



City of Watford City

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House Finance and Taxation

March 6th, 2023 – 10:30 AM

City of Watford City testimony in SUPPORT of SB 2391

Chairman Headland and Finance and Taxation committee members:

The city of Watford City supports SB 2391 and encourages a DO PASS recommendation. The continued investment in brown field property is important to downtown and urban revitalization in North Dakota communities as we complete with communities across the county in placemaking where people want to live. Incentives that are stackable and promote development in that manner, those that generate a strong net ROI are important to communities looking to strengthen their vibrancy and livability and attract families and workforce.

As the RZ program ages, and projects that were initially revitalized at the creation of the program have aged and depreciated to the point that it is time to provide for second generation tools for promotion of investment into these properties. Watford City is looking forward to reestablishing its RZ and would appreciate having a large, well equipped tool box to incentivize capital investment in the future planning efforts of the zone.

Thank you for your time and your consideration of my testimony in **SUPPORT of SB 2391**.

Best Regards,

Mayor Phil Riley

Mayor Phil Riley, Watford City

Cc: Deputy Commission Kessel, ND Department of Commerce