

SBARE Priorities

Capital Improvement Projects and One Time Requests 2027

DEFERRED MAINTENANCE

The North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station (NDAES) and Research Extension Centers (RECs) maintain a statewide portfolio of crop and livestock research infrastructure, and operational support facilities that are essential to North Dakota agriculture. Increased investment in deferred maintenance allows these buildings to remain in service longer while still providing a safe and efficient work environment. In the long run this saves the state significant money.

One-time: \$5,000,000

This request represents a significant, one-time investment to meaningfully reduce the existing deferred maintenance backlog. Funds will be targeted to the **highest-priority needs**, including life-safety systems, efficiency-focused upgrades that reduce ongoing utility costs, and critical infrastructure repairs necessary to ensure research continuity and protect animal welfare. Addressing these priority needs will reduce the risk of facility failures, mitigate escalating repair costs and protect prior state investments in research infrastructure.

Ongoing: \$1,183,049

This request represents a sustained, ongoing investment to stabilize facility conditions and prevent the continued growth of deferred maintenance. This ongoing funding increase is a critical companion to the one-time request to reduce the deferred maintenance backlog. Funding will support routine and preventive maintenance, timely repair of building systems, and lifecycle replacement of critical components necessary to maintain safe, reliable operations. These investments will reduce reliance on emergency repairs, improve efficiency, and extend the useful life of facilities across the statewide system.

SPECIAL FUND AUTHORIZATION REQUEST

CREC Greenspace Renovation: \$1,500,000

This project will be funded exclusively through private donations. In the 1970s, the entryway to the Carrington Research Extension Center (CREC) was designed as a tree species demonstration area. Since that time, many of the trees have reached the end of their lives, and the resulting area is now overgrown and no longer serves its intended purpose. The proposed project will improve first impressions of the station, promote on-site visitor engagement, and create space for increased Extension and community outreach or training activities. The CREC has teamed up with constituents, landscape architecture students and professionals to reimagine this space to better serve the region and create a more professional setting. The new concept is designed to increase on-site foot traffic and enhance public interaction with the CREC and NDSU. It will maximize the space through a mix of prairie and tree landscapes that reflect the region's agricultural history. The area will include outdoor education spaces, crop demonstrations, native grasses and flowers, locally developed trees, pollinator spaces, signage, and walking paths. The project would rehabilitate an area that is currently unusable. The public remains highly engaged and interested in this project, which will be completed entirely with donated resources.