TO: Mayor Shaun Sipma  
Members of the City Council  

FROM: Stephen Joersz, PE, PTOE, Traffic Engineer  

DATE: December 6, 2021  

SUBJECT: 4667 – 2025 NDDOT Transportation Alternatives – Edison Elementary Safe Routes to School  

I. RECOMMENDED ACTION  

1. Recommend approval of the cost participation with the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) for the Edison Elementary Safe Routes to School project, contingent upon project selection from the NDDOT.  

II. DEPARTMENT CONTACT PERSONS  

Lance Meyer, City Engineer 857-4100  
Stephen Joersz, Traffic Engineer 857-4100  

III. DESCRIPTION  

A. Background  

In 2010, a comprehensive study titled “Minot Safe Routes to School Study” was conducted for the City of Minot. The purpose of the study was to inventory existing safe routes to school for Minot elementary students and to identify and prioritize infrastructure improvements necessary to expand Minot’s safe route to school networks.  

The proposed project falls in line with improvements prioritized in the comprehensive study. To date, improvement priorities 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 6, 11, 12 and 14 identified in the City of Minot Safe Routes to School Study have been completed. This is in addition to priorities 7 (partial), 8, 9, and 17 which are scheduled to be constructed between 2022 and 2024.  

The proposed project for 2025 follows and expands upon the recommended safe route improvements listed in priorities 7 and 18 in the Minot Safe Routes to School Study. The proposed project will install sidewalks on both sides of the roadway, this is an expansion of the original study that only identified one side of the road to have sidewalks.  

B. Proposed Project  

The proposed safe routes to school improvements include the following items:  

- A 5-foot sidewalk placed on the east side and west side of 9th Street SW between 16th Avenue SW and 17th Avenue SW.  
  - East side is an expansion of the 2010 Minot Safe Routes to School Study.  
- A 5-foot sidewalk placed on the east side and west side of 10th Street SW between 16th Avenue SW and 18th Avenue SW.  
  - West side is an expansion of the 2010 Minot Safe Routes to School Study  
- A 5-foot sidewalk placed on the south side of 16th Avenue SW between 12th Street SW and 9th Street SW.
C. **Consultant Selection**
   The Engineering Department will complete all project design, construction inspection and project administration.

IV. **IMPACT:**

A. **Strategic Impact:**
   The proposed Edison Elementary Safe Routes to School project would provide a pedestrian pathway for the neighborhoods directly west of Edison Elementary.

B. **Service/Delivery Impact:**
   The proposed Edison Elementary Safe Routes to School project will improve the ability for students to walk and bike to school. While also allowing a safe route for non-drivers and individuals with disabilities as the proposed project will fill in a critical spatial sidewalk gap in the Edison neighborhood.

C. **Fiscal Impact:**
   The NDDOT Transportation Alternative Program requires matching funds from the awarded local government. If awarded, federal funds are to be applied at an 80% federal and 20% local cost share with a maximum federal share of $290,000. 2025 Sales Tax Infrastructure Funds will be used by the City to fund this project.

   The engineers estimate for the proposed Edison Elementary Safe Routes to School project is $440,000. It is important to note that this is a high-level estimation and that costs will be further refined once the project goes into the design phase.

   **Project Costs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NDDOT Federal Cost Share (80% or $290k cap)</td>
<td>$290,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Cost Share (20% or Remainder)</td>
<td>$150,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineer’s Estimate</td>
<td>$440,000.00</td>
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   **Project Funding**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Description</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2025 Sales Tax Infrastructure Funding</td>
<td>$150,000.00</td>
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V. **ALTERNATIVES**

Alt 1. Council could approve additional Safe Route to School improvements at different locations throughout the city. The NDDOT TA Program for the Fiscal Year 2025 maximum award will still be capped at $290,000, however.

Alt 2. Council could deny the cost participation, essentially nixing this application and proposed project in Fiscal Year 2025.

VI. **TIME CONSTRAINTS**

The NDDOT TA Program for Fiscal Year 2025 has a deadline of December 31, 2021. Approval or Denial from Council is now needed so that the Engineering Department can proceed with submitting or not submitting the Edison Elementary Safe Routes to School application with the NDDOT.

VII. **LIST OF ATTACHMENTS**

A. TA Application