TO: Mayor Shaun Sipma
Members of the City Council

FROM: Lance Meyer, P.E., City Engineer

DATE: May 17, 2021

SUBJECT: MINOT INTERMODAL FACILITY CRISI GRANT UPDATE (4546)

I. RECOMMENDED ACTION
   1. No action is required. This is an informational memo

II. DEPARTMENT CONTACT PERSONS

   Lance Meyer, City Engineer  701-857-4100
   Emily Huettl, Assistant City Engineer  701-857-4100

III. DESCRIPTION

   A. Background
      In May of 2020, the City and NDDOT signed an agreement to accept funds from the Federal Railway Administration’s CRISI grant program. These funds will be used to perform preliminary engineering and site layout concepts for the proposed intermodal facility north of County Road 12.

   B. Proposed Project
      During the course of scoping the project’s engineering agreement, BNSF allowed intermodal service to begin using the existing intermodal ramp south of County Road 12. This was a great opportunity for the City and State and the first intermodal train departed Minot in October.

      Since BNSF is allowing this service to occur at the existing ramp, this changed the potential outcomes and alternatives associated with the study. Essentially, more options can now be explored besides just developing intermodal service north of County Road 12.

      The engineering scope has been adjusted to include items such as a market analysis and additional site planning for industry. The project delivery timeline has also shifted to late 2023. These changes have been reviewed by Chamber EDC, city engineer, NDDOT, and FRA. The statement of work is attached for council’s review and information.

   C. Consultant Selection
      The NDDOT used their qualifications based selection to choose Ackerman-Estvold as the most qualified firm to perform the work. Since the city will now administer the engineering, the council ultimately decided to hire Ackerman-Estvold using the NDDOT’s recommendation.

IV. IMPACT:
A. **Strategic Impact:**
   Having an intermodal facility in Minot has tremendous regional industry and trade benefits. Having a clear plan that has been approved environmentally is of strategic importance to the City.

B. **Service/Delivery Impact:**
   N/A

C. **Fiscal Impact:**
   Council has previously allocated $800,000 towards this project. The NDDOT will reimburse the City up to $400,000 which is the grant match.

V. **ALTERNATIVES**
   Council could choose to modify the scope of work. However, this would have to be approved by NDDOT and FRA.

VI. **TIME CONSTRAINTS**
   The contract will be signed with Ackerman Estvold once all parties have reviewed the revised statement of work.

VII. **LIST OF ATTACHMENTS**
   A. Minot Intermodal Statement of Work