

# ***BUILDERS BULLETIN***

MONTHLY EDITION



## ***A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT***

MIKE SALWEY

Happy spring everyone!

For those of you that haven't already heard, I am your 2023 elected President, Mike Salwey. I have been an estimator and outside salesperson for Lumber Mart Inc, in East Grand Forks, for the past 10 years. I have been a regular attendee of the FBA's events for just as long and have gotten to know many of you. My wife, Brittany, works at City Hall in Grand Forks, and together we wrangle our four offspring, ranging from 8yrs to 16yrs old. We are outdoors people, but only in the nice months, which means we hibernate inside of hockey rinks in Minnesota for 9 months of the year.

This newsletter comes later than it has in recent years, so I want to say a (belated) Thank You to Jim Sandbeck, the outgoing FBA President. He has left me with some monster shoes to fill. Jim did a fantastic job last year with getting things restarted after a tough couple of years for everyone in the community. He and I sit on the board of the North Dakota Association of Builders together, with Nate Applegren, and I enjoy conversing about state issues that builders, and the like, face every year. Thank you for the hard work, Jimmy.



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## *A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, CONTINUED...*

We just hosted a sold-out Spring Expo space at the Alerus Center on March 24th and 25th. I want to thank everyone who contributed their efforts in making that happen. It wasn't easy after a few years away from it, so all the hard work is appreciated. I hope that everyone was able to have beneficial takeaways from it, and I welcome any feedback that anyone may have resulting from their time at the show.

Next on our hit list was the Parade of Homes but unfortunately, due to a lack of inventory, this event has been postponed. However, our committee is working diligently to create an event (possibly with a virtual component) that meets the needs of both our members and the community. Stay tuned for more details to come. We also have our annual Sporting clay shoot on June 20th. Registration is open on our website at [forxbuilders.com/events](http://forxbuilders.com/events). Sponsorship opportunities are still available!

My goal for this year is going to be focused on the members. I want to help out any way I can, from building stronger relationships with our current member base, to adding new members from our surrounding area. It's going to be a good year to expand the Association. I would really like to hear from members who may be struggling to see the benefits of their membership. I want to see what we can do to help highlight what we are doing right, things we could be doing better, and ways we can keep our members interested as well as bring in new ones. There is always room for improvements.

I wish for everyone to have a busy 2023!

Mike Salwey

## Connect with other members!

**May 11, 2023**  
5pm - 7pm

FORX BUILDERS ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

**BUILDERS**  
*after hours*

hosted by

**TIMBER & ASH DESIGNS**

*\*Due to the nature of this event, under 21 not allowed*



# NEWS UPDATES

LOCAL, STATE AND NATIONAL ISSUES

## Letter From City of Grand Forks Engineering Department

The Engineering Department has recently observed a number of driveway approach panels that are failing due to premature cracking. To address this issues, the 2023 City standards were adjusted to require additional reinforcing of residential and commercial driveway approaches and sidewalks being constructed within the City right-of-way. See page 6.

## May Is Home Remodeling Month

During National Home Remodeling Month each May, NAHB Remodelers Council implements a campaign to celebrate the remodeling industry, recognize the expertise of remodeling professionals and highlight the benefits of hiring a professional remodeler. Remodelers and local councils will find tools and tips to help **create a campaign** to promote the industry and local members, as well as tips for consumers. The promotional materials include sample social media posts, web banners, press releases, fact sheets and other consumer materials, as well as articles, op-eds, and fact sheets. These materials are easy to customize.

## NEW MEMBERS

WELCOME TO THE ASSOCIATION

Chad Perry Flooring  
Northland Sheds  
Valley Home Contracting, LLC  
Barefoot Flooring Installation  
Wintrust Mortgage  
Darcy's Cafe

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



*Introducing our newest member of the Forx Builders Association Board of Directors...*

Adrian Cummings is excited to be joining the board of the Forx Builders Association. Currently he works as a Business Banker at US Bank in Grand Forks.

A native of Grand Forks, North Dakota, Adrian is actively involved in his community and participates in various civic organizations. He serves as the President for the Greater Grand Forks Young Professionals, and as a finance committee member for Evolve GF.

In his free time, he enjoys spending time with family, taking in the outdoors, and supporting UND Athletics.



# DO BUSINESS WITH AN NAHB MEMBER.

Members Save Millions

Start saving at [nahb.org/savings](http://nahb.org/savings)



**Keep Us In The Loop!**

Email [info@forxbuilders](mailto:info@forxbuilders) with any changes to your primary or billing contact, address, email or phone number.

# RECENT EVENTS

Follow us!  
#forxbuilders  
@forxbuilders



*Thank you Spring Expo & Door Prize Sponsors!*



# UPCOMING EVENTS

**May 11**

Builders After Hours  
Hosted by Timber & Ash Designs

**June 20**

29th Annual Sporting Clay Shoot

**September 7**

30th Annual Golf Outing

Check our website and Facebook page for updates.

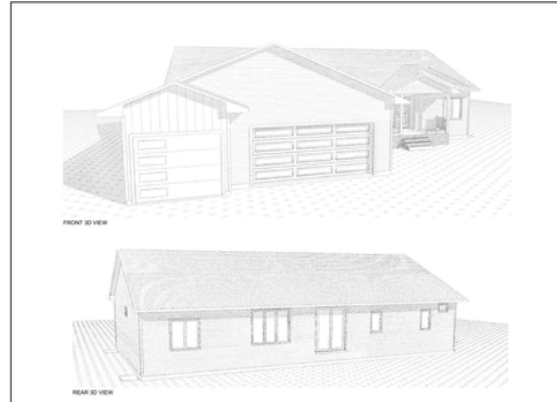
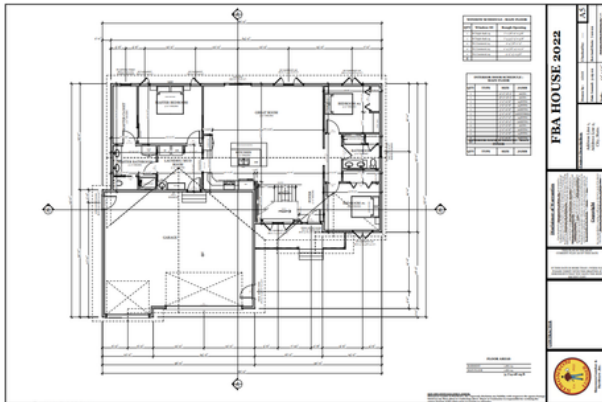


[HOME] [GARDEN] [RECREATION]

*~ All Things Home & Spring ~*

1200 23rd St NW. East Grand Forks, MN 56721

New Construction  
\$499,900



## 3-bedroom home perfectly suited for your family!

Beautiful 3 bed, 2 bath ranch style home. Granite and solid surface countertops throughout, stunning champagne bronze and matte black finishes. Open concept kitchen/living/dining room illuminated by tons of windows and an 8' patio door, overlooking Valley Golf Course! Main floor laundry passes through to master bath AND master closet. Large finished and heated 3-car garage. Main floor square footage: 1887



Contact Forx Builders Association @ 701.746.4536

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April 20, 2023

Construction season is almost here! In 2023 a couple changes were implemented that affect how residential and commercial driveways and sidewalks are to be constructed within the City right-of-way. This letter is being provided to notify you of those changes and also to provide a reminder about existing policies and procedures.

The Engineering Department has recently observed a number of driveway approach panels that are failing due to premature cracking. To address this issue, the 2023 City standards were adjusted to require additional reinforcing of driveway approaches. This entails that rebar be included in all driveway approach apron concrete. Flares are to be thickened and granular base course under driveway approach panels shall be tapered to the full base course thickness at the curb. Attached with this letter is a summary of driveway and sidewalk specifications and City Standard Drawings 64.02 and 64.03, which depict these changes.

As in previous years, prior to beginning work be sure to first obtain a City permit when one is required. All sidewalks, whether new or being replaced, and all new driveway approaches require a City permit. If replacing an existing driveway approach a permit is required if any curb is to be cut, if the dimensions of the driveway approach are being altered, or if part of the sidewalk is being replaced to construct the driveway approach. These permits may be obtained at the Building Inspections Department in City Hall.

City staff shall be contacted to ensure proper layout and that specifications and standards are being met. Three (3) days prior to beginning sidewalk construction, contact the City Engineering Surveyor at (701)740-6758. The surveyor will provide you with proper line and grade for the sidewalk. Make sure that your site is clean and accessible prior to contacting the surveyor. For all sidewalk and driveway approach construction, the City Engineering Inspector shall also be contacted at (701)740-6736. The inspector will need to be notified of your intentions for the placement of the concrete a minimum of 24 hours in advance so they can check the forms, ensure required rebar is in place and plan to inspect the placement of the concrete. Any sidewalk or driveway approaches found within the right-of-way to be out of compliance with City standards may be deemed unacceptable and be required to be removed and replaced.

Thank you for adhering to these procedures. Your attention to detail and cooperation enables us all to provide quality infrastructure to the residents and businesses in Grand Forks!

Sincerely,



Allen R. Grasser, PE  
City Engineer