

Testimony Prepared for:
Senate Appropriations-Govt. Ops.
January 21, 2025
By: Genny Dienstmann, NDACo



**RE: Support of SB 2151
County & Township Bridge Fund**

Chairman Wanzek and Committee Members, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 2151.

North Dakota's rural bridges have the ninth highest rate of structural deficiencies in the country. We rank in the bottom 10 states in percentage of structurally deficient bridges. Simply stated, we have a lot of rural bridges in poor condition.

As you can see by the attached summary from the UGPTI Needs Study, over the next 20 years, bridge costs alone for counties and townships is estimated to be over \$1 Billion. Consistent long-term funding included in this bill, will allow counties and townships to effectively plan and construct bridge projects, concentrating on those bridges in most dire need in both structural and safety concerns for the traveling public.

Chairman Wanzek and Committee members, we support this bill and request a DO PASS recommendation on SB 2151.

**UGPTI Needs Study
County/Township Bridge Needs
2024-2043**

County	Bridge Needs*	No. of Bridges
Adams	7.17	7
Barnes	29.30	8
Benson	2.23	4
Billings	11.72	7
Bottineau	33.00	33
Bowman	7.81	12
Burke	3.25	6
Burleigh	4.89	8
Cass	69.70	43
Cavalier	6.69	8
Dickey	8.86	3
Divide	1.15	2
Dunn	8.97	6
Eddy	6.64	3
Emmons	7.13	8
Foster	4.49	3
Golden Valley	4.97	4
Grand Forks	52.50	69
Grant	52.37	24
Griggs	2.75	1
Hettinger	21.54	27
Kidder	-	0
LaMoure	13.70	11
Logan	1.15	3
McHenry	42.07	40
McIntosh	2.86	2
McKenzie	21.44	15
McLean	10.60	7
Mercer	44.77	21
Morton	75.37	67
Mountrail	1.73	1
Nelson	5.66	3
Oliver	13.13	7
Pembina	60.51	62
Pierce	0.54	1
Ramsey	3.46	3
Ransom	25.42	7
Renville	12.95	6
Richland	57.91	49
Rolette	1.12	2
Sargent	3.23	6
Sheridan	-	0
Sioux	0.69	1
Slope	8.48	2
Stark	38.40	23
Steele	24.74	29
Stutsman	22.25	11
Towner	7.73	11
Traill	129.30	61
Walsh	69.13	68
Ward	29.72	22
Wells	3.12	4
Williams	8.86	16
TOTAL	1,087.17	847

* Dollars are in Millions