



**TO:** Mayor Tom Ross  
Members of the City Council

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

**DATE:** February 21, 2023

**SUBJECT:** RAISE GRANT LETTER OF SUPPORT (4657)

**I. RECOMMENDED ACTION**

1. Recommend council approve the letter of support for the MAGIC RAISE Grant application;
2. Authorize the Mayor to sign the letter

**II. DEPARTMENT CONTACT PERSONS**

Lance Meyer, City Engineer	701-857-4100
Stephen Joersz, Traffic Engineer	701-857-4100

**III. DESCRIPTION**

A. Background

Last month, council authorized funding and support for the City to partner with Ward County to submit a RAISE Grant application to seek federal funds to start preliminary engineering work on phase 1 and 2 of the southwest connector project.

B. Proposed Project

The County has contracted with Bolton & Menk to prepare the grant application. As part of the submittal, the application needs several letters of support that will help tell our story and bolster support. The letter of support will be signed by Mayor Ross and included in the application.

C. Consultant Selection

Bolton & Menk was selected by Ward County to perform the work on the study.

**IV. IMPACT:**

A. Strategic Impact:

The City and County have been looking for ways to provide another north/south arterial roadway connection in west Minot. A link would significantly relieve the 16<sup>th</sup> St and Broadway corridors from current and future traffic congestion.

B. Service/Delivery Impact:

An improvement project to provide a southwest bypass and another north/south arterial roadway connection will have a significant reduction to travel delays and will solve critical crash locations along the US 2/52 bypass.

C. Fiscal Impact:

N/A

**V. CITY COUNCIL ASPIRATIONS**

The following are the aspirations achieved with the grant request: dynamic and prosperous; safe and welcoming; excellent and connected.

**VI. ALTERNATIVES**

Alternate 1: Council could choose not to approve the letter of support.

Alternate 2: Council could modify the letter and have Mayor sign.

**VII. TIME CONSTRAINTS**

With the deadline to submit February 28<sup>th</sup>, council must approve the letter at this meeting.

**VIII. LIST OF ATTACHMENTS**

A. Letter of Support