



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CITY REPORTS \$99+ MILLION IN NEW TAXABLE VALUATION IN 2017

JOHNSTON, Iowa – The City of Johnston is proud to report 2017 as a solid growth year for our community, led by \$99.1 million in new taxable valuation. This includes 68 new single family homes and \$27.8 million in commercial projects, which ranks as the fifth best year on record for commercial development. The statistics are part of the 2017 Community Development Department Annual Report, [which can be viewed here.](#)

"While 2017 saw a dip in new single family residential development, it also marked one of the best commercial development years in recent memory," said Community Development Director David Wilwerding. "The new commercial development, led by more than 14 smaller businesses, is particularly exciting and shows the true diversity of the City's economy as a place where small businesses can thrive and grow."

As part of the 2017 Community Development Annual Report, Wilwerding said he anticipates a resurgence of single family residential development as a result of new and pending developments in 2018. In 2018, he predicts:

- Increased density levels and continued overall population growth, despite the disruption in the retail market; particularly commercial infill at the intersection of NW 62nd Ave and Merle Hay Road.
- Interest and development (residential and commercial) in the areas surrounding the new Johnston High School located west of NW 100th Street at Ashton Drive, and associated road/utility improvements.
- Interest in multi-family and senior multi-family construction, although available multi-family zoned properties are largely already developed or in the process of being developed.
- The slow, but sustained recovery in agricultural machinery markets and continued consolidation among major agricultural technology companies will likely cause minor fluctuations in employment numbers for several large Johnston agricultural sector employers.

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Johnston is a thriving community located just north of Des Moines with a population of 20,460 and growing. [In a community survey](#), ninety-two percent of residents say they are satisfied or very satisfied with the quality of life here, which is well above the national average in quality-of-life rankings. The survey shows our city departments, including police, fire, library, parks, public works and community development, consistently rank among the best in the country.