



TO: Mayor Shaun Sipma
Members of the City Council

FROM: John R. Zakian, DR Grant Program Manager & Chief Resilience Officer

DATE: June 20, 2019

SUBJECT: ACCEPT STRENGTHEN ND FUNDING TOOLKIT AND NEXT STEPS FOR USE STRATEGY

I. RECOMMENDED ACTION

City Council accept Strengthen ND Funding Opportunity Toolkit and offer guidance on recommended next steps for use strategy

II. DEPARTMENT CONTACT PERSONS

John R. Zakian, DR Program Manager & Chief Resilience Officer, 423-4528

III. DESCRIPTION

A. Background

As part of the required reduction of planned uses of CDBG-DR funds based on the HUD reduced grant allocation of \$74.3 million, the city of Minot in 2016 set aside funds for use in pursuing Funding and Financial Strategies Planning to identify other sources of potential financing, funding, and resources that can support sustainable recovery and resilience projects, activities, and efforts. As a first step, a sub-recipient agreement with Strengthen ND was completed and approved by the City Council to identify potential funding opportunities, methods and methodologies to pursue such grants, and categories. As a result of the agreement and the work of Strengthen ND, some 450 different funding opportunities have been identified from multiple sources including federal agencies, foundations, and corporate philanthropies. This final report also contains a grant writing manual and community development resources. While this work and this document are funded through CDBG-NDR funds which means its use by the city needs to be actively connected to addressing direct and/or indirect impact from the flood as well as promoting resilient related growth, it is a public document made available on the city website. This report does provide a clear perspective on the wide range of potential opportunities available to the city and stakeholders.

B. Proposed Project:

Strengthen ND has not spent all the funds assigned to this sub-recipient agreement and we have an active sub-recipient agreement with the Souris Basin Planning Council which also has a balance available. It is recommended that with the funding opportunity grant report completed, as next steps, the following efforts be initiated:

- Working through the existing sub-recipient agreements, coordinated by the DR Grant Manager, create a DR resource implementation team of the DR Grant Manager, Community and Economic Development Director, Strengthen ND and Souris Basin Planning Council, develop a set of recommendations for consideration by the City Council to carry out a coordinated, sustainable strategy to maximize efforts to pursue grant and financing opportunities

- Engage the IEDC Stakeholders through the DR resource implementation team to discuss the Funding Opportunity Toolkit and elicit input and suggestions from the Stakeholders for an implementation strategy, and opportunities that organizations among the Stakeholders on possible specific uses within the funding opportunities identified in the report.

It is important to emphasize that this report and project is separate and apart from the ongoing efforts connected to implementation of the IEDC report which has moved beyond the scope and funding support of the CDBG-NDR grant, but certainly can and should be complementary and supportive providing it connects to the purpose and intent of the Funding Opportunities Toolkit and CDBG-NDR Action Plan.

In terms of the participants in the DR resource implementation team, Souris Basin Planning Council has considerable experience in requirements for non-profit application as well as unmet needs in terms of capacity gaps within the city, Strengthen ND has the expertise for granting writing and application strategy, Community and Economic Development Department Director because based on its new structure will have a key role inside the city structure, and the DR Grant Program Manager because this is a CDBG-NDR grant funded initiative.

IV. IMPACT:

A. Strategic Impact:

The Funding Opportunities Toolkit through an implementation strategy creates the means for the city to pursue projects, programs, and activities not able to be funded by CDBG-NDR grant which can be connected to address unmet need from direct or indirect impact from the flooding and/or support resilient sustainability and growth.

B. Service/Delivery Impact:

Meets a deliverable that the city committed to pursue in the CDBG-NDR Action Plan.

C. Fiscal Impact:

NA

V. ALTERNATIVES

N/A

VI. TIME CONSTRAINTS

N/A

VII. LIST OF ATTACHMENTS