

RESOLUTION NUMBER 7793

WHEREAS, the City of Beatrice, Nebraska ("City") was awarded a Fiscal Year 2024 Department of Transportation ("DOT") Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity ("RAISE") Grant to plan and construct the rerouting of U.S. Highway 136 out of Downtown Beatrice; and

WHEREAS, the RAISE Grant will have a transformational impact on Downtown Beatrice, necessitating strategic planning efforts to ensure the redevelopment fosters the growth of "right-sized" small and emerging businesses along the corridor; and

WHEREAS, the City of Beatrice seeks to apply for funding from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Business Development Opportunity Grant to support economic development planning efforts related to the downtown revitalization project; and

WHEREAS, if awarded, the USDA funding will allow the City of Beatrice to undertake the following activities:

1. Conduct a feasibility study to assess business recruitment opportunities along the downtown corridor, with a focus on small businesses, sustainable job growth, and market opportunities to enhance the local and regional economy; and
2. Develop a Downtown Beatrice Strategic Plan to preserve the character of Downtown Beatrice while addressing employment, retail, and public infrastructure needs; and

WHEREAS, the City of Beatrice is strongly committed to this initiative and has pledged to contribute \$24,000.00 in matching funds, consisting of \$12,000.00 in in-kind staff time and \$12,000.00 in cash matching funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEATRICE, NEBRASKA:

SECTION 1. That the Mayor, City Clerk, and City Administrator are authorized to submit an application to and administer the USDA Rural Business Development Opportunity Grant and take all necessary actions to secure funding for the Downtown Beatrice Strategic Planning Initiative.

SECTION 2. That the City of Beatrice commits the required matching funds to support this effort and will actively engage in the successful implementation of the proposed planning activities.

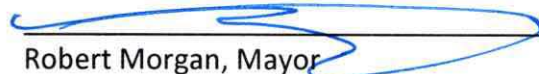
SECTION 3. That all resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

RESOLUTION PASSED AND ADOPTED this 18th day of May, 2026.

Attest:



Amanda Kuhlman, Deputy City Clerk



Robert Morgan, Mayor



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor & City Council **DATE SUBMITTED:** May 15, 2026
FROM: Tobias J. Tempelmeyer **FOR AGENDA OF:** May 18, 2026
City Administrator and General Manager
SUBJECT: USDA Rural Business Opportunity Grant **EXHIBIT(S):**

The City of Beatrice applied for this grant last year, but due to the government shutdown grant funds were not released for this grant last year, so we are reapplying.

Our grant application to USDA is for around \$48,000 to conduct a feasibility study for business recruitment efforts along the downtown corridor, with an emphasis on small businesses and sustainable job growth. The development of a Downtown Beatrice Strategic Plan will focus on preserving the character of the downtown will addressing employment, retail, and public infrastructure needs.

Our match will be around \$24,000 with about \$12,000 in cash and \$12,000 in-kind.