

Mitchell Area Development Corporation  
601 North Main Street | Mitchell, SD 57301  
Phone: 605-996-1140 | Fax: 605-996-8273  
MitchellSD.com



August 15, 2019  
Immediate release

MORE INFORMATION: Mark Vaux  
Office: 605-995-1104

### **MADC to take ownership of Third and Main buildings**

**Mitchell, S.D.** – The Mitchell Area Development Corporation will take ownership of two buildings on Mitchell’s Main Street in the troubled Third and Main area. The organization’s intent is to expedite the opening of Third Avenue, which has been impassible for two years, and pursue development options in the area.

“This is a tremendous opportunity,” said MADC executive director Mark Vaux. “We are in a position to assist business owners and the city of Mitchell and improve the overall face of Main Street.”

MADC has asked the city to transfer ownership of the Finnell building, the structure that has been at the center of the situation, at an upcoming meeting. Last Friday in a special meeting, the council approved a settlement agreement which will allow the building to be demolished.

MADC has also signed a purchase agreement for the building immediately adjacent to the Finnell building, owned by Skip and Diane Moody, of Moody’s Western Wear. The Moodys plan to vacate the building and relocate their business.

“The MADC Board approved this plan unanimously,” said Vaux. “Main Street is the heart of our community, and thousands of visitors and residents travel the street every year, forming an impression of Mitchell. By taking ownership of these buildings, we can offer an expeditious and cost-effective solution to an area that has been a problem.”

“When Mark (Vaux) contacted us, we were excited,” said Mayor Bob Everson. “The council has been working to get this area addressed and has agreed that Main Street is a priority, however, we do not have any interest in owning buildings down Main Street, and we are not in the development business. We are fortunate to have a partner willing to take on the clean-up and development of this area.”

Razing the Finnell and Moody buildings will take place as soon as feasible, according to Vaux.

“Based on contractor quotes, removing both buildings is far more financially sound than attempting to take down the Finnell building while preserving the integrity of the Moody’s wall,” he said. “The owners have been wonderful to work with, and we are so pleased to be able to help them realize a new future for Moody’s Western Wear.”

The Mitchell Main Street & Beyond Organization is supportive of the plan as well.

“Our historic Main Street business district is unique and full of possibilities,” said Emma DeVos, chairwoman of the MMS&B board. “We look forward to having Third Avenue opened and to working with future developers of this prime section of Main Street.”

-end-