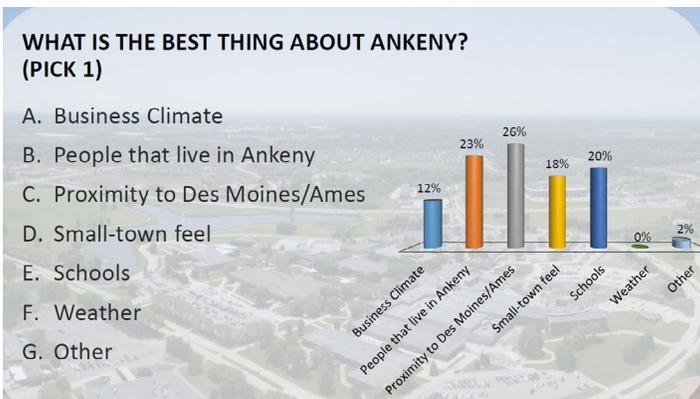


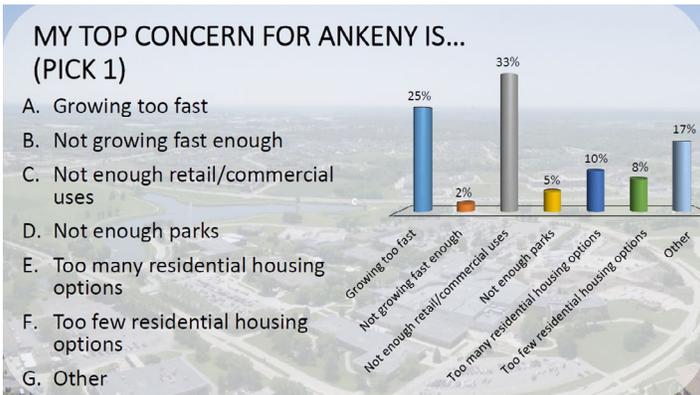


## What We Have and What We Need

While presenting the Ankeny 2040 Plan at the December 2016 AEDC meeting, Chris Shires asked for input from our group. It's not surprising that Ankeny's proximity to Des Moines and Ames was the top ranked feature when it came to the best things about Ankeny.



With business expansions and record-setting construction permits, it's also not surprising that skilled workers made the top of the list of what we need. A close second was additional business park/industrial space and retail space.



Not enough retail/commercial uses was the top concern of the 65 in attendance. A copy of the meeting presentation is available at [www.ankenyedc.com](http://www.ankenyedc.com). More information about The Ankeny 2040 Plan can be found at [www.ankenyp2040.com](http://www.ankenyp2040.com).

## Please Welcome Our New Members!



[www.insulation.net](http://www.insulation.net)



[www.jeo.com](http://www.jeo.com)

## Property Values Continue to Rise

Growth in our area isn't limited to new development. The existing properties continue to increase in value. The Polk County Assessor's office recently announced owners of commercial property can expect to see an average increase of 8.5 percent. Multifamily properties will rise an average of 10.7 percent and residential property will rise an average of 10 percent. Property valuations are updated every two years and owners will be notified of their new assessment by April 1.

The School Board and City both hope to continue to decrease their respective tax rates. The City's rates will be set in March. The School District sets its rate in April. Ankeny School District has decreased its tax rate each year since 2010/2011 when it hit its highest level. The City of Ankeny has decreased its rate three years in a row. These decreases have helped bring tax rates in Ankeny closer to those of similar communities in the area. According to the October 2016 City and School Property Tax Report by the Taxpayers Association of Central Iowa 15 other metro City/School rates are higher than Ankeny's. The Des Moines/Southeast Polk rate is the highest and Urbandale/Waukee is the lowest of 44 included in the report.

2017 Polk Co Average Commercial Property Valuation Increases (%)	
General Commercial	8.5
Multifamily	10.7
Residential	10

Commercial Building	2016	2017
Prior Valuation	\$500,000	\$500,000
2017 Ave. 8.5% Increase		\$542,500
Rollback %	0.90	0.90
Taxable Valuation	\$450,000	\$488,250

Despite significant commercial development residential growth continues to make up 70 percent of Ankeny's taxable valuation. The remaining 30 percent is commercial, industrial, multi-family and utility valuations.

## Venture School Applications Now Open

Venture School, an intense six-week program for entrepreneurs developed by the University of Iowa's John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center, is coming to Des Moines in February 2017. The program, led by experienced entrepreneurs, increases the chances of a company's success by driving the startup process.

For the second year in a row, Ankeny Alliance is making a \$500 scholarship available to a qualifying company. UI's Venture School is collecting applications and encouraging teams from Ankeny to participate in the program and gain marketing expertise and real world knowledge to bring their ideas to life. Learn more or apply today at [www.venture-school.com](http://www.venture-school.com).

"Our goal is to bring the expertise of the University of Iowa John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center's (Iowa JPEC) award-winning training program to people across the state of Iowa," says Lynn Allendorf, Director of Iowa JPEC. "By creating a partnership with entrepreneurs in cities across the state of Iowa, we can offer budding innovators and small business owners a wide variety of resources including prototyping, business strategies and industry specific mentoring – all while supporting Iowa's entrepreneurial ecosystem," she said.

## Lunch & Learn with Ankeny Students

Do you wish more high school students in the area knew about your business or industry? Here's a chance to share your industry experience. Ankeny High School offers opportunities to host lunches at the high school for students who have an interest.

Accumold hosted the December 1 Lunch and Learn. Human Resources representative, Michelle Price, felt it was of value and shared, "If we hire one student from that group it would be well worth the time and cost of the event. We would be interested in sponsoring the class again."

Spots are still available for February and March. Contact Rese Pearson at [rese.pearson@ankenyschools.org](mailto:rese.pearson@ankenyschools.org) if you are interested.

## View from My Chair

2017 AEDC Chairperson Ted Rapp



### What Makes a Strong Business Community?

Multiple times in the past few months I've heard business leaders who work throughout the region comment on the great business culture of Ankeny. I'm very proud to be a part of such a recognized and respected business community.

Culture and community are terms that are easy to throw around but hard to actually define and point to something concrete. It is something that is more defined by the collective whole, not by one or two standouts. It is about people from different industries and organizations coming together for a common purpose and for global goals, which is why our members' continued support and collaboration are so important. I am grateful for the many talented people who stepped-up to serve with me on the AEDC board this year. In case you missed the December meeting, here is your 2017 AEDC Board of Directors.

#### 2017 AEDC Executive Board

Ted Rapp, Development Director, DRA Properties

Karen Stiles, Director, Innovative Initiatives & Special Projects, DMACC

Rosalind Fox, Factory Manager, John Deere Des Moines Works

Steve Krob, Manager of Business Operations, UnityPoint Health – Des Moines

Chairman

Vice-Chair

Secretary/Treasurer

Immediate Past Chair

#### Board of Directors

*Terms Expire December 31, 2017*

Amber Battani, Business Development Manager at The Samuels Group

Casey Carlson, Vice President –Commercial Lending, US Bank

Dr. Mark Isaacson, Des Moines Orthopaedic Surgeons

*Terms Expire December 31, 2018*

Steve Boal, CFO, Accumold, LLC

Mark Land, Vice President, Snyder & Associates

Steve Peters, General Manager, Courtyard by Marriott

*Terms Expire December 31, 2019*

Kim Schaaf, Site Lead, Monsanto

Troy Boelman, Bank President, Northwest Bank

Trent Murphy, President, CJM Financial

*Terms Expire December 31, 2020*

Tim Malloy, Vice President/General Manager, Northstar Power

Tom Phillips, Chairman, SPAL USA

Todd Sommerfeld, President, Kreg Tool

#### Ex-Officio

Derek Lord, Economic Development Director, City of Ankeny

Gary Lorenz, Mayor, City of Ankeny

Todd Wehr, President, Ankeny Area Chamber of Commerce

Rob Denson, President, Des Moines Area Community College

Dr. Bruce Kimpston, Superintendent, Ankeny Community Schools

Steve Van Oort, Board of Supervisors, Polk County

## Summer Interns

Here is an update and thank you from our summer videographer, Ryan Snaadt.

My semester is FLYING by! I have been super busy with more contracts, interning, and classes. I am excited to share that I am entered in a pitch competition this weekend. I will have three minutes to pitch my videography business to a panel of entrepreneurs and corporate coaches. This is similar to the show Shark Tank; if I am named the winner, I will receive funding to further my business!



I plan to allocate the funds to buying a drone so I can penetrate the realty market and do contracts for homes, properties, and other outdoor landscapes!

I also have taken the opportunity to produce hype videos for both Ankeny and Fort Madison High School basketball teams. With the jobs I have lined up, I will have doubled profits of the business before Christmas!

Thank you SO much for allowing me to ignite this career spark and explore my interest for video!

I can't thank you enough for opening so many doors!

## Local Connections for Your Summer Interns

The Ankeny Alliance Workforce Development Committee is planning to offer local events for young professionals interning at Ankeny area organizations. If your firm is hiring summer interns email Joey Beech at [jbeech@ankeny.org](mailto:jbeech@ankeny.org) to get more information.

## Mark Your Calendars

### Member/Board Luncheons

These are the 3rd Thursday of every other month at noon. Please RSVP to [mking@ankeny.org](mailto:mking@ankeny.org) if you plan to attend. Presentations and location are set at least two months in advance.

**February 16, 2017**, Bruce Harreld, President of University of Iowa.  
We will be in DMACC's Student Center Conference Center (Bldg. 5).

**April 20, 2017**

**June 15, 2017**

**August 17, 2017**

**October 19, 2017**

**December 21, 2017**

### Coffee, Conversation and Inspiration

This is an opportunity to connect and be inspired by other professional women in our area. Our next gathering is March 3, 7-8am in the conference room at Café Diem.

### Ankeny Stock Index

price as of 1/23/17

Casey's General Store CASY		\$114.94
John Deere	DE	\$107.12
Monsanto	MON	\$108.44
Sysco	SYX	\$53.52
Ankeny Index (Ave)		\$96.01
Business Record Iowa Index		\$37.14

Platinum Investors

