



Mercer County: Better Together

Success Through Collaboration. #MCBT

NEW BOSTON

New Boston is a city of 707 people, located on the Mississippi River in the southwest portion of Mercer County. The village lies within New Boston Township, which features a total population of 1,204. Steeped in history, the City of New Boston was surveyed by Abraham Lincoln in 1834 and was the site of the largest gathering of Sioux and Fox Indians. Adjacent to the Mississippi River, New Boston residents enjoy amenities such as boating, swimming, fishing and water skiing outside their backdoor. Operated by the City of New Boston, Sturgeon Bay Campground is located on the newly remodeled Mississippi riverfront and offers camping April through October each year. Mississippi River Lock & Dam 17 is located near New Boston and transports an average of 20 million tons of freight each year. First held in 1922, the New Boston Fish & Chicken Fry features local food and entertainment while drawing hundreds of festivalgoers each year. Proximity to the Muscatine and Burlington, Iowa areas and metro Quad Cities offers commerce and employment opportunities, as well as attracts families to live in the New Boston area.

New Boston Community Heart & Soul Statements

“We steward the Mississippi River and riverfront areas as they provide recreational opportunities and jobs through transportation of products, which improves well-being and increases revenue to the local economy.”

“We cherish our churches, community center and school because they offer meeting space, worship and educational opportunities which help maintain community closeness and create a greater sense of community pride.”

“We endorse and support our local health and protection services because they provide crucial services in close proximity, which leads to a safe, healthy community and a higher quality of life.”

“We envision a community with an improved transportation infrastructure that will ease community access and create more opportunities for businesses and families.”

New Boston Area Community Representatives categorized each line of survey data on the following questions; then summarized survey responses into most common themes –

1) Why do you live here?

- Family here
- Community feeling
- Born/raised here

2) Why did you move or stay here?

- Retired here
- The feeling of community
- Born here

3) What do you especially love about your community?

- The river
- Family
- Small town feeling/community
- Quiet/peaceful

5) What do you think matters most to your neighbors?

- Safety/security
- Having a clean community
- Access to health/protection services
- Roads
- Maintain/grow what is available in community

6) Why is your community “home” to you?

- Family roots here
- The river

8) What are the most important places in your community? Why?

- Churches; community support, socializing, charity, funerals
- Community Center; gatherings, disaster shelter
- School; keeps/brings community together
- The river/riverfront; recreation & transportation of crops to market

10) What should stay the same in your community?

- Sense of community
- Peace & quiet
- Schools
- Continue developments
- Cleanup process

11) What should change in your community?

- Add youth programs/activities for kids
- Services for seniors and families
- Transportation to local communities
- Child care