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January 11, 2023

**Re: HB 1023**

Honorable members of the House Appropriations Education and Environment Division Subcommittee:

The purpose of writing this letter is to provide support for the North Dakota State University funding request contained in House Bill 1023, which includes resources for an engineering facility. The City of West Fargo is proud to employ engineering staff that are NDSU Alumni. I personally graduated from NDSU in 1997.

Demand for engineers in our state is high and NDSU has a vital role in meeting the needs of our industry. The University has a solid reputation of producing leaders in their fields. It is important that continued investments be made to allow NDSU to remain a leader in the education of the future leaders of the engineering profession.

Across our engineering industry there is a lack of engineers in the work force. The City of West Fargo has attempted numerous times to hire a stormwater engineer as well as an Assistant City Engineer without success.

NDSU's ability to attract and educate students in the dynamic fields of engineering, with constantly changing technologies, is dependent on continued investments in infrastructure. I highly encourage this legislature to make a sound investment in the continued advancement of our State by supporting NDSU's request and funding an engineering facility for its campus.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dan Hanson".

Daniel R. Hanson, PE  
West Fargo City Engineer