



## *Engineering Department*

**DATE:** March 16, 2021  
**FROM:** Gabe Schell, City Engineer  
**ITEM:** NDDOT Urban Grant Program

### **REQUEST**

Consider acceptance of the award of North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) Urban Grant Program funding for a 2023 Downtown Street Improvement Project

Please place this item on the 3/23/2021 City Commission meeting agenda.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The NDDOT solicited projects for 2023 fiscal year as part of an Urban Grant Program. Communities with greater than 5000 population are eligible to participate. The focus of this program is reinvesting and fortifying a community's existing transportation assets, primarily within the inner core of a community rather than outward expansion. There is \$4.6-\$7.6 million annually available statewide for this competitive grant program.

On September 22, 2020, the Board of City Commissioners approved pursuing Urban Grant Program funding for a downtown streets asphalt mill and overlay project.

Per the attached letter of March 8, 2021 from the NDDOT Director William T. Panos, the City of Bismarck has been awarded \$786,313 in federal funding for the \$1,800,000 estimated total construction cost. This award was not the full \$1,450,000 requested and represents a partial award. The City will be responsible for a 19.07% project match for all costs under \$982,000 and 100% of all costs greater than \$982,000. Because of the partial award, the federal funds would be extinguished at \$786,313 but it still represents additional grant funding that would otherwise be collected through special assessments and sales tax to construct this project.

This project includes improvements on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Rosser Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup> Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Street and Broadway Avenue and represents the asphalt pavement streets in the downtown

core. Project scope includes mill and overlay, curb and gutter repairs, sidewalk repairs, ADA ramp upgrades, plastic pavement marking, roadway and pedestrian lighting upgrades, street trees and landscaping improvements, modifications of traffic signals for implementing leading pedestrian intervals and signage.



Funding for the local share of this project could include sales tax and/or special assessments and would be determined during the 2022 and 2023 budget processes.

### **RECOMMENDED CITY COMMISSION ACTION**

Accept the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) Urban Grant Program funding for a 2023 Downtown Street Improvement Project.

### **STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION**

Gabe Schell, PE | City Engineer, 355-1505 or [gschell@bismarcknd.gov](mailto:gschell@bismarcknd.gov)

March 8, 2021

The Honorable Steve Bakken  
Mayor of Bismarck  
PO Box 5503  
Bismarck, ND 58506-5503

### URBAN GRANT PROGRAM PROJECT SELECTION

I am pleased to announce that your project on 3<sup>rd</sup> St (Main Ave to Rosser Ave), Rosser Ave (3<sup>rd</sup> St to 7<sup>th</sup> St), 4<sup>th</sup> St (Rosser Ave to Thayer Ave), 5<sup>th</sup> St (Rosser Ave to Thayer Ave), and Broadway Ave (3<sup>rd</sup> St to 4<sup>th</sup> St, 6<sup>th</sup> St to 7<sup>th</sup> St) in Bismarck has been selected for funding from the fiscal year 2023 Urban Grant Program (UGP).

The North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) will be the lead review agency on the project, which consists of mill and overlay, curb and gutter repairs, sidewalk repairs, ADA ramps, pavement marking, LED roadway lighting and pedestrian lighting, street trees, landscaping, signal modifications for leading pedestrian interval/pedestrian push buttons, signing, and conversion of unwarranted traffic signals to RRFBs with bulb-outs as outlined in your approved application.

The project will be funded with 80.93 percent federal funds, up to a maximum amount of \$786,313 for eligible items. The city of Bismarck will be responsible for the remaining 19.07 percent of the project match and all remaining costs to complete the project.

Congratulations on being the recipient of this grant for your project!

Please notify Stacey Hanson, NDDOT Assistant Local Government Engineer, by April 15, 2021, at 701-328-4469 or [smhanson@nd.gov](mailto:smhanson@nd.gov) whether the city of Bismarck would like to accept these funds.



William T. Panos  
Director

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c: Gabe Schell, City Engineer  
Rachel Drewlow, Bismarck-Mandan MPO  
Larry Gangl, Bismarck District Engineer