

If you have not heard the great news, SB 2015 passed this weekend, which included \$26.5 million in additional funding toward the capital grant projects. Funds will most likely be distributed at 30% of the original application request, thus will most likely result in an additional \$3M for the Career Innovation Center. This will be above the original \$10M Federal grant, already allocated to the CIC, as well as the \$19.2 million in private dollars raised.

SB 2015 also earmarked an October 1 trigger to transfer unallocated broadband funds to CTE. This could result in an additional \$3-6M to the CIC project, depending on the total funds available.

**Next Steps:**

- A Capital Grant agreement has been created between the Department of CTE, the NDSCS Alumni Foundation, and C3TEC (Cass County Career and Technical Education Center) for the original \$10M. The DCTE and C3TEC boards have approved the agreement, with the NDSCS-AF board meeting this week. NDSCS-AF will be the primary recipient of funds and oversee construction management and reimbursement requests. C3TEC will serve as secondary support for grant monitoring of programs and guidelines.
- RLE Architects are working very closely with the Foundation, NDSCS administration and Comstock to produce a final estimated budget to complete the interior fit up of the current building we agreed and are building. We are hoping these numbers will fall in line to our needs to complete the initial plan of (92,169 sq ft) and maybe some of the remaining (23,088 sq. ft). These numbers will be based on some of the programing needs. Please stay tuned.
- NDSCS administration along with the C3TEC team will be and have begun working very closely to align the programming needs with the initial cluster of programs we started this project with. They will be reaching out to stakeholders on the concept and what was planned in the beginning related to programming. This also includes as stated above the collaboration with the Architects to figure out the interior fit up.
- We have met and are working with Lake Agassiz to make sure we are keeping in line with the EDA 1.5M grant.
- The Foundation will continue to manage the fundraising efforts with pledges and funding of the project. The Foundation sub-committee has approved keeping the north 19<sup>th</sup> Ave site open, as well. This should and will be board approved this week. The Foundation and NDSCS administration are working closely to keep this open for future expansion of programming, as well as Workforce affairs having a location to continue to grow. The Foundation is still committed to the 3.5M for the 64<sup>th</sup> Ave site.

***Thank you to our Cass County community, local legislatures, and educational leaders for your leadership, collaboration, and support of the CIC vision. Your advocacy during the 68<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly was critical to influence and guide state leaders to see the value and need for this project.***

***We look forward to working with you and providing an update in the next months.***