

**Vergas EDA/HRA**  
**Vergas EDA/HRA**  
**Vergas Event Center and Zoom Id number 267-094-2170 (password**  
**56587)**  
**2:00 PM on Tuesday, August 1, 2023**

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Agenda Additions and Deletions**

**3. Minutes**

May 2, 2023 and June 6, 2023

**4. Status of Recommendations to City Council**

Gap Financing

**5. Otter Tail County HRA Update**

**6. Financial Update**

2023 Income and Expenses Update

**7. Old Business**

- a. 2023 Housing Goals Timeline
- b. 2023 Economic Goals Timeline
- c. Tax-Forfeited Land in Vergas

**8. New Business**

- 1. 2023 Comprehensive Plan Progress
- 2. 2024 Budget

# Table of Contents

4. Minutes .....	3
Vergas EDA/HRA .....	4
Call to Order .....	4
Agenda Additions and Deletions .....	4
Minutes .....	4
Status of Recommendations to City Council .....	4
Financial Update .....	4
Old Business .....	4
Council Recommendations .....	5
Follow up Actions. ....	5
Vergas EDA/HRA .....	6
Call to Order .....	6
Agenda Additions and Deletions .....	6
July Meeting Date .....	6
July meeting is scheduled for July 4, 2023. ....	6
Motion by Perry, seconded by Summers to not have a meeting in July unless Lammers feels there is a reason to call one. Motion passed unanimously. ...	
6	
Minutes .....	6
Status of Recommendations to City Council .....	6
Financial Update .....	6
Old Business .....	6
Council Recommendations .....	7
Follow up Actions. ....	7
5. Status of Recommendations to City Council .....	8
7. Financial Update .....	9
Sheet1 .....	10
8. Old Business .....	11
EDA .....	12
HRA .....	14
9. New Business .....	16

**Vergas EDA/HRA  
Vergas EDA/HRA  
Vergas Event Center and Zoom Id number 267-094-2170 (password  
56587)  
2:00 PM on Tuesday, August 1, 2023**

**4. Minutes**

---

May 2, 2023 and June 6, 2023

**Files Attached**

---

- 05-02-2023 EDA\_HRA Agenda & Minutes.pdf
- 06-06-2023 EDA\_HRA Agenda & Minutes.pdf

**Vergas EDA/HRA  
Vergas Event Center Council Chambers and Zoom  
2:00 PM on Tuesday, May 2, 2023**

The City of Vergas Economic Development Authority (EDA) and Housing Redevelopment Authority (HRA) met on Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at 2:00 pm on zoom with the following members present: Bruce Albright, Joy Summers and Kevin Zitzow. Absent: Duane Ditterich and Vanessa Perry. Also Present: City Clerk-Treasurer Julie Lammers.

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order by President Kevin Zitzow at 2:25 pm.

**Agenda Additions and Deletions**

Approve agenda with the following addition: Otter Tail County Housing Summit.

**Minutes**

Motion by Albright, seconded by Summers to approve minutes for the April 4, 2023 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

**Status of Recommendations to City Council**

Lammers stated the Council asked the personnel committee to review request of additional office hours for EDA/HRA city staff. Lammers has met with the personnel committee who recommended the EDA/HRA use the \$7,000 the city provided to EDA/HRA for 2023 to contract out staffing and they will review the need for additional staffing when budgeting for 2024. CEDA is also in the state omnibus bill for a grant to work with small communities.

**Financial Update**

Lammers provided financial information for EDA/HRA.

**Old Business**

2023 Housing and Economic Goals.

The goals and timelines have not changed as the committee is waiting to see if a grant is approved for CEDA from the State of MN for them to work with small cities. Discussed need for knowledge of available lots in Vergas and Lammers will provide one to Summers.

Tax-Forfeited Land in Vergas

Discussed Sunny Oaks Development with 11 lots that have been given back to the State of Mn. Discussed amount of assessments on the lots and how the city needs to recoup these costs. Summers stated it is easier to sell lots with no assessments and the committee asked if the council would support them by dropping assessments and allowing them to provide utilities payment when the lots are sold. Motion by Summers, seconded by Albright to have Lammers send County a letter for Vergas HRA to purchase the lots for \$0.00 with the council's support to wait until lots are sold to recoup the utility assessments. Motion passed unanimously. Discussed contacting Ottertail County HRA regarding senior housing on 3 of the lots.

EDA/HRA Annual Meeting

The annual meeting took place on Tuesday, April 25, 2023 beginning with a 5:30 pm social hour and 6:00 pm meal and program at the Vergas Event Center and catered by Loon's Nest. 38 people attended the annual meeting. Many compliments on the food and tasting from the liquor store. Next year we will look at only having 3 main speakers as the meeting was a little long. The Committee felt the meeting accomplished our goal.

**New Business**

Ottertail County Housing Summit

Albright reviewed the housing summit which focused on senior housing built in Dalton with Ottertail County HRA and they are looking for another community to build senior housing. Lammers reviewed 0% loans available for housing units

within commercial properties. Vergas businesses that may want to be made aware of this would include Loon's Nest, American Beauty, Wannabe's and Olson Oil.

Summers questioned why the EDA/HRA was not consulted on the purchase of the Ottertail County garage property, and it being made into a parking lot. EDA would like to be consulted on activity being done by the city in the commercial district.

Motion by Albright, seconded by Summers to adjourn the meeting at 3:02 p.m.

Julie Lammers  
City Clerk-Treasurer  
City of Vergas

**Council Recommendations**

To drop assessments on tax forfeited land purchased by Vergas HRA and allow them to pay utility amount out of proceeds from the sale of the lots.

**Follow up Actions.**

Lammers to add Give to the Max Fundraiser to the August meeting agenda.

Lammers to write letter to County tax forfeited lots.

Lammers to look into a City sales tax.

Lammers to provide a map of Sunny Oaks development to members.

Lammers provide map of available lots in the City limits to Joy Summers.

**Vergas EDA/HRA**  
**Vergas Event Center Council Chambers and Zoom**  
**2:00 PM on Tuesday, June 6, 2023**

The City of Vergas Economic Development Authority (EDA) and Housing Redevelopment Authority (HRA) met on Tuesday, June 6, 2023 at 2:00 pm on zoom with the following members present: Joy Summers, Duane Ditterich and Vanessa Perry. Absent: Bruce Albright and Kevin Zitzow . Also Present: City Clerk-Treasurer Julie Lammers.

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order by Clerk-Treasurer Julie Lammers at 2:05 pm.

Motion by Perry, seconded by Summers to approve Julie Lammers to Chair the meeting as both President and Vice President were absent.

**Agenda Additions and Deletions**

Approve agenda with the following addition: July meeting date.

**July Meeting Date**

July meeting is scheduled for July 4, 2023.

Motion by Perry, seconded by Summers to not have a meeting in July unless Lammers feels there is a reason to call one. Motion passed unanimously.

**Minutes**

Two members present were not present for meeting in May, minutes will be discussed in August.

**Status of Recommendations to City Council**

Lammers stated the Council gave general support in favor of purchasing the lots.

**Financial Update**

Lammers stated financial information is the same as given to members in May. (no report was provided)

**Old Business**

2023 Housing and Economic Goals.

The goals and timelines have not changed.

Tax-Forfeited Land in Vergas

Discussed Sunny Oaks Development with 11 lots that have been given back to the State of Mn. Lammers sent a letter to County for City to purchase 11 lots and have Ottertail County HRA regarding senior housing on 2-3 of the lots. County questioned why they would provide lots to City for \$1.00 and then buy them back. They also questioned City using one lot for a park. Summers stated we do not have an option with the County Senior housing lots. The committee wants senior housing from the County and do not see any reason not to have them keep those lots. Ditterich stated customers coming into the store are looking for basic housing and these lots are what they are looking for. They would like to see the county build on lots 210 and 220 Eva St. Discussed adding a park. Committee does not see a value in having a park for the following reasons: City is already struggling to keep up the parks they already have – not sure the City can afford or maintain another park; we have the Lion's park approximately 3-4 blocks away from this development, may have issues in park due to no visibility and do we want to have children playing this close to the gravel pit.

**New Business**

Tax Abatement & Gap Financing

The City of Vergas Property Tax Rebate Program provides a refund of up to \$5,000 of future property taxes for the construction of new homes.

The Otter Tail County Property Tax Rebate Program provides a refund of up to \$10,000 of future property taxes for the construction of new homes.

## Program Overview

- Refund of the County's portion of the property tax, along with the City's portion in participating cities (currently Battle Lake, Fergus Falls, Henning, New York Mills, Ottertail, Parkers Prairie, Pelican Rapids, Perham, and Vergas), based on the increase to real estate taxes as a result of building a new home
- Provides up to \$15,000 refunded over five years (\$10,000 throughout the county plus \$5,000 if residence being built is located within a participating city)
- Primary residences only (no seasonal owners)
- Rebate paid to the property owner of record in December of the year, transfers with the sale of the property
- Applicant can be the future homeowner or the builder/developer

The property tax rebate program for new single and two-family homes ends December 31, 2024.

The County has a program for Owner-Occupied Development Value Gap Grants.

Value Gap Grant funds are available for owner-occupied developments where there is a demonstrated need to fill the gap between the cost per unit to build and the sale price.

- A grant for up to \$50,000 per unit, maximum of \$100,000 per development
- One-to-one match requirement between County funding and local municipality where development is located. Other options will be considered when municipalities do not have adequate financial resources to provide the match
- Homebuyers must have annual household incomes at or below 115% of Area Median Income (AMI) or the income limits established by the State for Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Districts
- Application must be approved before construction begins

The goals of the program are to increase the tax base and improve the quality of life by supporting activities in the following three areas:

- Affordable Housing: Promote the development of affordable workforce and supportive housing.
- Redevelopment: Assist with the redevelopment of blighted and under-utilized areas to maximize their potential economic value and minimize their negative impact on the livability of a community.
- Commercial Rehabilitation: Support business creation/retention and main street revitalization through exterior improvements and reinvestment.

The application must be made by the city in which the project is located.

The committee discussed the amount of development that may occur in the next 5 years – found there may be 3-4 developments. Summers stated the real estate market is currently slowing down and lots with homes on are selling faster than bare lots. The applications and payments would be handled through the County. This would affect the city by not receiving property taxes on the improvements until the \$10,000 is received. The financial effect would be not receiving the improved taxes as quickly on the properties.

Motion by Summers, seconded by Perry to recommend to Council to allow applications for Owner-Occupied Development Value Gap Grants for \$10,000 per lot for a cost to the city of \$50,000 per development for the next 5 years. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Perry, seconded by Summers to adjourn the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Julie Lammers  
City Clerk-Treasurer  
City of Vergas

## Council Recommendations

Allow applications for Owner-Occupied Development Value Gap Grants for \$10,000 per lot for a cost to the city of \$50,000 per development for the next 5 years.

## Follow up Actions.

Lammers to add Give to the Max Fundraiser to the August meeting agenda.

Lammers to write letter to County tax forfeited lots. (letter sent – waiting for response)

Lammers to look into a City sales tax.

Lammers provide map of available lots in the City limits to Joy Summers.

**Vergas EDA/HRA  
Vergas EDA/HRA  
Vergas Event Center and Zoom Id number 267-094-2170 (password  
56587)  
2:00 PM on Tuesday, August 1, 2023**

**5. Status of Recommendations to City Council**

---

Gap Financing

**Vergas EDA/HRA  
Vergas EDA/HRA  
Vergas Event Center and Zoom Id number 267-094-2170 (password  
56587)  
2:00 PM on Tuesday, August 1, 2023**

**7. Financial Update**

---

2023 Income and Expenses Update

**Files Attached**

---

- 2023 EDA\_HRA Revenue and Disbursements.pdf

# 2023 EDA-HRA Income-Expense Sheet

Beginning Balance			\$18,336.36	
Revenue:				
	City	7,000.00		
Total Revenue			<u>\$7,000.00</u>	
Expenses:				
	Annaul Meeting - Loon's Nest	800.00		
	Annual Meeting - Vergas Liq. Store - ice	4.49		
Total Expenses:			<u>\$804.49</u>	
<b>Balance of Checking Account as of 04/28/30/2023</b>				<u>\$24,531.87</u>
Savings Account				
	* West Central Initiative	15,396.85		
<b>Veteran's Memorial</b>	<b>Total in HRA/EDA Account</b>			<u>\$39,928.72</u>
Income				
	West Central Initiative	25,960.00		
Total Income			<u>25,960.00</u>	
Expenses				
	The Freedom Rock Tour (down payment)	2,000.00		
	Fergus Falls Granite Inc	23,960.00		
Total Expenses			<u>25,960.00</u>	
Balance of Account				<u>\$0.00</u>
<b>Pickle Ball</b>				
Income				
Total Income			<u>\$0.00</u>	
Expense				
Total Expenses			<u>\$0.00</u>	
Balance of Account				<u>\$0.00</u>

**Vergas EDA/HRA  
Vergas EDA/HRA  
Vergas Event Center and Zoom Id number 267-094-2170 (password  
56587)  
2:00 PM on Tuesday, August 1, 2023**

**8. Old Business**

---

- a. 2023 Housing Goals Timeline
- b. 2023 Economic Goals Timeline
- c. Tax-Forfeited Land in Vergas

**Files Attached**

---

- 2023 EDA-HRA Goals with timeline.pdf

2023 EDA Goals

<u>Goal</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>December</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
Meet with business owners, determine how things are going for them, or if they need our assistance to stay in business or to expand their business..Survey businesses regarding staffing needs.	10%	50%		90%			
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.				100%			
Work with Planning and Zoning to review areas within current city limits and within a one-mile radius for potential future business development/growth.	on going						
Encourage well planned quality development of commercial areas	add zoning map to EDA agenda			-renew every December			
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.		County Garage	Plan	On going  add handicapped spots on end of Railway			

2023 EDA Goals

<u>Goal</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>December</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
Continue to be involved with City Comprehensive Planning process, focusing on business issues/concerns within said study.			Align with Comp Plan and review every Dec.				
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.	Hold with Annual meeting	Meet with VCC and discuss goals					
Update website page.			review updates every December				

## 2023 HRA Goals

<u>Goal</u>	<u>Items to attain Goals</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>December</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
Identify buildable lots: Review housing study determine the types of housing needed, work with City and private development to furnish said housing.								
	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.	Print map Joy will highlight lots		Discuss with owners				
	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.			*				
	Work with developer of Lawrence Lake Lots, as well as owners of other available lots within City limits on a marketing campaign to help sell said lots.			Dec. 13, 2022				
Determine interest and availability of grant or low interest housing program to repair or improve existing housing.	If yes - interior or exterior project Programs and Interest			Survey in Utility bill				
Assisting current residents in retaining and maintaining their properties through knowledge of available programs.								
Aid residential developers by making new housing more available through support of waived permitting fees; tax abatements or tax increment financing; etc.		on going						

2023 HRA Goals

<u>Goal</u>	<u>Items to attain Goals</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>December</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
Convey the message that all aspects; live, work, and play contribute to the existing high quality of life in our community	Put our marketing brochure on the web.			*				
Update Web page.								
Look at grants, loans, programs, at the local, state, and federal levels to make city services (water/sewer) available and affordable for new developments	Policy							
Continue to be involved with City Comprehensive Plan, focusing on housing issues/concerns within said study.				every December				
Continue to collaborate with Otter Tail County on their “The Big Build” project.								

L

**Vergas EDA/HRA  
Vergas EDA/HRA  
Vergas Event Center and Zoom Id number 267-094-2170 (password  
56587)  
2:00 PM on Tuesday, August 1, 2023**

**9. New Business**

---

1. 2023 Comprehensive Plan Progress
2. 2024 Budget

**Files Attached**

---

- Comprehensive Plan progress 2023.pdf

**Vergas Comprehensive Plan  
2023 Progress Review**

Committee/Board/Council: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Land Use &amp; Built Form</b>	
<b>Goal:</b> Capitalize on in-fill opportunities and direct growth to new areas where infrastructure is planned to be cost-effective and sustainable	
<b>Strategies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When considering expansion options, prioritize expansion that follows a set of guidance developed through a growth and management plan.</li> <li>Investigate annexing shorelines across bodies of water when landowners are favorable to the request</li> </ul>	
<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Develop tiered system for expansion based on Vergas water & sewer capacity, EMS services and other public services & facilities.	
Identify possible annexation areas and contact owners.	
Pay close attention to and abide by shoreline regulations governed by the state.	
Participate in preserving the health of lakes and surrounding wildlife.	
<b>Goal:</b> Land use and build form decisions support and celebrate the existing character of the town	
<b>Strategies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage land uses that strengthen Vergas' reputation as a family-friendly, safe place with a small-town charm.</li> <li>Limit land uses that allow for big box stores, chains, large processing plants or other developments that have short-term gains and long-term losses of community character and environmental protection.</li> <li>Ensure that any land use involving light industrial development has a plan for maintenance and accessibility.</li> <li>Encourage or offer tax incentives for parking for new construction.</li> </ul>	
<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Progress</b>
EDA/HRA develop incentives to encourage uses identified above.	
Planning and Zoning develop policies regarding use identified above	
EDA identify areas appropriate for light industrial development.	
Explore above and underground parking.	

Housing	
<b>Goal: Identify affordable housing lots that can be developed with the next 5 years</b>	
<b>Strategies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop partnerships with Otter Tail Co. to share county-level resources with local developers and future residents via existing incentives and initiatives.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">Conduct and inventory and promote lots available.</p>	
Action Item	Progress
EDA develop a fact sheet regarding available assistance programs	
Utilize city website by adding housing resources comparable to neighboring cities	
Transportation	
<b>Goal: Make Vergas accessible for all modes of transportation and for people of all abilities</b>	
<b>Strategies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify key places across the city that can improve handicap accessibility.</li> <li>Communicate and market existing transportation services.</li> <li>Identify additional locations for downtown parking.</li> <li>Construct handicapped parking spots and sidewalks along Co Rd 4.</li> <li>Explore advantages and disadvantages of rerouting Co Rd 4 through downtown to reduce thorough traffic on Main Street.</li> <li>Explore options for reducing stopped trains and subsequent stopped traffic.</li> <li>Promote programs for ridesharing networks and services</li> </ul>	
Action Item	Progress
Conduct an ADA audit or other type of evaluation to identify key areas for improvement across the city.	
Create short reference guide for residents and visitors describing local and regional transportation options.	
Work with Planning Commission to determine if vacant or undeveloped property could serve as space for new parking lots, and potential diagonal parking.	
Contact Canada Pacific to explore moving the exchange.	
Streets, sidewalks and yard waste committee review possibilities of collaboration with OTC Highway Department.	
<b>Goal: Increase connectivity between Vergas and regional trails</b>	
<b>Strategies:</b> <p style="text-align: center;">Consult entities, like MN DOT, DNR, WCI and Partnership 4 Health, about pursuing grants for planning and infrastructure for a trail connection.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with OTC to pursue grant funding to connect the Heartland Trail along Co.Rd 4.</li> </ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add multi-use path to the update of the 2019 Capital Improvement Plan to ensure that it is included in future city budget.</li> </ul>	
<b>Business &amp; Economic Development</b>	
<b>Goal: Maintain the small business atmosphere</b>	
<b>Strategies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advertise local businesses regionally</li> <li>• Review and update city laws and ordinances that support small business owners</li> </ul>	
<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Work with neighboring Chambers of Commerce to advertise and access resources	
Collaborate with the Community Club to identify opportunities and resources to market regionally.	
Submit stories, ads, and updates to surrounding local papers.	
Invest in enhancing the City website	
Preserve existing protections within city laws and ordinances	
Explore state and federal incentives for small businesses, especially those making positive impact in nearby communities.	
<b>Goal: Invest in Human Capital</b>	
<b>Strategies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invest in local childcare options</li> <li>• Create opportunities for socializing, connecting, creative placemaking year-round.</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for retirees to utilize their knowledge and experience and increase social connection.</li> </ul>	
<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Connect with OTC Early Childhood Coordinator to identify needs and resources.	
Improve marketing of existing community activities, from small socializing to large events.	
Identify gaps in existing community programming and recruit volunteers to host one and/or recurring events.	
Explore development of spaces for families to recreate and your specific activities.	
Identify and invite volunteers to join planning and implementation projects.	

<b>Goal: Prioritize business development that provides daytime and evening activities for residents</b>	
<b>Strategies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create more opportunities to recruit local businesses, especially where gaps in existing services</li> <li>Increase awareness of state and regional resources for small business owners and entrepreneurs.</li> </ul>	
Action Item	Progress
Work in partnership with Vergas EDA to integrate public feedback into business development and expansion strategies	
Host a business and entrepreneurship fair in partnership with OTC with targeted outreach based on survey results and public input.	
Leverage partnerships with existing programs; i.e WCI, MN DEED, SCORE business mentors, Vergas Community Club, West Central Small Business Development Center, Women's Ventures, OTC Small Business Coaching.	
<b>Goal: Develop and expand job opportunities</b>	
<b>Strategies:</b> <p>Maintain and increase number of visitors Pursue opportunities for light manufacturing Support digital entrepreneurs and remote workers</p>	
Action item	Progress
Advertise business and recreational opportunities and events regionally.	
Pursue and invest in trail development.	
Cultivate more year-round attractions and events.	
Identify land available for development and purchase.	
Offer the Event Center as coworking space by appointment.	
Maintain and develop broadband capabilities.	
Connect with neighboring communities to participate in county-wide networking opportunities. (host pre-existing groups for a meeting).	
<b>Public Services and Facilities</b>	
<b>Goal: Maintain adequate public facilities and services to meet the health, safety, education, and leisure needs of all Vergas residents.</b>	
<b>Strategies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prioritize infrastructure investment based on existing facilities with deficiencies first, and retrofitting of facilities second, and future facility needs third.</li> <li>Engage in strategic partnerships to ensure that Vergas is identified as a community for investment in fiber optic cable to increase broadband access.</li> <li>Conduct a needs assessment to understand more about the barriers and opportunities to improve resident access to medical facilities. (transportation, awareness).</li> </ul>	

Action Item	Progress
Encourage various committees to complete prioritization exercise.	
Explore expanded services, particularly MN DEED Border-to-Border Broadband opportunity.	
Collaborate with EDA/HRA to oversee a needs assessment.	
<b>Goal:</b> Ensure highest quality standards and services for public safety given Vergas' existing resources and staff capacity.	
<b>Strategies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure safety of navigation throughout city streets and sidewalks.</li> <li>• Make Long Lake Park a desirable location for recreation year-round.</li> </ul>	
Action Item	Progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review, update, and publicize the city's planning and zoning maps to accurately indicate which city sidewalks are to be maintained by the city vs residents.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct a parking study.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore the possibility of a MNDOT Complete Streets project for Vergas.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Renovate and upgrade public restroom facilities at Long Lake park.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore opportunities to work with rental company for non-motorized watercraft.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider snowshoe rental companies.</li> </ul>	
<b>Goal:</b> Ensure that services and facilities allow residents and visitors of 55 years or older to age in place.	
<b>Strategies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure safety of navigation through city streets and sidewalks.</li> <li>• Work to develop a full spectrum of transitions in senior housing needs, from accessibility options to access of services and skilled nursing.</li> </ul>	
Action Item	Progress
Develop handicap parking spots	
Work with ED/HRS to conduct a needs assessment and feasibility study for expanded senior housing options.	
<b>Parks &amp; Open Spaces</b>	
<b>Goal:</b> Support Community Art and arts programming	
<b>Strategies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the number of displays of interactive art around town, in parks, and open spaces.</li> <li>• Increase community education arts programming.</li> </ul>	
Action Items	Progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a directory of local artists.</li> </ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to offering summer youth art camp.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide a listing of events on city website.</li> </ul>	
<b>Goal:</b> Update public facilities at Long Lake Park	
<b>Strategies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue working with NDSU to develop concept designs for Long Lake park.</li> <li>Communicate with county and regional stakeholders in parks and recreation the desire to pursue state and federal funding.</li> </ul>	
<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Follow guidelines and budget in Capital Improvement plan for restroom facilities specifications and budget.	
Park Board present ideas to Planning and Zoning Commission and the City Council for implementation.	
<b>Goal:</b> Leverage existing amenities to create a culture that celebrates physical activity and community-based sports that are complementary to school sports schedules.	
<b>Strategies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create opportunities for sports and physical education.</li> <li>Begin offering adult leagues for baseball, softball etc..</li> <li>Explore opportunities for additional recreational space development.</li> </ul>	
<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Example; Offer lessons for pickleball, classes for local fitness trainers, dance classes.	
Coordinate community education for implementation.	
Conduct a feasibility study for soccer fields and/or frisbee golf.	
Planning and Zoning identify sustainable areas.	