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MINOT AWARDED \$74.3 MILLION IN HUD'S NATIONAL DISASTER RESILIENCE COMPETITION

US Senators Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND) and John Hoeven (R-ND) announced on January 19th that the City of Minot had been awarded \$74.3 Million in the National Disaster Resilience Competition. At a press conference held later that day, Mayor Chuck Barney said that the City should be proud and excited about the announcement.

“This is certainly great news for the City of Minot,” Barney said. “Everyone who has worked so tirelessly over the past year to insure our success should be proud on this historic day. The entire community has always shown how resilient we are in the face of a challenge, and these federal funds will move us to the next level in being prepared against natural disasters, economic disasters, and so many other stresses that this competition has helped us realize were a threat to our city. ”

City Manager Lee Staab added that the community as a whole was integral to the outcome of the competition. “During this competition, we were told over and over that input from the community was paramount to our success, and the residents of Minot and the Souris River Basin showed up in a big way to make sure that we would be noticed, and that we would be successful.” Staab added that the support of the community was evident throughout the entire process. “We held over 60 public meetings here in Minot and up and down the Souris River basin. We heard from a wide range of folks who opened our eyes to what we need to do in order to be more resilient. All of the effort from each of you who participated has paid off in a big way today.”

In a letter to City of Minot, The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has outlined the full amount of funding and projects approved from the National Disaster Resilience Competition.

In the letter, HUD congratulated the city on its Phase 2 application. “Your success is a testament to your extraordinary work to design a new way of rebuilding. The rest of the nation will be looking to your projects as a model of resilient recovery. This award notification is the beginning of partnership intended to get your selected projects underway and completed in a timely manner.” Minot’s total award is \$74,340,770. HUD has agreed to partially fund all of the projects that the City of Minot outlined in the Phase 2 application (listed below.)

- **Reduce flood risk and increase resilience.** The flood risk reduction projects proposed below reframe Minot's approach to flood risk reduction, from an infrastructure-only approach to a layered strategy of grey, green, and non-structural techniques to reduce risks and costs while adapting to a changing climate.
- **Build affordable, resilient neighborhoods.** So that people who move out of harm’s way through the buy-out program can remain in Minot. For civilian military personnel at Minot Air Force Base who want to put down roots in our City. For our most vulnerable residents including the elderly, the disabled, and the homeless.

- **Foster economic resilience and diversification.** Three activities are included in this project: a Center for Technical Education, relocation of the MSU Art Department Complex to downtown, and moving City Hall outside of the flood plain along with a new one-stop social services facility.

HUD and City Staff will now begin working through the steps necessary to receive the grant, and determine specific funding for each of the projects above.

Minot was one of 13 communities selected from 40 applications to receive an award. The applicants included both cities and states. The funds will help Minot both recover from the previous disaster and make plans, decisions, and investments that make them more resilient to the next disaster. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Rockefeller Foundation will outline the specific projects that will be funded later this week.

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