

North Dakota awards \$4M to drive tourism growth, local development

Johnny's Landing in Casselton awarded \$870,000

BISMARCK – The North Dakota Department of Commerce has awarded \$4 million in Destination Development Grants to projects across the state. This grant round supports new and expanding tourism experiences that strengthen communities, elevate visitor offerings and help drive long-term economic growth.

The 2026 cycle brought in 103 applications from 61 communities, highlighting a strong demand for destination development and showcasing ambitious projects from across North Dakota. These proposals reflect the creativity and momentum within the tourism industry as communities work to grow attractions, expand visitor services and develop year-round experiences.

In neighboring Cass County, Johnny's Landing in Casselton was awarded \$870,000.

Grant funds will be used to develop a lodging and wellness destination with 14 full hook-up RV sites, 12 wellness-focused heritage cabins converted from authentic granaries and grain bins, renovated farmhouse lodging, preserved barn space for agritourism and a conversion of a historic wooden water tower into a sauna.

"These projects expand the experiences that will attract new visitors, encourage longer stays and showcase the authentic character of our communities," said Commerce Tourism and Marketing Director Sara Otte Coleman. "From agritourism to outdoor recreation to unique lodging, these investments strengthen North Dakota's

tourism economy by filling gaps in current offerings and giving travelers more unique experiences across the state."

The applications varied greatly and included many applications to enhance or build new community infrastructure. Each grant was scored across more than 20 categories by five committee members who looked at the measurable increase in new visitors as a primary factor.

Several other projects around the state also received grants.

Those projects are as follows:

- Black Leg Market & Eatery – Sterling, \$1.5 million

The project involves constructing new guest cabins, developing full-service RV sites and building the Market & Eatery on the ranch property. It also adds guided experience infrastructure such as UTV tour equipment and visitor activity areas. These additions increase on-site lodging capacity, a dedicated dining and retail facility as well as expanding the operational areas needed to support wildlife viewing, ranch activities and other visitor services.

- Dakota Sun Winery – Williston, \$75,000

Grant funds will be used to expand the existing winery with an outdoor patio, a multi-season event venue and three grain bin glamping units designed to create memorable overnight stays. They also plan to partner with local beef producers to feature locally sourced ingredients on their

menu, while adding vineyard yoga, wellness programming and collaborations with regional artisans and food trucks. These enhancements expand tasting and event capacity, strengthen community partnerships and increase lodging options to encourage longer visitor stays.

- Great Northern Event Center – Williston, \$550,000

Grant funds will support the final phase of the build-out of a historic Main Street property, transforming the underground portion of the building into a unique lounge and converting the adjacent wash bay building into boutique lodging suites. This addition complements the newly opened entertainment venue, bakery, wine and cheese cave and retail shops currently offered in the building.

- Icelandic Rootshús – Mountain, \$300,000

Grant funds will support the creation of the new Icelandic Rootshús heritage center with exhibits, genealogy research areas, a library, children's space and a coffee and gathering area, along with interior systems, furnishings, display cases and signage.

- Legendary Gymnastics: Meets and Competitions – Bismarck, \$122,500

The grant will support the purchase of competition-grade equipment, enabling the business to host pre-committed competitive gymnastics meets attracting athletes from across the region and country.

- Pioneer Trails Adventures: Where Frontier Trails and Fossils Meet – Bowman, \$82,500

Grant funds will be used to purchase

the necessary equipment to expand archaeology and paleontology tours and increase tour accessibility and frequency. The enhancements build off the growing demand for hands-on paleontology experiences and to provide full-service tour offerings. The expanded tours will guide visitors through the real landscapes where prehistoric life, Indigenous history, early settlement and famous frontier events unfolded.

- The Prairie Experience at The Bins – Lakota, \$500,000

Grant funds will support construction of the Bins Coffee & Spirits café, developing three grain bin lodging units and completing elements including a courtyard, stage, sauna, hot tub and patio areas. It also includes agritourism experiences which showcase current technology at large farm operations and regional tours.

Together, these projects represent a bold investment in North Dakota's tourism future that supports local communities, celebrates cultural identity and invites visitors to experience the state in new and meaningful ways.

This program, funded by the 69th Legislative Assembly, is designed to support the development and expansion of tourism experiences and attractions that contribute to North Dakota's economic growth and diversification.

For more information on the grant applicants and recipients, visit www.nd.gov/link/DestinationDevelopment.

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North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality Public Notice:
Reissue of an NDPDES Permit
 Public Notice Date: May 07, 2026
Purpose of Public Notice
 The Department intends to reissue the following North Dakota Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NDPDES) Discharge Permit under the authority of Section 61-28-04 of the North Dakota Century Code.
Permit Information
 Public Notice Number: ND-2026-013
 Permit Number: ND0026964
 Application Date: July 14, 2025
 Application Number: 2EV4-AEM1-0R2Z
 Applicant Name: Red River Valley Water Supply Project
 Mailing Address: PO Box 140, Carrington, ND 58421
 Telephone Number: 800-532-0074
 Proposed Permit Expiration Date: June 30, 2031
Facility Description
 The application is for a water supply project that will pump water from the Missouri River to eastern and central North Dakota; primarily in the event of severe drought conditions. The Missouri River intake will be located in the SW1/4 NE1/4 Section 5, Township 143N, Range 81W southeast of Washburn, ND. The water treatment plant will be located in the SW1/4 SE1/4 Section 3, Township 143N, Range 81W southeast of Washburn, ND. The transmission pipeline extends from the Missouri River intake to the Sheyenne River, a Class IA stream, southeast of Cooperstown, ND. Treated water will discharge from the Sheyenne River outfall located in the NW1/4 NE1/4 Section 22, Township 145N, Range 58W. Water that does not meet treatment targets will be diverted to one of two discharge points. One point will be located in the SW1/4 SE1/4 Section 3, Township 143N, Range 81W southeast of Washburn, ND and discharge to Painted Woods Creek, a Class III stream. The other point will be located in the SW1/4 SW1/4 Section 2, Township 145N, Range 64W east of Carrington, ND and discharge to the James River, a Class IA stream.
Tentative Determinations
 Proposed effluent limitations and other permit conditions have been made by the department. They assure that State Water Quality Standards and applicable provisions of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (FWPCA) will be protected.
Information Requests and Public Comments
 Copies of the application, draft permit, and related documents are available for review. Comments or requests should be directed to the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Quality, 4201 Normandy Street, Bismarck ND 58503-1324 or by calling 701.328.5210. All comments received by June 10, 2026 will be considered prior to finalizing the permit. If there is significant interest, a public hearing will be scheduled. Otherwise, the Department will issue the final permit within sixty (60) days of this notice.
 The North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) will consider every request for reasonable accommodation to provide an accessible meeting facility or other accommodation for people with disabilities, language interpretation for people with limited English proficiency (LEP), and translations of written material necessary to access programs and information. To request accommodations, contact the NDEQ Non-discrimination Coordinator at 701-328-5210 or deqE-J@nd.gov. TTY users may use Relay North Dakota at 711 or 1-800-366-6888.
 (May 8, 2026)

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SECTION 00100 ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
McCOY HALL STORM SEWER PROJECT
VALLEY CITY STATE UNIVERSITY VALLEY CITY, NORTH DAKOTA
 Sealed bids will be received by the Valley City State University, at the office of the Director of Facilities Services c/o of Jessica Gortmaker; Facilities Services Building; 101 College St SW; Valley City, ND 58072, until **10:00 AM CST, May 29, 2026**, at which time they will be publically opened and read aloud for the furnishing of materials, labor, equipment and skill required for the construction of McCoy Hall Storm Sewer Project and incidental items in and for said Valley City State University, as is more fully described and set forth in the plans and specifications therefore, which are now on file in the office of KJLJ Engineering, 1010 4th Avenue SW; Valley City, ND 58072. Complete advertisement and digital project bidding documents are available at www.kljeng.com "Projects for Bid" or www.questcdn.com. You may download the digital plan documents for \$22 by inputting Quest project # 10193290 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. An optional paper set of project documents is also available for a non-refundable price of \$72 per set at KJLJ, 1010 4th Avenue SW, Valley City, ND. Please contact us at 701-845-9423 if you have any questions.
 Dated this 8th day of May, 2026
 Valley City State University
 Valley City, NORTH DAKOTA
 s/Jessica Gortmaker
 Director of Facilities Services
 (May 8, 15 & 22, 2026)

SECTION 00100 ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
VALLEY CITY PERMANENT FLOOD PROTECTION - PHASE 4
CITY OF VALLEY CITY VALLEY CITY, NORTH DAKOTA
 Sealed bids will be received by the City of Valley City, at the office of the City Auditor, 254 2nd Avenue NE, until 11:00 AM CST, May 22, 2026, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud for the furnishing of materials, labor, equipment and skill required for the construction of Concrete Floodwalls, Clay Levees, Storm Sewer, Watermain, Sanitary Sewer, Storm Lift Station, Sanitary Lift Station, Asphalt Street Reconstruction, Street Lighting and incidental items in and for said City of Valley City, as is more fully described and set forth in the plans and specifications therefore, which are now on file in the office of the City Auditor. Bids shall be upon cash payment on the following estimated quantities and types of work:
 CONTRACT BOND, 1 L SUM; REMOVAL OF TREES 10IN, 19 EA; REMOVAL OF TREES 18IN, 30 EA; REMOVAL OF TREES 30IN, 12 EA; CLEARING & GRUBBING, 1 L SUM; REMOVAL OF PAVEMENT, 13516 TON; REMOVAL OF PIPE ALL TYPES AND SIZES, 2853 LF; REMOVAL OF MANHOLES, 11 EA; REMOVAL OF INLETS, 12 EA; REMOVE SHEET PILE WALL, 1 L SUM; REMOVE EXISTING FENCE, 381 LF; REMOVE ALUMNI ENTRANCE, 1 L SUM; REMOVE AND RESET RECREATIONAL EQUIPMENT & SIGN, 1 L SUM; COMMON EXCAVATION-WASTE, 52020 CY; TOPSOIL-IMPORTED, 8381 CY; BORROW-EXCAVATION, 6463 CY; SEEDING CLASS III, 10.39 ACRE; HYDRAULIC MULCH, 20.78 ACRE; RIPRAP GRADE II, 4770 CY; CONIFER

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REVELMENT, 545 LF; FIBER ROLLS 12IN, 3758 LF; SALVAGED BASE COURSE, 9129 TON; MILLING PAVEMENT SURFACE, 448 SY; SUPERPAVE FAA 43, 3417 TON; CORED SAMPLE, 12 EA; PG 58S-28 ASPHALT CEMENT, 222.105 TON; SHEET PILE PZC 26, 26138 SF; MOBILIZATION, 1 L SUM; TRAFFIC CONTROL, 1 L SUM; INLET PROTECTION-SPECIAL, 28 EA; REMOVE INLET PROTECTION-SPECIAL, 28 EA; GEOSYNTHETIC MATERIAL TYPE R1, 13332 SY; GEOSYNTHETIC MATERIAL TYPE RR, 7155 SY; PIPE CONC REINF 15IN CL III-STORM DRAIN, 795 LF; PIPE CONC REINF 18IN CL III-STORM DRAIN, 1254 LF; PIPE CONC REINF 24IN CL III-STORM DRAIN, 966 LF; PIPE CONC REINF 30IN CL III-STORM DRAIN, 914 LF; PIPE CONC REINF 36IN CL III-STORM DRAIN, 55 LF; PIPE CONC REINF 42IN CL III-STORM DRAIN, 349 LF; PIPE CONC REINF 48IN CL III-STORM DRAIN, 411 LF; PIPE CONC REINF 60IN CL III-STORM DRAIN, 590 LF; SANITARY SEWER SERVICE CONNECTION, 22 EA; SANITARY SEWER SERVICE REPAIR, 7 EA; MANHOLE 48IN, 7 EA; MANHOLE 60IN, 8 EA; MANHOLE 72IN, 5 EA; MANHOLE 84IN, 1 EA; MANHOLE 96IN, 4 EA; MANHOLE 108IN, 1 EA; 7FT X 7FT RCB CULVERT MANHOLE, 1 EA; 10FT X 10FT RCB CULVERT MANHOLE, 1 EA; MANHOLE SANITARY, 3 EA; INLET-TYPE 2, 33 EA; ADJUST GATE VALVE BOX, 10 EA; ADJUST MANHOLE, 11 EA; ADJUST MANHOLE SPECIAL, 1 EA; FITTINGS-DUCTILE IRON, 1332 LBS; REMOVE GATE VALVE & BOX, 4 EA; GATE VALVE & BOX 6IN, 6 EA; GATE VALVE & BOX 8IN, 4 EA; GATE VALVE & BOX 12IN, 4 EA; 6IN HYDRANT, 3 EA; HYDRANT-RELOCATE, 1 EA; REMOVE HYDRANT, 3 EA; SLEEVE 8IN, 6 EA; SLEEVE 12IN, 2 EA; WATER SERVICE LINE 1IN, 497 LF; WATERMAIN 6IN PVC, 393 LF; WATERMAIN 8IN PVC, 1350 LF; WATERMAIN 12IN PVC, 77 LF; WATER SERVICE CONNECTION 1IN, 16 EA; BORE SANITARY SEWER PIPE, 465 LF; SANITARY SEWER 4IN, 603 LF; 8IN SANITARY SEWER PIPE, 186 LF; 10IN SANITARY SEWER PIPE, 122 LF; 12IN SANITARY SEWER PIPE, 664 LF; SANITARY SEWER SIPHON MODIFICATIONS, 1 L SUM; SANITARY SEWER CLEANOUT, 1 EA; FORCEMAIN 6IN, 508 LF; POLYSTYRENE INSULATION BOARD, 2480 BD FT; CURB & GUTTER-TYPE I, 4836 LF; CURB-TYPE I, 40 LF; SIDEWALK CONCRETE, 5194 SY; DRIVEWAY CONCRETE, 1284 SY; CONCRETE FLOODWALL APRON, 555 SY; DETECTABLE WARNING PANELS, 441 SF; TEMPORARY SAFETY FENCE, 550 LF; FENCE REMOVE & RESET, 182 LF; FLAT SHEET FOR SIGNS-TYPE XI REFL SHEETING, 98.8 SF; FLAT SHEET FOR SIGNS-TYPE IV REFL SHEETING, 72.6 SF; STEEL GALV POSTS-TELESCOPING PERFORATED TUBE, 456.3 LF; EPOXY PVMT MK 6IN LINE, 1418 LF; EPOXY PVMT MK 24IN LINE, 245 LF; PULL BOX, 18 EA; 2IN DIAMETER RIGID CONDUIT, 1898 LF; UNDERGROUND CONDUCTOR NO10-TYPE RHW, 5174 LF; UNDERGROUND CONDUCTOR NO10-TYPE THW, 2587 LF; 8' DECORATIVE POLE, 16 EA; LED LUMINAIRE, 16 EA; BRICK VENEER, 7363 SF; SMOOTH FORM FINISH & FORMLINER, 22475 SF; PRECAST CAPS, 1469 LF; REMOVE STREET STOP LOGS, 6929 SF; 4TH STREET LIFT STATION, 1 L SUM; EAST MAIN LIFT STATION - RETROFIT, 1 L SUM; SANITARY SEWER LIFT STATION, 1 L SUM; 36IN PIPE BULKHEAD, 1 L SUM; SEGMENT 1 FLOODWALL, 4151 SF;

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SEGMENT 2 FLOODWALL, 8338 SF; SEGMENT 3 FLOODWALL, 7564 SF; SEGMENT 4 FLOODWALL, 2935 SF; SEGMENT 5 FLOODWALL, 1979 SF; SEGMENT 6 FLOODWALL, 3371 SF; SEGMENT 7 FLOODWALL, 2239 SF; SEGMENT 8 FLOODWALL, 404 SF; TRANSITION WALL, 6 EA; DECORATIVE COLUMNS, 2 EA; SEGMENT 2 FOOTING, 768 LF; SEGMENT 3 FOOTING, 539 LF; SEGMENT 4 FOOTING, 260 LF; SEGMENT 5 FOOTING, 163 LF; SEGMENT 7 FOOTING, 217 LF; TEMPORARY SHORING, 1 L SUM
 The contract documents are on file and may be examined at the following:
 City of Valley City
 254 2nd Avenue NE
 Valley City, North Dakota
 Complete digital project bidding documents are available at www.kljeng.com "Projects for Bid" or www.questcdn.com. You may download the digital plan documents for \$44 by inputting Quest project # 10175594 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. An optional paper set of project documents is also available for a non-refundable price of \$147 per set at KJLJ, 1010 4th Avenue SW, Valley City, ND. Please contact us at 701-845-9423 if you have any questions.
 All bids are to be submitted on the basis of cash payment for the work and materials, and each bid shall be accompanied by a separate envelope containing the contractor's license and bid security. The bid security must be in a sum equal to five per cent (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 this state, conditioned that if the principal's bid be accepted and the contract awarded to the principal, the principal, within ten (10) days after notice of award, will execute and effect a contract in accordance with the terms of his 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. If a successful bidder does not execute a contract within ten (10) days allowed, the bidder's bond must be forfeited to the governing body and the project awarded to the next lowest responsible bidder.
 All bidders must be licensed for the full amount of the bid as required by Section 430707 and 43-07-12 of the North Dakota Century Code.
 The successful Bidder will be required to furnish Contract Performance and Payment Bonds in the full amount of the contract.
 Contracts shall be awarded on the basis of the low bid submitted by a responsible and responsive bidder for the aggregate sum of all bid items. A single contract will be awarded for the work.
 All bids will be contained in a sealed envelope, as above provided; plainly marked showing that such envelope contains a bid for the above project. In addition, the bidder shall place upon the exterior of such envelope the following information:
 1. The work covered by the bidder
 2. The name of the bidder
 3. Separate envelope containing bid bond and a copy of North Dakota Contractor's License or certificate of renewal.
 4. Acknowledgement of the Addenda.
 No Bid will be read or considered which does not fully comply with the above provisions as to Bond and licenses and any deficient Bid submitted will be resealed and returned to the

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Bidder immediately.
 The work on the improvement will be completed by **July 29, 2028**.
 The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any informality in any bid, to hold all bids for a period not to exceed 75 days from the date of opening bids, and to accept the bid deemed most favorable to the interest of the Owner.
 Should the 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 \$4,000 per day and every day that the completion of the work is delayed. The Contractor and his surety will be liable for any excess. Such payment will be as and for liquidated damages.
 Dated this 1st day of May, 2026
 City of Valley City
 Valley City, NORTH DAKOTA
 s/Brenda Klein
 City Auditor
 (May 1, 8 & 15, 2026)

NOTICE OF HEARING
 Notice is hereby given that the Barnes County Planning and Zoning Board will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, May 12, 2026 at 6:00 p.m., in the Commissioners Room of the Barnes County Courthouse, 230 4th Street NW, Valley City, North Dakota, to consider a request from Devin Weber for a Drain Tile Setback Variance of less than 75' but out of road right of way from township roads 31st St SE and 124th Ave SE, 11-140-57, Alta Township.
 The public may comment by attending the meeting or in writing to the Barnes County Planning & Zoning Board, 230 4th St NW Rm. 300, Valley City, ND 58072.
 (May 1 & 8 2026)

NOTICE OF HEARING
 Notice is hereby given that the Barnes County Planning and Zoning Board will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, May 12, 2026 at 6:00 p.m., in the Commissioners Room of the Barnes County Courthouse, 230 4th Street NW, Valley City, North Dakota, to consider a request from Justin Enger for a Structure Setback Variance of 120' from center of County Road 32 or 44th St SE, SE1/4 less 38.88A, 11-138-61, Meadow Lake Township.
 The public may comment by attending the meeting or in writing to the Barnes County Planning & Zoning Board, 230 4th St NW Rm. 300, Valley City, ND 58072.
 (May 1 & 8, 2026)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL TO PERFORM CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR BARNES COUNTY BRP-0002(050) PCN 23549 PROJECT OVERVIEW
 Barnes County is requesting the services of qualified engineering firms to perform engineering and affiliated services to complete the following project.
BRP-0002(050) - PCN 23549 - Bridge Replacement (Viking Drive Valley City, ND) SCOPE OF WORK
 Barnes County reserves the right to assign work in phases and have the firms selected perform any additional work not currently assigned. Project work items may be added or removed from the contract by work authorization or supplementary agreement.
 Work to be performed by consultant includes:
 Construction Engineering: Construction Services: Perform Project Management, Project Administration. Con-

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struction Observation, Surveying, and Material Testing. Additional services, if required, may be negotiated and supplemental agreements issued based on the consultant's performance, the consultant's proposal and available funding.
 Interviews will be conducted tentatively 30 days from the due date of this proposal.
 Firms are invited to submit a proposal for the project listed above. The Proposals shall provide the following information:
 Past Performance
 Ability of professional personnel
 Willingness to meet time and budget requirements
 Location
 Recent, current, and projected workloads of the persons and/or firms
 Related experience on similar projects
 Recent and current work for the County
 Project understanding, issues, & approach
 Project Priority
 The proposal pages shall be numbered and must be limited to 10 pages in length. Proposals that exceed the 10 page length requirement will not be considered. The cover letter will not be counted as one of the 10 pages. The proposal should list the personnel who will be assigned to work on the project, including titles, education, and work experience. Barnes County will only consider proposals received prior to 8:00 AM, June 1, 2026. Late proposals will be deemed unresponsive.
 The consultant's proposal may include an appendix. Resumes, references, a statement of qualifications and other materials outlining experience may be included in an appendix. The appendix will not be considered as a part of the 10 page proposal. Each proposal will be evaluated by a selection committee. Barnes County will conduct interviews. The County plans to interview up to three (3) of the most qualified engineering firms based on whose proposals most clearly meet the RFP requirements. Interviews will take place on a date to be determined by the County. Firms not selected to be interviewed will be notified in writing.
 Fees shall be negotiated with the successful firm. If the fee cannot be agreed upon, the County reserves the right to terminate negotiations and then negotiate with the second and third ranked firms in order, if necessary, until a satisfactory contract has been negotiated.
 All costs associated with the proposal shall be borne by the proposer. The County reserves the right to reject any and/or all proposals and to not award contracts for any and/or all projects. Engineering firms interested in performing the work shall submit six (6) hard bound copies and an electronic pdf file of their proposal to:
 Jamie Smith
 Barnes County Highway Superintendent
 1525 12th St NW
 Valley City, ND 58072
 BRP-0002(050) PCN 23549
 701-845-8508
jsmith@barnescounty.us
 Title VI assures that no person or group of persons may, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicap or disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any and all programs or activities administered by the Department. For information regarding the Title VI Program see the NDDOT website at <http://www.dot.nd.gov/divisions/civilrights/titlevi.htm>
 (May 8, 15 & 22, 2026)