

City of East Grand Forks

Request for Refundable Sales Tax for Recreation Facility Projects

HF 2658

SF 2795



The City of East Grand Forks requests a sales tax exemption on the materials and supplies used or consumed in the reconstruction, renovation, remodeling and expansion of two of its primary recreation facilities/indoor ice arenas, the Civic Center Sports Complex and the VFW Memorial Arena.

Project Cost/Timing

CIVIC CENTER SPORTS COMPLEX

Phase 1: Renovation/Reconstruction

\$4.345 Million (Total Construction Cost)

\$2.3 Million (Estimated Materials Cost)

Phase 2: Turf Baseball Field/Locker Room Addtn

\$14 Million (Total Construction Cost)

\$7.42 Million (Estimated Materials Cost)

**Phase 2 of the project will be constructed using private raised/local fundraising dollars.*

VFW MEMORIAL ARENA

Renovation/Reconstruction

\$8 Million (Total Construction Cost)

\$4.24 Million (Estimated Materials Cost)

PROJECT TIMING/PURCHASE PERIOD

November 30, 2025—January 1, 2029

Project Goals/Scope

Improve user experience, building performance, and efficiency to better serve our growing community with new and expanded recreation offerings.

- Removal and replacement of aging R-22 Ice Refrigeration Systems (Arena Floor, Ice System, and Hockey Boards)
- Parking lot reconstruction with ADA and pedestrian access improvements
- Replace aged mechanical/HVAC systems for improved indoor air quality
- Interior & exterior building envelope, lighting, energy efficiency improvements
- With private/local fundraising the project will add a multi-purpose turf ballfield and locker room addition at the Civic Center Sports Complex.

Project Justification

Local Support: A multi-year planning process led by a volunteer resident building committee identified the need and scope of this project plan. It received clear support with more than 60% of voters approving of a Local Sales & Use Tax to fund \$14.745 Million in project construction costs toward the project.

Economic Impact: A study conducted by the Univ. of Minnesota Extension Service found that youth sports events generated \$2.1 Million of economic activity during the 2021-2022 winter sports season, bringing more than 9,300 visitors to our community. This impact will continue to grow with improved facilities and expanded recreation offerings.



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