

FYI on NDR

National Disaster Resilience

March 2024



Insights and Innovations from the 2024 NCDA Winter Meeting

Staying informed about the latest legislative policies, professional development opportunities, and community development strategies is critical in the ever-changing field of disaster resiliency, which is why Chris Plank, NDR Grant Manager, and Anthony Barrette, Federal Compliance Officer, attended the 2024 NCDA Winter Legislative, Policy, and Professional Development Meeting in Washington, DC. Their attendance allowed them to gather with like-minded individuals who are dedicated to advancing disaster resilience goals as they pertain to community development.

The conference focused on celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, which plays a pivotal role in promoting community resilience and flexibility in disaster management. Esteemed speakers, including Senator Susan Collins (Maine); Congressman Emanuel Cleaver II (Missouri); and Marion Mollegan McFadden, HUD's Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development, highlighted the program's enduring impact on lives nationwide, making it an essential tool in the NDR toolkit.

With almost 400 attendees from 38 states, the conference provided an excellent opportunity for networking and collaboration. Attendees engaged with Region VII professionals, mainly from Fargo, ND, and participated in insightful exchanges during roundtable sessions. These interactions emphasized the

importance of community in collective resilience efforts and provided a chance to establish potential partnerships to strengthen disaster resiliency.

The conference showcased various software innovations that aid in identifying low- to moderate-income individuals and streamlining environmental review processes. These technological advancements represent a significant step forward in the approach to disaster resiliency, offering new ways to enhance strategies and implementations.

Personal anecdotes from experienced professionals and newcomers inspired and reminded attendees of the collective endeavor toward community betterment. Interactions with the Congressional delegation emphasized the importance of continued support and advocacy for disaster resiliency projects in Minot and beyond.

The conference provided valuable insights into the flexibility of the CDBG program, which will influence future NDR strategies. By integrating these learnings, Chris, Anthony, and the team will aim to increase project impacts, promote greater community resilience, and navigate the complexities of disaster management with renewed vigor for Minot.

The NCDA's bi-annual conferences offer critical dialogue, learning, and advocacy platforms. The insights gained underscore the importance of continued participation, suggesting that expanding representation in future gatherings would further the mission of national disaster resiliency.

The 2024 NCDA Winter Meeting broadened the legislative and technological horizons and reinforced the importance of community collaboration in pursuing national disaster resiliency. As the NDR team moves forward, the lessons learned, and connections made will undoubtedly serve as vital components in ongoing efforts to safeguard and empower our community.



Chris and Anthony at Senator Cramer's office



With Congressman Cleaver



Meeting with Senator Hoeven

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Acquisition Program

- Currently, the NDR Team is working to acquire a mobile home park needed for the flood project, as well as prepare for a new round of upcoming acquisitions. Overall, the City of Minot has acquired 229 properties to date: 91 properties using NDR-CDBG funds and 138 properties using State Water Commission Funds; 8 properties included in the 91 NDR properties were partially funded with State Water Commission funds. These properties are needed for on-going or upcoming flood mitigation projects.
- Demolition activities for 2023 have been completed, with three (3) properties demolished. Overall, the City has demolished 163 properties, with 79 of those being funded by NDR-CDBG funds. The 2024 demolition project will begin in the summer.

Affordable Housing

- All apartments have been rehabilitated at Milton Young Towers (MYT); Minot Housing Authority (MHA) continues to backfill vacant apartments. Renovations of first floor common areas are almost complete. With additional funds remaining in the project, a change order was submitted for MHA to renovate the public restrooms on the first floor, as well as install energy-efficient ceiling tiles on the 15th floor; MHA anticipates this work being completed by the end of February.
- Construction of the Broadway Circle 17-unit affordable housing complex continues. Framing continues on the building, with work on flooring trusses slated to be installed soon. Plumbing work needs to be done; however, plumbing contractors will not address issues until the pipes will not freeze.

Family Homeless Shelter

- Construction is almost complete on the remodel of the multi-purpose commercial building; with minor punch list items remaining. The Lord's Cupboard Food Pantry has a successful operation at the commercial building. Construction of the Broadway Circle 6-unit Family Homeless Shelter continues; mechanical rough-ins are complete, and the building has been switched to permanent power.

City Hall

- The City has processed the final payment request from the contractor.

Center for Technical Education

- Progress continues on the construction of the CTE; substantial work has been completed on all three floors. The majority of cabinetry and countertop work is finished. Dental equipment and dental chairs have been installed in the teaching labs. Construction is slated for completion in early Spring.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Reduce Flood Risk/ Improve Water Management

A. Buyouts / Acquisitions / Demolitions / Relocations

- a. Total Budget - \$21,085,968
- b. Spent to Date - \$21,077,658

Build Affordable Resilient Neighborhoods

A. Multi-Family Affordable Housing

- a. Total Budget - \$27,466,685
- b. Spent to Date - \$24,925,776

B. Single-Family Affordable Housing

- a. Total Budget - \$6,296,429
- b. Spent to Date - \$6,179,365

C. Family Shelter

- a. Total Budget - \$3,512,797
- b. Spent to Date - \$2,807,875

Foster Economic Resilience and Diversification

A. Center for Technical Education

- a. Total Budget - \$3,540,000
- b. Spent to Date - \$1,375,886

B. Relocate City Hall

- a. Total Budget - \$8,222,593
- b. Spent to Date - \$7,515,279

Administration

- a. Total Budget - \$2,965,450
- b. Spent to Date - \$2,597,290

Completed Projects

- Park South Phases I & II
- Blu on Broadway
- Souris Heights
- Resilient Homebuyer Program
- Souris River Decision Support Tool
- Affordable Housing Neighborhood Master Plan
- Affordable Housing Supply & Demand Study