



Minot celebrates first NDR affordable housing success

Park South Apartments, the City of Minot's first affordable housing rehabilitation project supported by the National Disaster Resilience (NDR)



Program, is complete. A ribbon cutting and open house was held Tuesday, August 21. The apartment building is one of the first projects in the country completed between the recipients of the 13 NDR grants provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) program.

"We're proud that Minot continues to be an example of how the National Disaster Resilience Program is expected to help communities," said City of Minot Mayor, Shaun Sipma. "This project was a great first step for the community utilizing the HUD grant, National Disaster Resilience dollars, and it's a great illustration of what all three levels of governments working together can accomplish."

\$21 million of the \$74.3 million HUD grant through NDR is designated for affordable multifamily housing. The city awarded \$1.97 million to Essential Living Inc., the non-profit owner of Park South, to renovate the building's 35 existing apartments and add five new units.

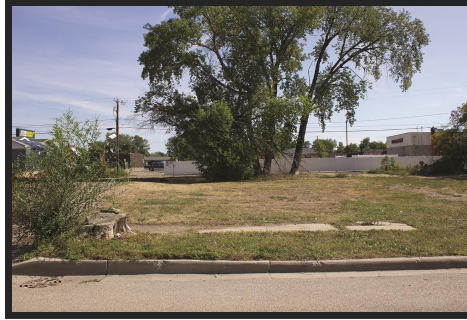
Seventy-five percent of Park South's apartments are now reserved for income-qualified households, and four of these units are fully handicapped accessible.

Essential Living also received \$2.23 million from North Dakota Housing Finance Agency (NDHFA) through the Housing Incentive Fund. The state's program supports the development and preservation of affordable multifamily rental housing targeted to low- to moderate-income households and essential service workers.

For more information on how the various public partner groups, including the North Dakota Department of Commerce and the Bank of North Dakota, and the private partners, Essential Living, participated in this project, [click here](#).

Neighbor Next Door initiative successfully assists in sale of 15 properties

Neighbor Next Door is an effort patterned after programs used by many Housing and Urban Development grantees. According to John Zakian, Minot’s Disaster Resilience Grant Program Manager and Chief Resilience



Officer, the city’s Neighbor Next Door initiative acquires properties as part of an effort to rid neighborhoods of spot blight and then offers the cleared properties to adjacent property owners to be maintained.

“There are two primary goals for the city’s Neighbor Next Door program,” Zakian said. “Those goals are to restore the properties to private ownership and to assure these properties are maintained in a manner which contributes to the stability of the neighborhood while supporting flood mitigation strategies.”

The properties in Minot’s program were not acquired using HUD funds, but were acquired by the city through various state grant programs received between 2013 and 2016. The properties acquired included homes which had been seriously damaged during the 2011 flood and the property owners did not have the financial means to rehabilitate the homes.

Zakian said Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) encourages cities that have suffered through massive flooding to promote programs and initiatives in a post flood environment that results in reducing damage from future flooding. By promoting the Neighbor Next Door program, which does not allow structures to be built on the parcels, the city is using a proactive approach to meet FEMA’s goals.

For more on this story, [click here](#).

Trinity Health sets date for Groundbreaking event

With building activity well underway at the site of its new healthcare facility, Trinity Health is holding a “Breaking More Ground” event September 20th to celebrate



construction of its new regional healthcare campus and medical district. The community is welcome to attend the event from 4 to 6 p.m. at the construction site located at 37th Avenue SW, west of the Minot Family YMCA. A community picnic, refreshments, and music by Dakota Dixie will be featured, along with a short program about the project and its impact on healthcare delivery in the region. Dave Kohlman, vice president of facilities, says a productive construction season has kept the project moving. The public is invited to keep tabs on construction progress by logging on to Trinity Health's live cam website at www.trinityhealth.org/livecam.

MADC delegates represent MAGIC Sky at UAS Summit and Expo

Minot Area Development Corporation (MADC) President and CEO Stephanie Hoffart, Board Member Jay Fisher, and Marketing Director Terri Phillion recently attended the 2018 UAS Summit and Expo in Grand Forks in late August. Over three days, the team learned from 100+ industry experts including the U.S. Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson. U.S. Senator Heidi Heitkamp and U.S. Representative Kevin Cramer also addressed the importance of the unmanned aerial system industry, specific to North Dakota.



MADC also had a booth in the expo hall where collaterals were available for potential UAS/UAV cohorts. Delegates from MADC's key strategic MAGIC Sky partners, eSmart Systems, and SkySkopes were also in attendance. SkySkopes CEO and President Matt Dunlevy was interviewed by local media on the U.S. Department of Transportation's recent announcement of North Dakota's selection for the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration Pilot Program.

IEDC CEO/President to present at EDND Fall Economic Development Conference

The International Economic Development Council's (IEDC's) President and CEO Jeff Finkle, has confirmed he will conduct a basic training module on the opening day of the Economic Development Association of North Dakota's (EDND) 2018 Fall Conference in Minot, Oct. 29-31. Finkle is a recognized leader and authority on economic development. The Governor's Awards will be presented later that evening. Registration is now open for the conference and can be accessed at www.ednd.org. Sponsorship opportunities are still available. Please contact Terri at 701-852-1075 or tphillion@minotusa.com.

First-day enrollment numbers up at Minot State

Minot State University's first-day enrollment showed positive

trends with an overall increase of 1.1 percent, the university announced in late August. The total first-day enrollment at Minot State was 3,189 in 2018 compared to 3,154 in 2017.



Minot State also reported 407 freshmen enrolled – an increase of 6.8 percent over last year’s first-day figures. This marks the fourth consecutive year of growth in freshman numbers and the largest freshman class in five years. The university has grown its freshman class by nearly 20 percent since fall 2014.

The official enrollment numbers may change as Minot State’s fall enrollment is not reported to the North Dakota University System until after the fourth week of classes.

Minot State unveils new university branding, including new logo

Minot State University announced a new branding strategy during its 2018



Convocation event held at Ann Nicole Nelson Hall in mid-August. The plan includes an updated university logo, enhanced taglines, and graphic standards.

“The updated branding strategy will provide a strong, memorable visual for Minot State University,” said Minot State President Steven Shirley. “This will give us a clear and consistent look – highlighting our strengths and distinguishing Minot State from other colleges and universities.”

The branding strategy features a new academic logo, using the historic Old Main outline along with “Minot State University” prominently displayed below the stylized roofline. Minot State’s tagline, “Be seen. Be heard.” will not be retired, but enhanced, with additional text including “Be inspired.,” “Be empowered.,” “Be you.,” and “Belong.”

Task Force 21 schedules Triad Symposium

Minot Chamber’s Task Force 21 (TF 21) is preparing to host its seventh symposium on the Nuclear Triad on October 9 in Washington D.C. TF 21 Chair Mark Jantzer says, “It will be a great opportunity for our



community, which is home to two legs of the triad, to stay engaged in the national debate concerning the need for the recapitalization of all three legs of the triad.”

The topic of the symposium is “The 2018 Nuclear Posture Review: Recapitalization of the Triad, Professional Nuclear Education, and a Call for Civic Engagement.” It will be an opportunity to hear from past and present leaders of America’s nuclear forces, members of Congress, and prominent non-government experts.

The line-up of speakers and panelists includes the following: former Air Force Chief of Staff Larry Walsh; Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Policy David Trachtenberg; Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Nuclear Matters Peter Fanta; former NNSA Administrator Frank Klotz; Air University Commandant Lt. Gen. Tony Cotton; Director of Navy Strategic Systems Programs Vice Adm Johnny Wolfe; and retired Air Force Maj. Gen. Garrett Harencak. Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson has been invited.

Northern Neighbors Day Air & Space Show a success

The Minot Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) attended the 2018 Northern Neighbors Day Air and Space Show and greeted hundreds of visitors to Minot. The CVB had an informational table at the bi-annual event.



This year’s airshow grew drastically in attendance, with 21,800 estimated attendees compared to 12,500 in 2016. The U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds were the main headliner, along with local flying acts including local legend Kent Pietsch. The show also featured static displays of numerous aircrafts, the Bigfoot Monster truck, a working military dog demonstration, Missile Launch Facility tours, and a weapons demonstration. Minot Air Force Base’s next airshow is scheduled for August 1, 2020.

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