



INTRODUCTION TO BARNESVILLE

Barnesville is a thriving and rapidly growing community in south-central Clay County. The city’s current population of 2,759 residents represents a 33% increase since 1990. The strength of this vibrant community centers on its convenient location and its reputation as a family- and business-friendly place.

Barnesville is located along Interstate 94 approximately halfway between Fergus Falls and Moorhead. While both of these regional and economic hubs are just 30 minutes away, Barnesville serves as a “bedroom community” for the Fargo-Moorhead workforce in particular. Young professionals have eagerly embraced the opportunity to pursue exciting career goals while raising their children in a community that is known for safety, small class sizes, and numerous parks.

Year	Population	Total Increase	Percent Increase
1990	2,066		
2000	2,173	107	5.2%
2010	2,563	390	17.9%
2020	2,759	196	7.6%
1990-2020		693	33.5%

Barnesville’s population growth from 1990-2020



Barnesville’s local economy has also witnessed steady growth and is poised to make significant gains. The city’s 47-acre Commercial Park is currently home to eleven businesses that operate from 15 commercial and industrial buildings. To catalyze continued economic growth, the Economic Development Authority now plans to expand the Commercial Park by developing an additional 6 acres.

In order to sustain this reputation as a family- and business friendly community, and in order to accommodate both existing and future growth, the city hopes to complete long overdue upgrades to 13th Street.

CURRENT CONDITIONS FOR 13TH STREET

13th Street consists of 5,200 lineal feet between Hwy 34 to the North and 9th Ave to the South. Crucially, it provides one of only two north-south collector streets for accessing Hwy 34 and I-94.

The southern section is a gravel roadway. During the Spring and Fall, frost heaves create significant rutting that yields unpleasant and hazardous driving conditions. During dry summer months, dust clouds and even gravel debris threaten pedestrians and cyclists who use the adjacent path.



Southern gravel section of 13th Street.

The significance of this route increased dramatically about 20 years ago, when Barnesville completed new developments immediately east of 13th Street and at its southern terminus. The developments currently provide about 200 homes to 500 residents. Moreover, over the last several years, the city has developed approximately 70 additional lots east of 13th Street. These lots hold the potential of housing many more residents. While young families are clearly enthusiastic about these expanded housing opportunities, they have also expressed serious concern over the safety of 13th Street.

	Homes	Residents
Development Area	200	500
Future Development Area	170	425
	370	925

Completed and Future Development Areas along 13th Street

The northern half is a paved section that connects the Commercial Park to Hwy 34 and ultimately to I-94. This section is reaching the end of its serviceable life and now needs to be reconstructed into a 10-ton roadway. This reconstruction is vital for meeting the city’s economic objectives, as the absence of a 10-ton roadway has deterred multiple businesses from establishing locations in the Commercial Park.

PROJECT SUMMARY

As described above, this roadway represents a major corridor that is used daily by school buses, semi-trucks, and residents travelling to and from workforce housing. In recognition of its importance, the city has made significant investments in the roadway. In 2020, Barnesville combined TAP funding and local resources to install an 8-foot bike path along 13th Street.

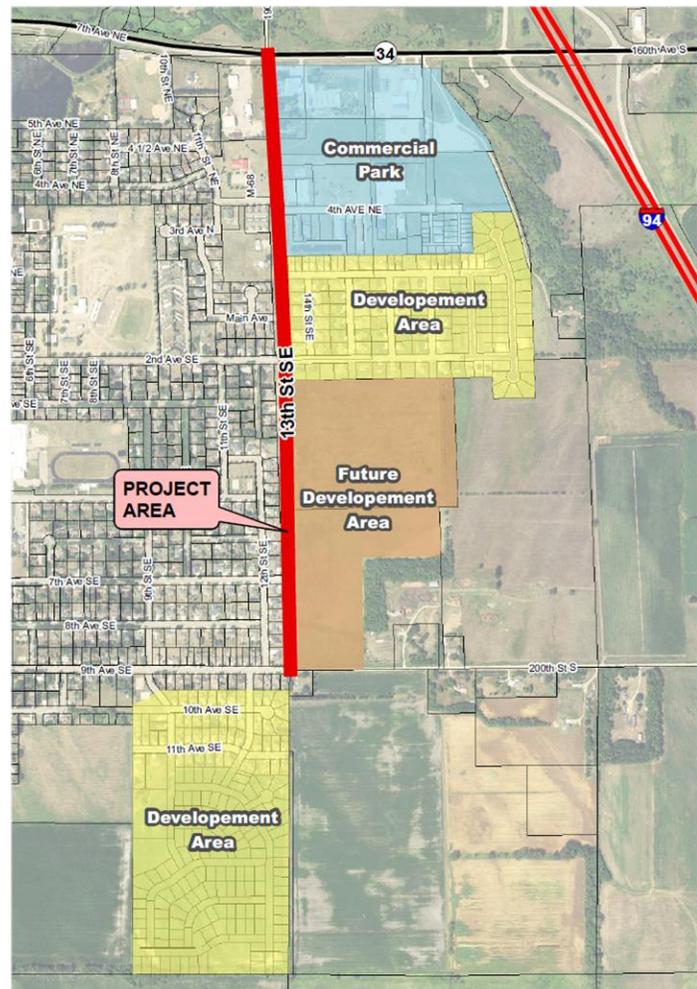
The city is now seeking creative solutions to fund this \$2.55 mil project, which will perform the following high-impact improvements:

- ✓ Reconstruct a 10-ton roadway from Hwy 34 to 4th Ave NE
- ✓ Overlay existing pavement from 4th Ave NE to 2nd Ave SE
- ✓ Pave the gravel road from 2nd Ave SE to 9th Ave SE

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Project area and key beneficiaries.