

A Publication of the Bluegrass Area Development District

BLUEGRASS A D D - V A N T A G E

TEA-21 GRANT WINDOW OPENS

The Office of Transportation Enhancements (out of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet) recently announced information related to the opening of this year's round of the TEA-21 program. The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) provides transportation enhancement monies for transportation related activities that are intended to enhance the cultural, aesthetic, and environmental components of the country's intermodal transportation system. State and local government agencies are the only eligible entities for this grant program. Funding is allocated to a wide range of projects including the following: pedestrian and bicycle facilities, safety, and education; scenic or historic acquisitions and highway programs; landscaping and scenic beautification; historic preservation; rehabilitation of historic transportation buildings; rail corridor preservation; inventory, control, and removal of outdoor advertising; archaeological planning and research; environmental mitigation; and transportation museums.

The application process is modified for this year's funding cycle. An Intent-to-Apply form is required prior to submitting a full application. The Intent-to-Apply forms will be accepted December 1, 2005 through January 31, 2006. In conjunction with this window, application workshops are being conducted throughout the state during December. The Office of Transportation Enhancement Programs (OTEP) will respond to the Intent-to-Apply forms within ten working days of the date they are received. The applicant will either receive a letter of invitation to submit a full application or a letter notifying them of why the project is ineligible. Invited applicants will have 45 days from the date of the letter to submit the full application. OTEP expects to announce awards in June 2006. Forms and workshop information can be found at www.TEA21.ky.gov. For additional information or assistance, please contact Lora B. Littleton at Bluegrass ADD.

MEDICARE PART D KICK-OFF

The Bluegrass Area Agency on Aging and the Bluegrass Community and Technical College district hosted a Medicare Prescription Drug Program Kick-Off and Press Conference on November 15, 2005. Speakers for the press conference included Dr. Jim Kerley, President/CEO for the Bluegrass Community and Technical College District, Undersecretary Mike Fields with the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, and Angela Zeek, the Regional Coordinator for the State Health

<u>HIGHLIGHTS</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
ADD Wide Seatbelt Survey Completed	4
Ayoroa Joins Casey County Economic Development Team	11
Berea Receives Promise of State Roads Money	4
Berea Wastewater Plant Construction Nears End	7
BGADD Provides Central and Eastern Kentucky with Hurricane Reintegration	7
Bluegrass Area Fares Well in Recent US Census Poverty Stats	9
Bourbon County Awarded Transportation Grant	3
City of Paris Awarded CDBG Economic Development Funds	3
Garrard County Theater Seeks Funds for Restoration	8
Georgetown Agrees to Purchase Stamping Ground Water/Sewer Utility	5
Homeland Security Grant Paying Off for Several Bluegrass ADD Communities	5
Lancaster Considered as the Site for the Delivery of College Level Courses	10
Lancaster Considers Moving its City Hall to Donated Space within the Former Garrard County Hospital	11
Littleton Conducts Workshop for Parks and Recreation Group	6
Medicare Part D Kick-off	1
New Workforce Program for Young Adults	6
Nicholasville Implements Largest Ever Annexation	9
Paris-Bourbon County EDA Completes Industrial Road Access	5
Sewer Woes are Troublesome to Stanton and Clay City	10
TEA-21 Grant Window Opens	1

Insurance Program (SHIP). There were two television stations, local radio stations, and a regional health magazine present for this event. With more than 15 volunteers and staff, many Medicare participants were helped to find the right prescription drug program for them.

This new Medicare Prescription Drug Program is confusing for many, so the Bluegrass Area Agency on Aging has been working to train all Bluegrass Senior Center staff and area volunteers in

how to assist in obtaining information and complete registrations. It has been, and will continue to be, a community effort to educate and enroll our senior citizens. For many seniors, this program may help save them hundreds of dollars a month for their prescriptions. If you know a senior who qualifies for Medicare, please have them talk to someone at their local Senior Citizen Center about enrolling in the new prescription drug program. For more information contact Randy Lawson or Sue Spears-Elliott at the ADD.



BOURBON COUNTY AWARDED TRANSPORTATION GRANT

The FY 06 transportation appropriations bill was cleared by conferees with final congressional action taken on Friday, November 18, 2005. The \$65.9 billion bill funds federal programs administered by the USDOT for the fiscal year that began October 1st. Kentucky's transportation related earmarks in the bill total approximately \$31.2 million. Included in the bill was some \$600,000 awarded to the Bourbon County Fiscal Court to fund industrial access roads for the Paris-Bourbon County Industrial Park expansion. This project is expected to create 900 to 1,000 additional jobs for Bourbon County and Central Kentucky. The EDA hopes to begin construction as soon as possible.

CITY OF PARIS AWARDED CDBG ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUNDS

The City of Paris recently was awarded \$365,000 in CDBG funds to assist CAMEO LLC purchase production equipment as part of a \$1.4 million expansion project. CAMEO LLC is a newly formed company housed by Prime Finish LLC of Paris, Kentucky. The newly formed company will operate a distinctive paint line, which paints parts for the automotive and cell phone industries. Examples of different vehicles include Honda Pilot, Toyota Camry, Nissan Altima, and Toyota Tundra. The project will create 20 additional jobs for the company, and the EDA plans to use recapture funds for future economic development projects.

ADD WIDE SEATBELT SURVEY COMPLETED

Annually the transportation staff is asked to conduct a county-by-county, ADD-wide seatbelt usage survey. This year it was completed on schedule on October 31. There were many improvements made throughout the ADD, most notably in Bourbon County. The ADD, as a whole, increased its usage by two percentage points. Unfortunately, there were a few counties that decreased in their usage. The chart below shows each county's seatbelt usage rate.

	<u>2004 Percentage</u>	<u>2005 Percentage</u>	<u>Change</u>
Anderson	47.1%	51.1%	4.0%
Bourbon	47.7%	58.2%	10.5%
Boyle	58.3%	57.7%	-0.6%
Clark	53.9%	57.0%	3.1%
Estill	39.6%	44.7%	5.1%
Fayette	71.0%	72.3%	1.3%
Franklin	67.0%	71.2%	4.2%
Garrard	56.2%	53.6%	-2.6%
Harrison	55.5%	53.1%	-2.4%
Jessamine	54.4%	56.2%	1.8%
Lincoln	46.0%	53.3%	7.3%
Madison	65.8%	67.0%	1.2%
Mercer	52.7%	54.6%	1.9%
Nicholas	45.2%	45.3%	0.1%
Powell	53.1%	56.7%	3.6%
Scott	66.4%	65.4%	-1.0%
Woodford	67.6%	71.4%	3.8%
ADD	62.7%	64.7%	2.0%
State Average	66.0%	67.0%	1.0%
120 County Average	60.0%	61.2%	1.2%

Below Averages
Above 120 County Average
Above State Average

BEREA RECEIVES PROMISE OF STATE ROADS MONEY

Governor Fletcher was in Berea recently to deliver good news regarding the state funding of roads projects that would favorably impact that community. Promised was about \$3 million to widen Mayde Road that serves the Berea Industrial Park together with another \$470,000 for engineering design work on Berea's new highway bypass.

HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PAYING OFF FOR SEVERAL BLUEGRASS ADD COMMUNITIES

In late 2004 the Bluegrass ADD was approved for a \$777,078 grant from the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security for the purpose of purchasing interoperable communications equipment for several communities throughout the ADD. Several months of planning culminated in a plan to effectively transmit and receive mobile data and voice communications throughout the ADD, which would allow communities such as Danville, Georgetown, Harrodsburg, Paris, and Sadieville to “link” with Lexington, the Kentucky State Police and other counties in Southeastern Kentucky. In recent months, communities have reaped the benefits of this grant award by purchasing the equipment they requested in an effort to strengthen the effectiveness of law enforcement, fire, emergency management, and other First Responder agencies throughout the Bluegrass ADD.

To date, approximately \$500,000 has been spent on such equipment needs of First Responders throughout the Bluegrass Region. For more information regarding Homeland Security grants and related issues, please contact Matt Belcher or Travis Weber at the ADD.

PARIS-BOURBON COUNTY EDA COMPLETES INDUSTRIAL ROAD ACCESS

The Paris-Bourbon County Economic Development Authority recently completed construction of an industrial access road to the Kentucky Smelting Technologies (KST) plant. The new facility is an undertaking by Toyota Tsusho America to provide aluminum ingots to Central Light Alloy (CLA). The project jump-started with funding from the Cabinet for Economic Development and Department of Transportation “industrial access road fund.” The community received \$206,000 from the State, which was applied towards the total project cost of \$492,000. To date, KST has created some 35 new jobs in the community and 25-30 more jobs are projected by CLA through increased production.

GEORGETOWN AGREES TO PURCHASE STAMPING GROUND WATER/SEWER UTILITY

After months of discussions and negotiations, both the Georgetown Municipal Water & Sewer Services and the Georgetown City Council have unanimously approved the purchase by Georgetown of the water and sewer utilities at Stamping Ground. The sale appears to be a win-win situation. Stamping Ground leaders were pleased to divest the city of the utility systems, and Georgetown leaders seemed pleased with the acquisition. Recent action by the Georgetown City Council paved the way for the nearly \$600,000 purchase. Stamping Ground residents will be served with water from the Georgetown system, but the existing Stamping Ground wastewater system will continue to be operated at Stamping Ground.

The total cost of the acquisition includes \$160,000 slated to be used for the installation of remote-read water meters and other system improvements. Stamping Ground will contribute \$20,000 and the Georgetown Municipal Water & Sewer Service will contribute \$90,000. The Scott County Fiscal Court has agreed to pay at least \$480,000. Stamping Ground Mayor Jared Hollon has estimated that Stamping Ground water and sewer customers will become retail customers of Georgetown by about Christmastime.

For more information, contact Don Hassall at the ADD.

LITTLETON CONDUCTS WORKSHOP FOR PARKS AND RECREATION GROUP

ADD staff, Lora Littleton, recently conducted a workshop for parks and recreation professionals at the Kentucky Recreation and Park Society's annual conference. The workshop showcased various grant programs that could be utilized in the areas of parks and recreation. Recreational Trails Program, Land and Water Conservation Fund, TEA-21, and Community Economic Growth Grant were the primary grants discussed. Although each program funds different activities, they all relate to parks and other recreational development in some form.

Littleton also discussed how parks and recreation departments can utilize the ADDs by working with their mayors and judge-executives. Area Development Districts can work to assist entities with project development, identification of funding, grant writing, and administration among other activities. For more information on the previously mentioned grants, how Bluegrass ADD can assist your community in these activities, and/or how to become involved in the Kentucky Recreation and Park Society, please contact Lora B. Littleton at the ADD.

NEW WORKFORCE PROGRAM FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Career Track serves 19-21 year-old young adults in Madison, Estill, Powell and Clark Counties. The program has partnered with Adult Education at Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) to better serve potential clients. The Career Track Coordinator is located on Eastern Kentucky University's campus in the Adult Education Center. The program has established numerous community contacts, such as Department for Community Based Services (DCBS), colleges, Kentucky Youth Connects and many businesses to assist with referrals.

The biggest challenge facing the new program has been locating participants who are willing to give the program a chance to prove its dedication to their success. We have met much skepticism. During the first few months of the program's start-up we were solely relying on referrals from other organizations. However, by late October we decided to go directly to the source. The Career Track Coordinator started visiting the target groups at their own hangouts. The Coordinator set up

a table with program information at ECU and discussed the program with any and all that showed the least bit of interest. This proved to be the biggest success that the program has experienced.

By the end of November, Career Track should have as many as 20 active clients pursuing a large range of goals from CDL license, computer repair, continued education and firefighter.

During November and December, the clients of Career Track will be working with local communities in the role of community service to give the clients the sense of "giving back" for the opportunities each has received. Several of the clients will be preparing for "Step to Success" being held at Spencerian College May 5, 2006. This is a program in which clients will be able to display the skills they have learned on their path to a bright Career Track.

In January 2006, the Career Track program will expand to Fayette County. The target population will remain the same: 19 – 21 year-old adults. The services, most likely, will be delivered from the Central Kentucky Job Center.

Please contact Tony Mattingly, Career Track Coordinator, at 859-622-6893 with any questions.

BEREA WASTEWATER PLANT CONSTRUCTION NEARS END

The City of Berea continued making excellent progress with the construction of its Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion Project which began in June 2004. At the end of November, the project was approximately 98 percent complete. The project is being funded in part by a \$1.0 million HUD Community Development Block Grant, which is being applied to this \$10.145 million project to expand the municipal wastewater treatment plant. The J. C. Chambers Wastewater Treatment Plant will be expanded from its present capacity of 2.34 million gallons per day (MGD) to a new and larger capacity of 4.3 MGD. A Kentucky Infrastructure Authority low interest loan of \$5.0 million and \$4.145 million in local cash reserves complete the financial package. For more information, contact Dave Ewen at the ADD.

BLUEGRASS AREA DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT PROVIDES CENTRAL AND EASTERN KENTUCKY WITH HURRICANE REINTEGRATION

In response to the recent hurricanes in the Gulf Coast States, the Bluegrass Area Development District through a grant from the U.S. Department of Labor has secured a hurricane reintegration counselor for the central and eastern regions of Kentucky.

Many of the individuals that were displaced have temporarily relocated to Kentucky and need intensive career and life counseling in order to return to economic stability. The U.S. Department of Labor has committed \$15 million dollars to fund this effort so that the hurricane

evacuees across the nation can receive one-on-one guidance to begin rebuilding their lives.

The Bluegrass Area Development District appreciates any assistance in locating these individuals in your areas through community contacts with civic, social, government, and religious organizations. For more information, please contact Paula England with the ADD by phone at 859-269-8021 or by e-mail at pengland@bgadd.org.

GARRARD COUNTY THEATER SEEKS FUNDS FOR RESTORATION

A dedicated group of individuals in Garrard County have enlisted the help of Bluegrass ADD to obtain funding to restore the Garrard County Grand Theater, an historic structure just off the public square in Lancaster. The group is known as The Lancaster Grand Theater, Inc., which is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to revitalizing the downtown area of Lancaster. They have applied or are planning to apply for funding through CEGG, CDBG, and TEA-21 grant programs. These funds will restore the theater building itself, which is eligible for entry to the National Register of Historic Places, as well as create more parking spaces for businesses around the square, in addition to creating a park.

Once an operational movie theater, the Grand now stands closed and has been for more than 35 years. The Lancaster Grand Theater, Inc. purchased the building and some surrounding properties to transform this area of the square into a regional cultural and arts center. It is hoped that the theater, which will seat around 700 patrons, will attract regional entertainment acts, as well as provide a space for community events and for local organizations to meet. The restoration of this theater will also bring a noticeable economic impact to the region by attracting more businesses and generating approximately 20 jobs.

ADD staff will be working closely with Judge-Executive Hasty Mayor Moss, and The Lancaster Grand, Inc. in the coming months to help this project come to fruition. This project is the beginning of a revitalization program that will bring a positive change to Lancaster, Garrard County and the surrounding region. For more information on this project, contact Lora B. Littleton or Jennifer Patterson at the ADD.

BLUEGRASS AREA FARES WELL IN RECENT US CENSUS POVERTY STATS

Based upon year 2003 statistics which are the most recent data available, 13 Bluegrass Area counties have poverty rates more favorable than the statewide average of 14.9 percent. From the most favorable to the least favorable, Bluegrass counties show the following rates of poverty:

<u>County</u>	<u>Poverty Rate (%)</u>
Woodford	9.1
Anderson.....	9.2
Scott.....	10.0
Franklin	10.9
Jessamine.....	12.2
Clark.....	12.4
Mercer	12.7
Harrison	12.7
Fayette	13.0
Boyle	13.3
Bourbon	13.6
Garrard	13.8
Nicholas.....	14.3
Statewide Average.....	14.9
Madison.....	15.0
Lincoln	17.5
Powell	20.9
Estill	21.1

For detailed statistics, visit the Web at www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipe

NICHOLASVILLE IMPLEMENTS LARGEST EVER ANNEXATION

In late October, the largest annexation in Nicholasville’s history became effective. Annexed were almost 1,000 acres in 12 different parcels along the east side of US 27, which extends all the way north to the Fayette-Jessamine County line. The property includes the site of Brannon Crossing Centre, which is presently under construction, as well as new residential development.

Being within the city would guarantee the availability of municipal services. Water service is already available within the area, but now, municipal sewer service will become available as well. The developers

agreed to pay to the city \$500,000 at the time of annexation and an additional \$100,000 per year for five years. The city has agreed to earmark those revenues for public safety improvements. The developer also offered to the city an incentive of \$1,500 per residential unit added within the annexed area. The fee would become payable at the time that each building permit is issued. Further, the developers agreed to continue the \$1,500 per new residential unit incentive until such time that the city implements impact fees upon new development. After that time, the developers would pay the \$1,500 residential incentive fee or the impact fee, whichever is greater.

A 15-acre tract within the annexed area was offered to the school district for the construction of a new school. The offer would stand for seven years. If the school district has not built a school on the site within that time period, the site would become the city's. An additional six-acre tract was offered to the city for a neighborhood park.

Some stores within the new shopping mall are expected to be open by March 2006. Already under construction are a Kroger's, a Goody's, a multi-screen movie theater and about 20 smaller stores. The developer has pledged to make improvements to US 27 and to Brannon Road in the vicinity of the shopping center and office park.

LANCASTER CONSIDERED AS THE SITE FOR THE DELIVERY OF COLLEGE LEVEL COURSES

Representative Lonnie Napier has spearheaded an effort to bring college level courses to Lancaster. Eastern Kentucky University and the Bluegrass Community and Technical College may collaborate to bring college courses to Lancaster. The vacant Comprehensive Care building on the Public Square is being considered as a potential site for such classes. Proposed is the delivery of freshman and sophomore classes by Bluegrass Community and Technical College while junior, senior and graduate classes would be offered by Eastern Kentucky University. A survey of high school seniors and others has demonstrated a strong interest in the offering of college level courses in Lancaster.

Representative Napier said that hopes are that college level courses could begin to be offered as early as the autumn of 2006.

SEWER WOES ARE TROUBLESOME TO STANTON AND CLAY CITY

Stanton and Clay City are Powell County's two municipalities. The two cities are about three miles apart, but they share some unenviable attributes. Both have municipal sewer systems and wastewater treatment plants. Both wastewater treatment plants have been operating for several years at a rate that exceeds the rated capacities of the two treatment plants. Stanton is operating under a sewer tap-on ban that allows the KY Division of Water to bar new tap-ons to the sewer system. Stanton is losing the 100 manufacturing jobs of the Powell

Manufacturing plant as that manufacturer is relocating to Owingsville. In its place, the city would gain the Clawson Container Corporation and the 30 jobs it would generate. It appeared for a while that the KY Division of Water would not allow the Clawson plant to tap the city sewer system, but it eventually offered the company a waiver to the sewer tap-on ban.

Judge-Executive Bobby Drake said that a committee has been formed consisting of elected officials and representatives from the Powell County Industrial Authority to monitor the progress of the efforts to solve the wastewater problems in both communities. Since *both* communities have wastewater treatment capacity problems, one option seems to be bringing the wastewater to a single site and having only a single treatment plant.

For more information, contact Don Hassall at the ADD.

LANCASTER CONSIDERS MOVING ITS CITY HALL TO DONATED SPACE WITHIN THE FORMER GARRARD COUNTY HOSPITAL

The Lancaster City Council is considering an offer of a donated 17,000 square foot building in the 300 block of West Maple Street for use as a new City Hall. The subject building was formerly part of the Garrard County Hospital and more recently has served as the Christian Care Center. The site is adjacent to the Garrard County High School. The offered building includes offices, laboratories, and former X-ray rooms. The City Council has already voted to accept the offer, but is pausing to consider input from the public. The current City Hall has been renovated several times, but is basically a very old building that has definite limitations. The existing City Hall, however, is only a half block from Lancaster's Public Square.

AYOROA JOINS CASEY COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Josh Ayoroa, formerly a member of the ADD's Economic Development Division, has resigned from the ADD to accept the post of Executive Director with the Liberty/Casey County Economic Development Authority. He assumed his new duties in early November.

MEETING CALL

Executive Board	1/25 6:00 p.m.
Homeland Security Council	12/24 2:00 p.m.
Development Advisory Commission	Dec. 2:00 p.m.
Regional Planning Council	1/4 4:00 p.m.
Transportation Advisory Committee	12/12 1/9 1:30 p.m.
Tourism, Historic Preservation, Recreation Advisory Committee	1/10 10:00 a.m.
Aging Council	1/11 10:00 a.m.
Natural Resources & Environmental Protection Advisory Committee	12/7 4:15 p.m.
Human Services Advisory Committee	12/19 1:30 p.m.

ALL meeting dates/times subject to change.

Chairman	Judge Tony Wilder
Vice-Chairman	Judge R.W. Gilbert
Secretary	Mayor Dodd Dixon
Treasurer	Mrs. Linda Magee
Executive Director	Lenny P. Stoltz II



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BLUEGRASS ADD-VANTAGE