



Sturgeon Missouri

Comprehensive Plan

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Sturgeon R-V School Board

Sturgeon School District, Agricultural Education

Sturgeon Buena Vista Board

Introduction

“Theme that matches our goal” is the Comprehensive Plan for the City of Sturgeon, Missouri. A Comprehensive Plan is an outcome of comprehensive planning which is a process that determines community goals and aspirations in terms of community development. The plan dictates public policy in terms of transportation, utilities, land use, recreation, and housing. The contents of this document are intended for use by the City of Sturgeon to help guide the city’s future development.

The City of Sturgeon is a small rural and agricultural community that offers an informal low-density setting for people wanting to escape the crowded high-density features of larger cities, but at the same time is within close proximity to larger cities whose amenities can be accessed.

Government

Sturgeon is a fourth-class city of almost 1,000 people located in northern Boone County. Legislative authority rests with the Mayor and the four member Board of Aldermen. Two aldermen are elected from each of the city's two wards. The Mayor is elected by a vote of all citizens.

The municipal government includes the following positions: City Clerk, City Collector, Maintenance Supervisor, City Accountant, City Attorney, and Police. All positions are chosen and hired by the Board of Aldermen.

Local government services include police protection, water, wastewater, building code enforcement, parks and recreation, and snow removal.

The city levies both real estate and personal property taxes as authorized by the voters under Missouri Law and for 2021 has a total assessed valuation of \$10,041,761.

Community History

Sturgeon is located just three miles east of Highway US-63 and less than one mile south of Highway MO-22 in the northwest corner of Boone County, a first-class County with a population of approximately 180,000. Sturgeon owes its existence to a \$6,000 deal with the railroad company.

Many years ago a town called Buena Vista stood two miles west of the present site of Sturgeon. The place was also called Bourbonton and at one time contained 150 residents. When it was determined that the North Missouri Railroad would run through the site where Sturgeon is now located and miss Buena Vista, Lemuel Dill, a noted house mover, started moving the houses to Sturgeon using a huge wagon with oxen.

The town of Sturgeon, named after Isaac H. Sturgeon who was then president and General Superintendent of the North Missouri Railroad, was laid out in July and August, 1856. Six pioneers obligated themselves to pay the railroad company \$6,000 contingent upon locating the railroad depot in Sturgeon. These included John Rochford, John B. Smith, Peter G. Booth, N. B. Burks, John M. Booth, and S. M. Riggs.

The early years of Sturgeon saw businesses such as hotels, opera houses, broom factories, ice houses, elevators, and banks as well as many churches. Sturgeon celebrated its Centennial in 1956 and its Sesquicentennial in 2006.

Characteristics and Trends

This section of the Comprehensive Plan will examine various characteristics and trends relative to the City of Sturgeon’s growth and development.

Demographics

Over the past two decades The City of Sturgeon has seen its population dip to under 900 but start to rise again. The 2000 census counted the population of Sturgeon at 932 and the 2010 census counted 872. As of 2017 that number had risen to 919.

Various Demographic Characteristics

	2020	2010	2000
Total Population	969	872	944
Total Households	388	361	382
Median Age	34.2	39.7	36.0
Median Household Income	\$61,604	\$43,958	\$33,173

Housing

As indicated in the previous table, the total household units in the City of Sturgeon according to the 2020 Census were 388. From 2018 through the first half of 2021, approximately 40 new housing units have been built or started in the city of Sturgeon as well as several older housing units being renovated or removed creating additional lots for construction.



Transportation

This section of the Comprehensive Plan examines the various modes of transportation relative to the Sturgeon community. These transportation modes; roadways, railroad, airports, and other alternative modes to varying degrees have an impact on the overall community.

Roadways

The City of Sturgeon maintains approximately 9.5 miles of streets, roads and bridges. Approximately 99 percent of the streets are paved. Paved streets are surfaced with asphalt, chip and seal, and oil surfaces. The City also maintains a few sections of concrete surface roads. The Public Works Department which maintains the streets consists of a Superintendent and one other employee.

Funding for street maintenance and improvement comes from numerous sources, including the City's General Fund, Transportation Tax, Motor Fuel Tax, Sales Tax and Use Tax. The City has also utilized federal funding for curb and gutter and sidewalk improvements.

There are approximately 2 miles of streets including Missouri Highway V and Missouri Highway CC in the City limits that are maintained by the State of Missouri. Sturgeon is located on Missouri Highway V, it's "Main Street" (Ogden Street). The Boone County Public Works Department maintains roads and bridges outside of the City limits.

Existing City Ordinances require that new streets be constructed at developer or property owner expense. Ordinances also require that curb and gutter and sidewalk improvements be paid by the property owner. The City accepts maintenance of new streets upon inspection and approval of the Public Works Director and Board of Aldermen. Curb and gutter and sidewalk maintenance remain the responsibility of the property owner.

Missouri Highway 22 is located less than a mile to the north. US Highway 63 is located approximately 3 miles to the west. Interstate 70 is located approximately 22 miles to the south and can be accessed via US Highway 63.

Railroad

The Norfolk Southern railroad runs directly through downtown Sturgeon. The rail line remains active with approximately 10 trains per day traveling through the City of Sturgeon. Amtrak has stations located in Jefferson City 54 miles to the south and in LaPlata located 61 miles to the north.

Airports

The closest airports are located in Columbia, Mexico, Moberly, St. Louis, and Kansas City. The Columbia Airport is located 36 miles to the south and offers flights to Chicago, Dallas, and Denver currently. The Moberly Airport is located 20 miles to the north and the Mexico Airport is located 26 miles to the east. Both airports can accommodate small planes. The St. Louis International Airport is located along

Interstate 70 and the Kansas City International Airport off Interstate 29 are the closest primary airports for passenger service.

Alternative Transportation Modes

The City of Sturgeon maintains its interest in developing alternative transportation modes such as bicycling and pedestrian walkways. The recent placement of a sidewalk along Missouri Highway V and a new sidewalk connecting the Elementary school to the High School are steps toward providing pedestrian accessibility and aesthetic enhancement.

Utilities

City controlled utilities within the City of Sturgeon include water, wastewater, and solid waste. Gas, electric, and all communications are controlled by others.

Water

The City of Sturgeon provides water service to approximately 420 customers. Water is currently supplied to the city by Public Water Supply District #10. Water service is administered under the oversight of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources and the Environmental Protection Agency. The city maintains a monthly water testing program under the jurisdiction of The Department of Natural Resources. The city currently supplies approximately 42,000 gallons of water per day.

Wastewater

The City Provides wastewater services to approximately 380 customers. The city maintains 13 miles of sewer mains and 4 lift stations. The current lagoon was built in 1992 as a wetland type system. It has since been updated to a no discharge system with all overflow used for crop irrigation. The lagoon is maintained monthly by the city and the Department of Natural Resources.

Solid waste

Solid waste is controlled by the city, but is provided by a solid waste contractor with the friendliest bid for a 1 year contract. Services included are weekly pickup and twice annual bulk pickup. The city collects the monthly fee through the water and sewer billing, then forwards payment to the contractor.

Natural Gas and Electric

Natural gas and electric services are provided by Ameren Missouri. At present they have over 309 gas meters and 501 electric meters within the city

Other Utilities

CenturyLink provides telephone, high speed internet, and television options in the city and surrounding area. Socket also provides fiber internet, television, and telephone options as well.

Economic Development

Economic development is an important component of any community. Whether for job opportunities, tax base, or convenience for its citizen's economic vitality is one of the keys to a successful future. Sturgeon has had lots of different businesses since the town was founded in 1856. Currently the City of Sturgeon gives out around 25 business licenses each year. Some of the businesses currently in town are: Dollar General, grocery store, convenience store, meat market, hardware store, auto repair, auto body, auto sales, hair salons, restaurant, funeral home, doctor's office, chiropractor, storage units, car wash, welding, ag repair, daycare, nursing home, bank, excavating, construction, and event planning.

Community Facilities/Services

The quality-of-life of a particular community is roughly measured by the community facilities and services available to its citizens. This section highlights the community facilities and services available within and around the Sturgeon community.

Education

Sturgeon Public Schools serves the citizens of north central Boone County, southeast Randolph County, and western Audrain County. The district consists of two campuses located in Sturgeon, Missouri. The Pre-K – 8th Grade campus sits on over six acres located at 210 and 211 West Patton Street. This building was renovated in early 2010's. Sturgeon High School was constructed in 2002 on a 40 acre campus at 24350 North Fairgrounds Road. Sturgeon R-V School District is home to 434 students and 47 teachers and administrators. The district has achieved full accreditation from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Sturgeon is the home of the “Bulldogs”. Our athletic teams have had numerous successes over the years, including, two State Titles won by our baseball teams in the early 1980's, and many other achievements including two more appearances in the “Final Four” since 2012. The Sturgeon Bulldog basketball teams have a history of success including a 1996 “Final Four” appearance and an undefeated State Championship in 2010.

The Sturgeon Public School system has a mission statement of “All Bulldogs succeed in learning through commitment, accountability, and teamwork.” Sturgeon offers students many opportunities and experiences while maintaining the strong standards and favorable student teacher ratios that are hallmarks of successful schools.



Sturgeon High School



Sturgeon Elementary and Middle Schools

Health Care

There are several health care providers located in, or near, the City of Sturgeon. These Facilities and services include:

- Medical Clinic
- Chiropractor
- Massage Therapists
- Centralia Clinic (located approximately 10 miles east of Sturgeon)
- 2 Dentists located in Centralia, approximately 10 miles east of Sturgeon
- Numerous other physicians, dentists and hospitals within easy driving distance of Sturgeon located in Hallsville, Columbia, Moberly, and Mexico.

Law Enforcement

The City of Sturgeon operates a full-time police department consisting of at least one full-time officer and normally a reserve officer or two.

Fire Protection

Fire Protection for Sturgeon is provided by the Boone County Fire Protection District which includes 15 stations located throughout the 490 square miles. Station 6 is located in Sturgeon. The district's operating budget as of 2018 is \$3.5 million with a tax rate of 63 cents per \$100 assessed valuation and a bond of 25 cents per \$100 assessed valuation. The district serves over 50,000 residents. The fire district has 220 volunteer firefighters and 25 paid staff and is governed by a five member elected board of directors.

Ambulance

Ambulance services are provided by Boone Hospital with an ambulance located in Centralia and multiple ambulances located in Columbia. They are backed up by University Hospital as the next closest mutual aid ambulance also located in Columbia. Both services provide full Advanced Life Support.

Library

Sturgeon is served by a bookmobile from the Daniel Boone Public Library in Columbia. The bookmobile comes to Sturgeon on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month.

There is also a public library in Centralia (located 10 miles east of Sturgeon).

Recreation and Exercise

There are several locations in the Sturgeon area that can be used for recreation and exercise opportunities.

The Sturgeon Recreation Center which was opened on 7/1/2001 is a debt free building with all funds raised from cash contributions, grants, and fundraisers. It is located at 403 W. McDowell St. The center contains a basketball court, meeting room, and a workout area with treadmills, ellipticals, and numerous weight-lifting and exercise machines. Monthly and annual memberships for individuals, families, and seniors are available. The center is also available for rental on weekends and holidays.



Sturgeon Recreation Center

Sturgeon is home to two city parks. The Sturgeon City Park located in the 300 block of E. Smith St. contains a Shelter House, Restrooms, Playground, Basketball Court, and Tennis Court. Creek Park located at S. Hicks St. and E. Burks Rd. can be used for picnics and lounging.

One of the key community facilities associated with the Sturgeon School District are the track facilities. The track is available for public use and is lighted for evening use.

Just outside of Sturgeon is a youth park called The Pinnacles Youth Park. It is a jagged rock formation standing 75 feet high and stretching 1,000 feet long and is bordered by two creeks which helped to form the rock formation. The park includes a walking trail and is excellent for hiking. There are also 3 picnic shelters which include picnic tables and bbq areas.

The Sturgeon Fairgrounds located on W. Jones St. is a large area that contains the Sturgeon Recreation Center, Sturgeon Youth Center, a rodeo arena, tractor pulling track, demolition derby area, horseshoe pitching area, shelter house, and other amenities.



Churches and Ministerial Alliance

There are three denominations that have churches in Sturgeon to support your worship options. These include Baptist, Christian, and United Methodist. The Sunnydale Seventh-Day Adventist Church and Academy is also located nearby to Sturgeon.

The Sturgeon Area Ministerial Alliance provides food, clothing, and household items at no cost through their food pantry and thrift store on the first and third Saturdays of each month from 9 am to 11 am. They also lead a Baccalaureate ceremony for graduating Seniors each year and provide three \$500 scholarships.



Sturgeon Baptist Church



Sturgeon Christian Church



Sturgeon United Methodist Church

Buena Vista Homes

Buena Vista Homes is a low income housing complex for senior citizens 62 years of age or older or handicapped. Buena Vista Homes consists of two complexes each containing 16 apartment units and a community center.

OATS Transportation provides rides to renters every Wednesday or by scheduled appointments. Also a nearby pharmacy (Kinhead's Pharmacy of Centralia) delivers prescriptions each Wednesday.

Tourism

The City of Sturgeon is home to a few tourism opportunities.

There is a large Amish community located just north of town. The Amish are a self-sustaining group that provide many goods and services for purchase including baked goods and candies, fruits and vegetables, leather, furniture, and many other items.

Other Community Resources

4-H, Boone County

Sturgeon Goalseakers 4-H Club

4-H, Randolph County

Clark Helping Hands

Girl Scouts

Sturgeon Booster Club

Sturgeon Fair Board

Sturgeon FFA

Sturgeon Rough Riders Saddle Club

Sturgeon Recreation Association

Sturgeon Youth Sports Association

Boone County Fire Protection District