

cedar rapids market assessment - 2014

Infrastructure: Scorecard Summary

RANKING OF CEDAR RAPIDS'S BUSINESS INFRASTRUCTURE FACTORS					
Assessment Rationale	Infrastructure Variable	Leading	Strong	Lacking	Weak
-Slightly older housing distribution	Housing Infrastructure - Age				
-High level of owner occupied housing	Housing Infrastructure - Type				
-Slightly high but falling level of housing vacancy					
-Utility costs are reasonable	Utilities				
-Very little public transit infrastructure	Public Transit				
	Overall Infrastructure				

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High Level of home ownership Nuclear power plant/lower power costs Diverse housing options Good road infrastructure Street repair sales tax Newer, post-flood public buildings and homes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aging housing Damaged, vacant housing Underutilized downtown Downtown parking Downtown draw "hip" factor Inadequate downtown rental and affordable housing for Young Professionals
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leverage competitive utility costs Promote home ownership Surplus small office space Reconstruction funding for flood damage/recreation space Naturally inspiring destination areas - Czech Village, New Bohemia - proximate to downtown and convention center Cleanup and development of river area Unoccupied downtown space Expanding, improving public transportation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of public transit creates growing pains as city expands, exacerbates downtown parking problem Short-term flood protection challenges Downtown location & flood plain Difficult and expensive air travel options Newer urban areas offer more modern school, infrastructure

Infrastructure: Utilities

	2013 Electricity Rates (cents/kWh)			Water Rates (dollars per 100 cubic feet)	
	Commercial	Residential	Industrial	Water	Wastewater
Cedar Rapids, IA	0.0901	0.1299	0.0578	1.801	1.895
Eau Claire, WI	0.0965	0.1230	0.0751	1.580	2.890
Grand Rapids, MI	0.1323	0.1371	0.0833	1.700	3.210
Lincoln, NE	0.0706	0.0860	0.0599	1.911	1.859

Source: Energy Information Administration / Various Local Utilities

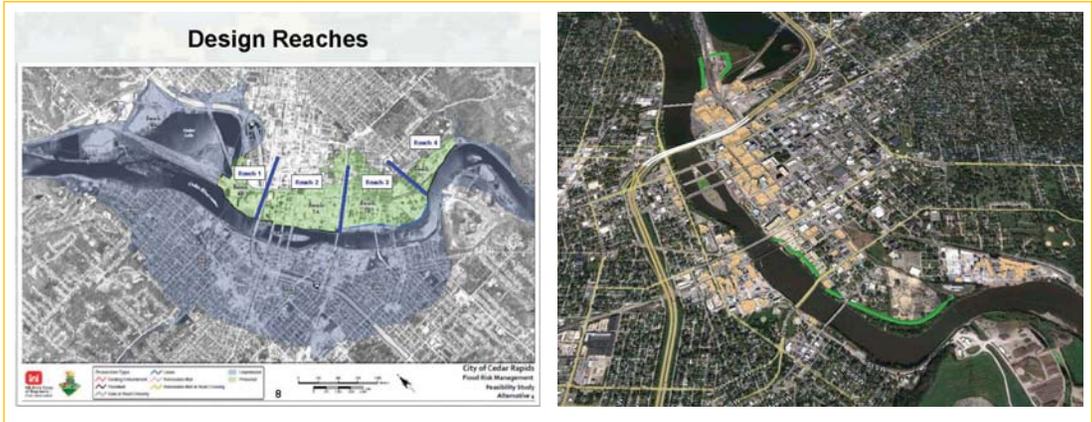
	2012 Natural Gas Rates (Dollars per 1,000 Cubic Feet)			
	IA	WI	MI	NE
Commercial	7.13	7.34	8.35	6.19
Residential	9.46	9.27	10.86	8.68
Industrial	4.70	7.05	7.38	4.34

Source: Energy Information Administration

Cedar Rapids energy and utility costs are average among the benchmarks.

The cost relationship between Cedar Rapids and its benchmarks varies widely across utilities. For example, Cedar Rapids has the cheapest industrial electricity rate but the second highest residential electricity rate and water charges. Overall, Cedar Rapids' utilities are reasonably priced compared to the benchmarks and utility costs should not be a major factor when residents and businesses are making decisions to relocate.

flood risk management project - 2010



2010 Energy Management Plan

Policy

Goals by 2020

1 - Reduce Municipal Energy Use	26% reduction from FY08 in facility energy use
2 - Reduce Capital Funding Barriers to Energy Projects	Establish a sustainable revolving fund for municipal energy projects
3 - Increase Use of Renewable and Alternative Energy	10% of municipal energy provided by onsite renewable energy systems
4 - Support Energy Education and Information	Leverage existing training and education programs to train 100% of city staff in energy management
5 - Encourage Non-process Energy Efficiency in Commercial and Industrial Facilities	5% reduction in sector energy use from FY08
6 - Encourage Residential Energy Efficiency	5% reduction in sector energy use from FY08
7 - Reduce Energy Use in Vehicles	30% increase in the fuel economy of the municipal fleet; 5% reduction in citywide vehicle fuel use

