

Ashland County Civic Center

Impact Statement

Facility could be rented for:

- *Class/family reunions
- *Continuing education venues
- *Educational dinner meetings
- *Corporate Events-Staff meetings/trainings/celebrations
- *Weddings
- *Holiday parties
- *Veterans groups
- *Civic groups
- *Gathering place for homeschoolers
- *Proms
- *Trade shows- Boat/Home
- *Benefit dinners
- *Graduation
- *Life Celebrations/Funeral Dinners
- *Farmers Market
- *Art Shows –Local Artist, Kids Art from Schools

Currently:

- *Scheduled Events/Shows
(Flea Market, Gun Show, Relay for Life, Record Show, Tack Show, Auctions,
4-H Clubs/Extension Committee Meetings, Banquets, Business Seminars,
Toy Show, Vendor Show, Quilt Show, Toy Give Away)
- *We are a Red Cross emergency shelter (would be able to house more people
with heat & air conditioning).
- *Host 8 voting precincts for Ashland City

Improvement:

- *The size and beauty of the facility would be a fantastic addition to the county.
- *It would bring more revenue to the county and income for the Fair.
- *Restrooms will be updated to current standards.
- *Largest capacity venue in town/county

Chamber of Commerce Input:

- *The community is in need of a venue to host 250-300 people plus some additional display area.
- *A building of this size would help close the gap on much needed event space for local events (weddings, annual meetings, organizational seminars)
- *Would help attract new business to restaurants and hotels while bringing larger State and national shows to the Civic Center
- *Bring an economic boost to the Ashland area in its' ability to attract out of town shows and more people to our community

The Ashland County Fair Civic Center

Case Statement

The Board of Directors of the Ashland County Agricultural Society, Inc. dba Ashland County Fair is pleased to announce plans for a new Civic Center on the property of the Ashland County Fairgrounds. The new 35,000 square foot building will replace the current buildings known as Mozelle Hall, the Hobby Building and the Restroom/Shower House on the west end of Mozelle Hall.

Mozelle Hall, built in 1955, served the Community as a Roller Rink, in its earlier years, and has been the Fair's primary exhibition area since the 1980s. It is a cement block structure with wooden flooring that holds moisture and causes the floor to swell, distort and emit a musty smell in the summer. In the winter, the four large overhead heaters are noisy and inadequate. In short, it lacks ventilation, insulation, air conditioning and heating.

The Hobby Building began as a grandstand for the Ashland Racetrack, then moved twice and ended up in its current location in the 1970's. It has reached its limit with photography and many hobby displays. The Hobby Building does not have heating, air conditioning, or insulation. The Restroom/Shower House lacks adequate heating and has to be shut down and drained when the temperature drops below freezing.

The proposed new Civic Center will replace the current facilities and enhance the Fairground's ability to offer updated and modern exhibition areas, meeting spaces, a functional kitchen and other amenities that will improve the services and events at the Fairgrounds.

The main exhibition area (capacity 800) is 19,340 square foot that has the capability to be divided by a retractable wall making two 9,670 square foot areas (capacity 400 each side); a complete kitchen able to service both spaces; a smaller meeting room; restrooms and designated shower area, as well as an indoor/outdoor concession area.

The new Civic Center has been designed to replace inadequate buildings, greatly improving the exhibition areas and allowing us to use the facility all year long. In addition to the Fair activities, the new facility will attract Home and Garden Shows, Boat Shows, Trade and Equipment Shows, Veteran's Activities, Banquets, Swap Meets, Corporate Training and more. These and other activities such as weddings, birthday and anniversary celebrations, reunions, business expositions and entertainment will have a large impact on the local economy.

The new Civic Center will definitely enhance the Ashland County Fair and will also provide opportunities for the residents and businesses throughout Ashland County.