



### **Dignitaries break ground on first three Minot phases of flood protection**

Dignitaries from all levels of government joined area and community representatives on March 28 to break ground on the first three phases within



Minot of the Mouse River Enhanced Flood Protection Project. Many supporters, stakeholders and partners were on hand for the festivities including Souris River Joint Board Chairman David Ashley, Minot Mayor Chuck Barney, U.S. Senator John Hoeven, North Dakota Lieutenant Governor Brent Sanford, State Representative Roscoe Streyle, US Army Corps of Engineers Colonel Sam Calkins and representatives for U.S. Senator Heidi Heitkamp and U.S. Congressman Kevin Cramer.

"Today's groundbreaking is a monumental step in flood protection efforts for the Mouse River Basin," said Ashley. "Although it may seem like it has taken awhile, the years leading up to this point have been spent honing and developing the design, incorporating public and stakeholder input, modeling, analyzing and testing, permitting, and identifying and securing funding sources. We are now one step closer to providing flood protection for the residents of the Mouse River Basin."

"This flood protection is vital to the well-being of families and businesses in the Minot region," Hoeven said. "It takes tremendous dedication to move large infrastructure projects like this forward. We deeply appreciate everyone who has helped achieve this milestone."

The first three phases of flood protection in Minot include work near 4th Avenue North and Broadway, in the Napa Valley on the southwest side of Minot, and along Forest Road, just northeast of the city's Water Treatment Plant. The total cost for these first phases is estimated to be \$99.4 million. The cost share on these initial phases is being done on a 65/35 split, with 65 percent coming from the state and 35 percent from local funds. The primary source for local funding is from a portion of the Minot city sales tax allocated to flood protection.

Construction on all three phases is scheduled to be completed in 2020. For the latest information on the Mouse River Enhanced Flood Protection Project go to

[www.mouseriverplan.com](http://www.mouseriverplan.com) or search on Facebook for Mouse River Plan.

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### **Development review leads to new opportunities for Minot region**

The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) returned to Minot for one last site visit before providing its final report to help Minot leadership build a resilient economy and enhance social



connectivity. The Minot Area Development Corporation, Minot Area Chamber of Commerce, and City of Minot co-hosted IEDC's team from March 12th to 15th.

IEDC is the world's largest and oldest organization for economic development with 5,000+ members and a network of more than 30,000. IEDC has improved the quality of life for numerous communities across the U.S. and Minot welcomed four different industry experts during their site visit. As part of the National Disaster Resiliency award, the City of Minot has been able to utilize this opportunity to hire IEDC. IEDC's process included a site visit and preparation in fall 2017, an extensive background report, and another site visit in March 2018, before finalizing their report with recommendations and case research.

During the course of 4 days in Minot, IEDC met with several organizations to identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. Based on those meetings, their observations, and feedback, IEDC leadership developed a list of priority needs and opportunities for the city of Minot. IEDC's team recommended specific strategies to spur Minot's economic resilience and explored how those strategies can be expanded to foster economic recovery for other areas in the city. In hearing the IEDC's recommendations, Minot leadership learned it will be a long process, but that change is necessary to help Minot's community improve. IEDC experts are currently working on the final report, which will be published in June 2018.

[Click here](#) to read more about IEDC's site visit and recommendations.

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### **Minot school superintendent named to Governor's Innovative Education Task Force**

Mark Vollmer, superintendent of Minot Public Schools and Minot Air Force Base School District, has been named to North Dakota Governor Doug Burgum's Innovative Education Task Force. The task force is comprised of community and business leaders, and educators. The goal of the task force is to provide direction on how state government can empower school districts to create innovative educational opportunities for students. This work becomes increasingly important as our state continues to be impacted by rapid technological

advances. Vollmer’s appointment fits well with the mission of Minot Public Schools – “To empower all students to succeed in a changing world.”

Vollmer was hired as a principal at Magic City Campus in 2002 and has served as superintendent of MPS since 2011.



**City of Minot unveils new GIS system**

City Engineer Lance Meyer presented the City of Minot’s new Geographic Information System (GIS) website during the Committee of the Whole meeting in March. Meyer said the new website uses industry-standard software and technology and will allow users to find detailed information about construction projects, road closures, and load restrictions.



The new site can be found at [minotnd.maps.arcgis.com/home/index.html](http://minotnd.maps.arcgis.com/home/index.html).

Users can view a variety of features and projects, including street repairs, sewer work, general maintenance, road closures, and construction projects. Users can click on a specific project, and find detailed information about the project, including a description of the project, scheduled dates of the work, and the name of the project manager with contact information. There’s also a one-click method to send an email directly to the project manager.

**Just in time for trauma season**

Trinity Health has become the first North Dakota hospital to adopt a new technique that can stop fatal bleeding with a simple balloon device. The ER-REBOA™ Catheter is a lifesaving tool for patients who are at risk of bleeding to death due to massive blood loss that can’t be stopped with compression. Traditionally, the only option doctors had to stop uncontrolled bleeding was to make a large chest incision and clamp the aorta. The ER-REBOA™ Catheter offers a minimally invasive alternative to this method, using a technology similar to the technique cardiologists use to open arteries of the heart. “Acute internal hemorrhage is the leading cause of death in trauma patients,” said Dr. Gary Wease, a general surgeon and



director of Trinity's Trauma Program. "With the REBOA, we have a less invasive way to achieve immediate hemorrhage control so the patient can be stabilized and sent to the OR for definitive treatment."

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### **Northwest Arts Center grand opening set for April 19**

Minot State University will commemorate completion of the new Northwest Arts Center, the Walter Piehl Gallery, and the Native American Artifact



Collection with a grand opening celebration from 5 to 8 p.m., Thursday, April 19, in the lower level of Gordon B. Olson Library. The dedication program will start at 6:15 p.m. Mandan-Hidatsa storyteller/musician Keith Bear, of New Town, N.D., and cowboy poet/singer-songwriter D.W. Groethe, of Bainville, Mont. will participate in the dedication of the center's Walter Piehl Gallery and the new exhibit space for MSU's Native American collection. Piehl, who recently retired from a 50-year career teaching art at MSU, is donating a major body of his work to the center's permanent collection. The grand opening exhibit, "Retrospective: Covering 1962-2018," is an overview of his work.

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