INTRODUCTION

Located along the most southwestern border approximately 41 miles south west of the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area, Young America Township is one of 10 townships in Carver County, Minnesota. Organized in 1858, it was first named Farmington but changed to the present name in 1863. This name was a familiar expression for the vigor and progressiveness of the young people of the United States. The community had a station of the Minneapolis and St. Louis Railroad, a flour mill, a creamery, and grain elevators. In 2006, an estimated 858 residents (Metropolitan Council, 2007) made their home in Young America Township, making it the 8th most populous township in Carver County. The township has a total land area of approximately 33 square miles (21,414 Acres). Young America Township borders Camden Township to the north, Benton Township to the east, Sibley County to the south, and McLeod County to the west.
POPULATION AND HOUSEHOLDS

Population Trends and Forecasts

Young America Township has experienced modest population change over the last several decades. The Metropolitan Council estimates that in 2006 Young America Township population numbered approximately 858.

Young America Township population is expected to remain stable over the next 23 years. The Metropolitan Council forecasts for 2010, 2020, and 2030, suggest minimal changes in population with the 2030 population expected to reach approximately 1,200 people.

Visit www.metrocouncil.org/metroarea/stats.htm for more information on the methodology behind the estimates and forecasts.

POPULATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Young America Township</td>
<td>838</td>
<td>858</td>
<td>870</td>
<td>950</td>
<td>1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carver County Total</td>
<td>70,205</td>
<td>86,236</td>
<td>110,740</td>
<td>163,830</td>
<td>195,400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Forecasts include future annexation areas.

Household Trends and Forecasts

Young America Township has experienced modest household change over the last several decades.

During the decade from 1996 to 2006, 51 new homes were built in Young America Township, which makes up 10.4% of the total new homes built in all of Carver County townships during that decade.

Visit www.metrocouncil.org/metroarea/stats.htm for more information on the methodology behind the estimates and forecasts.

HOUSEHOLDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Young America Township</td>
<td>267</td>
<td>273</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carver County Total</td>
<td>24,356</td>
<td>30,986</td>
<td>41,780</td>
<td>62,680</td>
<td>76,180</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Forecasts include future annexation areas.
EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION

Employment Status, Educational Attainment, and Employment Forecasts

Employment Status and Commute to Work
According to the 2000 Census, Young America Township had 633 persons 16 years and over. Of this total, 79.5% of these persons were in the labor force. The total civilian labor force (not including persons on active duty in the United States Armed Forces, unpaid volunteers or homemakers) consisted of 503 persons.

Educational Attainment
In 2000, Young America Township had 527 people 25 years and over, 209 were high school graduates. In addition, 102 had some college with no degree, 37 obtained associates degrees, 79 graduated with bachelor's degrees, and 32 received a graduate or professional degree. Overall, 87.1% of the population 25 years and over were high school graduates or higher.

Employment Forecast
Job growth in Young America Township is expected to increase only minimally over the next 22 years.

EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES AND FORECASTS
Carver County and Young America Township

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community</th>
<th>2000 Census</th>
<th>2010 MC Forecast</th>
<th>2020 MC Forecast</th>
<th>2030 MC Forecast</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Young America Township</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carver County Total</td>
<td>28,740</td>
<td>39,860</td>
<td>51,540</td>
<td>59,080</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Forecasts include future annexation areas.
All forecasts approved by Council Actions, January 14, 2004, and August 24, 2005
Population Estimates and Forecasts for Carver County Cities and Townships
Source: US Census Bureau, Metropolitan Council

HISTORIC RESOURCES

Historic Resources Profile

Historic Resources in Young America Township
Several Young America Township historic and archeological sites have been identified in the standing Structures and Archaeology Inventory, a Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) survey program that has recorded over 50,000 historic structures and approximately 16,500 archaeological sites statewide. The Standing Structures and Archaeology inventories contain the County’s known archaeological sites and historic standing structures; however, according to SHPO many archaeological sites and historic standing structures remain unidentified or not inventoried across MN, including Carver County.
Young America Township has a high level of participation in the Agricultural Preserve Program by landowners. About 13,688 acres (64%) of the land is entered in the Preserve Program as of 2007. Of the total land in preserve, 6,003 acres (44%) has the expiration filed. The Agricultural Preserve participation rate indicates a commitment to agriculture over the long term, particularly in the central and western portions of the township. The Agricultural Preserve covenant limits the residential density to 1/40 regardless of other zoning provisions.
EXISTING LAND USE (2008)

The primary land use in the township is commercial agriculture centered around dairying, livestock, and cash grain farming. The amount of land in farms has remained relatively stable with the size of farms increasing both in size and operation.
**PLANNED LAND USE (2030)**

This map was created using Carver County’s Geographic Information Systems (GIS), it is a compilation of information and data from various City, County, State, and Federal offices. This map is not a surveyed or legally recorded map and is intended to be used as a reference. Carver County is not responsible for any inaccuracies contained herein.

Source: Carver County Planning and Water Management, Metropolitan Council

Basemap: National Geographic Society

Produced by Carver County Planning and Water Management, Land & Water Services Division

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www.co.carver.mn.us/pz

Visit www.co.carver.mn.us/2030plan

- **Mixed Use Residential** (Two or more of the following: residential, industrial, commercial and/or office, and institutional uses, where the primary use is residential)
- **Commercial** (Provision of goods or services)
- **Mixed Use Commercial/Industrial** (Two or more of the following: residential, industrial, commercial and/or office uses, where the primary use is Commercial/Industrial)
- **Industrial** (Primarily manufacturing, and/or processing of products)
- **Institutional** (Primarily religious, governmental, educational, social or healthcare facilities)
- **Park and Recreation** (Primarily for public active recreation activities)
- **Wetlands** (Wetlands included in the National Wetlands Inventory)
- **Open Water** (Permanently flooded open water, rivers, streams)
- **Transition Area**

Note: Land use within city boundaries or in transition areas are not included in the legend.

**RURAL RESIDENTIAL**
(Residential purposes, including mostly one-family homes. Housing development should not exceed 1 housing unit per acre)

**AGRICULTURAL**
(Agricultural purposes, including farming, dairying, pasturage, horticulture, floriculture, viticulture, and animal and poultry husbandry)

**WETLANDS**
(Wetlands included in the National Wetlands Inventory)

**OPEN WATER**
(Permanently flooded open water, rivers, streams)

**TRANSITION AREA**

**ROADWAY RIGHTS-OF-WAY**
(Public or private vehicular, transit and/or pedestrian rights-of-way)
## Land Use Summary

**Young America Township**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Land Use Description</th>
<th>2008 (acres)</th>
<th>2030 (acres)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mixed Use Residential</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed Use Commercial/Industrial</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks and Recreation</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roadway Rights-of-Way</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural Residential</td>
<td>676</td>
<td>543</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural</td>
<td>16,568</td>
<td>14,104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wetlands(^1)</td>
<td>3,121</td>
<td>2,592</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Water(^1)</td>
<td>739</td>
<td>431</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transition Area(^2)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3,496</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>21,366</strong></td>
<td><strong>21,366</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\) The difference in wetland and open water acreages does not reflect actual wetland loss and all Wetland Conservation Act requirements must be followed.

\(^2\) Land uses within the transition area shown on the 2030 land use map have been aggregated to create the total shown in this table. For final determination of future land use designations within transition areas, please consult City Comprehensive Plans.
The land in the township is flat to gently rolling and is highly suited to agriculture; it is predominately Soil Classification Survey (SCS) Class 1, 2 & 3 land - Prime and Good agricultural land. A 1999 Carver County Permanent Agricultural Land study showed that most of Young America township is "highly qualified" for permanent agricultural preservation. Not all land in the township is suitable for intensive agricultural land use however, and may be better suited for open space or other uses.
TOWNSHIP POLICIES

Land Use

Because of the location, soils types, development trends, market demands in the area, and distance to sewer and water services, agriculture will continue to be the principal use of land in Young America Township. Land use patterns will remain relatively stable. Very limited amounts of agricultural land will be converted to residential uses. A large Multi-Modal Opportunity Area is located in the Township (See Policy map). Land within the Area can be expected to be converted from its current use to rail related Multi-Modal use in the future. Land use in the remainder of the township will experience minimal change.

TOWNSHIP POLICY LU-1
Agriculture will continue to be the primary land use and economic base of the Township. The Township hereby adopts the Carver County Land Use Plan as part of the Township Plan. A map showing future land use in the Township can be found in the County Plan. The County Plan along with the policies in this Plan will be used to manage land use and environmental resources in Young America Township.

TOWNSHIP POLICY LU-2
POLICY AREA DESIGNATION the Township’s land use policy designations are shown on the Policy Map. For the land in the Agricultural Policy Area the Township chooses to utilize Option 1 - the basic 1 dwelling per 1/4 section as provided in County Plan.

TOWNSHIP POLICY LU-3
The County Plan provides for a number of land use options the township can choose to implement. Young America Township chooses not to implement: the transfer of 1 per 40 eligibilities to non-adjacent parcels; golf courses; or additional feedlot regulation options.

TOWNSHIP POLICY LU-4
The City of Norwood Young America is bordered on all sides by Young America Township. The city recently updated its comprehensive plan to include substantial additional area in its 2030 growth area. The Township’s Policy map shows the growth area as the Transition Area. The Transition Area designation should be limited to the area shown on the Policy map. The Transition Areas(s) on the policy map shall be managed in accordance with the policies in the County Plan.

TOWNSHIP POLICY LU-5
The Township contains a multi-modal opportunity area as identified in the Carver County Community Development Agency study. Prior to any development a plan amendment will be needed and additional study and analysis will be needed including but not limited to: environmental analysis, stormwater management, sewer and water needs, and traffic studies. The township supports this economic development initiative.

Water Resources

Young America Township is located in the Bevens Creek, Crow River, Carver Creek and Buffalo Creek Watersheds. Carver County is the Water Management Authority for these watersheds with the exception of Buffalo Creek and is required to prepare and implement a plan which addresses surface water and groundwater issues. The Township is required to adopt a Local Watershed Management Plan that complies with the Watershed Plan.

TOWNSHIP POLICY WR-1
Young America Township hereby adopts the Carver County Water Management Organization (CCWMO) Watershed Management Plan as the Township’s Local Surface Water Management Plan. The CCWMO Watershed Management Plan will likely be updated in 2010 and the Township will amend this plan to adopt the updated CCWMO Plan.
Transportation

Young America Township's transportation system consists of county and state highways and Township roads. The Township is responsible for the planning, construction, and maintenance of the Township road system while the County & State are responsible for their respective systems. The primary function of local roads is to provide access to individual parcel of land and to move traffic to the collector system. The purpose of the collectors is to collect traffic from the local roads and to provide access to individual parcels of property. The principal function of the arterials is to move traffic to destinations outside the township and to provide for connections to the regional system. In a rural area such as Young America Township the arterials also perform a secondary function of providing access to individual parcels of property.

TOWNSHIP POLICY TR-1

The Township’s primary responsibility is the maintenance and improvement of the Township road system as shown on the Policy map and as provided by statute. The town road system will be maintained at a level consistent with the need to serve the agricultural economy and residential development at densities provided in the Land Use Element. Improvements will be made only to maintain or attain that level of service. The Township road system consists of those roads identified as Township roads on the Young America Township Policy Map. The system may be modified by additions or deletions to the system made on the official town road map as recorded in the Office of the County Recorder or other appropriate Township action.

TOWNSHIP POLICY TR-2

Alternatives must be investigated in cases where the approval of a change in land use would raise traffic on a gravel road substantially above 200 ADT. Individual land uses that will generate high levels of traffic and/or heavy vehicle traffic will be discouraged and may be required to participate in the upgrading of facilities.

TOWNSHIP POLICY TR-3

The Township does not foresee the need for the construction of any new roads on the Township system. The Township’s primary concern is the maintenance and improvement (when necessary) of the town road system. If new roads are needed to provide service to new residential development, these roads will be constructed solely at the expense of the developer. Such roads shall meet Township and County standards for local roads or a higher standard if the road will be of a higher classification as shown in the County Transportation Plan. The Township will not accept these as public roads. These roads will be maintained and repaired by a homeowner's association or similar entity consisting of the land owners served by the road. However, the Township may accept a new road if it connects to an existing public road at either end.
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YOUNG AMERICA TOWNSHIP POLICY AREAS

DENSITY OPTION:
Option 1 - 1 per 40

City
Transition Area
Rural Service District
Parks
Multimodal/Rail Opportunity Area
Watershed Boundaries

Visit
www.co.carver.mn.us/2030plan

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