

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

In May of 2018 the Williston Downtowners Association was awarded \$7,500 from the Rural Community Grant Fund for the Downtown Williston Farmers Market. The funds will be used this season to help enhance the Farmers Market by hiring musicians, purchasing seating, creating new signage and banners for along Main Street, as well as logistical supplies. Early this year, as the WDA laid out its goals to the membership they included, "To enhance the Farmers Market by increasing attendance and number of vendors." The grant funding is helping achieve that goal.

"In previous years, I noticed people would come to the market, buy their items and leave. While I was there during the market getting to chat with friends, meet new people, and help answer questions about Downtown, it occurred to me that the Farmers Market really could be the "Saturday morning" thing to do," said Louise Skaare, Executive Director for the WDA. "When I approached the board with this thought, they agreed the Farmers Market could become a stronger event and a weekend destination."

While the season began on July 7, the Farmers Market will move to its new home, the Hedderich's lot, located on the corner of Main and 2nd St E on July 28. With the move will come with a new brand, new lawn games, and tables and chairs. The Farmers Market will become The Main Street Market. "We would have loved to have our Main Street Market banners, table cloth, and new tent ready to go from day one of the market but it was not a process we wanted to rush," said Skaare. "We're excited to share this whole new concept," she added.

The Farmers Market has been held in the parking lot of the Williams Country Social Services/Upper Missouri District Health Unit for the past couple of seasons and the WDA greatly appreciates the generosity of the use of that space. The move will make it a true "Main Street" event now, according to Skaare.

For more information or ways to get involved in the Main Street Market please email Willistondowntowners@gmail.com. The Main Street Market is every Saturday from 9 a.m.- noon until October 13, 2018.