In a few sentences, give a summary of the project and why it was needed.

The need for a community center in Templeton was discussed for many years, and many options were explored. The former Sacred Heart School (closed in 2003) was used as a de-facto community center since it was built in 1964, but the Church's ownership and the fact that it was constructed as a school limited the ability for it to fully provide all of the services one would normally find in a community center-type facility. The former school was a solid, well-built structure with a favorable layout that, with the right updates and modifications, could be transformed into a premier facility to serve the community for years to come. In 2011, a committee began a multi-year process to acquire (by the City) and redevelop the old school into a new fully functional multi-purpose community center.

In 2012, the property was gifted to the City for $1.00. The project involved conversion of the 20,000 square feet former elementary school building and nearly four acres into a multi-purpose community and recreation center with facilities for conferences, meetings, banquets, outdoor events, camping, and athletic events. Specific components included: new electrical, plumbing and HVAC systems throughout; new roof, doors and windows; interior finishing of walls, ceilings, flooring and lighting fixtures; new and remodeled restrooms; ADA lift between levels; new equipment and furniture; exterior paving, landscaping, streetscape and patio construction.

**Project Funding and Execution:**
Total Cost/Projected Cost of Project: **1,750,000** or [ ] no cost

List where funding came from (grants, donations, city funds, etc.)
Private Donations, Community Attraction & Tourism ("CAT") Grant, Community Foundations, DNR, Bonding.

Total time project took/projected to take for completion:
(to qualify project must be operating or completed between January 1, 2013 and December 31, 2013)
May 2012 [ ] Start date August 2014 [ ] End date or [ ] Project is ongoing

**Resources**
Please list Web sites judges may reference if they seek additional information. Do NOT include supplemental paper information. Only information on this form or the sites listed will be used in the judging process.

www.templetoniowa.com - click on Templeton Center

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Explain the specific role of your city in this project.

After a formal plan for the project was released in March of 2012, the Templeton City Council agreed to be a partner in the project and take on ownership, operation, and maintenance responsibilities for the Templeton Center. Templeton has never had a community center, but it was long-discussed in the community and the time was right to proceed with the school conversion project. The City of Templeton took the stance that providing local residents with this type of facility is not that different and certainly as important as providing any of the amenities and services local governments provide like roads, parks, utilities, snow removal, etc.

In a few sentences, what future impact will this project have on your community?

The Templeton Center will have a significant economic impact on the local economy by bringing more people to Templeton and becoming a catalyst for continued growth. The primary beneficiaries of the project will be local residents through the enhancements the Center will bring to the community, and local businesses, who will see increased sales due to the increased traffic in the community. The City of Templeton will work hard to attract and organize (in cooperation with other groups) events that will bring people to western Iowa. Examples may include a dinner theatre play that is hosted at the Center, an AAU basketball tournament, a travelling museum exhibit, or a training seminar that would bring people into the area from great distances. These events will bring people to the area and with proper marketing and encouragement will also direct them to other area attractions.

People’s Choice Caption (not used during judging process)

If your city is not selected as a winner in their population category, this photo caption will be used in a bracket-style tournament on social media to select the winner of the People’s All-Star. Limit one sentence.

Templeton Center - a premier multi-purpose event center in western Iowa

Iowa League of Cities
Attn: All-Star Community Awards
500 SW 7th Street, Suite 101
Des Moines, IA 50309
or bethanycite@iowaleague.org

Return this form by Monday, April 6, 2015.