



AP Photo/Charlie Neibergall

Iowa Democratic gubernatorial candidate Rob Sand, left, greets Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear during a campaign rally on Sunday in Des Moines, Iowa.

Sand rallies with KY Gov. Beshear in effort to flip Iowa governor seat

BY HANNAH FINGERHUT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DES MOINES, Iowa — Rob Sand rallied a crowd for the first time as the official Democratic nominee for Iowa governor on Sunday, kicking off a countdown to November with the support of Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear.

The race for governor between Sand and Republican Zach Lahn stands to be one of the most competitive in the country as Iowans face a state budget deficit, struggling agricultural economy and cancer crisis. Democrats are putting faith in him to blaze a trail in the state after struggling electorally in recent cycles, hoping his message of unity will resonate with their fellow Iowans.

A few hundred people in Des Moines roared, waved campaign signs and snapped photos as Sand took the stage, a state flag hanging behind him.

"You might think we have a big hill to climb. I've seen bigger," Sand said. "We're building a coalition of — not red versus blue — but of the well-fed versus the fed-up."

Sand, who was unopposed on the primary ballot, learned who his opponent would be after Tuesday's primary settled an unpredictable five-way Republican contest.

The rally was the first one that Tracy Schloss has ever attended. A lifelong Democrat, Schloss said he doesn't like the state's direction after nearly a decade of total Republican control, saying the leaders have "lost sight of the common people."

"It's time, you gotta step up or the country will still keep going the way it's going," said the 62-year-old retiree from Ankeny, a suburb of Des Moines.

Schloss said he thinks Sand is a "bright spot" who can get voters excited, and he's more optimistic than he's been in recent years that the election will be a success for Democrats.

IOWA IS A POLITICAL BATTLEGROUND THIS YEAR

Iowa has open races for both governor and U.S. senator for the first time since 1968, plus three battleground congressional races. National attention on the state has soared in recent months, drawing President Donald Trump and Vice President JD Vance to Iowa.

Democrats still have a 200,000-person deficit in statewide voter registration, and they are outnumbered in every House district. Sand, along with Senate candidate Josh Turek, say

they can win over independents and Republicans who are frustrated with party politics and a Republican trifecta in Washington and Des Moines that they blame for the state's challenges.

Turek will face U.S. Rep. Ashley Hinson, who already has portrayed Turek as a liberal puppet for party leader Sen. Chuck Schumer.

Lahn has also rejected Sand's nonpartisan pitch.

"Rob Sand is not a moderate," Lahn said in his victory speech Tuesday. "He's a liberal career politician pretending to be someone he's not."

SAND SAYS IT'S TIME FOR CHANGES

As he has during campaign events over the past year, Sand asked attendees to sing the first verse of "America the Beautiful." And when he introduced himself, he talked about his upbringing hunting, fishing and going to church.

Even if Sand is elected governor in November, he will likely have to work with Republican majorities in the state House and Senate, which recently passed bills to restrict the executive's power that outgoing Republican Gov. Kim Reynolds signed into law.

More than 500 hospitals warned to provide more prices or face fines

BY JOSH BOAK
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration has warned more than 500 hospitals that they are failing to provide the public with basic pricing information — arguing that the lack of disclosure is keeping healthcare costs higher than they should be.

The Associated Press obtained exclusively the list of hospitals that since April have either received letters of warning or, in more severe cases, requests to submit plans to provide transparent pricing. Failing to comply with the warnings comes with penalties as high as \$2 million annually for each recipient that doesn't create a plan to post clear pricing data.

The letters are meant to fix a fundamental problem that patients, employers and insurers might not know ahead of time the cost of blood work, an imaging test or another form of treatment, and as a result pay more than they should have. AP has posted the list of hospitals that have received letters.

A senior administration official who requested anonymity to provide the list said that President Donald Trump plans to tighten enforcement of price transparency standards made possible by a 2019 executive order signed by Trump. More hospitals are likely to receive letters regarding the absence of pricing data, the official said.

The warnings are the latest example of Trump leaning into the message that his administration is fixing the problem of healthcare expenses that can drain a family budget. It's a calculated pitch ahead of the November midterms at a time when affordability is a top concern for voters. But Trump is also vulner-



AP Photo/Mark Schiefelbein

President Donald Trump arrives on Air Force One on June 5, at Morristown Airport in Morristown, N.J.

able on this particular issue, as his administration allowed subsidies to lapse for people buying insurance through the 2010 Affordable Care Act, widely known as Obamacare.

Just 29% of U.S. adults approved of Trump's healthcare policies according to the most recent survey on the issue by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research. The president fared slightly worse on that issue in the December survey than on the economy, immigration or his management of the federal government.

Gary Claxton, senior vice president and the director of the program on the healthcare marketplace at KFF, said that the pricing data is more useful for benefit consultants and others in the sector with access to additional information than it would be for consumers. But he said that the standards in reporting pricing data can still create difficulty in making accurate comparisons about the costs and quality of the services being provided.

"There's a pretty widespread belief that prices are more divergent than they should be in a competitive market — and this is one way of trying to understand that more," Claxton said. "It's moving in the right direction, but that doesn't mean it has gotten to where it needs to be."

The push for price

transparency could have a particular impact on Republican strongholds like Texas, Florida, Indiana, Alabama and Louisiana, which are among the states with the highest count of hospitals that have not provided adequate information on the costs of medical services.

Texas had 42 hospitals that received warnings, more than any other state. Baptist Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas, among the state's largest hospitals with 1,585 beds, received a letter, as did the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston.

Missouri-based Ascension, one of the country's largest hospital systems, had 13 hospitals in multiple states that received letters. The Republican state of Indiana had 34 hospitals that received letters, nearly as many as the 38 in Democratic-led California, even though California has five times more people than Indiana.

Administration officials interviewed for this article noted that Christiana Hospital in Biden's home state of Delaware also received a warning letter.

The letters reflect two competing philosophies between Republicans and Democrats over how to handle the ballooning expense of healthcare, which is also a growing risk for the federal government's own balance sheet.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) is considering a request for Federal assistance from the City of Eddyville to construct a new wastewater treatment plant and extend wastewater service to the Eddyville Riverport in Eddyville, Lyon County, Kentucky. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), EDA is conducting an assessment of the potential of the proposed project to affect the environment and/or historic properties.

Notice is hereby given that the project is proposed to be located in, or may affect, a floodplain and/or wetland as defined by Executive Order (EO) 11988 and/or EO 11990. The project his project will replace the failed wastewater treatment system and establish a long-term solution for treatment of the City's wastewater well into the future with a more sustainable, robust system. This new system will be capable of handling current loadings, as well as anticipated future loadings from neighboring municipalities, commercial, industrial, and Riverport developments in the region. In addition to the wastewater plant replacement, the scope of work planned for this project includes the expansion of the City's sanitary sewer system to include the currently non-sewered Eddyville Riverport with an extension to the KY State Penitentiary (KSP), which has an aged treatment system that is nearing the end of its intended useful lifecycle. Regarding the sewer system expansion, this work shall include the planning, design, permitting, procurement, and construction of 2 new wastewater lift stations and high-density polyethylene force mains, which will extend from the KSP site north to the City's existing KY-93 lift station. This project will also include upgrades to the existing KY-93 lift station to handle the additional flows for processing and conveyance to the new wastewater treatment plant facilities. Project information is available for review at the Pennyriple Area Development District, 300 Hammond Drive, Hopkinsville, Kentucky, 42240.

If you have any information regarding potential impacts to historic properties or environmental resources including wetlands or floodplains associated with this proposed project, please provide any comments by email to ATRO-REO@eda.gov.

Comments received by 4:00 P.M. CDT/5:00PM EDT on July 10, 2026 will be considered. A copy of the NEPA/NHPA decisional document will be available upon request at the EDA Atlanta Regional Office.

SURPLUS VEHICLES FOR SALE

The following Caldwell County Sheriff's Department vehicles have been declared surplus by the Caldwell Fiscal Court. These vehicles will be sold by sealed bids.

- Vehicle 1:** 2000 GMC pickup 4x4 VIN ending 155982, mileage 173,289, black in color. Minimal bid is \$3000.00
- Vehicle 2:** 2017 Ford Explorer VIN ending 15962, mileage 159,485, tan in color. Minimal bid is \$1500.00

Contact the Caldwell County Sheriff's Department for further information. Phone number is 270-365-2088

BIDS DUE BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS JUNE 18, 2026

The City of Princeton Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, June 16, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.**, in the City Council Chamber (206 East Market Street) to receive public comments concerning an application for an amendment to the City land protection map for an approximately .593 acre parcel of property located between Pennyriple Valley Drive and Darnell Street and along the west side of Old Madisonville Street. The parcel is further identifiable by the placement of a temporary sign entitled "Zone Change" along Old Madisonville Street.

The applicant is seeking an amendment to the City's land protection map to change the above-mentioned property parcel's zoning classification from Low Density Residential (R-1) to Two-Family Residential (R-2). The applicant is requesting this map amendment to allow them to apply for a conditional use permit to place a manufactured home upon the property.

As part of its deliberations, the Commission is required by City ordinance to provide notice of the proposed map amendment, and to provide the opportunity for comment. Written comments about the proposed map amendment may be mailed or hand delivered to City Hall, 206 East Market Street, Princeton, KY 42445 prior to the public hearing. You may also attend the hearing in person on **June 16, 2026** to address your comments directly to the Commission.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to let us know by calling City Hall at 270-365-9575.

INVITATION TO BID

The City of Princeton, Kentucky, requests bids for resurfacing city streets for Fiscal Year 2027. The successful bidder will furnish labor, equipment and materials. All materials shall meet or exceed the requirements specified in the Department of Highways Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction, most current edition State Specifications, including current supplementals. Materials will be placed at the direction of the City subject to inspection and approval.

Submit bids as follows: Price laid in place and F.O.B. for surface, binder and base.

Pursuant to KRS 45A.490 to 45A.494, a resident bidder of the Commonwealth of Kentucky shall be given preference against a nonresident bidder registered in any state that gives or requires a preference to bidders from that state. The preference shall be equal to the preference given or required by the state of the non-resident bidder.

Incomplete bids will not be accepted. Bids accepted until 12:00 pm (NOON) CDT June 29, 2026, in the City Clerk's office. Bids will be opened at 12:05 p.m. CDT June 29, 2026, and read at the City Council meeting July 6, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. Successful bidder will submit the following prior to commencement of project: City of Princeton Occupational License

Performance Bond and Liability Insurance Successful bidder shall be required to provide a performance bond with reputable surety to be approved by the City. Successful bidder shall also be required to produce proof of, and maintain throughout the term of the contract, evidence of general liability insurance with single coverage limits of \$1,000,000.00 or greater.

The City of Princeton reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

JULIE A. POOLE, CITY CLERK
206 East Market Street Princeton, KY 42445
270-365-9575

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