



News Release
For Immediate Release
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Williston City Commission approves up to \$208,000 STAR Fund Incentives for Five Projects

The Williston City Commission has awarded up to \$208,000 in STAR Fund incentives for five business at its meeting on Tuesday, May 25, 2021. The projects included Connect Us Therapy, Playworks Individual and Family Therapy, Dakota Convenience, Red Rock Collision Center and Red Mountain Investments.

"The first quarter of 2021 was probably the biggest first quarter that I have seen in the 13 years that I've been with the office," said Wenko. "And it's not slowing down."

All five of the projects utilized the Williston STAR Fund/Bank of North Dakota (BND) [Flex PACE Program](#) to purchase buildings or space for their businesses. Flex PACE combines funds from BND's PACE Fund and Williston's STAR Fund at a 2:1 ratio. The funds are used to buy down the interest rate on commercial loans.

"We partner with the business, their lead lender and the Bank of North Dakota to buy down the interest rate on loans for startups and expansions," explained Wenko. "The projects on Tuesday received a combined total of \$400,000 from the Bank of North Dakota. That's more or less free money that goes into the businesses to help them get started and that gets injected into the community."

The following five projects received STAR Fund incentives for their business ventures:

Connect Us Therapy: Katie Shannon is purchasing one of the business condos located at 2224 1st Avenue West. The buydown request is for \$20,000.

Playworks Individual and Family Therapy: Tina Nordaune is purchasing the office building located at 603 Main Street. The buydown request is for \$27,000.

Dakota Convenience/UMIBAD LLC: Jay Surani is purchasing the building located at 2605 19th Avenue West. The buydown request is for \$42,000.

Red Rock Collision Center: Red Rock Ford is purchasing the building at 3904 2nd Avenue West in Williston. Red Rock will offer full collision repair as well as vehicle customization. The buydown request is for \$72,000.

Red Mountain Investments, LLC: The business is purchasing the building at 2710 2nd Avenue West. The buydown request is for \$47,000.

In addition, to the flex pace applications, Williston City Administrator David Tuan approved ten Mini Match grant applications totaling \$50,000. The mini match program does not require city commission approval.

Nuway Completions Supply: This is a startup oilfield company that sells wireline and coil tubing supplies.

The Pick and The Patch: This is a new candy and gift shop that is moving to 910 42nd Street West.

Benellis Boutique: This a retail store which is expanding to a new location at 910 42nd Street West. The owner sells handmade clothing and gifts.

ACES Energy Services: This is a business startup which is renting tools to the oil field industry. ACES also specializes in water treatment and filtration for oil and gas and municipal use.

Bloom By Madison: The owner is renting space for a new hair salon at 703 Main Street. She will offer haircuts, colors, styling and eyelash extensions.

Peachy's Boutique: This is a new retail business specializing in plus size women's clothing and jewelry. The store is in the Badlands Town Center.

Elite Properties Group: The owners are creating event space inside the Ebel Building located at 2407 2nd Avenue West. The renovations include two new bathrooms and a commercial kitchen.

Senor Egg: This is a new dine-in restaurant located at 2406 2nd Avenue West in Williston. The money will be used for renovations to the building.

Mikeesha Woods Daycare: This is a newly licensed daycare in Williston. She will utilize the mini match program to purchase equipment, furniture, toys and supplies.

Let's Get Fit: A new family-friendly cross fit gym in Williston.

The next STAR Fund meeting is Tuesday, June 1, 2021. If you would like to start or expand a business in Williston, contact Keith Olson with the Small Business Development Center at 701-713-3839 or keith@ndsbdc.org.