



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 24, 2021
Blake Crosby, Executive Director
blake@ndlc.org
701-223-3518

Kory Peterson receives 2021 Leadership Excellence Award

Kory Peterson, Horace Mayor, received the 2021 Leadership Excellence Award for an Elected Official from the North Dakota League of Cities (NDLC) during the League's 2021 Annual Conference on Sept. 18.

The nomination for Mayor Peterson highlighted many accomplishments in his time as mayor. Some of those many accomplishments include:

- Bringing quality water to the city with a \$2.67 million award from the ND Department of Water Resources for service line replacement and a \$1.2 million connection to rural water. The cost of this project did not include any special assessments.
- Building two new schools which can accommodate 2,700 students. A second elementary school is planned for 2024.
- Adding more than 32 additional lane miles of city streets.
- Ensuring the entire city was wired for fiber internet services from a private utility.
- Overseeing the process of over 300 new homes being built in 2021, which is a 700% increase from 2016, and motivating developers to commit to the city's aesthetic and sound infrastructure.

This incredible growth does not come without concerns and issues. Mayor Peterson has asked developers to find a subdivision design that would appeal to everyone. He has also requested that plat and rezoning applications be sent back for revisions until surrounding neighbors were satisfied.

Mayor Peterson worked with landowners to resolve differences related to the Fargo-Moorhead Diversion project's land acquisition plans and on an inlet and control structure that would protect more than 235,000 people from flooding events. This will create thousands of jobs, invite new businesses to the city and provide multiple opportunities for growth in the area.

As the city prepares for its 150th anniversary in 2023, Mayor Peterson has been determined to continue the city's traditional celebrations such as the Bean Days Festival. In 2021 he secured private funds so that 10,000 Easter eggs could be filled with toys and candy for the local Easter Egg Hunt. His goal for 2022 is to provide 20,000 eggs.

Mayor Peterson started a new tradition of decorating 60 light poles on major roads in Horace with illuminated snowflakes and custom holiday banners during the winter months which welcome locals and visitors alike. From Memorial Day to Veteran's Day, the poles display an American flag.

In his nomination for Mayor Peterson, City Administrator Brenton Holper stated, "During his five years in office, Mayor Peterson has performed his duties at an exemplary level and demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to the community. Not only has Mayor Peterson stimulated growth but has also encouraged lifelong traditions to live on within the ever-expanding community." Former council member Dave Fenelon stated, "One of Kory's biggest contributions is getting the city engaged with partnering organizations such as the Fargo Moorhead West Fargo Chamber and the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Council of Governments by attending their events. He put Horace on the map, making it visible in the metro area as well as in the state of North Dakota."

The North Dakota League of Cities provides service, advocacy, leadership, education and support to the state's 357 cities. The League's mission - Strong. Dynamic. Cities. - expresses the value of services offered by the League.

Photo L to R: Brenton Holper, Horace City Administrator; Diane Affeldt, NDLC Board President; Kory Peterson, Horace Mayor; Jeff Trudeau, Horace Council Member; Naomi Burkland, Horace Council Member; Blake Crosby, NDLC Executive Director.



410 E Front Avenue · Bismarck, ND 58504-5641
Phone: 701-223-3518 · Toll Free (in state): 800-472-2692 · Web: www.ndlc.org