Mission Statement

- Provide excellent customer service by assisting county residents effectively, consistently, and courteously with questions and applications regarding land use in the unincorporated areas of the county and solicit public input on pending applications, development plans and ordinance amendments to facilitate planned development in and around the cities, while preserving valuable agricultural land in the county.
Purpose

- The purpose of land use regulations in the County is to:
  - Preserve the availability of agricultural land
  - Protect the public’s health and general welfare
  - Encourage efficient urban development patterns
  - Efficiently plan for and provide public facilities and infrastructure

- The land use ordinances were developed in accordance with Iowa Code Chapters 18B, 335, 354 and 355 and are based on the Comprehensive Plan for Dubuque County

- Regulations are made with reasonable consideration as to:
  - The character of the area
  - Suitability of an area for a particular use
  - Conserving the value of land and buildings
  - Encouraging the most appropriate uses of land throughout the County
Zoning Structure

- **Zoning Board**
  - Recommending body appointed by Board of Supervisors
  - Responsible for reviewing plats, rezoning applications, and zoning amendments for Supervisor approval
  - Update the Comprehensive Plan and recommend areas for future development in the County
  - Board of Supervisors, as legislative body, has final say on approval of plats, rezoning applications, zoning amendments, and adoption of the comprehensive plan
  - Any appeal of Board of Supervisors decisions must go to district court
Zoning Structure

- **Board of Adjustment**
  - Quasi-judicial Board appointed by Board of Supervisors
  - Responsible for approving Variances and Special Use Permits
  - Hearing appeals to the Zoning Administrator's decisions
  - Authority to approve, modify or deny applications
  - Any appeal of Board of Adjustment decisions must go to district court
# Zoning Activity by Year

## Full Calendar Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Board of Adjustment Cases</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>42</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zoning Board Cases</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoning Certificates</td>
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<td>179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plats</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complaints</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flood Plain Permits</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Addresses</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor Erosion Control Permits</td>
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<td>Major Erosion Control Permits</td>
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<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Entrance Permit Applications</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entrance Permit Variances</td>
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<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*As of June 2013, the Zoning Office started handling all Major Erosion Control Permits with Eric.*
Complaints

There were 16 new Zoning Complaints filed in 2019.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Cases Logged</td>
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<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cases Completed</td>
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<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Achievements

2019

- Scanning of Zoning & Board of Adjustment Cases, Building Permits, Official Notices, Agendas and Minutes sent out for digitizing
- Office relocation completed
- Department fully staffed
Current Projects ~ 2020

- Working with IT to import the scanning project documents
- Work on Platting Ordinance Update
- Work on zoning violations and continued clean-up of properties in violation
- Continue to train staff on policy changes
Current Projects ~ 2020 Continued

- **Zoning Code Update Project**
  - Originally projected to be completed in 2 years (started in July 2016)
  - Now on schedule to be completed by the end of 2020
  - The Zoning Board will be working on this over the next 10 months
  - Staff will be working closely with the Zoning Board and the Board of Supervisors to hold public hearings
Office Supplies budget decreased $1,000

Stipend and Mileage budgets increased an additional $1,000 for pay for additional Zoning Board Meetings