RESOLUTION NO. 25 – 02 - 14

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR FY 2025 BUILD PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION FOR EAST GRAND FORKS-GRAND FORKS RIVER CROSSING PROJECT

Council Member Peterson, supported by Council Member Schumacher, introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development "BUILD" Transportation Grants Program provides dedicated, discretionary funding for transportation infrastructure projects of local or regional significance; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Transportation released an updated Notice of Funding Opportunity "NOFO" on January 24, 2025 renaming the Discretionary Grant Program from RAISE to BUILD; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Transportation is soliciting applications for a portion of the \$1.5 billion in grant funding available for the FY 2025 BUILD Grants Program as appropriated through the National Infrastructure Investments, of which a portion is set-aside for planning grants; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2025 BUILD Grants Program directs funds be divided not more than 50 percent for rural areas and 50 percent for urbanized areas and requires measures to ensure an equitable geographic distribution of grant funds and an appropriate balance in addressing the needs of urban and rural areas; and

WHEREAS, activities eligible for funding under RAISE planning grants are related to the planning, preparation, or design, including but not limited to environmental analysis, equity analysis, community engagement, feasibility studies, benefit-cost analysis, and other preconstruction activities of eligible surface transportation capital projects that will not result in construction with BUILD FY 2025 funding; and

WHEREAS, the maximum award for this round of FY 2025 BUILD Grants Program is \$25 million; and

WHEREAS, the project is identified as a rural project and is eligible to request up to 100 percent in federal funds through the BUILD planning grant;

WHEREAS, the City of East Grand Forks, MN as the lead applicant, has the support and partnership of the City of Grand Forks, ND (GF), and the counties of Polk (MN) and Grand Forks (ND) to seek funds for planning activities including but not limited to environmental analysis, equity analysis, community engagement, feasibility studies, benefit-cost analysis, preliminary engineering, and final design engineering, for a future bridge spanning the Red River; and

WHEREAS, the proposed planning activities will result in planning and design of a preferred alternative that supports USDOT's strategic goals of improving mobility, safety, sustainability, and economic competitiveness; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of East Grand Forks supports and approves the FY 2025 BUILD Grant application towards planning activities for East Grand Forks-Grand Forks Bridge Crossing Project, and authorizes the City Administrator to submit the application.

Voting Aye: Casmey, Larson, Peterson, Schumacher, Pokrzywinski, Riopelle, and Helms.

Voting Nay: None.

The President declared the resolution passed.

Passed: February 4, 2025

Attest:

City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer

President of Council

I hereby approve the foregoing resolution this 4th day of February, 2025.

Mayor