



Floodwall closure training held for Water Treatment Plant project

More than 30 Minot City staff received initial training at the end of June on how to install the temporary road closures needed to connect permanent floodwalls by the Water Treatment



Plant. This portion of the floodwall is between 12th Street SW and 8th Avenue SW and is part of the HMGP-Water Treatment Plant flood protection project. The columns and aluminum stop logs are all housed in a storage building on site near the water treatment plant, and would require a minimum of two hours at each opening just to install the various pieces and ensure they are secure against a flood. Additional time is needed for the logistics of cleaning the base for installation, mobilizing the stop logs and equipment to the individual site to perform the installation. The \$25 million construction of the flood protection at the Water Treatment Plant is nearing an end, after two years of work.

On this project, the first one to build floodwalls and new levees after the 2011 flood, the various government partners are sharing the costs. The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program through FEMA allows for a federal share of 75 percent of actual costs, with the State of North Dakota's share at 10 percent and the City of Minot's share at 15 percent.

The HMGP-Water Treatment Plan Project is a stand-alone effort to provide long-term protection to the region's main potable water treatment facility.

Review of new Flood Insurance Rate Maps underway

City of Minot officials on June 27 presented the Federal Emergency Management Agency's new preliminary flood risk maps. The proposed new maps will affect insurance premiums for approximately 3,200 properties in Minot and an additional 800 properties within Minot's two-mile extra-territorial area.

City Manager Tom Barry and City Engineer Lance Meyer said the new maps expand the flood plain following the devastating flood of 2011. FEMA will officially present the maps to the City of Minot on July 17. The City then has a 90-day window to appeal aspects of the maps. The maps are preliminary, and won't become final until July 2018.



The preliminary flood plain maps can be accessed at the City of Minot's website at minotnd.org. Under the "Flood Control and Resilience Efforts" headline, click the "FEMA Risk Maps: Are you included?" link, which will direct you to a FEMA interactive map.

"We encourage anyone who is questioning whether or not they might be included in the new flood plain to visit the web site. You can type in your address and see where your residence or other structure sits as it relates to the new flood plain map," Meyer said.

Barry and Meyer said residents will have the opportunity to sit down face-to-face with FEMA officials, City of Minot representatives and others during a public open house scheduled for July 19 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Minot Municipal Auditorium.

Meyer said a grandfathering provision will help keep insurance premiums from rising more than 18 percent yearly for residents who buy flood insurance before the maps become official in 2018. Those grandfathered rates would be transferrable to the new owners if a home in the flood plain was sold. The City is also working with FEMA's Community Ratings System to earn discounts for Minot residents. The City currently has a 10 percent discount, and work being done by the City could raise the discount to 15 percent.

In addition, insurance rates for homeowners in sections of Minot are expected to decrease once the first four phases of flood protection are complete, which is scheduled for approximately 2025. Those projects, beginning in west Minot, would protect roughly 62 percent of the City from levels of the 2011 flood.

Committee on Addiction formed for Minot region

Minot Mayor Chuck Barney is encouraged by the approach taken by the newly formed Mayor's Committee on Addiction to help identify and study the growing opioid addiction issue in the city.

"We're looking for tangible results that can help identify and fill in any gaps that may exist with this entire issue," Barney said after the committee held its first meeting July 5. "As a

committee, we want to help address the opioid addiction issue through any way we can, whether that's helping with legislation, working to help obtain grant funds, or assisting those in need through the legal process."



Joining Barney on the committee are Shannon Straight, Stephan Podrygula, Lisa Clute, Paul Stroklund, Dennis Lindahl, Patti Eisenzimmer, Dr. Jeffrey Sather, Jason Olson, Bob Barnard, Chris Ray, Mark Schaefer, Laurie Gotvaslee, Val Potter, Lisa Tankersley, and Mark Vollmer.

"The people on this committee represent different aspects of the community that deal with this issue," said Barney, the chairman of the committee. "These appointments were well thought out. I spent a lot of time visiting with people and talking to them. I didn't appoint myself to the chair of this committee lightly, but I felt the issue deserved it. Not because of me personally, but because of the position I represent."

Barney has said that others in the community will be involved in the committee going forward, in advisory roles and as members of potential subcommittees.

"One of our focuses is to create working subcommittees that will help tackle the different aspects of the opioid dependency issue," Barney said.

Save the date for annual networking seminar in September

The fifth annual Business Networking Seminar, held in connection with the Norsk Hostfest, is scheduled for September 26. Clear your calendar and plan on being at the Grand Hotel in Minot, as the Minot Area Development Corporation will hold the seminar from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. This year's seminar will feature Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) and will highlight the connection between Minot, ND and Scandinavian countries. For more information, please contact the MADC office at 701-852-1075 or jhauge@minotusa.com.



Minot Chamber leaders work behind the scenes on the future of Minot Air Force Base

Talks of budget cuts and base closures are always of concern to a community like Minot. Recent rumblings in Washington D.C. have rekindled that conversation; but Minot has proven to

always be prepared. There is a well-organized group within the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce whose job it is to help secure Minot Air Force Base. Task Force 21 (TF 21) works tirelessly behind the scenes for the future of Minot Air Force Base. TF 96 and TF 21 have been doing so for nearly 30 years.



“The first task force was formed prior to the 1991 Base Closure and Realignment Commission or BRAC,” said Chamber President John MacMartin. That group, TF 96, was successful in keeping Minot’s base intact. But that didn’t mean Minot Air Force Base was safe. The threat remained and so a new task force, TF 21 was established in 1997.

The Base has been a part of our community as TEAM MINOT since it was built in the late 1950s. The mission of Minot’s base is two-fold, with the 5th Bomb Wing and the 91st Missile Wing. That gives our community an advantage, but as many prior military communities will tell you, nothing is for sure.

That’s why TF 21 meets regularly to stay on top of what is happening in Washington, D.C. and across the nation and the world. They hear from consultant Greg Power, Major General, (Air Force, retired), on a constant basis on the status of happenings at the Pentagon, D.C. and within the military community. This group attends many military-related events and travels to keep in touch with both civilian and military decision makers in order to keep Minot Air Force Base a vital part of our economy.

Trinity Health still planning 2017 groundbreaking for new hospital and medical campus in Minot

Trinity Health continues to move forward with plans to build a new hospital and medical campus in southwest Minot. Recent focus has been on evaluating and refining materials and cost estimates to

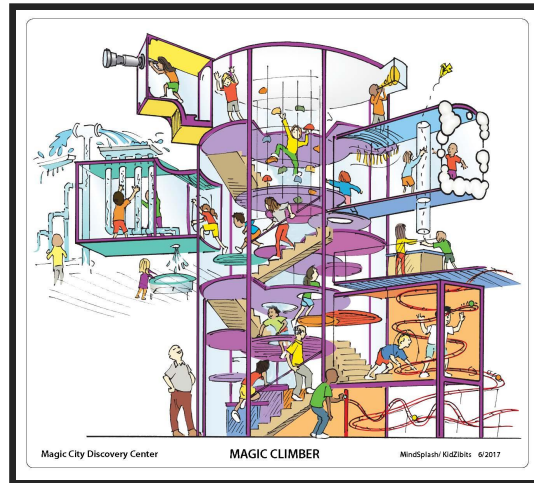


bring them in line with the project’s targeted budget. Part of that effort has involved some design changes. One design change is to re-position the medical office building (MOB) in relation to the hospital. “The MOB was slated to be positioned alongside the hospital, running parallel, which resulted in a

more expensive design. Instead, our design places the MOB perpendicular with the hospital, saving millions of dollars in costs while gaining more natural light into the adjacent hospital facility," said Trinity Health Facilities Vice President Dave Kohlman. In the meantime, work has been steady on the project, and site preparations are continuing, with an official groundbreaking planned this fall.

Children's Museum group announces location for new, permanent discovery center

At the beginning of July, the Children's Museum board in Minot announced the location for the future, permanent Magic City Discovery Center, to be built on Minot Park District land on north hill in Minot. This unique site, just southwest of the Sertoma softball



fields and the Minot International Airport Terminal, will make the discovery center very visible from North Broadway, with a panoramic view of Minot. This announced location comes as the museum board just applied for Community Facilities grant funding from the City of Minot and is about to kick off a capital campaign to raise funding for the new Magic City Discovery Center.

"There are a lot of exciting things happening – all at about the same time – that are really pushing us forward toward the Magic City Discovery Center's goal of having a permanent, stand-alone museum," said Children's Museum of Minot Board President, Jessica Henderson. "We are very grateful for the many partners in the process to this point, like the Minot Park District, that are making it that much easier to develop an interactive, engaging, hands-on discovery center that will serve our community and region for decades to come. And now, with this wonderful location on north hill, just off Broadway, we plan on continuing to garner community support and work toward a groundbreaking in 2018."

Over the last two years the Children's Museum of Minot Board of Directors has researched options for leasing, renovating or building new space in or near Minot that would serve as the location for the Magic City Discovery Center. After considering more than 20 potential locations throughout the area members of the board decided the Minot Park District land on north hill was the number one choice.

The Children's Museum of Minot Board is also partnering with the Minot Park District in applying for a grant through the city sales tax Community Facilities Fund. This application was submitted at the end of June and included the Magic City Discovery Center asking for \$2.5 million toward the new center

on north hill in Minot.

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