

2023 EDA/HRA goals:

HRA - Housing:

1. Identify buildable lots: Review housing study determine the types of housing needed, work with City and private development to furnish said housing.
 - a. Identify lots within current city limits, who owns said lots, their price, and whether they have City services (water/sewer), or their potential for said services.
 - b. Identify potential building lots within a one-mile radius of Vergas, who owns the lots, and their selling price. Assess potential of providing City services.
 - c. Work with developer of Lawrence Lake Lots, as well as owners of other available lots within Vergas City limits on a marketing campaign to help sell said lots.
2. Determine interest in grant or low interest housing program to repair or improve existing housing.
3. Assisting current residents in retaining and maintaining their properties through knowledge of available programs.
4. Aid residential developers by making new housing more available through support of waived permitting fees; tax abatements or tax increment financing; etc.
5. Convey the message that all aspects; live, work, and play; contribute to the existing high quality of life in our community.
6. Work with developer of Lawrence Lake Lots, as well as owners of other available lots within Vergas City limits on a marketing campaign to help sell said lots.
7. Look at grants, loans, programs, at the local, state, and federal levels to make city services (water/sewer) available and affordable for new developments.
8. Continue to be involved with City Comprehensive planning process, focusing on housing issues/concerns within said study.
9. Continue to collaborate with Otter Tail County on their “The Big Build” project.
10. Update website page.

EDA- Business:

1. Meet with existing business owners, determine how things are going for them, or if they need our assistance to stay in business or to expand their business.
2. Support current commercial businesses with training and information on available or upcoming funding in order to help them maintain and grow at a successful rate.
3. Work with Planning and Zoning to review areas within current city limits and within a one-mile radius for potential future business development/growth.
4. Continue redevelopment efforts of unoccupied commercial buildings within the city of Vergas.
5. Encourage well planned quality development of commercial areas.
6. Continue to work on parking issues within business district (availability/handicap), identify solutions, both short-term and long-range. Solutions might involve buyout of existing businesses, identify funding sources.
7. Continue to be involved with City Comprehensive planning process, focusing on business issues/concerns within said study.
8. Meet with Commercial Club to review each other's goals, common interests, and where interests may overlap. Work together to enhance each other's missions.
9. Survey businesses regarding staffing needs.
10. Update website page.