



Grand Forks Growth Fund, a JDA
Staff Report
Growth Fund Committee – February 23, 2026
JDA – March 2, 2026

Agenda Item: Loan Modification Request: SafetySpect

Submitted by: Andy Conlon, Economic Development Manager

Staff Recommended Action: Approve the loan modification request as described herein and authorize execution of necessary documents.

Growth Fund Action:

JDA Action:

SafetySpect is requesting a modification to their Accelerate loan to provide cash flow relief as the company continues to scale. Kenneth Barton, CEO, will provide greater detail regarding the need for the request and how it will help to support the company's future plans. The specific modification request is summarized in the table below; security, interest rate, and other terms remain unchanged.

Current Balance	Current Payment	Requested Payment	Current Maturity Date	Requested Maturity Date
\$230,160.17	\$26,157.80	\$10,000.00	10/22/2026	2/22/2028

SafetySpect has consistently made their payments of \$26,157.80 with no issue and has continued to maintain regular, thorough communication with staff. Given this communication and Mr. Barton's rationale for the request, staff believes it to be reasonable and recommends approval.

ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS OF FACT:

- SafetySpect has been approved for two previous loan modifications, mainly to help them respond to conditions relating to access to federal grant dollars.
 - June 2025 – modification to amortize payments over 12 months instead of balloon payment to adapt to impacts from federal shutdown.
 - October 2025 – modification to allow temporary payment deferral to bridge grant funding access gap period.

- The company has provided a summary of their impact in the region that includes:
 - \$1.2 million in capital expenditures in Grand Forks in 2025, millions more in prior years
 - 8 employees (PT & FT) and multiple internships with UND annually, with many expected to convert to full-time roles as the company scales.
 - \$300k+ paid to UND as a subcontractor across various grants
 - \$100k+ in UND Foundation donations
 - SafetySpect was key to driving \$24M in ARPA-H and OTA funding with the U.S. Army through UND, significantly expanding its research footprint

SUPPORTING MATERIAL:

- Proposed Repayment Schedule

Based on your starting balance of **\$229,664** at **6%**:

Monthly Amortization Schedule

Payment Date	Payment	Interest Paid	Principal Paid	Remaining Balance
1/22/2026	—	—	—	\$229,664.00
2/22/2026	\$10,000.00	\$1,148.32	\$8,851.68	\$220,812.32
3/22/2026	\$10,000.00	\$1,104.06	\$8,895.94	\$211,916.38
4/22/2026	\$10,000.00	\$1,059.58	\$8,940.42	\$202,975.96
5/22/2026	\$10,000.00	\$1,014.88	\$8,985.12	\$193,990.84
6/22/2026	\$10,000.00	\$969.95	\$9,030.05	\$184,960.79
7/22/2026	\$10,000.00	\$924.80	\$9,075.20	\$175,885.59
8/22/2026	\$10,000.00	\$879.43	\$9,120.57	\$166,765.02
9/22/2026	\$10,000.00	\$833.83	\$9,166.17	\$157,598.85
10/22/2026	\$10,000.00	\$788.00	\$9,212.00	\$148,386.85
11/22/2026	\$10,000.00	\$741.93	\$9,258.07	\$139,128.78
12/22/2026	\$10,000.00	\$695.64	\$9,304.36	\$129,824.42
1/22/2027	\$10,000.00	\$649.12	\$9,350.88	\$120,473.54
2/22/2027	\$10,000.00	\$602.37	\$9,397.63	\$111,075.91
3/22/2027	\$10,000.00	\$555.38	\$9,444.62	\$101,631.29
4/22/2027	\$10,000.00	\$508.16	\$9,491.84	\$92,139.45
5/22/2027	\$10,000.00	\$460.70	\$9,539.30	\$82,600.15
6/22/2027	\$10,000.00	\$413.00	\$9,587.00	\$73,013.15
7/22/2027	\$10,000.00	\$365.07	\$9,634.93	\$63,378.22
8/22/2027	\$10,000.00	\$316.89	\$9,683.11	\$53,695.11
9/22/2027	\$10,000.00	\$268.48	\$9,731.52	\$43,963.59
10/22/2027	\$10,000.00	\$219.82	\$9,780.18	\$34,183.41
11/22/2027	\$10,000.00	\$170.92	\$9,829.08	\$24,354.33
12/22/2027	\$10,000.00	\$121.77	\$9,878.23	\$14,476.10
1/22/2028	\$10,000.00	\$72.38	\$9,927.62	\$4,548.48
2/22/2028	\$4,571.22	\$22.74	\$4,548.48	\$0.00

The Final Breakdown

- **Total Time:** 25 Months (Just over 2 years).
- **Total Interest Paid:** \$14,907.22.
- **Final Payment:** Your last payment in February 2028 will be much smaller—only **\$4,571.22** to sweep the remaining principal and interest.