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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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City of Norfolk Receives Large Grant Award for Infrastructure Improvements on Braasch Avenue

The State of Nebraska recently announced that the City of Norfolk has been awarded a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). The City will receive \$460,000 of Comprehensive Development (CD) Phase II Year 2 funds from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development (DED). This grant, as well as a \$307,000 CD Phase II Year 1 awarded in 2018, will be used for infrastructure improvements on Braasch Avenue between 1st and 5th Streets.

The CD Phase II Year 1 and Year 2 awards are the result of the 2017 Phase I CD Program that included the completion of a pre-development study which created a solid working document that would allow for efficient implementation of activities for improvements within the City of Norfolk. Results of the CD Study concluded that streets and street conditions were of the highest concerns to the residents of Norfolk. Given the poor condition of Braasch Avenue and the need for water and sewer main replacement, this community investment and infrastructure stabilization project will clearly benefit residents of the community.

“This is one of our top-of-the-list street priority projects,” said Mayor Josh Moenning. “Once again, we are pleased to leverage grant resources, awarded on a competitive basis, to help us redesign and re-create a key corridor in the core of our community.”

The street is showing extensive cracking and deterioration and storm water cannot properly drain. Planned improvements include reconstruction of the street and sidewalks, replacement of the curbs and gutters, and new sanitary sewer and storm sewer infrastructure. The project also seeks to extend the downtown character to Braasch Avenue to build off the successes of Norfolk Avenue.

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An open house was held on Wednesday, November 14, to show citizens what to expect for improvements on Braasch Avenue. There, attendees had the opportunity to learn more about the project, review the preliminary design, and provide comments to help refine the next stage of the design.

Construction of this project is set to being in the spring of 2019.

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