

REGIONAL HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT APPLICATIONS TOTAL \$1.8 MILLION

District staff recently prepared and submitted requests for funding under the 2008 Kentucky Office of Homeland Security Grant Program, seeking a total of \$1,894,526 in funds. Applications were submitted jointly by the ADD and the Bluegrass Regional Homeland Security Council in partnership with various local governments in the District. Projects for which funding was requested include mobile and portable radio equipment and mobile data computers (MDCs) to be used in First Responder vehicles.

The Bluegrass Regional Radio Project requested funds in the amount of \$620,258.17 and included the partnering cities and counties of: Garrard County; Harrison County and the Cities of Cynthiana and Berry; the City of Eubank in Lincoln County; Mercer County and the City of Burgin; Scott County and the City of Georgetown; and Woodford County and the Cities of Versailles and Midway.

The Bluegrass Regional Mobile Data Computer Project requested funds in the amount of \$967,200.00 for 93 MDCs and included the partnering cities and counties of: Bourbon County and the City of Paris; Clark County and the City of Winchester; Estill County and the Cities of Irvine and Ravenna; Harrison County and the Cities of Cynthiana and Berry; Jessamine County and the City of Nicholasville; the City of Eubank in Lincoln County; the City of Sadieville in Scott County; and Woodford County and the City of Versailles. The use of mobile data communications in the roadside environment is the fastest emerging technology tool to assist First Responders.

Members of the Bluegrass Area Homeland Security Council include Mayors, Judge/Executives, Public Safety and Emergency Management Directors, 9-1-1 Coordinators, Sheriffs, Police and Fire Chiefs, and Telecommunicators. The need to ensure that our state's First Responders can communicate with one another when needed is vital to the efforts of keeping Kentucky safe. Voice and data interoperability allow public safety officials to share information via voice and data signals on demand, in real time, when needed, and as authorized. The Bluegrass

HIGHLIGHTS	PAGE
2,010 Rain Gardens by 2010.....	18
ADD Assesses HUD Community Development Block Grant Successes over the Years	9
Agritourism Adventures Encouraged	18
Berea’s Kentucky Artisan Center Welcomes its Millionth Visitor.....	25
Bluegrass Water Supply Commission Efforts—a Mixed Bag.....	16
Broadband Service to Lincoln County Gets a Go-Ahead.....	19
Buffalo Springs Park Gets a Facelift in Stamping Ground.....	16
Cable and Telecommunications Conference Set	3
Construction Complete for Harrodsburg’s South Interceptor Project.....	19
Estill County Seeks Next Generation 911 Funding.....	11
Fiscal Year 2009 Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program	4
Frankfort to Take a Fresh Look at its Waterfront.....	25
Governor Beshear Commits to Rethink Energy Plan for the Commonwealth.....	26
IRS Compliance Workshop Well Attended.....	14
James Ballinger to Head Dept. of Highways Office in Lexington	23
Jessamine/South Elkhorn Water Project Two-Thirds Complete.....	12
Kentucky Agriculture Heritage Center Receives Financial Boost	21
Kentucky Division of Water Reorganized.....	23
Kentucky River Sweep Another Grand Success.....	24
Lancaster Water Valve System Mapping Underway	12
Lawrenceburg’s Stringtown Project in Final Stage	15
Local Comprehensive Plan Updates Progressing	6
Local Police Agencies Struggle with Fuel Costs.....	21
Nicholasville Celebrates Groundbreaking	24
Nicholasville Gains National Recognition for Modest Housing Costs.....	25
North Jessamine Sewer Project Moves into High Gear.....	14
Paris’ Downtown Renaissance Touted	24
Prices for Scrap Metal Help to Clean up the Bluegrass.....	26
Reconstruction of Kentucky River Dam 9 at Three Quarters Point.....	8
Regional Homeland Security Grant Applications Total \$1.8 Million	1
Renaissance on Main Street Program Available.....	4
Sadieville Breaks Ground on Sewer Project.....	8
Senior Centers Work! Celebrate National Senior Center Month - September 2008.....	10
Several Bluegrass ADD Cities Show High Growth Rates.....	7
Stanton Receives HUD Block Grant Commitment	5
The Midway Initiative: Homeland Security and the Private Sector.....	20
Tire Amnesty Effort Pushed Back a Year	17
US 27 Project Still a’Go’	10
US House Votes to Add Nicholas County to List of Appalachian Counties	13

Regional Homeland Security Council was the first in the state to become regionalized and to hold bi-monthly meetings to discuss Homeland Security issues impacting the region. The Council is led by Anderson County Judge-Executive, Steve L. Cornish, Chairman; and Franklin County Judge-Executive, Ted Collins, Vice-Chairman.

In addition to the two regional communications equipment applications, the ADD partnered with the Bluegrass Emergency Response Team (BERT) sponsoring three applications: 1) BERT Technical Rescue Equipment Request (\$80,000.00), 2) BERT Radiation Detection Equipment (\$23,193.00), and 3) BERT Foam Hub Start Up (\$203,875.00). The Bluegrass Emergency Response Team is an 11-county Emergency Management Area covering Central Kentucky and includes three components. The rescue component is located in Jessamine County and includes capabilities for confined space, collapse rescue and includes low and high angle rope rescue. A mass casualty component is located in Fayette County that will handle large scale medical events. The two Hazmat hubs are located in Versailles and Winchester and have the capability to respond and mitigate hazardous materials releases.

For more information on Homeland Security initiatives in the Bluegrass Region, contact Laurel Wood at the ADD.

CABLE AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE SET

The Fifth Annual Kentucky Cable and Telecommunications Conference is scheduled for October 7, 2008 at the Hilton Suites at Lexington Green in Lexington. This one-day seminar will focus on important issues that local governments across Kentucky face with regard to the challenges of applications for competitive cable franchises, franchise renewal, customer service issues, transfers of control, cable rate regulation and administration of public, educational and governmental access.

Specific topics for presentation and discussion will include:

- Cable Franchise Renewal and Transfer of Control
- Telecommunication Excise Tax
- Innovative Wi-Fi Networks
- Regulating in a Competitive Environment
- PEG Access 101
- Digital Transition
- Statewide Video Franchising
- Municipal Broadband
- ConnectKentucky Update

BLUEGRASS ADD-VANTAGE

- The Industry Perspective
- Annual meeting of the Kentucky Association of Telecommunications Officers & Advisors (KATOA)

The conference, which has a registration fee of \$200, has been approved for seven hours of County Elected Officials Training Incentive Credit by the Department for Local Government as well as six hours of CLE credit by the Kentucky Bar Association. For general information contact Dave Ewen at the ADD. For other seminar specifics and registration information, please contact Linda Ain by phone (859) 224-3035 or by e-mail: lindaain@insightbb.com.

FISCAL YEAR 2009 HAZARD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Kentucky Division of Emergency Management recently announced Fiscal Year 2009 Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM), Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA), Repetitive Flood Claims (RFC), and Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) Grant Programs from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). These programs fund pre-disaster hazard mitigation projects and plans that reduce risk to communities while reducing reliance on Federal disaster relief funds. The application period for each of these programs is currently open and extends until August 15, 2008. The Kentucky Division of Emergency Management requests interested applicants complete a Letter of Intent / Pre-Application to declare their interest in applying for these funds, along with the appropriate program worksheet from which to seek funding, that includes one of the following program types:

- Acquisition / Relocation / Structure Elevation Project
- Drainage or Construction Project (Including Tornado Safe Room or Community Shelters)
- Other Projects (Utility Lines Protective Measures or Mitigation Planning, etc.)

FEMA requires Applicants and Sub-Applicants to use the electronic grants (e-grants) system. Use of this system will expedite FEMA's review and evaluation of the applications. For assistance with submitting a Letter of Intent / Pre-Application for one of the programs listed above, please contact Laurel Wood at the ADD.

RENAISSANCE ON MAIN STREET PROGRAM AVAILABLE

Renaissance on Main is a program that is designed to spur economic development through job creation in downtown communities and to reward and recognize Kentucky cities that proactively take steps to revitalize and maintain safe, vibrant and economically sound downtown communities.

According to the Kentucky Department for Local Government, the Main Street Program accreditation process evaluates established commercial district revitalization programs on the basis of 10 basic performance standards and provides national recognition to those that meet these standards. The ten performance standards provide benchmarks and guidelines on how the organization should be functioning and an incentive for organizations to perform better and be more effective.

The 10 Standards of Performance for a program are:

1. Has broad-based community support for the commercial district revitalization process, with strong support from both the public and private sectors.
2. Has developed vision and mission statements relevant to community conditions and to the local Main Street program's organizational stage.
3. Has a comprehensive Main Street work plan
4. Possesses an historic preservation ethic
5. Has an active board of directors and committees
6. Has an adequate operating budget
7. Has a paid professional program manager
8. Conducts a program of ongoing training for staff and volunteers
9. Reports key statistics
10. Is a current member of the National Trust Main Street Network

The following ADD cities are Renaissance on Main 2007 certified: Cynthiana, Danville, Frankfort, Georgetown, Harrodsburg, Irvine, Lexington, Midway, Nicholasville, Paris, Richmond, Versailles and Winchester (also 2008 certified).

For further information, please contact Marcie Gabhart at the ADD office, mgabhart@bgadd.org

STANTON RECEIVES HUD BLOCK GRANT COMMITMENT

The City of Stanton was the recipient of a \$750,000 HUD Block Grant award in May.

Stanton's grant will be matched with another \$750,000 to undertake a \$1.5 million project to improve the municipal water system. To address a 2006 Agreed Order from the Environment and Public Protection Cabinet, the city will erect a new 600,000 gallon water storage tank east of the city, will restore an existing

BLUEGRASS ADD-VANTAGE

500,000 gallon ground storage tank, will decommission three old and deficient water storage tanks and will install about a half mile of 6- and 8-inch diameter water lines to address water quality and water pressure deficiencies.

The ADD was pleased to have worked with the city on the development of this successful HUD Community Development Block Grant application. The ADD expects to assist the city further in the administration of the HUD grant and with the administration of state grant funds from the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority. For more information on this water system improvement project, contact Don Hassall at the ADD.

LOCAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATES PROGRESSING

Planning staff at the ADD are currently assisting local planning bodies and officials in the following three communities with updates to their Comprehensive Plans:

Jessamine County

As of July 15, the Jessamine County Update Development Committee had approved a *Statement of Goals and Objectives* for the County's 2008 Comprehensive Plan. The Statement will be presented for consideration of amendment and adoption to the Nicholasville and Wilmore-Jessamine County Joint Planning Commission at a meeting that will be held Tuesday, August 12, 2008 at Jessamine County Courthouse. Upon the adoption by the Joint Planning Commission, the Statement will go before the Jessamine County Fiscal Court for a final adoption and amendment. The date for the Fiscal Court Hearing is to be determined. For more information about the 2008 Jessamine County Comprehensive Plan Update, please contact Dal Harper at the ADD.

Stanford

The City of Stanford Planning and Zoning Commission is currently in the final stages of approval for the Land Use section of the 2008 Comprehensive Plan update. The Commission is also considering approval of a Base Study and is in the process of looking over the working Transportation and Land Use drafts which are expected to be approved in the coming month. For more information about the 2008 Stanford Comprehensive Plan Update, please contact Beth Jones at the ADD.

Lancaster

The City of Lancaster Planning and Zoning Commission is currently in the final stages of approval for the Land Use map and working Land Use draft of the 2008 Comprehensive Plan update. The Commission is also in the process of amending and approving the working Transportation and Community Facility drafts. For

more information about the 2008 Lancaster Comprehensive Plan Update, please contact Beth Jones at the ADD.

SEVERAL BLUEGRASS ADD CITIES SHOW HIGH GROWTH RATES

Estimates released by the Census Bureau on July 10 show that seven cities in the ADD had growth rates in excess of 10% during the period July 1, 2000 – July 1, 2007. This data also shows that five of the 20 fastest-growing cities in Kentucky were in the Bluegrass Area. The table below contains the data for all ADD cities, in rank order of growth rates. The Census Bureau web page from this data was taken, showing all Kentucky cities, may be found online at:

<http://www.census.gov/popest/cities/tables/SUB-EST2007-04-21.xls>

	7/1/2000	7/1/2007	%	ADD	STATEWIDE
CITY	BASE	ESTIMATE	CHANGE	RANK	RANK
Berea	11,231	14,159	26.1%	1	8
Nicholasville	20,720	25,854	24.8%	2	9
Richmond	27,429	32,333	17.9%	3	17
Sadieville	263	310	17.9%	4	18
Stamping Ground	566	661	16.8%	5	19
Lancaster	3,801	4,395	15.6%	6	21
Georgetown	18,361	21,074	14.8%	7	26
Lawrenceburg	9,157	9,926	8.4%	8	56
Lexington-Fayette	260,512	279,044	7.1%	9	76
Eubank	358	373	4.2%	10	164
Clay City	1,303	1,356	4.1%	11	169
Stanton	3,031	3,137	3.5%	12	178
Crab Orchard	842	862	2.4%	13	205
Hustonville	347	354	2.0%	14	214
Paris	9,196	9,260	0.7%	15	242
Harrodsburg	8,146	8,165	0.2%	16	248
Wilmore	5,905	5,915	0.2%	17	249
Stanford	3,430	3,433	0.1%	18	253
Junction City	2,205	2,198	-0.3%	19	263
Burgin	916	913	-0.3%	20	264
Danville	15,492	15,441	-0.3%	21	265
Perryville	763	756	-0.9%	22	273
Winchester	16,747	16,572	-1.0%	23	280
Cynthiana North	6,340	6,272	-1.1%	24	282
Middletown	562	555	-1.2%	25	290
Berry	310	306	-1.3%	26	294

BLUEGRASS ADD-VANTAGE

	7/1/2000	7/1/2007	%	ADD	STATEWIDE
CITY	BASE	ESTIMATE	CHANGE	RANK	RANK
Versailles	7,928	7,818	-1.4%	27	302
Midway	1,626	1,603	-1.4%	28	303
Millersburg	879	864	-1.7%	29	312
Carlisle	2,141	2,104	-1.7%	30	313
Frankfort	27,730	27,098	-2.3%	31	330
Ravenna	693	671	-3.2%	32	349
Irvine	2,843	2,678	-5.8%	33	383

RECONSTRUCTION OF KENTUCKY RIVER DAM 9 AT THREE QUARTERS POINT

Decent summer weather and the absence of river flooding have enabled the Kentucky River Authority’s contractor to continue steady work on the reconstruction of Dam 9 on the Kentucky River (near Valley View). Work on the \$14.7 million project began in early 2007. The primary point of water withdrawal for the Kentucky American Water Company is Pool 9 which is the pool backed up by this dam. The River Authority is considering the addition of a crest gate at Dam 9. A crest gate would be a movable gate that would be raised in order to retain more water behind a dam provided that a coming dry spell could be predicted. The reconstruction of other key dams on the river is also being considered by the River Authority.

SADIEVILLE BREAKS GROUND ON SEWER PROJECT

If there is one adjective that well describes Sadieville Mayor Rob Wagoner, it is persistent. To believe that a city whose population is less than 400 can undertake a sewer system improvement project projected to cost \$5.5 million, and then to stay with it to see it begin to happen takes a lot of persistence. In early June, the City of Sadieville conducted a groundbreaking ceremony for the first phase of a sewer system project that will ultimately result in the decommissioning of the city’s own wastewater treatment plant in favor of a connection of the refurbished Sadieville sewer system to Georgetown’s Wastewater Treatment Plant # 2 near Toyota Motor Manufacturing. City Commissioner Claude Christensen worked tirelessly along side Mayor Wagoner to shepherd the projects. The initial project—now under construction—is a \$2 million effort.

For more information on Sadieville and its efforts to improve, expand, reconfigure its wastewater collection and treatment system, contact Don Hassall at the ADD.

ADD ASSESSES HUD COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT SUCCESSES OVER THE YEARS

The HUD Small Cities Community Development Block Grant program has been ongoing since 1982 and has pumped several hundred million of dollars into development and redevelopment efforts of cities and counties across the Commonwealth. The Bluegrass ADD has been an active player in the HUD CDBG program since the program's inception and has amassed an enviable record of successes in Block Grant endeavors. This is despite the fact that the program is income limited and the Bluegrass Area is more economically advantaged than many other parts of the Commonwealth. This means that it is often more difficult to demonstrate grant eligibility for a Bluegrass Area city or county than it is elsewhere in Kentucky.

ADD records suggest that 164 HUD Block Grants have been approved for Bluegrass Area cities and counties in which the District was involved in project development or grant application preparation. County by county, the ADD successes (on behalf of its cities and counties) are as follows:

<u>County</u>	<u>HUD Grants Approved*</u>	<u>\$ Amount of HUD Grants in Millions</u>
Anderson	9	\$2.99
Bourbon	18	7.91
Boyle	7	3.54
Clark	11	5.38
Estill	11	6.41
Franklin	8	3.63
Garrard	10	3.54
Harrison	8	4.12
Jessamine	13	8.31
Lincoln	14	6.20
Madison	10	5.17
Mercer	12	5.00
Nicholas	7	3.12
Powell	12	5.19
Scott	8	3.51
Woodford	6	2.07
District-wide Totals	164	\$76.09

* in which the ADD was involved

BLUEGRASS ADD-VANTAGE

A new round of the HUD Community Development Block Grant competition is currently underway. For more information about the HUD grant program and eligibility requirements, contact David Duttlinger, Don Hassall, Craig McAnelly, Dave Ewen, or Laurel Wood of the ADD staff. The ADD can offer assistance in the following program categories:

Public Facilities Projects (e.g. water and sewer)

Economic Development Projects

Community Projects

Community Economic Relief Projects

Renaissance on Main Projects

US 27 PROJECT STILL A 'GO'

Garrard County Judge/Executive John Wilson has assured Garrard Countians that plans for the \$23.5 million project to widen US 27 are still in the works. Wilson explained that the project is moving along as planned and should be finished by the fall of 2010 if construction follows schedule. The proposed expansion of the road will be used to increase safety along the US 27 corridor as well as facilitate traffic flow in and around Garrard County.

For more information, contact Bruce Duncan at the ADD.

SENIOR CENTERS WORK! CELEBRATE NATIONAL SENIOR CENTER MONTH - SEPTEMBER 2008

As a new generation looks to redefine retirement, senior centers are evolving to reflect a more empowered vision of aging. We're working to connect older adults in the Bluegrass with meaningful career and volunteer opportunities, and increase their access to valuable benefits and resources. Through evidenced-based programs, we're offering them tools to manage their health and finances, so they can continue living in their homes as long as possible. In an effort to increase the visibility of senior centers, the national celebration has been moved to September and expanded to a full month. Our two-year theme is "Senior Centers Work" —a testament to the difference we are making each and every day.

The Bluegrass Area Agency on Aging and Independent Living encourages everyone in their communities to become involved in their local Senior Centers, either by participating in the programs or volunteering to your neighbors and friends. Many opportunities are available for volunteers including anything from helping with health and wellness activities, to food preparation or food delivery to home-bound seniors. Make a plan to call and visit your Senior Center to volunteer your skills and talents. For more information call Randy Lawson at the ADD.

ESTILL COUNTY SEEKS NEXT GENERATION 911 FUNDING

In an attempt to provide the safest and highest quality emergency services to its residents, Estill County's officials have committed to seek funding under the 2008 Commercial Mobile Radio Service (CMRS) Emergency Telecommunications Board Grant Program. This fund is designed to facilitate needed upgrades to 911 systems across the Commonwealth and to support improvement of the 911 infrastructure supported by CMRS wireless carriers serving Kentucky. Together, Estill County submitted three grant applications totaling \$175,937.46 in requested funds. Applications for Next Generation 911 (NG911) equipment include the following requests:

- Estill County Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) Solution
- Estill County Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) GEO Upgrade
- Estill County 911 / Dispatch Center Synergy Console Project

With upgrades to the Estill County 911/Dispatch Center, Internet Protocol (IP) based dispatching will allow Estill County to have the capacity to dispatch from virtually any location with assistance from local phone companies. 911 services will also be maintained in the event the dispatch center must be abandoned for any reason. Estill County currently has a memorandum of agreement with the Kentucky State Police to perform dispatch services for law enforcement in the event the Estill County 911/Dispatch Center is not operating. However, this agreement does not address the needs of other important response agencies. IP-based dispatching will alleviate this problem.

In addition, upgrades will also include the capability of silent dispatching. This will allow telecommunicators to dispatch units to response areas without verbally announcing through a radio system. Silent dispatching will help streamline response by delivering accurate information directly to first responders in a timely manner. Silent dispatching also supports effective communication when confidential information needs to be transmitted without being compromised through various radio frequencies.

Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) will allow dispatchers to see the available emergency responders and other resources in the field at any given time. AVL capabilities will also simplify dispatch and response within all emergency response agencies and support an increased level of cooperation with one another.

All old equipment will be utilized as backup for the Estill

BLUEGRASS ADD-VANTAGE

County 911/ Dispatch Center. Once an upgrade is complete, Estill County will have the potential to be a Virtual Station for other Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP) throughout the surrounding counties. Neighboring counties have already expressed interest in collaborating with Estill County to be a regional representative for NG911 and to acquire the responsibilities of being a Virtual Station of interoperability. It is possible that Estill County could also serve as a Virtual Station for neighboring Powell, Wolfe, Lee, Jackson and Rockcastle Counties.

For more information on the CMRS grant program, please contact Laurel Wood at the ADD.

LANCASTER WATER VALVE SYSTEM MAPPING UNDERWAY

The City of Lancaster is using a Kentucky Infrastructure Authority grant of \$71,500 to contract for the updating and the general mapping of water valves, hydrants, meters, and end-of-line caps, as well as the approximate location of waterline points at key locations such as railroad crossings. Locations for the project will be collected through the use of GPS (geographic positioning system). It is expected that all identifiable water and sewer system features will be captured in this inventory.

Additionally, the City will purchase computer hardware capable of running the latest GIS (geographic information systems) software, ArcView 9.3. Further, an up-to-date handheld GPS receiver will be procured and municipal staff will be provided thorough training on the use on the equipment.

The funding, provided through the Kentucky Legislature, will be directed under the auspices of the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority. The Bluegrass ADD has been selected to administer the funding for the City.

For further information, contact Dave Ewen at the ADD, (859) 269-8021.

JESSAMINE/SOUTH ELKHORN WATER PROJECT TWO-THIRDS COMPLETE

The Jessamine/South Elkhorn Water District is continuing to make progress on its Southeast Rural Jessamine Unserved Areas water project as construction enters its ninth month. Although progress has been slowed due to weather and working conditions, progress through the end of June shows the project at 67 percent complete. The contract was signed in mid-September for \$972,600.

The project is designed to serve approximately 80 households scattered throughout the more rural areas of Jessamine County that do not have potable water available. These areas are thinly populated, widely scattered and, consequently, difficult to provide service. In addition, because of the availability and hydraulics of the existing system, this project will also provide fire hydrants.

Funding for this project, expected to cost approximately \$1.6 million, is supported by a 2003 Tobacco Development Fund grant of \$800,000 and a 2005 Tobacco Development Fund grant for an additional \$800,000.

For more information, contact Dave Ewen at the ADD.

US HOUSE VOTES TO ADD NICHOLAS COUNTY TO LIST OF APPALACHIAN COUNTIES

The U.S. House of Representatives recently voted to add ten new counties to the list of Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) counties. The 10 new counties include three in Ohio, three in Kentucky, two in Tennessee and two in Virginia. The three Kentucky counties added were Robertson, Metcalfe and **Nicholas**. The Senate is expected to agree to the bill in late July before it goes to the White House for final approval.

The addition of Nicholas County will increase the number of Bluegrass Area counties with ARC designation to seven. Nicholas County Judge Larry Tincer has worked for six or more years to seek the identification of Nicholas County as an Appalachian county. The ADD's existing ARC counties are Clark, Estill, Garrard, Lincoln, Madison and Powell. Being designated as an ARC county can provide additional technical assistance and funding opportunities for a county. Projects that are considered for funding create new jobs, improve local water and sewer systems, increase school readiness, expand access to health care, assist local communities with strategic planning, and provide technical, managerial, and marketing assistance to emerging new businesses.

In the mid-1960s, at the urging of two U.S. presidents, Congress created legislation to address the persistent poverty and growing economic despair within the Appalachian Region. A few statistics highlight the need for additional assistance to this region:

- One of every three Appalachians lived in poverty
- Per capita income was 23 percent lower than the U.S. average
- High unemployment and harsh living conditions had, in the 1950s, forced more than 2 million Appalachians to leave their homes and seek work in other regions.

BLUEGRASS ADD-VANTAGE

For more information on the ARC or other grant programs please contact Laurel Wood or David Duttlinger at (859) 269-8021.

IRS COMPLIANCE WORKSHOP WELL ATTENDED

“Is your city, county, special district, or government agency ready for an Internal Revenue Service compliance review?” That question was answered at a workshop held at the Bluegrass ADD in mid-June. Nearly 40 people representing, cities, counties, sheriff’s offices, county clerks, hospital districts and host of other special districts attended the half-day training. The workshop was designed to provide local elected leaders, appointed officials, and financial personnel an overview of Internal Revenue Service guidelines and regulations to which government entities must adhere.

The guest presenter at the free morning seminar was Mr. James Driver, State Social Security Program Manager with the Kentucky Finance Cabinet. Mr. Driver addressed pertinent topics associated with IRS compliance issues such as:

- Taxable Fringe Benefits
- Section 218 Agreements
- 1099 Reporting
- Worker Classification
- Latest IRS Rules and Regulations

If you were not able to attend and would like a video of the seminar or a copy of handout materials, please feel free to contact Dave Ewen at the Area Development District, (859) 269-8021.

NORTH JESSAMINE SEWER PROJECT MOVES INTO HIGH GEAR

The Jessamine/South Elkhorn Water District moved into high gear during the second month of construction of the North Jessamine Sewer project. Holding groundbreaking ceremonies in early May, the enterprise is making progress in a project which is expected to take nine months to complete.

The sewer project is estimated to carry a total project cost of approximately \$6,064,000 and is divided into two project areas: Tates Creek Estates Drainage Basin and Ash Grove Drainage area. Improvements in Tates Creek Estates will include service to 388 building sites in northeastern Jessamine County. Of the 388 building lots to be provided service, 348 are occupied by dwellings, two are businesses, and 25 are vacant dwelling units. In addition, there are 13 vacant lots. The building lots are sited in or near Tates Creek Estates Subdivision located just south of the intersection of Ashgrove Pike and Tates Creek Road. The project

will connect to Lexington's West Hickman Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant which is very near the project area. The second portion of the project area, the Ash Grove Drainage area, will serve approximately 171 units.

Construction costs are expected to top \$4.6 million with nearly \$3.3 million attributed to the Tates Creek component and another \$1.4 million going for Ash Grove. The project will include installing 5.2 miles of gravity sewer, 1.5 miles of service laterals, 2.3 miles of 10-inch force main, 127 manholes, and a 535-gpm sewage station. Funding for the project comes from a US Environmental Protection Agency grant of \$2,850,700, an RD grant of \$ 941,300, an RD loan of \$ 1,272,000, and a HUD Community Development Block Grant for \$1.0 million.

For more information, contact Dave Ewen at the ADD.

LAWRENCEBURG'S STRINGTOWN PROJECT IN FINAL STAGE

The City of Lawrenceburg is obtaining engineering data to extend its Stringtown project and spend the remaining construction funds. Only about \$17,500 remains in construction funds for the project which carried an estimated cost of \$1,628,000. The City will use the balance to extend sewer service to a few additional customers.

Through June, the project as initially bid has been completed. A Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant award of \$759,000 was used toward the total cost of this much-needed project that provides sewer service to an urbanized, unincorporated area (Stringtown) south of Lawrenceburg's corporate limits in Anderson County.

As originally designed, the project will serve 146 residential customers and three non-residential users. The more than \$1.62 million project saw the construction of:

- 2.2 miles of 8-inch sanitary sewer line
- 1.9 miles of 4-inch sanitary service line
- 3.0 miles of 2- and 4-inch force main
- 60 manholes
- 150 service connections
- 16 Simplex grinder pumping stations
- 4 Duplex grinder pumping stations
- 1 150 GPM sewage pumping station
- and, other related appurtenances.

BLUEGRASS ADD-VANTAGE

Funding for the project, beyond the Community Development Block Grant, comes from a state appropriation of \$830,000 in the form of a Tobacco Development Fund Grant and local funding of \$39,000 coming from tap-on fees.

For additional information contact Dave Ewen at the ADD.

BUFFALO SPRINGS PARK GETS A FACELIFT IN STAMPING GROUND

Most will agree that Stamping Ground made good use of a \$150,000 grant recently made available by the Commonwealth. Buffalo Springs Park, long a favorite gathering place in Stamping Ground, is even more beautiful now. With the removal of an old building, Main Street can be seen from the park. A new walking track has also been added. The refurbished park features workout stations and a new children's play area. Improvements have been made to the pavilion, and a reservoir, formerly a breeding place for mosquitoes, has been filled with water.

Stamping Ground Mayor Jared Hollon and City Commissioner Frank Farr were generous in their appreciation of other local leaders as well as state and national leaders for their support of the park improvements. "We have gotten property for parking, and we hope to install restrooms soon," said Commissioner Farr. "It's great to see this type of economic development, and I'm really excited to see the improvements made to the park property that has just been sitting there."

BLUEGRASS WATER SUPPLY COMMISSION EFFORTS—A MIXED BAG

After years of efforts to deal with the potable water supply problem on a regional basis, some success can be claimed. In recent weeks, the Kentucky American Water Company (KAWC) began construction on a new 20 million gallons per day (MGD) water treatment plant adjacent to the Kentucky River's Pool 3 and near the juncture of Owen County with Franklin County. Concurrently, construction began on a 31-mile long 42-inch diameter potable water transmission line that will convey treated water from the new water treatment plant south and east to the KAWC distribution system in north central Fayette County. Legal challenges persist, but the effort has reached the construction stage with the intention that the work be completed and available for use by the autumn of 2010.

The region can claim success knowing that a dependable and substantial water source will become available to the Central Kentucky region. This project will put a substantial dent in the water supply deficit situation in which many Central Kentucky water utilities (KAWC being only one of many) found themselves

in recent years. KAWC can soon rely upon Kentucky River Pool 3 and may be able to reduce its water demands upon Pool 9. This in itself is good news for the numerous water utilities who withdraw water from the Kentucky River below Pool 9.

Unfortunately, the municipal water utilities who had struggled long and hard to partner with Kentucky American Water were unable to buy an equity share in an even larger water treatment plant on Pool 3, which is now to be solely owned by KAWC. KAWC will have additional water for its retail and wholesale customer base, but the municipal water utilities will have to rely upon single utility solutions or upon supplemental purchases of potable water from KAWC.

For more information on matters related to the regional supply of potable water, contact Don Hassall at the ADD.



Construction has begun on the KAWC Kentucky River Pool 3 project.

TIRE AMNESTY EFFORT PUSHED BACK A YEAR

The Kentucky Division of Waste Management has pushed back the Tire Amnesty Program by one year. The program has been useful in the Bluegrass Region in dealing with the lawful removal and disposal of waste automobile and truck tires. The decision is apparently budget-driven as the money that was to have been used for the tire amnesty program is being re-directed to fund the personnel budget for the landfill permitting group within the Division.

Funding for the Tire Amnesty Program comes from a fee on the purchase of new tires. The state receives 95 cents from each tire purchased to fund the program. For most counties, the Tire Amnesty Program is favored over the Waste Tire Program since the Waste Tire Program is limited to State reimbursement for county collection or disposal of tires discovered in illegal dumps along public rights of way. The Tire Amnesty Program can deal with numbers of tires stockpiled on public or private property.

BLUEGRASS ADD-VANTAGE

Boyle, Lincoln, Mercer, and Estill Counties are among a group of about 30 counties across the Commonwealth that hoped to benefit from the Tire Amnesty Program in the current fiscal year. Hopefully, the program will return for FY 2010. For more information on solid waste topics, contact David Duttlinger at the ADD.

AGRITOURISM ADVENTURES ENCOURAGED

There was so much talk about the coming of \$4 per gallon gasoline that it was almost like gas would eventually reach the \$4 per gallon level and that the increasing price would stop there. Four dollar gas is history, but it does not appear that \$4 per gallon is the ceiling. And so it is that many Kentuckians are looking for places closer to home to spend their vacation time and their limited vacation dollars.

The Kentucky Department of Agriculture encourages taking a look at an agritourism adventure here in Kentucky. The term agritourism was developed by the tourism industry as a way to define an emerging trend of people visiting a working farm or any agricultural, horticultural, or agribusiness operation for enjoyment, education or active involvement in the activities of the farm or operation. Kentucky's horse industry is a part of agritourism, but it is not the only part.

For a list of agritourism attractions nearby, visit www.kentucky-farmsarefun.com. The web site enables visitors to search any or all of the state's nine regions or just browse an alphabetical list of all Kentucky attractions under the "Attractions" icon. Each agritourism business has its own web page, and many operate their own web sites.

For more information on agritourism opportunities in the Bluegrass, contact Marcie Gabhart at the ADD.

2,010 RAIN GARDENS BY 2010

Every time it rains, stormwater runoff from developed areas creates problems. Our modern cities are engineered to funnel rainwater from the land as fast as possible into storm drains where it rushes, untreated, into nearby creeks and streams. This causes water pollution (from oil, salt, fertilizer, and grit the rain water picks up as it travels), stream bank erosion, flooding of urban areas and creeks, and reduces the amount of water in the groundwater system. Rain gardens are a way to help with not only water quality, but also water quantity.

A rain garden is a garden planted with native perennials, built with a shallow depression in the bottom, and located in the path of stormwater runoff (from a gutter, parking lot, roof, yard, or any impervious surface). Rain gardens are designed to hold

water for 24-48 hours before it soaks into the ground. The result is improved water quality, reduction of the quantity of water going into storm sewers, minimization of flooding concerns, recharge of the groundwater, and the reduction of stream bank erosion.

The Bluegrass Rain Garden Alliance is a collaboration between the Bluegrass Partnership for a Green Community, Bluegrass PRIDE, Tracy Farmer Center for the Environment, CDP Engineers, EcoGro, LFUCG, and the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. The mission is to support the building of 2,010 rain gardens in Central Kentucky by 2010. To do this the alliance is made up of three groups to help promote rain gardens to their peers. Committees have been formed for homeowners, the commercial sector, and educators. Through these groups the Alliance does workshops, outreach, and educational programs to teach the Central Kentucky community about rain gardens. Rain gardens can be registered at www.BluegrassRainGardenAlliance.org. Each registered garden will receive a sign to display their number for our count to 2,010! The website has information about how to build your own rain garden, upcoming workshops, and contact information for the Alliance. You can also contact Brittany Zwicker for more information at Brittany@KentuckyPRIDE.com or toll free, 866/222-1648.

BROADBAND SERVICE TO LINCOLN COUNTY GETS A GO-AHEAD

The Lincoln County Fiscal Court has given the go-ahead to a start-up company with local ties that promises to provide high-speed wireless service to most of Lincoln County by the end of the calendar year. The fiscal court agreed in June to a contract that would give city and county governments free wireless service in exchange for access to water storage towers and other government-owned structures for antenna locations. The company has stated that about 80 percent of the county should have access by the end of 2008.

CONSTRUCTION COMPLETE FOR HARRODSBURG'S SOUTH INTERCEPTOR PROJECT

Construction on Harrodsburg's South Interceptor Sewer Project is all but complete with only clean-up activities remaining. Following the clean-up and seeding, the City will prepare to formally close out the project with the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority — the funding source for the project.

The City advertised for bids in late July of 2007, and awarded the contract in early September. The project included the construction of an interceptor sewer to collect and transport existing and future flows from the south and east sections of the

BLUEGRASS ADD-VANTAGE

Harrodsburg planning area. Additionally, the project included approximately 4,500 liner feet of 24-inch diameter sewer lines, 15 manholes, and two highway bores.

This project was made possible by an Economic Development Fund grant in the amount of \$750,000. It is the second sewer project arising from funding derived from Economic Development Fund grants totaling \$1,000,000 received from the state legislature during the 2006 meeting of the General Assembly. The Kentucky Infrastructure Authority is the state's administrative agency and the Bluegrass Area Development District is administering the Grant Agreement on the City's behalf.

The first project, the Anderson-Dean Park Pump Station Replacement, was completed at a cost of approximately \$250,000 and provided improvements to the collection system and increased capacity. That project included replacing an existing grinder station with a duplex non-clog pump station, installing approximately 3,200 linear feet of 6-inch force main, and upgrading the downstream station.

For more information, contact Dave Ewen at the ADD.

THE MIDWAY INITIATIVE: HOMELAND SECURITY AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR

At its meeting in June, the Bluegrass Regional Homeland Security Council hosted guest speaker, Mr. Danny R. Smith, Coordinator of *The Midway Initiative: Homeland Security and the Private Sector*. Mr. Smith explained that in an effort to promote the sharing of information with the private sector Midway College, in partnership with the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security, has initiated an anti-terrorism advisory group and has been hosting a series of seminars to inform, educate, and update the private business community regarding terrorism and terrorist activities. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the U.S. Department of Justice, and the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Kentucky are supporting partners in this initiative.

Addressing council members and guests, Mr. Smith outlined the Midway Initiative's four-part series of training events and encouraged emergency management and other first responders within the public sector to get involved. Mr. Smith highlighted the Smart Power Series, a venture of the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). After a brief discussion with the Council, Mr. Smith explained the need for support from the Bluegrass Area Development District and local offices to "jump start" the initiative and move forward with additional initiatives in 2009 and 2010.

The next seminar of the Midway Initiative will be held in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Justice Anti-Terrorism Advisory Committee meeting on August 7, 2008 from 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. at the Ann Hart Raymond Center on Midway College's campus. This meeting is a unique opportunity for law enforcement agencies to expand their department's commitment to fighting terrorism. A recent report issued by the 911 Commission found that there was a deficiency in the private sector being prepared to deal with a terrorism incident. This is an opportunity to join officials of the public and private sectors. Representatives from police agencies are encouraged to attend and invite other members of the community from the school system, manufacturing, emergency management, banking, retail, private security and agriculture fields. For information on how to register your police department or other private sector organizations, please contact Laurel Wood at lwood@bgadd.org or by calling the ADD at (859)269-8021.

KENTUCKY AGRICULTURE HERITAGE CENTER RECEIVES FINANCIAL BOOST

Generally, it is a good day when the Governor of Kentucky comes to town. And it was certainly a good mid-July day in Mercer County when Governor Steve Beshear arrived with a ceremonial check for \$11 million to be applied to the initial cost of the Agriculture Heritage Center. The center is to be built in 50 acres of farmland adjacent to US 127 and near the community of McAfee which is on Harrodsburg's north side.

The Ag Heritage Center is a grassroots project intended to preserve and promote Kentucky's agricultural heritage. It will showcase technology, provide workspaces and resources for farm organizations and interest groups, and contain educational resources, recreational activities and entertainment. Further, the state's agricultural history will be displayed through hands-on activities such as a walking farm tour, demonstrations, expositions, and virtual agricultural experiences.

For more information, contact Mercer County Judge-executive John Trisler.

LOCAL POLICE AGENCIES STRUGGLE WITH FUEL COSTS

A recent article in the *Lexington Herald-Leader* highlighted law enforcement agencies across Kentucky that are being forced to balance on a fine line between deterring crime and reducing costs as gas prices increase. More Lexington police officers are using bicycles. In Powell County, sheriff's deputies may soon take some reports over the phone rather than in person. Nicholasville police officers are parking their vehicles and conducting foot patrols in certain areas. Although the agencies are using different

BLUEGRASS ADD-VANTAGE

methods to save on costly fuel bills, all agree that preventing and responding quickly to crimes remains essential.

"You're going to have to provide police protection," Nicholasville police Chief Barry Waldrop said. Nicholasville police officers have started parking vehicles when possible and patrolling areas on foot or bicycles, he said. The department recently purchased four new bicycles, and officers keep bike racks on their police cars so they can quickly return to parked vehicles when necessary. Waldrop said his department will fight to keep its fleet of vehicles, which officers drive to and from work, because police visibility helps deter crime. "We'll have to do whatever it takes to survive the cost, but it's hitting us big time in our budget," he said.

Lexington police spent about \$36,500 more on gas in May 2008 than in May 2007, said Richard Murray, the City's director of Fleet Services. Murray said gas usage among Lexington police officers has decreased this year from last year, about 10,000 gallons. The increased spending on gas seems to be because of increased prices. Lexington police have spent about \$1.7 million on gas in Fiscal Year 2008. Last year, the division spent about \$1.3 million on gas.

Lexington police have been taking steps toward reducing spending on gas for about a year, Lexington police Officer Ann Gutierrez said. She said most of the changes are not things that would directly affect the public. Two officers, instead of one, have started responding to some high-priority calls in one vehicle. In cases where a crime is in progress, more than one officer would usually respond to a scene. Officers also try to carpool to training classes. And officers are using their bicycles more in compact areas with large populations, Gutierrez said.

Lexington police Chief Ronnie Bastin changed his staff meetings from five days a week to three days a week, Gutierrez said. And the department has looked at obtaining teleconference technology for some meetings. "It's really just an effort to do our part," Gutierrez said, noting that the police department is one of the largest divisions within the urban county government. Lexington police have 685 total vehicles, including four all-terrain vehicles, 50 sport-utility vehicles, 57 bicycles, seven Segways and 14 motorcycles. She said the department used to have 59 SUVs but have tried to stop purchasing those larger vehicles. Gutierrez said the department does not want to reduce any response times as measures are taken to reduce costs.

Lexington police are allowed to take cruisers home, but the vehicles are not allowed outside the county. Officers who live outside Fayette County have to leave cruisers at the city's Fleet Services or another home or business inside the county. Gutierrez said the department thinks the benefits of allowing officers to take home vehicles outweigh the amount of money spent on gas.

Lexington officers are required to have their radios on and stop for incidents such as car wrecks when they're driving cruisers off-duty. Gutierrez said communities also want police cars in the neighborhood to deter crime. Officers can also sometimes respond to calls faster from home.

The Powell County Sheriff's Office has not made any significant changes yet because of gas prices, but the office might later decide to start responding to emergency calls only if gas prices continue to set records, deputy clerk Joyce Rogers said. "So far we're just trying to maintain as usual," Rogers said.

KENTUCKY DIVISION OF WATER REORGANIZED

The Division of Water recently completed a reorganization in mid-June. Some of the Division's leadership team is different while others transitioned from the former organizational structure.

Leaders within the Division of Water today are as follows:

Division Director—Sandy Gruzesky

Surface Water Permits Branch—Jory Becker

Water Quality Branch—Tom VanArsdall

Water Infrastructure Branch—Shafiq Amawi (acting manager)

Resource Planning and Program Support—Ron Price

Compliance and Technical Assistance Branch—Tom Gabbard

Watershed Management Branch—Pete Goodman

The Division expects to move some time in the autumn from its Reilly Road headquarters in Frankfort to reconfigured space across Wilkinson Blvd. in the Fair Oaks Center.

JAMES BALLINGER TO HEAD DEPT. OF HIGHWAYS OFFICE IN LEXINGTON

James Ballinger has been selected to serve as Chief District Engineer for the Department of Highways, District 7, in Lexington. Ballinger is a 20-year veteran of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. Most recently, he has served as Branch Manager of Preconstruction in the Lexington district. Previously, he served in the Resident Engineer's Office, working on various highway projects including the Boonesboro Bridge construction over the Kentucky River and the Clays Ferry Bridge widening project on Interstate 75. Ballinger received a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Kentucky. Ballinger currently resides in Rockcastle County with his wife Carrie and children: James Clay, Caleb, Cole, and Emma Grace.

BLUEGRASS ADD-VANTAGE

District 7 covers the counties of Anderson, Bourbon, Boyle, Clark, Fayette, Garrard, Jessamine, Madison, Mercer, Montgomery, Scott and Woodford.

KENTUCKY RIVER SWEEP ANOTHER GRAND SUCCESS

Good weather, a desire to treat the environment gently, and the promise of a free lunch brought out several hundred volunteers for the annual Kentucky River Sweep in and along the shores of the Kentucky River that flows for miles through the Central Bluegrass Region. More than 150 volunteers operated out of Boonesborough State Park alone, removing more than 400 bags of trash and debris. Organizers say that each year the amount of trash removed from the river and its banks seems to be less than the year before. This suggests that attitudes are changing concerning the use of the river as waste disposal option.

PARIS' DOWNTOWN RENAISSANCE TOUTED

A favorable article appeared in the *Lexington Herald-Leader* in mid-July touting the success of downtown revitalization efforts in Paris. In recent year's downtown Paris has seen significant improvements in its public infrastructure as sidewalks, curbs, gutters, storm sewers and water/sewer lines were upgraded, repaired, or replaced. Now, that public investment in Paris' Main Street is being rewarded with the coming of new restaurants, antique stores, a residence, and a church. Even more developments/redevelopments may be on the way. Linda Stubblefield, director of Paris Main Street program is rightfully proud of downtown Paris' new look.

For more information on downtown revitalization efforts, contact Marcie Gabhart at the ADD.

NICHOLASVILLE CELEBRATES GROUNDBREAKING

Nicholasville officials met at the site of the proposed new city hall along North Main St. in early summer for a groundbreaking ceremony for the new facility. Planning for the new structure began in January, 2007 and continued throughout the calendar year. City Commissioners were able to view floor plans for the building in December.

The new city hall will have two 10,000-square-foot stories and a basement. The first floor will support a meeting room, billing office, tax office, finance director's office and bookkeeping activities. The second floor will have the mayor's and commissioners' offices, city clerk's office, human resources, payroll, utilities director's office, building inspector's office and engineering offices. The basement will house receiving and purchasing and storage areas.

It is expected that construction will begin in August with completion anticipated by the fall of 2009 (Source: *The Jessamine-Journal*).

BEREA'S KENTUCKY ARTISAN CENTER WELCOMES ITS MILLIONTH VISITOR

It was the stuff of dreams. One minute you are driving south on I-75 and decide to drop in at the Kentucky Artisan Center in Berea, and the next minute you are surrounded by dignitaries of all stripes and being identified as the one millionth visitor to that facility on Berea's north side. That is what happened to a family from London, Ontario on July 9.

The Center, which opened in 2003, has now been the host to more than one million visitors. The Center has also hosted more than 523 artisan events, including demonstrations, musical performances, and book signings, and has featured 24 special exhibitions in the center's gallery and lobby. More than \$6 million in Kentucky-made products have been sold in the Center's five years span of operation.

The Center is open daily from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and features three annual special exhibitions, a sales gallery, and gift shop with fine art and crafts, demonstrations and events every Friday and Saturday by Kentucky artisans, and a café that specializes in Kentucky cuisine. The Kentucky Artisan Center is an agency within the Commonwealth's Tourism, Arts & Heritage Cabinet. For more information about Kentucky's tourism industry, contact Marcie Gabhart at the ADD.

FRANKFORT TO TAKE A FRESH LOOK AT ITS WATERFRONT

San Antonio has turned its Riverwalk into a world renowned treasure that attracts thousands of visitors each year. The Greater Frankfort community is now looking at its Kentucky River frontage in an effort to determine if the river could be more than just a nuisance that causes periodic flooding.

Governor Beshear recently announced the availability of a \$150,000 grant from the state's land acquisition account to pay for a river development study. Ideas for better utilizing the river range from parks to restaurants to concert venues. Local leadership seems to have firmly coalesced around the idea of making better use of the river's potential.

NICHOLASVILLE GAINS NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR MODEST HOUSING COSTS

The August edition of *Money Magazine* identified the City of Nicholasville as the American small city with the lowest median price for single family housing. The magazine only included in its survey those cities with growing employment bases and with growing economies (thereby eliminating from its data base

BLUEGRASS ADD-VANTAGE

those cities who are in serious decline), but the recognition is nevertheless richly appreciated in the Jessamine County seat.

Money Magazine identified 25 small cities and showed Nicholasville at very top of the list with a median house price of \$70,000. In these inflationary times, many Americans are seeking more affordable housing. This bit of news just might make the telephones of Nicholasville realtors jingle.

GOVERNOR BESHEAR COMMITS TO RETHINK ENERGY PLAN FOR THE COMMONWEALTH

Governor Beshear has directed the state's new energy secretary, Len Peters, to complete and present a new comprehensive energy plan for the Commonwealth by September. At a time when energy prices command such an important consideration for Kentuckians (and others), it seems important that the direction of the Commonwealth's energy plans receive fresh consideration. The Governor has suggested that mountaintop removal can be done in an environmentally acceptable fashion under the existing regulations. Further, he said that the new state energy plan might include nuclear energy.

According to the governor, other parts of the plan will

- Reduce carbon emissions from electricity generation
- More fully utilize wind, solar, and other renewable energy resources
- Generate bio-diesel from algae production and other non-food biomass
- Create thousands of jobs for Kentuckians in the energy sector of the economy
- Result in Kentuckians using less energy.

Cabinet Secretary Peters said that it is inevitable that the state's energy policy will be influenced by decisions at the national level.

PRICES FOR SCRAP METAL HELP TO CLEAN UP THE BLUEGRASS

Customers of scrap metal dealers, as well as just plain scavengers, are helping to clean up the Bluegrass. As the price for recycled steel and other metals goes up and up, roadsides and country sides are becoming cleaner. Scrap steel is bringing 30 cents per pound these days. Scrap copper is bringing from \$2.50 to as much as \$4 a pound. Abandoned cars formerly dotted some county side roads, but they too are disappearing as their scrap value increases.

BLUEGRASS ADD-VANTAGE

Not all of the affects of the booming scrap metal era are positive, however. Thieves are cashing in too as houses under construction, electrical substations and transmission lines, churches and others are experiencing the theft of copper. Often the destruction left by thieves is ten to 100 times greater than the salvage value of the copper stolen.

BLUEGRASS ADD-VANTAGE

MEETING CALL

Executive Board	8/27 & 9/24 7:00 p.m.
Aging Council	8/13 & 9/10 10:00 a.m.
Citizen Corps Council	8/20 2:30 p.m.
Homeland Security Council	8/20 1:00 p.m.
Human Services Committee	8/14 10:00 a.m.
Natural Resources & Environmental Protection Advisory Committee	8/13 3:15 p.m.
Regional Planning Council	9/3 4:00 p.m.
Regional Transportation Committee	9/8 1:30 p.m.
Tourism, Historic Preservation & Recreation Advisory Committee	9/9 10:00 a.m.

ALL meeting dates/times are subject to change.

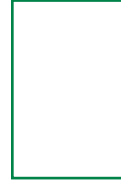
Chairman
Mr. Dodd Dixon

Vice-Chairman
Judge Larry Tincher

Secretary
Mayor Connie Lawson

Treasurer
Judge Donnie Foley

Executive Director
Lenny P. Stoltz II



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