

Waqar H Rizvi
Sr. Critical Facilities Engr. III
Salute Inc.
346-317-6888
1/21/2025

Rep. Grueneich
Ellendale, ND

I am writing to express my full support for the proposed bill to build a walking trail in Ellendale, ND. As a new resident and active member of this community, I have witnessed firsthand the need for safer recreational spaces. I have been in Ellendale for a few months, and during that time, I've seen the positive impact that community-focused projects can have on our well-being.

A dedicated walking trail would significantly improve the quality of life for residents by providing a safe and accessible space for walking and running. Currently, many community members struggle to find safe areas for physical activity, especially for those who prefer outdoor exercise but face challenges due to lack of suitable infrastructure. The addition of a walking trail would help address these concerns and make it easier for everyone to enjoy healthy, active lifestyles.

In addition to the health benefits, the trail would also serve as a catalyst for social engagement. It would be a space where individuals of all ages can connect with each other, foster a stronger sense of community, and participate in group activities that encourage physical fitness and well-being.

I am excited about the potential this project has for the future of our families and community as a whole and I fully support the effort to make this vision a reality. Thank you for your leadership and dedication to improving our community.

Sincerely,
Waqar H Rizvi
Sr. Critical Facilities Engr. III
Salute Inc.
346-317-6888

Jacob Townsend
600 4th Ave S
Ellendale, ND 58436
jacobtown17@gmail.com
719-922-4346

21JAN25

The Honorable Representative Grueneich
North Dakota State Legislature
600 East Boulevard
Bismarck, ND 58505-0360

Dear Representative Grueneich,

Subject: Support for the Proposed Walking Trail in Ellendale, ND

As a proud veteran and resident of Ellendale for three months, I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed walking trail in our community. The addition of this trail would significantly improve the quality of life for residents, offering a safe, accessible space for physical activity, reflection, and connection.

As a veteran, maintaining both physical and mental health is a priority, and outdoor exercise plays a critical role in achieving that. A walking trail would provide a peaceful and secure environment to engage in activities that promote overall wellness. Walking has been a vital tool for me in staying active, managing stress, and maintaining a clear mind.

Additionally, as a dog owner, I see the walking trail as an incredible resource not just for myself but for my service dogs. Right now, walking my dogs often means navigating busy streets with limited sidewalks or uneven terrain. A dedicated trail would provide a much safer and more enjoyable space for both myself and my dogs to exercise and unwind.

From a broader perspective, the walking trail would also serve as a valuable resource for fellow veterans and community members, promoting fitness and mental well-being. The trail could foster camaraderie among residents, offering a space for social interaction and support. In a town like Ellendale, having a dedicated area where people can come together in a healthy, positive environment is invaluable.

Beyond its health and social benefits, this project could enhance Ellendale's appeal to visitors and new residents alike, boosting local pride and even supporting nearby businesses. It's a forward-thinking initiative that reflects the best interests of our community.

I fully support the development of this walking trail and urge the Legislature to approve the funding necessary to bring this project to life. It would be an investment in the health, safety, and well-being of Ellendale's residents, including its veterans.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for advocating for projects that benefit our community. Please feel free to contact me if additional input is needed.

Sincerely,

Jacob D. Townsend

Petty Officer Second Class

Critical Facilities Engineer

jacobtown17@gmail.com

719-922-4346

Letter of Support for Measure Num. 8105

To: Rep. Grueneich

From: Jackson: Katelyn Marie
Ellendale, North Dakota

Re: Measure Num. 810

To whom it may concern,

I've recently relocated to Ellendale in November of 2024 & have enjoyed the community. I think a walking trail would be extremely beneficial to the town. Aside from seemingly being one of the community's favorite pastimes, it gives the opportunity for people to truly take in the sight of plains from a wholesome town. Providing a safe way to do such a thing for a growing town off a highway, would boost town morale and pride. Increased scenery may also indirectly up the visitors and tourism that comes to Ellendale, overall increasing revenue for the town (especially during farmer's markets in the summer), & promote family/individual health. I think if it can be done, it should – I'd look forward to it.

Thank you for your attention to this Matter.

Sincerely,



Katelyn Jackson

Sr. Critical Facilities Engineer III

SALUTE 

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Ellendale Lions Club
PO Box 461
Ellendale, ND 58436

January 16, 2025

2025 House Energy and Natural Resources Committee
Honorable Representative Todd Porter, Chairman
North Dakota State Capital

Dear Representative Porter and Members of the House Energy and Resources Committee:

The Ellendale Lions Club is in favor of HB 1256 and in full support of the walking trail proposal being submitted by Dakota Prairie Walking Trail. We believe it is important to provide our community with a safe walking space.

A few years ago, we partnered with the Ellendale Park District to fund and build a dog park in South Park in Ellendale so that community people would have a safe, enclosed place in which to exercise their canine friends. In that same spirit, we look forward to partnering with the Dakota Prairie Walking Trail and the Ellendale Park District to help fund this project. As with the dog park, we feel this will provide a safe recreation environment for people of all ages in the Ellendale area.

Because of the data center that is being built in Ellendale we currently have a large number of temporary work for that project and this walking trail will be another way for those people and the current residents to relax during their downtime.

We are in favor of HB 1256 and would encourage its passage without delay. Please join us and others in making the Dakota Prairie Walking Trail project a reality.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wonada Lematta".

Wonada Lematta
President
Ellendale Lions Club

Donald Flaherty
Mayor

Nicole Kempf
Auditor

ellendal@drtel.net



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City of Ellendale

January 20, 2025

2025 House Energy and Natural Resources Committee
Honorable Representative Todd Porter, Chairman
North Dakota State Capital

Dear Representative Porter and Members of the House Energy and Resources Committee:

The City of Ellendale is in favor of HB 1256 and in full support of the walking trail proposal being submitted by Dakota Prairie Walking Trail. We believe this project will provide our community with a safe walking space.

A little over 20 months ago, our city reached out to Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railroad to purchase approximately a half a mile of abandoned railroad right of way and 13 months later we were able to complete that purchase. As a result, with the addition of other adjacent property already owned by the city, there is now a little more than three quarters of a mile of land that has been dedicated to this project. As a continuation of our commitment, we look forward to partnering with the Dakota Prairie Walking Trail and the Ellendale Park District to help fund this project and ultimately transfer the property we own to the Ellendale Park District as well. We are committed to the growth of our city and believe this will provide a safe recreation environment for people of all ages in the Ellendale area.

The building of the data center and its future expansion means that there is a large number of temporary workers currently in the area for that project and there will be an increase in our population due to the permanent employees who will be moving into the area. As such, this walking trail will be another way for those people and the current residents to relax during their downtime.

We are in favor of HB 1256 and would encourage its passage without delay. Please join with us and others in making the Dakota Prairie Walking Trail project a reality.

Sincerely,

Donald W. Flaherty, Mayor

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer"