

January 11, 2021

Attn: Energy and Natural Resources Committee

Subject: House Bill 1056

NDCC 54-17.4-02

Dear Chairman,

This letter is written in support of the House Bill 1056 relating to the collection of global positioning system data. Access to the global positioning system (GPS) base station located on the campus of Bismarck State College has been made available to the Bismarck-Mandan surveying industry at no charge. Access to this station has allowed for reduced costs and improved efficiency for Bismarck-Mandan area surveyors, both public and private.

A joint powers Agreement was signed by both the North Dakota Department of Mineral Resource – Geological Survey and the City of Bismarck on August 29, 2019 establishing maintenance responsibilities of the GPS station to the City of Bismarck from June of 2021. The City of Bismarck would intend to maintain this GPS station and its public access for the foreseeable future.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Gabe Schell, PE

City Engineer

Halk Hall