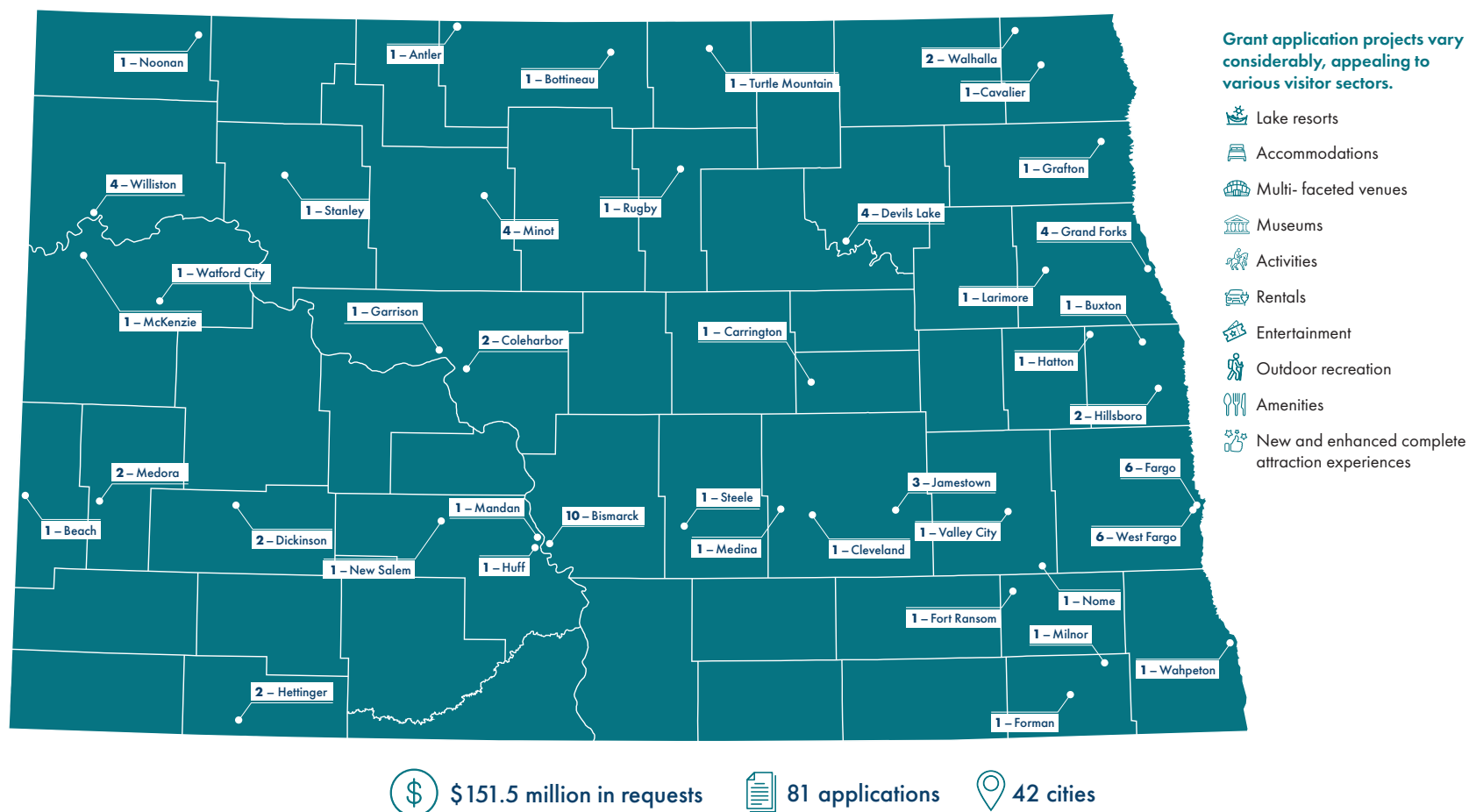


Tourism Destination Development

2023 Destination Development Grant Applications Received

The applications varied considerably in scope and appeal to unique visitor segments. New and expanded destination experiences will not only attract visitors but also improve our quality of life and workforce recruitment efforts.



Tourism destination development has the potential for economic and sociocultural effects that will positively impact further growth in our state. As our state continues to lead innovation in several economic development sectors, it is important to create a better quality of life for our residents by connecting resources to drive economic growth. In addition, we recognize the importance of developing unique tourism experiences that share our story with non-residents to increase tourism revenue and to bring awareness of North Dakota, which supports workforce talent recruitment to the state.



Good Bear Bay Lodge at Indian Hills Resort - The lodge sits on the shores of Lake Sakakawea, and offers a 4-bedroom, 2.5-bath living area for families or larger groups. It also has a full kitchen, living area, and an extended covered outdoor patio.



The Shores Event Center at Woodland Resort, Devils Lake - The Shores will feature panoramic views of Devils Lake, state of the art sound and lighting, outdoor patio and bar/catering on-site. The space can hold 400 people.



For more information, visit
[NDgov.link/DestinationDevelopment](https://ndgov.link/DestinationDevelopment).

THE DESTINATION DEVELOPMENT GRANT

The Destination Development Grant Program was designed to support new and expanded destination attractions, resulting in new or improved experiences for visitors and residents across North Dakota.

List of Recipients:

- Good Bear Lodge at Indian Hills - Garrison
- Bison World - Jamestown
- Bottineau Winter Park Snow Making
- Brews, Chews, and Views - Minot
- Dickinson Museum Center Expansion Project
- Frost Fire Park - Walhalla
- Huff Hills Ski Area
- Riverfront Festival Grounds - Bismarck
- Dakota Prairie Wings Lodge - Medina
- The Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library - Medora
- Thrill Hills - Fort Ransom
- Turtle Mountain Comprehensive Tourism Plan - Dunseith and Belcourt
- Western Heritage - Medora
- Woodland Resort Guest Center - Devils Lake

\$25 million awarded to grow and expand tourism offerings in North Dakota.

Proposed Changes to the Destination Development Grant Program 2025-2027 Biennium

Application Criteria:

- **New Experiences:** Prioritize projects that introduce novel and unique experiences to North Dakota.
- **Defining North Dakota:** Projects should align with the state's identity and values, such as its natural beauty, cultural heritage, or historical significance.
- **Long-Term Impact:** Projects should have a lasting positive impact on the community and the state's tourism industry.
- **Timely Completion:** Projects should be realistic and achievable within the 2025-2027 biennium.

Project Categories:

- **New Experiences:** Support the development of entirely new attractions or experiences.
- **Major Expansions:** Fund significant expansions of existing attractions or facilities.
- **Operational Enhancements:** Provide funding for projects that improve the visitor experience or operational efficiency of existing businesses.

Grant Match and In-Kind Contributions:

- **Matching Funds:** Matching funds can be raised within 12 months prior to the grant award date.

- **In-Kind Contributions:** Acceptable in-kind contributions include:

- Donated land (valued at fair market price)
- Donated equipment (valued at fair market price)
- In-house labor (excluding administrative, personnel, and programmatic costs)
- Sales taxes on eligible expenses

Grant Administration:

- **Intermediary Entities:** Intermediary entities may apply to coordinate multiple projects that align with the grant criteria. However, they are responsible for ensuring that grant funds are used appropriately and that all projects meet the program's requirements.

By refining these criteria and guidelines, we can ensure that the Destination Development Grant Program continues to support innovative and impactful projects that enhance North Dakota's tourism industry.