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Carter Lake Eager to Improve Locust Street

Carter Lake, Iowa – Carter Lake, a unique Iowa town bound by the Nebraska state line, was the focus of a *Community Design Program* workshop this past weekend. Eager to improve the city's main thoroughfare, Locust Street, Carter Lake hosted a team of design professionals from Iowa and Nebraska for an intense weekend of visioning and planning.

Carter Lake is nestled among land legally within city limits of Omaha, Nebraska, and had long been a recreation destination for wealthy Nebraskans wanting to escape life in Omaha. A century later, despite its unique location, Carter Lake has become a bedroom community and travelers stop sitting less than a mile away from Eppley Airfield.

Carter Lake Parks and Recreation Director, Sherry Rydberg isn't worried about residents capitalizing on their community's uniqueness. "Towards the end of the (architect's) community presentation, I was overwhelmed with residents willing to start work right then! If I would have had shovels - they would have started! That energy will drive us to complete our long-awaited avenue of beauty." Each community that participates in the *Community Design Program* is charged with accomplishing short and long-term goals.

Rerouting truck traffic for pedestrian safety, creating a town center for community celebrations, and developing unused property along the Missouri River are among the goals set forth by the CDP Design Team to Carter Lake. Some of the other issues covered during the workshop were community identity, history and proximity to major attractions and the capitalization of available community resources.

The *Community Design Program* works to help Iowa communities realize their potential through quality design. For more information on the *Community Design Program* and to see pictures of the Carter Lake workshop, visit www.iowaarchfoundation.org/cdp.

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