

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 21, 2025

To Whom it May Concern
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

We write to express our support for the joint application submitted by the cities of Grand Forks, North Dakota, and East Grand Forks, Minnesota, to the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) program. Thank you for your consideration.

The Grand Forks-East Grand Forks application would fund a Planning and Environmental Linkage (PEL) study of potential river crossing corridors for a bridge connection across the Red River between the two cities. The planning project will support a range of multimodal options which address diverse local and regional transportation needs.

Both the Grand Forks and East Grand Forks communities have identified a need for a new river crossing to increase safety, reduce congestion at the existing crossings, and better incorporate transportation infrastructure into the current roadway network. The project will address these unique challenges by providing a safer and more efficient connection for freight and vehicular traffic across the Red River and deliver a more accessible connection for pedestrian traffic between the cities and surrounding areas.

As the region's population is forecasted to grow significantly over the coming years, infrastructure improvements are critically needed to bolster the existing transportation network. If funded, such improvements will foster economic growth and enhance the quality of life for all residents.

Accordingly, we hope this application receives your favorable consideration, and all of North Dakota's applications receive your full and fair consideration. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. Please keep us informed of the review process, and feel free to contact our offices with any updates or inquiries you may have.

Sincerely,

The block contains three handwritten signatures in black ink. From left to right: John Hoeven, Kevin Cramer, and Julie Fedorchak. The signatures are fluid and cursive.

John Hoeven
U.S. Senator

Kevin Cramer
U.S. Senator

Julie Fedorchak
Member of Congress