

Mayor Mindy Rump, Blair City Council Members, and City Administrator, Phil Green

City of Blair City Hall

218 South 16<sup>th</sup> Street

Blair, NE 68008

Thank you for the opportunity to provide public input regarding the selection of a consulting firm for the updated Blair Comprehensive Plan.

I attended the City Council meeting on March 31, 2026, and listened with great interest to each of the presentations. I have also taken time to review the submitted proposals. I appreciate the City's efforts to bring forward such highly qualified firms for consideration.

Each firm offers distinct strengths:

- Confluence demonstrates a strong track record of relevant work in Nebraska communities similar to Blair.
- Olsson's project manager is based in Kansas, and much of their comparable experience is in Kansas and Missouri.
- Confluence's proposed timeline places research and analysis in Phase One, which I believe provides a solid foundation before extensive public engagement.
- Olsson introduces research and analysis in Phase Two, while placing a significant emphasis on community engagement earlier in the process—an approach that is also valuable.
- Olsson's proposal reflects a robust commitment to community engagement.
- Confluence provides a particularly detailed scope of work, clearly outlining each step of the process and setting strong expectations.

Ideally, I would like to have a combination of Olsson's depth of community engagement with Confluence's local experience and clearly defined process. Both firms presented compelling visions, and it is encouraging to see the level of expertise being considered for Blair's future.

If a preference must be expressed, I would offer a slight preference for Confluence. However, regardless of the final selection, I hope that the City and the chosen firm will incorporate public input and remain open to adapting elements from both proposals to best serve the community.

Blair has an exciting future ahead, and I appreciate the thoughtful consideration being given to this important decision.

Margaret Bulbulian