

# MAIN STREET ND

## MAIN STREET BEST PRACTICES: BELFIELD

**Population:** 957

**Type of project(s):** Downtown Revitalization, Historic Preservation, Vibrancy, Workforce Attraction

**Project Description and Goals:** In 2016 the community of Belfield initiated a downtown revitalization effort with the intention of beautifying Main Street, protecting and celebrating their historic structures, and turning their downtown into an attraction for all. Their goal was to increase quality of life for both young and old, boost sales downtown, invite tourists, and attract a talented workforce.



### How They Did It:

- They renovated their historic theater building and then revitalized the vacant clinic building downtown in order to relocate City Hall to that building.
- They relocated the police department to the historic bank building, remodeling and protecting historic elements along the way.
- They restored their 1937 WPA Memorial Building and have plans to add a pocket park by repurposing two vacant lots into community spaces. The park will feature a stage, seating area, splash pad and local art.
- They added hanging baskets, flower planters, and flags to their main street.



### Belfield was the winner of the 2018 Main Street Revitalizer Award!

### This is a Best Practice Because:

- Many local businesses and foundations, past and present community members, and nearby communities worked together to build momentum and resources for these revitalization projects. Community members also volunteered their time.
- Belfield is using existing structures, space and infrastructure to invest in their downtown through infill and creative reuse. This is an efficient use of public funding.
- These projects will add foot traffic to their downtown, promoting vibrancy and supporting local businesses.
- By preserving the unique historic buildings along their Main Street, Belfield is celebrating their heritage and history, and making their downtown a differentiator.



### Learn More:

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