

Senate Finance and Taxation Committee SB 2275 Senator, Kannianen, Chair January 24, 2023

Chairman Kannianen and members of the Senate Finance and Taxation Committee:

I am Jim Neubauer, City Administrator for Mandan, and am here to present testimony in support of Senate Bill 2275.

As introduced in the 2019 legislative session the Municipal Infrastructure Fund, also known as Prairie Dog Fund, was to provide significant funding assistance for non-oil producing counties. As we know oil prices during that initial biennium tanked. The City of Mandan was scheduled to receive approximately \$6.5 million dollars. The initial bucket filled and we received the first disbursement of \$2.5 million. These funds helped lower the special assessment costs for residents in three different assessment districts. There was no disbursement of the remaining \$4 million as the second bucket did not fill.

2021 legislation moved a \$400 illion strategic investment and improvements fund in front of the buckets for non-oil producing counties. While oil prices have remained high throughout this biennium, had the \$400-million-dollar bucket not been moved up, cities and counties would have received their disbursements much sooner, which allows for earlier funding and in turn allows us to pass those savings to citizens via lower costs for infrastructure projects.

The City of Mandan certainly is grateful for the Municipal Infrastructure funds it has received to date and encourage you to support SB 2275.

I would be happy to answer any questions the committee may have regarding this testimony.

Thank you.