



# City of Grand Forks Staff Report (UPDATED APRIL 12, 2019)



**Committee of the Whole – April 8, 2019**  
**City Council – April 15, 2019**

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**Agenda Item:** Bids for City Project No. 7750 – Reconstruction of Demers Avenue from the Sorlie Bridge to 6<sup>th</sup> Street

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**Submitted by:** Engineering Department, Mark S. Walker, PE (Assistant City Engineer)

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**Staff Recommended Action:** **Concur in award of contract to low bidder and approve any necessary budget amendment for Project No. 7750 – Reconstruction of Demers Avenue from the Sorlie Bridge to 6th Street, contingent upon concurrence from the NDDOT**

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**Committee Recommended Action:**

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**Council Action:**  
approved unanimously

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## **BACKGROUND:**

Bids for this project were opened on April 12, 2019 at the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) in Bismarck. A single bid was received and opened. The bid received was from Strata Corporation in the amount of \$8,116,433.95. The NDDOT will need to review and analyze various data from the low bidder before they will actually award. Since this is a Regional funded project, the NDDOT will award the contract and the City must concur in the award. The City's share of the total project cost based on the bid price is approximately \$1.014m plus approximately \$88,010 for streetscape design fees.

This project is being proposed by the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) and is intended to reconstruct Demers Avenue from face of building to face of building. Although we are not sure of the exact year that Demers Avenue was originally constructed, we know that the pavement is quite old. It consists of a concrete pavement that was last overlaid with asphalt pavement in 2000 and had a thin overlay installed in 2009. The sidewalks and street lights along Demers were installed in approximately 2000 and the traffic signal system was upgraded in 2012.

This project has been considered at a number of previous Council/Committee/Public meetings, some of which are as follows:

- This project has been programmed for several years and has been included on the ND Department of Transportation's listing for projects eligible for Federal Highway Urban Funding
- August 2014 - Council passed a motion recommending that this section of Demers Avenue be reconstructed in lieu of a rehabilitation project to mill and overlay the street. This decision was made, in part, with the assumption that the deck of the Sorlie Bridge needed to be removed and replaced. The thought was that the deck work would cause the Sorlie Bridge to be completely closed for most of the construction season and that would be a good time to reconstruct Demers Avenue. As it turned out, it was determined that the Sorlie Bridge deck was in good condition and did not require replacing, and construction of the Sorlie Bridge project has since been completed.
- September 29, 2015 - Staff recommended to the Service/Safety Committee meeting, that a rehabilitation (mill and overlay) project be pursued as this type of project can renew the driving surface with minimal disruption at a relatively low cost as opposed to a reconstruction project that will not significantly change the lane configuration and will be very disruptive to the traveling public and to the downtown businesses. No action was taken at this meeting but rather the item was held in Committee and staff was asked to meet with members of the Downtown Development Association (DDA) to determine whether they prefer a reconstruction or rehabilitation project.
- October 2, 2015 - NDDOT and City staff met with the DDA Executive Director, President, and a board member to discuss the project. DDA staff was interested in learning what could be included in each project and if bicycle lanes could be incorporated into the rehabilitation project. DDA staff's intent was to relay this information to DDA members, downtown business owners, and downtown property owners at an upcoming meeting to determine whether the group preferred a reconstruction or rehabilitation project and if there is a desire to add bicycle lanes at the cost of losing on-street parking. The DDA held several meetings and conducted a survey which revealed there were a multitude of differing opinions regarding reconstruction, rehabilitation, bike lanes, parking, and width of sidewalks. In the end, the DDA decided to not form an organizational position on the matter but rather provide the survey results.
- October 13, 2015 – A project update was provided to the Service/Safety Committee.
- November 2, 2015 – Council recommended that the NDDOT retain current level of funding for reconstruction of Demers Avenue from the Sorlie Bridge to 6th Street in upcoming State Transportation Improvement Program budget and continue to research public opinion and further evaluate reconstruction versus rehabilitation options.
- Summer 2017 – NDDOT staff met with a number of organizations, downtown business owners, downtown property owners, City departments, etc. to gather public input on project options to consider.
- July 24, 2017 – A project update was provided to the Committee of the Whole by the NDDOT.
- January 8, 2018 - A project update was provided to the Committee of the Whole by the NDDOT.
- January 9, 2018 – A public input meeting was held.
- March 5, 2018 – Council approved the Documented CATEX, concurred with the project concepts as proposed, and selected the option to reconstruct Demers Avenue without bike lanes, or wider sidewalks, or sharrows, but to include curb extensions on both Demers Avenue and side streets.

- August 20, 2018 – Council approved installation of curb extensions on 3rd and 4th Street but not on Demers and to install a curb extension on the SW corner of 5<sup>th</sup> Street.
- September 4, 2018 – Council approved an agreement with KLJ for Streetscape Design Engineering Services in the amount of \$59,028.
- March 4, 2019 – Council approved a Cost Participation and Maintenance Agreement with the NDDOT and approved Amendment No. 1 with KLJ for Additional Engineering Services on the streetscape design in the amount of \$28,982.
- April 1, 2019 – Council approved the Plans and Specifications for this project.

## **ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS OF FACT:**

- Bids for this project were received by the NDDOT in Bismarck on April 12, 2019.
- A single bid was received and opened for this project.
- The lowest bid received was from Strata Corporation in the amount of \$8,116,433.95.
- The Engineer’s Estimate for this project is \$6,139,430.75.
- The lowest bid received was approximately 32% above the Engineer’s Estimate.
- Because bids will be received at the NDDOT bid letting and because the NDDOT will need to review and analyze various data from the bidder before they will award, a recommendation of award will not likely be available for the April 15 Council meeting; however, there is a reasonable probability that the low bidder will be the recommended contractor.
- The proposed project funding split for eligible project expenses is 80.93% Federal, 9.07% State, and 10% City.
- The total project costs based on estimated costs prior to receiving bids, including engineering, lands, and construction, are as follows:
 

\$9,911,577	Total Project Cost
\$8,001,276	Less Federal Share
<u>\$ 896,720</u>	Less State Share
\$ 1,013,581	City Share (excludes \$88,010 for streetscape design fees)
- The above City share includes approximately \$24,915 of utility work that is to be funded with 100% City funds.
- Funding for the City share will be from the Street/Infrastructure Fund 4815.
- Although the City share for this project is currently estimated to be greater than the amount included in the Street/Infrastructure Fund for this project, any additional funds needed for this project will be from unused money from the other projects listed in the Street/Infrastructure Fund that were not constructed or are under budget. Alternatively, if there is not an adequate amount of available funding, a budget amendment will be processed.
- Construction is scheduled to take place during the 2019 construction season.

## **SUPPORT MATERIALS:**

- Abstract of Bids Received (1 page)
- Project location map (1 page)
- Page 320 from the 2019 City Budget indicating local funding source for this project (1 page)

NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DBE = Disadvantage Business Enterprise

Low Bidder Tabulation Report for the Bid Opening of 04/12/2019 09:30AM

Job	PCN(s)	Project(s)	Length	Type	Location	Low Bidder	\$ Low Bid	Engineers Estimate	Difference \$ + or -
030	21841 & 21843	NHU-6-002(125)911 & NHU-6-297(011)003	0.310	GRADING, STORM SEWER, AGGREGATE BASE, PCC PAVEMENT, SIDEWALK, LANDSCAPING, STREE	GRAND FORKS; BUSINESS US 2, GRAND FORKS - DEMERS AVE, 5TH ST TO SORLIE BRIDGE, ND 297, GRAND FORKS - DEMERS AVE (6TH ST N TO 5TH ST N)	STRATA CORPORATION	8,116,433.95	6,139,430.75	+1,977,00

DESIGN DATA			
Traffic	Average Daily		
Current 2017	Pass: 15,350	Trucks: 230	Total: 15,580
Forecast 2037	Pass: 21,955	Trucks: 345	Total: 22,300
Clear Zone Distance: 14 FT (flat foreslope)		Design Speed: 25 mph	
Minimum Sight Dist. for Stopping: 155 FT		Bridges: NA	
Limited Access Control			
Pavement Design Life 30 (years)			
Design Accumulated One-way Rigid ESALs: 1,589,000			

**JOB #**  
**NORTH DAKOTA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

STATE	PROJECT NO.	PCN	SECTION NO.	SHEET NO.
ND	NHU-6-002(125)911	21841	1	1
	NHU-6-297(011)003	21843		

NHU-6-002(125)911 (5th St to Sorlie Bridge)  
NHU-6-297(011)003 (6th St to 5th St)

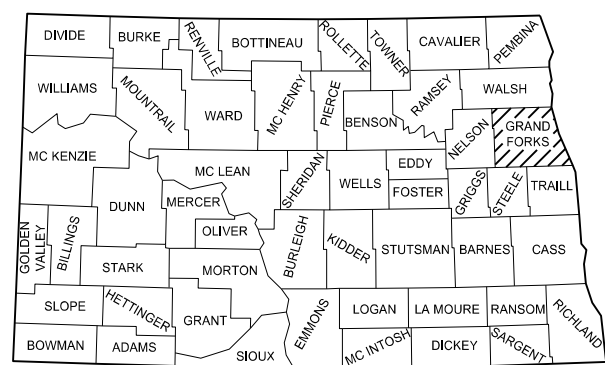
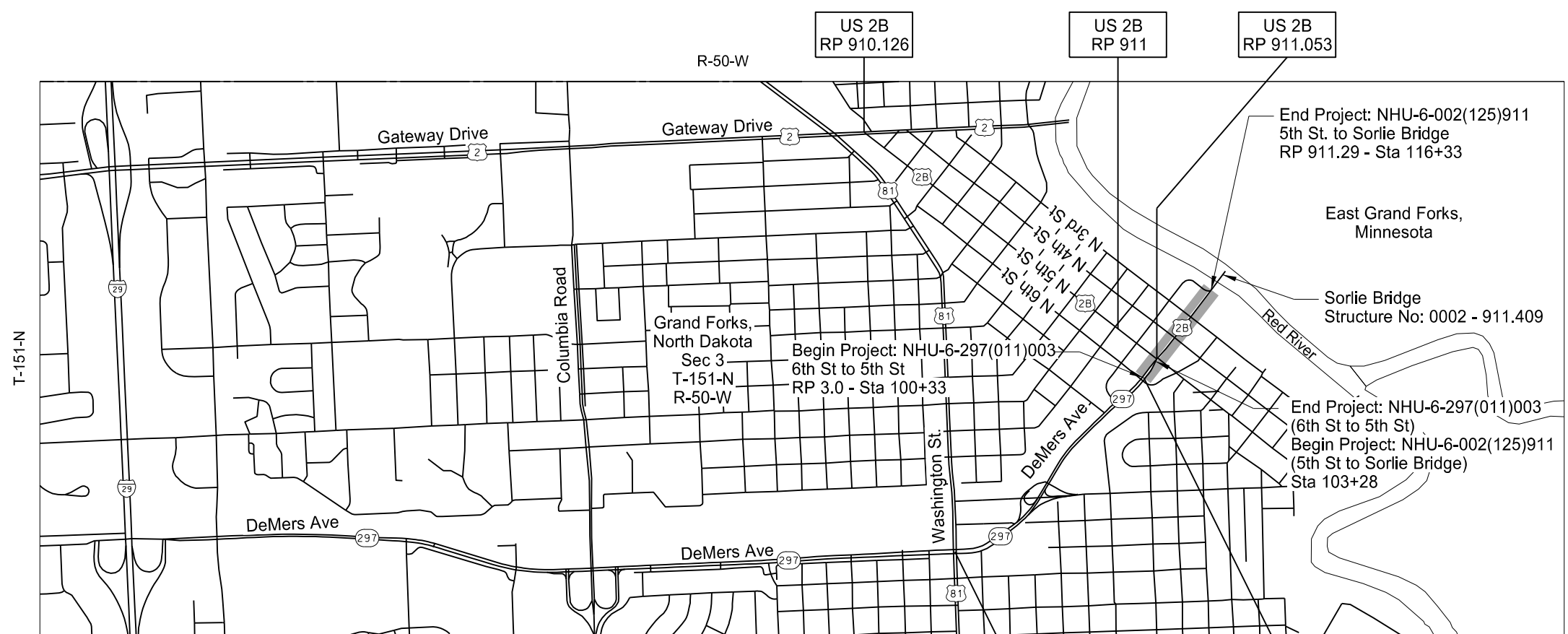
Grand Forks County  
US Highway 2 Business Loop/DeMers Avenue

Grading, Storm Sewer, Aggregate Base, PCC Pavement,  
Sidewalk, Landscaping, Street Lighting, Traffic Signals,  
Signing & Pavement Marking

**GOVERNING SPECIFICATIONS:**

2014 Standard Specifications adopted by the North Dakota Department of Transportation and the Supplemental Specifications effective on the date the project is advertised.

PROJECT NUMBER \ DESCRIPTION	NET MILES	GROSS MILES
NHU-6-002(125)911	0.25	0.25
NHU-6-297(011)003	0.06	0.06



STATE COUNTY MAP

DESIGNER Edit -Type Name Only
DESIGNER Edit -Type Name Only
DESIGNER Edit -Type Name Only

ND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
OFFICE OF PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

NDDOT DESIGN DIVISION

This document  
is preliminary  
and not for  
construction or  
implementation  
purposes.



# Street & Infrastructure

Budget Year 2019

G/L Account	Account Description	2016 Amended Budget	2016 Actual Amount	2017 Amended Budget	2017 Actual Amount	2018 Adopted Budget	2019 Adopted Budget
Fund 4815 - Street/Infrastructure Fund							
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	300,000.00
	Minor Street Repair						300,000.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	2,385,000.00
	Street Mtce Program (3% Increase per Year)						2,385,000.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	80,000.00
	Intelligent Transportation System						80,000.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	60,000.00
	LED Street Light Replacement Program						60,000.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	20,000.00
	Diamond Grade Reflectivity of Signs						20,000.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	200,000.00
	N Washington CPR & Grind (8th Ave N to Gateway Dr)						200,000.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	11,000.00
	Advanced Ped Walk 42nd St. and Columbia Rd Corridors						11,000.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	50,000.00
	US Hwy 2 & N 55th St Traffic Signal						50,000.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	255.00
	Red Light Confirmation Indicators on Gateway						255.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	744,000.00
	N 62nd (10th to Gateway) (SIG Econ Devel)						744,000.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	100,000.00
	ADA/MPO/Other Consulting Services						100,000.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	369,000.00
	32nd Ave S Turn Lanes (Corridor Improvements)						369,000.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	20,000.00
	Washington Street Underpass Evaluation						20,000.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	47,600.00
	Washington St (Hammerling to 8th Ave N) ADA Ramps						47,600.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	150,000.00
	Point Bridge Rehabilitation (Portion from Bridge Reserve)						150,000.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	381,600.00
	S 42nd St (34th to 40th Ave S; Rural Section)						381,600.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	616,000.00
	Cherry St (60th to 62nd Ave S)						616,000.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	111,000.00
	N 5th St (Gateway to Demers-Mill & Overlay)						111,000.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	715,001.00
	Business US 2 Reconstruction (Demers to Red River)						715,001.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	60,000.00
	Demers Ave Traffic Signal						60,000.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	100,000.00
	Large Project Update/Continuation						100,000.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	80,000.00
	Bikepath Maintenance						80,000.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	232,408.00
	Bikepath Development (New)						232,408.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	50,000.00
	Quiet Zone Redundancy						50,000.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	100,000.00
	Maintenance of Street Lights						100,000.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	100,000.00
	Minor Intersection Improvement						100,000.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	80,000.00
	Transportation Studies						80,000.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	60,000.00
	Pavement Management						60,000.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	445,600.00
	S 34th St (45th to 47th Ave S)						445,600.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	50,000.00
	Consulting Assistance for Specifications Revisions						50,000.00
	Adopted Budget					1.0000	728,800.00
	N 36th St (20th to 24th Ave N) (SIG Econ Devel)						728,800.00