



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY AND AIR FORCE
JOINT FORCES HEADQUARTERS KENTUCKY
BOONE NATIONAL GUARD CENTER
100 MINUTEMAN PARKWAY
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601-6168

NGKY-DAG

2 March 2026

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: KYNG support for the LFUCG's New Fire Training Center

1. The Kentucky National Guard is pleased to express its strong support for the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government's application to build a new fire training center for the Division of Fire and Emergency Services.
2. The Division of Fire and Emergency Services has been an important regional partner in supporting joint training opportunities for National Guard Civil Support Teams and other response units. Access to their training grounds has allowed our personnel to conduct mission-critical exercises that strengthen coordination between military and civilian emergency response agencies.
3. Modern, well-maintained training facilities are essential to ensuring operational readiness, interagency interoperability, and effective response to natural disasters, hazardous materials incidents, and complex emergency scenarios. The Lexington training center provides a realistic environment for collaborative exercises that directly improve community resilience and coordinated response capabilities.
4. Investments in this facility would enhance our shared ability to prepare for high-risk, low-frequency incidents and reinforce the integrated emergency response framework that protects Kentucky communities.
5. We value our partnership with the Lexington Fayette Urban County Government and strongly support this FEMA funded grant initiative.
6. Point of contact is the undersigned at 502-607-1530.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Wertzler", is positioned above the typed name.

BRIAN F. WERTZLER
Brigadier General, KYARNG
Deputy Adjutant General - Army

110 Cleveland Drive
Paris, KY 40361



(800) 782-6823
kyfirecommission.kctcs.edu

February 27, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of the Kentucky Fire Commission, we are pleased to offer our full support to the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government's application for funding to build a new fire training center.

The Division of Fire and Emergency Services has been a valued regional partner in advancing firefighter certification, professional standards, and workforce development across the Commonwealth. Through their willingness to provide classroom space, training facilities, and testing locations, the department has enabled smaller and regional fire departments to certify and maintain qualified personnel in accordance with Kentucky Fire Commission standards.

Access to a centrally located, well-equipped training facility is critical to ensuring equitable training opportunities throughout the state. The Division of Fire and Emergency Services training center serves as an accessible hub for certification testing, continuing education, and skill validation, particularly for departments that may not otherwise have the infrastructure to host such events independently.

A new facility would directly strengthen Kentucky's fire service by increasing training capacity, modernizing instructional environments, and supporting consistent application of statewide standards. Investment in this center represents an investment in firefighter competency, operational readiness, and public safety across the region.

We strongly support this funding request and believe it will yield measurable benefits not only for Lexington but for the broader Kentucky fire service community.

Sincerely,



Marc Rudder
Director of Training
Kentucky Fire Commission

MAYOR LINDA GORTON



LEXINGTON

ROBERT LARKIN
DIRECTOR
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

February 26, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

The Division of Emergency Management strongly supports the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government's application to construct a new Division of Fire Training Center.

The current training center serves a critical secondary role in our emergency preparedness framework, functioning as a backup Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and as a Point of Distribution (POD) site during natural disasters. Replacing this facility with a modern, purpose-built structure will significantly strengthen our community's continuity of operations and disaster response capability.

The inclusion of a fortified storm shelter within the new construction is especially important. Severe weather remains one of the most consistent hazards facing Central Kentucky, and hardened infrastructure capable of supporting sustained operations during extreme conditions enhances both responder safety and community resilience.

This project represents more than a training investment; it is a strategic investment in redundant command capacity, coordinated emergency response, and long-term resilience for Lexington-Fayette County.

The Division of Emergency Management fully endorses this funding request and appreciates the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government's commitment to strengthening critical public safety infrastructure.

Respectfully,

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Robert J. Larkin, MPH, MSS
Director
Lexington – Fayette Division of Emergency Management





LEXINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of the Lexington Police Department, I am pleased to offer our strong support for the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government's application for funding to construct a new fire training center.

As public safety partners serving Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government, our agencies operate in an increasingly complex response environment. From active threat scenarios and hazardous materials incidents to large-scale public events and disaster response, coordinated, multidisciplinary training is essential to ensuring the safety of our community.

The Division of Fire's training center has been a critical asset for interagency exercises, joint command training, and scenario-based preparedness initiatives. The facility provides a controlled, realistic environment where police, fire, and EMS personnel can train together under unified command structures, strengthen communication protocols, and refine operational coordination before critical incidents occur.

Building a new training infrastructure will directly support:

- Interoperable communications and coordinated response
- Incident Command System (ICS) proficiency
- Crisis response and threat mitigation preparedness
- Community resilience and public confidence

Investment in this facility represents more than infrastructure improvement; it strengthens our collective capacity to respond decisively and cohesively during high-risk, high-consequence events.

The Lexington Police Department values its partnership with the Division of Fire and strongly endorses this funding initiative. Continued investment in shared training resources ensures that our first responders remain prepared, aligned, and ready to protect the residents of Lexington.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lawrence B. Weathers".

Lawrence B. Weathers
Chief of Police

LBW/rmh



February 26, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

Bluegrass Community Technical College, a member of the Kentucky Community Technical College System, is proud to support the Lexington Fayette Urban County Government’s application for funding to construct a new fire training center.

Through a formal Memorandum of Understanding, the Division of Fire and Emergency Services provides invaluable clinical ride time and field experience for our paramedic students. Access to an active, high-volume EMS system allows students to develop competency in patient care, clinical decision-making, and interprofessional collaboration under the supervision of experienced professionals. In addition, Bluegrass Community Technical College provides general education requirements to fire recruits as they complete their firefighter training.

This partnership strengthens the regional healthcare workforce pipeline and ensures that paramedic graduates are prepared to meet the evolving demands of emergency medical services. A modernized and enhanced training facility would further support academic-practice integration, expand experiential learning opportunities, and improve readiness for real-world response environments.

Investment in the Division of Fire’s training infrastructure is an investment in workforce development, healthcare access, and community safety throughout Central Kentucky. We strongly endorse this application and appreciate the continued collaboration between our institutions.

Sincerely,

Karen Mayo
Digitally signed by Karen Mayo
Date: 2026.02.26 15:47:23 -05'00'

Karen L. Mayo, Ph.D.
Provost
Bluegrass Community and Technical College



Cooper Campus 470 Cooper Drive Lexington, KY 40506 (859) 246-6200	Danville Campus 59 Corporate Drive Danville, KY 40422 (859) 239-7030	Georgetown - Scott County Campus 200 Technology Court Georgetown, KY 40324 (502) 570-0734	Lawrenceburg Campus 1500 Bypass North, US 127 Lawrenceburg, KY 40342 (502) 839-8488	Leestown Campus 164 Opportunity Way Lexington, KY 40511 (859) 246-6200	Newtown Campus 500 Newtown Pike Lexington, KY 40508 (859) 246-6200	Winchester - Clark County Campus 2020 Rolling Hills Lane Winchester, KY 40391 (859) 737-3098
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February 27, 2026

Dear Congressman Barr,

Commerce Lexington supports the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government's Division of Fire Training Center request for CPF FY27 funding (HUD EDI account) to enhance and modernize this facility and improve a critical public safety asset for the community.

The Division of Fire's training center serves as more than a public safety resource; it is a community asset that supports leadership development, civic engagement, and cross-sector collaboration. Commerce Lexington has proudly partnered with the Division of Fire to host components of our Leadership Lexington program at the training center, where business and community leaders gain firsthand insight into public safety operations, emergency preparedness, and the infrastructure that supports a thriving community.

The facility provides an immersive environment that allows participants to better understand coordinated emergency response, incident command systems, and the operational complexity involved in safeguarding Lexington-Fayette County. These experiences strengthen relationships between public safety agencies and the business community, promote informed civic leadership, and reinforce the importance of investing in resilient public infrastructure.

A modernized and enhanced training center will:

- Support leadership education and workforce awareness initiatives
- Strengthen public-private partnerships
- Contribute to regional economic resilience
- Enhance Lexington's reputation as a safe and well-prepared community

Safe communities are foundational to economic growth. Businesses considering investment or expansion evaluate not only workforce strength but also emergency preparedness and public safety capability. Continued investment in this facility reflects Lexington's commitment to maintaining a high standard of readiness and operational excellence.

Commerce Lexington strongly endorses the CPF FY 27 (HUD EDI) funding request and values the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government's ongoing partnership in supporting both public safety and community leadership development.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert L. Quick".

Robert L. Quick, IOM, CCE
President & CEO, Commerce Lexington