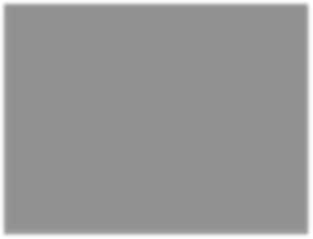
City of Nezperce, Idaho Comprehensive Land Use Plan

***A Ten-Year Strategy for Development***



## City of Nezperce

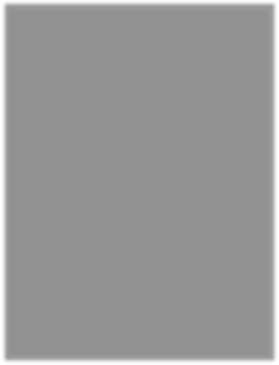
**PO Box 367, Nezperce, Idaho 83543**

(208) 937-1021

Adoption Date: , 2022

# Community Vision

*Nezperce continues to be a growing, economically vibrant crossroads community at the heart of the Nezperce Prairie. It preserves and builds upon its agricultural and family heritage with a revitalized downtown and broad-based community involvement.*



# Resolution #

**Adopting the City of Nezperce, Idaho Comprehensive Land Use Plan**

WHEREAS, Idaho’s Local Planning Act, Idaho Code Title 67, Chapter 65, requires Idaho cities to carry out planning duties necessary for the development and amending of a comprehensive plan and

WHEREAS, the City of Nezperce, with the participation of its residents, has prepared a new comprehensive plan and land use map, and

WHEREAS, public hearings have been held within the City in compliance with provisions of the Local Planning Act,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Nezperce, Idaho as follows:

1. That the Nezperce City Council hereby adopts the City of Nezperce Comprehensive Land Use Plan, dated , 2022.
2. Said adopted plan is a final print of prior drafts which have been the subject of the public hearings referenced above and which reflect responses to public comments upon the proposed amendments.
3. Copies of said Comprehensive Land Use Plan shall be maintained on file in the office of the city clerk. Individual copies may be purchased at the cost of production from the City of Nezperce. An electronic copy is available free-of-charge.

This Resolution is ADOPTED and made EFFECTIVE this day of , 2022.

Mayor

Attest: (seal)

Rhonda Schmidt, City Clerk/Treasurer

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**Introduction**

#### The Planning Process

The Comprehensive Plan is the adopted ten-year planning document for the City of Nezperce growth and development. This plan, with periodic review and timely updates, is the guiding document toward the City of Nezperce attainment of an exceptional quality of life and assuring economic vitality into the future.

The Idaho Local Land Use Planning Act (Idaho Code Title 67, Chapter 65) outlines how governmental entities within the state are to implement planning tools. These planning tools include comprehensive planning, zoning, the regulation of subdivisions, and other land use issues. The purpose of the Planning Act (67-6502) is to promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the people of the state of Idaho as follows:

1. *To protect property rights and enhance property values.*
2. *To ensure that adequate public facilities and services are provided to the people at reasonable cost.*
3. *To ensure that the economy of the state and localities is protected and enhanced.*
4. *To ensure that the important environmental features of the state and localities are protected and enhanced.*
5. *To encourage the protection of prime agricultural, forestry, and mining lands for production of food, fiber, and minerals.*
6. *To encourage urban and urban-type development within incorporated cities.*
7. *To avoid undue concentration of population and overcrowding of land.*
8. *To ensure that the development of land is commensurate with the physical characteristics of the land.*
9. *To protect life and property in areas subject to natural hazards and disasters.*
10. *To protect fish, wildlife, and recreation resources.*
11. *To avoid undue air and water pollution.*
12. *To allow local school districts to participate in the community planning and development process so as to address public school needs and impacts on an ongoing basis.*

The preparation of the Comprehensive Plan is the result of efforts by interested citizens and elected officials. A planning team of the following people guided the development efforts:

1. Steve Bateman, Mayor
2. Rhonda Schmidt, City Clerk
3. Jerry Elven, Citizen
4. Liz Hess, Citizen

Research data was obtained from sources that are documented at the end of each planning chapter. The City of Nezperce also conducted two community surveys—one at the beginning of the process and one to confirm the action needed at the end of the plan development. Both surveys were used to get a broader perspective on the vision and the needs of the community.

A public hearing was held on , 2022. The final plan was adopted on

, 2022.

#### Scope of the Comprehensive Plan

The City of Nezperce Comprehensive plan is the official public statement of the City’s planning goals, objectives, and strategies for implementation. These provide the position of the community and provide the basis for policy decisions that are made on land use. They are intended to maintain and improve the quality of life enjoyed by those who live in Nezperce.

The responsibility of maintaining and improving the quality of life in the City is a responsibility

shared jointly by the City’s governmental officials and citizens alike.

The Comprehensive Plan provides:

* 1. A document that meets the requirements of the Idaho Local Planning Act.
  2. A Land Use Map that indicates the general land use goals. The current land use map was adopted . *For the current land use map, see the Land Use section.*
  3. A document that provides the basis for regulatory ordinances including zoning ordinances, subdivision ordinances, etc.

#### Purpose of the Comprehensive Plan

The Planning Act (67-6502) defines the purposes of a city’s Comprehensive plan:

1. *To improve the physical environment of the community as a setting for human activities*

*- to make it more functional, beautiful, decent, healthful, interesting, and efficient.*

1. *To promote the public interest and the interest of the community at large rather than the interest of individuals or special groups within the community.*
2. *To facilitate the democratic determination and implementation of community policies on the physical development of the City.*
3. *To effect political and technical coordination in community development.*
4. *To inject long range considerations into the determination of short range actions.*
5. *To bring professional and technical knowledge to bear on the making of political decisions concerning the physical development of the community.*

The essential characteristics of the plan are that it is comprehensive, general, and long range. Several other documents used in local planning are often confused with the Comprehensive Plan. One particularly troublesome point is that the land use section of the plan is often confused with a zoning ordinance. The plan indicates only broad categories for general areas of the city. A zoning ordinance, a document which is totally separate from the Comprehensive Plan, must be created to delineate the exact boundaries of districts and to specify the detailed regulations that will apply to them.

An important aspect of the planning process is recognition that the plan will require periodic review and updating. Conditions and attitudes will change with time

The most important point to be made in this introduction is that benefits flow from the use of the Plan, not from its mere existence. When the plan is adopted, it should represent the policies of the governing body, which must be committed to it and ready to follow its policies in their future actions. Frequent changes to the plan for individual convenience and the excessive issuance of exceptions to its implementing ordinances will destroy the credibility of the planning process and invite legal challenges. Consistency in the application of planning tools is essential.

#### Plan Uses

The City of Nezperce Comprehensive Plan has several important uses:

1. Legislative: To meet the requirements of the 1975 Land Use Planning Act of the State of Idaho (Idaho Code, Title 67, Chapter 65). This also establishes general land-use guidelines that later zoning regulations must be consistent with.
2. Policy: To clarify and articulate public policies and the intentions of the City of Nezperce with respect to the rights and expectations of the general public, private enterprise, and local government.
3. Educational: To enable local residents, public agencies, and economic interests to

become informed of the City’s plans and priorities.

1. Coordination: To establish a basis for coordination and understanding among residents, economic interests, city officials, private landowners, and public agencies within the City of Nezperce and the Nezperce Area of Impact.

In order to effectively analyze the opportunities and challenges Nezperce faces, the Plan addresses the following components, as required by Chapter 67-6508 of the Land Use Planning Act:

1. Property Rights discusses the provisions that may be necessary to insure that land use policies, restrictions, conditions, and fees do not violate private property rights.
2. Population contains information on past, present, and projected future trends in population.
3. School Facilities and related Transportation discusses the public school capacity and related transportation and the considerations associated with future development.
4. Economy presents an analysis of the economic base of the area, including employment, industries, economies, and jobs.
5. Natural Resources and Agriculture gives an analysis of the rivers and other waters, forests, ranges, soils, fisheries, wildlife, minerals, and watersheds of the Nezperce area and their economic uses. These factors are useful in establishing limitations and potentials of land use.
6. Hazards and Hazardous Areas is an analysis of known natural and manmade hazards within the area.
7. Public Facilities and Services is an analysis of the City’s water, sewer, and power systems, police and fire protection, health and welfare facilities, libraries, solid waste disposal facilities, public safety facilities, and related services.
8. Transportation is an analysis, prepared in coordination with the local jurisdiction of the Idaho Transportation Department, of the highways, streets, and sidewalks of the City.
9. Airport is an analysis of the City’s airport, the issues associated with it, and the needs for

future development.

1. Parks and Recreation is an analysis of the City’s parks and recreational facilities and

expected future needs.

1. Historic Resources and Special Sites is an analysis of areas, sites, or structures of historical, archeological, architectural, or scenic significance.
2. Housing is an analysis of housing conditions and needs, including goals and objectives for providing safe, sanitary, and adequate housing.
3. Community Design & Business District is an analysis of needs for governing landscaping, building design, tree planting, signs, and suggested patterns and standards for community design, development, and beautification and the downtown business district.
4. Land Use describes the current vision for a mix of future land uses that will realize the

community’s diverse goals.

# Location and History

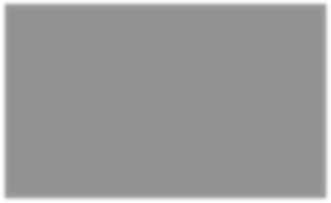
*The following history of the City of Nezperce is extracted from Idaho’s 200 Cities, The North published by Ridenbaugh Press in cooperation with the Association of Idaho Cities on October 15, 2017.*

Located in eastern Lewis County and north-central Idaho, the City of Nezperce lies in the heart of the Nez Perce Prairie. It is 24 miles south of Orofino, 24 miles north of Grangeville, 16 miles west of Kamiah, and 50 miles southeast of Lewiston. It is within the Nez Perce Indian Reservation. The Nez Perce – Clearwater National Forest is 26 miles northeast and 30 miles southeast of the City. Nezperce has a population of 476 people and is the county seat.

Surrounded by fertile black soil, the north-central Idaho farms that surround it produce a variety of crops that include wheat, barley, dry peas, and grass. Agriculture is central to its history.

#### The Pre-Incorporation Years

The city was named for the Nez Perce Indian Tribe. Although the Nimiipuu or the Nez Perce, did not practice nose-piercing, it is French for “pierced nose.” The Nez Perce Tribe of American Indians lived for centuries in the warmer river valleys and passed through the Nez Perce Prairie when on their way to seasonal encampments as they hunted and gathered food.



In 1805, the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery initially passed through the region as they made their way west to the Pacific Ocean. The following year, they traveled east to return to St. Louis and Washington

D.C. Soon after, trappers and explorers began coming into the area. In the 1830s, missionary groups arrived to convert the Indians to Christianity.

On February 8, 1887, the U.S. Congress passed the Dawes Severalty Act. The Act authorized Native American tribal lands to be surveyed and specific acreages allotted to tribal members. Lands that were not allocated were considered surplus and open for settlement. In 1935, Congress repealed the law. By then, most of the land was in possession of non-Indian settlers.

On November 18, 1895, former Nez Perce Reservation land became open for settlement by non-Indians. An estimated 5,000 people participated in the land rush. One of the land rush participants, George W. Tamblin, selected and platted a townsite on his 160-acre homestead. He called the town "Nezperce City."

Frank Graham, a surveyor working for Tamblin, was quoted in an interview in the Nezperce Herald in 1951: "The year prior to the opening, I worked for a surveyor, George Tamblin, laying out the townsite of Nezperce — mark it off into lots, conceal the markings, which were called benchmarks, underneath the tall bunch grass, which then covered the land. A sentinel kept watch and at the approach of meddlers, a signal was given and work ceased. Finally, the job was finished and 160 acres of land looked just like the rest of the prairie." For his work, he collected a dollar a lot. There were 690 lots altogether, 526 of which were taken at opening. A block was set aside for a public school and 25 lots reserved as bonuses for the erection of business houses to cost not less than $500 each. Miss Margaret Simons was given two lots for being the first lady in the new town.

"On the evening of November 17," continued Mr. Graham, "I left Cottonwood in company with my father John Graham, Archie Lee, Ed Ellis, and Dave Story. We were on horseback with one man driving a large load of hay and oats. Our job with this load was to block the traffic across Lawyers Canyon so no one could be on the townsite before 12 0'clock noon. About halfway up the grade a wagon wheel broke. Traffic was blocked. When the wagon was repaired, there were at least 500 wagons waiting — My job as leader was to keep the caravan from reaching the townsite before noon." It was still early, so Mr. Graham had to take a circuitous route to the townsite wandering around the prairie. He was the only one who knew the location of the townsite. "Finally we made a circle and saw that we had to cross our tracks and that meant the followers, when they discovered that I had been stalling, would be ready to hang me." Graham split off, leaving Nash Wayland to hold the wagons until he reached the northwest comer of town at five minutes of twelve. "Thirty minutes after the government lots in the townsite had been staked, the wagon train came in from Cottonwood, not in a walk, but on the run. By evening it was estimated that from five to ten thousand people were here to camp on the townsite."

The December 4,1895 edition of the Lewiston Tribune reported that Nezperce had a general store, town hall, barbershop, restaurant, and hotel under construction and foundations for many others ready to build as soon as lumber arrived.

The early settlers were unprepared for the rapidly increasing need for public school classroom space. In the next decade, they would build three school buildings. Volunteers built the first schoolhouse in 1896 — a 12-foot-by-24-foot building that also served as a place for public gatherings. In 1898 volunteers replaced the old facility with a larger two-story school. In 1902 voters approved a $5,500 bond to build a larger two-story structure. By 1904 student enrollment reached 302 with larger facilities needed.

#### Incorporation

In July 1901 Nezperce became an incorporated village with an estimated population of 883 residents. At that time, it had a bustling retail district that served 361 farm families and communities for over a 15-mile radius. Important municipal services became available around the same time.

One of the first projects initiated by the village trustees was to drill a public well. Their plans for a domestic water system took until 1905 to complete. They constructed the system's main waterline with wedge shaped strips of wood bound together with heavy wire. The water caused the wood to swell and kept it leak proof.

On March 15, 1901, the first telephone reached Nezperce with the telephone signal carried over barbwire mounted on insulators nailed to fence posts. In 1904, the newly organized “Barbed Wire Company” provided telephone service to Kamiah.

Electronic power and streetlights came in 1903 from a privately owned hydroelectric dam on Lolo Creek.

#### Turning Points

**Dawes Severalty Act:** The 1877 passage of the Dawes Severalty Act opened all Indian reservation lands for settlement. The Act became a legal basis leading to the founding of Nezperce as well as many other non-Indian settlements.

**Railroad:** In 1910, the Nezperce & Idaho Railroad extended a rail line from what is now Craigmont to the city of Nezperce. The railroad that built its line to the Nezperce Roller Mills and Granaries, the newly erected stockyards and grain warehouse, had a major positive effect on the economy of the city and the agriculture community. Passengers could purchase round- trip tickets to Vollmer for $1.00 and Lewiston for $2.40.

**County Seat:** On March 20, 1911, the Legislature created Lewis County with Nezperce as the county seat. This event had an important stabilizing effect on the economy of the town. Largely due to becoming the county seat of government during the following decade, the population of Nezperce grew from 599 (1910 Census) to 677 (1920 Census).

The city’s growing population, location, and availability of railroad transportation were factors influencing voters to select Nezperce as the county seat. This selection provided a source of stable employment for public and private workers and gave prestige to the new county seat of government.

#### Nezperce Today

Nezperce has three city parks. Nezperce Memorial Park lies along the banks of Long Hollow Creek. It has a large picnic pavilion, band shell stage, RV Park, playground, benches, picnic tables, and trees honoring departed citizens. There is a small park in the center of town and a few blocks south is a park featuring playground equipment and tennis/basketball courts.

The Nezperce Community Library had been located in the historic bank building built in 1910. In 2009, a new 4,200-square-foot library building was completed which includes a community center room.

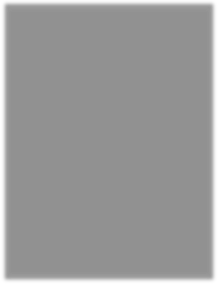
The Nez Perce National Historical Park is a 38-site park managed by the National Park Service. The sites are in four states — Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Montana. Most of the sites follow the Lewis and Clark Trail and the Trail of the Nez Perce as they fought and fled from the

U.S Army in 1877. Many of the Idaho Lewis-Clark Corp of Discovery sites are within an hour’s drive of Nezperce. One of the sites is the park visitors center near Spaulding, 44 miles northwest of Nezperce on U.S Highway 95. About 16 miles east, near Kamiah, is Heart of the Monster National Monument - a rock formation that according to Nez Perce legend, represents the source from which the Nez Perce sprang. Two Idaho State Parks are near Nezperce. The 418-acre Winchester State Park has a 103-acre lake. It is 20 miles west near Winchester. The 850-acre Dworshak State Park is about 30 miles north on the western shores of Dworshak Reservoir.

The Clearwater and Nez Perce National Forests nearby offer camping, hiking and backpacking trails, and hunting and fishing opportunities.

Downhill skiing is available at Cottonwood Butte Ski Area located 25 miles southwest. Grangeville's Snow haven is 35 miles south.

The four-day Lewis County Fair takes place the last weekend in September. In addition to county fair events and open exhibits, the fair has a growing 4-H program. The program has been in existence for 100 years. The Nezperce Lions Club has sponsored many large events including a demolition derby that attracted people from throughout the Northwest.



The annual Nezperce Prairie Day celebration is held every second Saturday in July. This historic celebration of a parade, music, food, kids' events, and high school reunions started in 1982.

**Economy and Major Employers:** The largest public employer, with 49 employees, is the Nezperce School District. Lewis County has 45 employees. The largest private employer, a light-equipment manufacturing company, has 30 employees. Other companies — with fewer than 20 employees each — are two grain warehouse, three fertilizer/chemical companies, two grass seed companies, and two farm equipment dealers.

The city's commercial area consists of a grocery store, one insurance company, a title company, a barber/beauty shop, a bar, two law offices, a weekly newspaper, a hotel, a restaurant with a

bar, two crop dusters, and a credit union. Nezperce also has five churches, a public library with a community center, and a museum, along with a very active and growing senior center.

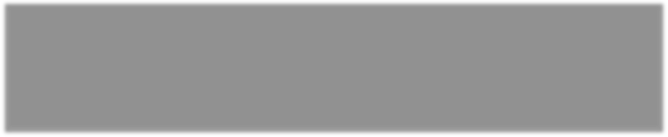
**Education:** Nezperce School District provides elementary and secondary education. Nezperce Elementary and Nezperce High School are both located in the city.

The nearest institution of higher learning is Lewis-Clark State College in Lewiston.

**Healthcare:** Nezperce has a general medical clinic open three days a week. The nearest hospital is St. Mary's Hospital, 18 miles southwest in Cottonwood.

**Transportation:** The north-south Idaho Highway 162 intersects the city. Also intersecting the city is the 15-mile-long Idaho Highway 64 to Kamiah and U.S. Highway 12. U.S. Highway 95 lies 16 miles west at Craigmont. Airport service for light private and charter aircraft is available at the 2,000-foot runway at Nezperce Municipal Airport in Nezperce. The closest commercial carrier airport is Lewiston-Nez Perce County Airport, located 56 miles northwest in Lewiston.

**Utilities and Services:** Private companies provide electricity, telephone, internet, and satellite. The City provides water and sewer services and fire protection. The Lewis County Sheriff's Office provides police protection under contract with the City. The Nezperce Volunteer Fire Department and EMT provides fire protection and ambulance services.

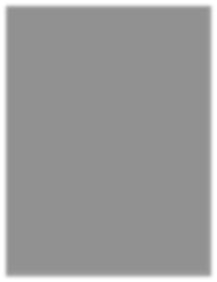
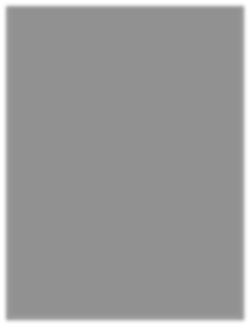
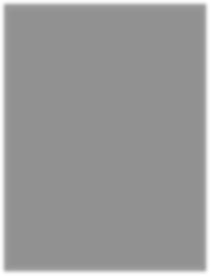


##### Sources:

1. *Idaho’s 200 Cities, The North* published by Ridenbaugh Press in cooperation with the Association of Idaho Cities on October 15, 2017.
2. Schmidt, Rhonda, City Clerk, April 25, 2019.

# Community Vision

Nezperce continues to be a growing, economically vibrant crossroads community at the heart of the Nezperce Prairie. It preserves and builds upon its agricultural and family heritage with a revitalized downtown and a broad-based community involvement.



# Property Rights

The U.S. Constitution and the Idaho State Constitution mandate protection of property rights. Property rights will be considered and protected at every level in evaluating land use decisions within the City of Nezperce.

The Nezperce City Council shall endeavor to respect the rights of property owners who desire to put their property to its highest and best use. The City of Nezperce seeks to balance private property rights with community planning, public health, and safety needs within the accepted confines of the national, state, and local laws.

In making land use decisions, the Nezperce City Council will consider the rights of other property owners and residents to the continued peaceful enjoyment and use of their property while considering the long-term public interest. The City of Nezperce will consider the real costs of development. It may control uses when they are deemed a detriment or expense to other property owners in the community.

# Population and Growth

According to 2017 US Census data estimates, the City of Nezperce has a population of 476

people. The City’s population has held steady since the 1990s, as its economy grew slowly. Nezperce’s population peaked in 1960, and then fell over the next 30 years as young people moved elsewhere and many families had fewer children per family. The number of births also fell as the population aged, reducing the number of women of child-bearing age. Most of the growth in the last 20 years has come from retirees moving there.

### Population of Nezperce

800

700

600

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

500

400

300

200

100

0

1940 1950 1960 1970 1980 1990 2000 2010 2016

Below is a table showing possible growth paths for the city’s population.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Population Projections for Nezperce: 2020-2035 | | | | |
| Basis of Projection | 2020 | 2025 | 2030 | 2035 |
| Growth rate since  2010 | 478 | 485 | 492 | 499 |
| 1% Annual Growth | 493 | 518 | 544 | 572 |
| 1.5% Annual Growth | 503 | 542 | 584 | 629 |

#### Age of Population

In 1990, children under 15 made up 24 percent of Nezperce’s population. By 2010, they made up only 12 percent. Unlike the rest of the state and nation, where the percentage of senior citizens rose sharply, people 65 and over made up 17 percent of the city’s population in both 1990 and 2010. There was a significant decrease in young adults (aged 25 to 44) from 28

percent in 1990 to 13 percent in 2010. The population of older adults (aged 45 to 54) increased its population share from 21 percent to 48 percent, as baby boomers aged into that age group and many retirees moved into the county.

## 1990 Population by Age

**15 to 24**

**65 & over Under 15**

**17% 24%**

**45 to 64**

**21%**

**25 to 44**

**28%**

**10%**

## 2010 Population by Age

**Under 15**

**12%**

**65 & over**

**17%**

**45 to 64**

**48%**

**15 to 24**

**10%**

**25 to 44**

**13%**

The City of Nezperce’s population skews older. While 17 percent of the city’s population in 2010 was 65 years and older, 13 percent of the U.S. population and 12 percent of Idaho’s population were. People 45 to 64 years of age made up 48 percent of the city’s population, while they made up 26 percent of the U.S. population and 25 percent of Idaho’s population.

Children under 15 were 12 percent of Nezperce’s population, 20 percent of the nation’s, and 23

percent of the states.

#### Households

At the time of the 2010 Census, Nezperce had 194 households—130 were families, 32 were people living alone, and the rest were made up of roommates or unmarried partners. The average household size in Nezperce was 2.36. In 16 percent of Nezperce households, people lived alone. In contrast, in 24 percent of Idaho households people lived alone. About 34 percent of families in Nezperce had children under 18 years old, while 51 percent of Idaho families did. That’s another reflection that Nezperce’s population skews older than the state’s population.

Children in Nezperce are less likely than children in the rest of the state to live in single-parent households. Of families with children in 2010, 72 percent were headed by married couples in Idaho, while 77 percent were in Nezperce.

Nezperce has a high level of home ownership. About 76 percent of Nezperce households live in a residence they own, while 69 percent of Idaho households do, according to the Census Bureau's American Community Survey five-year estimate for 2012-2016.

#### Income

Income in Nezperce is relatively high compared to most of Lewis County, but lower than much of the rest of the state. The table below depicts the median income of families and households and per capita income in Nezperce compared to the Nezperce zip code area (which also includes Nezperce), the county, and the state in the 2012-2016 five-year estimates from the Census Bureau’s American Community Survey.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2011-2016 Income in 2016 Dollars | | | | |
|  | City of Nezperce | Nezperce Zip Code Area | Lewis County | State of Idaho |
| Median household income | 36,094 | 37,721 | 31,413 | 37,572 |
| Median family income | 40,000 | 39,821 | 37,336 | 43,490 |
| Per capita income | 15,450 | 16,381 | 15,942 | 17,841 |
| *Source: Census Bureau, American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates* | | | | |

#### Income distribution of households in the City of Nezperce.

*Source: 2012-2016 five-year estimates, American Community Survey. U.S. Census Bureau*

### Households in Nezperce

**$75,000 to**

**99,999**

**1%**

**6%**

**Under**

**$25,000 36%**

**$25,500 to**

**49,999**

**32%**

**$100,000 or more**

**$50,000 to 74,999**

**25%**

The American Community Survey estimates that 57 people in the City of Nezperce lived in households with incomes below the poverty level. That is 11.8 percent of the city’s residents. The city’s poverty rate is lower than the county’s rate and the state’s rate.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Percentage of Families and Persons with Income Below Poverty Level, 2012-2016 | | | | |
|  | City of Nezperce | Rest of Nezperce Zip Code Area | Lewis County | State of Idaho |
| All families | 11.6% | 9.5% | 10.9% | 10.7% |
| All people | 11.8% | 10.8% | 15.9% | 15.2% |
| Under 18 years | 18.1% | 13.1% | 21.3% | 19.0% |
| 18 to 64 years | 13.0% | 11.7% | 16.9% | 15.0% |
| 65 years and  over | 3.9% | 5.8% | 8.9% | 9.1% |
| *Source: Census Bureau, American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates* | | | | |

The City of Nezperce has a need to ensure that population growth occurs at such a rate that the City is able to provide appropriate and adequate services, housing, and a quality community environment.

##### Source:

*The narrative and the data were provided in its entirety by Regional Economist, Kathryn Tacke, Idaho Department of Labor, Lewiston, Idaho. April 2018.*

# The Economy

Located in Lewis County, Idaho, the City of Nezperce’s local economy is best understood in the

context of the county. Lewis County is largely farmland on prairies above river valleys.

Agriculture is the major industry. The county’s 2156 farms cover 221,000 acres and primarily produce wheat, barley, peas, lentils, grass seed, forage crops, and oats. Other crops include garbanzos and canola.

Lewis County’s traditional mainstay industries—agriculture and forest products—have lost employment over the last 50 years. At its peak in 1962, Lewis County’s forest products industry employed 357 people. In 2017, it employed 232. In the last 25 years, heath care, tourism, transportation and warehousing, non-wood manufacturing, construction, and services have added hundreds of jobs making up for the forest products job losses but paying lower than forest products jobs.

According to the Census Bureau’s OnTheMap, there were 252 payroll jobs in the Nezperce zip code in 2015. Its largest industrial sectors were manufacturing, 52; public administration of federal, state, and local government; 49; education, 45; farming and logging, 45; and wholesale (mostly grain and legume elevators), 32. The area had about 221 residents who are working on payrolls. About 180 residents worked outside the area—primarily in the Lewiston and Craigmont areas. The Nezperce area drew 212 residents of Craigmont, Winchester, and other towns to fill the local job market.

As the county seat, the City of Nezperce has a high percentage of its employment in public administration. Hillco Technologies, Inc, an agricultural equipment manufacturer that primarily produces leveling systems for combines, is the largest employer.



**City of Nezperce 2015 Payroll jobs**

**15%**

**23%**

**20%**

**22%**

**20%**

Manufacturing

Public Administration Education

Farming & Logging

Wholesale

Employers may find it more challenging to replace aging workers over the next decade. Older workers, people over 54 years old and moving toward retirement, make up 32 percent of the area’s workforce.

Businesses:

There are twenty-six businesses with business fronts located in Nezperce and several self- employed businesses that support one person or a family that operate out of residential homes. Businesses include:

A current list of businesses may be found at: [www.cityofnezperce.com/business-directory/.](http://www.cityofnezperce.com/business-directory/)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Business** | **Location** |
| 1 | American Legion | 520 Maple Street |
| 2 | Ashley's Hair & Nail Salon, LLC | 706 Beech Street |
| 3 | Auto Docs | 108 Pine Street |
| 4 | Bell Equipment, Inc. | 311 Oak Street |
| 5 | Big Canyon Beef | 403 4th Avenue |
| 6 | CHS Primeland Cooperatives | 2374 Shortcut Road |
| 7 | CJ Air | 404 3rd Avenue |
| 8 | Cottonwood Comm. Federal Credit Union | 421 Oak Street |
| 9 | D & S Trucking | 1690 Johnson Road |
| 10 | Daniel M. Johnson Attorney/CPA | 603 4th Avenue |
| 11 | Farm Service Agency | 521 Oak Street |
| 12 | Hillco Technologies | 1010 1st Avenue |
| 13 | HUB Insurance | 2340 Shortcut Road |
| 14 | Jeff Zenner Photography | 1909 Zenner Road |
| 15 | K & L Transport | 910 4th Avenue |
| 16 | Kuther Air Service | 405 3rd Avenue |
| 17 | Kuther Kustom Karpentry | 2850 Hall Road |
| 18 | Lewis Conservation Soil | 521 Oak Street |
|  | Lewis County Court House  -Assessor  -Auditor  -Extension  -Planning & Zoning/Weeds  -District & Magistrate Court  -Prosecution Attorney  -Treasurer  -Sheriff | 510 Oak Street |
| 19 |  |
| 20 | Lewis County Herald | 517 Oak Street |
| 21 | Lewis County Title | 603 4th Avenue |
| 22 | Lincoln Project Apartments | 501 Maple Street |
| 23 | Michael Wasko Attorney | 505 Oak Street |
| 24 | Natural Resource Conservation Service | 521 Oak Street |
| 25 | Nezperce Ag | 2340 Shortcut Road |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 26 | Nezperce City Hall | 606 Maple Street |
| 27 | Nezperce Hotel | 605 4th Avenue |
| 28 | Nezperce Joint School District NO 302 | 615 2nd Avenue |
| 29 | Nezperce Library | 602 4th Avenue |
| 30 | Nezperce Medical Clinic | 501 Oak Street |
| 31 | Nezperce Public Works | 502 5th Avenue |
| 32 | Nezperce Regional Service Building | 606 Maple Street |
| 33 | Nezperce Senior Center | 501 Cedar Street |
| 34 | Prairie Highway District | 305 Maple Street |
| 35 | Prairie Smokehouse | 419 Oak Street |
| 36 | R & P Enterprises | 105 Beech Street |
| 37 | Riggers Clearwater Farms | 1011 Pine Street |
| 38 | Seeds Inc. | 402 8th Avenue |
| 39 | Barenbrug USA | 403 4th Avenue |
| 40 | St. John Hardware & Implement Co. Inc. | 405 Pine Street |
| 41 | The "Only" Store | 506 Oak Street |
| 42 | The McGregor Company | 1899 Powerline Rd. |

##### Source:

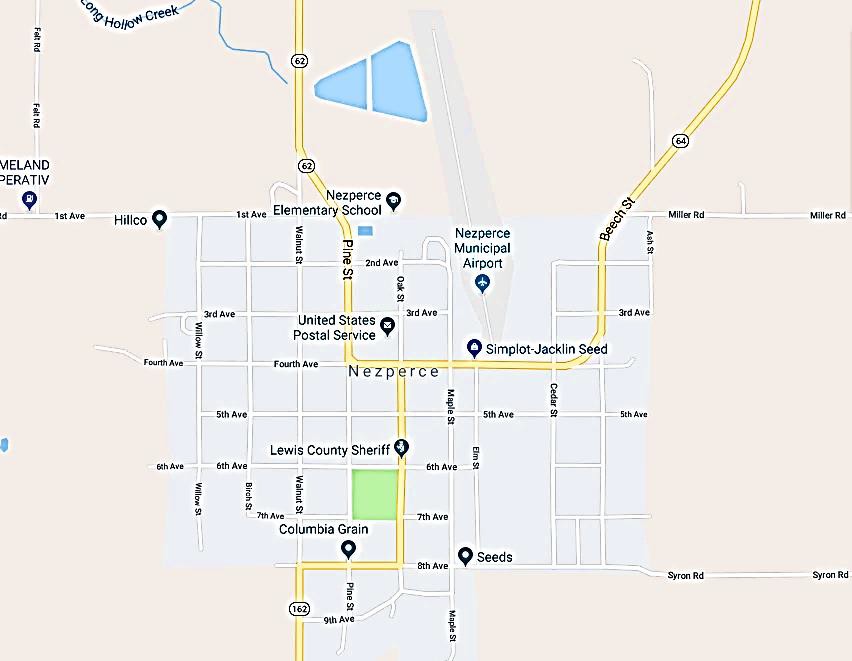
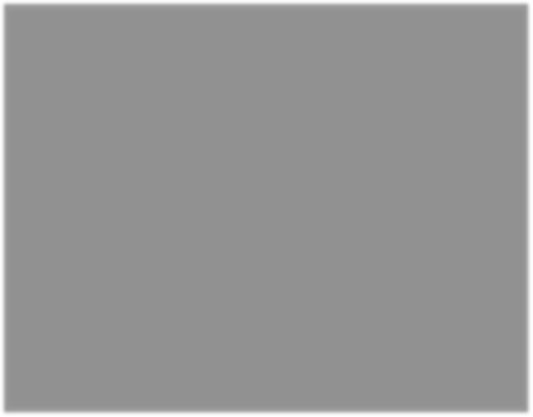
*The narrative and the data were provided in its entirety by Regional Economist, Kathryn Tacke, Idaho Department of Labor, Lewiston, Idaho. April 2018.*[*www.cityofnezperce.com/business-*](http://www.cityofnezperce.com/business-) *directory/*

* Schmidt, Rhonda. City of Nezperce, June 13, 2019

# Community Design and Business District

The City of Nezperce is a friendly, clean farm community located at the heart of the Nezperce Prairie. For almost any visitor, it has an open, relaxed, and slower-paced feel. The City of Nezperce was originally designed by the founding leaders and blocked out as a one-quarter section of 160 acres.

The City is laid out north to south and east to west with the Business District at the core and residential districts surrounding the Business District. School properties are on the north end of town and the municipal airport on the northeast.

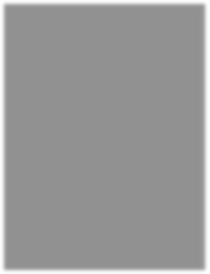


The Business District is a three-block area with most commercial activity built along Idaho State Highway 64 (4th Avenue) and Idaho State Highway 162 (Oak Street). The wide streets that were more recently reconstructed contribute to the town’s open feel.

The Lewis County Courthouse and Lewis County Fair Grounds align the west side of Oak Street with most commercial businesses across the street and north of the Courthouse.

Agricultural-based businesses are prominent. Farm implement equipment is parked on several lots in town, grain elevators dominate the skyline on the southside, and smattering of farm

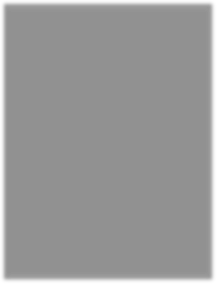
service making up many of the store fronts along Oak Street. Business storefronts and design vary.



The City of Nezperce has made the town inviting with a small downtown pocket park on the corner of Oak Street and 4th Avenue. With several trees, an attractive walking path, park benches, and a welcome sign, the park creates a very nice visual appeal to the Business District. A well-maintained metal square picnic table is available for use on the corner of 5th and Oak.

Former residents and local businesses donated metal tables and benches that can be found throughout the community in the parks and in the commercial districts. Donor names and/or

memorials are displayed on the chairs.



South of the Courthouse along Oak Street is a pullout that provides visitors access to a Lewis Clark Corp of Discovery Historical Sign.

As the City of Nezperce gives consideration of development, it will be using Smart Growth. The methodology historically applied by the City of Nezperce is compatible with Smart Growth. Smart growth is an approach to development that encourages a mix of building types and uses, diverse housing and transportation options, development within existing neighborhoods, and community engagement. The 10 principles below are considered the foundation of a smart growth approach.

#### Smart Growth Principles:

1. Mix land uses
2. Take advantage of compact design
3. Create a range of housing opportunities and choices
4. Create walkable neighborhoods
5. Foster district communities with a strong sense of place
6. Preserve open space, farmland, natural beauty, and critical environmental areas
7. Direct development toward the existing community
8. Provide a variety of transportation choices
9. Make development decisions predictable, fair, and cost effective
10. Encourage community and stakeholder collaboration in development decisions.

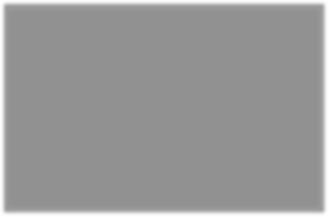
##### Sources:

<https://smartgrowthamerica.org/>

# Public Services and Facilities

#### City Hall

The Nezperce City Hall is located at 606 Maple Street. It is co-located with emergency services with the Nezperce Ambulance and the Nezperce Fire Department also having offices. City Hall



includes the clerk’s office, a restroom, and the council chambers. The facility was built in 2018 and is compliant with the American Disabilities Act (ADA).

Financial resources are needed to complete

a kitchen and the interior on the northside of the building.

#### Shop/Maintenance Building

The maintenance shop and outbuilding are located at 504 5th Avenue. The 2,800 square foot building was built in 1991 and is ADA compliant. The outbuilding is open to the south and houses the larger city vehicles and equipment.

#### Public Works Office

The Public Works Office is located at 502 5th Avenue. Built in 1950, the building has three sections. It has an office and a wastewater e-coli laboratory. One section houses the Nezperce Corner Cupboard Food Pantry. It also has a garage for housing smaller vehicles, mowers, etc.

#### Courthouse and County Fair Buildings

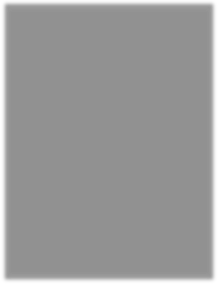
The Lewis County Courthouse is located at 510 Oak Street. Built in 1974, the brick building is approximately 4,000 square feet. Lewis County employs approximately 40 people. County department services include the prosecutor, auditor, social welfare, treasurer, planning and zoning, weed control, county law enforcement, and emergency management. The County also provides space for the University of Idaho Cooperative Extension. The greatest challenge for the county is limited funds to provide services.

The County owns and manages six county fair buildings with five buildings constructed in the 1930s and one livestock barn built more recently in 2009. The fair is governed by a seven- member fair board. The facilities are financially supported with property taxes and vendor fees. The most critical challenge is the aging of the buildings.

#### Water Treatment and Distribution

The City of Nezperce’s source for drinking water is two groundwater wells. Well #1 produces 150 gallons per minute and Well #4 produces 250 gallons per minute. The City has a 300,000- gallon storage tank as well. The utility system is over 56 years old.

The City’s distribution system is a combination of PVC and cast-iron pipe. The City upgraded some of the distribution lines in 1998 and is in the process of upgrading meters to “touch read” meters.



The City has two full-time operators, each with a Class I license for treatment and distribution.

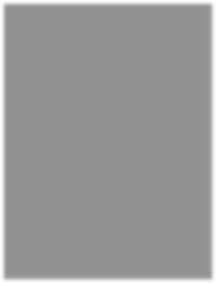
this planning document.

In 2007, the City of Nezperce adopted the *Drinking Water Protection Plan for the City of Nezperce and Nezperce Water Department*. It was more recently updated and an emergency process was added. More detail on source water protection can be found in the Natural Resources chapter of

The greatest need for the water system is an upgrade to the city pumps and SCADA system.

#### Wastewater Treatment

The City of Nezperce’s wastewater treatment system consists of an over 50-year-old Class 1 Wastewater Facultative Lagoon System; it has a design flow of .09 MGD (million gallons per day). The collection system of clay pipe was originally built between 1912 and 1916.



In 2009, the lagoon was upgraded, approximately one mile of collection system pipe was replaced, and some manholes were replaced. In 2017, a trunk line at the airport was upgraded.

At the time of this planning, the City was completing a Facility Plan to address Infiltration Inflow (I&I) issues. A new National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit is needed.

The City’s water treatment operators also manage the wastewater treatment system. The two operators have a Class 1 Treatment and Class 1 Collection certifications.

The City of Nezperce needs to replace old collection lines and reduce I&I; it is considering land application or another lagoon.

#### Storm Water

Surface drainage in the area is generally from the south to the north in Long Hollow Creek. Long Hollow Creek runs through the center section of the City of Nezperce. The flood elevation

varies from 3,280 feet where Long Hollow Creek crosses 8th Avenue to approximately 3,199 feet where the Creek exits the City of Nezperce.

The City’s storm water system is a collection of new and old lines. All water is draining into Long Hollow Creek. Between 2009-2010, the storm drain system on Main/Oak Street was rebuilt, draining several areas to Long Hollow Creek. An older drain goes to the creek via a drainage ditch.

The pipes and culverts are not inventoried. Old culverts need to be cleaned and inspected. Ongoing inventory of the system will continue as culverts are found.

#### Law Enforcement

The Lewis County Sheriff provides law enforcement services through an annual contract with the City of Nezperce. The Sheriff exercises all the police powers and duties of city police officers as provided by state statutes, excluding impounding dogs, and enforcing city dog ordinances. The County furnishes and supplies all the necessary labor, supervision, equipment, and communication facilities for dispatching, and patrol services. The County contracts with Nez Perce County for detention. The Department provides daily, 24-hour call services. The City provides a storage facility for Latah County Sheriff.

The Sheriff’s Department operates with seven patrol deputies (including the sheriff, chief deputy, and captain). There are four full time dispatchers and one part time dispatcher.

Dispatch is tasked with taking emergency and non-emergency calls. They dispatch the appropriate unit (i.e. fire, paramedics, quick response, or Sheriff’s Office).

Patrol staff are required to be certified through the Idaho Peace Officer’s Standards and Training (POST). Patrol staff have many other certifications to include: DUI Enforcement, Taser, Crash Investigation, Firearms Instruction, K9 Instruction, K9 Handling, General Topics Instructor certification, High Liability Instructor certification, and more. One dispatcher is POST certified.

The approximate number of calls received involving the City of Nezperce (review of statistics from October 2017 to October 2018) is 494. The approximate number of arrests in the City of Nezperce (review of statistics from October 2017 to October 2018) is 25.

The three biggest challenges facing law enforcement regarding the City of Nezperce are funding, personnel, and service coverage. Without an adequate budget, training and the quality of services that can be provided is severely hampered. This is applicable to all divisions of the Sheriff’s Office. Budget limitations do not exempt law enforcement from sending, and paying, for employees to attend State of Idaho mandated training. Law enforcement officers respond to calls for service but may lack enhanced training for certain calls (i.e. mental health), lack better equipment for doing the job (i.e. burglaries and major crimes), and more.

Without an adequate number of qualified staff, services are diminished. Administrative personnel have to attempt to complete their administrative duties, while at the same time providing patrol coverage. Finding and hiring qualified staff is difficult due to limited pay, limited benefits, lack of suitable housing, lack of employment opportunities for spouses, and lack of opportunities for children.

The Lewis County Sheriff’s Office has a relatively large coverage area with the amount of personnel it employs. This forces deputies to ensure that all areas of the county are properly covered. They still ensure that contracted cities receive their fair coverage. This does not prevent deputies from having extended response times to calls for service. This is usually due to a deputy responding to a call in one part of the county and then having to respond to a call in Nezperce. Coverage is also impacted when staff is burdened with providing benefits that tie up personnel, which include vacations, sick time, and training.

In the next 10 years, the biggest opportunity to help improve services is g*rowth.* Growth will help with budget concerns, make Nezperce a more attractive and available place to live, and increase the diversity of candidates aware of the Lewis County Sheriff’s Office.

#### Animal Control

The City of Nezperce Maintenance Department provides animal control services within the city limits. The City’s animal ordinance requires all dogs to be licensed. No breeder may have more than three (3) dogs at a time.

Stray animals are returned to their owners; animals are rarely kept longer than 12 hours. The City does not use animal shelters and works with citizens to address complaints.

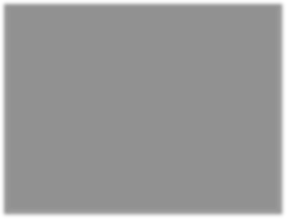
The City of Nezperce collaborates with the Lewis County Sheriff’s office with regard to barking or vicious dogs; State of Idaho statutes have more authority than the City’s ordinance. Animals such as horses and cows require 10,000 square feet of pasture per animal. Swine are not allowed in the city limits.

#### Fire Suppression

The City of Nezperce Fire Department is an all-volunteer service providing fire suppression services. It has 12 to 15 volunteers with a variety of skill levels and involvement. It has a 6 fire rating.

The City of Nezperce Fire Department operates out of a 9,475 square foot, five bay, regional emergency services facility. The building is a collaborative with the City of Nezperce Fire Department, Nezperce Rural Fire District, and Nezperce Ambulance Inc. The facility houses all equipment, supplies, office space for records, training space, kitchen, restrooms/showers, and sleeping quarters.

The department and fire district have two, type- 6, 250 gallon brush rescue trucks; one 2001 4x4 rural engine with a 1,500 gpm (gallons per minute) pump; one 1991 city engine with a 1,500 gpm pump; one 1985 type-4 rural brush truck (750 gallon); one 1970 Mack tender (3,200 gallon); and a 1948 Ford city engine (500 gpm).



The most critical challenge of the department is out-of-date airpack bottles and aging fire hoses and turnout gear.

#### Emergency Management Systems

Nezperce’s emergency services has eight (8) Emergency Management Technicians (EMTs with Basic Level training and one (1) with Ambulance Based Clinician (ABC) certification. The ABC volunteer is a registered nurse. The EMT services has three (3) drivers.

The services respond from county line to county line on U.S. Highway 95, in the Nezperce area partially down the old Kamiah Grade, and to the top of Lawyers Creek Canyon heading south toward Grangeville. They also respond to the Craigmont, Winchester, Reubens, and Soldier’s Meadow area. The total service area is approximately 640 square miles.

They transport all Craigmont and Winchester quick response unit patients. Mutual aid agreements are in place with emergency services in Kamiah, Cottonwood, Grangeville, Orofino, and Lewiston. There are few calls for response from these communities. Lewiston does help with accidents on U.S. Highway 95 and on the Reubens-Gifford Road.

All providers are volunteer. They are compensated at a rate of $20 per transport and $5 for a cancelled call.

Nezperce EMS owns two ambulances and only operate one. The second ambulance is a backup in case of a breakdown. The backup ambulance is not fully stocked. Equipment would need to be transferred if it was needed. The ambulance in operation is a 2015 model; the backup ambulance was manufactured in 2006.

With every call, two licensed EMTs and one driver respond. All dispatches originate with the Lewis County Sheriff’s Office. Responses average between 220 and 240 per year. Most calls are medical in nature. They range from two to four hours in duration.

The greatest challenge is the recruitment and retention of volunteers. It is hard to cover all shifts. Many people work out of town and are not available during the day. Other employers are not willing to have EMT volunteers leave work to handle an emergency call. Some equipment needs to be replaced but is very expensive to purchase. With a low call volume, it is

difficult to generate funds for replacements or purchases. The current ambulance is five years old and will need to be replaced. Cardiac monitoring equipment is also expensive.

Paid staff would be preferred; but not likely in such a small community.

#### City Library

The Nezperce Community Library is located at 602 4th Avenue. Its hours of operation are Monday from 10:30 am – 5:30 pm, Wednesday from 10:30 am – 6:30 pm, and Friday from 10:30 am – 5:30 pm. The library has two, part-time staff.

Library services in Nezperce are a partnership between the City and the Prairie River Library District. The City owns the building and is responsible for maintenance and utilities. The Library District supplies staffing, library materials, office supplies, computer equipment, and internet.

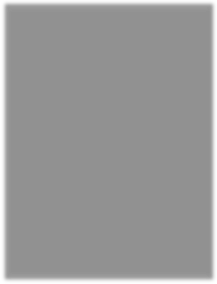
The Library annually serves over 7,200 people. It offers as many as 60 programs with attendees over 1,100 people. It has 5,682 items in the library.

Its greatest needs are continued maintenance of the building and properties, identifying and designing programs to better meet community needs and interests, increased outreach to citizens who cannot visit the library, and to continue to build collaborative partnerships with other local service providers.

#### Cemetery

The Nezperce City Cemetery is located one mile south of town on the east side of Idaho State Highway 162. It is managed by the Nezperce Russell Cemetery District and managed by the three-person, volunteer NRCMD Board of Directors. The Cemetery is six acres. Records show

that there are 2,300 graves in the city cemetery. The Cemetery is approximately 50% occupied.



Mt. Calvary (the Catholic Cemetery) is located at 2355 Shortcut Road and is one acre. It is approximately 67% occupied. The district has been deeded an additional section for when the first acre is fully occupied.

The Russell Cemetery is one-half acre and located 7.5 miles north of Nezperce and is primarily a family cemetery with little room available.

The needs of the District are to manage the properties. The District has a modest budget and purchases equipment/tools as necessary. The water pump at the city cemetery has

recently been replaced and the lawnmower has been upgraded. The commission has budgeted to re-asphalt the middle drive and approaches in the city cemetery.

A cemetery standard plot is 3’ by 9’ and is large enough for one adult plus one container of ashes, placed above the first interred adult. Any monument must be approved by the sexton (hired by the NRCMD Board of Directors to oversee all cemetery burials, records, and grounds maintenance) and must have a monument permit issued.

The NRCMD operates under State of Idaho Statures Title 27, Chapters 1.

#### Solid Waste

The City of Nezperce contracts for solid waste disposal. Under a 10-year contract, Walco, Inc. of Grangeville, Idaho provides the weekly removal of all refuse, solid waste, inert waste, garbage, and recyclables. Walco furnishes all labor, machinery, tools, equipment, vehicle fuel and oil, light, power, etc. that is necessary for the purpose of collecting, hauling, and disposing of solid waste and recyclables. The City of Nezperce pays the contractor from the revenue the City generates from users and keeps a record of the accounts of the users of the solid waste collection system. All salvageable material is considered the property of the contractor. Walco provides access to a landfill and/or transfer station by residents for disposal of solid waste and construction demolition.

#### Recycling

The City of Nezperce provides recycling services to the community. The City accepts paper and metal. Recyclables are collected in bins that are located behind the Nezperce Medical Clinic on 5th Avenue, west of the City Shop. Residents haul their recyclables to the center. When bins are full, recyclables are shipped by a local trucking company to Lewis-Clark Recyclers in Lewiston, Idaho.

#### Power Utilities

Avista Utilities began providing services in the 1970s under the name of Washington WaterPower (WWP). The Grangeville office has eight staff with an additional three staff in the Grangeville District (one in Kamiah, and two in Orofino). Avista is an investor-owned electric and natural gas utility governed by a Board of Directors. It is regulated by the Public Utilities Commissions in Washington, Idaho, and Oregon.

Avista Corporation is involved in the production, transmission, and distribution of energy as well as other energy-related businesses. [Avista Utilities](http://www.avistautilities.com/residential/Pages/default.aspx) is the operating division that provides electric service to 382,000 customers and natural gas to 347,000 customers. Its service territory covers 30,000 square miles in eastern Washington, northern Idaho, and parts of southern and eastern Oregon, with a population of 1.6 million.

The Grangeville office is located at East 201 Main Street and serves Clearwater, Nez Perce, Idaho, and Lewis County (Orofino, Weippe, Pierce, Greer, Kamiah, Kooskia, Elk City, Dixie, Grangeville, Cottonwood, Craigmont, Nezperce, Reubens, Winchester).

#### Propane

In 1997, Idaho County Light and Power established Idaho County Propane. Idaho County Propane is the source of propane for the residents of the City of Nezperce. The company provides residential and commercial propane and propane appliance repair. It is governed by a six-member Board of Directors and has six paid staff. Sharing space with Idaho County Light and Power, its office is located at 1065 State Highway 13.

AmeriGas and CHS Primeland Cooperatives also provide services. AmeriGas operates out of Kooskia, Idaho. Primeland is an agriculture supplies and services company that is located at 2374 Shortcut Road, Nezperce.

#### Hospital & Clinic

St. Mary’s Hospital and Clinics, along with Clearwater Valley Hospital & Clinics, is part of

Essentia Health (Duluth MN). This critical access hospital is located in Cottonwood. With a

mission of “Making a healthy difference in people’s lives” they serve the Camas Prairie including the residents in the City of Nezperce. They offer traditional healthcare services as well as special programs to assist our community members in living healthy and fulfilled lives.

The St. Mary’s Nezperce Medical Clinic is located at 501 Oak Street in Nezperce. The Clinic sees patients every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:00 am - 4:30 pm.

City residents also have access to a regional medical center in Lewiston, Idaho. St. Joseph Regional Medical Center is a 145-bed hospital. It is the largest hospital between Boise and Spokane serving nine counties with a population of 180,000. St. Joseph is accredited by the Joint Commission and has a Level III Adult and Pediatric Trauma Center and a Level II Nursery.

#### Senior Citizens Center

The Nezperce Senior Center is located on the corner of 5th Avenue and Cedar Avenue. Built in

1935, the facility’s basement is ADA-compliant and the second floor is not compliant. It is 6,173 square feet. Formerly a local church, the upstairs has a church design.

The center is operated under the direction of the Nezperce Senior Citizens and is struggling financially. Plans are to set up and manage it as a non-profit center with a 501(c)(3) tax exemption. This would allow them to serve food free-of-charge.

The Senior Citizens group employs one cook who works seven to eight hours a day, two times per week. All payroll services are provided free gratis by the city clerk. They serve between 15 to 25 per meal. They provide “to go” dinners for shut ins.

#### Food Pantry

The Nezperce Corner Cupboard Food Pantry is located at 504 5th Avenue. Built in 1950 and owned by the City of Nezperce, the pantry is located in-between the Public Works office and the city maintenance garage. It is operated by volunteers. Hours of operation are from 10:00

am - 1:00 pm on the third Wednesday of each month. The food pantry is open to anyone. Commodities are available for families that are income eligible. Monetary and food donations are accepted. Forty-one (41) people were served with numbers continuing to grow. Local adult volunteers help each distribution day as well as members of 4-H groups performing community service.

#### American Legion Hall

The American Legion Hall is located on the corner of 5th Avenue and Maple. It is the meeting place for the legion and the women’s auxiliary. The American Legion hosts several fundraising events per year and use the resources for operations and maintenance.

BRYC Post #8 American Legion was organized on July 11, 1919 as the result of the deaths of four Nezperce residents that died during World War I—William Booth, Carrol Row, Basil Yates, and Cecil Cox.

The 1,500 square foot, ADA-compliant building is the largest rental facility in Nezperce. It is rented for receptions, funerals, fundraisers, and the annual Fireman’s Ball. The building has a full kitchen with a large room complete with tables and chairs to accommodate approximately 100 people.

The wooden structure was built in the 1950s. The American Legion repaired the steps to the facility, replaced the concrete sidewalk in front of the building, and repaired the roof.

The interior of the building needs renovation and updates. Although the American Legion is always recruiting new members, the membership is small. Modest improvements on the building are made as they are able.

#### Social Services

The Grangeville office of the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare provides social services to the citizens of the City of Nezperce. The office is located in the Camas Resource Center at 216 South C Street. The office has eight paid staff who provide services in four areas: Child Protection, Self-Reliance, Behavioral Health, and the Infant Toddler Program. Self-Reliance deals with the Food Stamp Program, Medicaid, and cash assistance. The Behavioral Health program serves adults and children with mental health issues. The Infant Toddler Program serves 0-3 year-old children with developmental delays.

#### Workforce Services

The residents of the City of Nezperce use the Grangeville office of the Idaho Department of Labor for workeforce services. It is currently located at 158 East Main Street, Suite 1A. It operates with two full-time Workforce Investment Opportunities Act staff and two unemployment insurance staff (who primarily work from home). For job seekers, the office helps with job searches, resume development, preparation for interviews, and job applications. Under veteran’s services, unemployment insurance, and business services, the Department

assists in job postings, employee searches, unemployment insurance tax, and training and hiring incentives. The Workforce Innovation & Opportunities Act provides funding to support training and employment services for adults, out-of-school youth, and dislocated workers. The Idaho Department of Labor provides resource information. [www.labor.idaho.gov](http://www.labor.idaho.gov/).

#### Newspapers

The City’s “paper of record” and the primary source of local news is the *Lewis County Herald.*

This weekly newspaper is located at 501 Oak Street. It is issued every Thursday.

Other sources of print news are the *Idaho County Free Press*, *The Clearwater Progress, The Shopper, Lewiston Morning Tribune*, and the *Idaho Statesman*. The *Lewiston Morning Tribune* and *Idaho Statesman* provide regionalized daily print news. *The Shopper* is a regional, weekly classifieds

#### Radio

The City of Nezperce is served by these radio stations.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| FM 92.7 | Big Country, KORT-FM |
| AM 1230, FM 96.9 | KORT-AM |
| FM 95.3 | KLER, Central Idaho Broadcasting |
| AM 1300 | KLER, Central Idaho Broadcasting |
| FM 90.9 | KKRH Radio, Christian |
| FM 88.3 | KKAG |
| FM 88.7 | KIYE Nez Perce Tribe |

#### Television

Television providers in Nezperce include Dish TV, Suddenlink, and DirectTV. Central Idaho TV provides antennae television from the top of the Cottonwood Butte. Idaho Public Television provides public television services.

#### Landline Telephone Service Provider

CenturyLink provides landline services.

#### Cellular Phone Services

Major cellular phone service providers include Verizon and Inland Cellular. Inland Cellular and

Verizon have towers on the City’s water tower. Satellite services are also available.

#### Internet Providers

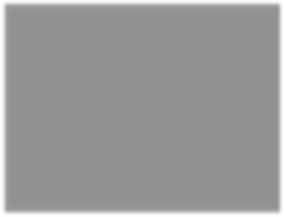
Major internet providers in Nezperce include CenturyLink, First Step Internet, and Airbridge. At the time of this writing, high speed internet plans allowed for up to 50 Mbps (download) and 16 Mbps (upload). Costs range from $40 per month for 10 MBPS x 3 Mbps to $80 for 50 Mbps x 5 Mbps. Upload boosts for up to 15 Mbps is an additional $20 per month.

#### Churches

The City of Nezperce is served by several churches.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Nezperce Community United Methodist Church | 211 Oak Street |
| Nezperce Christian Church | 307 4th Avenue |
| Holy Trinity Catholic Church | 505 Willow Street |
| St. John’s Lutheran Church | 101 5th Avenue |
| Hope Baptist Church | 604 4th Avenue |

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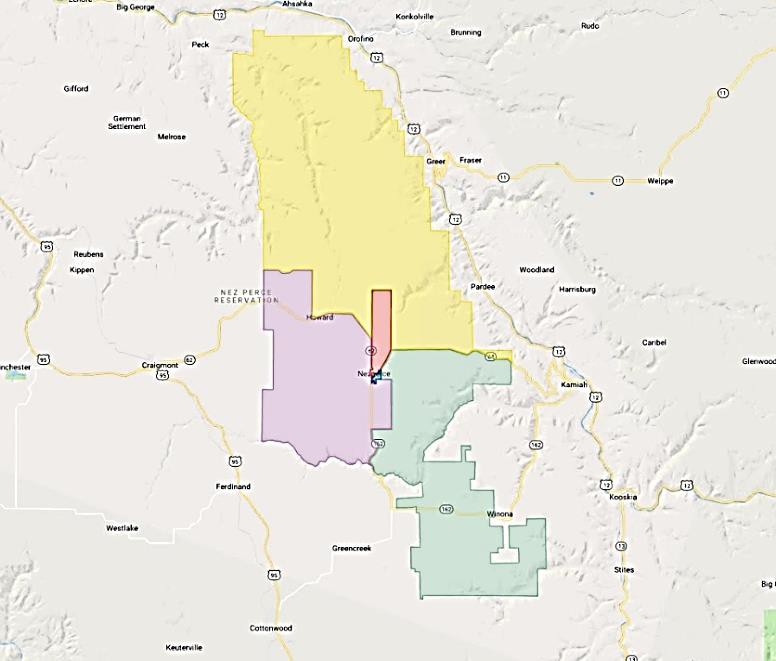
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# School Facilities and Transportation

Located at 612 2nd Avenue, the Nezperce School District #302 provides public education to approximately 145 students from Kindergarten through 12th Grade. The School District employs two administrators, 20 certified teachers, and approximately 12 support personnel. The District’s class size averages 10 students and the school has a ratio of seven students to every teacher.

Nezperce High School is classified by the Idaho High School Activities Association as a 1A- Division 2 school. Extracurricular activities

include football, volleyball, basketball, track, softball, baseball, Knowledge Bowl, pep band,



Future Farmers of America

(FFA), Business Professionals of America (BPA), Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), and HOSA (Future Health Professionals). Their school mascot is “Indians.”

The school facilities consist of an elementary school building (1963), secondary buildings (1963), the gymnasium (1954), ag shop (1970), swimming pool (1963), and bus garage (1998). There is approximately 61,573 square feet of student-occupied facilities. The elementary school has a wood building frame with a brick exterior. The secondary school buildings are wood construction. The gymnasium has concrete exterior walls. The ag shop is a pre-engineered steel frame with a seamed metal siding. The swimming pool house is concrete block walls.

The Nezperce School District manages three bus routes and owns six buses.

* Bus #4 – 2000
* Bus #1 - 2004
* Bus #7 – 2007
* Bus #8 – 2009
* Bus #16 – 2016
* Bus #19 – 2019

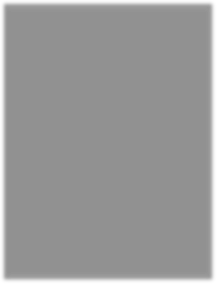
The District employs three bus drivers and one substitute driver.

A significant change for the Nezperce School District is the drastic decline of enrollment over the past 25 years. Although District boundaries have not changed, enrollment has declined from 232 in 1995 to 146 in 2018. This is primarily due to smaller family sizes and fewer family farms.

#### School Enrollment

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **School Year** | **Total** | **Pre-K**  **Hdcpd** | **Kinder-**  **garten** | **1st** | **2nd** | **3rd** | **4th** | **5th** | **6th** | **7th** | **8th** | **9th** | **10th** | **11th** | **12th** |
| 2018-2019 | 146 | 1 | 16 | 9 | 10 | 14 | 8 | 12 | 12 | 14 | 11 | 11 | 9 | 11 | 8 |
| 2017-2018 | 147 | 2 | 11 | 8 | 17 | 10 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 9 | 10 | 9 | 12 | 8 | 12 |
| 2016-2017 | 146 | 7 | 9 | 14 | 9 | 10 | 13 | 13 | 9 | 10 | 12 | 13 | 8 | 11 | 8 |
| 2015-2016 | 150 | 4 | 14 | 10 | 10 | 12 | 12 | 11 | 12 | 12 | 11 | 9 | 12 | 7 | 14 |
| 2014-2015 | 128 | 3 | 9 | 11 | 12 | 9 | 9 | 11 | 9 | 8 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 13 | 8 |
| 2013-2014 | 130 | 2 | 12 | 11 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 9 | 7 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 15 | 9 | 14 |
| 2012-2013 | 126 | 3 | 11 | 12 | 10 | 11 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 9 | 9 | 14 | 12 |
| 2011-2012 | 137 | - | 10 | 12 | 11 | 8 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 12 | 9 | 16 | 13 | 16 |
| 2010-2011 | 152 | 5 | 10 | 12 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 6 | 9 | 14 | 13 | 16 | 12 | 16 | 13 |
| 2009-2010 | 147 | 1 | 12 | 8 | 9 | 11 | 8 | 8 | 11 | 11 | 15 | 11 | 16 | 11 | 15 |
| 2008-2009 | 143 | 2 | 12 | 8 | 9 | 6 | 8 | 11 | 9 | 15 | 10 | 14 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 2007-2008 | 158 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 9 | 7 | 12 | 11 | 15 | 13 | 14 | 12 | 13 | 16 | 16 |
| 2006-2007 | 161 | 2 | 12 | 10 | 7 | 11 | 11 | 16 | 11 | 13 | 9 | 12 | 15 | 13 | 19 |
| 2005-2006 | 156 | 5 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 8 | 13 | 12 | 14 | 7 | 9 | 15 | 13 | 16 | 18 |
| 2004-2005 | 170 | 2 | 7 | 10 | 11 | 13 | 13 | 14 | 8 | 10 | 13 | 13 | 16 | 18 | 22 |
| 2003-2004 | 182 | 1 | 14 | 9 | 15 | 13 | 14 | 8 | 11 | 13 | 14 | 17 | 18 | 20 | 15 |
| 2002-2003 | 186 | 5 | 8 | 13 | 13 | 15 | 11 | 14 | 12 | 13 | 16 | 16 | 20 | 15 | 15 |
| 2001-2002 | 207 | 4 | 16 | 14 | 15 | 11 | 16 | 15 | 12 | 16 | 16 | 23 | 14 | 15 | 20 |
| 2000-2001 | 217 | 1 | 14 | 14 | 12 | 12 | 15 | 15 | 18 | 16 | 24 | 18 | 17 | 22 | 19 |
| 1999-2000 | 220 | 3 | 17 | 13 | 13 | 18 | 16 | 15 | 16 | 20 | 18 | 16 | 20 | 18 | 17 |
| 1998-1999 | 223 | 3 | 14 | 13 | 16 | 16 | 17 | 15 | 22 | 20 | 16 | 22 | 16 | 18 | 15 |
| 1997-1998 | 224 | 2 | 14 | 15 | 18 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 18 | 17 | 20 | 16 | 19 | 14 | 17 |
| 1996-1997 | 225 | 2 | 12 | 18 | 17 | 18 | 20 | 21 | 15 | 24 | 16 | 18 | 13 | 18 | 13 |
| 1995-1996 | 232 | 2 | 20 | 19 | 18 | 23 | 22 | 15 | 22 | 15 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 13 | 18 |

The Nezperce School District needs a second, auxiliary gym. It is difficult to share a single gym with the Elementary School, Junior-High School, High School, and community.



In the long-term future, the District will need to replace three of the oldest buildings. The gym is approaching 70 years old and the other two buildings are approaching 60.

The greatest programming challenge is hiring and maintaining staff.

The parking lot was resurfaced in 2021 and spaces painted. The run off was upgraded.

A great opportunity for the school district is to make Ag CTE

facility improvements. They would like to provide education and hands-on training with some small-scale farming, ranching, agronomy, and manufacturing.

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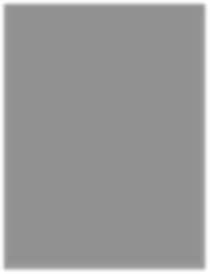
# Historical Resources and Special Sites

The City of Nezperce takes great pride in its history and in the people that formed the

community’s history. Key to the preservation of the historical resources is the Nezperce Historical Society who oversees the city’s museum and has active projects and events that keep the City’s history alive.

#### Nezperce Historical Museum

The Nezperce Historical Museum is located at 701 5th Avenue. The City of Nezperce owns the building. The Museum is maintained and managed by the Nezperce Historical Society (NHS). The NHS mission is to “preserve and promote the history of the Nezperce Prairie through artifacts, pictures, family histories, memorabilia, and Lewis County records to educate the youth of today, to commemorate the pioneers of yesterday, and honor members of the community.”



The two-story museum features a large, local school exhibit, Native American artifacts, a general store, judge’s chamber, washroom, mid-century, and a backporch exhibit. It has a research room that includes Lewis County Ledgers dating back to 1911. The outdoor exhibits include antique farm

equipment, a blacksmith shop, outdoor privy, and the original wooden Nezperce jailhouse. The museum has free Wi-Fi.

The Museum is open seasonally from April through November on the second and fourth Wednesdays from 9:30 am to 11:30 am and then from 12:30 pm to 4:00 pm. Admission is free- of-charge. Donations are accepted.

#### NHS activities include:

* **Pioneer Program at Nezperce Cemeteries:** Memorial Day

The NHS hosts members present historical accounts of pioneers that once lived on the Nezperce Prairie.

#### Pioneer(s) of the Year: July

The society honors members of families that settled and remained on the Nezperce Prairie. NHS publishes newspaper articles and includes them in the Prairie Day parade.

* **Nezperce Prairie Days:** Second Friday/Saturday in July

NHS conducts museum “open house” tours. For fundraisers, the NHS also hosts an ice cream social and bingo.

* **Lewis County Fair:** Last weekend in September

NHS conducts museum “open house” tours, assembles an Educational Booth Display,

and hold a Bingo fundraiser.

#### Old Townsite Signs

The Society placed signage at old town sites on the Nezperce Prairie including Mohler and Russell.

#### Mohler Cemetery

The society is planning to place signage, a gravesite directory, and perimeter fencing at old Mohler Cemetery along Ralstin Road.

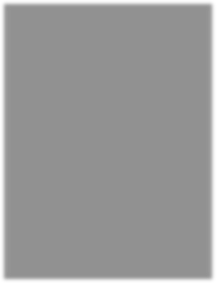
#### Nezperce Library Display

The society hosts historical displays which are rotated regularly.

Information regarding the museum may be found on the City of Nezperce website: [http://www.cityofnezperce.com/nezperce-museum/.](http://www.cityofnezperce.com/nezperce-museum/) The Nezperce Historical Museum can also be found on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/nezpeceidhistorymuseum>

#### Historic Building

Although the City of Nezperce does not have any buildings that are on the National Register of Historic Building, the many of the buildings on Oak Street are considered part of “historic downtown.” The buildings recognized as historic are:

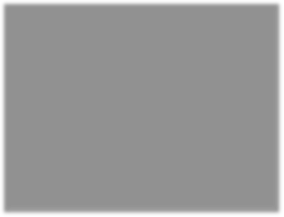


* The Nezperce Hotel: Built in 1912; Located at 603 4th Avenue.
* Bell Equipment Mohler Building: Built in 1912; Located at 302 Oak Street.
* Union State Bank: Built in 1912; It became the original Lewis County Courthouse. It is the Only Store; Located at 506 Oak Street.
* Railroad Depot: Built in 1910; Located at 807 Oak Street.
* Presbyterian Church: Built in 1897; Located at 209 Oak Street.
* Brethren Church: Built in 1912; Locate at 501 Cedar Street. It is the Nezperce Senior Center.
* Original City of Nezperce Jail: Built in 1905; Located at the Nezperce Museum at 701 5th

Avenue.

#### Other Historical Sites

* **War Memorial:** The Lewis County World War I and World War II veterans are memorialized on a large exterior plaque in front of the Lewis County Courthouse.



* **Lewis-Clark Bicentennial Commemoration:** A Ponderosa Pine was planted in the Clock Park on Oak Street to commemorate the Lewis-Clark Corp of Discovery that traversed the region near Nezperce in 1805 and 1806. It was planted on National Arbor Day on April

28, 2006. Ponderosa Pines were cut and dugout canoes were made in 1805 by the Corp. They used the dugouts to travel the rivers to the Pacific Ocean.

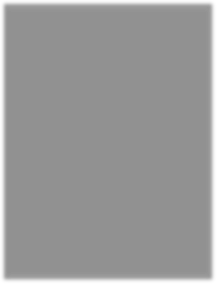
* **Welcome to Nezperce Rock:** A large rock welcoming people to the Nezperce City Park commemorates the establishment of the town in 1895.
* **Blue Star Memorial Highway Commemoration:** This will be relocated to the Clock Park on Oak/Highway 62. The National Council of State Garden Clubs started the program in 1945. The blue star was used on service flags to denote a service member fighting in the war.
* **Lewis Clark Historical Sign:** A Lewis-Clark Corp of Discovery Historical Sign is located along Oak Street south of the Lewis County Courthouse.
* **Original Sidewalks Naming:** Some of the city sidewalks that were original to the City of Nezperce were built by P.J. Hartnett. At the time of the construction (1914-1916), P.J. Hartnett’s name was engraved in the sidewalk. As sidewalks are replaced, the new concrete is poured around the engraving. More information on P.J. Harnett can be found in *A Collection of…Nezperce History and Memories* compiled by the Nezperce Centennial Committee of Nezperce, Idaho in 1995.

##### Sources:

* Wikipedia, Blue Star Memorial Highway
* Nezperce Historical Museum Brochure (2019)
* Nezperce Centennial Committee. A Collection of…Nezperce History & Memories. Nezperce, Idaho, May 1995.

# Housing

According to American Community Survey (ACS) estimates for 2017, the City of Nezperce has 231 housing units with 200 that are occupied. Over 54% of the homes were built before 1960 with less than one percent being built in 2014 or later. Over 92% have three or more bedrooms. Eighty percent are owner-occupied. Of the owner-occupied houses, 46% are valued at $100,000 or more. Fifty-one percent are housing units with a mortgage. Of rental housing units, 77.1% pay between $500 and $999 per

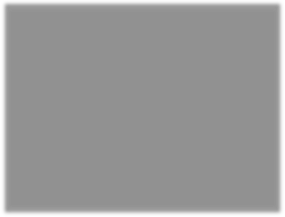


month. Seventy-five percent pay 15% or more of their gross rent as a percentage of household income.

#### Housing Survey

In August and September of 2019, the City of Nezperce conducted a housing stock survey to determine the exterior condition of the housing within the city limits. The survey assessment tool was provided by the Idaho Housing and Finance Association. The survey rated the sidewalks in front of each dwelling, roof conditions, structure and exterior paint/siding, windows and doors, private sidewalks and drive, lawns/shrubs and litter, and porches, fences, and accessory structures.

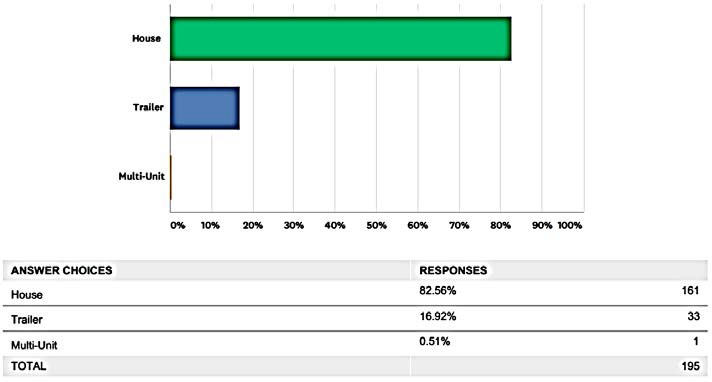
The survey information was collected in a manner of which a completed survey could not be attributed to the residence; however, data results can be evaluated based on a particular street or zone.



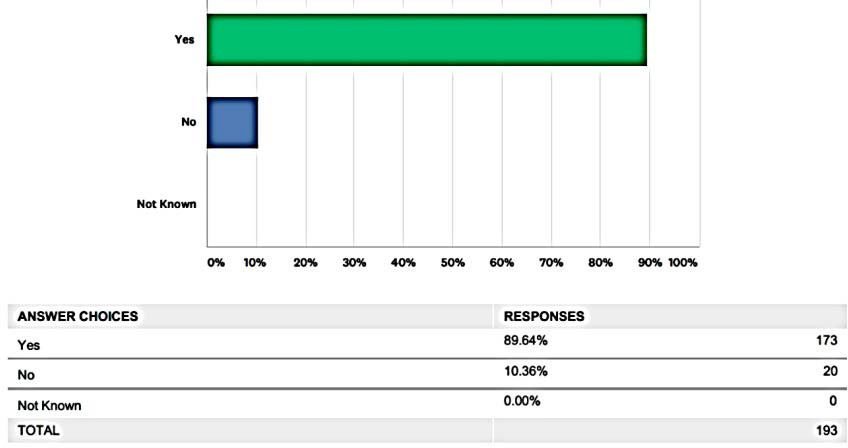
The City of Nezperce completed 205 surveys with 195 being single housing units, trailers, or multi- family units. Of these, there are 161 single housing units (82.56%), 33 mobile home trailers (16.92%), and one multi-unit housing facilities (.51%). Over 89.64% of the units surveyed appeared to have

people living in them. It was not determinable how many of the units in the multi-family units were inhabited.

**Type of Dwelling:**

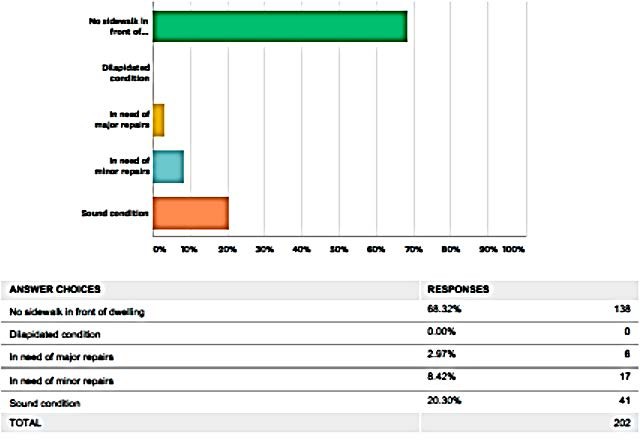


**Is Someone Living in the Housing Unit?**



**Sidewalks in Front of Dwelling**

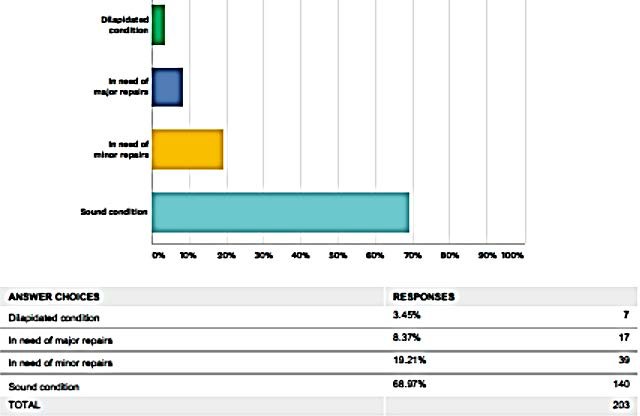
Over 68% of the homes have no public sidewalks. Twenty-eight percent of homes have public sidewalks in a sound condition or only in need of minor repairs.



#### Roof Rating

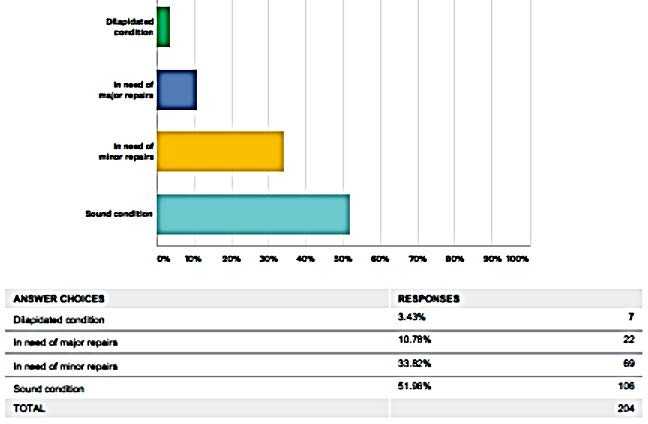
The condition of the roofs isvery good with 68.97% in sound condition and another 19.21% that are only in need of minor repairs. Of these, there were no holes or sagging rafters present.

Soffits and fascia board may have needed painting, but there was no visible rot or deterioration. Of those in need of minor repair, less than five shingles were missing on the entire roof; however, shingles may have shown deterioration. Soffits and fascia displayed slight rot and deterioration.



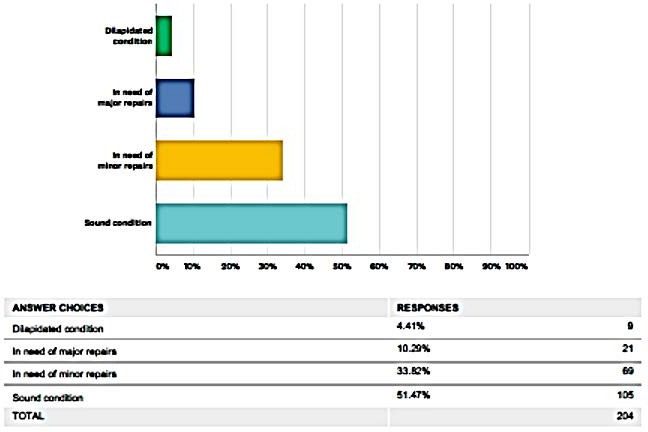
#### Structure and Exterior Paint/Siding

Almost 85% of the housing units’ structures had no leaning and paint was in good shape with no peeling visible or less than 10% of the exterior walls were peeling or fading in color. Less than 25% of the siding needed to be replaced.



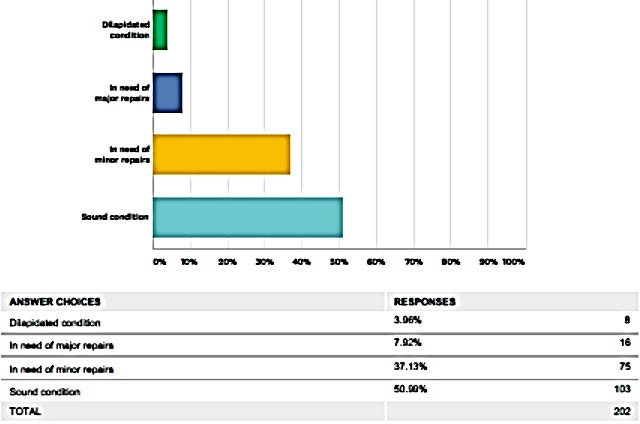
#### Windows

Over 85% of the windows were in good condition or needed minor repair. They had no broken glass or just some broken glass. Frames showed no or little rot and deterioration. Painting may have been needed.



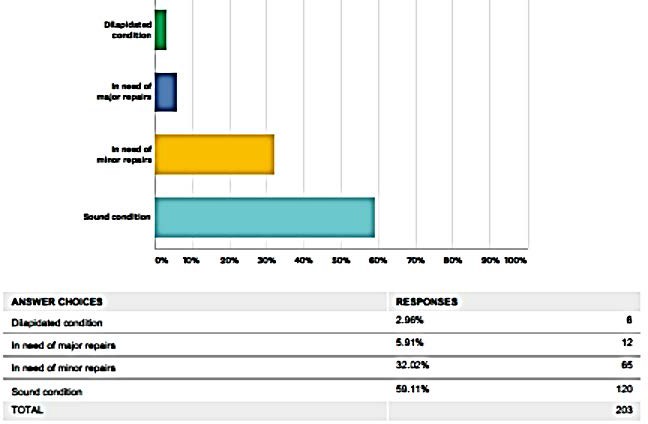
#### Private Sidewalks & Drives

Of the homes that had private sidewalks and drives, over 88% were in sound condition or in need of minor repair. Cracks were either not visible or were not over ½ inch wide. Fifty percent of the service needed to be repaired.



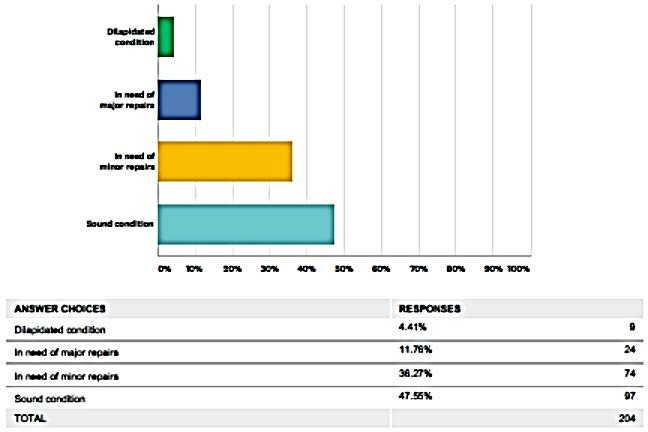
#### Lawn/Shrubs and Litter

In evaluating the lawns, shrubs, litter, and vehicles, most of the housing units (82.11%) were in sound condition or in need of minor repairs. Vehicles in the yard were one or less and appeared to be licensed or operational. Trash was either non-existent or would not fill more than five 30-gallon trash bags. Vegetation was either at an acceptable height and did not need trimming or the vegetation was less than one-foot high with shrubs needed some trimming (having some shape).



#### Porches, Fences and Accessory Structures

Porches, fences, and accessory structures were generally in good condition with few missing shingles, discolored shingles, peeling paint, or cracked windows.



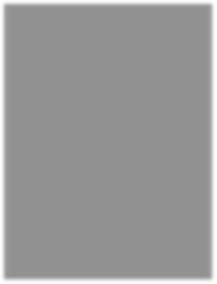
##### Sources:

1. United States Census Bureau, American FactFinder, <https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?src=CF>
2. Schmidt, Rhonda, City Clerk, April 25, 2019

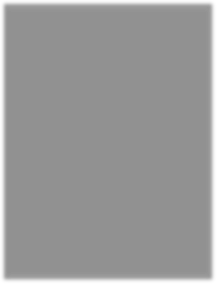
# Parks and Recreation

#### The Nezperce Memorial Park

The Nezperce Memorial Park, also known as the city park, is located at 403 5th Avenue. It is owned and maintained by the City of Nezperce. Amenities include a covered gazebo with electrical hookup, a band shell, picnic benches, a barbeque grill, restrooms, and playground equipment. The band shell has electricity and sound equipment that is available for use.



On the back wall of the band shell are memorial tiles commemorating people and families within the community. The park features trees that have been planted by families throughout



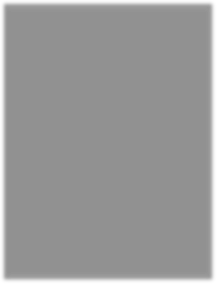
several years that memorialize deceased citizens.

#### Nezperce RV Park

The City of Nezperce RV Park is located at 412 4th Avenue and is adjacent to the Nezperce Memorial Park. It is owned and managed by the City of Nezperce. It has nine

1. cement slabs with full hookups to include electricity, free Wi-Fi, water, and wastewater removal. Each site has a table and outdoor barbeque grill. The RV Park shares restrooms/the comfort station (showers) with the Nezperce Memorial Park.

#### Lions Ballfield



The Lions Ballfield is located at 302 4th Avenue adjacent to the Nezperce Memorial Park. It has one (1) baseball/softball field. It includes bleachers, dugouts, restrooms, and fencing. The field has an automatic sprinkler system.

#### Clock Park

The Clock Park is located at 405 Oak Street. It is a “pocket park” with an information center, benches, one table, and historical information.

#### Tennis Court Park

The city-owned tennis courts are located at 601 Oak Street. There are two, fenced cement courts and two basketball hoops at the site. There are public restrooms and playground equipment.

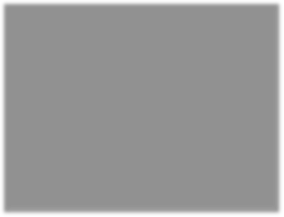
The Nezperce Garden Club is renovating the park with tables and benches. It will enhance visitors with the splendor of color with lots of flowers and blooming plants. A visitor will take advantage of the free library and Lewis & Clark History.

#### Recycling Park

The City of Nezperce’s Recycling Park is located at 505 Oak Street. There is a recycling center

(for paper and metals) at the park along with benches, tables, and playground equipment.

#### The Nezperce School District Pool and Grounds



The Nezperce School District grounds are located at 615 2nd Avenue. On the grounds, there is an outdoor pool, football field, gravel track field, baseball field, and playground equipment. All grounds are owned and managed by the school district.

#### Nezperce Summer Youth Sports

The Nezperce Summer Youth Sports organizes and

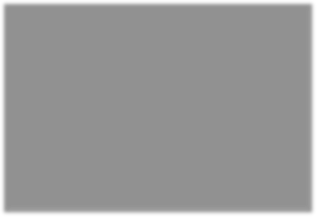
manages programs and leagues for K-12 youth baseball, softball, tennis, and basketball.

#### Prairie Days

Prairie Days is held annually on the second weekend in July. It features a co-ed softball tournament, baked food sale, community dinners, ice cream social, live and silent auction, live music, the Nezperce Historical Society’s “Pioneer of the Year” award, the American Legion breakfast, a fun run, a 3 on3 basketball tournament, a mud volleyball tournament, a sidewalk art contest, Kiddie Parade, Prairie Day Parade, school tour, library exhibits, kid activities, youth and adult races, and bingo. More can be found on the Prairie Days Facebook page.

#### Lewis County Fair

The Lewis County Fair is held annually starting the fourth Thursday of September and ending on the following Sunday. The fair has been held in Nezperce since 1919. The event is managed by the all-volunteer Lewis County Fair Board of Directors. All buildings are owned by the County of Lewis, Idaho.



The fair has an open class exhibit for art, crafts, collections, photography, sewing, needlework, quilting, baked foods, food preservation and

canning, dehydrated foods and eggs, fruits and vegetables, field crops and seeds, flowers, and animals.

The Future Farmers of America and 4-H have livestock competitions and awards with a fitting and showing event and a livestock judging contest.

There is a parade and a car show that are held annually on the Saturday of the fair. The Lewis County Style Revenue is hosted at the Nezperce School Multi-Purpose Room on the Sunday prior to the beginning of the fair. A 4-H Dog Show and 4-H Cat Show are held on the same day.

The Nezperce Service League hosts a Salad Bar, the American Legion hosts a breakfast, the Nezperce Prairie Day hosts a soup kitchen, the Fair Board hosts a by invitation only Royalty Luncheon, and the ILCCA hosts a “Buyers Dinner.” There are also youth and adult races. The Nezperce Historical Museum is open at different times throughout the fair.

#### Adult Activities

Serving the Nezperce community and surrounding area, there is an adult volleyball league, Pinochle clubs, and Bunco clubs. There are some Bridge lessons available. Near the Christmas holidays, there is a Jingle Bell fun run.

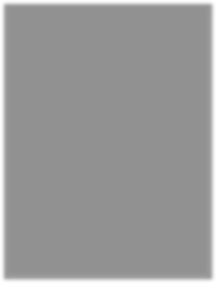
##### Sources:

* 1. 2019 Lewis County Fair Program
  2. Nezperce Comprehensive Land Use Plan Document Committee
  3. Prairie Days Facebook page

# Transportation

*In 2017, the City of Nezperce completed a multi-model transportation plan. It is considered the main document that guides transportation planning. The following is a summary of existing conditions and needs outlined in the transportation plan.*

Located in Lewis County on the Nezperce Prairie, the City is approximately 0.41 square miles. State Highway 62, 64, and 162 and First Avenue are considered major collectors.



Running north to south, Idaho State Highways 62 enters from the northside of the City on Pine Street and connects with Idaho State Highway 64 (4th Avenue). It connects the City of Nezperce with the City of Craigmont. Idaho State Highway 64 enters the City from the east. State Highway 162 enters the City from the southwest, turns east onto 8th Avenue, and then north onto Oak Street where it connects with State Highway 64. This highway connects the City of Nezperce to U.S. 95 just a few miles east of the City of Grangeville. First Avenue runs east to west just north of the Nezperce Schools. *Traffic counts may be found in the 2017 City of Nezperce Transportation Plan.*

State Highway 62, 64, and 162 are maintained by the Idaho Department of Transportation who coordinates with the City on reconstruction and maintenance of the highways. The City of Nezperce maintains all other streets within the city limits. Most streets within the City of Nezperce are paved. The City has adopted the Idaho Standards for Public Works Contracts (ISPWC) as the standards for road construction.

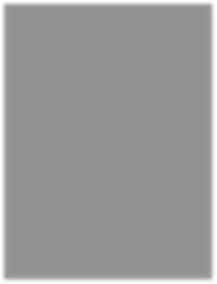
The businesses and governmental entities that generate a substantial amount of traffic include the Nezperce Elementary and High School, the Lewis County Courthouse & Sheriff’s Department, Hillco Technologies, Bell Equipment, St. John Hardware, Jacklin Seed (Simplot), Seeds Inc., Columbia Grain, and CHS Primeland.

Deficiencies with the City of Nezperce’s road system include turning movements onto or crossing state highways, drainage deficiencies, pavement condition, poor condition or lack of safe pedestrian infrastructure and cross walks, some narrow residential streets, and intersection sight distances.

Although some streets do have curbs, gutters, sidewalks, and lights that help with storm water drainage and pedestrian safety, many do not. Most existing sidewalks are located in the downtown area. The current sidewalk system varies from fair to poor condition. The majority of stormwater runoff is collected in roadside ditches and crosses intersecting roads with culverts. Lighting within the City consists of rented streetlights mounted on power poles. They

are primarily at intersections, with few in residential areas. There are no existing, designated truck routes within the City of Nezperce.

Accidents may be reduced by closing redundant approaches, improvements to intersections, and designated turn lanes on intersecting streets.



Chapter Four of the 2017 City of Nezperce Transportation Plan provides recommendations for transportation infrastructure improvement. Chapter Five provides a capital improvement plan.

#### Freight Transportation Services

Freight transportation providers that serve Nezperce include United Parcel Service, FedEx, Huber Freight, and Fastway Freight.

#### Air Passenger Transportation

Located 60 miles northwest of Nezperce, Lewiston-Nez Perce County Regional Airport is the closest commercial airport. Delta SkyWest offers twice-daily nonstop flights to Salt Lake City. Charter private plane and helicopter flights are offered by Hillcrest Aircraft Company, Lohman Helicopter LLC, Odonata LLC, and Stout Flying Service, Inc.

The Nezperce Municipal Airport is addressed in a separate chapter in this document.

#### Transit Services

COAST Transportation provides coordinated transportation and brokerage services to all citizens living in Nezperce. They operate Monday through Friday from 6:00 am - 6:00 pm. Private taxi services that will service Nezperce include Prairie Transportation (Cottonwood), and a few taxi services operating out of Lewiston and Orofino.

##### Sources:

2017 City of Nezperce Transportation Plan, Riedesel Engineering

# Airport

Located north of Fourth Avenue between Maple Street and Cedar Street, the Nezperce Municipal Airport is within the city limits of Nezperce. It is classified as a Community Access Airport under the State of Idaho Aviation System Plan. It is an airport that serves the general aviation user and provides access to outlying small communities while providing emergency landing capabilities. It is not sponsored by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

The existing runway extends northward for approximately 2,400 feet. The Airport has a single

runway with Runway 15 accepting aircraft landings from the north and Runway 33 accepting aircraft landings from the south. The elevation of the airport is 3,201 feet MSL (mean sea level).



installed lighting.

The runway has a 30-foot width and a total length of 2,400 feet. From the north to northwest it has a downward slope of 0.08%. The asphalt concrete runway is in good condition. The pavement has white-paint markings for runway indication at each end. The centerline is painted with an intermittent white stripe. The runway does not have any

There are two windsocks (wind indicators) on the airport, one on the northwest corner and one on the southeast corner. There is no traffic control tower, On-Site WX Reporting (ASOS/AWOS), rotating beacon, or lighted wind cones. There is airport security fencing in the runway and apron areas.

The Airport has a 50-foot by 50-foot lighted helipad on the east side for fire and emergency services. Plans are to complete it and widen the runway to 50 feet.

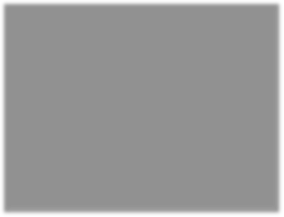
The property is primarily owned by the City. There is no commercial service terminal building, general aviation terminal building, public restroom, conference room, pilot lounge, or auto parking. The airport has excellent cell phone coverage and no Wi-Fi coverage.

Adjacent to the city-owned property are privately owned properties that contain airport services such as a grass tie-down area, three hangars with rental availability, a service shop, and offices. Water, telephone, and electricity are available in the private office building. Public aircraft fueling is not available.

There are three single engine aircraft based at the airport with three private hangars.

#### Airport Activity

Winds tend to be out of the south in the morning while shifts of the prevailing wind come from the north in the evening. There is approximately two to four hours of airport closure due to crosswinds per month.



The airport has approximately 2,500 take-offs and landings per year with 1,800 aerial applications, 200 local general aviation, and 500 itinerant general aviation flights. The airport is used for hunting/fishing and sight-seeing on a monthly

basis, aerial application daily, firefighting monthly, emergency medical helicopter evacuation monthly (Life Flight). Itinerant operations are highest in the summer months due to recreation, travel, and flight instruction activities. During the agriculture growing season, the number of operations increases because of agricultural spraying.

Noise from the airport is a local complaint. Noise impacts are less when airport users land from and depart from the north.

#### Airport Classification and Needs

The design criterion that applies to this type of airport can be located in the “Minimum Dimensions for VFR Airports – Chapter 201” that is published by the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD, Division of Aeronautics). The State of Idaho recommends, as a minimum, the airport be improved to meet all State VFR requirements and meet as many FAA ARC-A-1 design standards as economically feasible.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Item Description | Idaho VFR | FAA ARC-AI | Existing |
| Runway Length | 3100 | 3800 | 2400 |
| Runway Width | 40 | 60 | 30 |
| Primary Surface  Width | 200 | 250 | 200 |
| Runway Safety Ara (RSA) Length Beyond  Each Runway End | 200 | 240 | 0 |
| Runway Safety Area (RSA) Width | 100 | 120 | 11 |
| Runway CL to Parallel  Taxiway CL | 100 | 150 | NA |
| Runway CL to Edge of  Aircraft Parking | 150 | 125 | 100 |
| Runway CL to | 200 | 230 | 108 |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Buildings |  |  |  |
| Taxiway Width | 30 | 25 | NA |
| Taxiway CL to Fixed and Movable Object | 0 | 45 | NA |
| *Notes: CL = Centerline*  *NA- Not applicable* | | | |

Noise is a significant issue at the airport. There are moderate concerns over the wetlands and floodplain. The availability of airport property and financial shortfalls limit future growth.

The City of Nezperce’ Facilities Improvement Plan recommended the following improvements:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Time Period | Site | Recommended Improvement |
| Immediate | Existing Site | * Acquire land (=/1 13 acres) * Widen Runway to 50’ * Turn-around at north RW * Add Displaced Threshold & Standard Runway Striping |
| Short Term | Existing Site | * Pavement Maintenance (crack fill & slurry seal) * Pavement Markings &   Striping |
| Mid Term | Existing Site | * Pavement Maintenance (crack fill & slurry seal) * Pavement Markings & Striping |
| New Site | - Land Acquisition (=/- 30 acres) |
| Long Term | Existing Site | * Pavement Maintenance (crack fill & slurry seal) * Pavement Markings &   Striping |
| New Site | * Site Grading   - Runway (40’ x 3100’)  (gravel base, asphalt, striping)   * Hangar Area, Tie-down Area, &Access Road (gravel) * Wind Sock with Seg. Circle |

##### Sources:

1. 2019 Idaho Airport System Plan Update/Airport Economic Impact Analysis Update Inventory & Data Survey.
2. 2019 Nezperce Municipal Airport Planning Study Narrative Report that was prepared by J-U-B Engineers.
3. April 2003 Nezperce Municipal Airport Planning Study Narrative Report that was prepared by Riedesel & Associates, Inc

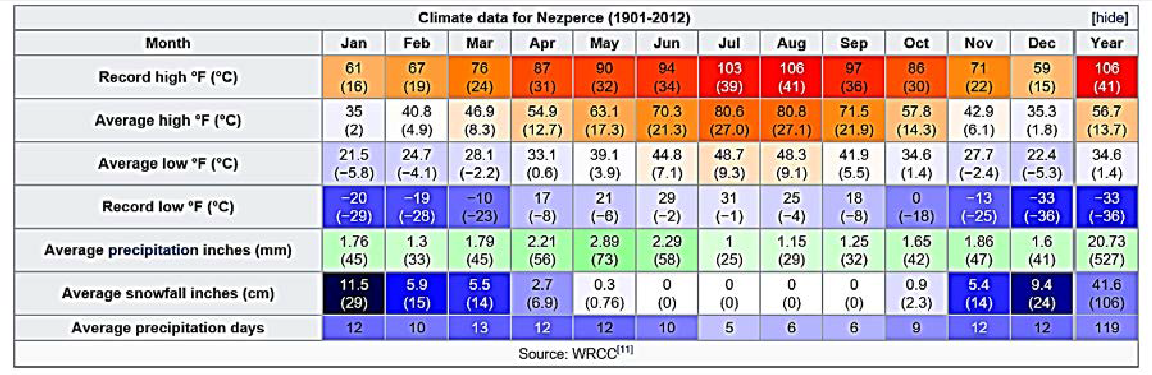
# Natural Resources and Agriculture

#### Climate and Topography

The City of Nezperce is located at 3,250 feet above sea level. The City’s climate is classified as a “humid continental climate.” The climate has large temperature differences from one season to another with precipitation occurring through the year.

The City’s average high temperature is 56.8 degrees Fahrenheit and its average low is

34.6 degrees Fahrenheit. The average annual precipitation is 20.73 inches with average annual snowfall of 52.7 inches. The relatively higher elevation is a major influence on the climate bringing cooler weather and higher precipitation than in nearby river basin locations. Early snows in October are common and snowfall in June is not uncommon. Heavy snows between December and March normally do not remain on the ground for long periods of time. Chinook winds may erase three-foot snowdrifts overnight.



Between 1901-2012, the lowest recorded temperature was negative thirty-three degrees Fahrenheit; whereas, the highest recorded temperature was 106 degrees Fahrenheit. Prevailing winds are from the south-southwest with storms following the normal weather flow from the west. The topography modifies the climate; summer thunderstorms often include hail.

#### Soils

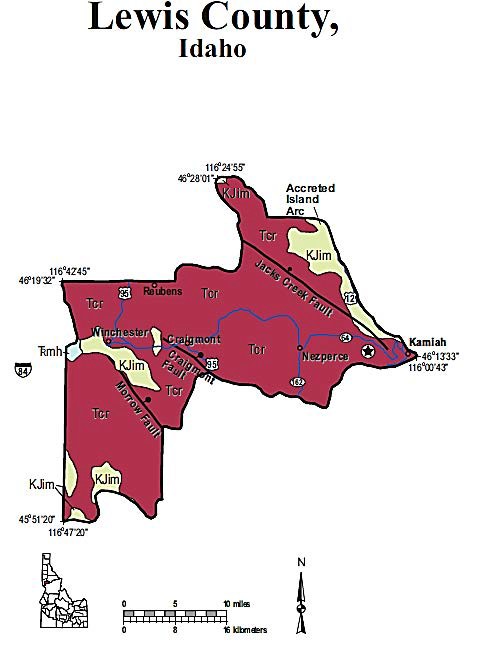
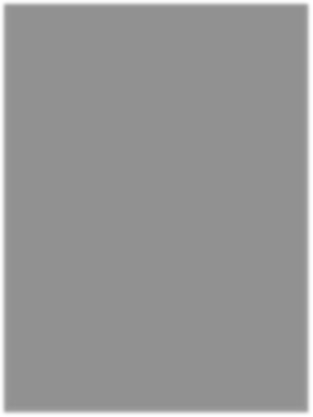
The soils consist of Nez Perce silty clay loan, Uhlorn silt loam, and Westlake and Lataco silt loams. Much of the soil in Lewis County was developed under grassland vegetation, although there are large areas of cleared forestland soils. A detailed soil survey has been conducted and should be used for general planning for dwelling locations, excavations, and road construction. A detailed on-site soils investigation may be required when developments are planned.

#### Minerals

In 1861, nearby Clearwater County and Idaho County were settled as a result of gold discovery. Mineral resources have played a major role in the growth and decline of numerous settlements in this area, not directly in the City of Nezperce.

Aggregate for construction has been extracted from nearby river deposits. Environmental restrictions limit this activity.

#### Geology



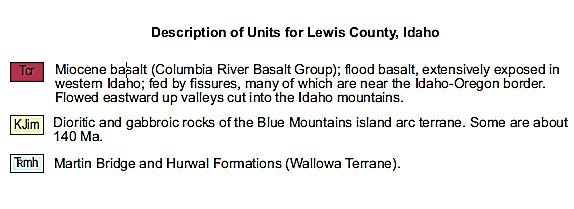
The geology of the City of Nezperce and Lewis County was described by P.K. Link, 9/2002.

Information was compiled by Reed Lewis, Idaho Geological Survey. [http://www.idahogeology.org](http://www.idahogeology.org/).

*Lewis County, on the south side of the Clearwater River, contains the steep sided Camas Prairie plateau underlain by Miocene lava flows of the Columbia River basalts. Poking through at several places are Cretaceous and Jurassic island arc rocks of the Accreted terranes. The Suture zone runs just east of the county line along the Clearwater River through Kamiah.*

*These plateaus are unusual, since the flat ground is on top, and the cities are generally in narrow valley bottoms. The Clearwater River cuts through the plateau, following the track of the Cretaceous suture zone.*

#### Water



The *Drinking Water Protection Plan for the City of Nezperce and the Nezperce Water Department (PWS 2310005)* is the best source of information about the City of

Nezperce’s drinking water source.

The plan provides information on

the drinking water system, an analysis of the area from which the city’s wells draw water, management tools for protecting the water source, a schedule for activities that protects the water source, and a plan if there was a drinking water emergency. The

water treatment system is explained in the Public Services and Facilities chapter of this planning document.

Located entirely within the city limits, the City’s drinking water system is a community system that serves approximately 500 residents through 380 connections. The system consists of two active wells that are located within the city limits, one large storage reservoir (300,000-gallon capacity), a distribution system, and a hypochlorinator for occasional use at Well #1.

According the City’s Wellhead Protection plan,

The Nezperce source wells supply water to the Nezperce community. Two nearby surface water bodies are thought to influence the ground water regime; these are Lawyers Creek and the Clearwater River. Based on well logs, the wells are located in fractured basalt…

The City of Nezperce’s wells pump water from the Grande Ronde aquifer of the Clearwater Plateau. Hydrogeologic information for the area of the Nezperce source wells is limited, and data is scarce. Most of the Grand Ronde basalt flows erupted between 15 and 16 million years ago. These flows are seen across most of the norther Columbia Plateau in its enormous spread across northern Oregon, northwestern Idaho, and eastern Washington. Grande Ronde basalt covers much of the Nezperce area with small exposures of the Saddle Mountains basalt (Rember & Bennett 1979). The source wells derive water from these fractured basalt aquifers. It is believed that the general direction of ground water flow is to the northeast…

Most of the ground water found in basalt lies in fracture zones, sediments between basalt flows, or in vesicular contacts (cavities in glass igneous rock formed by the expansion of bubbles of gas or steam during the rocks solidification).

One northwest-southeast trending fault (up-thrown block on the southwest side) exists to the northwest of the source wells; it is assumed the fault acts as a hydraulic barrier, however no data exists to either support or refute this.

It is not known if the Clearwater River is gaining stream; it is believed that Lawyers Creek is gaining stream.

The plan provides rankings for the well’s susceptibility based on:

* Hydrologic characteristics;
* Physical integrity of the well;
* Land use characteristics; and
* Potentially significant contaminant sources.

The Wellhead Protection Plan Schedule of Activities delineates the actions that the City should take to protect the water source.

#### Timber

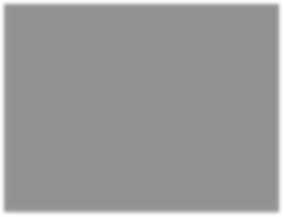
Like mineral resources, timber has formed one of the valuable off-site natural resources for nearby communities. The nearby Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest and numerous private timber holdings supply the local mills and forest products industries with high grade timber.

Major commercial timber species include: Ponderosa Pine, Douglas Fir, Grand Fir, Lodgepole Pine, Alpine Fir, Western Red Cedar, Engleman Spruce, Western Larch, and Western White Pine. The bulk of the volume is made up of the first three species.

Local mills handle all of these species though there is a limited supply of Western White Pine and much of the Cedar is exported to specialty mills for conversion to shakes and similar products.

#### Wildlife

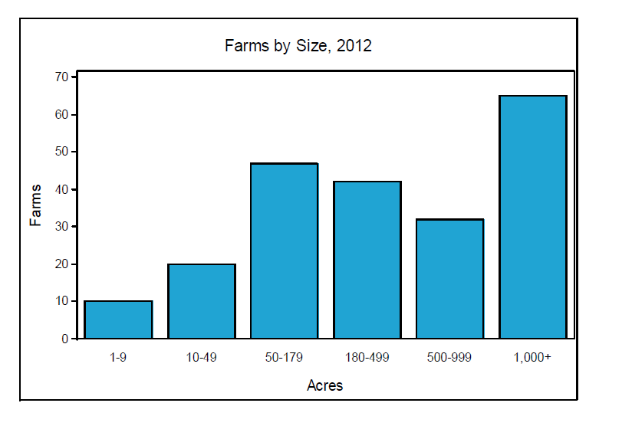
Big game is abundant in Lewis County. Elk, deer, coyote, cougar, moose, bear, mountain sheep, and mountain goats are visible to some motorists and many backpackers. Though elk harvests have been lower in recent years, hunting success for deer and bear remain high and limited numbers of other big game may be hunted. Deer and coyotes may be seen less than a mile from the city limits of Nezperce.



Game birds also provide a recreational opportunity based upon wildlife.

The mountain streams in nearby forest lands are low in nutrients and therefore are not as highly productive for fishing as most streams west of the Rocky Mountains, but mountain lakes still carry sufficient stock to satisfy the sports fisherman. Closed seasons on salmon and steelhead have further limited fishing resources due to the necessity of protecting the few anadromous fish which succeed in running the gauntlet of dams on the Snake and Columbia Rivers.

#### Agriculture

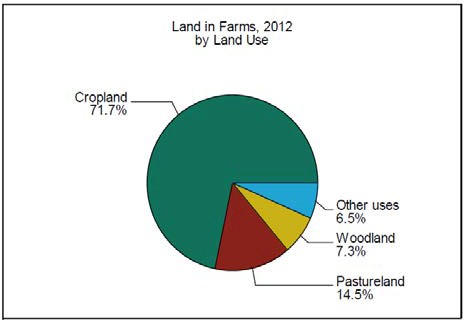
The City of Nezperce is in the heart of the Nezperce Prairie, surround by dry-land farms. Agrigulture is a primary industry. According to the 2012 Census of Agriculture, Lewis County has 221,280 acres in agriculture production. The County has 216 farms with an average size of 1,024 acres. The market value of products sold was approximately

Harvest, Lori Palmer, *Idaho County Free Press*

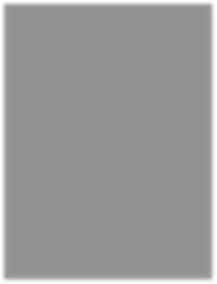
$62.5 million with 95% crop sales and 5% livestock sales. An

average farm’s market value of product sold was $289,291. The

number of farms between 2007 and 2012 decreased by 4%. In 2018, according to a report compiled by the Farm Service Agency, the top crops grown in Lewis County by

acre were Soft White Winter Wheat, Soft White Spring Wheat, Winter Canola, Spring Canola, Garbanzos, Bluegrass Kentucky, and Grazing (cropland). The 2018 report does not capture 100% of agriculture production in Lewis County as not all farms participate in the FSA Program. In 2018, there were 473 farms participating in their program. The

definition of “farms” is left up to the



interpretation of the participating agricultural produces. Thus, the number of farms does not coincide with the Census. The following table of 2018 agriculture data was provided by the Farm Services Agency.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category** | **Crop** | **Type** | **Acres** |
| **Lewis** |
| **Small Grains** | **Wheat** | Soft White Winter | 62,342.2 |
| Soft White Spring | 4,622.4 |
| Hard White Spring | 514.6 |
| Hard Red Winter | 3,064.0 |
| Hard Red Spring | 3,776.0 |
| **Barley** | Spring | 5,825.4 |
| Hulless | 1,388.6 |
| **Oats** |  | 699.5 |
| **Teff** |  | 10.0 |
| **Buckwheat** |  | 43.1 |
| **Total Small Grains** | | | **82,285.7** |
| **Oilseeds** | **Canola** | Winter | 6,984.2 |
| Spring | 8,471.4 |
| **Mustard** | Yellow | 342.9 |
| **Total Oilseeds** | | | **15,798.5** |
| **Legumes** | **Lentils** |  | 3,728.8 |
| **Dry Peas** | Austrian Winter | 0.0 |
| Green | 223.3 |
| **Beans** | Garbanzo (GAS) | 11,698.7 |
| Garbanzo (GAD) | 79.9 |
| Garbanzo (GAR) | 10,269.8 |
| **Total Legumes** | | | **26,000.5** |
| **Forage** | **Hay** | Alfalfa | 3,179.7 |
| Alfalfa Mix | 1,538.1 |
| Grass Mix w/ Alfalfa | 1,779.4 |
| Interseeded Grasses | 2,163.7 |
| Native Grass | 590.9 |
| Timothy | 523.7 |
| Brome | 104.1 |
| Fescue | 110.1 |
| Orchard Grass | 105.0 |
| Oat / Barley / Mixed Grain Hay | 1,632.8 |
| Other | 1.5 |
| **Grazing** | Cropland | 4,637.4 |
| Non-Cropland | 37,616.0 |
| **Total Forage** | | | **53,982.4** |
| **Seed Crops** | **Grass** | Bluegrass, Kentucky | 13,931.0 |
| Brome | 79.3 |
| Crested Wheatgrass | 278.3 |
| Intermediate Wheatgrass | 98.9 |
| Fescue | 532.0 |
| Idaho Fescue | 293.8 |
| Orchard Grass | 39.7 |
| Blue Bunch Wheatgrass | 154.6 |
| Siberian Wheatgrass | 19.1 |
| Perennial Rye | 76.5 |
| Inter-seeded Grass Mix | 75.4 |
| Small Burnett | 237.0 |
| **Clover** | White | 529.0 |
| **Flowers** |  | 151.4 |
| **Nursery** |  | 190.5 |
| **Total Seed Crops** | | | **16,686.3** |

***Sources:***

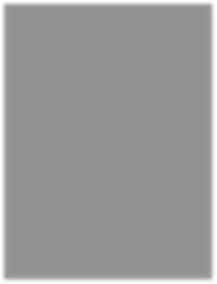
1. 2012 Census of Agriculture County Profile, Lewis County, Idaho
2. City of Nezperce – Wastewater Treatment Plant Facility Plan, J-U-B Engineers Report, November 2007
3. Digital Atlas of Idaho, Nov. 2002; http:imnh.isu.edu/digitalatlas.
4. *Drinking Water Protection Plan for the City of Nezperce and Nezperce Water Department, 2007 (reviewed and updated in 2019).*
5. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Humid_continental_climate>
6. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nezperce,\_Idaho](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nezperce%2C_Idaho)
7. [https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\_by\_State/Idaho/Publications/Annual\_Statistical\_Bu](https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Idaho/Publications/Annual_Statistical_Bulletin/2017/ID_annual%20bulletin%202017.pdf) [lletin/2017/ID\_annual%20bulletin%202017.pdf](https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Idaho/Publications/Annual_Statistical_Bulletin/2017/ID_annual%20bulletin%202017.pdf)
8. *Resource Management Plan With Wildfire Risk Mitigation Component*, Northwest Management, Moscow, Idaho, December 2009.

# Hazards and Hazardous Areas

The Lewis County, Idaho Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan was adopted in August 2011. As of this writing, it is being updated. This is the official planning document that guides the City’s actions on natural hazards such as flood, landslide, severe weather, earthquake, and wildland fire. The most recently adopted Lewis County, Idaho Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan will guide the City of Nezperce efforts with these hazards.

#### Flood

Long Hollow Creek bisects the City of Nezperce from south to north. The creek enters the southeast corner of the City of Nezperce from a bridge under State Highway 162. After crossing underneath Maple Street, it turns north running parallel to Maple street. It leaves town at the north end and turns west just before the wastewater system lagoons. The creek is described as a perennial stream.



There is little topographical change in the City of Nezperce, and surrounding areas. The Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), made effective in 1989, shows a very wide but shallow flood plain. Most of the land along the creek is non-residential.

Long Hollow Creek was straightened and widened in the

1960s. Dikes were built along it. The structures were designed for a 100-year flow. These structures have significantly reduced periodic flood events. The levees are annually inspected by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers. The City maintains the levees.

Due to the levees, stormwater had frequently backed up into the streets causing minor damage. In 2009, the City of Nezperce installed a storm water system that now takes storm water out of vulnerable areas downtown (along Oak, Pine, and Maple) and transports the stormwater to Long Hollow Creek.

There is a low risk of smaller periodic floods. If the Long Hollow Creek levees were breached, there is higher risk of catastrophic flooding.

The City of Nezperce has adopted floodplain ordinances to minimize development in flood prone areas of the town. Critical infrastructure in the floodplain includes, city hall/emergency services station, the Lewis County Courthouse and Sheriff’s Office, the U.S Post office, the city shop, the medical clinic, and Legion Hall. Although city hall/emergency services is in the floodplain, it was built above the floodplain.

Some needs to minimize the impact of flood, is a plan for culvert maintenance, and a backup power system.

#### Landslide

With slopes generally less than 25%, landslide damage is very low. Issues caused by landslide may be road obstructions. There could be some issues on State Highways 162, 62, and 64, and other secondary roads.

#### Severe Weather

The primary concern with severe weather in Lewis County is the City of Nezperce’s stormwater system. Severe weather includes extreme cold or severe winter weather, severe wind event, and major thunderstorm and/or hailstorm. Probability of occurrence is very high; annual events are expected. Impact on infrastructure is expected to be minor.

Damage includes;

* Severe Winter Storms
  + Damage to roofs
  + Frozen pipes
  + Utility supply outages
  + Inability to work because of transportation issues
  + School closures
* Thunderstorms
  + Flooding
  + Utility supply outages
* Wind and/or Hailstorm
  + Property damage – broken window, damaged vehicles, damaged roofs
  + Crop damage (economic damage)

Critical infrastructure in the floodplain includes, city hall/emergency services station, the Lewis County Courthouse and Sheriff’s Office, the U.S Post office, the city shop, the medical clinic, and Legion Hall.

Solutions to minimize the impact of severe weather are the same as flood—culvert maintenance and an emergency power system.

#### Earthquake

The City of Nezperce has only a 10% change of exceeding a 12% peak ground acceleration (pga) in the next 50 years. Damage would likely be with unreinforced chimneys and masonry structures. Fire could be a secondary hazard caused by an earthquake.

Most vulnerable structures would be the Nezperce Hotel, the grocery story, the Lewis County Courthouse, the Christian Church, Bell Equipment, St. John Hardware & Implement, the grain silo and the school. All buildings were built prior to the Uniform Building Codes in 1972 that includes articles for seismic stability.

#### Wildland Fire

Agricultural fields surrounding the City of Nezperce make the City vulnerable to wildland fire. Almost 100% of the land is privately owned. There are only a few trees and little native prairie grasslands. The agriculture lands become very dry in the later summer months (July, August, and September). Ag fields can be very flammable and cause low intensity, fast moving fires.

Although field fires can occur from lightning, they are more frequently man-caused fires (sparks from vehicles in and out of the fields).

Fortunately, firebreaks can be easily created with agriculture equipment. Firebreaks are very effective in controlling fire.

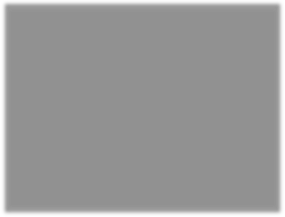
Structural fire protection is provided by the Nezperce Volunteer Fire Department. The Idaho Department of Lands and the Nez Perce Tribe also provide services.

The probability of wildland fire is low to moderate probability due to the agriculture land that surrounds the City of Nezperce. Most residential homes have adequate defensible space.

#### Manmade Hazards

Underground Storage Tanks

According to the Idaho Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) website, “an underground storage tank (UST) is defined as one or any combination of tanks and connective underground pipes used to contain regulated substances with 10% or more volume (including underground pipes) beneath ground surface.” These types of storage tanks store either petroleum products or certain hazardous substances. It does not include heating oil tanks for consumption on a premise, farm or residential tanks with capacities of 1,000 gallons or less, emergency spill and overfill tanks that are immediately emptied after



use, or septic systems. There is one site that have USTs within the city limits of Nezperce. This tank has the potential to be hazardous. It is regulated by DEQ.

Grain Elevators

Grain storage elevators within the city limits have a potential to be a major fire risk. They are the properties of Columbia Grain and Seeds, Inc. They

are located on the south end of town. There are several structures constructed of metal, cement, and wood. Dust explosions are possible. The oldest buildings have been removed.

Hazardous Chemicals

Because the City of Nezperce serves an agricultural community, many businesses within the city limits do store hazardous chemicals that may be combustible causing risk of a major fire or are toxic and could seriously impact air quality and be dangerous to Nezperce residents. They are on the properties of CHS Primeland and Nezperce Ag on the northwest corner of town.

Leakage would be the biggest issue.

Street Intersections and Congestion

Congestion does occur between 4th Avenue and 6th Avenue on Oak Street during high traffic times of the day. The turn lanes contribute to the congestion.

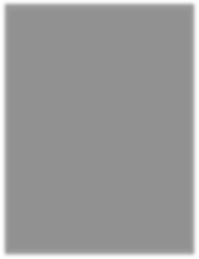
##### Source

* Lewis County, Idaho Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, August 2011, Northwest Management, Inc.
* <http://www2.deq.idaho.gov/waste/ustlust/>

# Land Use

A comprehensive plan is an important statement of a city’s future vision for land use and public services within its jurisdiction. The plan is a communication tool for a city; it allows cities to share with its citizens, property owners, service providers and surrounding jurisdictions the

city’s vision for the future of the community.



To avoid adverse effects of unplanned growth, the comprehensive plan provides guidelines, policies and goals for logical growth. The comprehensive plan provides the basis on which future zoning ordinances and amendments can be based.

The Land Use Map identifies present use of land in Nezperce and the area of impact and provide the basis for implementing zoning ordinances. They reflect the conditions, goals, and objectives already stated in the Comprehensive Plan. The plan is intended to be flexible but should not be perceived as encouraging substantial changes from the conditions described here.

It is the intent of the City of Nezperce to provide uniform, equitable, and reasonable standards to govern the usage of land and structures. To promote the health, safety, and general welfare, the City recognizes that effective land-use planning is essential:

1. To ensure that adequate public facilities and services are provided to persons at a reasonable cost.
2. To protect against fire, nuisances, and other hazards;
3. To conserve and stabilize property values
4. To ensure efficient use of natural and economic resources, avoiding air and water pollution.
5. To reserve areas well-suited for types of business or industry that may require special access, large areas of land, or special site conditions.
6. To provide efficient movement of goods and people among interdependent land uses (e.g., employees to work, resources to industry, children to school).
7. To ensure that the development of land is commensurate with the physical characteristics of the land.
8. To encourage a well-planned and coordinated mixture of land uses that will result in a more dynamic, livable community; and
9. To stabilize expectations regarding future development.

#### Area of City Impact

For growing and expanding cities, it is logical that cities and citizens also be concerned about the land adjacent to a city boundary that the city ultimately expects to annex and serve with urban services. To allow cities to anticipate areas of land that may become urban and served by urban services, the Land Use Planning Act provides for Area of City Impact (§67-6526).

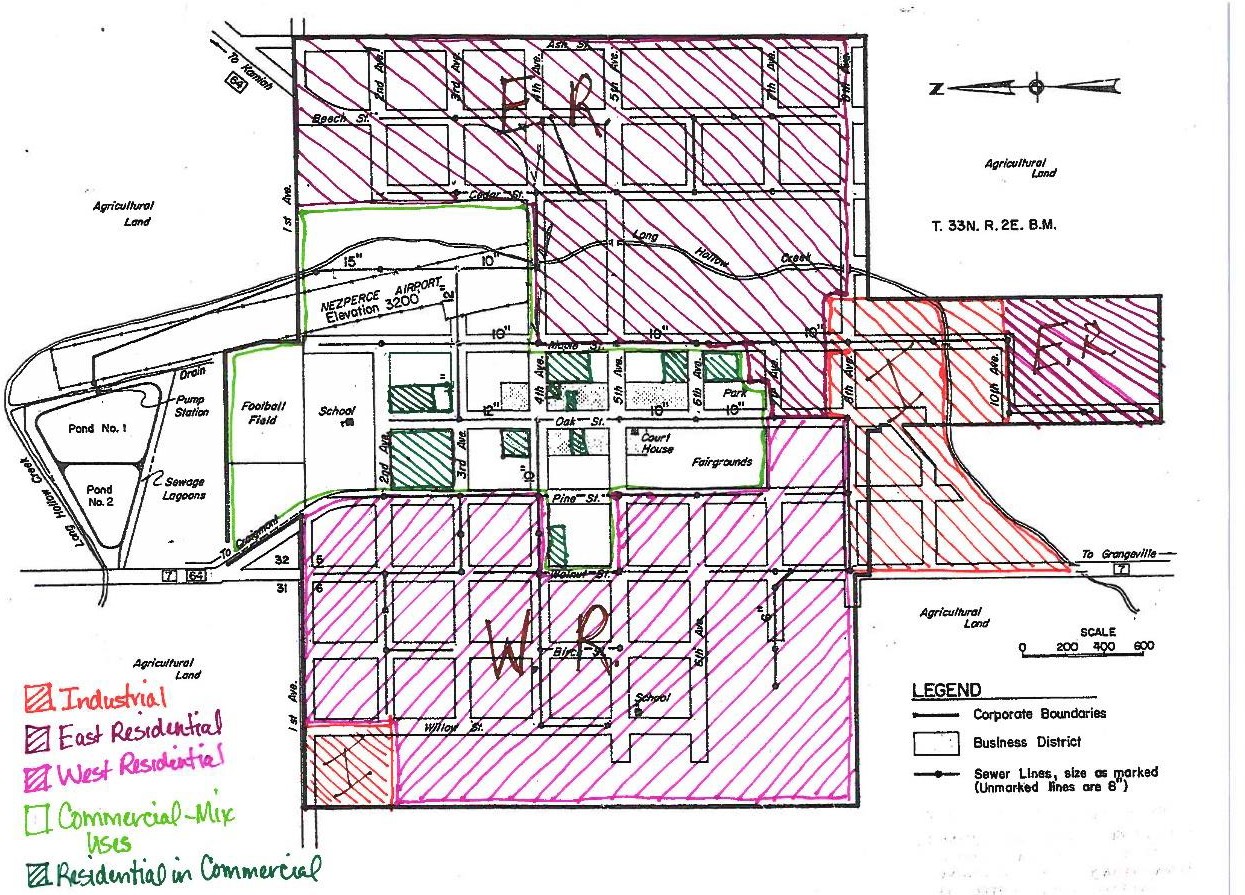
Planning for an Area of City Impact provides the framework and is a necessary requirement for most types of city annexations (§50-222).

The City of Nezperce, in conjunction with Lewis County, has established an Area of City Impact. All land within the geographical Area of City Impact is presently zoned as agricultural.

#### Present Land Use

The following map identifies the present use of the land within the city limites of the City of Nezperce. Classifications are characterized as:

1. Industrial
2. East Residential
3. West Residential
4. Commercial/Mixed Use
5. Residential in Commercial



**Aerial View: City of Nezperce, Idaho**



# Goals and Objectives

After completing an evaluation of the existing conditions of the city’s land use, facilities, and services described in the prior sections of this planning document, the City of Nezperce developed goals and objectives. Future long-term development was considered through the lens of the city’s vision for itself and the city’s values as reflected by the principles established for future development.

1. **Property Rights:**

**Goal 1:** Balance private property rights with community planning, public health, and safety needs within the accepted confines of local, state, and national laws.

* 1. Ensure land use policies, restrictions, conditions, and fees do not violate private property rights, or create unnecessary technical limitation of the use of property.
  2. Write, adopt, and enforce land use ordinances that are clear, fair, and uniform and that provide for certainty.

1. **Population & Growth:**

**Goal 2:** Ensure a population growth that maintains a quality community environment and a healthy demographic mix of young people, working people and retired that leads to economic prosperity and a positive future.

* 1. Make development decisions based on the limited resource of land, the impact on existing infrastructure, the ability of the community to provide public services, and how the development will affect the community.

1. **The Economy:**

**Goal 3:** Achieve a healthy and diversified local economy while promoting Nezperce as a good place to live and do business.

* 1. Balance land availability for existing and developing industrial, commercial, and retail business to promote the development of a healthy and varied commercial sector. Encourage development within existing business districts and the location of businesses within appropriate areas of the community to reduce nuisance factors (noise, smoke) and to provide a safe atmosphere.
  2. Annex property when it is financially feasible and when it can accommodate positive business development or increase the availability of housing that meets the needs of residents.
  3. Maintain representation on local and regional economic development organizations to promote and encourage the economic vitality of the City of Nezperce.
  4. **Community Design & The Business District**

**Goal 4:** Ensure the preservation of an efficient and aesthetically pleasing arrangement of compatible land resource while preserving and enhancing the visual appearance and unique character of the City of Nezperce.

* + 1. Make favorable development decisions when projects or outcomes will be consistent with

the community’s design and character.

* + 1. Maintain an attractive, pedestrian friendly downtown corridor where people want to shop.
    2. Encourage clean-up and maintenance of lots in accordance with existing City ordinances.
  1. **Public Services and Facilities**

**Goal 5:** Provide and support a system of public services, utilities, and facilities that meet the existing needs and anticipated growth needs of the citizens and businesses of the City of Nezperce.

* + 1. Maintain and improve the city’s “built” infrastructure based on sound design and financially plan for replacement and development.
    2. Ensure appropriate levels of staffing and/or expertise and equipment for all city managed services based on community need and availability of city resources.
    3. Budget and plan for mentoring and training of new staff to replace retiring staff.
    4. Support the development, maintenance, and expansion of public services provided by non-

city government entities that meet the needs of the city’s residents.

* 1. **School Facilities and Transportation**

**Goal 6:** Support an educational system that meets the needs of current and future students and residents.

* + 1. Support the attraction and retention of quality educators through programs such as the library.
    2. Provide safe routes to schools.
    3. Support the School District in their efforts to provide quality educational programming for every resident.
  1. **Historical Resources and Special Sites**

**Goal 7:** Maintain and preserve areas of interest in our community, whether for lessons in education and historical preservation or to maintain a sense of community.

* + 1. Maintain the museum and historical sites that are the responsibility of the City.
    2. Promote and support the preservation of historical buildings or sites that are privately owned or owned by another government entity that are within the city limits.
    3. Continue to support efforts of Nezperce City Library and the Museum in educating and providing opportunities for Nezperce visitors and residents
  1. **Housing**

**Goal 8:** Support efforts to provide an adequate housing supply to meet the needs of and protect the health and welfare of Nezperce residents.

* + 1. Encourage private companies and homeowners to maintain their homes and property.
    2. Promote or support the development of housing that meets the demographics of the city and allows people an opportunity to live and work in the same community or to live and work in a neighboring community.
    3. Improve city-owned sidewalks and increase the number of sidewalks when financially feasible.
    4. Continue to comply with the Fair Housing Act, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Acts, and State of Idaho fair housing laws through passage of applicable resolutions, proclamations, and ordinances.
    5. Ensure that agricultural uses, including the keeping of animals in town, be subject to standards that will protect the health and maintain the residential character of the community.
    6. Protect public safety in housing through support of rigorous enforcement of building codes and setbacks.
  1. **Parks and Recreation**

**Goal 9:** Provide park facilities and recreation programs that provide open space and recreational opportunities in neighborhoods that serve many ages and interests.

* + 1. Maintain and develop city parks and programs to improve safety, expand recreational opportunities, and/or increase access using available resources.
    2. Collaborate with others to improve the city’s park system or to increase recreational

program offerings.

* + 1. Encourage and support the development and promotion of recreation and tourism industries in local area.
  1. **Transportation**

**Goal 10:** Provide or support adequate, safe and efficient transportation infrastructure for residents and businesses.

* + 1. Develop streets and maintain and repair existing streets as prioritized in the City’s Transportation Plan and in a manner that meets City standards for alignment, construction, and grading.
    2. Support existing and developing private enterprises that provide for improved freight and/or people transportation services.
    3. Support the maintenance and improvements to the State Highways.
    4. Address safety issues when identified.
    5. Continue to ensure that city rights-of-way are kept free from encroachment. Educate and enforce when necessary the need for right-of-way to be kept free from parked vehicles.
    6. Continue to seek funding opportunities possible for paving or chip sealing of city streets. networks to serve the needs of the city, businesses, and residents.
  1. **Airport**

**Goal 11:** Develop and maintain the airport to fit the needs of the community.

* + 1. Meet all State of Idaho VFF requirement and as many FAA-A-1 design standards as economically feasible.
    2. Develop based on highest priority uses.
  1. **Natural Resources & Agriculture**

**Goal 12:** Utilize our natural resources while maintaining their community value and considering the safety of our residents.

* + 1. Protect the quantity and quality of the city’s water source through effective management of the city’s watershed.
    2. Plant, replace, and manage the vegetation on city property using trees and shrubs that are suited for their application and that can be effectively grown in the climate. Promote the same on private property.
    3. Seek to maintain the natural terrain whenever possible.
    4. The direct, indirect, and cumulative effect of development and planning decisions on natural resources within the community should be considered as a part of all land use and development decisions
    5. Protect the quantity and quality of the city’s water source through effective management of the city’s watershed.
  1. **Hazards and Hazardous Areas**

**Goal 13:** Protect human life, health, and property from the impact of natural and manmade hazards by identifying hazardous areas and minimizing losses from developing as a result of them.

* + 1. Minimize the potential threat of manmade hazards by restricting development or by finding alternate solutions in areas where a known hazard could have a negative impact on city residents.
    2. Support the implementation of strategies outlined in Lewis County’s All Hazard Mitigation

Plan.

* 1. **Land Use**

**Goal 14:** Achieve and maintain the highest and best use of land for the betterment of the total community through the use of all regulatory powers granted by the state and community.

* + 1. Maintain and periodically update a land use map where zones reflect the existing and future demands of the community and the impact of change on city infrastructure.
    2. Evaluate and consider the effect of proposed land use changes or annexations based on the Smart Growth principles adopted by the City (Community Vision Section).
    3. Harmonize new growth and development with existing land uses. Sewer development should be sensitive to the directions indicated in the future land use map.
    4. Be cognizant of agricultural land preservation in all new land uses.
    5. Give immediate consideration of immediate planning and financing of new high zone facilities.
    6. New growth and development should maximize the opportunity to harmonize with existing land uses and take into consideration the sustainability of and impact to city utilities and services.

**Nezperce Comprehensive Plan - Action Plan**

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| **Topic** | **Action Item** | **ACTION TYPE** | **PRIORITY** | **PARTY RESPONSIBLE** | **DATE OF COMPLETION** |
| **Property Rights** | Maintain a balance between community and individual rights as land use ordinances are written, adopted, and enforced. | Regulatory | High | City Council | Ongoing |
| **Population and Growth** | Initiate and work with the economic development community, business community, and the school district to improve childcare/afterschool services and options. | Non-regulatory | High | City Council/Ida- Lew/CEDA | 2025 |
| **The Economy** | Support the development of improved broadband (internet and cell services) within the City of Nezperce through cooperative agreements and the pursuit of grants. | Non-regulatory | High | City Council/Ida- Lew/CEDA/Service Providers/County | Ongoing |
| **The Economy** | Work with service providers to maintain and improve the business climate, connect businesses to needed business services, and market the City of Nezperce to attract new businesses and to existing businesses expand. | Non-regulatory | High | City Council/City Staff/Ida- Lew/CEDA/businesses | Ongoing |
| **The Economy** | Support business development with a high priority to businesses that provide living wage jobs. | Non-regulatory | High | City Council/City Staff/Ida- Lew/CEDA/businesses | Ongoing |
| **The Economy** | Develop and/or maintain reasonable tax and license structure to maintain and attract businesses. | Regulatory | High | City Council | Ongoing |
| **The Economy** | Work with economic development, businesses, and community to address the community needs for auto services to include: gas station/convenience store, auto parts, auto repair, and tires. | Non-regulatory | Medium | City Council/Ida- Lew/CEDA/Businesses | 2025 |
| **Community Design and the Business District** | Work with businesses to maintain and improve the aesthetics, accessibility, and viability of the business district (clean up, painting, business district seasonal flags, tables, parking options, etc.) | Non-regulatory | Medium | City Council/Businesses | Ongoing |

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| **Topic** | **Action Item** | **ACTION TYPE** | **PRIORITY** | **PARTY RESPONSIBLE** | **DATE OF COMPLETION** |
| **Community Design and the Business District** | Work with business community to remove old building and renovate/upgrade existing buildings. | Non-regulatory | High | City Council/Businesses | 2028 |
| **Public Services and Facilities** | Upgrade the city water system to include replacing city pumps and the SCADA electronic control system. | Regulatory | High | City Council/City Staff | 2022/2023 |
| **Public Services and Facilities** | Complete kitchen and interior of the northside of the emergency services/city hall building. | Non-regulatory | Medium | City Council/City Staff | 2028 |
| **Public Services and Facilities** | Upgrade county fair buildings. | Non-regulatory | Medium | County with City Support | 2030 |
| **Public Services and Facilities** | Upgrade wastewater system and old collection pipes to reduce leakage. | Regulatory/Non- regulatory | High | City Council/City Staff | 2023 |
| **Public Services and Facilities** | Inventory, clean, inspect, and replace deficient storm water culverts. | Non-regulatory | Medium | City Council/City Staff | Ongoing |
| **Public Services and Facilities** | Address law enforcement personnel, funding, and service coverage shortages. | Regulatory | High | City Council/County | 2024 |
| **Public Services and Facilities** | Replace outdate fire service equipment such as out-of-date air pack bottles and aging firehoses and turnouts. | Regulator/Non- regulatory | High | Fire Department/City Council | 2024 |
| **Public Services and Facilities** | Retain and replace emergency service volunteers (fire, EMTs). | Non-regulatory | High | EMS/City Council | Ongoing |

**Nezperce Comprehensive Plan - Action Plan**

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| **Topic** | **Action Item** | **ACTION TYPE** | **PRIORITY** | **PARTY RESPONSIBLE** | **DATE OF COMPLETION** |
| **Public Services and Facilities** | Replace the ambulance and seeking cardia monitoring equipment. | Non-regulatory | High | EMS/City Council | 2024 |
| **Public Services and Facilities** | Identify and create library programs to better meet community needs and interests. | Non-regulatory | Medium | Library/City Council Support | Ongoing |
| **Public Services and Facilities** | Upgrade the Senior Citizens Center so that it is ADA compliant on all levels. | Regulatory/Non- regulatory | High | Nezperce Senior Citizens/City Council support | 2027 |
| **Public Services and Facilities** | Find operational revenue sources for the Senior Citizens Center. | Non-regulatory | Medium | Nezperce Senior Citizens/City Council support | Ongoing |
| **Public Services and Facilities** | Renovate the interior of the American Legion Hall. | Non-regulatory | Low | American Legion/City Council Support | 2027 |
| **Public Services and Facilities** | Support service providers to make medical and pharmaceutical services more accessible to Nezperce Residents. | Non-regulatory | Medium | City Council/St. Mary's Health/pharmaceutical providers | 2027 |
| **School Facilities and Transportation** | Plan and construct second, auxiliary gym. | Non-regulatory | High | School District | Ongoing |
| **School Facilities and Transportation** | Hire and maintain school staff. | Non-regulatory | Low | School District | Ongoing |
| **School Facilities and Transportation** | Plan for the replacement of the existing Gym. | Non-regulatory | High | School District | Ongoing |

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| **Topic** | **Action Item** | **ACTION TYPE** | **PRIORITY** | **PARTY RESPONSIBLE** | **DATE OF COMPLETION** |
| **School Facilities and Transportation** | Plan for the replacement of the two schools. | Non-regulatory | Low | School District | Ongoing |
| **School Facilities and Transportation** | Expand safe routes to schools program. | Non-regulatory | Medium | City Council/School District | Ongoing |
| **Historical Resources and Special Sites** | Maintain historical and commemorative sites within the City of Nezperce. | Non-regulatory | Medium | Nezperce Historical Society/Lewis County Historical Society | Ongoing |
| **Historical Resources and Special Sites** | Support when possible the Nezperce Historical Society and the Lewis County Historical Society in their efforts to preserve Nezperce history and heritage. | Non-regulatory | Medium | City Council/Nezperce Hisotrical Society/Lewis County Historical Society | Ongoing |
| **Housing** | Work with the community and service providers to analyze senior housing needs and implement a plan to improve senior housing options in Nezperce. | Non-regulatory | High | City Council/Ida- Lew/CEDA | 2025 |
| **Housing** | Work with the community and service providers to analyze workforce home needs in the community and implement a plan to improve accessibility to affordable housing options within the City of Nezperce. | Non-regulatory | High | City Council/Ida- Lew/CEDA | 2025 |
| **Housing** | Seek ways to maintain or increase land use for housing options. | Regulatory | High | City Council | Ongoing |
| **Parks and Recreation** | Support community services providers to expanding youth program activities and senior program activities. | Non-regulatory | Medium | City Council/City Staff, School District, Library, American Legion | Ongoing |
| **Parks and Recreation** | Maintain and develop city parks. | Non-regulatory | High | City Council/City Staff | Ongoing |

**Nezperce Comprehensive Plan - Action Plan**

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| **Topic** | **Action Item** | **ACTION TYPE** | **PRIORITY** | **PARTY RESPONSIBLE** | **DATE OF COMPLETION** |
| **Parks and Recreation** | Support taxing districts and community organizations in the development and maintenance of facilities and services that benefit the citizens of Nezperce. | Non-regulatory | Medium | City Council | Ongoing |
| **Transportation** | Work with the community, the economic development community, and transportation providers to improve public transportation access within the City of Nezperce and to needed services in the region. | Non-regulatory | Medium | City Council/Prairie Transportation/Ida- Lew/other providers | 2025 |
| **Transportation** | Implement the City of Nezperce Transportation Plan | Non-regulatory | High | City Council | Ongoing |
| **Airport** | Complete helipad. | Non-regulatory | High | City Council | 2023 |
| **Airport** | Construct and develop a management system for a hospitality room with restrooms. | Non-regulatory | Medium | City Council | 2029 |
| **Airport** | Work with pilots and find a method to reduce noise at the airport. | Non-regulatory | Medium | City Councl | 2024 |
| **Airport** | Implement the Airport Plan and acquire land, widen the runway to 50 feet, create turn-around at north runway, and add displace threshold and standard runway striping. | Non-regulatory | High | City Councl | 2023 |
| **Airport** | Maintain pavement, markings, and striping. | Non-regulatory | High | City Council | Ongoing |
| **Airport** | Implement the Airport Plan and acquire 30 acres of land to expand the airport. | Non-regulatory | Medium | City Council | 2028 |

**Nezperce Comprehensive Plan - Action Plan**

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| **Topic** | **Action Item** | **ACTION TYPE** | **PRIORITY** | **PARTY RESPONSIBLE** | **DATE OF COMPLETION** |
| **Airport** | Implement the Airport Plan and develop the runway to 40 feet by 3100 feet with a hangar area, tie-down area, and gravel access road. | Regulatory | Medium | City Council | 2030 |
| **Natural Resources and Agriculture** | Preserve and protect surrounding agricultural lands when making decisions. | Non-regulatory | High | City Council | Ongoing |
| **Natural Resources and Agriculture** | Maintain and implement the strategies of the Drinking Water Protection Plan. | Regulatory/Non- regulator | High | City Council | Ongoing |
| **Hazards and Hazardous Areas** | Participate and work with Lewis Count to implement the City of Nezperce's All Hazard Mitigation Plan. | Non-regulatory | High | City Council | Ongoing |
| **Hazards and Hazardous Areas** | Protect the health and safety of Nezperce citizens by restricting development near known hazards. | Regulatory | High | City Council | Ongoing |
| **Land Use** | Plan and maintain a balance of land use to meet the needs of the Nezperce community to ensure space for industrial and business development as well as housing. | Regulatory | High | City Council | 2024 |
| **Land Use** | Seek legal counsel and develop a land use map for the City of Nezperce. | Regulatory | High | City Council | 2023 |

# 2019 Nezperce Community Survey Summary

Prior to commencing the planning meetings for the development of the Nezperce Comprehensive Land use plan, the City of Nezperce conducted a community survey posing five questions on the citizen’s experience of the community as well as their hopes and dreams for the future. They had 35 respondents. The results of the survey were used as a guide to the development of the plan.

#### What do I love or really like about Nezperce?

Sense of community, friendly and caring, school, small town atmosphere, quiet, attractive and well kept, safe, community activities, nice parks and pool, large lots, walkability.

#### What would I change?

More teen and adult activities (fitness center, gym), replace high school football, reduce city government intervention and less taxes, more enforcement (speed limits, property clean up, dogs, residential protection, foliage trimming for better viewing around corners), more walkability (more sidewalks, bike and walking paths, crosswalks, paint on corners), more weed control, regular plowing in the winter months and ice removal, more housing, less taxes, more businesses and job opportunities, regularly scheduled doctor at the clinic and a pharmacy, TV cable services, public transit (to Lewiston for appts), paid EMS.

#### What is my BIG idea to make Nezperce a better place to live?

Walking and bike paths; revitalization of teen activities (tennis & basketball courts); fitness center or second gym; low income apartments, more housing, assisted living, and elder housing; more business and restaurants; community clean up (houses, junk); updated city map; wading pool splash pad, covered pool; paid EMS; composting facility; more meals for elders.

#### What do I love or really like about Nezperce?

* 1. Sense of community and family to work together to support the school and town events, and to champion the successes and assess the needs.
  2. Just about everything! Really beautiful town, good neighbors, great school. People who care about own town and keep working together to make it better in every way, and the best library anywhere.
  3. It's a small town in Idaho, not California.
  4. It is quiet.
  5. The community atmosphere, small town niceties.
  6. I love how the community puts together to get things done.
  7. Quiet, well-kept community. Peaceful. Small town flavor, which is appealing to me. People treat each other with respect. Children walking home from school together, unafraid. What small towns used to be- and still need to be.
  8. Great school/ very helpful and skilled city workers/ many activities for such a small town- library, youth sports, fair, prairie days, some well-kept public facilities, flowers,

Lions Park, benches, very active and supportive Lions Club, this town runs on volunteers- great people.

* 1. The people are friendly and caring. The town always looks neat and clean. Residents of the community are supportive of the school and all community projects activities.
  2. Born and raised here - love Nezperce.
  3. The citizens and the "flow" of the town. Oak St. seems to stay active unlike some other small towns where you never see the citizens if you were a traveler or just passing through.
  4. A safe, quiet, beautiful town. Superb city maintenance and beautiful flowers.
  5. People care about each other.
  6. How clean the city and how the people take care of others.
  7. The people are friendly. Most of the people help their property nice and I have lived here since 1953.
  8. We love the small-town atmosphere and friendly people. Used to know all but only about half the people now. I think Nezperce has a great school and education.
  9. Friendliness and helpfulness of residents. Prairie Day and county fair.
  10. It's friendly but miss business or more shop's- stores keep a doctor more than once a week. Very good school system and good choice of churches that are active. Good grocery store too.
  11. The care taken to keep our downtown nice. The sense of community. Our school
  12. Clean community. Nice parks and pool. Off the main highways to other towns. Positive attitude of city employees and other community members.
  13. Small town, great people.
  14. Quiet/peaceful/safe. City works very hard to keep city property clean. Plenty of parking/no weird or constraining rules. Library is active for kids’ programs. Good because parents are not engaged as they should be.
  15. Clean town.
  16. Quiet at nights. Pretty and clean. Can walk anywhere and dogs not bother me. P.O. store, bank, courthouse all within walking distance. Always an event going within 50 miles.
  17. How green the town is in the spring. How friendly most people are.
  18. Large city lots, quietness, safe, friendly, and people care. The school is organized and cares about children.

aa. Nezperce is a clean, pleasant, friendly town. Our EMS and fire crew outstanding, school to be proud of, and clean well-maintained parks. Thank you City guys, volunteers and school administration.

bb. Space and nature- independence and community.

cc. It's a small community and the people and really nice

dd. The quiet and solitude. The friendliness of the residents. " The only store", which is so warm and friendly to everyone and goes above and beyond to accommodate.

ee. The quiet, calm and healthy beauty of the small community. The school is great, pool and parks are very user friendly as is the library and museum.

ff. Small town well kept, I feel safe.

gg. The place, the friendliness, the caring, the volunteerism. hh. a quiet friendly community.

ii. Clean and well maintained. Wonderful school district. Quiet and no crime. Nice parks. Strong civic groups and healthy churches.

#### What would I change?

* 1. Have proactive activities for teens and adults.
  2. I would end football in out school and replace it with another sport. If not then, I would invest in the best helmets to protect our kids from brain damage.
  3. Get a city hall that doesn't think their job is to spend money and make up rules and regulations on how the citizens should live their daily lives.
  4. Nothing.
  5. Enforcing 25 mph speed limits. I happen to live on the bike riding hill, but cars and trucks roar up this hill 40-50mph. Address people who take their dogs out at night.
  6. I wish there was a walking path, bike path.
  7. Not much, as far as I know now.
  8. 1)We have allowed some citizens to make their yards a disgrace to our community. What are the ordinances on broken down vehicles, RVs, trash, etc. in yards? Who is responsible for enforcing these? Do we need new ordinances or a new enforcement officers? 2) During the winter, the city streets are not plowed regularly; this needs to be corrected specifically neighborhood streets. Need more attention from a plow.
  9. We need more recreational/ fitness opportunities for adults. A second gym or auxiliary gym would be welcome. A fitness center would be great.
  10. Need a crosswalk from school properties across to 1st street, with a sign at North entrance of town stating "crosswalk ahead."
  11. A few decrepit properties. City zoning is needed to protect residential areas.
  12. Several lots in town need to be cleaned up. Junk removed, weeds sprayed, moved regularly. If the property owner will not do it the city actively needs to enforce or change the laws so that these properties cannot de-value the ones around them.
  13. More housing- more jobs, less taxes.
  14. A while back they talked about walking path for the elderly- I think that would be nice. Otherwise nothing.
  15. Paint yellow curbs around corners.
  16. Tax rate is exorbitant for rural community. Bring in businesses- pharmacy, resident doctor, another restaurant, and bar, gift shop, dress shop. Stop airlines roaring

overhead before 6am. More weed control of city and private property. Enforce leash law- limit the # of pets per home including cats.

* 1. Enforce all the laws know matter who it is that's breaking them. We all pay taxes. Lets keep it clean and be proud of what we have and thankful for our friendly little city.
  2. While majority of people in Nezperce are caring, respectful people, there is a percentage that are not and should be dealt with. There are people in town that disrespect their neighbors and community by allowing their years to resemble junk yards and garbage dumps. I would design new, strict rules and ordinances, and strictly enforce them.
  3. Winter snow plowing needs improved. Often main roads into and through town aren't even plowed by 8 am.
  4. Do not change anything! No: Urban renewal agency No: Judicial affirmation for bond levies
  5. Zoning on oak street. Commercial only-the apartments and residential environment creates a low budget or ghetto atmosphere (only on the blocks between 6th and 4th). The middle two blocks look trashy. Promote parenting, parents need to be more engaged with their children.
  6. More sidewalks, walking and bike path, get stuff, cars, junk off city rights of way alleys, Repair/replace sidewalks.
  7. Get people to clean up junk around their house. Abandoned cars, trailer, etc. Clean up the creek that runs through town. Volunteer area city wide sponsored dinner.
  8. Nothing.
  9. Nothing.
  10. I regularly scheduled doctor at clinic again would be nice. Weed control and tidy yard encourage.

aa. Build on what’s good in our community to make things even better. Promote what we have instead of trying to bring in more competition.

bb. It would be nice to have cable for TV etc.

cc. On some corners, bushes block good viewing and I have several times been narrowly missed by those not heeding "yield" signals. Perhaps the school's fields could be used for some of the summer sports to alleviate the overcrowding sometimes.

dd. More medical services for families and the elderly. Transportation to Lewiston for Doctor appointments. Shopping and entertainment for the elderly.

ee. Dogs barking! more businesses, clean up nasty houses in town. ff. A paid ambulance employee.

gg. Nothing.

hh. Safety issue during winter months on north side of library/community building... icy sidewalks and overhead icicles.

ii. Construct a walking/running/biking path around the city limits, along the old neighborhood along one of the highways.

jj. A pharmacy and foundry.

kk. Make the city workers come with their pants on, so we can at least get the idea they are doing something. This is not a country club.

#### What is my BIG idea to make Nezperce a better place to live?

* 1. A walking, bike path
  2. Being new to the area, I have no big ideas. I see this place as kind of a refuge from the ills of modern society. I grew up around logging trucks, sawmills, and small towns. Best place to be.
     1. We have great parks and activities for young children but not much for teens. The basketball/ tennis court area needs to be revived. We have heard that the teens do not play there because the hoops and nets are old and do not function- ball gets stuck, double hoop makes it impossible to score a goal Do we have tennis nets? Let’s make this one "teen friendly" area of our town a place that teens want to use.
  3. We need low income apartments for families. We need a second gym and fitness center. Covered swimming pool. Another small business or two to employ more workers. A restaurant that is open more hours.
  4. Clean up the town "ole" run down empty houses- one that have a lot of old cars, campers, and junk outside of homes.
  5. A facility for the elders of our community to be able to live at and be cared for so that they do not have to leave familiar surroundings or familiar faces.
  6. An updated city map which includes names of residents would help us stay better acquainted with one another.
  7. The fitness room in the new city hall needs to be available to all residents since it was paid for by tax dollars.
  8. More available housing, more jobs, more people.
  9. Nothing.
  10. Enforce the laws about cleaning up the houses and yards and lots around Nezperce.
  11. Make residents clean up lots; we have too many junky places.
  12. Make junky places clean the junk out, or city will do it and charge the home owner for doing the job. If things are on a lot of residential lot make whoever move and clean up the lot- for example: cars, machinery, scrap junk etc. Make Nezperce be a neat town again.
      1. We need a crackdown on nuisances. We need to limit the amount of junk/ animals/cars/noise, etc., that we let people in our community have. 2) More for teenagers to keep them in town, movie nights, concerts, activities, etc. Keep them from wanting to go to Grangeville, Orofino, Kamiah etc.
  13. Adding a wading pool and/or splash pad area to swimming pool. Finding a way to pay at least 1 or 2 persons to work in ambulance- EMT- Fire full time.
  14. Keep pushing back on regulation from EPA
  15. Clean up middle to blocks to attract business.
  16. Better snow removed in winter. Library open more in the summer. Movies, popcorn on Fridays or Saturdays in community room. Help get the teen center going and get one for younger kids.
  17. More industry.
  18. None.
  19. Give people a safe, comfortable place to walk.
  20. I like it the way it is.
  21. Wish I had one! I'll keep thinking somebody buy the hotel and do a better job of maintaining and promoting it.
  22. I would like to see meals for "shut-ins" several times a week on days when there is no senior meals. More assistance for the elderly to remain in their homes or community.
  23. I like it the way it is.
  24. Need an “assisted Living” housing facility. Composting for lawn waster-grass leaves, tree limbs, etc. so dumpsters and runoff are not full all the time.

#### 4 Open-Ended Response

1. I encourage anyone who is looking for a place to raise a family to give Nezperce a serious consideration.
2. Are they going to fix the washout on St. Johns way before somebody drives into it. Isn't there a city ordinance that the city should keep the grass mowed around city limits (stop and fields) Maybe the no pants crew should get their shorts off the seat of their Toyota and do some work.
3. If I wanted to live in a larger town with noise I would have.
4. Thank you for seeking input.
5. Most of the buildings on Oak St. look old and rundown. Could we help the owners to fix these up? New paint could go a long way maybe we could ask teens and citizens to donate their time to paint, etc.?
6. Keep fixing sidewalks and cleaning up bad looking areas- Nezperce is a great place.
7. Spray dandelions and thistles.
8. Keep a list of people willing to do yard work, maintenance etc.
9. Older folks may need help. Watch and make an offer to help them. You don't need to get paid for being neighborly all the time. Kindness helps!!
10. Clean up concrete mess in front of library. Been there too long. Get businesses on main street! Build another low-income housing for families.
11. I love all the changes that have happened over the last 40 years.
12. The nicest thing about Nezperce are its volunteers; at library, churches, schools, senior center and throughout community.
13. The questionnaire is a good start!
14. Love living here and enjoy the people.
15. One of the great parts is our "first responders"

# 2021 Nezperce Community Survey Results

The City of Nezperce conducted a community survey to get more input as they determined the activities needed on the City’s action plan. The survey was conducted during the months of November and December 2021. Twenty-nine individuals participated in the survey.

Here are the results:

1. **Community Vision:** The City of Nezperce sees Nezperce as "a growing, economically vibrant crossroads community at the heart of the Nezperce Prairie. Nezperce wants to preserve and build upon its agricultural and family heritage with a revitalized downtown and maintain broad-based community involvement." Do you agree with this vision for Nezperce?

Yes, why? 27 respondents

* 1. This is what makes the community so great is agriculture and family
  2. Nezperce can be a shining beacon of small, rural communities and can set the standard
  3. It’s a great place to live and could use a revitalized look to attract young people back

to the town

* 1. This is the heart of Nezperce
  2. I think that sounds great
  3. It would be nice to drive down oak street and see less empty buildings
  4. Downtown could use some fixing
  5. It is growing rapidly
  6. I believe in preserving history with modern technology
  7. I live and work here and want a beautiful successful town
  8. More emphasis on building attracting other manufacturing companies to Nezperce
  9. Keeps our traditional heritage while maintaining growth that is necessary to survive
  10. Nezperce is the county seat and has several employers here
  11. Good planning
  12. That would be an ideal scenario
  13. We have a lot of new growth in our community and our downtown facilities need to be updated so we're able to utilize them
  14. Yes, only because of the teen center
  15. Yes. Necessary for the future of the community
  16. Nezperce needs to grow
  17. It accurately captures the culture and vision of the Nezperce community
  18. We’ve been a crossroads and we’d like to build on our heritage. We aren’t growing,

but we are vibrant and I love this community, place, and people

No, why?

1. We are in the middle of nowhere. Miles to the nearest major highway and very few services.
2. Because the city has done nothing to for the ensure that the youth in the community are mentally and emotionally strong enough to go out into the world, get a good educational to survive. It is all about males in the community. Credit in the community is only given to males or people that grew up in Nezperce.
3. **Population and Growth:** In the past 30 years, the City of Nezperce has seen a significant decrease in the young adult population (ages 25-44) within the community. What are 1 or 2 actions that the City of Nezperce could do to encourage young adults to live in and around the community?
   1. More available housing both private and rental
   2. Better internet sources for young people to work from home
   3. Jobs with comparable pay
   4. Make sure there are small businesses open to make it an attractive place to live- store, bar, restaurants
   5. Housing, quality jobs for both spouses, childcare
   6. Housing
   7. We need available broad band for everyone
   8. Groups for young people would help
   9. Childcare is a huge necessity in this community. If there was a space that a childcare provider could use that was free or low charge to run a daycare that would be huge
   10. Good paying jobs would entice them to return.
   11. Create more jobs
   12. Create employment opportunities
   13. I disagree, I think Nezperce has seen an increase in younger people moving here.
   14. Help to bring in more jobs
   15. Availability of daycare for young children
   16. Affordable housing
   17. We need a day care
   18. Encourage growth in jobs, including online or work from home job growth
   19. Help keep the school and jobs in town
   20. Support more jobs
   21. More businesses and more jobs might help
   22. Childcare and something for youth to do after school are the biggest obstacle for young families.
   23. Foster business growth and infrastructure for housing
   24. One thing is to give educational students positions that they deserve instead of keeping in all in the family and excluded newcomers
   25. Affordable housing
   26. Better housing
   27. Jobs
   28. Low-cost housing
   29. We need to have safe and affordable childcare facilities that is supported by the school district.
   30. May need some affordable starter houses. Not low-income housing but something a young person starting a career can afford
   31. Nice affordable housing
   32. Make sure there is adequate housing
   33. Social settings
   34. More jobs with a living wage
   35. Strong school as that brings them back to raise their kids
   36. A place for elementary age kids to go after school that was supervised
   37. Revitalized downtown
   38. Help to support a childcare facility
   39. Increase in job opportunities
   40. There is no housing available currently
   41. Increase available housing, encourage construction of homes
   42. Market the benefits of the school
   43. Second don't take people's ideas and pass them off as your own.
   44. Continued improvement of broadband to the whole town
   45. More job opportunities
   46. Daycare
   47. Better paying job opportunities.
   48. Housing
   49. Childcare

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| **Ideas:** |  |
| **Affordable housing** | 14 |
| **Internet** | 3 |
| **Living Wage Jobs** | 14 |
| **More businesses** | 3 |
| **childcare/afterschool**  **programs** | 10 |
| **Youth activities** | 3 |
| **Revitalize Downtown** | 1 |
| **Strong School** | 1 |
| **Market the community** | 1 |

1. **Population and Growth:** Seventeen (17%) of the city's population is 65 years and older. The U.S. and State of Idaho percentage for the same population is respectively 13% and

12%. What 1 or 2 actions could the City of Nezperce do to make it easier for the senior population to live in Nezperce?

* 1. We need housing for seniors
  2. Assisted living
  3. More help with their transportation and getting around like a shuttle to senior center or the store or clinic
  4. Delivery of meals
  5. Medical facilities
  6. Available transportation to get them to the doctor
  7. Clinic open 5 days a week
  8. Continue to invest in the senior center and the meal program
  9. Get a pharmacy
  10. Community Volunteer Support
  11. Transportation to medical appointments
  12. Could we offer meals more than 2 days a week?
  13. Indoor Gym fitness workout area
  14. Keep the city rates low because most seniors are on a fixed income.
  15. A care center
  16. More access to medical facilities (rides to appointments, etc.) More senior meals
  17. Shuttle to Dr appts
  18. Keep clearing roads and sidewalks
  19. More health care services
  20. Downtown shopping and a pharmacy
  21. Nursing home-open up more housing
  22. Shuttle service to medical facilities in Lewiston
  23. The facilities that the community uses must be handicapped accessible
  24. More activities
  25. Better managed low income
  26. Grocery delivery
  27. An assisted living facility
  28. Transportation to out of town medical, shopping, etc.
  29. Local delivery services to seniors
  30. Have more resources for seniors at the clinic
  31. Volunteer programs assist with shopping and errands
  32. Paid EMS services?
  33. Keep clinic, increase hours
  34. More senior services and activities
  35. There needs to be senior programming at the library and other institutions
  36. Transportation to Lewiston from Nezperce one day a week
  37. Seniors need indoor facilities for exercise, muscle strength, and therapy after surgeries and others do too.

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| **Ideas:** |  |
| **Senior housing** | 5 |
| **Transportation** | 7 |
| **More frequent meals and meal**  **delivery** | 3 |
| **Better medical service access** | 7 |
| **Investment in Senior Center** | 1 |
| **Pharmacy** | 2 |
| **Community Volunteer Support** | 1 |
| **Keep taxes low** | 1 |
| **Handicap Accessibility in buildings** | 1 |
| **Keep roads and sidewalks clean**  **and clear** | 1 |
| **Downtown shopping** | 1 |
| **More social activities/senior**  **programming/gym** | 5 |
| **Local delivery service** | 3 |

1. **The Economy:** Because the City of Nezperce is the county seat, the community has a high percentage of its employment in public administration (county government, city government, federal agencies, state agencies, etc.).What 1 or 2 actions could the City of Nezperce take to encourage private businesses to locate and expand within the City of Nezperce?
   1. Offer no taxes for 1st 5 years
   2. Incentives on new building fees or water sewer garbage fees
   3. Need more housing
   4. Space for industrial growth
   5. Encourage tourism, advertise the community
   6. Broad band
   7. Lower taxes for business owners
   8. I would like to personally sit down and discuss privately with someone of decision making
   9. Maybe having more business locations to rent
   10. Have building space for small businesses to rent
   11. Increase community events that bring in people
   12. People won't sell their land for companies to build on
   13. Increase and improve internet accessibility
   14. Keep low rates on building fees, sewer, and water
   15. Encourage businesses to come to Nezperce make places available to them
   16. We need to promote the good aspects of the community to encourage people to live here (Schools, recreational opportunities for kids, etc.)
   17. Building updates, office space
   18. Business licenses for only bars, maybe relook at that issue
   19. You can't bring in people for new businesses without access to housing
   20. Tax incentives
   21. Advertise buildings more
   22. Tax exemptions
   23. A "shop Nezperce" marketing campaign that continues
   24. Keep their costs low
   25. Broad band
   26. Develop incubator areas to grow and support small internet-based businesses
   27. Clean up Main Street (Oak), cement over the rock piles, get diagonal parking back
   28. Discount water sewer garbage
   29. Educate and advertise, bring in knowledgeable people through programs at the library to inspire possibilities and entrepreneurship and development of business

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| **Ideas:** |  |
| **Tax incentives** | 4 |
| **More housing** | 2 |
| **Space for industrial growth and small**  **businesses** | 6 |
| **Market community (tourism)** | 4 |
| **Broadband** | 3 |
| **Increased community events** | 1 |
| **Keep building licenses and fees (water and**  **sewer) low** | 5 |
| **Show "Nezperce" campaign** | 1 |
| **Clean up downtown** | 1 |
| **Education to inspire entrepreneurs** | 1 |

1. **The Economy:** What 1 to 3 types of businesses or services are needed within the City of Nezperce that do not currently exist?
   1. Drug store
   2. Predictable stable daycare for kids
   3. Coffee shop/bakery
   4. Car repair
   5. Public potties
   6. Licensed childcare facility
   7. Medical Clinic open more days a week
   8. Pharmacy
   9. Coffee shop/ bakery
   10. Childcare
   11. Daycare
   12. Family cafe
   13. More manufacturing
   14. Gym/workout facilities
   15. Gym
   16. Restaurants, clothing store
   17. Dentist/ortho appts in town occasionally
   18. Convenience store/with gas station
   19. More private employers but it takes housing to attract people
   20. An all around store like Target or Walmart
   21. Auto repair shop
   22. Retirement home
   23. We need more restaurants.
   24. Coffee shop
   25. Fuel station with services
   26. Drugstore
   27. Coffee shop
   28. Service station
   29. Office supplies/ professional services
   30. Pharmacy drop off
   31. Auto parts store
   32. Daycare
   33. Salon
   34. Additional gym
   35. Gas station
   36. Day care
   37. Daycare
   38. Another eatery
   39. Bar, gas station
   40. Daycare
   41. Gas station, repair shop
   42. A pharmacy
   43. Better gas station
   44. State prison
   45. We need a laundromat.
   46. Vehicle repair, oil change, carwash
   47. Coffee shop
   48. Need another hair/nail salon
   49. Laundry mat
   50. Tire repair
   51. Fitness center
   52. Car wash
   53. After school program
   54. Laundromat
   55. Senior citizen housing
   56. Dentist
   57. Auto shop, fuel for planes
   58. Auto mechanic for minor work
   59. A service station with snacks, smokes, beer
   60. Drugstore
   61. We need adequate and reliable broadband services
   62. Restaurant/coffee shop
   63. Supervised, exercise facility

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| **Ideas:** |  |
| **Drugstore** | 1 |
| **Daycare/After school program** | 9 |
| **Coffee shop/bakery** | 6 |
| **Car repair/auto parts/tire repair** | 8 |
| **Public restrooms** | 1 |
| **More access to medical clinic** | 1 |
| **Pharmacy** | 5 |
| **Family restaurant** | 5 |
| **More manufacturing** | 1 |
| **Workout gym** | 5 |
| **Clothing store** | 2 |
| **Dentist/ortho services (occasional)** | 2 |
| **Senior housing** | 2 |
| **Office supplies** | 1 |
| **Professional services** | 1 |
| **Convenience store with gas station** | 7 |
| **Salon** | 2 |
| **Bar** | 1 |
| **Correctional facility** | 1 |
| **Laundromat** | 3 |
| **Aviation fuel** | 1 |
| **Adequate broadband** | 1 |
| **Car wash** | 1 |

1. **Community Design and Business District:** The City of Nezperce Business District is primarily a three-block area with most commercial activity occurring along Idaho State Highway 64 (4th Avenue) and Idaho State Highway 162 (Oak Street). What 1 or 2 actions could the City of Nezperce take to encourage development in the business district?
   1. Remove or remodel old buildings not in use to give space for new businesses
   2. Ask landowners to consider selling land to a business
   3. Lower rent in empty buildings
   4. Promote this town
   5. Create more parking so Oak Street doesn’t seem so small by bell equipment
   6. Maybe removing the park across from the store & adding some parking lots
   7. Make the downtown more aesthetically pleasing
   8. Non-business buildings could look better on the outside
   9. Advertise
   10. Low-cost rent to incubate small business
   11. There is not a lot of room there. But, there is other places
   12. Expand
   13. Get rid of awnings held up by 2x4, that is danger and unsightly
   14. Put out feelers for other Idaho businesses to come here
   15. Sell Eller building
   16. Affordable lease terms
   17. Possibly incentives for current businesses to remodel or renovate old buildings
   18. Keep taxes low
   19. Dependable eating hours
   20. Take residential apartments from downtown and relocate them
   21. Renovate
   22. Cement over the rock piles next to sidewalks, some businesses have done this on their own. This is a liability for the city
   23. Ask local people who have online businesses if they want to open a store front
   24. Shop "Nezperce" and other marketing campaigns around big events
   25. Plan for inviting entities whose business it is to encourage development. Maybe speakers and educators from colleges.

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| **Ideas:** |  |
| **Remove and remodel old building.** | 1 |
| **Ask landowners on vacate lots if they need help**  **selling the land.** | 2 |
| **Encourage affordable lease terms on empty**  **buildings** | 3 |
| **Market the community.** | 4 |
| **Create more parking on Oak Street near Bell Equipment.** | 2 |
| **Make the downtown more attractive (vacant buildings, awnings held up by 2x4, cement rock piles,etc.)** | 5 |
| **Expand business district** | 2 |
| **Incentivize business to remodel/renovate** | 1 |
| **Keep taxes low.** | 1 |
| **Work with businesses to have consistent hours of**  **operation.** | 1 |

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| **Educate community through speakers & educators**  **on business development** | 1 |
| **Relocate residential apartments from downtown.** | 1 |
| **Work with small online businesses to open store**  **fronts.** | 1 |

1. **Community Design and Business District:** What 1 or 2 actions could the City of Nezperce take to improve the atmosphere of the business district?
   1. Remove some of the old buildings not in use to give area for new business construction
   2. Downtown needs renovation to older buildings
   3. We have recently updated the downtown area
   4. Clean up some of the abandoned buildings
   5. Spruce up the empty buildings to make more inviting
   6. Restore the old buildings
   7. Nothing, it looks nice!
   8. Move the apartments
   9. Cleanup a few of the buildings on main street or demolish completely
   10. Building renovations and improvements
   11. Have the area cleaned up.
   12. Clean it up
   13. Clean streets more frequently.
   14. Get rid of the rock areas on the main street sidewalks
   15. Paint it and fix store fronts
   16. Flags down Mainstreet that change with the seasons and events.
   17. Fix the “topless bar” by coach’s
   18. The legion hall needs to be sold to the city or someone else
   19. Internet
   20. Paint and remodel
   21. Eliminate business licensing,
   22. Update the face of the buildings
   23. Put more tables out
   24. Appreciate tables and benches
   25. Rewards or incentives or monetary help for businesses that could use a facelift

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| **Ideas:** |  |
| **Remove vacant buildings and clean up or renovate older buildings** | 11 |
| **Move apartments** | 1 |
| **Clean streets** | 1 |
| **Get rid of rocks on main street sidewalks** | 1 |
| **Place flags down Mainstreet; change for the seasons** | 1 |
| **Fix the "topless bar" by coach's** | 1 |

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| **Improved internet** | 1 |
| **Eliminate business licenses** | 1 |
| **Sell the American Legion Hall** | 1 |
| **Increase # of tables** | 2 |
| **Incentives for businesses to do a face-lift on their building(s)** | 1 |

1. **Community Design and Business District:** What 1 or 2 actions could be taken to enhance the use of existing commercial buildings in the business district?
   1. Buildings are very old and the ones not in use are either needing large remodel or torn down to start over new
   2. Upgrading older buildings
   3. Update
   4. New paint and clean up the rock strips
   5. Good parking
   6. Watch the rent amount. Its better have someone in the building making some kind of money
   7. Fix them
   8. I would like to discuss this as well in person
   9. Figuring out the old bar Robin Bauer owns
   10. Fix them up so the downtown is more appealing
   11. They need to be fixed up
   12. Internet
   13. Two or three small business could use the same building
   14. Fix up buildings
   15. Bring back diagonal parking. Lewiston has it, why does Nezperce not
   16. The buildings that are vacant need businesses
   17. Allowing multiple businesses to co-locate and set an entrepreneur hub
   18. Tearing down and starting over old buildings
   19. Lower rent on buildings
   20. Remodeling
   21. Keep utility rates reasonable
   22. Paint and revitalize downtown
   23. Replace awnings that need repair
   24. Establish a city “fund” providing for monies, volunteer crews that can paint & repair & clean like a “Habitat for Humanity”

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Ideas:** |  |
| **Old buildings need to be remodeled, renovated or**  **torn down** | 11 |
| **Clean up rock trips** | 1 |
| **Improve parking (diagonal)** | 1 |
| **Keep rent affordable** | 2 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Improved internet** | 1 |
| **Create small business space in the same building** | 2 |
| **Keep utility rates reasonable** | 1 |
| **Paint and revitalize downtown** | 2 |
| **Set up a fund for helping with repairs and upgrades** | 1 |

1. **Public Services and Facilities:** The City of Nezperce and other stakeholders have identified the following needs for public facility and service improvements. Please rank their priority.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Action** | **High** | **Medium** | **Low** | **Do not know** |
| **1** | Complete kitchen and interior of the northside of the emergency services/city hall building. | 3 | 8 | 15 | 4 |
|  |  | 10.00% | 26.67% | 50.00% | 13.33% |
| **2** | Upgrading county fair buildings. | 5 | 14 | 10 | 1 |
|  |  | 16.67% | 46.67% | 33.33% | 3.33% |
| **3** | Upgrade the city water system to include replacing city pumps and the SCADA electronic  control system. | 17 | 11 | 1 | 1 |
|  |  | 56.67% | 36.67% | 3.33% | 3.33% |
| **4** | Upgrade wastewater system and old collection pipes to reduce leakage. | 18 | 5 | 2 | 1 |
|  |  | 69.23% | 19.23% | 7.69% | 3.85% |
| **5** | Inventory, clean, inspect, and replace deficient storm water culverts. | 8 | 13 | 6 | 3 |
|  |  | 26.67% | 43.33% | 20.00% | 10.00% |
| **6** | Address law enforcement personnel, funding, and service coverage  shortages. | 11 | 11 | 6 | 2 |
|  |  | 36.67% | 36.67% | 20.00% | 6.67% |
| **7** | Replace outdate fire service equipment such as out-of-date air pack bottles and aging firehoses and turnouts. | 13 | 11 | 5 | 1 |
|  |  | 43.33% | 36.67% | 16.67% | 3.33% |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **8** | Retaining and replacing emergency service volunteers (fire, EMts). | 25 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
|  |  | 80.65% | 6.45% | 9.68% | 3.23% |
| **9** | Replacing the ambulance and seeking cardia monitoring equipment. | 13 | 10 | 3 | 4 |
|  |  | 43.33% | 33.33% | 10.00% | 13.33% |
| **10** | Identifying and creating library programs to better meet community needs and interests. | 3 | 18 | 7 | 1 |
|  |  | 10.34% | 62.07% | 24.14% | 3.45% |
| **11** | Upgrading the Senior Citizens Center so that it is ADA compliant on all  levels. | 9 | 16 | 5 | 0 |
|  |  | 30.00% | 53.33% | 16.67% | 0.00% |
| **12** | Finding operational revenue sources for the Senior Citizens Center. | 8 | 17 | 4 | 1 |
|  |  | 26.67% | 56.67% | 13.33% | 3.33% |
| **13** | Renovating the interior of the American Legion Hall. | 2 | 9 | 18 | 1 |
|  |  | 6.67% | 30.00% | 60.00% | 3.33% |

1. **School Facilities and Transportation:** Please prioritize the needs of the school district.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Action** | **High** | **Medium** | **Low** | **Do not know** |
| **1** | Construct second,auxiliary gym. | 14 | 10 | 4 | 1 |
|  |  | 48.28% | 34.48% | 13.79% | 3.45% |
| **2** | Replace existing Gym. | 2 | 5 | 21 | 1 |
|  |  | 6.90% | 17.24% | 72.41% | 3.45% |
| **3** | Hire and maintain school staff. | 19 | 8 | 1 | 1 |
|  |  | 65.52% | 27.59% | 3.45% | 3.45% |
| **4** | Plan for the replacement of the two schools. | 3 | 11 | 11 | 4 |
|  |  | 10.34% | 37.93% | 37.93% | 13.79% |

1. **School Facilities and Transportation:** What other actions should be taken by the school district to improve services?
   1. Retain good staff and pay them well
   2. Continue with high level academic opportunity
   3. Stop allowing sick kids at school
   4. Auxiliary gym
   5. Pay the paraprofessionals more to retain them
   6. An additional gym is needed
   7. Increase pays for non-certified staffing, aides, lifeguards etc
   8. Build new gym with preschool and fitness center
   9. We need more kids.
   10. The services provided by the schools are excellent already.
   11. Year around school, kids are behind now, and fall further behind each summer.
   12. More tech education
   13. Update playground equipment
   14. We need more safe routes to schools in the district and other safety measures.
   15. Raise the pay for substitute teachers so the school can have some
   16. On-line classes and study hall year-round, with volunteer/low paid monitors. Staff gym for public use, rather than just those who can get a key.
   17. Update interior of school with paint and new flooring
   18. Could city and school maintain pool and provide for a covered facility for swimming indoors?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Ideas:** |  |
| **Retain staff (pay)** | 4 |
| **Maintain high level academic opportunity** | 1 |
| **Enforce sick leave policy** | 1 |
| **Update auxiliary gym** | 1 |
| **Build new gym** | 2 |
| **Recruit Students** | 1 |
| **Increase technical programming** | 1 |
| **Update playground equipment** | 1 |
| **Create more safe routes to schools** | 1 |
| **Update the school (paint and new flooring)** | 1 |
| **Year-round programming (use of online)** | 2 |
| **Make gyms accessible to public use** | 1 |

1. **Housing:** The housing stock within the City of Nezperce is old. Fifty-four percent (54%) of the homes within the City of Nezperce are built before `960 and very few homes have been constructed since 2014. There are few homes or apartments for lease. What type of housing is needed within the City of Nezperce?

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Action** | **High** | **Medium** | **Low** | **Do not know** |
| **1** | 2-bedroom homses (for purchase) | 8 | 9 | 8 | 3 |
|  |  | 28.57% | 32.14% | 28.57% | 10.71% |
| **2** | 3- or more bedroom homes (for purchase) | 14 | 10 | 3 | 2 |
|  |  | 48.28% | 34.48% | 10.34% | 6.90% |
| **3** | 2-bedroom homes (for lease) | 7 | 10 | 10 | 3 |
|  |  | 23.33% | 33.33% | 33.33% | 10.00% |
| **4** | 3-or more bedroom homes (for lease) | 9 | 8 | 8 | 4 |
|  |  | 31.03% | 27.59% | 27.59% | 13.79% |
| **5** | 1-bedroom apartments (for lease) | 8 | 10 | 7 | 3 |
|  |  | 28.57% | 35.71% | 25.00% | 10.71% |
| **6** | 2-bedroom apartments (for lease) | 11 | 8 | 5 | 4 |
|  |  | 39.29% | 28.57% | 17.86% | 14.29% |
| **7** | 1-bedroom condos (for purchase) | 3 | 6 | 14 | 4 |
|  |  | 11.11% | 22.22% | 51.85% | 14.81% |
| **8** | 2-bedroom condos (for purchase) | 5 | 8 | 10 | 4 |
|  |  | 18.52% | 29.63% | 37.04% | 14.81% |
| **9** | Assisted living facility | 10 | 12 | 3 | 3 |
|  |  | 35.71% | 42.86% | 10.71% | 10.71% |
| **10** | Full care senior-disability | 12 | 5 | 10 | 3 |
|  |  | 40.00% | 16.67% | 33.33% | 10.00% |
| **11** | Mobile home park facility | 4 | 4 | 14 | 7 |
|  |  | 13.79% | 13.79% | 48.28% | 24.14% |

1. **Housing:** If the City of Nezperce worked on housing issues, what type of housing would be the highest priority?
   1. Assisted living and full care facilities.
   2. Affordable starter houses for working people. Not low income
   3. Larger Family homes for sale
   4. For large families, no basements they tend to flood in Nezperce
   5. Family homes 3-4 bedrooms
   6. Single family homes.
   7. 2 bedroom single family units
   8. Rentable housing
   9. Multiple bedrooms for low income
   10. Do NOT develop the farmland!!!!
   11. Rentals
   12. 2 or 3 bedroom apartments for rent
   13. Affordable rentals
   14. Senior citizen and affordable rentals
   15. Single family housing and then apartment rentals
   16. Two-room condos.
   17. Senior housing
   18. Family housing/
   19. Ones that pay taxes and contribute
   20. Open RV park for longer periods and reduce charges, so people can use it. The place is vacant 99% of the time and $30 per night is too high.
   21. 2 and 3 bedroom for rent
   22. Nice apartments for seniors and families.
   23. Assisted
   24. Buy and demolish abandon homes, make lots available for new purchase and new construction.
   25. Getting a developer to building 2 and 3 bedroom apartment complex.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Ideas** |  |
| **Senior housing (assisted/full care)** | 5 |
| **Affordable workforce entry homes** | 1 |
| **Larger family homes (for purchase)** | 4 |
| **Single-family homes** | 4 |
| **2-bedrrom single family homes** | 1 |
| **Houses for rent** | 2 |
| **Do not develop the farmland** | 1 |
| **2-3 bedroom apartments for rent** | 5 |
| **Two-room condos** | 1 |
| **Open RV Park for longer (less per night**  **charge)** | 1 |
| **Demolish abandoned homes** | 1 |

1. **Housing:** What do you see as the greatest barrier to providing appropriate housing for the community?
   1. Some close enough to walk to city services.
   2. Cost
   3. Difficult to build affordable housing
   4. Available good paying Jobs to be able to afford the homes and homes for sale to purchase are both serious roadblocks
   5. Space and infrastructure
   6. There isn't much property available to build on.
   7. Land that is not farm ground
   8. Space
   9. Businesses have to come in before you can put up more housing. If you don’t have business opportunities to attack Residence you will have new empty houses. I’ve seen it happen in other cities that build more housing but don’t attract businesses to come in which would bring people.
   10. Cost of construction
   11. Old places in town cost money to upgrade and someone to own or run the rentals
   12. No affordable rentals
   13. Land available
   14. Cost of construction
   15. Space.
   16. Cost-grants-property
   17. No idea.
   18. Need developed lots with roads, water, sewer available for building
   19. Lack of investment
   20. There is not enough rentals for our young people. They don't want to live with mom and dad so they have to move away if they want to live on their own. If we had apartments, they could work and live in Nezperce.
   21. Money
   22. Cost vs salary
   23. The cost of construction and the lack of land to construct homes on.
   24. Use of space

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Ideas** |  |
| **Cost of construction and upgrades** | 8 |
| **Not enough available wages to afford housing** | 3 |
| **Space and infrastructure** | 9 |
| **Not enough business activity to attract workers to live in**  **Nezperce** | 1 |
| **No people to provide rentals** | 1 |
| **Not affordable** | 2 |

1. **Transportation:** Deficiencies with the City of Nezperce’s road system include turning movements onto or crossing state highways, drainage deficiencies, pavement conditions, poor condition or lack of safe pedestrian infrastructure and cross walks, narrow residential streets, and intersection sight deficiencies. Identify 1 to 3 locations within the City of Nezperce that you see as high priority areas for improving these transportation issues. (Identify street and the issue). Name the Street and explain the corrective action needed.
   1. Oak and highway 162 by grain elevator. The large hedge makes seeing oncoming traffic almost impossible even in a truck. Hedge is ok but needs to be maintained at a much shorter height
   2. Pine Street - New sidewalk, curb and gutter
   3. 5th Ave and Beech junk cars parked on city property
   4. Oak & 4th- It is hard to see when going across 4th. Cars are blocking the view
   5. 4th and pine. Make it more obvious that it is only a 2 way stop. I’ve almost been hit multiple times because people coming down pine don’t see that there is not stop sign on 4th
   6. Sidewalk by softball field
   7. Main Street, stop light.
   8. All streets- pavement upgrades
   9. Hwy by school. Better crosswalk for students
   10. Mowry's Addition has limited access, no place for fire/ambulance/garbage/snow plowing to turn around or access.
   11. Oak and 4th. It needs a four way stop kids can get run over
   12. 123 East Street, cracks in the sidewalk and potholes that are hard on cars.
   13. 2nd Avenue - New sidewalk, curb and gutter
   14. Maple and 6th Junk cars on city property
   15. Oak and 4th. Only allow parallel parking on oak in front of bell equipment or widen the road!
   16. Houses are built on the alley, existing limited access is a liability for the city.
   17. 8th Avenue - needs to be developed between Walnut and Willow, Birch Street extended to 8th Avenue
   18. 4th and Willow. Pave the rest of 4th and put in the Ally way that is supposed to be by 1007 4th Avenue
   19. Keep crosswalks painted, signs that pedestrians have ROW.
   20. Beech, The solar-powered “slow-down” sign is “too late” (not seen) position it is in

now.

* 1. 7th and Oak, move the “turn around” for trucks off of 7th and travel to 5th on larger, paved Maple

1. **Transportation:** Identify the highest priority streets for curb and gutter construction or upgrades.
   1. Maple street
   2. We have all of these culverts and rivers that run through people's yards that sometimes just stagnates or when it reaches a low Point it creates giant deep puddles Like across from St John's
   3. Pine from 4th to 8th
   4. 4th and Willow. Well keeps over flowing and creating excess water in driveways
   5. Anywhere there is mud or water issues
   6. Bridges, they need fixed.
   7. All streets- continue doing what we are doing
   8. Pine - sidewalk
   9. Oak street downtown for curb appeal
   10. 1234 Mainstreet, between C and D Avenue.
   11. Pine street
   12. 2nd Avenue from Oak to Pine
   13. 7-8th by new houses and subdivision-upgrade
   14. Maple -sidewalk
   15. 5th Avenue
   16. 8th from Maple to Beech
   17. Get rid of Trombetta's burned out house
2. **Airport:** The City of Nezperce receives occasional complaints regarding the noise generated at the airport.What is your suggestion(s) for decreasing the impact of airport noise?
   1. Move airport.
   2. Relocate
   3. They'll get used to it... It's seasonal and a part of our community
   4. The airport is a big part of our agricultural industry. Leave it alone
   5. I really don't think this should be an issue. The noise is seasonal and this community is centered around agriculture.
   6. Its seasonal so we must live with it
   7. Speak with the pilots to see if something can be done with the planes.
   8. We need the airport. Can’t make planes quieter. If people don’t like the noise they shouldn’t have moved close to an airport
   9. Nothing, the airport is great & we need it for agriculture, tell them to move house’s!
   10. Nothing- it's business, deal with it!
   11. Live with it, they moved to an agricultural community. Its only a minimum time throughout the year
   12. None
   13. Slats in the fence, move it out of town.
   14. It's not a problem. AG related.
   15. That problem is of low priority. We are a farming community. A functioning airport is a part of what makes farming viable.
   16. Relocate out of town, away from population and school. Ask for voluntary compliance with hours of operation, Sundays, weekends, holidays and school concerts across from airport. One would hope the operators would understand and there would be no need for noise ordinance.
   17. No flying before 6:30
   18. Not allow airplanes to take off during the hours of 9pm to 6am. Unless emergency helicopters
   19. Nothing. Nezperce is an agricultural town, why change it when people know moving to town there is a very used airport
   20. No change
   21. Limit the times for takeoffs and landings
   22. No agricultural flying on Sunday mornings

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Ideas** |  |
| **Relocate** | 3 |
| **Non-issue (people get used to it)** | 13 |
| **Restrict hours for take-off and landing** | 5 |
| **Ask pilots for their ideas** | 1 |
| **Slats in fence** | 1 |

1. **Airport:** What ways can the City of Nezperce improve the facilities or the services at the airport?
   1. Relocate
   2. Continue with its services
   3. The city needs to finish the helipad and complete the widening of the airport in 2022.
   4. Finish the helicopter pad
   5. Never been there. Don’t know
   6. Helipad
   7. Grants, fuel, restroom, helipad
   8. Upgrade the runway
   9. City and state have spent a ton of money on airport. Operators pay only nominal fees for use of airport, raise fees to cover actual costs to city in providing airport, for two businesses.
   10. Tear it down and move it. It is loud and dirty.
   11. We need a hospitality room.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Ideas** |  |
| **Helipad** | 3 |
| **Relocate** | 2 |
| **Continue as is** | 1 |
| **Hospitality room with restroom** | 2 |
| **Fuel** | 1 |
| **Upgrade Runway** | 1 |
| **Raise fees** | 1 |

1. **Other:** What other ways can the City of Nezperce improve the services or facilities with the City of Nezperce?
   1. Community events to bring in revenue
   2. The city needs to plan for strategic growth. Infrastructure improvements to the water SCADA system need to be completed and the wastewater land app project need to be completed.
   3. Pay clerk more
   4. Clean up the Trombetta house, demolish the house on Pine across from the reader board at the school.
   5. I don't think the city has control over most of the items in this survey
   6. A bike and running trail around the city would be nice
   7. Encourage growth
   8. They do a real good job already.
   9. Continue to upgrade what we have.
   10. A service to transport people to Lewiston for medical appts. And shopping and/or to medical facilities.
   11. Bus to Lewiston once a week for seniors and those people with limited transportation
   12. New community center. Combining an aux gym, senior center, legion hall activities, into one multi use facility. Demolish old facilities and sell the empty lots. The 4 Trombetta lots should be big enough.
2. **Other:** Do you have any other thoughts that you would want to share?
   1. We don't have enough people to open more businesses on Oak. Get a big business here and fix a building for a min mall with small shops. They would pay rent to pay for construction.
   2. Everything on this survey is a big money project. This is a farming and retirement population. Money is always tight. More taxes to pay for upgrades means less people her to pay.
   3. The city has made big strides in the last 20 years, we just need to stay the course and tackle capital improvement projects. This is a great community and people want to move here so finding a developer to put in housing would really help the town out.
   4. Finish putting in roads and ally’s that are shown on maps so people can actually have an easement onto their property
   5. Great community!
   6. I'm not sure where the question about the library came from. The City Library has done a more than commendable job providing programs for all ages. All citizens of Nezperce have to do is make use of the facilities and/or suggest programs they would like to see provided.
   7. The reality is with more low-income housing we'll also likely increase needs at the school and the need for other resources in our community. It is a domino effect that we'll need to prepare for.
   8. This has been a clean, safe, pretty town, so let’s keep it that way. I appreciate the Mayor and city Council in their continued efforts. Thanks!
   9. Nezperce has to grow so that our children will want to stay. Need more infrastructure and opportunities for them, like work programs and apartments. Better shopping and business opportunities.
   10. The City of Nezperce does a great job of managing and planning for the city.
   11. A small part of the new-ag education building might be a museum to house existing historical items.

Survey Demographics:

#### 30 responders

* City residents: 70%
* Non-residents: 30%

#### Non-resident using City of Nezperce facilities and services:

10 or 33%

#### Respondents:

* Male (9) 32.14%
* Female(19) 67.86%

**Age:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Age Category** | **Number of Respondents** | **Percentage of Total** |
| **Less than 18 years old** | 0 | 0% |
| **18-30 years old** | 2 | 7.14% |
| **30-45 years old** | 11 | 39.29% |
| **45-60 years old** | 6 | 21.43% |
| **61 years or older** | 9 | 32.14% |