

# City of Karlstad

## Airport Improvements



The City of Karlstad seeks funding to complete the construction of Karlstad Municipal Airport. The new airport aims to better serve existing recreational and business users, drive economic development, and accommodate future regional growth.

Funded • In Progress

Funds Needed

### Phases 1 & 2

Phases 1 & 2 work totaled \$9.5M, which included:

- Engineering design and regulatory activities
- Land acquisition
- Wetland banking
- Clearing and grubbing trees
- Construction of project grading and drainage for the entire site

### Phase 3 Project Scope

Phase 3 construction work will total \$9.7M and will begin once funding is secured. This final phase includes everything needed for a fully functional business-supporting airport.

- Runway, taxiway, and apron paving
- Relocation of a nearby township road for safety
- All runway and taxiway lighting and navigational aids
- Revenue generating aviation fuel system

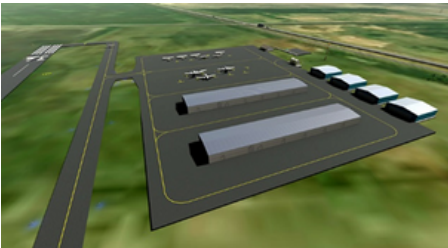


### Economic Benefits-Regional Support

Several area businesses have a vested interest in the project and how it will allow them to grow their businesses, strengthen the local economy through job creation and increase tax revenue.

- **MATTRACKS INC** – The world’s largest rubber track conversion manufacturer, selling to customers in 140 countries. Wants to grow but is limited due to lack of a nearby paved and lighted runway.
  - Currently owns 4 aircraft, most are based at other locations due to lack of adequate facilities.
  - Needs a reliable runway to utilize air transportation for engagement with current and prospective clients as well as for shipping.
  - Plans to build a research and design facility for electric aviation at the Karlstad Airport.
- **KICK’N UP KOUNTRY** – Annual music festival with thousands of attendees and high-profile performers
- **WIKSTROM TELEPHONE CO** – Large employer in the area, uses aircraft for consulting work.
- **GREENWAY COMPANIES** – Provides services across the US, uses aircraft for business mobility.
- **AERIAL AGRICULTURAL SPRAYERS** – Want to base at the new airport to be closer to clients, expand their customer base, and save farmers money.

By laying this groundwork, the project will provide the necessary foundation for future growth and expansion capabilities that will bring additional business opportunities to the airport and new prospects to the local economy and its stakeholders.



### Project Affordability

- The population of Karlstad is 710 people.
- The vibrant town is located in Kitson County, 30 miles east of North Dakota and 30 miles south of Canada
- 22% Net Tax Capacity
- HF 604
- SF 1379

### Total Project Costs

\$19.2M

Phase 1  
\$5.6M

Phase 2  
\$3.9M

Phase 3-MN Legislative  
Bonding Request  
\$9.7M

### Why Your Support Matters Now

The City of Karlstad has worked diligently with the State of Minnesota and MnDOT since 2018 to improve the economic outlook in their region with the construction of airport infrastructure that will support growing business and tourism activities. **The City respectfully requests \$9.7M in Minnesota Legislative Bonding to complete the airport project so it can begin to positively impact the economy of northwestern Minnesota.**