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GUEST EDITORIAL

porary subsidies permanent is enormously expensive: \$350 billion over the next 10 years. And despite that massive taxpayer investment, experience proves just one thing: Americans will continue to pay more—a lot more—for healthcare.

Since the enhanced credits were enacted in 2021, insurance companies have raised premiums by 31 percent nationally.

Third, these payments don’t show up in your wallet to buy down the cost of your healthcare. This money goes directly to insurance companies, with no requirement that it’s used to reduce prices or improve care.

Lastly, massive fraud plagues this program. “Phantom Enrollees”—people enrolled on paper but who have zero claims—now make up roughly 35 percent of marketplace enrollees. National insurance companies get paid for millions of nonexistent “phantom” patients, while North Dakota farm families and small business owners continue to pay rising premiums. This makes no sense.

Advertisement for Bids

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
CITY OF LISBON
LISBON, NORTH DAKOTA
UTILITY IMPROVEMENT
DISTRICT 2023-1
MOORE PROJECT NO. 20337

General Notice
Owner is requesting Bids for the construction of the project listed above.
Bids for the construction of the Project will be received and accepted via electronic bid (vBid) through Quest CDN until December 18, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. local time. Bids will be viewed and read via video/phone conference at 9:30 a.m. Mailed or hand delivered bids will not be opened or considered. Link for the video/phone conference is provided at www.mooreengineeringinc.com by clicking the Bid Information tab, or at www.QuestCDN.com.

The Project includes the following Work: Replacement of existing sanitary sewer and water main including services, relining of existing sanitary sewer and manhole rehabilitation, new lift station and force main, storm sewer, street and sidewalk reconstruction, and ancillary improvements.

Obtaining the Bidding Documents
Digital project bidding documents will be available at www.mooreengineeringinc.com by clicking the Bid Information tab, or at www.QuestCDN.com. You may download the complete set of digital documents for a nonrefundable fee of \$50.00 by locating eBidDoc™ Number 9970283 on the website. Contact Quest CDN Customer Support at 952-233-1632 or info@QuestCDN.com for assistance in membership registration, downloading digital project information, and vBid online bid submittal questions.

The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is:
Moore Engineering, Inc.
925 10th Ave E, West Fargo, ND 58078

Each bid must be accompanied by a bidder's bond in a sum equal to 5% of the full amount of the bid executed by the bidder as principal and by a surety, conditioned that if the principal's bid is accepted and a contract is awarded to the principal, the principal, within ten (10) days

Some in Washington celebrate all this and call it “affordable.” North Dakotans know better. Pouring more taxpayer money into a program every year to make it look affordable, isn’t affordable at all.

Clearly, we need an off-ramp from these massive payouts to insurance companies. They aren’t working. So, what are the alternatives?

Republicans have been working for years on reforms to drive down costs, increase transparency, and put patients back in charge. In fact, we passed several improvements in the Working Families Tax Cut plan (One Big Beautiful Bill) earlier this year. According to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO), our House-passed reforms to crack down on fraud and support cost sharing reductions would have reduced ACA premiums by nearly 13 percent and saved taxpayers more than \$130 billion over 10 years. Sadly, Democrats stripped these out of the final bill in the Senate. These reforms are a good starting point.

after the notice of the award, shall execute a contract in accordance with the terms of the bid and the bid bond, and any conditions of the City of Lisbon, as required by law. A countersignature of a bid bond is not required. If the City of Lisbon elects to award a contract to the lowest responsible bidder, and the lowest responsible bidder does not execute a contract within ten (10) days, the bidder’s bond will be forfeited to the City of Lisbon, and the City of Lisbon may award the project to the next lowest responsible bidder.

Each bidder must possess a valid North Dakota contractor’s license for the full amount of their bid, as required by N.D.C.C. § 43-07-7. Each bidder must enclose a copy of their Contractor’s License or Certificate of Renewal, issued by the North Dakota Secretary of State, and each license must be valid and dated at least ten (10) days prior to the date set for bid opening, as required under N.D.C.C. § 43-07-12.

State Revolving Fund Requirements
This project anticipates funding from the Drinking Water and Clean Water State Revolving Fund program. Bidder’s attention is called to the SRF requirements in the bid package.

Bidders on this work will be required to comply with American Iron and Steel requirements of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014. The requirements for bidders and contractors under this regulation are explained in the specifications. Bidders are required to comply with Davis-Bacon prevailing wage requirements.

Any lead service line replacements conducted under this project must replace the entire lead service line, not just a portion, unless a portion has already been replaced or is concurrently being replaced with another funding source.

This Advertisement is issued by:
Owner: City of Lisbon
By: Kristina Dick
Title: Auditor
Date: December 1, 2025

Publish: December 1 & 8 2025

Petition for Variance

City of Lisbon Public Notice
Petition for a Variance

Notice is hereby given that on Monday the 1st day of December, 2025 at 5:30 PM, in the City Council chambers in the Lisbon Public Library, the planning commission will hold a public hearing on the application of Joseph Mathern of Lisbon, North Dakota for a variance on the following described property located at 402 Elm St.

Lot One (1), in Block Five (5), of Burhyte’s First Addition to the City of Lisbon

The purpose of the variance is to allow for a new house to be constructed

upon the same property as the old house which has been torn down existed and 1.) To allow house to sit facing North with a setback less than 20 feet, and 2.) To allow the lot to have more than 30% structure said construction is outside of the current building zoning of the City of Lisbon. Documentation regarding this petition may be inspected at the office of Jeffrey K Ledbetter, 7 4th Ave. W., Lisbon, during regular business hours.

/s/
Lydell Mairs
Chairman of Planning Commission

Publish: November 24, Dec 1, 2025

Importantly, we should direct tax credits to individuals, not insurance companies, and strengthen direct-to-patient tools like Health Savings Accounts and flexible spending accounts. Let’s put families back in the driver seat of their own care and encourage healthier decisions.

And while we work toward these fundamental changes, we have other bipartisan reforms ready to go:

Price transparency legislation—including the Lower Prices, More Transparency Act—which passed the House last year to give patients clear information to compare costs and quality.

Comprehensive PBM reform to end practices that drive up drug prices.

Patent reform to increase the number of lower-cost generic medications available to patients. 340B reform to direct discounts to patients and strengthen the rural hospitals the program was designed to support.

Prior authorization reform to stop unnecessary delays that prevent patients from getting timely care.

North Dakotans, and Americans everywhere, are fed up with

Advertisement for Bids

MULTI-PARK STORM
SHELTER COMFORT STATIONS
BUILDING & FOUNDATION
INSTALLATION AND SITE
IMPROVEMENTS NORTH
DAKOTA PARKS AND
RECREATION DEPARTMENT
STATE
PROJECT NO. PI150502-23

Bids will be received online through Quest CDN vBid™, until 3:00 pm CT on Thursday, December 11, 2025. The Owner will review bids following expiration of the time for receiving bids. At 4:00 pm CT on Thursday, December 11, 2025 representatives of North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department and KLJ Engineering LLC will publicly read bids aloud at an online bid opening meeting. Those interested in viewing the online bid opening are welcome to join the meeting by calling 701-526-4434 Phone Conference ID: 670 195 60#, or logging on to: <https://tinyurl.com/bdynwpkx> and entering Meeting ID 215 952 160 754 0 and Passcode Pp96nQ33. The as-read online bid results will be available at www.quest-cdn.com following the bid opening.

Bids shall be upon cash payment on the following types of work:

Pre-Engineered Storm Shelter Comfort Station building installation, structural fill, concrete foundations and floor slabs, masonry, plumbing, HVAC, building and site electrical, concrete sidewalks and pavement, tree removal, grading, aggregate base course, water service, sanitary sewer service, septic tanks and pumping systems, drain fields, topsoiling, seeding, signs, erosion controls, and other associated work.

The contract documents are on file and may be examined at the following: North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department Planning and Projects Division

604 E Boulevard Ave
Dept 750
Bismarck, ND, 58505
KLJ Engineering, LLC
Bismarck Office
400 E Broadway Ave
Suite 600
Bismarck, ND 58501

Complete digital project bidding documents are available at www.kljeng.com “Projects for Bid” or www.quest-cdn.com. You may download the digital plan documents for \$28.00 by inputting Quest project # 9944875 on the website’s Project Search page. Please contact QuestCDN at (952) 233-1632 or info@questcdn.com for assistance in free membership registration, downloading, and working with this digital project information. The website will be updated periodically with addenda, lists of registered plan holders, reports, and other information relevant to submitting a Bid for the Project. All official notifications, addenda, and other Bidding Documents will be offered only through the website. Neither Owner nor Architect will be responsible for

our healthcare system. It’s time for all stakeholders in the system, and leaders in Washington, to move beyond the superficial talking points to real reforms that make healthcare affordable.

Again, Fedorchak Misses the Mark: Big Insurance IS the Problem
Vicki Voldal Rosenau, Valley City, ND

In her recent column mocking the Affordable Care Act, Rep. Julie Fedorchak got one thing (and only one thing) right: “Clearly, we need an off-ramp from these massive payouts to insurance companies.”

But any changes she advocated would still leave the for-profit insurance monstrosity wielding life/death power over us all! Nothing would improve for worried consumers who are, indeed, “fed up with” the existing insurance-dictated scheme.

Real reform necessarily means eliminating the root problem. That is: removing the stranglehold of self-serving, profiteering “insurers.” The U.S. must, finally, join the rest of the developed world by establishing universal, single-payer healthcare for all

Bidding Documents, including addenda, if any, obtained from other sources.

An optional paper set of 11”x17” Plans and an 8.5”x11” Project Manual also available for a non-refundable price of \$92.00 per set at KLJ Engineering, LLC, 400 E Broadway Ave, Suite 600, Bismarck, ND 58501. Please contact us at 701-355-8742 if you have any questions.

An on-line pre-bid meeting will be held on Tuesday November 25, 2025 at 11:00 am CT. Bidders are invited to attend by calling 701-526-4434 Phone Conference ID: 636 701 825# or logging onto <https://tinyurl.com/2kzz3mz7> and entering Meeting ID 214 248 931 500 0 and Passcode Tu2ZG3PJ.

All Bidders must submit a bid security in a sum equal to five percent (5%) of the full amount of the bid and must be in the form of a bidder’s bond. A bidder’s bond must be executed by the bidder as principal and by a surety company authorized to do business in the State of North Dakota, conditioned that if the principal’s bid is accepted and the contract awarded to the principal, the principal, within ten (10) days after notice of the award, shall execute a contract in accordance with the terms of the bid and the bid bond as required by the laws of the State of North Dakota and the regulations and determinations of the governing body, and any condition of the Owner. Countersignature of a bid bond is not required under this section. If the Owner elects to award a contract to the lowest responsible bidder, and the lowest responsible bidder does not execute a contract within the ten (10) days allowed, the bidder’s bond must be forfeited to the Owner and the project awarded to the next lowest responsible bidder. Bid bond must be included in the online bid submission.

All Bidders must be the holder of a current Contractor’s License at least ten days before the date set for receiving bids for the full amount of the bid as required by Section 43 07 07 and 43-07-12 of the North Dakota Century Code to be a qualified bidder. A copy of the Contractor’s License issued by the Secretary of State must be included in the online bid submission.

Bidders shall submit their bids online via the Quest CDN vBid platform for a submission fee of \$42.00. No online bid will be opened, read or considered if it does not fully comply with the document submission requirements of the vBid system, including but not limited to a VALID CONTRACTOR’S LICENSE, ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY THE BIDDER OF RECEIPT OF ALL PROJECT ADDENDA and the submission of A BIDDER’S BOND IN THE AMOUNT OF 5% OF THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE BID.

No Bid will be read or considered which does not fully comply with the above provisions as to Bond, and Acknowledgement of all Addenda, and any deficient Bid submitted will be rejected via the QuestCDN vBid platform

citizens. We need reliable healthcare, not insurance quagmires.

Not surprisingly, most reputable sources have concluded that single-payer will significantly reduce U.S. healthcare costs. E.g., the American Public Health Association declares that, “The best, most efficient, equitable health system is a public, single-payer system.”

A National Institutes of Health article states, “a single-payer, universal healthcare system is likely to lead to a 13% savings in national healthcare expenditure, equivalent to over \$450 billion annually.”

Furthermore, numerous studies show most Americans support single-payer healthcare, and the APHA adds, “a majority of doctors ‘strongly support’ policy reform to implement single-payer.”

Transitioning from a system dictated by Big Insurance to an effective single-payer care system will require considerable time and serious work; the sooner our elected officials get on board, the sooner their words regarding the healthcare crisis will become credible.

and will not be opened.

The Work shall be completed as follows:

- Substantial completion will be achieved when the Storm Shelter Comfort Station building is complete and ready for occupancy which shall occur on or before August 28th, 2026.
- All work shall be complete and ready for final payment on or before October 9th, 2026.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any informality in any bid, and to accept the bid deemed most favorable to the interest of the Owner. The Owner reserves the right to hold all bids for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days from the date of Bid Opening. No bid may be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days.

Contracts shall be awarded on the basis of the low bids submitted by responsible and responsive bidders for the aggregate sum of bid items for bids received by each Bidder. Up to twelve (12) Prime contracts may be awarded for the work with up to three (3) contracts for General, Mechanical, and Electrical at each of the four (4) project site locations.

The successful Bidder will be required to furnish Contract Performance and Payment Bonds in the full amount of the contract.

Should the Prime General Contractor fail to complete the Work within the time required herein or within such extra time as may have been granted by formal extensions of time approved by the Owner, there will be deducted from any amount due the Contractor the sum of \$500.00 per day per installation location for each and every day that expires after such completion of Substantial Completion is delayed, and an additional \$500.00 per day per installation location for each and every day that expires after such final completion is delayed.

If separate Prime Agreements are executed for Electrical or Mechanical work, there will be deducted from any amount due the Prime Mechanical or Electrical Contractor the sum of \$100.00 per day per installation location for each and every day that expires after such completion of Substantial Completion is delayed, and an additional \$100.00 per day per installation location for each and every day that expires after such final completion is delayed. The Contractor and their surety will be liable for any excess. Such Payment will be as and for liquidated damages. Said reduction in payment only applies to the individual installation location(s) at which final completion is delayed.

Dated this 10th day of November, 2025

North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department

/s/ Sean M. Johnson

Publish: November 17, 24 and December 1, 2025