



REQUEST TO EMERGENCY COMMISSION
SECRETARY OF STATE
 (See SFN 02580)

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Requestor Information
 Department name: North Dakota Department of Agriculture
 Department number: 602
 Name of contact person: Lynette Baumiller
 Telephone number: (701) 328-1960

Purpose of Request
 Is this request related to a state emergency? No
 Purpose of request: Increase in line item spending authority

Line Item	Amount
60210 - Salary and Wages	\$61,650
60230 - Operating Expenses	\$6,110
60260 - Grants	\$2,277,380

Funding Information
 What is the source of funds for the requested increase? Federal
 Is the funding source a pass-through from another agency? No
 Will continued funding be required if Federal funds are no longer available? No
 Does the request require a general fund match in this bienium? No
 Will the request require general fund support in the next biennium? No

Background Information
 Was any portion of the request presented during the previous legislative session? No
 Is the request for a new program? Yes
 Provide explanation:
 USDA-AMS is entering into cooperative agreements with each U.S. State and Territory for Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure (RFSI) Program. ND Department of Agriculture (NDDA) has been allocated \$4,690,280.40; however, this emergency commission request is only for half of the funding since this is a four-year grant. NDDA plans to develop and administer coordinated initiatives to middle-of-the-food-supply-chain in the state. Funds will support expanded capacity for the aggregation, processing, manufacturing, storing, transporting, wholesaling, and distribution of locally and regionally produced food products, including specialty crops, dairy, grains for human consumption, and other food products. NDDA will create more and better processing options for eligible entities and farm businesses, and other sectors by targeting gaps and opportunities to support the agriculture supply chain.

Will funding be required in future bienniums? Yes
 Provide explanation:
 The cooperative agreement duration is for four years, ending May 24, 2027. Year one (1) will be dedicated to collecting applicants and approving them through a competitive review process. Years two – four (2-4) will be dedicated to starting and completing the items approved in the grant applications.

Does the request require an FTE increase? No
 Does the request conform with legislative intent? Yes



Provide explanation:

The grant program will be administered by the Business, Marketing and Information Division. The grant program will be tied to the NDDA's business development efforts. The legislature funded three programs aimed at developing value added agriculture projects in ND; Ag Diversification and Development, Ag Products Utilization Commission and the Ag Infrastructure program. This federal grant will compliment these programs and will enhance NDDA's efforts in business development.

Other Information

Statutory provisions that relate to this request:
NDCC 4.1-01

Provide an explanation as to how the request supports state priorities, improves state efficiencies, and promotes effective state government:

The purpose of this program is to build resilience across the middle of the state's food supply chain for food crops. Funding will support expanded capacity for the aggregation, processing, manufacturing, storing, transporting, wholesaling, and distribution of local and regionally produced food products. NDDA will make subawards in the form of Infrastructure Grants to middle-of-the-supply businesses to create more diverse local and regional market options and create more economic opportunities for communities. This will create a food systems infrastructure to support competitive and profitable market access for domestic farm products.

Provide any other relevant information:

Through the RFSI Program, NDDA will be funding projects that address areas of improvement in our state's supply chain. Funding will be geared towards infrastructure grants, equipment-only grants, and state-led complementary supply chain coordination activities. Applications will be targeted for: ND businesses who can aggregate, process, manufacture, store, transport, wholesale and distribute ND agriculture products, facilities that will enhance and create better middle-of-the-supply-chain efficiencies, and activities that include assessing supply chain needs and opportunities to benefit agricultural producers and expanding product offerings for consumers. Working directly with intermodal facilities within ND will create efficiency and solutions to bottleneck issues.

Signature

I, the undersigned, have read this Request, know the contents, and believe the statements contained within to be true.

Lynette Baumiller

Sign Here

08/31/2023

Date