



House Appropriations  
Chairperson and Committee Members  
SB 2018 Support

The Downtown Business Association of Bismarck represents over 200 members with 9,000 employees in North Dakota's second largest employment district. Our Board of Directors has voted to the Department of Commerce appropriation requests.

The Downtowners Association has worked hand in hand with the team at Commerce and particularly Community Services and the Main Street Initiative team members. Not only does Bismarck's Renaissance Zone program continue to be a success in revitalizing our Downtown, but the program has now paid for itself by bringing in more in valuation than was exempted. This program has supported entrepreneurs, business and property owners and produced a return on investment for the city, school, county and parks in Bismarck.

We also work closely with the MSI Team and their support to communities can't be understated. Even though we represent Bismarck, the MSI programs and education have transformed some of our smallest communities in North Dakota with resources for vibrancy and tactical urbanism, planning, talent recruitment and retention and much more. In Bismarck we've worked with the MSI Team on a Vibrancy Project coming in Spring/Summer 2020, and supported a City of Bismarck Partners in Planning grant for community outreach for Bismarck's Comprehensive Plan both through the Momentum Fund.

We recommend favorable consideration of the Department of Commerce's appropriation requests.  
Thank you-

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kate Herzog".

Kate Herzog, COO  
Chief Operating Officer  
Downtowners Bismarck