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## Don't rely on feds to fund our amenities

Jun 2, 2018



In the May 13 Free Press, there is a well-fashioned informative article by Mark Fischenich, one of our long-time reporters who works hard keeping our region well informed. In this article, "Mankato Sets Plan for HUD Funds," we learned that we as a community could see and feel any federal cuts directly since our community historically depends on these federal HUD dollars to support important community infrastructures.

The article lists many ways HUD dollars, usually between \$350,000 to \$400,000, are used in our community. These important supportive programs such as housing rehab for lower income families, local parks and playground equipment, upgrades to homeless shelters, regular support for vital services such as the Open Door Health Center, Echo Food Shelf, Feeding Our Communities and VINE Faith in Action, etc.

As a community elected official, I would like to encourage both county and city governments to continue finding and using well deserved federal dollars for nurturing and maintaining these and other community services, yet also consider investing more local dollars towards valuable infrastructures and organizations which maintain and improve livability.

I can't imagine our community wanting any of these programs or services to be harmed if our federal government made cuts to HUD or other normally granted dollars. I believe we need to demonstrate our commitment to a healthy community by already having more local skin in the game, so we are not so overly dependent on what happens in Washington D.C.

I believe we can even further develop and support a healthy community where everyone wants to live, work, play, grow up and to grow old!

Drew R. Campbell

# Blue Earth County Commissioner

Mankato

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## Mankato Free Press Events

**skinen** **JUN 15** **Three D**  
 Brewery | North Mankato, MN Vetter Str

**TUE 5** **Urban Renawal Discussion**  
 Mankato, MN

**TUE 5** **Business After Hours Hosted by Fa...**  
 Farrish Johnson La... | Mankato, MN

**WED 6** **Toddler Wednesdays**  
 Children's Museum ... | Mankato, MN

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	4	5	6	7	8	9

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6/4/2018

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