



Mr. Borlaug:

On behalf of the Mandan Heritage Plaza Foundation Board of Directors, I would like to formally extend our support for the Northern Plains National Heritage Area. Please include this letter as public input. We recognize the unlimited possibilities for positive impact this designation provides to North Dakota, specifically the five counties contained within the heritage area.

The Mandan Heritage Plaza Foundation is dedicated to renovating the historical buildings formerly known as the NP Depot and NP Lunchroom (Beanery), and adding points of interest to the surrounding area in order to revitalize and provide a focal point of interest to downtown Mandan. To date, we have succeeded in getting the area around the NP Depot and Lunchroom designated as 'Heritage Plaza' by the Mandan City Commission, and adding 'Heritage Plaza' signage to the front of the buildings. Our future projects involve bringing in and renovating NPRR railcars, constructing murals that tell the story of the area, and much more.

In addition to our support, we would also like to express our interest in applying for any grant opportunities provided by the NPHF. We believe that our mission to improve the downtown area in Mandan is an important step in maintaining and expanding North Dakota's highly-respected heritage tourism industry.

We are eager to see the Northern Plains National Heritage Area continue develop over the coming months and years.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew Schanandore". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Matthew Schanandore
President
Mandan Heritage Plaza Foundation

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