



-----Original Email Message-----

From: Billi Gunderson
Sent: Thursday, September 7, 2023 9:26 AM
To: Jonathan Rosenthal <jonathan.rosenthal@minotnd.gov>
Subject: Downtown Facade Improvement Program

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Johnathan,

Good morning. My name is Billi Gunderson we met at the Public Input Meeting August 10th. I was in a wheelchair. We discussed downtown concerns after the meeting. You escorted me out with a platter of sweets.

I was reviewing the Facade Program. I am aware that Margie from Margie's on Mainstreet utilized the Facade Program for her business. Margie's does not have an ADA push button. There are 2 new businesses under construction, where Esoterica was and where Anderson's Bootery was. Will these businesses have ADA push buttons? I am concerned why if this is considered a component of facade improvements why it is not done. Are the businesses being encouraged to add the ADA push buttons? How does this become a part of the improvement?

Though, not a part of the Facade Program, but important to new development, will the new businesses have bathrooms that are ADA compliant? There is (*only*) one bathroom downtown that is ADA-compliant at the Deli Building where the Gourmet Chef is located. Most people are not aware of it. Getting in the outside door is very difficult without help.

It is both enjoyable and encouraging when there is growth. However, when there is a need for accessibility getting in and out of a building or needing to use the restroom and not having access to one, most people won't go, and (*if they*) do not address the issue. In the same way that snow removal is an issue. People just won't come downtown to do business. A conversation we shared, that you and I agree on.

Kindest Regards,
Billi Gunderson