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NORWOOD YOUNG AMERICA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Wednesday, June 8, 2022 - 5:00pm

City Hall Council Chambers, 310 Elm Street West

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order**
 - A. Pledge of Allegiance
2. **Adoption of Agenda**
3. **Approve Minutes**
 - A. May 11, 2022, EDC meeting
4. **Introductions, Presentations, and Public Comment**
(Citizens may address the Economic Development Commission about any non-agenda item of concern. Speakers must state their name, address, and limit their remarks to three minutes. The Economic Development Commission will take no official action on these items but may refer the matter to staff for a future report or direct that the matter be scheduled for a future meeting.)
5. **New Business**
 - A. **NYA Business Dashboard**
6. **Old Business/Updates**

Develop opportunities for new businesses and expansions for current businesses.

- 6.A Industrial Blvd Signage**
- 6.B Tacoma West Industrial Park (TWIP) Signage**
- 6.C Revolving Loan Fund**

Increase outreach and enhance relations with current businesses.

- 6.D NYA Market Enrichment Grant Program**

Continue to assess, accomplish, and add goals to the adopted Downtown Redevelopment Plan and as directed by the Joint Commission.

- 6.E Downtown Streetscape Project**
- 6.F Joint Meeting Discussion**

Market Norwood Young America to current and new residents and businesses.

- 6.G Historical Walking Tour**
- 6.H Community Video**
- 6.I Welcome to NYA Packet**

Enhance partnerships with Carver County and local schools.

- 6.J Small Cities Development Program Grant**
- 6.K Underpass Artwork (with Central Schools)**
- 6.L Manufacturing Careers Article**

Continue and investigate the enhancement of relationships and partnerships with local organized groups.

- 6.M Chamber of Commerce**

7. **City Council & Other Commission Updates**
8. **Upcoming Meetings - Next EDC meeting – 6:00 p.m., July 12, 2022**

June 13, 2022	City Council Meeting	6:00 PM
June 16, 2022	Senior Advisory Meeting	9:00 AM
June 21, 2022	Park and Recreation Commission Meeting	4:45 PM

NORWOOD YOUNG AMERICA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Wednesday, May 11, 2022 - 5:00pm
City Hall Council Chambers, 310 Elm Street West
Minutes

In Attendance: Connor Smith, Jason Winter, Mike Eggers, Andrea Gerth, Mike McPadden

Absent: Carol Lagergren, Tonya Noeldner

Others: NYA Chamber ED Julie Wigfield, Chuck Swanson (CDA)

Staff: EDD Karen Hallquist

1. Call to Order

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 6:01pm.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Adoption of Agenda

Motion: ME/MM to approve. Motion passed 5-0.

3. Approve Minutes

A. April 13, 2022 EDC meeting

Motion: JW/MM to approve. Motion passed 5-0.

4. Introductions, Presentations, and Public Comment –

Chuck Swanson introduced himself as the new Community & Economic Development Director for the Carver Co CDA.

5. New Business

A. NYA Business Dashboard

Hallquist shared updates on the business dashboard as presented in the memo. It was noted that there will be two ribbon cutting ceremonies on May 18th starting at 5pm for Valiant Insurance on her new location and Harvey Law welcoming him to NYA.

B. Grocery Conversation

Hallquist shared that she has had inquiries on grocery stores since the Channel 5 news segment. In addition, potential locations of a store have been identified along with different potential incentives based on whether it is a new development or redevelopment project. She noted that although efforts are continuing by staff and the WCCFRC, it is going to continue to be difficult to attract a store as the economy, supply issues, gas prices, and workforce all are current challenges.

C. Industrial Park Covenants

Hallquist shared research on other neighboring communities with industrial parks. It was concluded that there are currently no additional covenants in any of the parks in Watertown, Glencoe, Belle Plaine, or Jordan. All of the communities have requirements/standards for their industrial districts that are included in their city code.

Motion: JW/ME to recommend to the City Council to utilize the NYA City Code and 2040 Comprehensive Plan for all requirements and standards for the second industrial park. Motion passed 5-0.

6. Old Business/Updates

6.A Industrial Blvd Signage

Hallquist shared updated sign information from CD Products that she received. The total price of the sign was \$11,000 rather than the almost \$40,000 that was originally quoted. Commissioners asked for examples of the product that was used in the quote as it is significantly less. Eggers suggested bringing the project update to the City Council for feedback.

6.B Tacoma West Industrial Park (TWIP) Signage

This project is on hold until the Ind Blvd project is complete and decisions on the second industrial park are made.

6.C Revolving Loan Fund

Hallquist shared that more information will be brought to the EDC during budgeting season about how to replenish the fund.

6.D NYA Market Enrichment Grant Program/APRA Funds

This conversation is on hold until budget season.

6.E Small Business Week Event - Wed, May 4, 2022 **date change to Thurs, April 28th**

Hallquist and Wigfield shared that there were about 15 people in attendance.

6.F Downtown Streetscape Project

Hallquist received an email from DEED on follow up questions to the applications. No decisions of the grant application have been made.

6.G Joint Meeting Discussion

Winters suggested that all commissions look at the leftovers of the to-do list for projects to be accomplished as the three main priorities (streets, nuisances, second industrial park) are more City Council and staff follow ups. Hallquist will bring back the list at the next meeting.

6.H Historical Walking Tour

No update.

6.I Community Video

Hallquist contacted the Shakopee Marcus Theater and Chanhassen Cinema for advertising opportunities. It was discussed by Commissioners to advertise when housing development has started.

6.J Welcome Folder Info

No update.

6.K Small Cities Development Program Grant

Hallquist shared that there have been staffing changes at the CDA office and will be meeting with Swanson soon.

6.L Chamber of Commerce

Wigfield reported the following Chamber events:

- Ribbon Cuttings on May 18th
- May 26th is Morning Mocha at REMAX - Officer Voigt will be present to ask for business safety info.
- June 9th is Music in the Park
- July 16th is Taste of NYA
- Springfest Artisan Fair is June 4, 2022

7. City Council & Other Commission Updates

McPadden reported on Council updates:

- Library gave their annual report at the meeting
- Fees for the pool and lifeguards were approved
- Tax forfeiture land was reported to the county
- 20 mph speed limit change around Central Schools
- Seal coating bids were approved for trails and streets
- Approval of surplus items to auction
- Bolton & Menk are doing an updated streets study to rate what needs seal coating, overlay and reconstruction.

8. **Upcoming Meetings** - Next EDC meeting - 6:00 p.m., June 8, 2022

9. **Adjournment**

Motion: JW/MM to adjourn at 7:00pm. Motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Hallquist, Economic Development Marketing Director



TO: Economic Development Commission

FROM: Karen Hallquist, Economic Development Marketing Director

DATE: June 8, 2022

SUBJECT: NYA Business Dashboard

Business Development	Location	Status
Greenwood Marina	Tacoma West Industrial Park	Requesting change in site plan at June Planning Mtg
Seams Like to Good Idea	18 3 rd Ave SE (Mill Bldg)	Need to schedule ribbon cutting
Laundromat Sauber!	Heritage Strip Mall	Ribbon cutting June 15 th
PUBs	508 Merger St (MiBox)	Ribbon cutting June 15 th
Whispering Willow	Main Street	Ribbon cutting June 15 th
Alli B's Coffee & Boutique	Heritage Strip Mall	Opening soon
Professional services	C-2 General Commercial	Closing soon on property
Business Inquiries		
Motel/hotel	C-2 General Commercial	Building plans submitted
Professional services	C-2 General Commercial	Working with prospect
Indoor Storage	RC-1	Working with prospect
Mini Storage	B-1 Business Industrial	New inquiry
Contractor Operations		Working with prospect
Contractor Operations Expansion	B-1 Business Industrial	Researching options
Incubator Facility	I-1 Light Industrial	Interested in 2 nd Ind Park
Specialty service business	RC-1 or C-3	Working with prospect
Mfg – waterbased solutions	I-1 Light Industrial	Submitted LOI
Mixed-use Commercial/Residential	C-3 Downtown District	Working with prospect – Market value housing – researching locations
Mtg Expansion	I-1	Researching options for 2 nd Ind Park
Mfg	I-1 Light Industrial	Submitted LOI
Mfg	B-1/I-1	Interested in 2 nd Ind Park
Mfg	I-1 Light Industrial	Interested in 2 nd Ind Park
Indoor storage	B-1/I-1 Business Industrial	Owner submitting LOI
Housing Development Opportunities		
Kloth Property	16810 CR 31	61.32 acres of R-1 Residential – listed for \$1.6M – single family land available –
Preserve/Meadow Property	N 700 block of Lakewood Trl	Mark Eklo and Otto & Associates- Prelim plat, PUD and comp plan amendment at June 13 th Council mtg
JAM Property	NE Corner of Tacoma/Hwy 212	60.69 acres of Transitional Ag land – for sale again
Wenlund Property	13620 CR 33 (south of NYA)	Recently re-listed land – 80+ acre parcel – Comp Plan has land dedicated for single family homes
Emma Street Lots (7)	Emma Street, NYA	No change
Misc Projects		
2022 2 nd Ave Project	N Devonshire to Main Street	Starting mid-May
Legion Park Playground Equip	NYA Legion Park	Installation in July
NEW Building Inspector-Darin Haslip		Started June 1 st

Rezoning for 309/312 1 st St NE		PZ looking at rezoning options for two parcels that use to be commercial and changed to multi-family residential. PZ discussion at June 7 th mtg
Outlot A Plans/public water access	Outlot A & Lakewood Trl & Barnes Lake	Community survey to go out in June for public feedback – going to Council for approval at June 13 th mtg
Walking Track	Central Schools	Looking into funding options
Old Town	Willkommen Memorial Park	Architect selected – The Design Parntership LTD – Vic Perlbach – special mtg w P&R June 1 st .
Industrial Park Expansion		Awaiting financial options for land acquisition
Community Growth Partnership Initiative 2022 Grant Application	Through Carver County CDA	Applying again in August 2022 for 2 nd Industrial Park
Masonic Building	10 3 rd Ave SE	Attempting to contact owner for safety concerns

Commercial/Industrial Buildings for Sale

- [503 Faxon Rd](#) – Sinclair Site

Commercial Land for Sale

- [312 1st Street NE](#) – empty lot near Mau Cemetery
- [Metro West Industrial Park](#) – frontage along US Highway 212 with vehicle access available off of Railroad Street. There are four lots remaining in this development, ranging in size from 1.28 – 2.52 acres.
- 420 W Railroad Street – bare lot w drainage ditch, no water/sewer access
- Industrial Blvd City-Owned Greenspace
- 120 W Elm Street – vacant lot

Commercial Buildings for Sale or Lease

- [522 Faxon Road](#) – Timm Law office w/additional office space for lease
- 209 Main Street E – former meat market for lease
- 232 Main Street E – former Clark building - owned by Mike Barto – for lease
- 111 Railroad St E – warehouse/office for lease
- 310 W Hwy 212 (Resto/office) building for lease
- 319 W Elm Street – former bakery building – office/retail/rental dwelling - for sale or lease

Residential Land for Sale

- [16810 CR 31](#)
- [7xx Lakewood Trail](#)
- [13620 CR 33](#) – south of NYA (not annexed)

Redevelopment Opportunities [503 Faxon Rd](#) – Sinclair site



TO: Economic Development Commission
FROM: Karen Hallquist, Economic Development Marketing Director
DATE: June 8, 2022
SUBJECT: 6. A Industrial Boulevard Business Sign Update

Staff presented the below memo to the City Council at their May 23, 2022, meeting to get feedback on the project.

In 2021, the NYA Economic Development Commission identified the need for additional directional signage off Hwy 212 W and Faxon Road for the businesses along Industrial Boulevard.

Previous and current businesses in the B-1 Business Industrial district have struggled with location identification off Hwy 212 given it is a right-in-right-out situation. Businesses are unable to have blue MnDOT directional signs along Hwy 212 from County Road 34 to Industrial Boulevard because the right of way is within city limits, plus the limited amount of space due to billboards and city gateway signs. Businesses in this district include manufacturers, contractor operations, and auto body repair.

Enclosed are renderings of two locations along Industrial Boulevard for proposed sign for Industrial Boulevard...a larger sign (two-sided) at the southeast corner of Hydro Engineering's property (which they have given permission for - contract to come), plus a second, smaller sign (two-sided) in the city boulevard on the northeast corner of Faxon Rd N and Ind Blvd.

The Economic Development Commission budgeted \$25,000 for this project. Preliminary estimates have the total project cost at approximately \$14,000. The EDC is also asking the businesses on Industrial Boulevard for a financial commitment of \$150 total to cover the cost of the individual plaques and nameplates for both two-sided signs.

This project is the first of two sign projects the EDC has planned for of which the other is for the Tacoma West Industrial Park.

The EDC wanted to give the Council an update on the project prior to moving forward with implementation.

Discussion Only.

The following were questions that became of the project:

- What happens if a business does not want to be on the sign?
 - To date, there are four businesses who are interested in the sign. Is this enough to follow through on the project?
- What happens when a new business moves in? Who is responsible for maintenance/removal of old logo and requesting new one?

- Does the sign fit into the city sign code?
 - Yes, however, we will need to have Bolton & Menk do a site plan and get approval
- What sort of landscaping will be done? And who will do this?
- How much are the setup costs for concrete?

Follow up on the examples of signs done with the "Firestone Unaclad" roofing material that CD Products has suggested:



Discussion Only.



----- QUOTATION -----

DATE:	5/3/22	SHIP DATE:	tbd
COMPANY:	City of Norwood Young America	SHIP VIA:	Installed
CONTACT:	Karen Hallquist / Charlie Storms	TERMS:	50% down / 50% net 10 days
	economicdev@cityofnva.com		
	charliestorms75@gmail.com		

Monument Sign	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Cost
"Industrial Boulevard" monument sign Firestone Unaclad monument Please review with proof attached. Price includes, design, production and installation of 1 sign Additional costs: - sign permit and related fees - all site work to prepare for sign installation and any landscaping needed after installation - sales tax, if required	1	11,215.00	11,215.00

Quoted By Catherine Nielsen

Accepted By: _____



1330 MILL LANE • WACONIA, MN 55387
 phone 952-442-7481 fax 952-442-7491
 email cathy@cdproductsinc.com

Pricing shown is for product only and does not include design, installation, shipping or sales tax charges, which are additional.

PROOF DATE 5/3/2022

Job Description

Industrial Blvd Monument

Customer

City of NYA

Sales Person

Catherine Nielsen

Notes

see --->

and quotation attached

file:

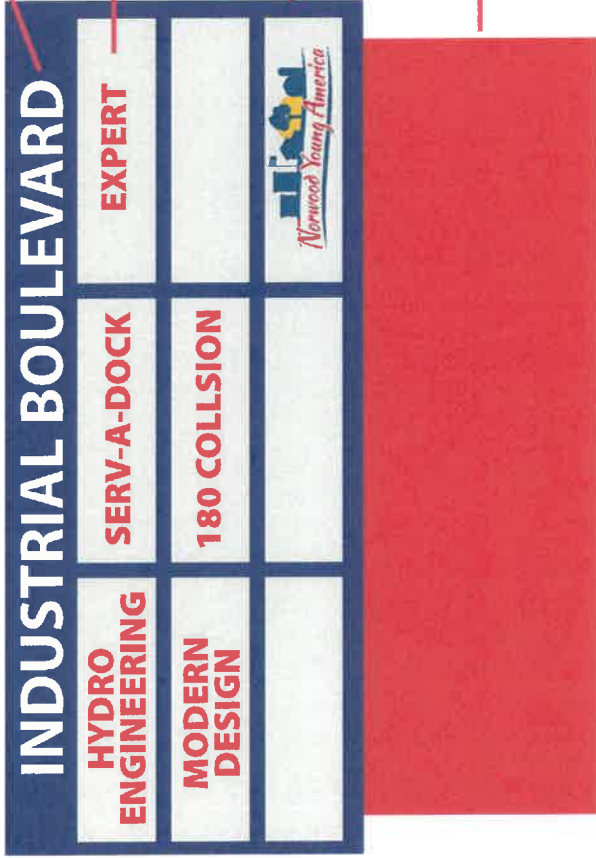
This design is the property of CD Products, Inc. and may not be reproduced or manufactured without written permission from CD Products.

Dimensional letters
 1/4" thick solid acrylic
 5.5" tall

Tenant Panels
 10" tall x 34" wide aluminum panel
 with vinyl graphics (changeable)

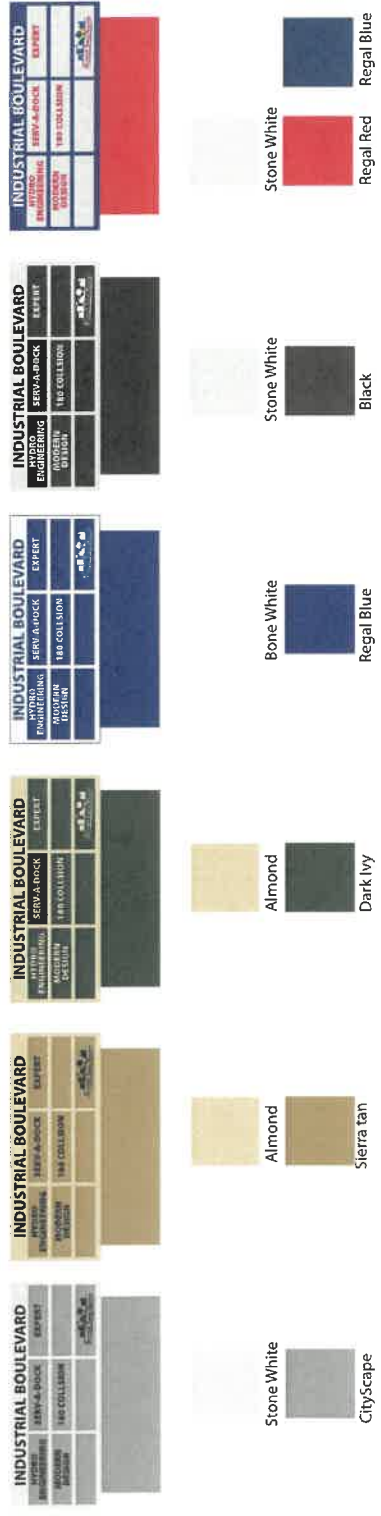
Sign Cabinet
 46" tall x 110" wide x 8" deep

Base -
 30" tall x 100" wide x 6" deep



Overall size of monument - 76" x 110"
 ** Double Sided

Color Ideas





TO: Economic Development Commission

FROM: Karen Hallquist, Economic Development Marketing Director

DATE: June 8, 2022

SUBJECT: Old Business/Updates

6.B TWIP Signage

Tabled until decisions on second industrial park on Tacoma is decided.

6.C Revolving Loan Fund

On hold until budget season.

6.D NYA Market Enrichment Grant Program

Tom Christensen, 221 W Elm Street – Tin Roof Powdercoating – is yet to be funded. This is the final recipient of the program.

6.E Downtown Streetscape Project

Staff is working with the DEED representative on some additional information for the application.

6.F Joint Meeting Discussion

The following information was provided in the February 2022 EDC packet from the January 2022 Joint Meeting. Commissioners are asked to discuss in detail and prioritize to bring back to Joint Meeting in July.

The conversations at the Joint Meeting concentrated around continued visual improvements of the community, more amenities, new business wants/needs, and increased housing options. Items to be addressed which complement the goals of the EDC:

- *Lack of grocery
 - *The City does have business incentives for a grocery business to come to NYA which includes, yet is not limited to: business subsidies, Redevelopment TIF options, grant opportunities, low interest loan opportunities and internal financial resources which could include review of ERU costs (SAC/WAC), building fees and other development costs. Staff continues to reach out to grocers and food resources. NYA is not the only community that is dealing with food insecurities, however, due to the increased risk of supply chain issues, building costs and market uncertainties, we will need to be patient however continue to pursue a grocer.**
- *Connection of all three downtowns with visual updates on Faxon Road
 - *EDC Commissioners have started this conversation. Staff's recommendation is to include money in the 2023 budget to hire an urban streetscape planner create a game-plan for this project.**
- *Desire for more retail/business options
 - *Given the limited amount of available commercial (buildable) lots, there needs to be discussion on the location of the next land annexed into city.
 - *Downtown YA
 - *Two available business locations (old meat market, front of Clark building)****

- Staff is looking into creating a Redevelopment TIF district and do a “pay as you go” option for financial incentive for property owners to make major improvements.
- Downtown Norwood
 - Two available business locations (old bakery, former Wilson Electric)
 - Vacant lot at 120 W Elm – Redevelopment TIF opportunity for mixed-use project
- 212 Business Corridor
 - Four available buildable lots along Railroad Dr
- Need for second industrial park
 - Staff is working on this with city consultants, applied for a CCCDA CGPICG grant for \$100,000, discussing economic development ARPA funds along with other federal funds that could potentially be used for infrastructure costs. EDC Commissioners will be reviewing the TWIP covenants in 2022.
- Need for housing options
 - The Meadows/Budahn 22.66 acre parcel is in the works of development. Preliminary plat and PUD application will be reviewed by the Planning Commission and City Council in the next couple months. This development is for 35 single-family homes and about 45 patio villas.
 - The City has been approached by other housing and apartment developers. Staff has started the process of researching a formal housing study for NYA as the last one was completed in 2017 by the CCCDA. This sort of study should ideally be updated every 2-3 years. Given the need for housing over hotel, it is the recommendation of staff to use the budgeted money for a hotel study for a housing study.

6.G Historic Walking Tour

Chamber representatives updated the building history information on all of the parcels on the Historic Downtown Norwood and printed new posters for each one. They are also working on building history of the parcels on Historic Downtown Young America. At this time, staff has prioritized business and housing development over this project. Staff is recommending to the EDC to encourage the Chamber to create a Historic Walking Tour on their website. The City and Willkommen Heritage & Preservation Society can link this information to their social media outlets and utilize the pictures for marketing purposes. This project can be expanded on when time and staffing allow.

6.H Community Video

Community video is currently being played on the NYATV channel, on the city website, plus website is now linked to Central Public Schools “Quick Links.” Staff will pursue Shakopee and Chanhassen movie theater advertising when new housing development is approved and started.

6.I Welcome to NYA Packet

Staff is currently researching two-pocket folder pricing along with printing costs for the packets.

6.J Small Cities Development Program

Staff will be meeting with the new Community & Economic Development Director for the CDA in June.

6.K Underpass Artwork (with Central Schools)

The City Council approved the student artwork at the May 23, 2022, meeting. Students finished up the murals the same week. Attached is an article from the Central Public School May newsletter: “Central Art Students Collaborate with the City of NYA.” The mini murals created last year will also be displayed at the West Carver Community Pool fencing.

6. L Manufacturing Careers Article

Mayor Lagergren and staff submitted an article to the League of Minnesota Cities on the NYA Manufacturing Today event that was held in October 2021. It was published in the May/June 2022 issue of Minnesota Cities (attached article).

6.M NYA Area Chamber of Commerce Updates



CENTRAL ART STUDENTS COLLABORATE WITH THE CITY OF NYA

Ashley Williams

MAY 27, 2022

Students in my Spring Semester Draw Paint Print (Level 1 & 2) art class have been working with the city of NYA to paint murals in the new underpass built last summer. The project idea was brought to me by

Superintendent Schochenmaier who learned about the opportunity from the city. The curriculum was written to fit into our Draw Paint Print Courses.

To start the project, students are shown murals from Minnesota. As a class they critique the murals and try to figure out what makes them successful. Then they create a list outlining their own artistic strengths. I use these lists to analyze the student's talents and create student groups that reflect a wide variety of strengths within each group. Students will work in the same group of 4-6 people for the entirety of the project. Then the real fun begins when students brainstorm design ideas for their mural both individually and as a group.

After students determine their final design idea, they make a clean representational sketch and that sketch is submitted to the city for approval. Accompanying the sketch is a proposal completed by the students explaining the rationale for the group's design and how it fits into the project guidelines of community, positivity, and kindness.

Once everything is approved, the painting starts. Students walk as a class to the underpass during class time and work on the project for about 2-3 weeks. We have found time to be our biggest challenge, by the time the students walk to the site and get all the materials set up, it seems when we finally get painting, it's already time to start cleaning up and heading back to school. I complement our students in doing a really good job of being efficient and helping one another.

From start to finish, this project is completely the students' work and ideas. As an instructor, I provide feedback and suggestions taking care to make sure the students are the ones making the decisions so it stays their original idea. The purpose of this project is two-fold: it is tied to community pride and serves as a deterrent against unsightly graffiti in the underpass and it provides our students a platform to show off their talents. Any artist can come in and create a mural, but to have the art come from our community's youth is a pretty special thing.

It has been so fun to see our students using their creativity and problem-solving skills in a real world setting outside of the classroom. I am incredibly proud of them for working together to create something for the greater good of our community. Talk a walk, run, or bike ride and see for yourself the beautiful work Central Students have completed.

City Partnership Shines a Light on Manufacturing Careers

BY KAREN HALLQUIST AND CAROL LAGERGREN

The City of Norwood Young America forged a partnership with Central Public Schools and local businesses last year to show high school students a career path they may not have considered.

The partnership resulted in NYA Manufacturing Today, an event that introduced students to several local companies. During this one-day event last October, nearly 70 students from the local high school had the opportunity to take tours of several of the city's manufacturing businesses and interact with their employees.

The students also got to ask their burning questions, like:

- ▶ What's the starting wage?
- ▶ How much additional schooling does this job require?
- ▶ What do you actually do? What is your niche?

Recognizing the need

Norwood Young America — a semi-rural town located in Carver County 30 miles west of Minneapolis — is home to about 3,900 residents, with significant population growth expected to continue for years to come. The community has 15 manufacturing businesses.

With the Highway 212 four-lane expansion due to be completed in 2024, as well as a new industrial park, the city recognized the need to support its current manufacturing companies. In addition, due to the pandemic and the recent labor shortage, many of these businesses are struggling to find and retain quality employees.

Laying the groundwork

Central Public Schools has approximately 1,000 students from pre-kindergarten to 12th grade. Although their High School Vocational Arts program is strong, many students didn't recognize work in the manufacturing industry as a viable option after graduation.

So, the school and several local manufacturers formed the Manufacturing & Trades Advisory Board last year. The city's

community development director also sits on the board, which was created to educate students about the potential job opportunities available in the trades — specifically in Norwood Young America. Their goal focuses on real-world, authentic learning — educating students through field trips and potential internships.

The Norwood Young America Economic Development Commission (EDC) is an advisory board that provides recommendations to the City Council on matters related to commercial and industrial development in the city. In the past, the EDC has organized a yearly spotlight on local manufacturers during Minnesota Manufacturing Week.

Last October, the EDC and the Manufacturing & Trades Advisory Board decided to take it a step further and put on NYA Manufacturing Today for the city's high school students. This event allowed businesses the opportunity to share information about their industry, facilities, machinery, and job opportunities to an audience of potential young employees.

Going on tour

The day started with high school students going on a tour of five manufacturing sites. Each site highlighted a slightly different type of manufacturing trade:

- ▶ Sackett Waconia designs, engineers, and builds equipment for multiple areas of the fertilizer industry.
- ▶ Yeager Machines specializes in a precise form of milling and turning.
- ▶ Modern Design Cabinetry is one of the largest custom cabinetry shops in Minnesota.
- ▶ Storms Welding & Manufacturing is a leading manufacturer of dairy equipment.
- ▶ Bongards Creamery is a farmer-owned cooperative that specializes in premium cheeses.

Each tour lasted about an hour, with time set aside by presenters and tour guides for introductions and questions. Students were pleasantly surprised to learn that:

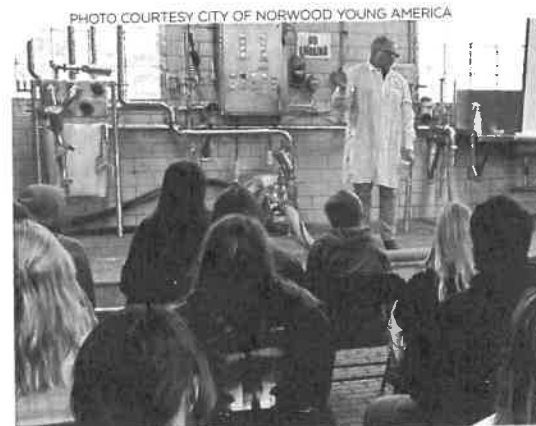


PHOTO COURTESY CITY OF NORWOOD YOUNG AMERICA
Students hear a presentation on the use of robotics in cheese production from a Bongards Creamery employee.

- ▶ Starting wages are 30% above minimum wage.
- ▶ Many jobs are available upon graduation from high school.
- ▶ Several of the businesses work with their employees to provide additional educational opportunities if desired.

In a survey completed after the tours, approximately 75% of the students stated that they would consider a job or career in manufacturing in the future.

"Giving students exposure to potential job opportunities and careers close to home is one way the school and city can partner together," says Tim Schochenmaier, Central Public Schools superintendent.

Creating future opportunities

Central Schools continues to work with the Manufacturing & Trades Advisory Board to create an internship program for students. Their next goal is to partner with community experts in the field, so students can apply skills they are learning in school, like welding, small engine repair, and woodworking.

The community leaders believe by continuing to work together, everyone wins — the students and schools, local manufacturers, and the community of Norwood Young America — and they look forward to having another successful NYA Manufacturing Today event this October. ☑

Karen Hallquist is community development director and Carol Lagergren is mayor of Norwood Young America.