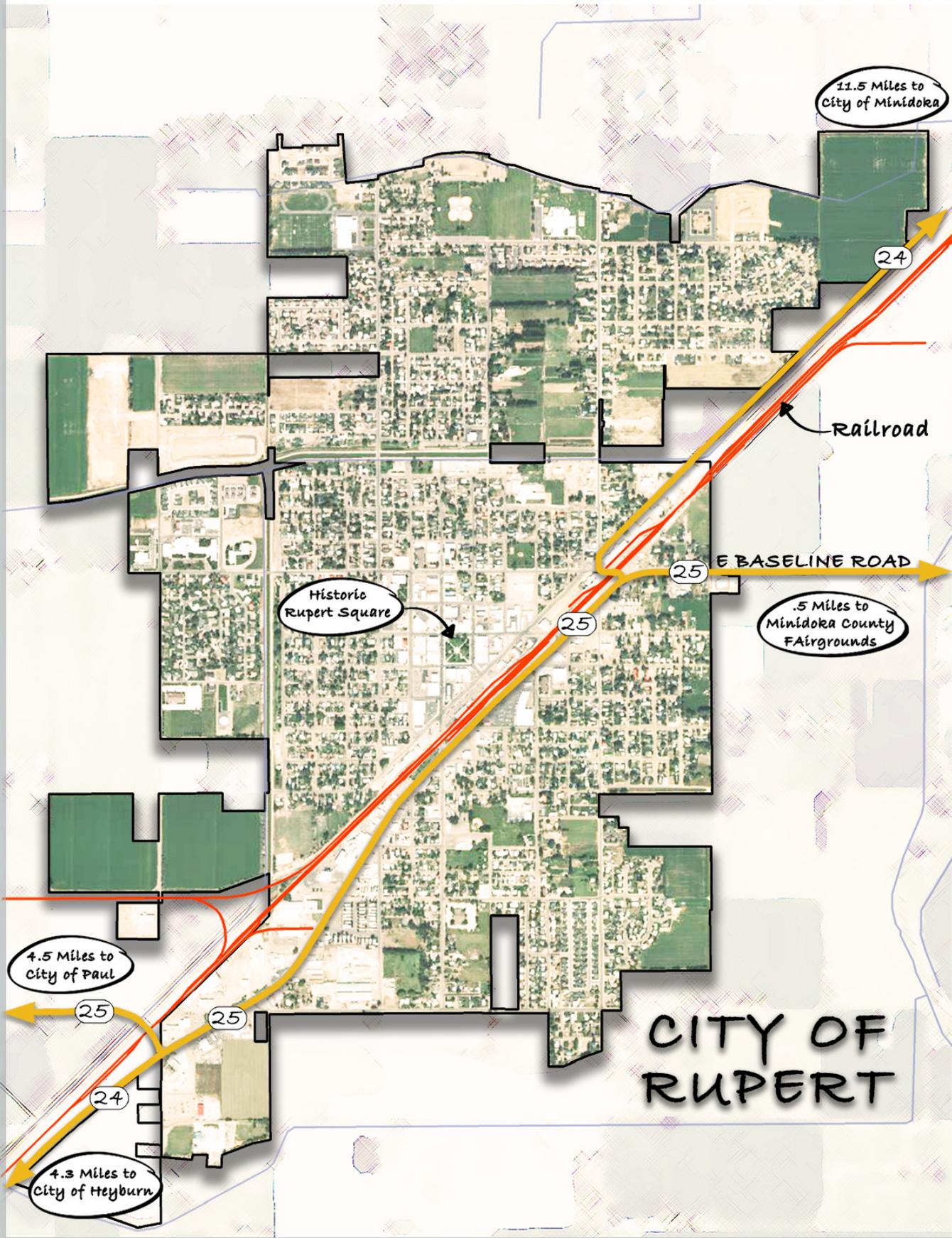


VOLUME III: CITY OF RUPERT
Draft Plan



CITY OF RUPERT





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Cortney Abenroth	Amy Cook	Jeff Miller
David Abrahamson	Roger Davis	Fritz Murdoch
Dusty Adams	Sydney Duffin	Robert Nevarez Sr.
Paul Aston	Justin Franz	David Phillips
Ruth S. Bailes	Kent Hansen	Dan Renz
Garth Baker	Ralph Hansen	Lance Schneider
Jacob Barclay	Taylor Holiday	Gary Schorzman
Jennie Bateman	Sheryl Koyle	Juan Silvas
Roy Belnap	Dan Lloyd	Lloyd Smith
Kevan Bessire	Justin Maughn	Cheyenne Suchran
Steve Bradshaw	Alan Maxwell	Travis Turner
Brent Browning	Kent McClellan	Krystal Young
Kit Carney	Cortney Mitchell	Jarod Williams

Minidoka County Staff

Rick Nay
Brett Stephens

Minidoka County Commissioners

Wayne Schenk, Chairman
Jared Orton, Vice Chairman
Dan Schaeffer, Commissioner

City of Paul City Council

Brent Stimpson, Mayor
Conrad May, Councilmember
Vicki Mclellan, Councilmember
Brooks Corbirdge, Council President
Brent Browning, Councilmember

City of Rupert City Council

Tammy Jones, Mayor
Joel Heward, Council President
Randy Thompson, Councilmember
Kris Faux, Councilmember
James Wardle, Councilmember



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IIIA. Environment

1. City of Rupert: Today

Natural Resources/ Agriculture

The rich natural resources of Minidoka County were key to the founding of the City of Rupert. The construction of the Minidoka Dam project required local workers and staging areas. The Bureau of Reclamation designated the towns that are now Burley, Heyburn, and Rupert for these support communities. Once constructed the Dam tamed the Snake River and brought irrigation water to the northside of the Minidoka Dam into the North Side Canal, a gravity canal and lateral system serving 72,000 acres (Gravity Division) in the vicinity of Rupert. The Minidoka Irrigation District operates the 8-mile canal.

The delivery of water combined with determined homesteaders, a beneficial climate, and suitable soils, transformed the arid acreages into exceptional agricultural lands. The agricultural economy continues to be the economic mainstay for Rupert. (Refer to **Appendix B**, Agriculture Report.)

In addition to providing the source of irrigation for surrounding lands, the Snake River (located approximately five miles from the city) is an important natural resource providing habitat for wildlife (big game, fur bearing mammals, game, and non-game birds). Along the Snake River and irrigation laterals, canals and ditches, riverine vegetation may be found. Many City parks and residential areas are landscaped with tall trees and gardens. Lands that are not farmed are predominately shrub steppe habitat.



Quick Facts

- Agriculture in Rupert owes its success to irrigation from the Minidoka Dam.
- Rupert is at low risk for most natural disasters. Hazards of concern are wildfires, earthquakes, severe winter storms, and flooding.
- Rupert recreation options include numerous city parks, a Country Club and Lake Walcott State Park.



Lincoln Park in Rupert



Hazardous Areas

The area is at low risk for most natural hazards. Since the surrounding agricultural lands are susceptible to wildfires, during the hot and dry summer months, wildfire is a concern. Rupert also has a moderate risk of earthquakes but has not experienced an earthquake since 1931. While Rupert's risk for hazard is low, it is still important to identify areas that could become hazardous and plan accordingly. Minidoka County is considered a risk area for severe winter storms and flooding.³ Minidoka County's website offers disaster services information. The site includes emergency preparedness tips and guiding principles to help residents in the case of a disaster.

Recreation

Rupert is in an advantageous position, surrounded by outdoor recreational opportunities including Lake Walcott State Park (about 10 miles east of the town square) and the National Wildlife Refuge. The State Park offers fishing and primitive campsites and cabins. A disc golf course is also available.

Since the drilling of the first well in what is now known as the Historic Rupert Square, and the planting of poplar trees surrounding the Square, parks have been a central part of Rupert's identity (major park amenities are depicted on [Figure IIIA.1](#)). These parks are managed by the City Parks and Recreation department and are host to playgrounds, a disc golf course, tennis courts, outdoor basketball courts, softball courts, a baseball field, horseshoe pits, and picnic tables. The Rupert Swimming Pool is also open throughout the summer, giving people a chance to cool down and children an opportunity to play in the hot months.

Within the Area of Impact, just west of the city limits, is the Rupert Country Club, an 18-hole semi-private golf course. Just east of the city limits, is the Minidoka County Fairgrounds (85 E. Baseline Road) home to the annual County Fair (July-August).

³ Idaho 2023 Hazard Mitigation Plan



2. City of Rupert: Tomorrow

Rupert is a hub of innovation in the farming industry. The City supports conserving local agricultural land and natural assets, while attracting new farm and ranching operations. The City is an active participant in hazard and disaster preparedness and response.

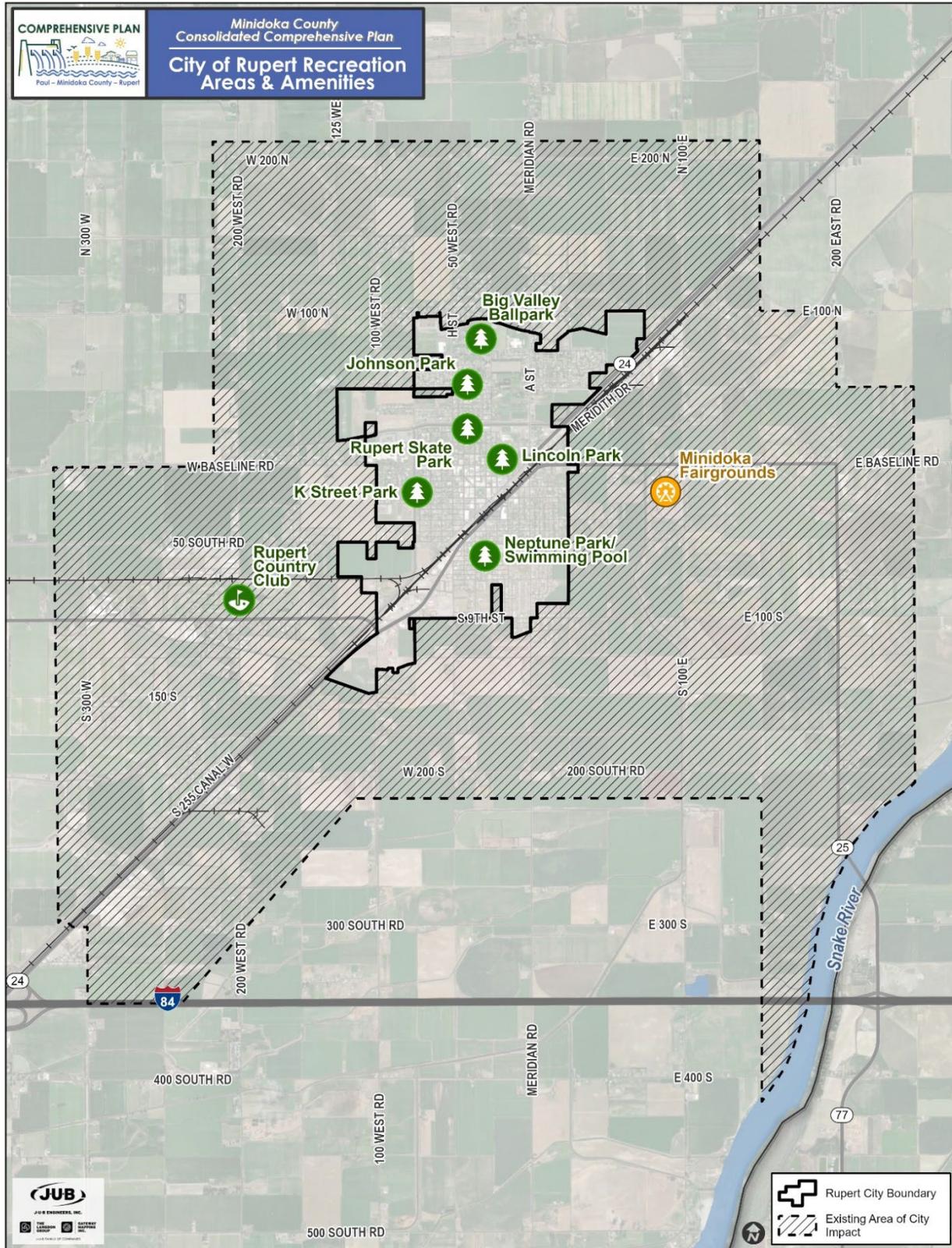
The open space and agricultural lands surrounding support Rupert's visual identity as an historic farm town. Rupert will continue to enhance the recreational opportunities in the city, providing additional parks and activities as the city grows. Future expansion will likely encompass the Minidoka County Fairgrounds and that facility could be enhanced to provide a year-round venue for activities such as concerts and other large scale outdoor events.

Rupert has enhanced some roadways with linear parks, yet the city does not have an extensive bicycle and pedestrian pathway system. While the city enjoys proximity to the Snake River, and a State Park, it lacks pathway or trail access for residents to enjoy the river. The implementation of multi-use paths to the river and other recreation destinations would offer the community an additional means to recreate while providing health benefits.





Figure IIIA.1: Rupert Parks and Amenities





3. Goal, Objectives, and Implementation Strategies

Environment Goal: Conserve our natural resources so that future generations may continue to enjoy clean air and water, healthy and productive soils, as well as scenic open spaces.

Objective IIIA.3.1: Collaborate with regional entities on the preservation of natural resources that are essential to our community health.

Strategies:

IIIA.3.1.a: Participate with the County and other organizations to ensure appropriate well monitoring and other water quality compliance.

IIIA.3.1.b: Collaborate with partner agencies and private entities to minimize conflict with agricultural pursuits and adjacent urban uses.

Objective IIIA.3.2: Preserve and encourage agriculture-related industries to serve the agricultural community and surrounding farmlands.

Strategies:

IIIA.3.2.a: Implement the Future Land Use Map to ensure that future residential development does not encroach on productive farmlands.

IIIA.3.2.b: Continue to coordinate with the County on Area of Impact boundaries and appropriate land use processes to protect productive farmland.

IIIA.3.2.c: Consider the impact to adjacent agricultural businesses when reviewing new annexations and development applications.

IIIA.3.2.d: Encourage design and site plans that minimize impact to canals, riparian habitats and large trees.

IIIA.3.2.e: Ensure recreational and open space areas are compatible with agricultural and natural resource areas.

IIIA.3.2.f: Study potential for a trail system to connect to the Snake River and to Lake Walcott State Park.

Objective IIIA.3.3: Minimize potential natural hazards and ensure community preparedness.

Strategies:

IIIA.3.3.a: Ensure an All-Hazards Mitigation plan is current and consistent with other plans and programs.

IIIA.3.3.c: Continue to prepare for hazardous such as fire, floods, and extreme weather events.





Objective IIIA.3.4: Continue to improve the variety of recreational sites, facilities, and activities to meet the needs of a growing community.

Strategies:

IIIA.3.4.a: Evaluate potential for a Recreation District to support Rupert and surrounding areas.

IIIA.3.4.b: Collaborate with School District to expand options for youth sports and other activities.

IIIA.3.4.c: Improve athletic fields and ensure adequate connections to other community amenities for large scale tournament events.

IIIA.3.4.d: Identify potential park space to offer community gardens, fishing ponds and other family activities.

IIIA.3.4.e: Collaborate with the Minidoka County Fairgrounds as a potential extension of recreational opportunities, and venue for community gatherings (concerts, outdoor events, etc.).

IIIA.3.4.f: Support the development of trails and pathways to connect recreational areas, open space, and other destinations.



Rupert downtown streetscape



IIIA. Environment

1. City of Rupert: Today

Land Use/Housing/Community Design

Rupert covers approximately 2.06 square miles and includes a variety of land uses. Downtown Rupert is best known for the Historic Rupert Square, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Surrounding the Square are a variety of retail shops, restaurants, and other service establishments. The Wilson Theater, also listed in the NRHP, faces the northwest corner of the Square. The highly decorative triangular brick structure is owned by the City of Rupert and is managed by a non-profit organization. They ensure a full calendar of theatricals, musicals, events, and programs, so that downtown Rupert has become a major entertainment attraction for the Magic Valley.



Quick Facts

- Historic Rupert Square is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.
- The City of Rupert is the Minidoka County seat.
- Rupert is the location of major cheese and potato production.

Surrounding the square are government buildings including City Hall, Police and Fire Departments, the historic County courthouse, and the public library. Commercial uses extend beyond the downtown area along major streets. Primary land uses surrounding downtown are older residential neighborhoods, with churches and parks. Other Commercial development also extends beyond downtown along State Highways 24 and 25. Significant industrial uses are located along the rail line in both the southwest and northeast sections of the city. Larger lot residential development and small farms, along with agricultural support



Bike path in Rupert



uses such as manufacturing and processing, occur on the outskirts of town within the Area of Impact (AOI).

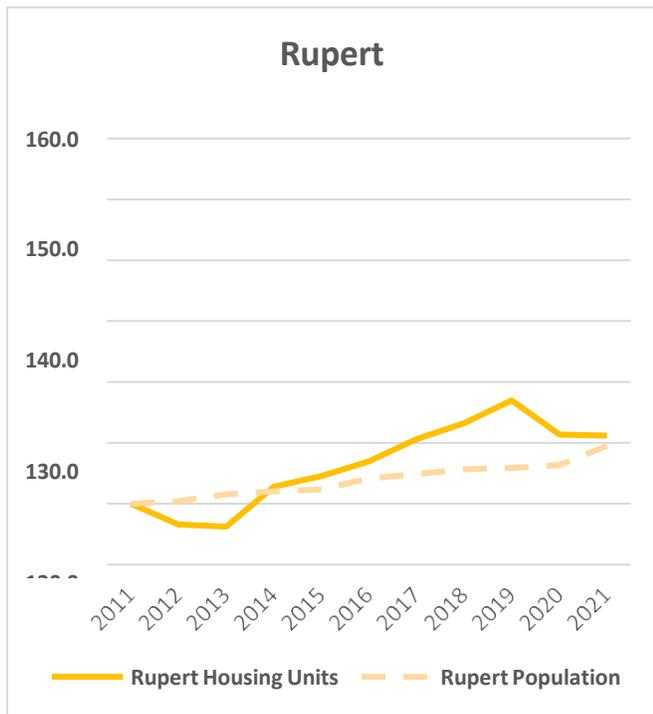
The City of Rupert and Minidoka County agreed on the current AOI (refer to **Figure IIIB.1**) to define an area that the city may reasonably expect to serve in the decades ahead. Due to new State requirements, Minidoka County and the City of Rupert will need to review this existing area of impact and reestablish the areas in conformance with the provisions of amended State Statute 67-6526, by December 31, 2025.

As a major population center for Minidoka County, Rupert has been providing a desirable place for families to settle and grow for decades. In addition, Rupert is a suitable venue for housing local agricultural workers and their families, with easy access to retail operations and public services including schools. For the most part Rupert has kept pace with housing needs, as depicted in **Table IIIB.1** below, but has seen a need for smaller and more affordable units such as townhomes and apartments (Refer to Appendix B, Housing Report.)

Rupert already has a high poverty rate (Minidoka County as a whole has a large share of children living in poverty) and rental costs in the area surpass income levels significantly, presenting an escalating issue. Over the past five years the proportion of severely burdened renters has surged by 6 percentage points.

Economic Development

Table IIIB.1 Gap in Housing Units and Population



The City of Rupert encourages business growth and development. (Refer to Appendix B, Economic Development Report.) The City has an Urban Renewal Agency that is poised to provide project improvements to new business (utility infrastructure, site preparation) as well as support the purchase of property.

Rupert views measured industrial growth as an essential part of its future and strives to offer maximum incentives to new, viable industry. For decades, Rupert has been the location of major cheese production facilities including Brewster West which produces cheese curds, Swiss cheese, and approximately 27 million lbs. of cheese that is sold to the “Kellogg’s” company. Other major industries include the Idahoan potato processing facility, large potato fresh pack



plants and a Les Schwab tire production facility.

Rupert already has a high poverty rate (Minidoka County as a whole has a large share of children living in poverty) and rental costs in the area surpass income levels significantly, presenting an escalating issue. Over the past five years the proportion of severely burdened renters has surged by 6 percentage points.

Transportation

Rupert connects to Interstate 84 at Exit 211 (the intersection with State Highway 24) approximately 4.5 miles south of the city center. Rupert may also be accessed from Exit 208 providing the business connection to Paul and then crossing eastward on State Highway 25. To the east of Rupert Interstate 84 Exit 216 is accessed by State Highway 25 (crossing the Snake River and the County line).

There are approximate 52 miles of City maintained roads. In 2023 the City of Rupert updated their Transportation Master Plan summarizing issues with roadways, posts, signs, and sidewalks. Recommendations regarding operations, maintenance, and future improvements are also included.



Historic photo of Downtown Rupert in the snow.

Union Pacific Eastern Idaho Railroad has a branch line that runs from Rupert to Wendell (58 miles). This branch is used primarily for shipping grain, agricultural products, food, coal, limestone, and chemicals.

There is no regional airport within Minidoka County. The closest airport is Burley Municipal Airport located 8.2 miles away from Rupert. Magic Valley Regional Airport is located 50 miles away in Twin Falls.

Rupert does not have public transit opportunities, although there is access to a regional bus service for inter and intrastate use. The Minidoka County Senior Center (702 11th Street) may assist with individual transportation needs.

2. City of Rupert: Tomorrow

In anticipation of the increase in population (7,240 total population in 2045, an increase of 1,240 residents or about 30 new households per year) a FLUM has been prepared for those land areas inside City Limits as well as within the AOI ([Figure IIIB.1](#)). This map illustrates the various types and distribution of land uses anticipated in the years ahead. The land use categories identify the types and nature of development depicted on the FLUM (**Table IIIB.1**).





Cities of all sizes across southern Idaho are experiencing growth. This growth can also lead to affordability issues for longtime residents. To address this, Rupert has recognized the need for diversified housing options. Areas of higher density residential were identified in the FLUM around commercial corridors and as a buffer between uses.

The City of Rupert has also considered future annexations to the north and northwest, to address the influx of new residents. During this planning process the area to the southwest of the city, nearest Exit 211 on Interstate 84, was considered for possible expansion of the AOI, as that area is a desirable location for commercial and industrial services and an improved truck route. However, with the passage of the new State legislation the City and the County will be conferring over the impact area to ensure that it is based on the ability and likelihood of the city to annex lands within the near future.

Additional programs and services should be considered to address the needs of a growing population of residents experiencing poverty. While the FLUM identifies additional areas for higher density residential areas to encourage smaller units, further attention should be given to ensuring that support for households without access to commercial services or with no access to a vehicle. Sidewalk improvements were recognized as a priority by the community. Rupert has a central business district with adjacent housing which provides the potential for a walkable city. Sidewalk improvements would accommodate commuters who walk and help with wheelchair accessibility.

As the Rupert Urban Renewal Agency continues to act in support of new investment, opportunities to incentivize catalytic businesses (lodging, visitor services etc.) should be acted upon.

Rupert's historic buildings give the city unique character that the city strives to maintain. Rupert will continue to preserve this architectural heritage and improve public spaces. The community is keen on expanding upon the success of the Square to surrounding blocks and investigating the potential for additional historic districts.

All development in Rupert's Historic District is subject to design guidelines (City of Rupert Historic Preservation Commission, 2002), to ensure sensitive restoration and rehabilitation of buildings that contribute to the character of the historic district.



Downtown Rupert sidewalk



Table IIIB.2: Land Use Categories

Agriculture	Residential Low
<p>Areas that preserve productive lands for all agricultural purposes. Characterized by farms and ranches. May allow for single-family residential development that maintains a rural environment. Would allow for individual well and septic. Agricultural lands within Rupert’s impact area should not be considered for the Agricultural Protection Area program, as the ensuing deed restrictions may impede the delivery of future urban services.</p>	<p>Areas for single family dwellings, on a variety of lot sizes, located in established neighborhoods and on the town edges. Some other uses such as parks and recreational areas, and places of worship may be allowed by special permit. These areas should not be considered for the Agricultural Protection Area program, as the ensuing deed restrictions may impede the delivery of future urban services.</p>
Residential Medium	Residential High
<p>Located adjacent to low density residential areas, these areas are intended for a mix of housing types, including small lot single family homes, duplexes, patio homes and townhouses. Other uses may be considered, including places of worship, public assembly and care facilities as well as incidental commercial or office uses.</p>	<p>Designated areas adjacent to commercial and some light industrial land use areas, as well as along major transportation corridors, to encourage multi-story condominiums and apartment buildings. Other uses may be considered by Planned Unit Developments (PUD), including public assembly and care facilities as well as incidental commercial or office uses.</p>
Commercial General	Commercial Local
<p>Includes a variety of commercial land use areas, including downtown business, highway commercial, that provide for and encourage the grouping together of business, retail, public, quasi-public, and other related uses. Special permits including PUD’s, may be considered for more intense uses or to incorporate residential uses.</p>	<p>Small scale commercial areas that are compatible with residential neighborhoods. These may include convenience businesses, small retail establishments and professional offices. Special permits may be required to ensure compatibility with surrounding residential uses.</p>
Public	Industrial
<p>Designated on lands that are owned by governmental entities or intended principally for the use by the public, including government offices, public safety buildings, schools, parks, libraries, and post offices. Public areas often encourage recreation, education, interaction, and cultural events, that contribute to the quality of life of residents.</p>	<p>Areas that provide for manufacturing and other industrial uses which usually contain processing, assembling, storing, testing and similar industrial uses. Incidental office uses may also occur. Special permits may be required to ensure appropriate screening, hours of operation and other mitigations for impacts on surrounding uses.</p>



3. Goal, Objectives, and Implementation Strategies

Economy Goal: Support a balanced economy that is derived from the tradition of agriculture, and includes access to enterprises that offer education, employment, and commerce.

Objective III.B.3.1: Ensure a variety of land uses to support a healthy community and a diversity of interests.

Strategies:

III.B.3.1.a: Implement the Future Land Use Map through amendments to the zoning ordinance and development of specific standards, guidelines, or policies.

III.B.3.1.b: Establish standards within zoning code to ensure new developments provide amenities that contribute to the livability of neighborhoods (such as sidewalks and open spaces).

III.B.3.1.c: Consider opportunities to enhance industrial areas (landscaping, screening, buffers etc.).

III.B.3.1.d: As the City grows ensure that neighborhood commercial areas or mixed-use developments are included to ensure that residential areas have easy access to fresh food, medical services and other convenient office or commercial uses.

III.B.3.1.e: Identify an overlay district to attract new industries, employment opportunities and housing, as part of future connection to I-84 (south from downtown on Meridian/100 W).

Objective III.B.3.2: Ensure that future annexation areas meet and/or will implement applicable adopted city standards and policies.

Strategies:

III.B.3.2.a: Revise Area of Impact Agreement and map with Minidoka County to comply with new State Legislation.

III.B.3.2.b: Support integration of County subdivisions as the City grows to potentially encompass them.

III.B.3.2.c: Establish appropriate land use designations with expansion of city limits.





Objective III.B.3.3: Encourage the development of a diverse housing inventory and strong neighborhoods.

Strategies:

III.B.3.3.a: Include a variety of housing types within the zoning code and map, such as accessory dwelling units, duplexes, triplexes, townhouses, and apartment buildings.

III.B.3.3.b: Address potential for residential in conjunction with existing commercial and office buildings, including accommodating 2nd floor residential in historic buildings.

III.B.3.3.c: Explore potential historic residential district on I Street to enhance neighborhood identity.

III.B.3.3.d: Develop housing policies to encourage the creation and preservation of housing for households earning less than area median incomes.

Objective III.B.3.4: Continue to improve the Historic Rupert Square as a community amenity and a visitor destination.

Strategies:

III.B.3.4.a: Explore participation in the Main Street program through the Department of Commerce to address business retention and expansion, promotion, events, and design standards.

III.B.3.4.b: Collaborate with the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) regarding incentives for rehabilitation of historic properties.

III.B.3.4.c: Identify incentives for development of lodging on or near the Square.

III.B.3.4.d: Evaluate potential projects for application of urban renewal monies.

Objective III.B.3.5: Enhance opportunities to highlight proximity of agricultural activity and outdoor attractions (Lake Walcott State Park, City of Rocks etc.).

Strategies:

III.B.3.5.a: Explore a new farmers market that encourages local business and farmers to work together.

III.B.3.5.b: Collaborate with Minidoka County Fairgrounds regarding multi-season uses and attractions.

III.B.3.5.c: Identify potential trails, bicycle and pedestrian pathways linking Rupert to outdoor attractions.



Objective III.B.3.6: Continue to maintain and improve local transportation network, in accordance with the Transportation Master Plan (2023) and the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

Strategies:

III.B.3.6.a: Prioritize safety improvements including appropriate speed limits, stop signs, railroad crossings and improved sight distance.

III.B.3.6.b: Explore enhanced connectivity to I-84 such as a new north south connection to I-84 (such as along Meridian/100 W).

Objective III.B.3.7: Support the development of alternative modes of transportation.

Strategies:

III.B.3.7.a: Utilize Safe Routes to School funding for improvements to H and 8 Streets.

III.B.3.7.b: Inventory and improve sidewalks as needed.

III.B.3.7.c: Identify potential trails, bicycle, and pedestrian pathways to connect various Rupert neighborhoods.

Objective III.B.3.8: Participate in regional discussions regarding improved Municipal/County Airport.

Strategies:

III.B.3.8.a: Establish a partnership with other area governments to discuss feasibility of airport relocation within or outside of Minidoka County.

III.B.3.8.b: Evaluate and identify potential of adequate land area north of I-84 suitable for a new airport (including associated influence areas).





IIIC. Community

1. City of Rupert: Today

Schools/Transportation

Minidoka County School District serves the City of Rupert. Rupert has 2 elementary schools, a middle school and a private elementary school which offers preschool through sixth grade. Rupert does not have any high schools within city limits. Enrollment numbers have stayed consistent throughout the last five years. **Table IIIC.1** shows student enrollment for the last five years. During the Covid-19 pandemic, the elementary schools experienced a drop in enrollment.

In 2018, the Boys and Girls Club expanded their services to Rupert in order to serve the Minidoka County School District Elementary students. Their after-school program is located at the Rupert Clubhouse in Neptune Park.

College of Southern Idaho offers an early head start program which serves pregnant women and parents with children 0-3 years old in Minidoka County. This service offers parents an array of support opportunities such as home visits, referrals to community resources, ongoing assessment of children's developmental progress, and opportunities to connect with other families at monthly parent meetings.



Quick Facts

- Minidoka County School District serves the City of Rupert. Student enrollment numbers have remained consistent the last five years.
- Rupert is in the 35th percentile for safety. Crime rate is 33.50 per 1,000 residents during a standard year.
- Rupert experiences high rate of poverty (2021 poverty status was 28.5%, while Idaho was 11%)

Table IIIC.1: 2018 – 2023 Minidoka County School District Student Enrollment

2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
4,262	4,328	4,147	4,422	4,354



Minidoka County School District bus yard





Public Services, Facilities and Utilities

Safety. Rupert Police Station is located at 633 Fremont Avenue. The police station provides a community training room which allows various groups throughout the community to utilize meeting space. The Police Department also has a shooting complex which is open to the public and hosts events and training courses throughout the year. Rupert is in the 35th percentile for safety. The rate of crime in Rupert is 33.50 per 1,000 residents during a standard year.⁴

Utilities. The City of Rupert provides electricity for residential, commercial, and industrial use. Rupert is the purveyor of electrical power inside and near city boundaries which allows for electric incentive rates for new businesses. Industrial wastewater rates are typically negotiated with each industrial customer to provide some of the most progressive and competitive wastewater rates in the region. Additionally, the City of Rupert works closely with local building officials to expedite the building permit and inspection process to reduce delays in new industrial projects. The City has not traditionally imposed any impact fees. The City of Rupert currently has its own urban renewal agency to provide financial incentives for new business within City limits. The city also provides solid waste, water, and wastewater services.

The City of Rupert operates a wastewater treatment facility that underwent major upgrades in 2012. It is a state-of-the-art plant that takes in waste and from it creates nutrient-rich irrigation water and fertilizer which is used by nearby farms.

PMT is the major provider of internet to Rupert and a location within the city, offering residents internet, TV subscriptions, and cloud services.

Facilities. The City owns several buildings downtown including the Historic Wilson Theater and the O'Day building. Rupert city Residents have access to DeMary Memorial Library (417 7th Street). The library provides access to thousands of books, over a thousand DVDs, and WIFI access.

Residents also have access to a community meeting room which can be used for private or small group meetings. Friends of the Library is a non-profit volunteer group that recruits volunteers and raises funds for services and improvements that the library budget does not



Sign for Rupert's Big Valley Ballpark

⁴ Crimegrade



provide. A bond for a library district failed to pass in 2024. **Figure IIC.1** depicts all public facilities and schools within the City.

The City Parks and Recreation department operates city parks and recreational activities as discussed in Section III.A. This includes operation and maintenance of the Historic Rupert Square and ownership of the Wilson Theatre (refer to Section III.B).

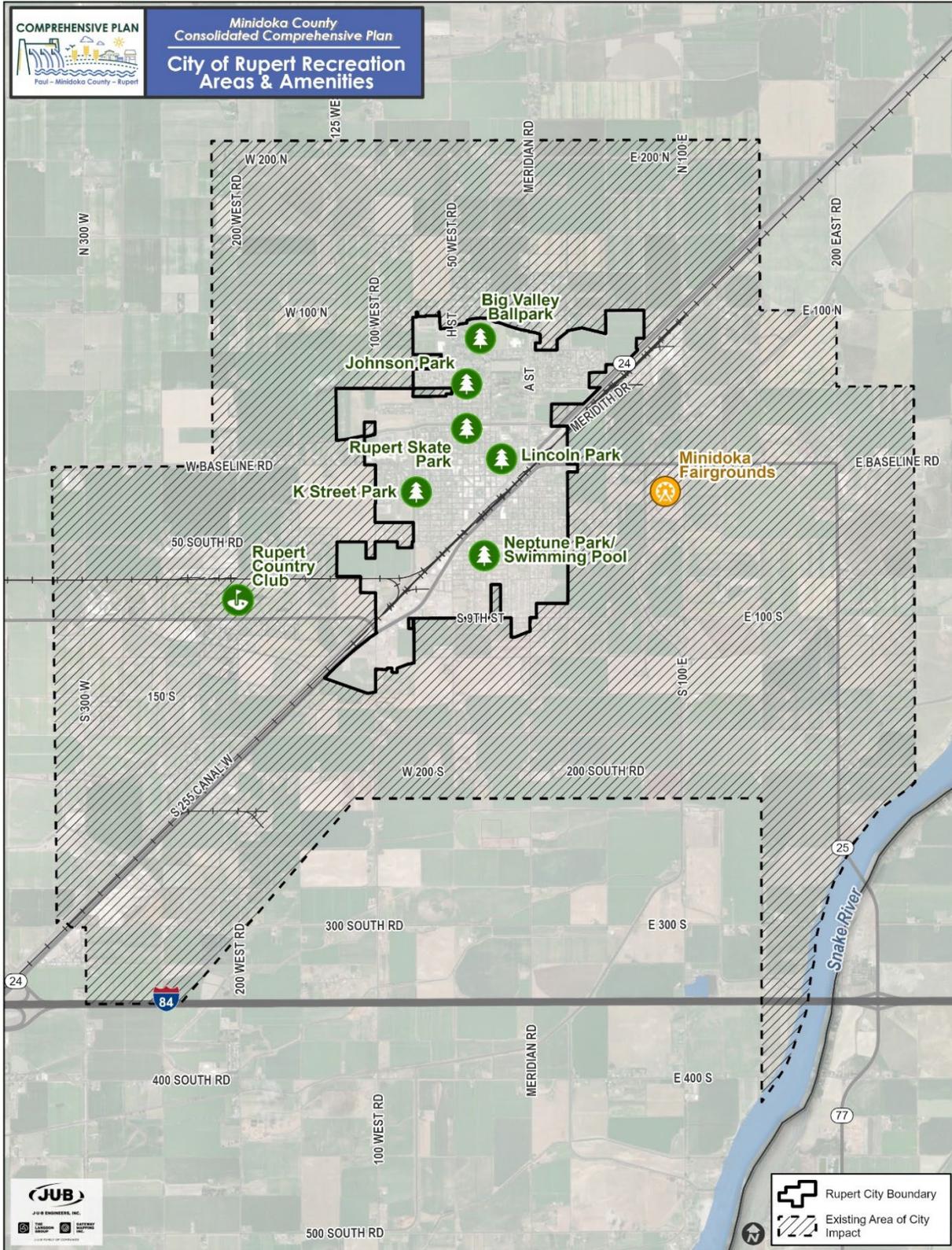
Humanitarian Center. The Magic Valley Humanitarian Center is a community-based, nonprofit organization made up of volunteers that help locals in need. Comprised entirely of volunteers and donors, the Humanitarian Center distributes school kits, hygiene kits, newborn kits, sleeping mats, and more to people throughout the Magic Valley who are facing troubled times,



Rupert's Historic Wilson Theater



Figure IIIC.1: Recreation Areas and Amenities





2. City of Rupert: Tomorrow

The community identified a need for more schools and expanded school services. Schools within the school district are already at capacity and the next 10-20 years sees a need for more qualified teachers and funding. The school district plans a bond in 2025, but the future and economy are unclear.

Due to the growing population of residents experiencing poverty, the need for public services and facilities will continue to rise. Programs supported by the Humanitarian Center, community schools and the City of Rupert should be evaluated for improvements and expansion.

3. Goal, Objectives, and Implementation Strategies

Community Goal: Provide public facilities and services that enable residents and visitors to thrive and benefit from the historic small-town character and quality of life, including access to recreation and other amenities.

Objective III.C.3.1: Coordinate with the School District and private schools to plan for future growth.

Strategies:

III.C.3.1.a: Communicate with School District officials to ensure that safe access to public schools and other safety concerns are being addressed.

III.C.3.1.b: Share demographic information with the School District to ensure proper site and facility planning occurs in conjunction with present and future enrollment.

III.C.3.1.c: Collaborate with private schools to identify issues of concern.

III.C.3.1.d: Explore the potential for post-secondary education and lifelong learning options with Idaho State University, University of Idaho (County Extension) and College of Southern Idaho.

Objective III.C.3.2: Ensure that all Rupert residents have access to all necessary municipal services, including safety and emergency support, facilities, and utilities.

Strategies:

III.C.3.2.a: Collaborate with County, special districts, and other municipal entities to ensure responsiveness to public needs.

III.C.3.2.b: Address concerns for community safety.

III.C.3.2.c: Consider adding options for childcare & senior care in cooperation with local schools and private enterprises.



Objective IIC.3.3: Ensure that main corridors and community gateways are attractive and welcoming.

Strategies:

IIC.3.3.a: Evaluate wayfinding throughout the city (gateway, entries, destinations, routes, and connection points).

IIC.3.3.b: Establish standards within zoning code so that new development meets minimum landscaping and site design provisions.

IIC.3.3.c: Consider depicting overlay districts along corridors and scenic areas.

Objective IIC.3.4: Encourage literary and artistic activities that promote appreciation of local heritage and traditions.

Strategies:

IIC.3.4.a: Identify areas of historic and cultural importance and explore potential for adaptive reuse of existing public buildings and sites.

IIC.3.4.b: Explore creation of a Library District.

IIC.3.4.c: Investigate potential for a local arts program in coordination with the Idaho Commission on the Arts.



View of Rupert water tower from Historic Rupert Square.



IIID. Implementation

This section consists of a table that lists all strategies presented in Sections A, B and C by assigned priorities (high, medium, and low). Each strategy lists a lead City Department or responsible party as well as potential partners to accomplish implementation. The strategies requiring continued collaboration for successful implementation are listed under a separate section below.

Number	Strategies	Partners
HIGH PRIORITY		
IIIA.3.2.a	Implement the Future Land Use Map to ensure that future residential development does not encroach on productive farmlands.	City Planner, P&Z Commission
IIIA.3.2.b	Modify Area of Impact boundaries and ensure appropriate land use processes are in place, in accordance with State legislation.	City Administrator, City Planner, Minidoka County
IIIA.3.3.c	Continue to prepared for hazardous events such as fire, floods, and extreme weather events.	City Fire Chief, Minidoka County
IIIA.3.4.c	Improve athletic fields and ensure adequate connections to other community amenities for large scale tournament events.	City Recreation Director, School District, County Fairgrounds
IIIA.3.4.f	Support the development of trails and pathways to connect recreational areas, open space, and other destinations.	City Administrator, City Planner, Minidoka County
IIIB.3.1.a	Implement the Future Land Use Map through amendments to the zoning ordinance and development of specific standards, guidelines, or policies.	City Planner, P & Z Commission
IIIB.3.1.b	Establish standards within zoning code to ensure new developments provide amenities that contribute to the livability of neighborhoods (such as sidewalks and open spaces).	City Planner, P&Z Commission
IIIB.3.1.c	Consider opportunities to enhance industrial areas (landscaping, screening, buffers etc.).	City Planner, P&Z Commission
IIIB.3.1.e	Identify an overlay district to attract new industries, employment opportunities and housing, as part of future connection to I-84 (south from downtown on Meridian/100 W).	City Administrator, City Planner





IIIB.3.2.a	Establish Area of Impact Agreement with Minidoka County to comply with new provisions.	City Administrator, City Planner, P&Z Commission
IIIB.3.3.a	Include a variety of housing types within the zoning code and map, such as accessory dwelling units, duplexes, triplexes, townhouses, and apartment buildings.	City Planner
IIIB.3.3.d	Develop housing policies to encourage the creation and preservation of housing for households earning less than area median incomes.	City Administrator, Region IV Economic Development
IIIB.3.4.d	Evaluate potential projects for application of urban renewal monies.	City Administrator, Urban Renewal Agency
IIIB.3.6.a	Prioritize safety improvements including appropriate speed limits, stop signs, railroad crossings and improved sight distance.	City Administrator, City Street Department, City Fire Chief
IIIB.3.1.d	As the City grows ensure that neighborhood commercial areas or mixed-use developments are included to ensure that residential areas have easy access to fresh food, medical services and other convenient office or commercial uses.	City Planner, , P&Z Commission
IIIB.3.2.c	Establish appropriate land use designations with expansion of city limits, consistent with the FLUM.	City Planner, P&Z Commission
IIIB.3.3.b	Address potential for residential in conjunction with existing commercial and office buildings, including accommodating 2 nd floor residential in historic buildings.	City Planner, City Historic Preservation Commission
IIIB.3.4.b	Collaborate with the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) regarding incentives for rehabilitation of historic properties.	City Planner, City Administrator, City Historic Preservation Commission, Idaho SHPO
IIIC.3.3.b	Establish standards within zoning code so that new development meets minimum landscaping and site design provisions.	City Planner, P&Z Commission
IIIC.3.3.c	Consider depicting overlay districts along corridors and scenic areas.	City Planner, P&Z Commission
MEDIUM PRIORITY		





IIIA.3.4.a	Evaluate potential for a Recreation District to support Rupert and surrounding areas.	City Administrator, City Recreation Director, City of Paul, Minidoka County
IIIA.3.4.b	Collaborate with School District to expand options for youth sports and other activities.	City Recreation Director, School District
IIIA.3.4.e	Collaborate with the Minidoka County Fairgrounds as a potential extension of recreational opportunities, and venue for community gatherings (concerts, outdoor events, etc.).	City Recreation Director, City Administrator, County Fairgrounds
IIIB.3.4.c	Identify incentives for development of lodging on or near the Square.	City Planner, City Administrator, Mini- Cassia Chamber
IIIB.3.5.a	Explore a new farmers market that encourages local business and farmers to work together.	City Administrator, Mini-Cassia Chamber
IIIB.3.5.b	Collaborate with Minidoka County Fairgrounds regarding multi-season uses and attractions.	City Administrator, County Fairgrounds, Mini- Cassia Chamber
IIIB.3.5.c	Identify potential trails, bicycle and pedestrian pathways linking Rupert to outdoor attractions.	City Administrator, City Planner, City Streets Department
IIIB.3.7.c	Identify potential trails, bicycle, and pedestrian pathways to connect various Rupert neighborhoods.	City Administrator, City Planner, City Streets Department
IIIC.3.1.c	Collaborate with private schools to identify issues of concern.	City Administrator
IIIC.3.2.c	Consider adding options for childcare & senior care in cooperation with local schools and private enterprises.	City Administrator, School District, Mini- Cassia Chamber, Health Department
IIIC.3.3.a	Evaluate wayfinding throughout the city (gateway, entries, destinations, routes, and connection points).	City Administrator, City Planner, Minidoka County, Mini-Cassia Chamber
IIIC.3.4.b	Continue to advocate for creation of a Library District.	City Administrator, Library Board





LOW PRIORITY		
IIIA.3.2.f	Study potential for a trail system to connect to the Snake River and to Lake Walcott State Park.	City Administrator, Minidoka County
IIIA.3.4.d	Identify potential park space to offer community gardens, fishing ponds and other family activities.	City Administrator, City Recreation Director, City Planner
IIIB.3.2.b	Support integration of County subdivisions as the City grows to potentially encompass them.	City Planner, P&Z Commission
IIIB.3.3.c	Explore potential historic residential district on I Street to enhance neighborhood identity.	City Planner, City Historic Preservation Commission
IIIB.3.4.a	Explore participation in the Main Street program through the Department of Commerce to address business retention and expansion, promotion, events, and design standards.	City Administrator, Mini-Cassia Chamber, Region IV Economic Development
IIIB.3.6.b	Explore enhanced connectivity to I-84 such as a new north south connection to I-84 (such as along Meridian/100 W).	City Administrator, City Streets Department
IIIB.3.8.a	Establish a partnership with other area governments to discuss feasibility of airport relocation within or outside of Minidoka County.	Cities of Paul, Heyburn, Burley and Minidoka County
IIIB.3.8.b	Evaluate and identify potential of adequate land area north of I-84 suitable for a new airport (including associated influence areas).	Cities of Paul, Heyburn, Burley, and Minidoka County
IIIC.3.1.d	Explore the potential for post- secondary education and lifelong learning options with University of Idaho (County Extension) and College of Southern Idaho.	City Administrator, College of Southern Idaho
IIIC.3.4.c	Investigate potential for a local arts program in coordination with the Idaho Commission on the Arts.	City Administrator, Idaho Commission on the Arts.
CONTINUED COLLABORATION		
IIIA.3.1.a	Participate with the County and other organizations to ensure appropriate well monitoring and other water quality compliance.	IDEQ, IDWR, Public Works, Minidoka County
IIIA.3.3.c	Continue to prepared for hazardous events such as fire, floods, and extreme weather events.	City Fire Chief, Minidoka County
IIIB.3.7.a	Utilize Safe Routes to School funding for improvements to H and 8 Streets.	City Fire Chief
IIIB.3.7.b:	Inventory and improve sidewalks as needed.	City Street Department





IIIA.3.1.b	Collaborate with partner agencies and private entities to minimize conflict with agricultural pursuits and adjacent urban uses.	City Planner, Public Works, Minidoka County
IIIA.3.2.c	Consider the impact to adjacent agricultural businesses when reviewing new annexations and development applications.	City Planner, P&Z Commission
IIIA.3.2.e	Ensure recreational and open space areas are compatible with agricultural and natural resource areas.	City Administrator City Planner
IIIA.3.3.a	Ensure an All-Hazards Mitigation plan is current and consistent with other plans and programs.	City Fire Chief, Minidoka County
IIA.3.3.b	Implement policies related to stormwater retention.	City Planner, Public Works
IIIC.3.1.a	Communicate with School District officials to ensure that safe access to public schools and other safety concerns are being addressed.	City Planner, School District
IIIC.3.1.b	Share demographic information with the School District to ensure proper site and facility planning occurs in conjunction with present and future enrollment.	City Administrator, School District
IIC.3.2.a	Collaborate with County, special districts, and other municipal entities to ensure responsiveness to public needs.	City Administrator, Cities of Paul, Heyburn Burley and Minidoka County
IIIC.3.2.b	Address concerns for community safety.	City Administrator, City Fire Chief
IIIC.3.4.a	Identify areas of historic and cultural importance and explore potential for adaptive reuse of existing public buildings and sites.	City Planner, City Historic Preservation Commission

