



TO: Mayor Shaun Sipma
Members of the City Council

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

DATE: February 24, 2019

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING WITH U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE

I. RECOMMENDED ACTION

City Council authorize execution of a Letter of Understanding between the City of Minot and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to expedite CDBG-NDR Environmental Reviews

II. DEPARTMENT CONTACT PERSONS

John R. Zakian, DR Program Manager & Chief Resilience Officer, 420-4528

III. DESCRIPTION

A. Background

As part of the standard federal required environmental review for CDBG-NDR projects and activities, it is a requirement to consult with a variety of federal agencies who are given a period of time in which to respond. Among the federal agencies is the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This federal agency has offered to streamline and simplify its participation in these environmental reviews by establishing for specific activities a blanket finding of “no effect.”

B. Proposed Project

Execution of this Letter of Understanding will establish a range of activities which will fall under the finding of “no effect.” This means for such activities the City will not have to submit its environmental review to the agency for review and comment.

IV. IMPACT:

A. Strategic Impact:

This agreement will streamline the environmental review process for the City.

B. Service/Delivery Impact:

This agreement demonstrates the City’s ongoing commitment to work cooperatively with other federal agencies.

C. Fiscal Impact:

N/A

V. ALTERNATIVES

N/A

VI. TIME CONSTRAINTS

N/A

VII. LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

- i. Letter of Understanding between City of Minot and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service