



## Benson Creative District FAQs

### **What is a Creative District?**

The Nebraska Creative District Program utilizes the arts as an economic driver to support communities in Nebraska by telling their stories and elevating the value of the arts. Creative Districts are designated cultural and economic areas where innovation flourishes and neighborhoods come together in the name of art. They provide significant economic impact by creating purposeful spaces like art galleries, theatres, and music venues, attracting employees and businesses.

### **Why become a Creative District?**

Creative Districts have been shown to build bridges between communities, promote civic engagement, (2) improve business districts, and attract talent and investment.(3) The arts have also been shown to support the development of a robust workforce,(4) drive rural prosperity, (5) and provide positive experiences in a troubled world.(6) These are all assets and attributes that Nebraska—and every state—can effectively harness as it seeks to reinvigorate its economy. As a designated Creative District, Benson is eligible for state funding to implement, sustain, and enhance creative programs and projects within the community.

### **Are there any drawbacks?**

Unless you don't enjoy supporting a creative economy and neighborhood, there are NO drawbacks to becoming a Creative District as we see it.

### **How can the public provide input?**

The Benson Creative District will conduct community forums every September and March - and all are welcome at these meetings. If you cannot attend these meetings, or you want to provide extra input, please fill out the online survey! (Scan the QR to access the survey!)



### **How can I get involved?**

We encourage invested community members to join in the fun and get their hands dirty! Please see below about the different committees that are being formed and email Alex Jochim at [alex@bffomaha.org](mailto:alex@bffomaha.org) to get involved at any level! Those interested can also reach out via the online input survey (linked above)!

### **What are the different committees that I can help on?**

- Development (grants, fundraising, etc.)
- Marketing (website, promo materials, communications, etc.)
- Programming (lead projects in neighborhood that are part of the BCD)

### **More information about Creative Districts and the Benson Creative District**

<https://www.artscouncil.nebraska.gov/explore/creative-districts/>

<http://www.experiencebenson.com/creative-district/>

<https://www.bffomaha.org/district.html>