintain ongoing high quality in our ECFE programming
- Continue registration collaboration with PRCE to streamline the process for our families
- Continue to keep ECFE offerings affordable
- Continue ongoing assessments of our programming
- Continue to evaluate and update parent and child class curriculum
- Continue to evaluate current class trends through participant surveys and discussions within our collaborative groups and adjust class offerings as needed
- Build participation in baby classes

Planning/Building/Zoning Department

Primary Services

Under the direction of the Planning Director, this department provides long-range planning services and reviews land use plans for consistency with the city plans. It also regulates properties to ensure general health, safety, and welfare standards for the community. In addition, it offers services that provide minimum standards to safeguard life or limb, health, property, and public welfare by regulating and controlling the design, construction, quality of materials, use and occupancy, location and maintenance of all buildings within this jurisdiction.

Overall Functions include:

- Comprehensive Planning
- Redevelopment Planning
- Zoning and Subdivision Administration
- Administration of State Building Code
- Building Permit Issuance and Reporting
- Plan Review
- Commercial and Residential Building Inspections
- Zoning and Property Maintenance Enforcement
- Coordination of City Rental Inspection Program
- Education

2025 Accomplishments

- Permitted over \$37,800,000 worth of construction projects
- Approved plats that included over 35 new residential lots.
- Worked with several developers on getting new residential developments started.
- Elk Ridge Estates was platted – first large scale residential development in Hutchinson in about 20-years.
- The Landing Apartment project was approved and construction began. 81-unit apartment project downtown.

2025 Planning/Zoning/Building Department Overview

- Local construction activity rebounded somewhat as compared to 2024.
- Hopeful that interest rates, inflation, and worker shortages will not impact growth of Hutchinson long term.
- Expected Projects
 - North Maple Apartments
 - Hospital Emergency Room Renovation
 - The Farmhouse Memory Care Project
 - Continued Residential Development

PLANNING

Primary Services

Overview – Planning and Zoning Department staff provide a variety of customer services, coordination, and review services, including processing and reviewing of land use applications. The Department provides long-range planning services and reviews land use plans for consistency with city plans. Demographic information, as well as projections about population growth are monitored and planned for by this department. The Department also drafts policies and revises ordinances to implement the goals of the City regarding growth management and development practices. The Department works closely with the Engineering, Housing and Redevelopment, and Economic Development Departments.

Zoning is the regulation of property to ensure general health, safety, and welfare standards for the community. The Zoning Department assists residents and applicants with zoning requests, development requests and flood plain information. Staff coordinates efforts to communicate with the property owner or developer by arranging pre-development meetings “up-front” to get questions answered at the beginning of the project. Department staff issues applications for Conditional Use Permits, Variances, Rezoning, Annexations, Lot Splits, Platting, and Sign permits.

The Planning Department provides the following services.

- Planning Commission support
- Development Review
- Long-range/Comprehensive planning
- Special land use and redevelopment studies
- Point of contact for lands use and zoning inquiries and property research
- Document preparation for land-use decisions, ordinance updates and development decisions
- Permanent sign and zoning permit coordination and administration
- Building permit review for land use and zoning conformity
- Zoning, Subdivision and FEMA Flood Ordinance administration

2025 Accomplishments:

Reviewed and Processed:

- 36 Applications for Planning Commission
- 105 City Land Use Applications
- 64 zoning reviews of building permits.
- 37 sign permits reviewed.
- 64 predevelopment/application meetings.

2025 Planning Commission Items

- Annexation of the Albrecht property
- Rezone properties from R-3 to R-3PD located at 800, 810 and 820 Texas Ave NW
- Preliminary Plat for Elk Ridge Estates
- Rezone properties from R-2 to C-3 located at 135 and 145 1st Ave NW and 125, 135, 145 Glen St NW
- Lot Split located at 216 4th Ave SW
- Final Plat for Bergs Properties
- Final Plat for Elk Ridge Estates
- Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance for the I-1 Light Industrial District
- Site Plan Review at 126 Franklin St NW
- CUP for a tattoo establishment in C-3 zoning district located at 146 Franklin St SW
- Preliminary and Final Plat for The Landing
- Site Plan Review for Sherwin William at 1510 Hwy 15 S
- Preliminary and Final Plat for Wenwood
- CUP for Data Center in I-2 Zoning District located at 1025 5th Ave SE
- Variances for The Landing
- CUP for PD in Shoreland District for 81-unit apartment building in C-3 zoning district at 126 Franklin St NW
- Vacation of Alley located near 126 Franklin St NW
- Vacation of Sanitary Sewer located near 126 Franklin St NW
- Lot Split located at 951 Golf Course Rd NW
- Sketch Plan and Comp Plan Amendment for 135 North High Dr NE
- Rezone a property from R-1 to R-2 and Site Plan for 20-unit memory care at 955 Golf Course Rd NW
- CUP for analytical testing of recreational cannabis located at 540 3rd Ave NW
- Rezoning properties from R-1 to R-3 located at Elk Ridge Estates
- Final Plat for High Bar Builders Addition
- Rezone a property from R-2 to MXD located at 135 North High Dr NE
- Preliminary Plat for Shepards Meadow
- CUP for 20-unit memory care at 955 Golf Course Rd NW
- Site Plan Review for Scooters Coffee at 15 3rd Ave NW
- Rezone a property from MXD to C-3 located at 155 Glen St NW
- Final Plat for Shepards Meadow
- Comp Plan Amend and Rezoning properties from R-2 to C-4 located at 552, 554, 564 Jefferson St SE
- Subdivision Ordinance Agreement section 153.072

Building Department

Primary Services

Overview of Building Department - MN Rule 1300.0030 states that the purpose of the MN State Building Code is to establish minimum requirements to safeguard the public health, safety and general welfare, through structural strength, means of egress facilities, stability, sanitation, adequate light and ventilation, energy conservation, and safety to life and property from fire and other hazards attributed to the built environment and to provide safety to firefighters and emergency responders during emergency operations.

The code applies to the design, construction, addition, alteration, moving, replacement, demolition, repair, equipment, installation, use and occupancy, location, maintenance, and inspection of any building, structure, or building service equipment in a municipality.

The code includes among other provisions: The MN Building Code, the MN Residential Code, the MN Conservation Code for Existing Buildings, the MN Floodproofing Regulations, the MN Accessibility Code, the Prefabricated Structures Code, the Industrialized/Modular Buildings Code, the MN Plumbing Code, the MN Commercial Energy Code, and the MN Residential Energy Code.

The purpose and scope of the MN State Building Code clearly convey the complexity and significance of building code administration. The practical administration of the code includes education, communication, plan review, correspondence, permit administration, field inspection, and enforcement to ensure the purpose of the code is accomplished throughout the breadth of its scope.

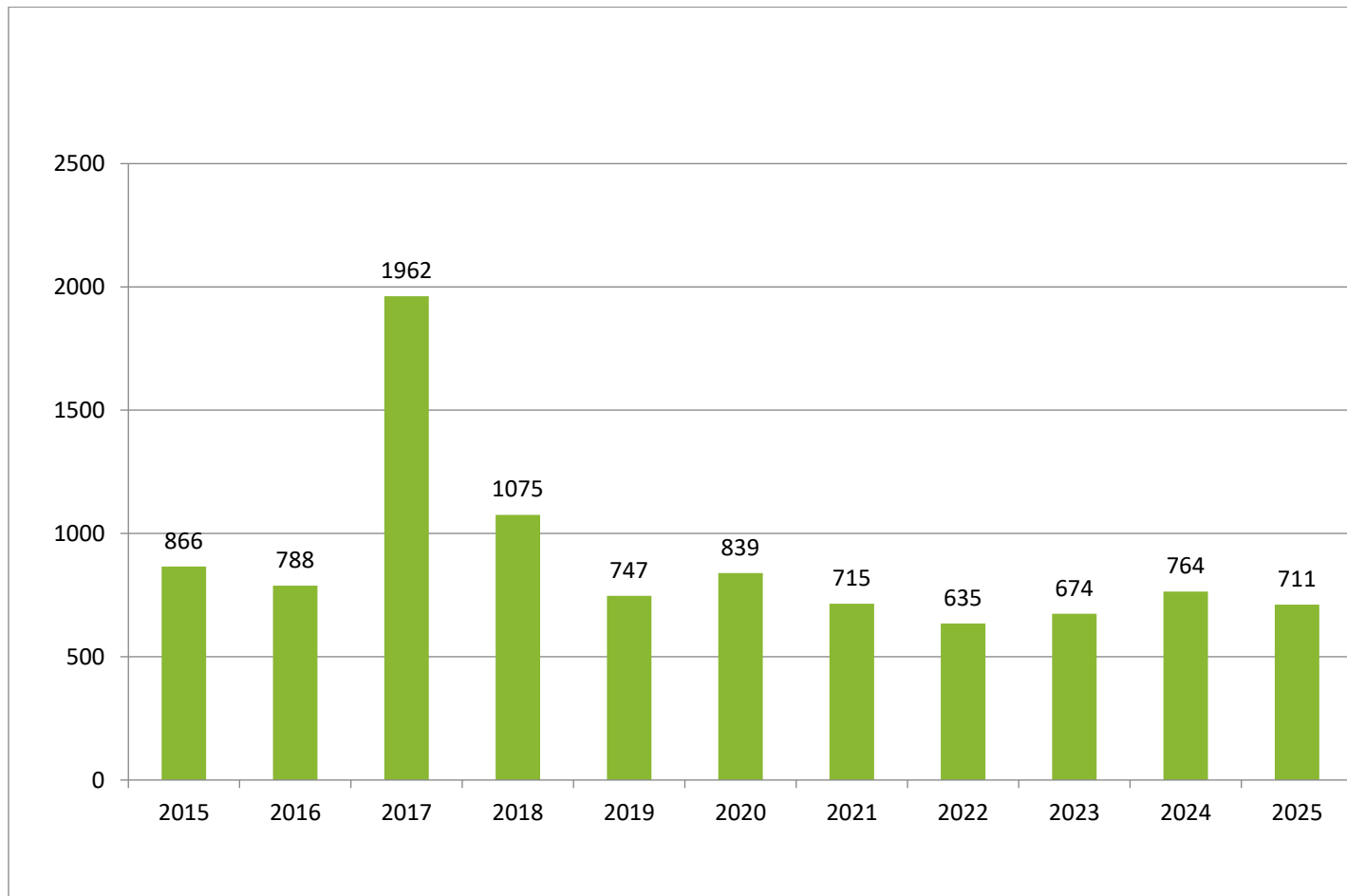
Under the direction of the Planning Director and the Building Official, protective inspections provide the following services:

- Plan Review for residential, commercial properties and State licensed facilities
- Clearinghouse for the issuance of building, mechanical, plumbing, erosion control, grading, and sign permits.
- Field Inspections
- Enforcement of building, plumbing, and mechanical codes (i.e. new and existing building construction for fire, life, health and safety)
- Education of homeowners and contractors on the building code, permits, and process

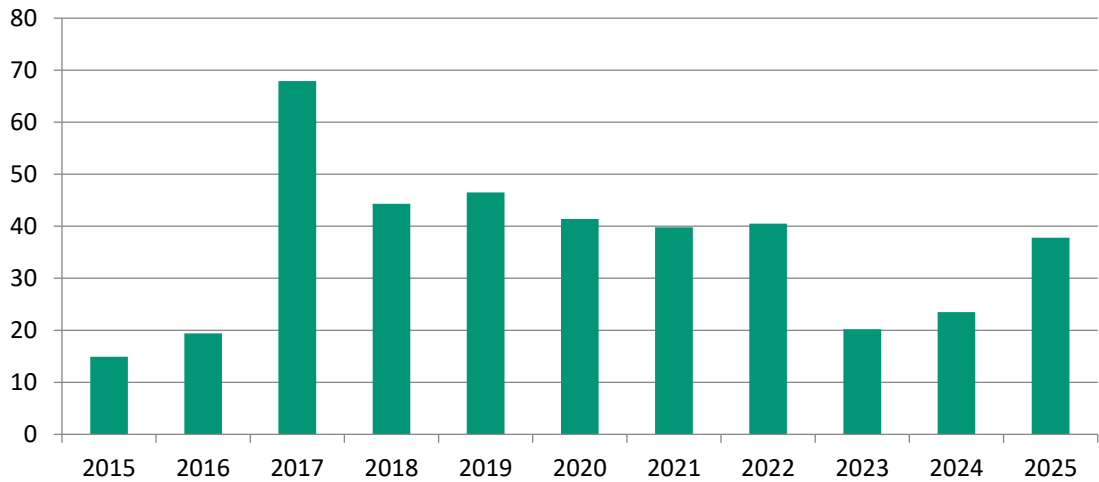
2025 Accomplishments

- Provided plan review and building inspection services as required.
- Educated property owners regarding permit requirements, licensed contractors and state building codes
- Provided Inspection and plan review services.
- The following were larger projects:
 - McKimm Transit Storage Building
 - Sherwin Williams Store
 - The Landing
 - 3M Stormwater Project

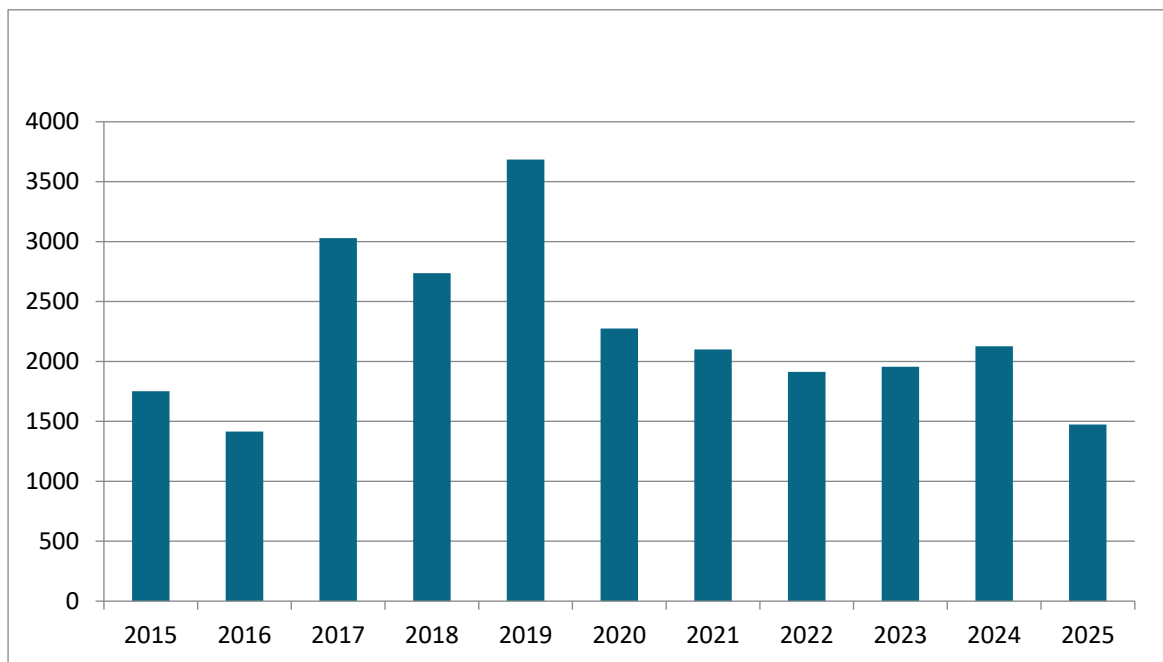
Number of Building Permits Issued 2015 Through 2025



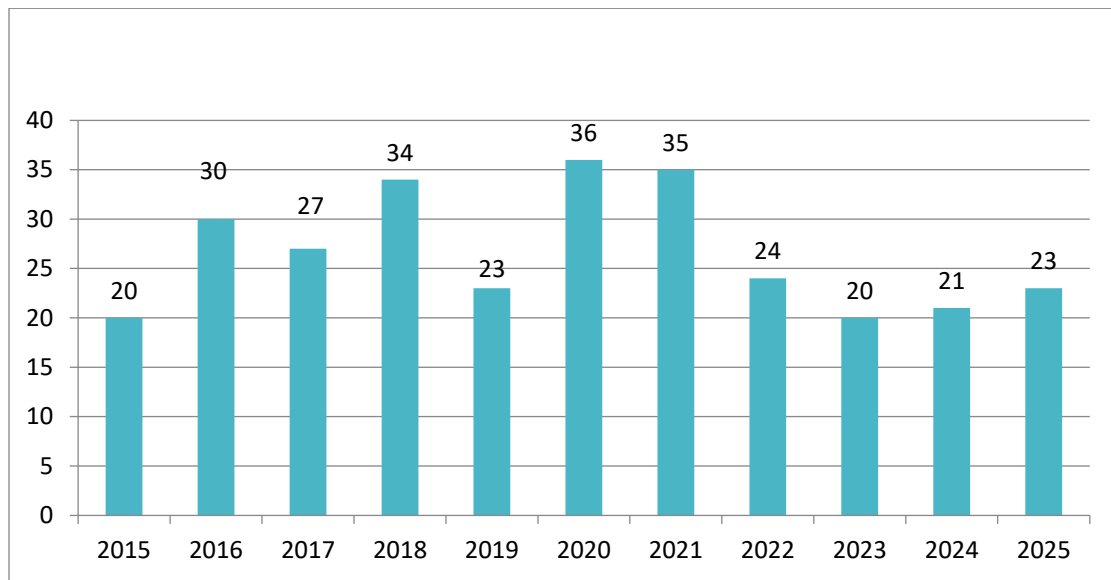
CONSTRUCTION VALUATION MILLION \$ VALUATION 2015-2025



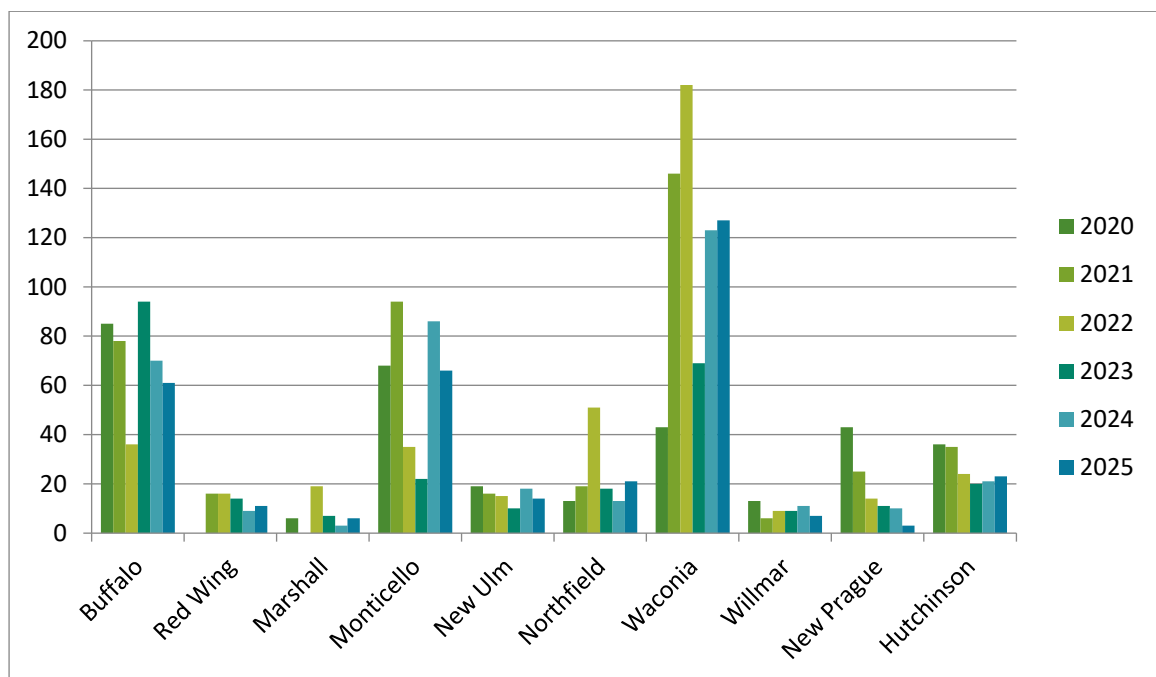
2015 – 2025 Total Building Inspections



New Dwelling Unit Construction



Staff have researched recent trends of new residential construction in this region by surveying other communities in the area with populations like Hutchinson in an effort to attempt to verify if the level of new residential construction activity in Hutchinson is common to the surrounding regions. Most similarly sized communities in this region indicate construction trends similar to what Hutchinson has experienced in recent years. As may be expected, communities that are metropolitan suburbs or regional hubs have experienced higher total volumes of construction. However, the overall trend of construction activity in the surveyed region is very similar between communities.



Rental License Program

The City adopted the rental program in 2008, and the Planning/Building/Zoning Department took it over from the Fire Department in 2014. The rental inspection program data suggests that most property owners/managers are planning and preparing for the inspections. Staff are happy to educate new rental property owners and new managers who are not familiar with the expectations of the rental program. Most experienced property owners are actively checking units ahead of time and preparing them prior to the inspection. They are making repairs to improve the general condition of the units, and this greatly reduces the likelihood of major violations and subsequent enforcement action. City inspectors are now being viewed as a resource to help the business operate successfully and the tenants express the support they receive when there are problems or concern that go uncorrected. It should be noted that the City's new software for inspections/licensing does not have the ability to pull data like we did previously to present it in the annual report format so we will be trying to determine the best way to share data/trends we are seeing. At this point we can say that we inspected about 300 rental units in 2024 and trends were very similar to years past and the primary issues were dead batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, as well as junk and clutter that needed to be cleaned up.

PLANNING, ZONING, BUILDING DEPARTMENT ADDENDA

***CITY OF HUTCHINSON
COUNT OF BUILDING/PLUMBING/MECHANICAL PERMITS
ISSUED AND VALUATION
2025***

Total Number Inspections	1474
Building Permits Issued by Type	Year to Date Number Permits & Valuation
Commercial/Industrial (new)	6 - \$17,145,566.05
Commercial/Industrial Additions/ Remodels	61 - \$7,228,087.60
Fire Sprinkling	13 - \$321,452.00
Total New Residential Units (Single Family, twins, townhomes)	23 - \$7,573,889.95
Residential misc. (additions, repairs, remodels, etc.)	122- \$2,001,884.66
Set fee permits (reside, reroof, window replacement, misc.)*	486
Subtotal Building Permits:	711 - \$34,270,880.26
Mechanical	235 - \$3,538,334.00
Plumbing*	168
Total Permits issued and valuation	1114 - \$37,809,214.26
*Set fees not included in valuation	

Yearly Permit and Valuation Totals

YEAR	TOTAL NO. OF PERMITS		TOTAL VALUATION
2025	Building	711	\$34,270,880.26
	Mechanical	235	\$ 3,538,334.00
	Plumbing	168	\$ _____
			\$37,809,214.26
2024	Building	764	\$21,329,428
	Mechanical	207	\$ 2,224,062
	Plumbing	162	\$ _____
			\$23,553,490
2023	Building	674	\$18,684,425
	Mechanical	147	\$ 1,485,320
	Plumbing	258	\$ _____
			\$20,169,745
2022	Building	635	\$35,017,196
	Mechanical	157	\$ 5,510,224
	Plumbing	107	\$ _____
			\$40,527,420
2021	Building	715	\$34,346,923
	Mechanical	197	\$ 5,418,155
	Plumbing	148	\$ _____
			\$39,765,078
2020	Building	839	\$38,937,108
	Mechanical	178	\$ 2,495,764
	Plumbing	137	\$ _____
			\$41,432,872
2019	Building	747	\$42,560,147
	Mechanical	198	\$ 3,955,457
	Plumbing	92	\$ _____
			\$46,515,604
2018	Building	1075	\$40,161,512
	Mechanical	239	\$ 4,147,765
	Plumbing	110	\$ _____
			\$44,309,277
2017	Building	1962	\$60,949,672
	Mechanical	232	\$ 6,912,447
	Plumbing	97	\$ _____
			\$67,862,119
2016	Building	788	\$18,429,091
	Mechanical	206	\$ 1,000,062
	Plumbing	94	\$ _____
			\$19,429,153
2015	Building	865	\$13,690,216
	Mechanical	166	\$ 1,247,905
	Plumbing	78	\$ _____
			\$14,938,121

Special permits are fixed fee permits for residential reshingle, resides, window replacements, and excavations, signs, manufactured homes, fences, moving, demolitions, decks, residential sheds, and fire sprinkler permits.

New Residential Construction

YEAR	HOUSING TYPE	BUILDINGS	UNITS	CONSTRUCTION COST
2025	Single Family Dwelling	23	23	\$ 7,573,889.95
2024	Single Family Dwelling	21	21	\$ 6,098,465
2023	Single Family Dwelling	20	20	\$ 5,441,758
2022	Single Family Dwelling	24	24	\$ 5,393,727
2021	Single Family Dwelling	35	35	\$ 7,397,267
2020	Single Family Dwelling	36	36	\$ 7,582,886
2019	Single Family Dwelling	23	23	\$ 5,027,559
2018	Single family Dwelling	34	34	\$ 6,486,684
2017	Single Family Dwelling	25	25	\$ 4,972,795
	Twin homes	1	2	<u>373,104</u>
				\$ 5,234,899
2016	Single Family Dwelling	24	24	\$ 4,722,278
	Twin homes	3	6	<u>895,100</u>
				\$ 5,617,378
2015	Single Family Dwellings	20	20	\$ 3,623,304

2025 Construction Activity

NEW CONSTRUCTION STARTS

New Homes	Valuation \$ 7,573,889.95
1700 Butler Field Dr (new hanger)	180,480.00
155 Glen St NW (The Landing)	4,498,839.05
915 Adams St SE (3M Tank Stairs)	248,000.00
915 Adams St SE (stormwater treatment)	800,000.00
1510 Hwy 15 S (Sherwin Williams)	424,375.00
1145 Adams St SE (McKimm Transit storage bldg.)	<u>993,872.00</u>
	\$24,719,456.00

Detached Garages

835 Brown St SW	18,097.92
1333 Jefferson St SE	28,152.32
175 Arch St SE	<u>54,293.76</u>
	100,544.00

Total New Construction **24,820,000.00**

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL ADDITION AND REMODELS

1300 Adams St SE – WWTF improvements	1,250,520
1300 Hwy 15 S – Walmart improvement	1,100,000
135 Main St N – Wells Fargo interior	671,504
1095 Hwy 15 S – Hutch Health Mobile Imaging	299,250
1105 Benjamin Ave SE - Miller Manufacturing Reno	280,000
1094 Hwy 15 S – Shopko Optical buildout	225,000
48 Main St S – interior framing	200,000
1380 Hwy 15 S – Qdoba interior	169,000
135 Main St N – Wells Fargo exterior	162,027
1015 Century Ave SW – Pines reroof	161,251
1095 Hwy 15 S – Hutch Health Heliport	158,844
720 Century Ave SW – Edward Jones remodel	122,000
1020 Hwy 15 S – Cash Wise front entry	121,000
35 3 rd Ave SE – reroof	104,884
125 Main St N – MITGI carport	102,096
170 Shady Ridge Rd – reroof	100,000
766 Century Ave SW – Century 9 Theater upgrades	100,000

Total Addition and Remodel Work **\$ 5,327,336**

All Other Commercial/Industrial Work 1,900,751.60

All Other Residential Work 1,901,340.66

Mechanical 3,538,334

Plumbing 0

Fire Sprinkler 321,452

Total Construction Valuation **\$ 37,809,214.26**

New Housing Starts - 2025

<i>Site Address</i>	<i>Sub Type</i>	<i>Owner Name</i>	<i>Valuation</i>	<i>Contractor</i>	<i>Issued Date</i>
730 Park Island Dr SW	Single Family	James & Naomi Stinson	\$376,065.04	Myron Schuette Construction LLC	04/15/2025
133 Denver Ave SE	Single Family	First Class Builders Inc	\$319,901.36	First Class Builders LLC	04/16/2025
1160 13 th Ave NW	Single Family	Scott Plowmann Family	\$377,531.78	Betker Homes Construction LLC	04/28/2025
800 Texas Ave NW	Single Family	Tyler Schwartz	\$372,130.42	TTS Construction LLC	06/06/2025
260 10 th Ave NE	Single Family	Miles Seppelt	\$315,962.43	Utecht Construction	06/18/2025
1308 Sherwood St SE	Single Family	First Class Builders Inc	\$323,001.00	First Class Builders LLC	08/12/2025
1332 Bradford St SE	Single Family	First Class Builders Inc	\$296,427.00	First Class Builders LLC	08/12/2025
527 Miller Ave SW	Single Family	Bergs Properties	\$292,111.00	Bret Bergs Construction Inc.	08/22/2025
255 Eau Claire Ave SE	Single Family	BAR Properties LLC	\$320,805.00	Jeff Frasier Carpentry a Fix-it LLC	08/22/2025
254 Eau Claire Ave SE	Single Family	BAR Properties LLC	\$261,454.00	Jeff Frasier Carpentry a Fix-it LLC	08/22/2025
250 Eau Claire Ave SE	Single Family	BAR Properties LLC	\$261,454.00	Jeff Frasier Carpentry a Fix-it LLC	08/22/2025
1031 Golf Course Rd NW	Single Family	Bonneville Land & Cattle LLC	\$246,126.00	Utecht Construction	07/30/2025
1041 Golf Course Rd NW	Single Family	Bonneville Land & Cattle LLC	\$246,126.00	Utecht Construction	07/30/2025
1051 Golf Course Rd NW	Single Family	Bonneville Land & Cattle LLC	\$246,126.00	Utecht Construction	07/30/2025
1061 Golf Course Rd NW	Single Family	Bonneville Land & Cattle LLC	\$246,126.00	Utecht Construction	07/30/2025
235 10 th Ave NE	Single Family	Castle Gate Construction Inc	\$523,721.66	Castle Gate Construction Inc	09/04/2025
225 10 th Ave NE	Single Family	Castle Gate Construction Inc	\$443,112.20	Castle Gate Construction Inc	09/04/2025
206 10 th Ave NE	Single Family	John & Karen Lange	\$318,029.99	TLH Construction LLC	09/07/2025
256 10 th Ave NE	Single Family	Eric & Nikki Mallak	\$435,987.48	Betker Homes Construction LLC	10/08/2025
810 Texas Ave NW	Single Family	High Bar Builders LLC	\$372,130.42	TTS Construction LLC	10/20/2025
820 Texas Ave NW	Single Family	High Bar Builders LLC	\$372,130.42	TTS Construction LLC	10/20/2025
190 Eau Claire Ave SE	Single Family	Betker Homes Const LLC	\$321,623.76	Betker Homes Construction LLC	11/03/2025
164 Denver Ave SE	Single Family	Betker Builders LLC	\$285,803.74	Betker Builders LLC	11/13/2025
New Construction Count 23		Total Valuation	\$7,573,889.95		

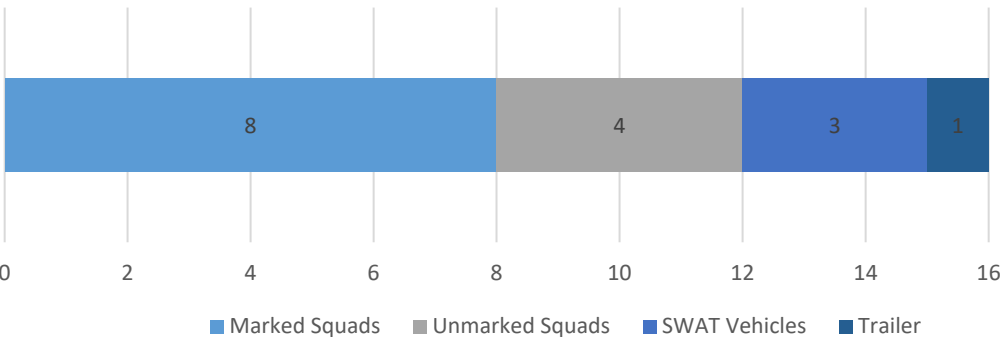
Police Department

About the Department

Department Staff – As of December 31st, 2025

23 Sworn Officers	10 Civilian Staff	
1 Police Chief	1 Child Protection Officer	2 Police Administrative Specialists
1 Lieutenant	1 School Liaison Officer	1 Evidence Technician
4 Patrol Sergeants	1 Drug Task Force Agent	1 Lead Police Administrative Specialist
1 Investigative Sergeant	1 Full-time Community Service Officer	1 Police Data Release Coordinator
12 Patrol Officers	4 Part-time Community Service Officer	
1 General Investigator		

Fleet – As of December 31st, 2025



2025 Crime Statistics

Group A Offenses

- Animal Cruelty
- Arson
- Assault
 - Aggravated Assault
 - Simple Assault
 - Intimidation
- Bribery
- Burglary/Breaking and Entering
- Commerce Violations
 - Import Violations
 - Export Violations
 - Federal Liquor Violations
 - Federal Tobacco Violations
 - Wildlife Trafficking
- Counterfeiting/Forgery
- Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property
- Drug/Narcotic Offenses
 - Drug/Narcotic Violations
 - Drug/Narcotic Equipment Violations
- Embezzlement
- Espionage
- Extortion/Blackmail
- Fraud Offenses
 - False Pretenses/Swindle/Confidence Games
 - Credit Card/Automatic Teller Machine Fraud
 - Hacking/Computer Invasion
 - Impersonation
 - Identity Theft
 - Money Laundering
 - Welfare Fraud
 - Wire Fraud
- Gambling Offenses
 - Betting/Wagering
 - Operating/Promoting/Assisting Gambling
 - Gambling Equipment Violations
 - Sports Tampering
- Homicide Offenses
 - Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter
 - Negligent Manslaughter
 - Justifiable Homicide
- Human Trafficking
 - Commercial Sex Acts
 - Involuntary Servitude

The Hutchinson Police Department reports crime data to the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) with **National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS)**. NIBRS is used by law enforcement agencies in the United States for collecting and reporting data on crimes. The BCA then reports all NIBRS statistics to the FBI. Local, state and federal agencies generate NIBRS data from their records management systems. In Group A Offenses there are 28 crime categories with 71 offenses. Data is collected on every incident and arrest in this group. In Group B Offenses, there are 10 offenses with only the arrest information reported in this group.

Key Benefits of NIBRS –

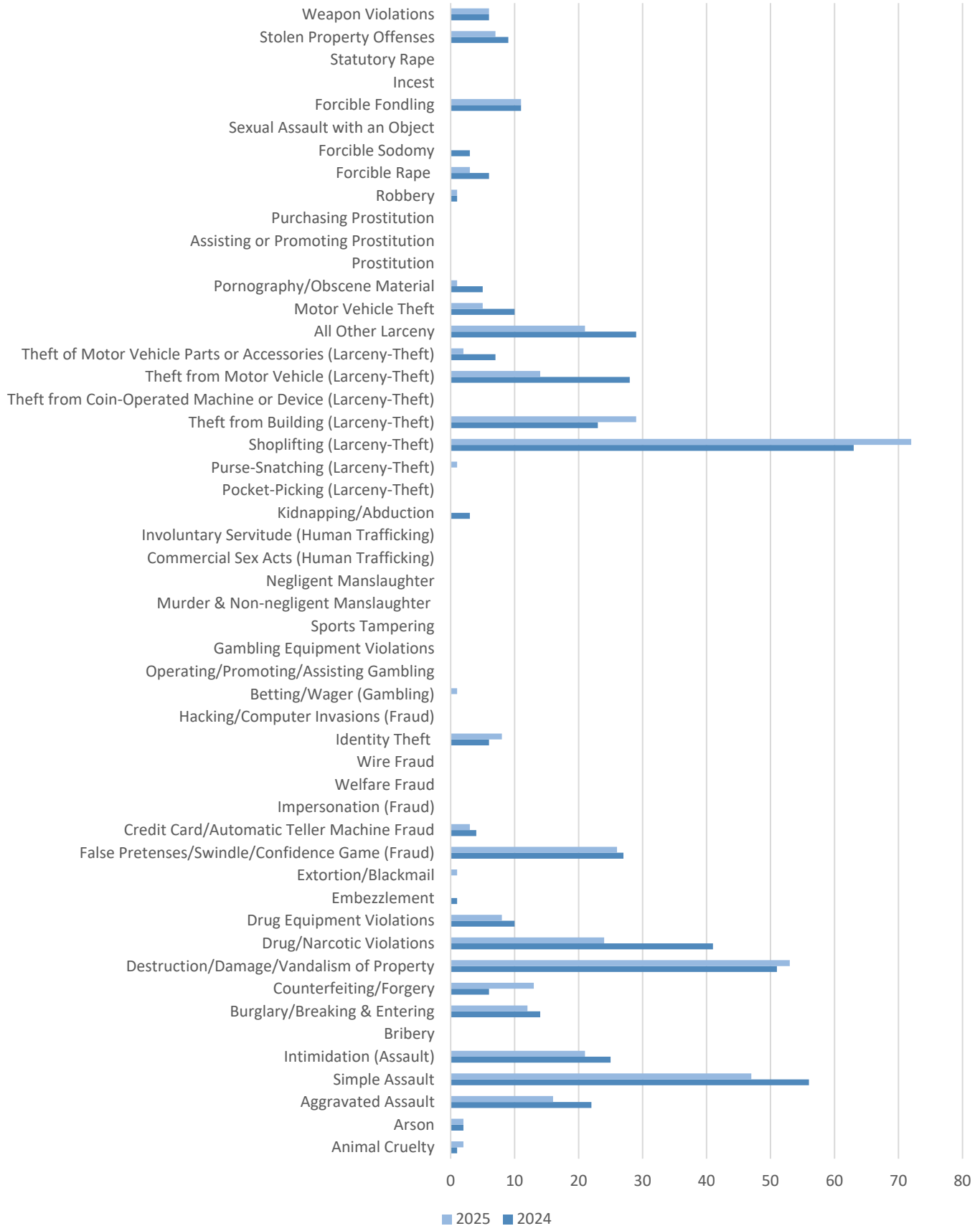
- 1.) Detailed, high-quality data that provides a more complete and accurate picture of crime.
- 2.) Additional context to understand victimization and offending.
- 3.) Standardized data to compare crime across jurisdictions.
- 4.) Can be used for tactical or strategic analysis at the local, state, and national levels.

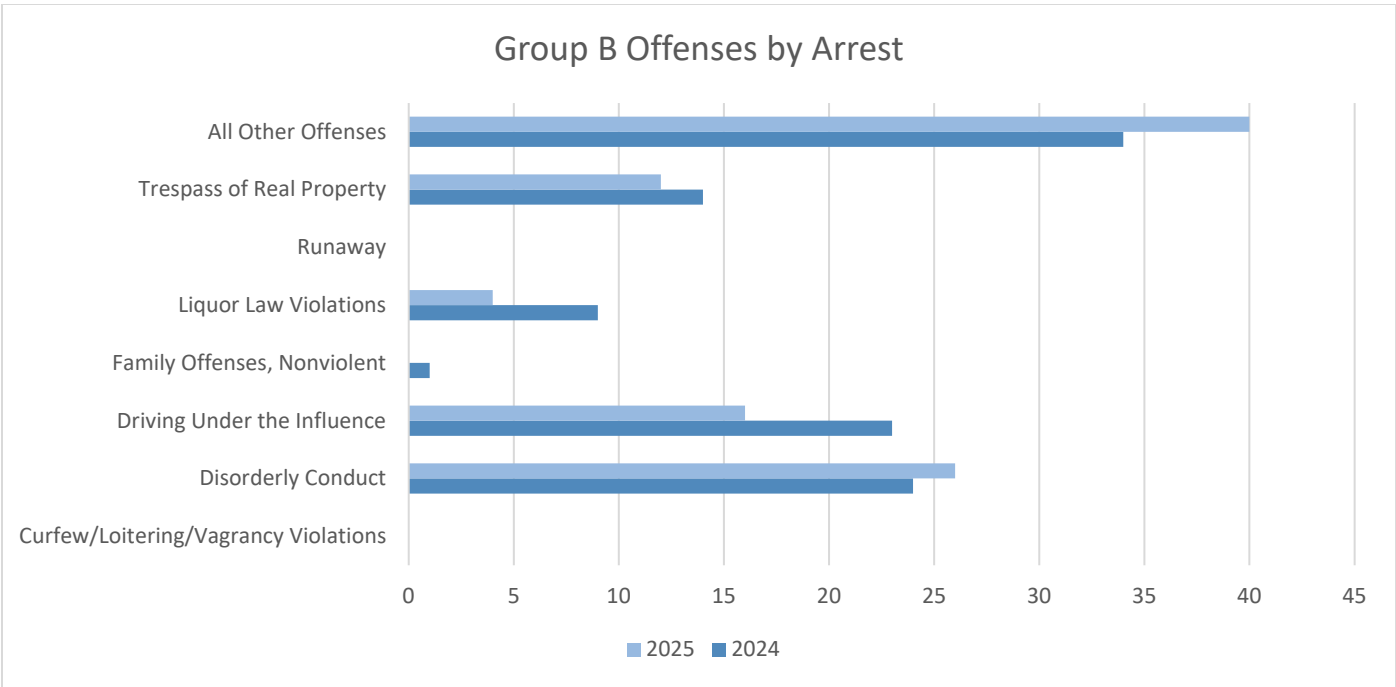
Group B Offenses

- Bond Default
- Curfew/Loitering/Vagrancy Violations
- Disorderly Conduct
- Driving Under the Influence
- Drunkenness (Decommissioned January 2022)
- Family Offenses, Nonviolent
- Federal Resource Violations
- Liquor Law Violations
- Perjury
- Trespass on Real Property
- All Other Offenses

- Immigration Violations
 - Illegal Entry into the US
 - False Citizenship
 - Smuggling Aliens
 - Re-Entry after Deportation
- Kidnapping/Abduction
- Larceny/Theft Offenses
 - Pocket Picking
 - Purse Snatching
 - Shoplifting
 - Theft from Building
 - Theft from Coin-Operated Machine or Device
 - Theft from Motor Vehicle
 - Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts or Accessories
 - All Other Larceny
- Motor Vehicle Theft
- Pornography/Obscene Material
- Prostitution Offenses
 - Prostitution
 - Assisting or Promoting Prostitution
 - Purchasing Prostitution
- Robbery
- Sex Offenses
 - Rape
 - Sodomy
 - Sexual Assault with An Object
 - Criminal Sexual Contact
 - Statutory Rape
 - Failure to Register as Sex Offender
- Stolen Property
- Weapon Law Violations
 - Violation of National Firearm Act of 1934
 - Weapons of Mass Destructions
 - Explosives

Group A Offenses





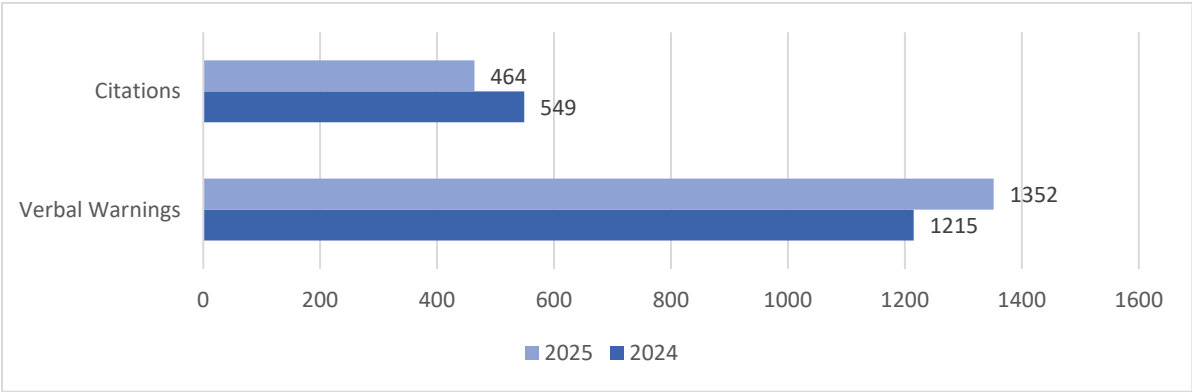
Patrol

The patrol division of the Hutchinson Police Department is the face of the department. Many community members only ever have contact with a patrol officer, making their impact crucial to the integrity of the department.

Our patrol officers interact with community members when they respond to calls for service, take reports on incidents that have occurred, patrol neighborhoods, enforce traffic laws, and engage at community events. Our patrol officers also conduct criminal investigations by interviewing victims and suspects, reviewing video surveillance, and collecting evidence.

Our patrol officers are very well trained in many areas, including DWI detection and enforcement, mental health crisis, first aid and CPR. They also work closely with businesses on shoplifting and fraud incidents.

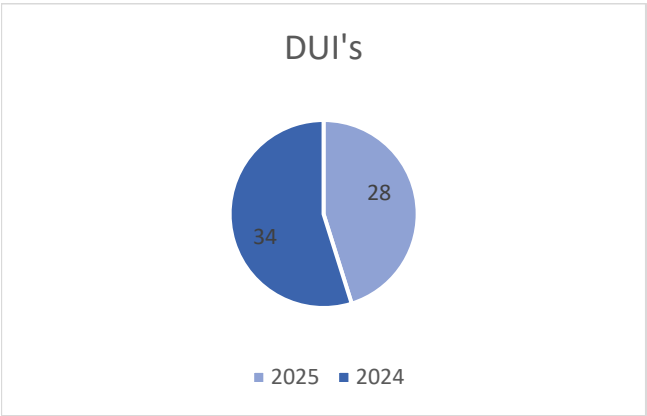
The department has twelve full-time officers and two part-time officers assigned to the patrol division. This area is led by four patrol sergeants.



During the year 2025, officers arrested 28 people for DUI's. This was 6 less than the previous year. These DUI's are not all alcohol related, some are the result of drugs. The Hutchinson Police Department forfeited 4 motor vehicles. The 4 vehicles forfeited were from DWI/controlled substances related crimes and fleeing offenses.

In 2025, officers initiated 1760 traffic stops.

There were slightly less citations issued in 2025 and 137 more verbal warnings issued in 2025 than 2024. It is important to note that not all citations and verbal warnings issued are from traffic stops.

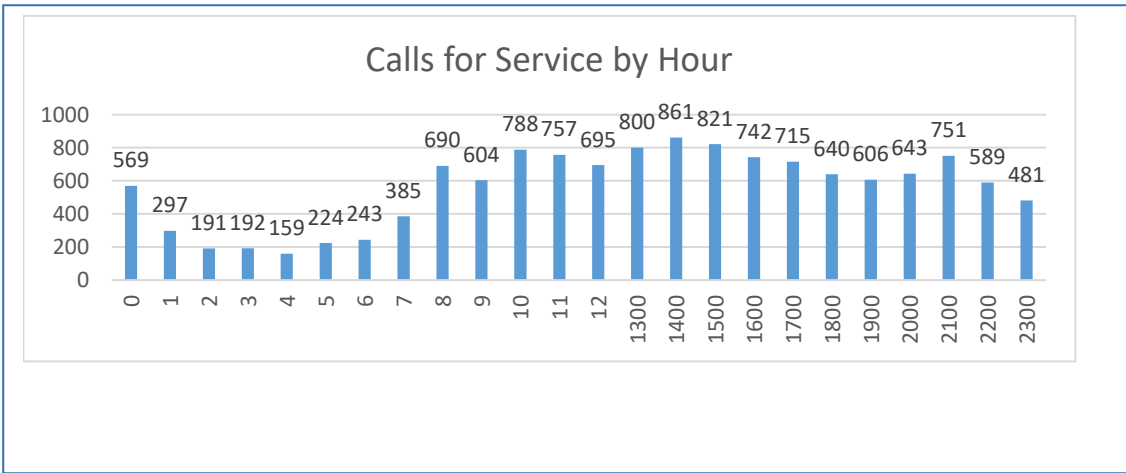


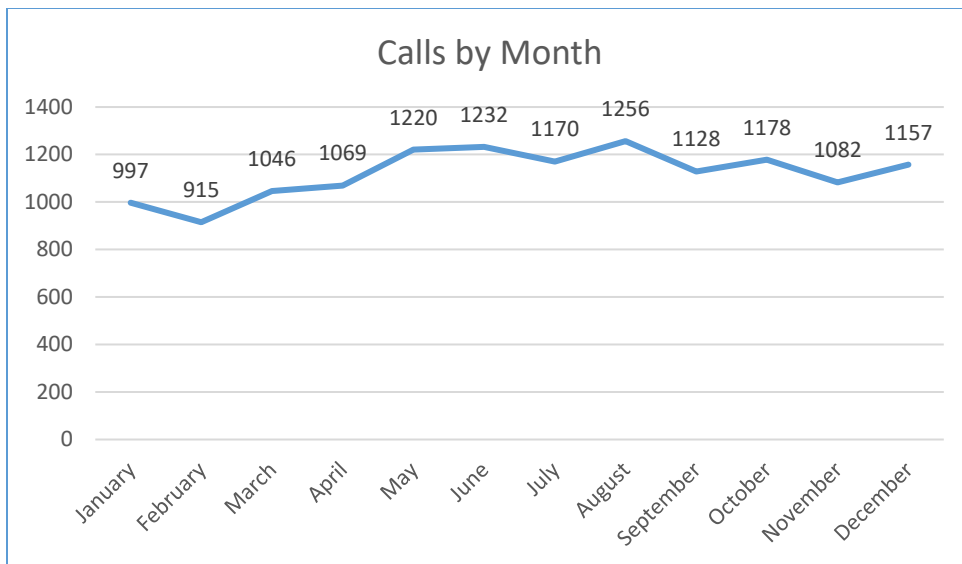
In 2025, officers responded to 381 crashes. 116 of those crashes were minor and didn't require officers to write a state crash report. There were 199 property damage crashes, 13 personal injury crashes and 2 fatal crashes. Of the 381 crashes, 46 of them were hit and runs.

2025 CRASHES	
Property Damage Crashes	199
Personal Injury Crashes	18
Hit and Run Crashes	46

Statistical Information

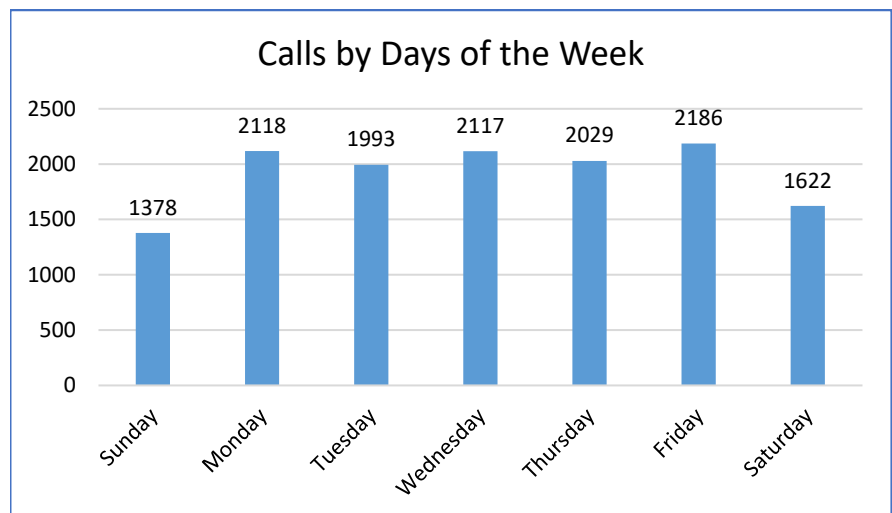
The Hutchinson Police Department responds to calls-for-service twenty-four hours a day and seven days a week. The busiest time frames for the officers in 2025 were 10am and 4pm.





2025 started out below average and slowly increased in spring until fall. February was the lowest month for calls-for-service while August was the highest month.

Friday was the busiest day of the week for calls for service for the Hutchinson Police Department in 2025. Monday through Friday were all very similar for calls. Sunday was slowest day of the week with 1378 calls for service.



Training

Each year the staff of the Hutchinson Police Department participate in various trainings. These trainings allow staff to stay updated on all current policies, information, and technology within law enforcement. The Minnesota Board of Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) requires officers to complete forty-eight hours of continuing education every three years to renew their POST license.

Emergency Vehicle Operations and Police Pursuits (EVOC)

Officers shall demonstrate the knowledge and skill needed to reduce criminal and civil liability when involved in emergency and non-emergency vehicle operations mode. This training must be designed to give officers both skill and decision-making ability so that emergency vehicle operations can be resolved safely and successfully. This will be accomplished with a minimum of eight hours of training, which will include a minimum of four hours of in-vehicle operation. Simulators may be used in addition to in-vehicle and classroom training but will not be used to replace the minimum four hours of in-vehicle training. It is recommended that simulator training be used for decision-making training.

Field Training

The field training process is a 16-week, 640-hour requirement for all new Hutchinson Police Department officer hires. New officers must show progression in job performance and complete all four phases to pass the field training process and become an independent officer.

Patrol Online (PATROL)

To help cities reduce losses related to police liability, LMCIT has developed PATROL—Peace Officer Accredited Training Online. While PATROL delivers twelve new POST-accredited courses per year, subscribers can earn more than forty POST credits per year when they also take PATROL training on POST mandates for **Use of Force and Crisis Intervention and Mental Illness Crisis; Conflict Management and Mediation; Implicit Bias, and Community Diversity and Cultural Differences**. PATROL helps officers stay current on Minnesota legal issues and is based on Minnesota case law. Content is developed with input from police liability experts, insurance defense attorneys, and local law enforcement agencies. Each month, a new course is available for one POST credit.

Additional Training for 2025:

Patrol Online Courses: Use of Force Part 1-4

- Serving Those with Autism Spectrum Disorder 1-4
- Narcan Carry and Use
- Immigration Law Basics for MN Officers
- Transport Holds
- Mental Health Part 1-3
- Officer Safety Searches
- Consent Searches
- Vehicle Searches
- Policing Protests
- Wellness & Emotional Resilience 1-2
- Trust – Part 1: Inside the Agency

Conferences:

- Executive Training Institute Conference (Chief's Conference)
- MSANI CANAM Spring Conference (SWMDTF)
- SOTA Training Conference

Other Trainings:

- Pepperball Initial & Qualification
- Firearms: Inclement Weather
- Firearms: Low Light
- Firearms: Qualifications (x2)
- Defensive Tactics / Use of Force
- Lucas 3
- DMT-G Certification & Recertification
- LE Emergency Vehicle Operations Refresher
- 2025 Legislative & Case Law Updates
- EMS Refresher
- Taser Annual Operator Update
- Evidence Collection: DNA
- BCA Single Certification
- Understanding Mental Warfare
- Alerts: Crime, Missing & Endangered
- Maxims & Truths in Supervision
- MN CIT 16-hour Interactive Role Play
- Active Threat / Critical Incident Patrol Response Practical Training
- Criminal Interdiction Training
- Female Arrest and Control Tactics
- Axon Academy – Taser Instructor
- Basic School Resource Officer Training
- Advanced Vehicle Contraband Concealment
- MN ICAC Basic Investigations
- Car Seat Basics for Law Enforcement
- SWAT Team Leader Development
- GLOCK Armorer's Course
- Police Response to Active Shooter Instructor

Investigations

The Hutchinson Police Department Investigations units are comprised of five licensed officers and one Evidence Technician. This unit is supervised by a Sergeant. The four officer positions within the investigation's unit are the School Resource Officer, Drug Task Force Officer, Juvenile/Child Protection Officer, and General Investigator. All these positions are rotating assignments which allow all officers to gain valuable investigative experience.



The Investigations unit offers valuable support to the patrol officers by following up on investigations that require more time than the patrol officers can give to an incident. The investigations unit is able to spend more time gathering information from witnesses, suspects, and the courts to help solve the crime.

The General Investigator position assists the patrol staff with more complex investigations. The General Investigator also works with social services and specializes in working with vulnerable adult cases.

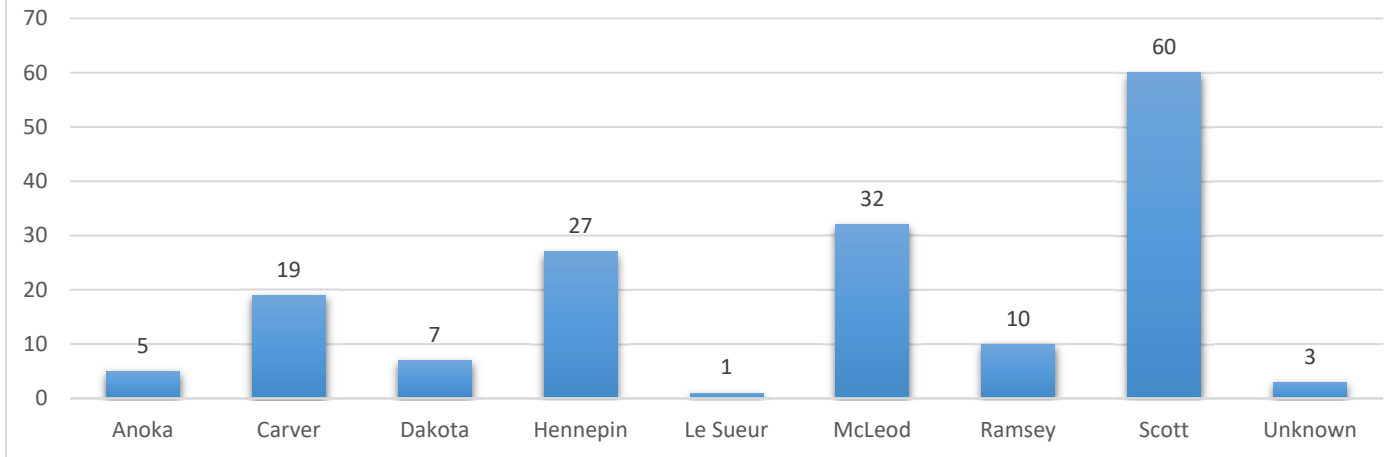
The Evidence Technician position maintains the collection of all the evidence and property entered into the evidence/property room by the officers. This position also sends evidence to the MN BCA for lab testing for DUI's, drugs, and fingerprinting. The Evidence Technician also properly stores and preserves all evidence for future investigations and past investigations.

Southwest Metro Drug Task Force Officer (SWMDTF)

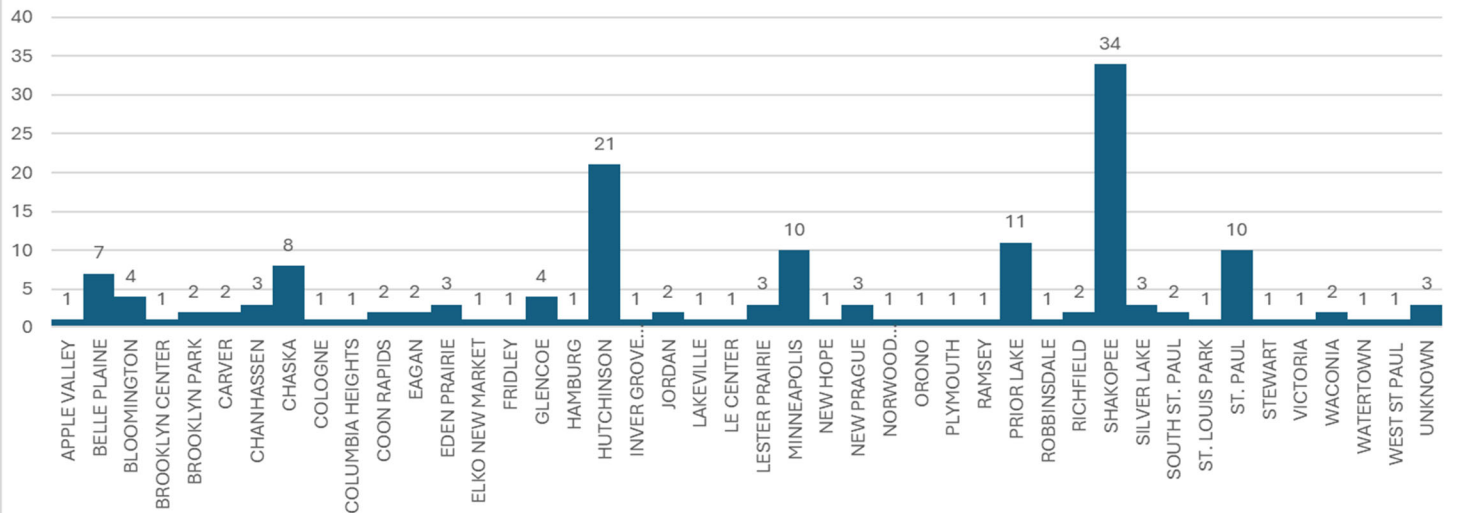
The Drug Task Force position is with the Southwest Metro Drug Task Force. This position works with other counties and cities in drug related incidences to get as many illicit drugs and guns off the street as possible.



Number of Cases Per County - 2025



Cases by City - 2025



School Resource Officer

The Hutchinson Police Department is contracted with the Hutchinson School District for the School Resource Officer. The School Resource Officer position is a four-year rotating position within the police department. The School Resource officer works closely with the Hutchinson High School and Hutchinson Middle School staff and students.



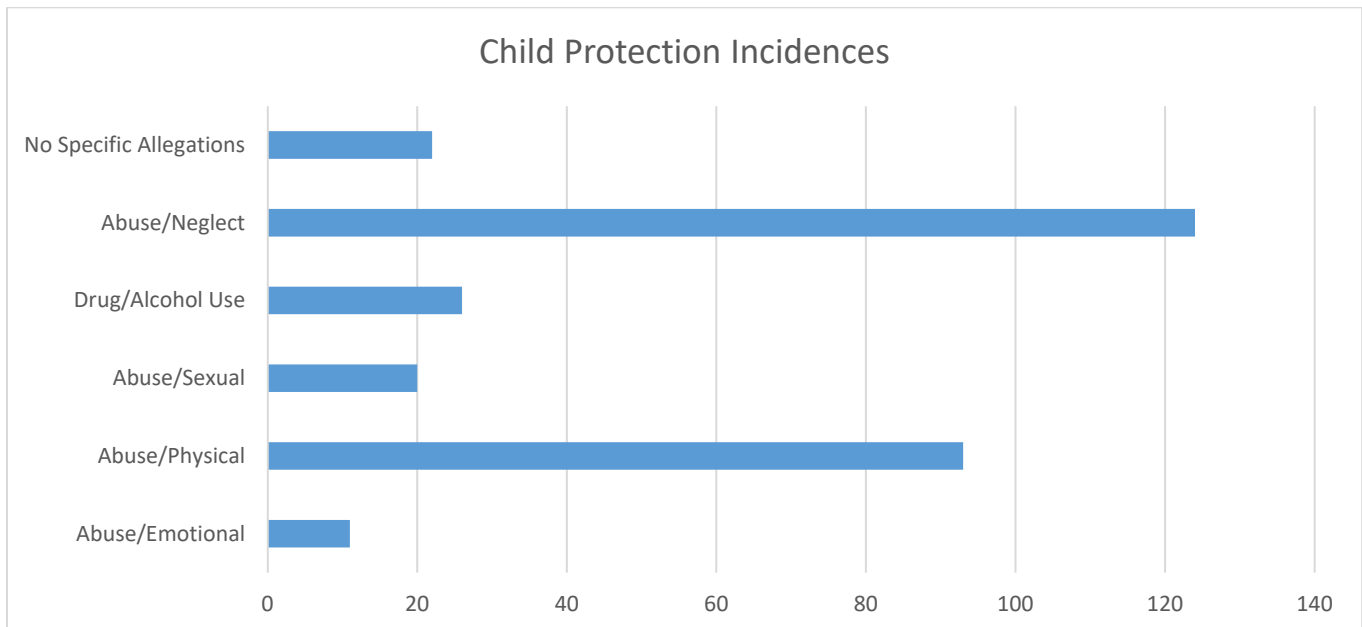
The School Resource Officer has an office within Hutchinson High School and is in the school buildings daily from 7am to 3pm. The relationship the School Resource Officer builds with the staff and students is a great asset for the Hutchinson School District and the Hutchinson Police Department.

There was a total of 280 calls for service at all the schools in the district in 2025. There were 110 incidents at the High School, 58 at the Middle School, 55 at Park Elementary, 50 at Tiger Elementary and 27 at West Elementary.



Child Protection Officer

The Child Protection Officer is a position that works closely with McLeod County Social Services on a daily basis. This is a close relationship that we have determined works best to help children and families in the City of Hutchinson. The Child Protection Officer is a five-year position in the Investigative Unit.



The Child Protection Officer also works closely with the BCA and the predatory offender compliance program. This position ensures that all the predatory offenders within the city of Hutchinson remain compliant with the BCA.



SWAT

The Hutchinson Police Department's Special Response Team (SRT) partners with the McLeod County Sheriff Department's Emergency Response Unit (ERU) to provide officers for tactical response services. The joint tactical team operates under the team name, Crow River SWAT. Officers selected to the team receive advanced training to respond to situations needing high-risk warrant services, crowd control, hostage negotiation, snipers, and critical incidents.

The Hutchinson Police Department's SRT includes highly trained officers who use specialized weapons and tactics to handle high-risk situations beyond the scope of the patrol and investigative divisions. Examples of situations for which the SWAT team would be used include high-risk arrests and warrants, barricaded and armed suspects, hostage rescue, crowd control, dignitary protection, and disaster response. The team's primary goal is to resolve situations as safely as possible for everyone involved.



Crow River SWAT has approximately ten officers from each department on the team. The team also includes a separate crisis negotiation team that works with the tactical team to safely resolve these critical incidents. Officers selected and assigned to team training one day per month on skills and equipment special to the tactical team's mission. To be selected, officers need to have been an officer for a minimum of two years, pass the physical fitness assessment, show proficiency with firearms and defensive tactics skills, and have exhibited sound emergency response skills as a patrol officer.

2025 Crow River SWAT Year End/Activity Report

Personnel:

Commander/Team Leader – Billy Kroll (MCSO)

Commander/Team Leader – Andrew Erlandson (HPD)

Team Leaders:

Sergeant B. Erlandson (HPD)

Sergeant B. Stiles (MCSO)

Sergeant D. Caturia (MCSO)

Sergeant K. Jorgenson (MCSO – 2025)

Sniper(s):

Detective A. DeMeyer (MCSO)

Investigator T. Fenrich (HPD)

Operators:

T. Schmeling (HPD)

M. Salazar (HPD)

B. Hemling (HPD)

J. Villarreal (HPD – 2025)

N. Draper (MCSO)

J. Robbin (MCSO – K9 "Archie")

A. Santana (MCSO)

J. Fahey (MCSO)

Negotiations:

Sergeant J. Nagel (HPD) (Retired in December of 2025)

Sergeant A. Nortrom (HPD)

Sergeant S. Wawrzyniak (MCSO)

Detective M. Rolf (MCSO)

Deputy A. Malz (MCSO)

Officer T. Duenow (HPD)

Dispatch:

J. Graupmann (MCSO)

K. Hildremyr (MCSO)

S. Parpart (MCSO)

Admin and Team Supervisor(S):

Chief T. Gifferson (HPD)

Sheriff T. Langenfeld (MCSO)

Chief Deputy A. Ward (MCSO)

Lieutenant A. Ament (HPD)

J. Otto (MCSO – Dispatch Supervisor)

Support Staff:

Amanda Mayland (HPD)

Cindy Bock (HPD)

Shannon Schermann (HPD)

Sergeant J. Otto (MCSO)

Jim Almquist (McLeod County)

Callouts:

HPD ICR 25005709/MCSO ICR 25005003 – Callout for “Manhunt” in Sibley County (Vance Boelter – Suspect)
Address: 20198 341st Green Isle, MN

Close Calls or Near Misses (Personnel or CRS Equipment Used):

MCSO ICR 25000021 on 01/01/2025 (ARV Assist in Carver County)

MCSO ICR 25003500 (ARV Used in Winsted for a Felony Fleeing Suspect)

MCSO ICR 25007683

December 2025 – Sibley County requested CRS for a threats investigation w/ Metro Transit

MCSO ICR 25012153 (Sibley County requested CRS for a suicidal male in Arlington, MN)

HPD ICR# 25011920 (Weapons Violation – 2nd Degree Assault)

MCSO ICR# 25010214 (Weapons Violation)

2025 Statistics for Equipment/Negotiations requested

MCSO	25000021	Assists	1/1/2025	ARV
MCSO	25003098	Training/Meeting	4/17/2025	ARV
MCSO	25003500	Traffic Stop	4/29/2025	ARV
MCSO	25004063	Training/Meeting	5/15/2025	ARV
MCSO	25004298	School Resource	5/22/2025	ARV
MCSO	25006803	Training/Meeting	7/31/2025	ARV
MCSO	25007645	Training/Meeting	8/21/2025	ARV
MCSO	25007683	Assists	8/22/2025	ARV
MCSO	25012153	Assists	12/19/2025	ARV
MCSO	25002504	Alarms	3/29/2025	UAV
MCSO	25003500	Traffic Stop	4/29/2025	UA
MCSO	25003710	Assists	5/6/2025	UAV
MCSO	25004240	Assists	5/21/2025	UAV
MCSO	25004298	School Resource	5/22/2025	UAV
MCSO	25004506	Checks	5/29/2025	UAV
MCSO	25004739	Missing Person	6/5/2025	UAV
MCSO	25005001	School Resource	6/14/2025	UAV
MCSO	25005003	Tactical Team	6/14/2025	UAV
MCSO	25005759	Assists	7/3/2025	UAV2
MCSO	25006391	Assists	7/19/2025	UAV
MCSO	25006803	Training/Meeting	7/31/2025	UAV
MCSO	25007348	Traffic Stop	8/13/2025	UAV
MCSO	25007683	Assists	8/22/2025	UAV
MCSO	25007731	Accident	8/23/2025	UAV
MCSO	25008561	Burglary	9/14/2025	UAV
MCSO	25008591	Checks	9/15/2025	UAV
MCSO	25008594	Alarms	9/15/2025	UAV
MCSO	25008599	School Resource	9/15/2025	UAV2
MCSO	25009353	Assists	10/2/2025	UAV
MCSO	25009676	School Resource	10/10/2025	UAV
MCSO	25010569	Motorist Assist	11/3/2025	UAV
MCSO	25010710	Assists	11/7/2025	UAV
MCSO	25010868	Mental Health	11/12/2025	UAV
MCSO	25012153	Assists	12/19/2025	UAV
MCSO	25012493	Assists	12/31/2025	UAV

2025 Equipment Upgrades:

(2) Mini-Drones - (MCSO)

360 Degree Camera - (MCSO)

40 MM Launcher(s) – (MCSO)

Upgraded Light System(s) for Rifles – (HPD)

Pepper Ball & Launchers – (HPD)

Sniper Rifle Upgrade – (HPD)

ARV – Upgrade equipment from J & N Tactical – (MCSO)

Rifle Suppressors – (MCSO)

2025 Crow River SWAT Training:

The Crow River SWAT trained 11 out of 12 months in 2025, missing the month of June due to special events/schedule conflicts.

The synopsis of each month of trainings can be included if requested. Highlights from 2025 Training is as follows:

- Annandale Shootouse (Stress Inoculation Training)
- "Full" Callout training in Sibley County
- Vacant property on North High Drive used several times
- Gopher Campfire was used (2) times in 2025 including a low-light training in October

Officer T. Fenrich attended the SOTA Conference in St. Cloud, MN and was elected to the Board.

Included in individual training as well, Officer B. Hemling attended TEMS (Tactical Medic) School hosted at Camp Ripley.

2025 Individual Training:

Team Leader Development (NTOA - Sgt. A. Erlandson)

Active Shooter Instructor (NTOA – Officer T. Fenrich & Deputy N. Draper)

Pepper-Ball Instructor (Pepper-Ball – Sgt. B. Erlandson & Officer M. Salazar)

2025 SOTA Conference (Officer M. Salazar, Officer T. Schmeling, Deputy Robbin, Deputy Santana, Deputy Malz, Investigator Rolf, and Sgt. Kroll)

NSSF Shot – Show – (Las Vegas, NV – Sgt. Wawrzyniak and Deputy Draper)

Rifle Instructor – (Sgt. Wawrzyniak, Deputy DeMeyer, and Deputy Draper)

Less Lethal Munitions – (Deputy Fahey)

MN Crisis Intervention Training – (Sgt. A. Erlandson, Sgt. B. Erlandson, Officer B. Hemling, Officer M. Salazar, Officer T. Fenrich, Officer T. Schmeling, Officer J. Villarreal, Deputy Robbin, Deputy Fahey, and Sgt. D. Caturia)

TEMS (Tactical Medic) – (Officer B. Hemling)

Records Units

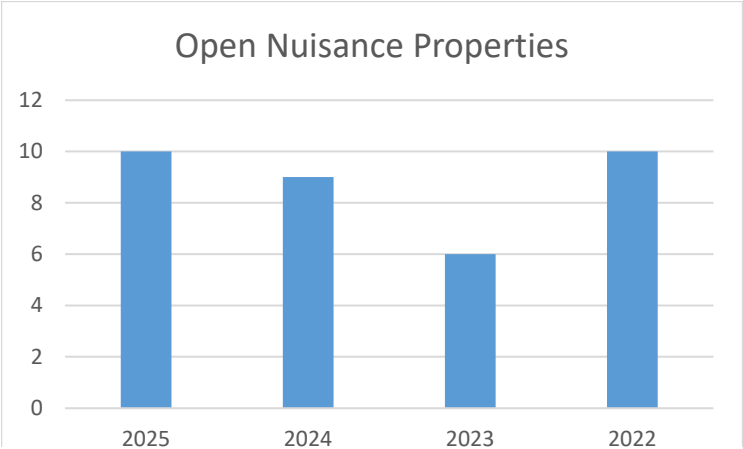
The records units for the Hutchinson Police Department consists of four full-time employees. The records unit has a variety of tasks and assists the Chief, Lieutenant, Investigations, and patrol officers with daily duties. The records unit answers phone calls from the public and assists the citizens who come into the lobby of the police department. Citizens come into the lobby for a wide variety of reasons, but most common are records requests, animal licenses, and fingerprinting.

The records unit is an intricate and vital part of the police department. They ensure reports are processed properly and sent to the City of Hutchinson and McLeod County Attorneys for charges on offenders. They handle the dissemination of officer’s reports to social services, probation, and citizens who request data. They also complete public data requests, permit to purchase handgun applications, monthly statistical data reports to the State of MN, the billing for the police department, the annual police report, and ensure everyone in the police department is current on their required training through the BCA.

Public Records Request	753
Permit to Purchase/Conceal Carry Background Requests from Other Agencies	420
Other Agency Background Requests (Social Services, Probation, Housing and Redevelopment Authority)	172

Code Enforcement – Nuisance Property

The Hutchinson Police Department has a Code Enforcement Officer who is assigned to all the nuisance properties in the City of Hutchinson. The Code Enforcement Officer is a three-year rotating position. This position maintains the files and speaks to the property owners to try and get the properties in compliance with City of Hutchinson Ordinances. The Code Enforcement Officer also does random checks on these properties to try and determine if work is being performed to get these properties in compliance. If the properties are brought into compliance, the officer will close out the report. If the properties are not brought into compliance within the agreed amount of time, the Code Enforcement Officer then issues a citation or sends a report to the City of Hutchinson Attorney requesting charges against the owner.



Axon Body Cameras/Fleet

The Hutchinson Police Department implemented Axon body cameras in 2016 with a donation from a local area business. This was a great push in getting AXON body cameras for every officer in the department. Hutchinson Police Department policy states that officers must have their body cameras recording during any interaction they are dispatched to or come upon.



	Total Uploads
Number of Videos	16562.0
Hours of Videos	3374.7347305555554
GB of Videos	6206.527914476581

	Active AXON Evidence
Number of Active Videos	8633.0
Hours of Active Videos	2109.911088888889
GB of Active Videos	3870.5118565317243

	Average Per Day
Number of Videos Uploaded	45.37534246575343
Hours of Video Uploaded	9.245848576864535
GB of Video Uploaded	17.004186067059127

Categories	Files	GB	% Files	% GB
Report	14833	3478.347663	72.81429483	70.69818352
Traffic Stops	3714	893.3535912	18.23180011	18.1576088
No Action Take	1442	442.0672326	7.078690295	8.985114017
Permanent Retention (Admin Use Only)	248	32.30331513	1.217416916	0.656572006
Accidental Recording	69	34.09566111	0.338716803	0.693001833
Uncategorized	56	36.49537424	0.274900594	0.741776532
Training	5	1.39774049	0.024544696	0.028409384
Administrative (Supervisor Only)	2	1.46776437	0.009817878	2.983263474
Critical Incident	2	1.935211856	0.009817878	0.039333608

Citizens Police Academy

The original concept of the Citizen Police Academy (CPA) came from Great Britain, where the United Kingdom (UK) Constabulary designed a program to give citizens an overview of British law enforcement operations. Known as "police night school" when it began in 1977, the program was an immediate success.

The Hutchinson Citizen Police Academy (CPA) is a community-oriented policing program that is conducted once a year in order to accomplish three goals:

- To allow citizens of Hutchinson to meet the men and women who serve them.
- To educate in the "how's and why's" of law enforcement.
- To provide Hutchinson Police Officers the opportunity to meet and hear from the citizens they serve.

The Hutchinson Citizen's Police Academy is ten weeks long and ran from January 2025 through February 2025. CPA Participants are given a realistic view of the Hutchinson Police Department. A wide variety of topics are discussed: department history, organizational structure, police officer selection and training, communications/records, tools and equipment, officer survival, patrol procedures, DUI and traffic enforcement, use of force or deadly force, arrest procedures, handling of traffic accidents and criminal investigations, gangs, pursuit driving, chaplain program, crime prevention, critical incidents, youth issues and liaisons, reserves/volunteer services, and a myriad of other law enforcement subjects. In addition, opportunities to tour the police department and ride along with a police officer are provided to CPA students.



CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY
LEARNING ABOUT WHAT WE DO TO PROTECT YOU



Public Works (Engineering, Operations & Maintenance, Water, Wastewater)

Core Services

Essential Services

(Programs, services and infrastructure without which the city would not survive)

- Snow removal & ice control
- Street maintenance
- Emergency management
- Stormwater & flood management
- Wastewater treatment & collection
- Water treatment & distribution

Critical Services

(Programs, services, and infrastructure critical to maintaining essential services or necessary to support essential services)

- Bridge maintenance
- Engineering services
- Forestry operations
- Environmental services
- Fleet management
- Facility management
- Planning & Development services
- Right-of-Way management
- Risk management & legal review
- Biosolids management
- Dam maintenance
- Lift stations, wastewater systems
- Meter reading
- Environmental regulations
- Street sweeping & cleaning
- Utility coordination
- Utility locating

Basic Services

(Programs, services and infrastructure that significantly improve the quality of life or meet basic needs of the majority of citizens)

- Assessment administration
- Cemetery services
- GIS mapping
- Infrastructure planning
- Mosquito control
- Property data management
- Residential leaf vacuum service
- Streetlights
- Sump pumps & drainage
- Traffic operations
- Trail/sidewalk maintenance
- Transportation planning

Targeted Services

(Programs, services and infrastructure that significantly improve the quality of life or meets special needs of a specific subgroup of citizens)

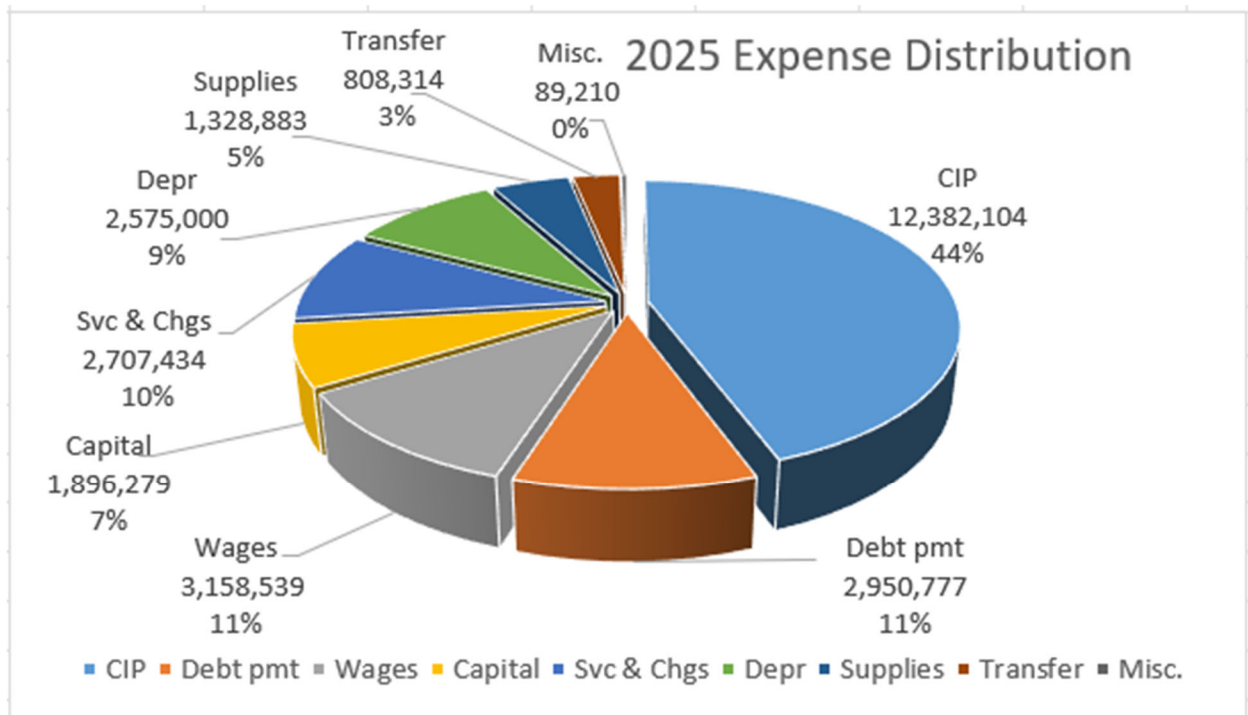
- Airport
- Alleys
- Parking Lots
- Public Event support
- General customer service

Special Services

(Programs, services and infrastructure that, if removed, would not significantly reduce the quality of life of citizens)

- Crow River fountain

The majority of Public Works services are classified as Essential or Critical services. Many of the services classified as Basic services and Targeted services either support higher-level services or improve the quality of life within the City.



2025 Public Works
Budgeted Expenditures
(all departments, CIP)
\$27,896,540

Engineering

Primary services

Under the leadership of the City Engineer, Engineering provides the following primary services:

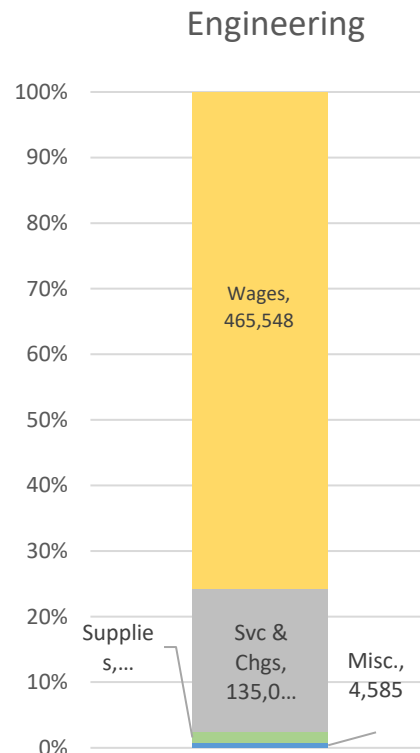
- Work with City departments to develop, design, and deliver public infrastructure projects.
- Prepare and administer Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), associated financing.
- Oversee public improvement construction contracts and funding from outside sources.
- Calculate special assessments associated with improvements and assist with assessment records and searches.
- Correspond and coordinate with other agencies and utilities regarding infrastructure improvements affecting the city.
- Review and provide support to developments done by private entities and the City's EDA.
- Oversee and ensure compliance with environmental regulations for water, wastewater and storm water.

Workforce (3.80 FTE):

- Mike Stifter Public Works Director
- Brandon Braithwaite, PE City Engineer
- Chad Muchow Sr Engr Tech
- Corey Kurth Sr Engr Tech
- Jocey Jacobson Engr Secretary
- *Seasonal labor 0.20 FTE*

2025 Engineering budgets

Engineering:	\$ 615,365
CIP-Infrastructure	\$ 6,019,824
CIP-Wastewater	\$ 3,606,323
CIP-Water	\$ 1,220,957
CIP-Storm Water	\$ 886,000
CIP-Engineering	\$ -
All Funds:	\$12,348,469



01/25 John Paulson departure for Apex Engineering
04/25 Keith Messner departure due to retirement
04/25 Corey Kurth start as Senior Engineering Tech
05/25 Kylie Luedtke start as Seasonal Staff
06/25 Brandon Braithwaite start as City Eng/Asst P Wx

Under the guidance of the Public Works Director and City Engineer, working with other agencies and departments, Engineering facilitates cost-effective management of the City's physical infrastructure. To meet the City's vision, goals, policies, ordinances and standards, Engineering works to plan, administer and deliver a variety of improvements that provide for a multi-use transportation system, quality public facilities and quality utility services (water, sanitary sewer, storm water), all while striving to create a functional, connected, clean and healthy environment within the City.

Operations & Maintenance

Streets & Roadways, Forestry, Cemetery, Airport, HATS Facility and Stormwater

Primary services

Under the leadership of the Public Works Manager, Operations & Maintenance provides the following primary services:

- Roadway maintenance
- Snow removal & ice control
- Distribution system maintenance
- Collection system maintenance
- Vehicle & equipment maintenance
- Forestry operations
- Facility maintenance
- Cemetery operations
- Traffic operations
- Street sweeping & cleaning
- General services
- Administration & training

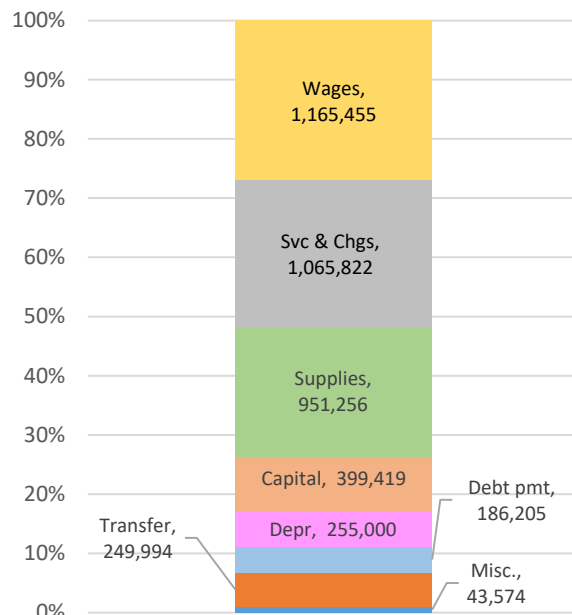
Workforce (11.35 FTE):

- Donovan Schuette Public Works Manager
- James Trnka Maint Lead Operator
- Hannah Kruger Arborist
- Tim Read Equipment Mechanic
- Mitchell Thompson Sr PW Maint Operator
- VACANT Pete Dehn retirement
- Joshua Alnes Sr PW Maint Operator
- Goeffrey Hansen Sr PW Maint Specialist
- Aron Burmeister PW Maint Operator
- Nicholas Pagel PW Maint Operator
- Benjamin Schmidt PW Maint Operator
- McCoy Zajicek Sr PW Maint Operator
- Sonja Muellerleile PW Secretary
- *Seasonal labor 1.75 FTE*

2025 Operations & Maintenance budgets

Streets & Roadways:	\$1,714,063
Stormwater:	\$1,463,494
HATS Facility:	\$ 679,845
Cemetery:	\$ 176,508
Airport:	\$ 282,815
<i>CIP-Airport</i>	<i>\$ 235,000</i>
<i>CIP-HATS Facility</i>	<i>\$ 0</i>
<i>CIP-Streets</i>	<i>\$ 354,000</i>
<i>CIP-Cemetery</i>	<i>\$ 60,000</i>
All funds:	\$4,965,725

Operations & Maint



Staffing has settled in 2025 after a wave of retirements and backfills from 2024. One vacancy remains as 2026 gets underway. Public Works operations & maintenance employees are involved in providing many different services, routinely working across all divisions performing a wide variety of tasks to support departmental goals. The department's management team consists of the Public Works Director, Public Works Manager, the Water Manager, Wastewater Manager and City Engineer/Asst Public Works Director.

Water

Primary services

Under the leadership of the Water Manager, Water provides operations and maintenance services in the following areas:

- Water treatment
- Treatment plant operations & maintenance
- Water towers and storage
- Water meters
- Distribution system maintenance
- Response to service interruptions
- Coordination with improvement projects
- Utility locates
- Facility maintenance

Workforce (5.63 FTE):

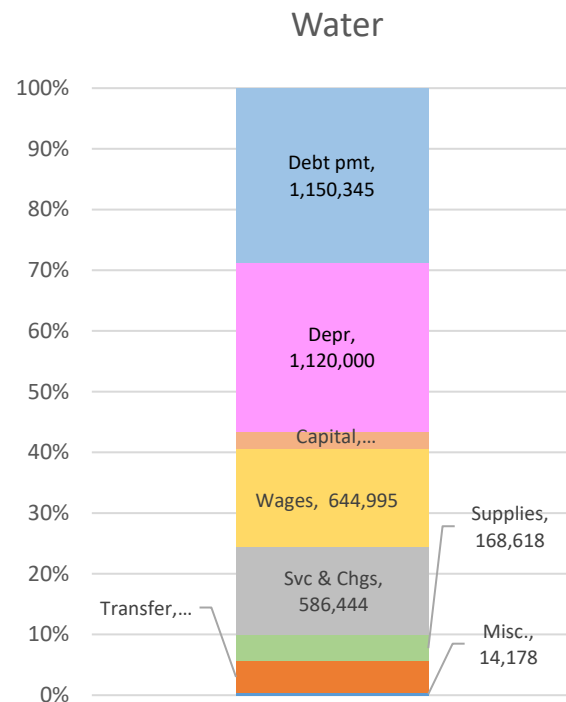
- Eric Levine Water Manager
- Jim Navratil Sr Water Plant Operator
- Randy Czech Water Plant Operator
- Finance staff 0.60 FTE
- *Seasonal labor* 0.25 FTE
- Ops and Maint 2.275 FTE

A W/WW Relief Operator was approved for 2025.

2025 Water budgets

Water:	\$4,009,567
<i>CIP-Water</i>	<u><i>\$1,220,957</i></u>
	\$5,230,524

A half-cent sales tax generates revenue of over \$1 million per year. This revenue helps to pay outstanding treatment plant debt.



The Water Manager oversees and coordinates staff involved in day-to-day operations and maintenance of the wells, water treatment plant, water storage, water meters and related process equipment and facilities. The Water and Wastewater divisions work together daily, assisting one another to ensure both plants function properly and meet permit requirements.

Major projects in 2025 consisted of a follow-up to the Service Line Inventory as required by the EPA as well as a completion of the Residential Water Meter project that replaced approximately 4200 of the nearly 5000 water meters in the community.

Wastewater

Primary services

Under the leadership of the Wastewater Manager, Wastewater provides operations and maintenance services in the following areas:

- Wastewater treatment
- Treatment facility operations & maintenance
- Collection system maintenance
- Response to service interruptions
- Coordination with improvement projects
- Utility locates
- Facility maintenance

Workforce (8.425 FTE):

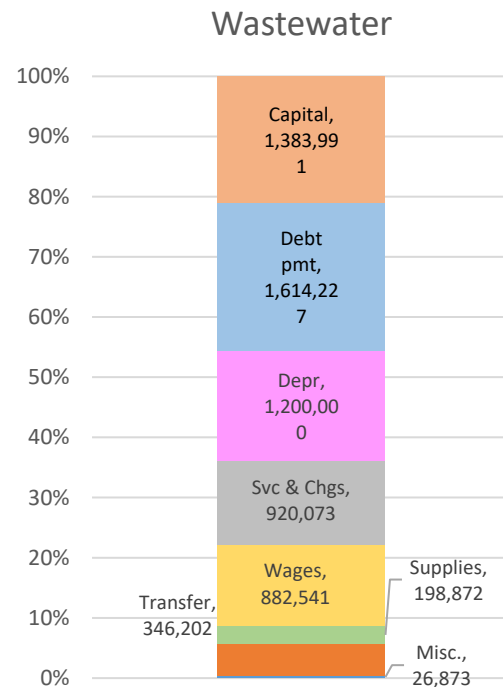
- Bruce Frandle Wastewater Manager
- Zac Pedersen Wastewater Operator
- Eric Moore Sr WW Maint Operator
- Deb Paulson Lab Tech/WW Operator
- Tim Jarl WW Maint Operator
- Jace Drape Wastewater Operator
- Finance staff 0.60 FTE
- *Seasonal labor* 0.50 FTE
- Ops and Maint 3.475 FTE

01/25 Bruce Frandle started as Manager

2025 Wastewater budgets

Wastewater: **\$6,572,779**
CIP-Wastewater **\$3,606,323**
\$10,179,102

A half-cent sales tax generates revenue of over \$800,000 per year. This revenue helps to pay outstanding treatment plant debt.



The Wastewater Manager oversees and coordinates the staff involved in day-to-day operations and maintenance of the wastewater treatment facility, lift stations and related process equipment and facilities. The Water and Wastewater divisions work together daily, assisting one another to ensure both plants function properly and meet permit requirements.

While there was a considerable amount of transition in 2024, 2025 was a stable year with the addition of the new Wastewater Manager to start the year.

A major Biosolids project kicked off in Fall 2025 to replace two original Belt Presses with Centrifuges. Revenues on hand are expected to cover a portion of the cost. A landscaping project to improve accessibility at the Stoney Point lift station was also completed.

2025 Significant Accomplishments

Major Improvements

- Chip and Fog Seal Lynn Road, Market St, and California Streets
- Microsurface asphalt preservative treatment 5th Ave from Lynn Rd to the 3M entrance.
- In-house RePlay asphalt sealant of over 2 miles of roads and trails
- Reconstruct Water Plant north entrance
- Mill and Overlay 1/3 of cemetery roads
- Dale Street Full Depth Reclaim
- Hassan Street Partial Reclaim
- Stoney Point Partial Reclaim
- Elk Ridge Estates Housing Development
- The Landing infrastructure improvements

Utilities Projects

Water

- Installed most of the remaining 150 residential water meters
- Bleach bulk tank was re-lined
- Insurance Services Office survey done
- Launched a customer portal for residents to monitor water usage
- New gate operator installed
- Wellhead protection plan evaluation and inner wellhead management zone inventory completed
- GPS located 90% of curb stops city wide

Wastewater

- Replacement of 4 VFDs at main lift
- New access at Stoney Point lift station
- Construction of concrete spill pad at septic receiving point
- Installation of new roof and siding at main lift station storage building
- Cleaning of final clarifiers to inspect and do minor repairs of structure
- Cleaning of grit and debris in digesters
- Rebuilding of HATS main lift station
- Updated multiple valves in clarifier bldg
- Solids Improvement project initiated

Infrastructure Maintenance

- Street repairs and patching
- Trail repairs
- Alleys & Parking Lots
- Storm sewer repairs (various locations)
- Water and Sewer service line repairs across 15+ sites

Facility Projects

- Airport
 - Hangar 3 rebuild resulting from storm damage
 - Private hangar construction
 - Tree removal in preparation for snow removal equipment shed construction
 - Ditch cleaning and culvert installation
- Cemetery
 - Mill and overlay of 1/3 of roads

Vehicles & Equipment

- Ops & Maint
 - Single-axle snowplow truck
 - Insert spreader
 - Water infrastructure service truck
 - Modular skid steer box plow
 - Leaf Vacuum
- Water
 - ½ ton pickup

Sustainability

- Submitted 23 solar projects to the State for consideration (19 that were funded, 14 City and 5 HUC)

2026 Major Goals & Objectives

Major Improvements

- Edmonton Ave reclaim project bid and complete
- 2026 Pavement Improvements bid and complete
- Complete The Landing infrastructure improvements
- Reclamite asphalt preservative on the last 5 years of road construction projects
- Ace hardware parking lot reclaim
- Increase ash removals and replacements
- Montreal / Edmonton roundabout design
- School Road Transportation Study
- Michigan Street Pond Design

Utilities Projects

Water

- Membrane replacement
- Replacement of 1.5" to 6" water meters
- Biofilter air modifications
- Well Rehab
- RRA and ERP updates

Wastewater

- Completion of the biosolids upgrade
- Clarifier project design
- Replacement of diffusers and cleaning debris in the MBR tanks
- Repair and prep west oxidation ditch
- Complete PFAS source reduction grant
- Complete and submit new wastewater permit

Stormwater

- New MS4 Permit for 2026-2031
- Review/recommend I and I program

Distribution/Collection

- Commence system wide sanitary lining project
- Review/Budget for purchase of televising system for sanitary and storm

Infrastructure Maintenance

- Street repairs, patching
- 50,000 lineal feet of crack seal
- Trail repairs
- RePlay 2-3 miles of roads
- Alleys & parking lots
- Stormwater pond & pipe repair

Facility Projects

- Airport
 - Hangars 1 and 2 reskin and reroof, south taxiway mill and overlay, taxiway crack seal, snow removal shed construction
- HATS Facility
 - New roof, car wash improvements
- Water
 - Ash removal across entire campus
- Stormwater
 - Michigan Street Pond continued site prep work

Vehicles & Equipment

- Ops & Maint
 - 1-ton pickup, ½ ton pickup, toolcat utility vehicle, tracked skid loader

Sustainability

- Solar installations (14) on city facilities
- Explore fleet vehicle electrification

2026 Major Goals & Objectives continued

Funding, Studies, Planning & Initiatives

Street Corridor Project Initiatives

- School Rd Corridor Study
- Safe Routes to School report completed
- 10-year Infrastructure Plan created

HATS Facility

- Support McLeod County and MnDOT in plan for state bonding for the addition of 18,000 SF vehicle & equipment storage, fueling site construction and mechanics' shop improvements.

Airport

- Hangar 1 and 2 reroof and reskin, south taxiway mill and overlay, snow removal equipment shed construction, taxiway crack fill.
- Support Mn CAP funding requests to complete their training facility.

Lakes and River Basin Improvements

- Pursue additional funding sources to support improvements.
- Identify and coordinate proposed improvements with Mn Dept. of Natural Resources, McLeod County and Renville County Soil & Water Conservation Districts.

McLeod County Public Works

- Coordinate potential County/City street improvements (Bluff/Waller, N High Drive, South Grade Rd)
- Collaborate on School Rd Corridor study
- Complete Turnback Agreement for Jefferson

Water Distribution System

- Phase 2 of a Water Plant Study conducted
- Cross-connection/backflow program reviewed and updated
- Bulk Fill replacement plan created (combo with new Dump Station)

Wastewater

- Optimization of biosolids management operations
- PFAS monitoring and source reduction efforts; new SIU local limits
- Relicensing application completed
- Commence system wide pipelining program
- Dumpstation replacement plan created (combo with new Bulk Fill Station)

Stormwater Collection/Treatment Systems

- Stormwater Pollution Plan inhouse reviews

City Sustainability Committee

- Reinvigorate Sustainability Committee
- Support/Promote community solar installations

Other

- Assist in updating of Safe Routes to School Plan
- Assist with development of the City's updated 5-year Strategic Plan

On an ongoing basis, Public Works staff works closely with MnDOT, McLeod County Public Works, MnDNR, MPCA, MDH, and other government agencies to identify, develop and/or coordinate improvements and initiatives.

Community Survey

Periodically the City conducts the National Community Survey. In the most recent 2023 survey, citizens identified the Economy and Safety as their two most important issues. Several categories in the survey relate to Public Works, including:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Comparison to national benchmark</u>	
Overall quality of trans system	63%	Similar	
Ease of walking	84%	Higher	<i>slight decrease from 2019</i>
Travel by bicycle	78%	Higher	<i>slight increase from 2019</i>
Travel by public transportation	38%	Similar	<i>slight decrease from 2019</i>
Travel by car	80%	Similar	<i>slight increase from 2019</i>
Public parking	70%	Similar	<i>slight increase from 2019</i>
Traffic flow	53%	Similar	<i>slight increase from 2019</i>
Street repair	43%	Similar	<i>significant incr. from 2019</i>
Street cleaning	68%	Similar	<i>significant incr. from 2019</i>
Street lighting	74%	Similar	<i>slight decrease from 2019</i>
Snow removal	76%	Similar	<i>same as 2019</i>
Sidewalk maintenance	64%	Similar	<i>slight decrease from 2019</i>
Traffic signal timing	57%	Similar	<i>same as 2019</i>
Drinking water	84%	Similar	<i>slight increase from 2019</i>
Sewer services	88%	Similar	<i>slight decrease from 2019</i>
Storm drainage	86%	Higher	<i>slight increase from 2019</i>

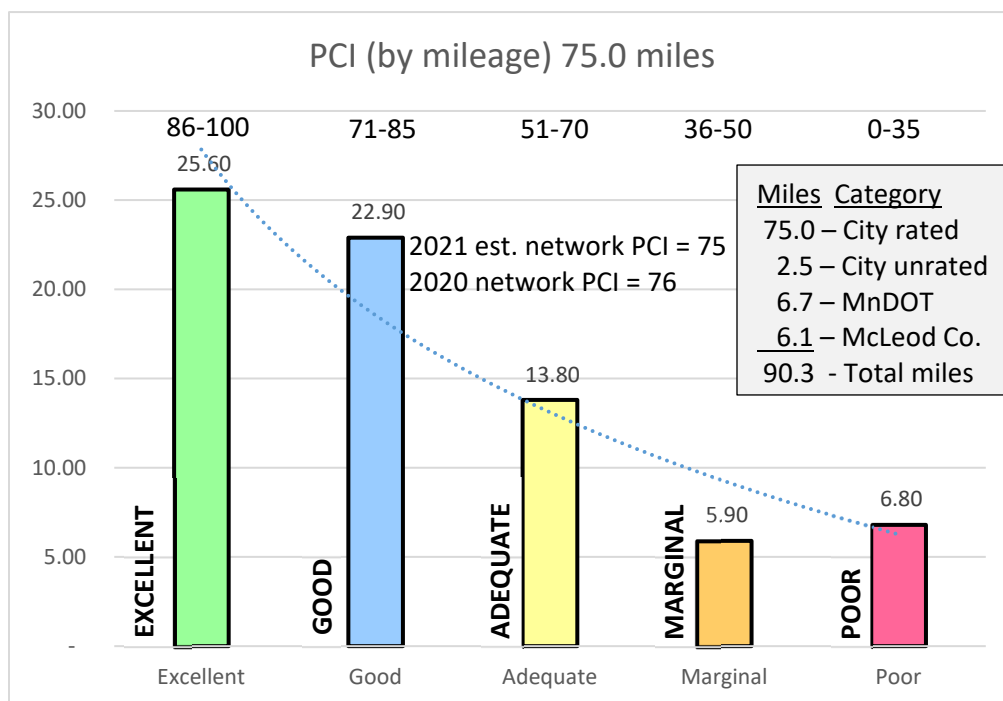
These surveys help to identify strengths and weaknesses in services provided by the department. Most residents positively assessed the overall quality of the transportation system in Hutchinson. Several categories were rated higher than national benchmarks, including ease of travel by walking, the availability of paths and walking trails and storm water drainage. In 2023, residents gave significantly higher ratings to street repair and street cleaning. There were slight increases in several categories and slight decreases in other categories, but overall, 2023's survey improved.

Street repair increased by 17 points, making it the most significant improvement since 2019, resulting in scores comparable to communities nationwide. Street cleaning increased by 10 points, another area of significant improvement compared to 2019.

About 65% of residents supported a \$250,000 property tax increase dedicated to fixing, repairing and upgrading city streets and related infrastructure. Similarly, 59% of respondents supported a \$500,000 tax increase. About 47% of respondents supported a \$1,000,000 tax increase. As expected, considering the increase in Street repair scores, these represented a slight decrease.

Public Works staff believes that positive street repair responses may have been influenced by several busy, private roadways and private parking lots being repaired in the survey period, following significant frost damage in 2019. The city does not maintain private roadways and parking lots. Several major public capital projects and overlays done in the survey period, which also likely affected improved street repair scores.

Pavement Management



Since 1996, the city has used a pavement management system to help manage its significant investment in pavements, worth well over \$250 million in replacement cost.

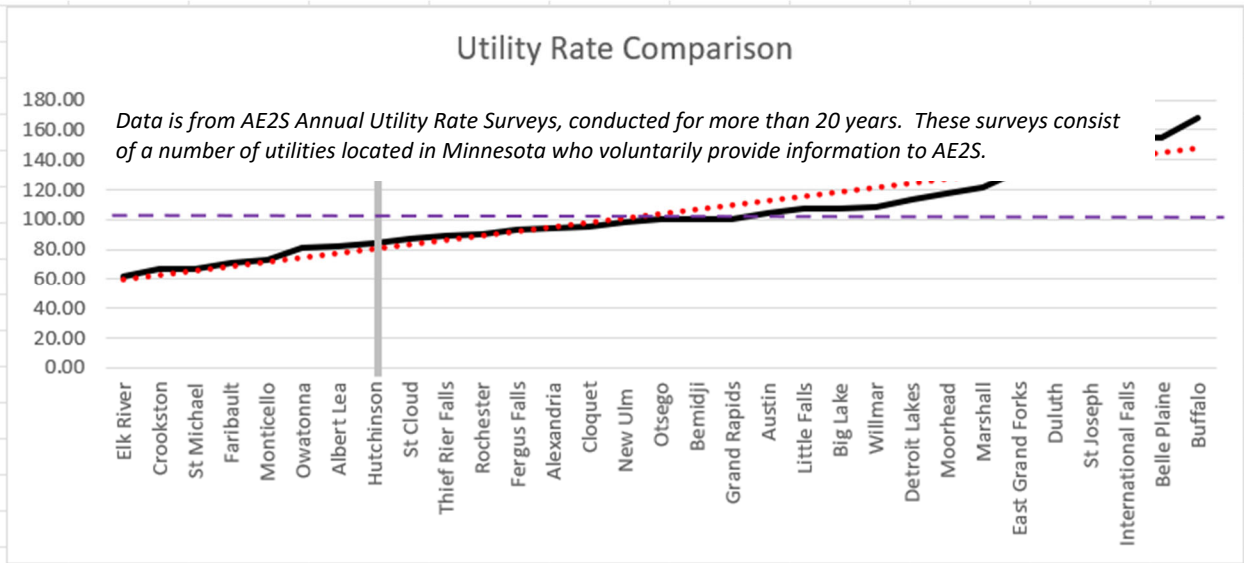
A Pavement Condition Index (PCI) is determined by periodically conducting physical surveys of each pavement section. Surveyors catalog pavement distresses and assign corresponding deductions. PCI is based on a 100-point scale (100 = no distress; 0 = fully deteriorated street). Further categories are: Excellent, Good, Adequate, Marginal and Poor.

The City's goal is to maintain network PCI at 65–75. The current estimated network PCI = 75. In 2023 and 2020, the last surveys, network PCI was 76. Between physical surveys, pavement sections are assigned predetermined deterioration curves to calculate estimated PCI. Maintaining stable scores over the last 7 years shows that spending and project selection are effective and efficient.

Using average costs for various maintenance options, a budget is calculated. The budget considers increasing PCI by 10%, decreasing PCI by 10% or keeping PCI scores the same. Projects identified in all three scenarios represent high value projects, so they typically end up in the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Other considerations also affect project selection, such as traffic safety, condition of related infrastructure, provision for pedestrian and bicycle facilities, etc.

The system continues to indicate a need for more reclaim and overlay projects. Several small maintenance overlay projects have been done recently, and larger reclaim or overlay projects are included in the CIP. Reclaim projects along with spot utility repairs have proven to be very cost-effective. Increasing attention has also been paid to preservation techniques using RePlay or Reclamite as well as more aggressive crack and sealcoating/fog seal applications.

Utility Rates - Total



Source: AE2S 2025 Annual Utility Rate Survey

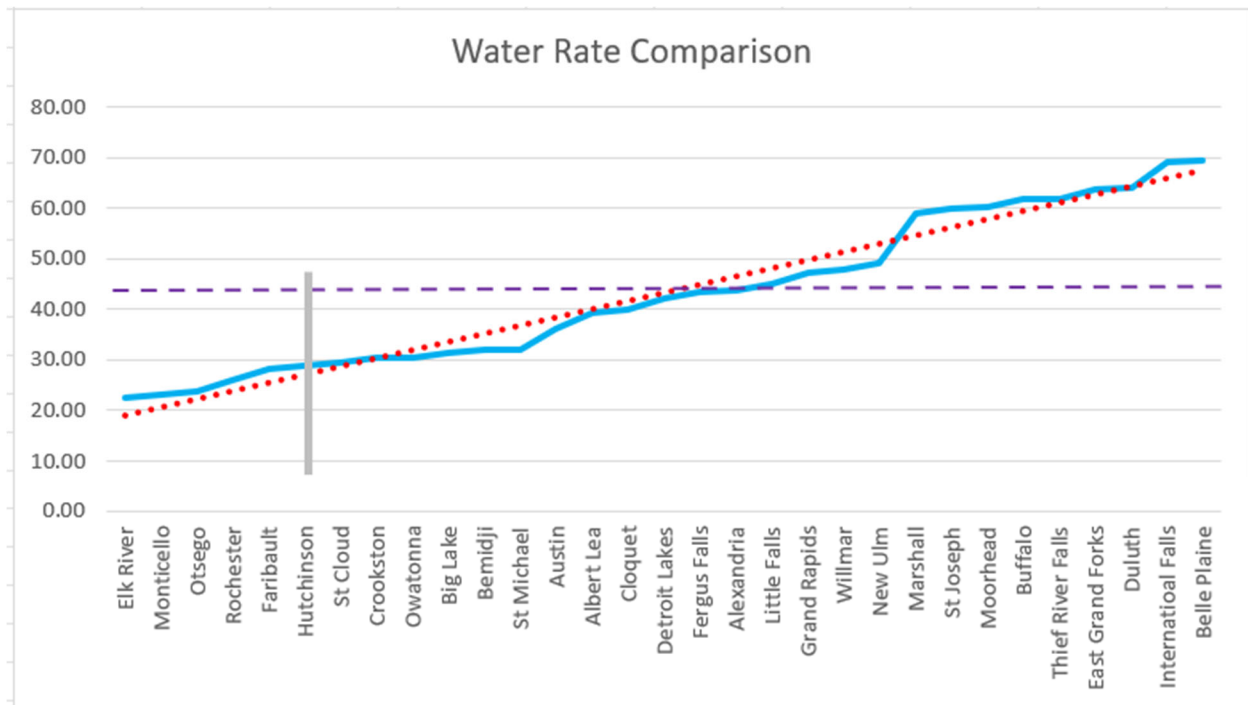
Hutchinson’s total utility rates are below average (-19.2%), when compared to other outstate Minnesota cities included in the survey. Total utility rates are substantially lower (-45.6%) than average rates of the top five cities surveyed.

From 2007-2008, when the treatment plants were upgraded, to 2012 when the local option sales tax began, Hutchinson’s rates had been among the highest in outstate Minnesota. Debt service for treatment plant improvements, combined with lower revenues following the 2008 recession, had resulted in high rates.

In 2012, voters approved a local option sales tax, which ends next year in 2027. In 2024, actual sales tax receipts were just over \$1.86 million. This revenue helps to pay off debt. The sales tax, along with recent changes to rate structures have stabilized revenues, allowing for needed repairs and maintenance.

Changes to water and wastewater rates began in 2023. Rates were implemented to create a fair rate system that better distributes fixed and variable costs, accounts for future needs at the plants, recognizes debt service needs and to address current and potential regulatory issues. Sewer rates continue to track just better than budgeted while Water rates lag, more so in 2024 and 2025 given the wet Summers as compared to the drier year in 2023.

Utility Rates - Water



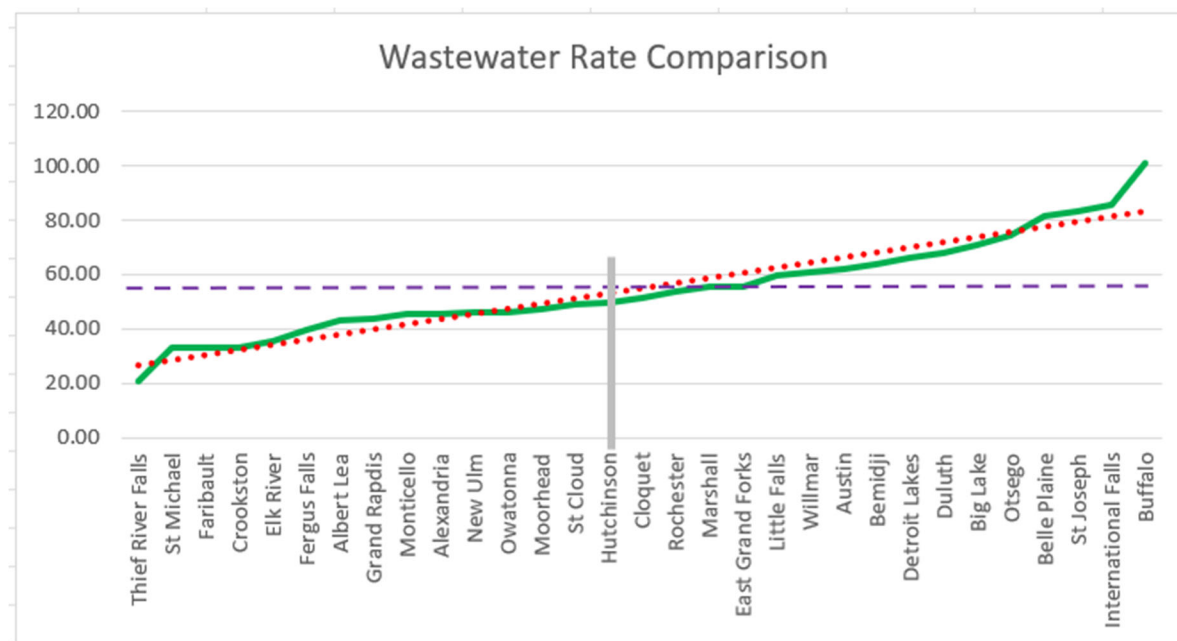
Source: AE2S 2025 Annual Utility Rate Survey

Hutchinson's water rates are notably below average (-33.4%), when compared to other outstate Minnesota cities included in the survey. Water rates are substantially lower (-56.1%) than average rates of the top five cities surveyed.

A new utility rate structure began in 2023. The rate structure implemented a conservation rate structure, required by the State. The new rate structure segregates base charges for single-family residential (1.0 REU), multi-family residential (0.65 REU) and commercial/industrial water use (based on meter size). Residential increasing block rates are based on 6,000 gallons/month. Commercial/industrial water rates are uniform. This new rate structure was designed to more fairly distribute fixed and variable costs of operating the water supply system.

A separate classification for irrigation water was included in the new water rate structure. Customers can purchase irrigation deduct meters to avoid corresponding wastewater rates.

Utility Rates - Wastewater



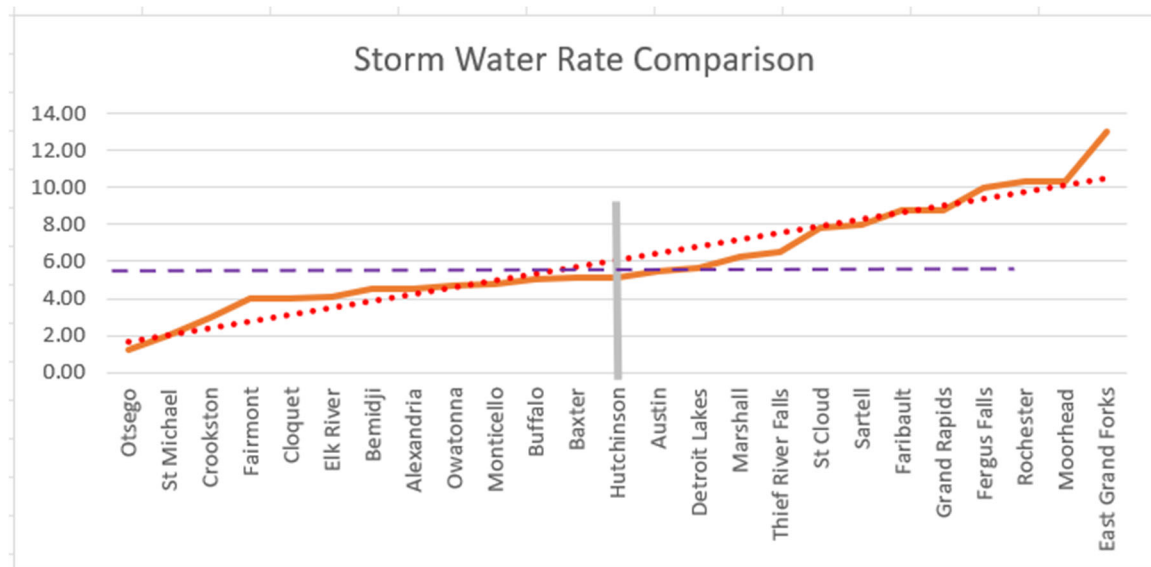
Source: AE2S 2025 Annual Utility Rate Survey

Hutchinson's wastewater rates are slightly below average (-10%), when compared to other outstate Minnesota cities included in the survey. Rates are substantially lower (-41.9%) than average rates of the top five cities surveyed. Previously rates were just above average in 2023.

In 2023, changes to the City's wastewater rate structure were implemented. The new rate structure segregates base charges for single-family residential (1.0 REU), multi-family residential (0.65 REU) and commercial/industrial wastewater (based on meter size). The new rate structure more fairly distributes fixed and variable costs of operating the wastewater treatment system. Use rates remained the same for all customers. Rates are applied to actual water use throughout the year. By installing a deduct meter, customers avoided any wastewater rates applied for irrigation water.

Significant capital needs at the wastewater treatment facility continue with the Biosolids project currently underway. Further improvements to the Clarifiers are expected in the coming years. The aging infrastructure requires ongoing capital investments and upgrades to maintain the capability for treating wastewater. Staff also continue to work with consultants and the MPCA to understand how potential changes in permit requirements will affect future operating costs, infrastructure costs and/or required plant improvements.

Utility Rates – Stormwater



Source: AE2S 2025 Annual Utility Rate Survey

Hutchinson's storm water rates are below average (-7.5%), when compared to other outstate Minnesota cities included in the survey. Rates are substantially lower (-50.8%) than average rates of the top five cities surveyed.

Over the last few years, the focus has been on Crow River with the Lakes and Rivers project. A forebay installation is anticipated for it in 2025/2026. Various pond cleaning projects have also been conducted.

Public Works staff has recommended a phased-in rate increase to account for costs of the Residential Leaf Vacuum service. Even with these additional charges, rates are anticipated to stay below average for now.

There are significant capital needs for storm water infrastructure. Efforts in forthcoming years will focus on understanding the resiliency of local storm water systems in specific areas based on two studies that have been conducted. Currently one project is being considered in the NE portion of the city to accommodate both neighborhood flooding concerns as well as future development (Michigan Street Pond).

Public Works staff also continues to work with consultants and the MPCA to consider how changes to future permit requirements will affect future operating and infrastructure costs.