

MAIN STREET ND

MAIN STREET BEST PRACTICES: RUGBY

Population: 2,185

Type of project(s): Youth Engagement, Youth Empowerment, Leadership, downtown

Project Description and Goals: In the spring of 2017, a group of students from Rugby High School (with support from their social studies teacher, Kevin Leier) begin a project aimed at understanding the origins of Rugby's downtown. The project looked at downtown's role in Rugby's history and the important role the downtown plays in making the whole community more vibrant. A central focus of the project was to showcase why the health of the downtown will be instrumental in the community's future success. The students produced a video to showcase their findings. Click [here](#) to view the video!

Once the video was produced and shown, it built excitement among community members who were inspired to take action and help breathe life into downtown Rugby. The students' voices were the call to action that reinvigorated efforts to focus on activating their downtown.



Rugby was the winner of the 2018 Main Street Future Leaders Empowerment Award!

This is a Best Practice Because:

- The project centered around empowering local youth to develop and tell their own story about their community.
- It allowed youth to bring their unique lens to a community planning project, potentially capturing and sharing things about their town that others may not have noticed.
- Because the local high school was a leading partner in this project, it did not cost the community anything.



Learn More:

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