City: Titonka

Title of Project: Buffalo Creek Activity Center & Titonka Fitness Center

City's Population: 476

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

Rather than see our former school building sit empty and possibly become an eyesore, the City took ownership of the building. The building now houses City Hall, a new Community Center, and a Fitness Center.

Explain the specific role of your city in this project:

The City agreed to take possession of the school building, as we became part of another district and they no longer wanted to use our building. The new portion of the school was built in 2007, and it was in excellent condition. The school offices now house City Hall. The fitness center, which was previously in a very small and cramped location, has expanded and moved into the lower level of the former school building. Two former classrooms were remodeled into a new Community Center. Air conditioning was added to the gymnasium, so large events may be held there, any time of year. The city also sold the majority of the land behind the building to a local resident, and he has turned this area into a campground. The city was able to amend their Urban Renewal plan to include this building, and by doing so, it has made TIF available to use for some of the changes to the building.

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

This building now provides meeting space and event space for not only the community, but for the surrounding area. The campground will bring people into the community, which will bring revenue to our local businesses (grocery store and bar/restaurant), and also to our city-owned swimming pool. The fitness center makes Titonka a more desirable community, and helps to attract new residents. It also adds to the quality of life here.

Total cost of project: $88,500.00

List where funding came from. (grants, donations, city funds, etc):

Donations, grants, and TIF
Total time project took/projected to take for completion. Please include start date and end date. (To qualify the project must be operating or completed between January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2017):

We started by amending our Urban Renewal Plan in November of 2016. The Fitness Center was up and running by April 1, 2017. The air conditioning was added to the gymnasium in May, 2017. The Community Center was finished by August, 2017.

Resources. (Please list Web sites judges may reference if they seek additional information.):

www.titonka.com