

January 14, 2025
Kausha Magill
Director
Oakes Area Chamber of Commerce
510 Main Ave.
Oakes, ND 58474



Dear Chairman Ruby and Members of the Transportation Committee,

The Oakes Area Chamber of Commerce is proud to support House Bill 1182, which provides funding for the much-needed improvement of 86th St SE water crossing. This project is essential for maintaining access to local businesses and ensuring the economic success of Oakes and surrounding areas.

Our organization represents a diverse group of businesses dedicated to enriching the community and fostering economic opportunities. Safe and accessible roads are fundamental for businesses to thrive, attract visitors, and support the livelihoods of local residents. The current state of the road over Bear Creek poses challenges for commerce and tourism, making this improvement a necessary step for growth in our rural community.

House Bill 1182 offers an opportunity to address these challenges head-on, acknowledging the unique obstacles faced by rural communities and emphasizing the importance of investing in public infrastructure to strengthen rural economies. By improving this crossing, the region will gain better access to businesses and opportunities that enhance the quality of life for residents and visitors alike. The impact of this improvement will extend beyond immediate needs, providing long-term benefits to the broader community.

We strongly urge the committee to recognize the importance of this effort and urge a "do pass" recommendation for House Bill 1182. Thank you for your consideration and your dedication to advancing the needs of our communities through infrastructure improvements.

Sincerely,
Kausha Magill
701-742-3508
Director
Oakes Area Chamber of Commerce