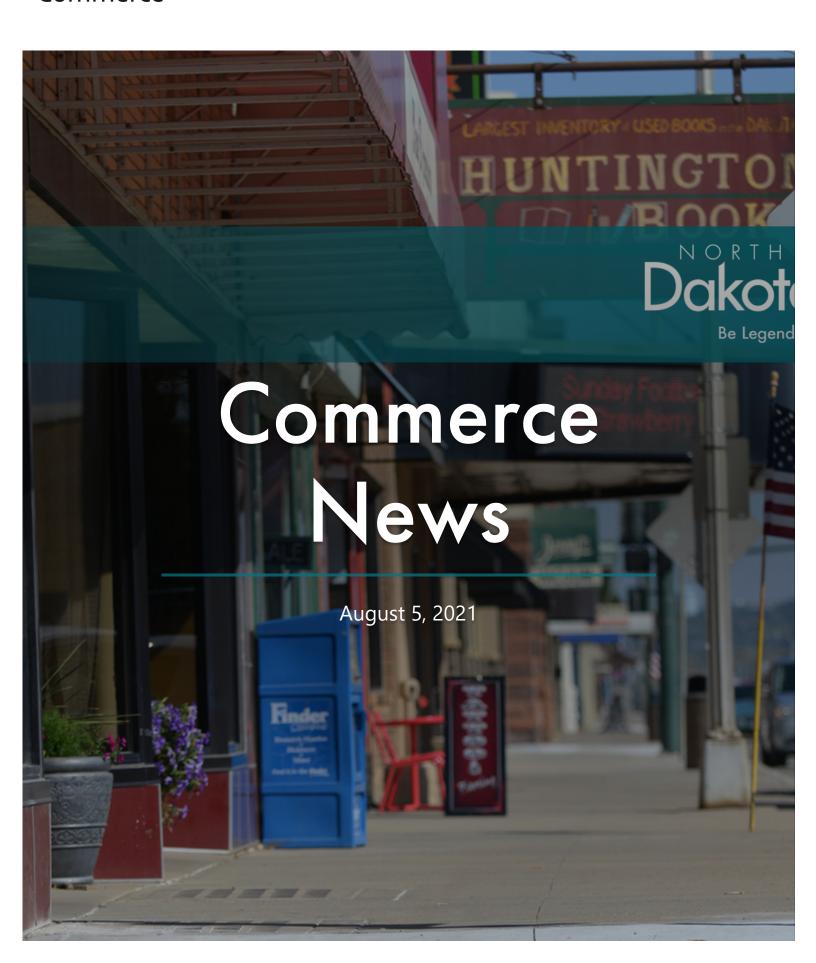
Commerce





Tourism and Marketing

Let the amazing sunflower put a smile on your face!



At the peak of the growing season, generally August in North Dakota, vast sunflower fields blanket North Dakota and lift our spirits. Brilliant fields of yellow flowers welcoming the morning sun can be found throughout North Dakota. Those viewing the colorful crops in North Dakota are reminded not to enter any field without the landowner's permission. Check back here weekly for updated maps to the brightest fields.



Workforce

North Dakota prison system launches new tech training for inmates



Last year, the Workforce Development Council approved the use of Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act dollars for an IT training program for residents of the North Dakota State Penitentiary.

Bringing The Last Mile training to the state was a collaborative effort between the North Dakota Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and Job Service North Dakota.

Commerce is proud to have played a role in the early stages of this effort. The first cohort of students started in July and are quickly developing software development skills that will prepare them for IT jobs upon release. See this feature in the Bismarck Tribune for more information on this unique and innovative workforce training program.

Community Services

Commerce renews Renaissance Zone for Williston

Commerce announced today that the Renaissance Zone Program for the city of Williston has been renewed for five additional years.

The Renaissance Zone Program is a tool for community redevelopment and economic investment that incorporates tax incentives to business and residential properties.

Williston started utilizing the Renaissance Zone Program in 2005 and has had 29 approved projects. Recent major projects include Grace and Glam completed in 2021 and Cooks on Main, completed in 2019.

"Williston has used the Renaissance Zone
Program to encourage reinvestment and
redevelopment in its downtown area to
enhance business and improve housing. The
program is often used in smaller rural
communities to attract businesses that provide
vital services to their populations." —
Commerce Community Services Renaissance
Zone Program Manager Rikki Roehrich

The Renaissance Zone Program currently includes 58 cities across North Dakota. Since the program's inception in 1999, more than 1,700 projects have been approved and more than 1,350 have been completed.



Registration is NOW open for the 2021 Main Street ND Summit

The 2021 Main Street ND Summit begins the evening of Oct. 11 with a free pre-summit event and continues on Oct. 12 at 8 a.m. at the Rustad Recreation Center in West Fargo. Both in-person and virtual options are available to those wishing to attend.

Register today!



Upcoming events

AUVSI XPONENTIAL - Aug. 16-19 in Atlanta

IPW – Sept. 18-22 in Las Vegas, Nevada

EDND/Commerce Developer Day – Sept. 23 in Bismarck

Main Street ND Summit – Oct. 12 in West Fargo

2021 NBAA Business Aviation Convention & Exhibition (NBAA-BACE) – Oct. 12-14 in Las Vegas



In the news



On the Maah Daah Hey Trail, a humbling and beautiful experience like no other



Rise in use of vegetable oils in biofuels boosts ADM earnings



Spacex9 launch carried an innovative piece of the Bakken into outer space