

MANDAN *North Dakota*



MANDAN BUSINESS BRIEF - May 20, 2020

Local Information & Resources

Organizers of Events Contemplate Compliance with Protocols for Large Gatherings

With ND Smart Restart guidelines issued May 15 for [large gatherings](#) and [event venues](#), committees and board members of the Mandan Progress Organization (MPO) and others are evaluating whether they can be compliant in holding various activities. The MPO earlier this month approved an alternative project to Touch A Truck, a coloring book sponsored by businesses that otherwise would have brought their specialty vehicles to the event. Buggies-n-Blues is rescheduled for Aug. 14-15. Leaders are contemplating Mandan Rodeo Days including Art in the Park and the Independence Day Parade. Stay tuned to www.mandanprogress.org for updates. Dacotah Speedway also expects to soon make an announcement.



Memorial Highway Reconstruction Project to Enter Final Design Phase

The Mandan City Commission on May 19 voted to approve moving forward with the final design for reconstruction of Memorial Highway. In reviewing alternatives,

their vote included a preference for a concrete roadway.

The Commission also considered five storm water options to control the rate of releases into major water bodies. They approved an option that avoids large retention ponds because of concerns about long-term maintenance costs and consumption of significant acreage off

one of the city's busiest commercial corridors that could otherwise be put to better use. They instead chose another viable option that requires greater length of deeper and larger storm water pipe as well as another penetration into the Heart River levee.

There's a 10% local cost share on design and construction for all items related to the roadway and storm sewer or any other above-ground features and a 100% local share for costs of design and construction for all water and sanitary sewer system elements. These local costs likely will be covered through a combination of sales and property tax revenue, utility funds and special assessments to property owners. More will be known as the City explores grant options from the State Water Commission and as there's more certainty about the availability of Municipal Infrastructure Funds (nicknamed Prairie Dog funds) from the state.

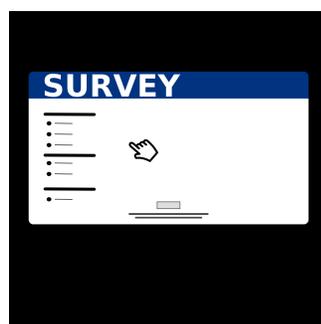
The current project schedule would entail construction of off-corridor storm and sanitary facilities in 2022 with corridor reconstruction taking place in 2023 and 2024.

HDR, a consulting engineering firm, has been issuing newsletter updates. Find these, including the latest issue about storm water and drainage basics, [here](#).

Option 5 – West Portion Gravity to Heart River & East Portion Gravity to Lakewood
This option consists of splitting storm water collection into two regions divided near 40th Avenue SE, as shown in Figure 6.



Figure 6 - Conceptual Layout of Option 5



Last Day for Responses to Local Survey on COVID-19 Impacts & Needs

The latest survey of area business owners regarding COVID-19 economic impacts and needs closes May 20 at midnight. Please take a few minutes to respond using this online [link](#). A summary of findings will be shared in the next Mandan Business Brief. Results from March and April surveys are available [here](#).

State Also Surveying Businesses About Impacts

The N.D. Department of Commerce has issued a second round statewide survey to

collect data on business impacts from the coronavirus. This survey asks about business experiences since March 13 (when Governor Burgum declared a State of Emergency) and within the next 30 days. By tracking this information, the agency and partner organizations can identify additional ways to support businesses. You can take the survey [by clicking this link](#).

SBA & Treasury Release Paycheck Protection Program Loan Forgiveness Application

The U.S. Small Business Administration, in consultation with the U.S Department of the Treasury, has released the [Paycheck Protection Program \(PPP\) Loan Forgiveness Application and detailed instructions](#) for the application.



The form and instructions inform borrowers how to apply for forgiveness of their PPP loans, consistent with the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). SBA will also soon issue regulations and guidance to further assist borrowers as they complete their applications, and to provide lenders with guidance on their responsibilities.

The form and instructions include several measures to reduce compliance burdens and simplify the process for borrowers, including:

- Options for borrowers to calculate payroll costs using an “alternative payroll covered period” that aligns with borrowers’ regular payroll cycles
- Flexibility to include eligible payroll and non-payroll expenses paid or incurred during the eight-week period after receiving their PPP loan
- Step-by-step instructions on how to perform the calculations required by the CARES Act to confirm eligibility for loan forgiveness
- Borrower-friendly implementation of statutory exemptions from loan forgiveness reduction based on rehiring by June 30
- Addition of a new exemption from the loan forgiveness reduction for borrowers who have made a good-faith, written offer to rehire workers that was declined

The PPP was created by the CARES Act to provide forgivable loans to eligible small businesses to keep American workers on the payroll during the COVID-19 pandemic. The documents released May 15 will help small businesses seek forgiveness at the conclusion of the eight-week covered period, which begins with the disbursement of their loans.



Attracting Travelers in the New Normal

The U.S. Travel Association has compiled industry guidance for promoting the health and safety of all travelers. Tips for hotels, restaurants, gas stations and other businesses interested in attracting travelers center on the adage “seeing is believing,” recommending visible, frequent cleaning and a reduction of touch points to regain consumer confidence. Find the full set of standards [here](#).



Business Continuity Planning Basics for Restaurants

The National Restaurant Association also has [outlined 10 steps](#) for restaurants.

Business Directories for Personal Protective Equipment & Sanitizers

Business organizations and government entities are collaborating on COVID-19 recovery. The Downtowners Association of Bismarck compiled a directory for sales of personal protective equipment and sanitizing products in Mandan-Bismarck. Find the directory [here](#). To include your business, fill out this [online form](#).



Additionally, the ND Smart Restart website includes information about makers of masks and hand sanitizer as well as a form for vendors to provide information about COVID-related supplies. Here is the [link](#).

Nominations Open for Chamber Businesses Awards

The Chamber EDC's Excellence in Business and Education Committee is excited to begin receiving nominations for its Sept. 22 Celebrate Bismarck Mandan awards ceremony. Before May 31, go [online](#) to nominate a Chamber EDC member organization or individual for one of the following awards:

- Granite Award
- Mike Fink Award for Steady Growth & Profitability
- New Entrepreneur of the Year Award
- Small Business Person of the Year Award
- Golden Eagle Award

If you have any questions, please contact [Christine Nelson](#) or call 701-223-5660.



Local Information

[Online Business Directory](#)

[Memorial Highway Project Update](#)

Activities & Events

May 10-31: [Mother's Day Walk, FALSP](#)

May 21-25: [Never Forgotten Memorial Walk-a-thon, FALSP](#)

May 22: MHS Graduation, 6:30 p.m.

May 25: [ND Veterans Cemetery Virtual Memorial Day Program, noon](#)

May 29: Raging Rivers Water Park opening day

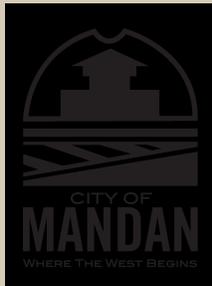
July 2-4: Mandan Rodeo Days (pending)

Aug. 14-15: Buggies-n-Blues

[Assistance & Incentive Programs](#)

[Available Properties](#)

[Community Profile](#)



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