

Improving The Quality Of Life Within My Community

In my freshman year of high school, my family bought a home out in the country that contains some acreage. It has shown me that slowing down and enjoying days that are filled with hard work makes you feel accomplished and fulfilled. There are things I miss regarding living in a city setting like the internet that works consistently, smooth roads, and community involvement and events.

A big improvement I would like my local government to focus on is bringing digital equity to our rural homes. Having reliable internet is important for the residents of my community. I complete a lot of schoolwork at home and my mother works from home some days. Our neighbor also works from home three days a week. Currently, our internet is slow and not reliable. If the internet is down, we are not able to get our work done. It also interferes with many other aspects of our lives, as our security cameras and some of our automatic timers will not work. This puts us in danger as well as our farm animals. There is a grant available to Wisconsin governments and businesses that has almost a million dollars available in grants, my town officials should really focus on the grant application process and help our community. With the improvements and reliance on technology, and how much our world relies on having the internet; bringing higher speed and reliable internet should be a priority.

The roads are rough in our community as well as the small bridges and culverts. Focusing funds to improve our roadways would be beneficial to everyone in our community. The cars, trucks, and farm equipment in my community have a hard time on our roadways. There are many potholes that are deep and wide that people have to drive around, which is not safe due to being on the wrong side of the road. The bridges and culverts could use maintenance and it would be nice to know they are safe to drive over. The cost of fixing our roads would be quite high, so phases would be helpful to spread out the cost of the project. We currently have a

road that is closed due to a washed-out culvert and it is no longer safe to drive over.

Allocating some funds to improve our roadways would be extremely helpful to our community.

Another way to improve our community would be to focus on our local town hall and create opportunities for community involvement. The town hall building does not have any curb appeal. It has flaking white paint and there is no landscaping at all. I believe it would be a nice event to bring the community together to volunteer to improve this building and the land around it. If the local government could pay for the paint, supplies, and some plants we could have a weekend that people could come and help. It is a farming community so there are plenty of pressure washers, skid loaders, and other equipment people could donate the use of. Once the town hall is fixed up, the community could hold local events there such as local farmers markets on the lawn, small carnival events, town fundraisers, and so much more. With the building repaired, people may want to rent the hall as well. There could be some revenue available for our town if we were all able to contribute time and energy.

My community is a family-friendly area that could use some improvements to help the individuals that live there. Having a reliable, high-speed internet would be helpful to everyone. Improving our roadways would help everyone that lives there and anyone who travels on our roads. Allowing the community to bond and come together to improve our town hall would allow an opportunity to not only improve our government building but also meet our neighbors and give back to our community.

Thank you for reading my essay, I would be truly honored to receive a scholarship to put towards my degree at the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee.

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