

Base Retention & Investment Committee
Wednesday, April 1, 2026

Welcome from Mayor Bochenski

GF Air Force Base - Col. Rosales

The runway on base will close at the end of April for resurfacing. Work will be complete by the end of the summer.

Military Affairs Committee – Tim Haddock

The State of the Base address was March 31, 2026. They had 375 attendees
MAC will have a briefing on the new school on Base at the Chamber on May 20th.

Grand Forks County – Gracie Lian

Compatible Use Study work is continuing with information gathering.

The Association of Defense Communities will celebrate its 50th Anniversary in May. Will be in DC at that time and plan to schedule several meetings with federal officials.

Grand Sky will complete a new office building by the end of the summer.

Small UAS aircraft will continue to operate at Grand Sky during runway closure on base.

General Atomics – Continue to work on Hanger Zero. MT1s are still on track. Currently hosting Japan for training. Will fly out of Fargo during runway closure.

Northrup Grumman – The new contract for Range Hawks will begin on May 1. Working with project ULTRA

University of North Dakota – Scott Snyder, Mark Askelson, Robert Kraus

Doing a lot of work around the Point Defense Battle Lab and counter UAS exercises

Hosted the ND Military Commission

Space Development Agency will be at UND in April

Looking to create a degree for National Security Studies.

DHS – Dave Fulcher, Max Kahlhamer

DHS flight operations will be impacted by the base runway closure

GF Public Schools – Dr. Brenner

The new school construction on base will begin before May. The ceremonial groundbreaking will be by June 14th.

Altru Health System – Todd Forkel

Devils Lake became part of Altru Health System on March 1st.

Have Letter of Intent to acquire St. Alexius in Bismarck

Behavioral Health facility is currently under construction that will increase capacity to 48 behavioral health beds.

State of North Dakota – Sen. Barta, Sen. Meyer, Erin Roesler, Trevor Woods, Mary Christy

Vantis' radar received FAA approval in March

Continuing to work on NDAA compliant drones.

NASAO National Conference will be in Grand Forks in September.

Base Enhancement Funds are out.

Gov. Armstrong will be looking to cut spending next budget cycle

Economic Development – Keith Lund

Received 4 grants for UAS workforce. Grants will cover External Marketing, Website Development, Career & Tech Ed Recruitment & Housing Development in Rural Areas

Federal Delegation –Randy Richards

Sen. Cramer will be in Grand Forks in April for Defense Battle Lab ribbon cutting

City of Grand Forks – *Todd Feland, Mayor Bochenski*

Have rescheduled their March DC trip to July due to weather and travel issues.

Children's Museum will have ribbon cutting on May 20th

Annual crime report is out with major crimes down.

Continuing to work with United Airlines on potential flights in and out of GFK.

Construction continues on the Altru Sports Complex.

Housing needs are a concern for City officials. City Council President, Dana Sande, is looking to lead a housing study to dive into the issue deeper.

*MTSI now has an office in Grand Forks as they support the Space Development Agency. Doing a lot of work with UND

Next Meeting

June 3, 2026

8:00 am

The Hive Executive Board Room