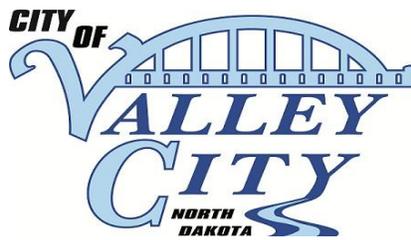


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March 22, 2021

Chairman Holmberg and Committee Members:

I am Dave Carlsrud, Mayor for Valley City.

Thank you for your past support. Valley City would not be where it is today without funding from the State for its Permanent Flood Protection. Since the record floods of 2009 and 2011, Valley City has made great accomplishments in its efforts to protect our City from future flooding. With the support of the State, Valley City has been able to eliminate over 250,000 sandbags and has built approximately 25% of our permanent flood protection system. The completed project will protect our community from future disasters and eliminate the need to put our citizens in harm's way as experienced in past emergency flood fighting efforts. This would not be possible without the continued support of you, the legislative body, and the State Water Commission (SWC).

Valley City has been working within the constraints of the SWC's budget to secure funding as it becomes available to complete our project. Total dollars committed to date from the SWC and City is approximately \$59.8 million. Valley City has committed \$13.8 million with the balance, approximately \$46 million, being committed by the SWC. The total cost for our project is approximately \$143 million. Valley City has a total unmet need of approximately \$83.2 million for the successful completion of our overall project.

We have stood before this committee for the last four biennia and have asked for the continued support of the Valley City Permanent Flood Protection Project. We are thankful for the past support of our work. Valley City is better prepared for the next flood, but we have work left to be completed. We are here today to ask for your support of \$11 million as a part of HB 1020. This would allow Valley City to continue the flood protection work we started over eight years ago.

If the committee and the State Legislature agrees with Valley City on funding, the State will have invested \$57 million to help Valley City with our flood protection project with the City contributing approximately \$16.55 million. Valley City has committed to a 0.5% sales tax for a term of 30 years to fund the local share.

Thank you for your time and consideration of Valley City's request.

Dave Carlsrud, Mayor  
Valley City