



March 12, 2026

U.S. Congressman Andy Barr
Kentucky's 6th Congressional District
2709 Old Rosebud Road, Suite 100
Lexington, KY 40509

Dear Congressman Barr,

On behalf of Commerce Lexington Inc. and the regional business community, I am writing to express support for the Community Funding Project request submitted for the City of Nicholasville Regional Water Supply Capacity Upgrade Project.

Water infrastructure investments are critical to strengthening regional competitiveness and attracting jobs and workforce growth across our nine-county economic development region. This project will expand pump capacity and ensure the system can meet the rapidly growing needs from industrial, commercial, and residential demand. The new line will also increase regional capacity by supplying wholesale water to two neighboring districts in addition to the City of Nicholasville.

This investment will strengthen regional resilience by improving the delivery of treated water to multiple jurisdictions, aligning with the City of Nicholasville and state strategy to maintain clean, cost-effective, and dependable water infrastructure. It will also provide timely support that protects public health, supports job creation, and ensures long-term water reliability for communities across Central Kentucky.

By enhancing water quality, improving system reliability, reducing the risk of service interruptions, and supporting regional water supply needs for two partnering water districts, this project fulfills a fundamental public need for sustainable, long-term water infrastructure that protects public health and supports the community's economic vitality.

We respectfully encourage your support of this Community Funding Project request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert L. Quick", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Robert L. Quick, CCE
President & CEO
Commerce Lexington



JESSAMINE COUNTY FISCAL COURT

101 N. Main Street • Court House • Nicholasville, KY 40356 • (859) 885-4500
www.jessamineky.gov

The Honorable Andy Barr
U.S. House of Representatives
Sixth Congressional District of Kentucky
Washington DC Office
2430 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: FY 2027 Community Project Funding Request— Nicholasville Regional Water Supply Capacity Upgrade

Dear Congressman Barr,

On behalf of the Jessamine County Fiscal Court, I respectfully request your support for \$2,000,000 in FY 2027 Community Project Funding to complete construction of 22,071 linear feet of 24-inch ductile iron transmission main connecting the Nicholasville Water Treatment Plant to the City's distribution system.

This project will construct a new 24-inch parallel transmission main to eliminate a critical bottleneck created by three smaller legacy water mains—one dating back to the 1950s—that currently convey treated water from the plant to the distribution system.

Nicholasville's water treatment facility is rated at 7 million gallons per day (MGD) and currently serves approximately 14,500 retail customers as well as two wholesale water districts. The proposed main is the key infrastructure improvement needed to support planned pumping upgrades and enable future expansion toward 15 MGD system capacity to meet regional demand.

Nicholasville and Jessamine County continue to experience steady population and economic growth. U.S. Census estimates indicate the City's population increased from 31,108 in 2020 to 33,458 in 2024, a 7.6 percent increase, with continued growth projected in the coming years. In addition, recent federal investment in the expansion of Jennette Industrial Park—\$4 million secured through FY23–FY24 Community Project Funding—is expected to support more than 600 new jobs, further increasing both peak and average daily water demand as industrial sites are developed.

This transmission main also provides regional benefits. Nicholasville supplies wholesale water to Jessamine County Water District No. 1 and the Jessamine-South Elkhorn Water

District, extending reliable water service and fire protection to growing unincorporated areas throughout the county.

In addition to increasing system capacity, the project will improve water quality and regulatory compliance. Greater transmission capacity will enhance turnover in the City's three distribution storage tanks, reducing water age and supporting continued compliance with the EPA Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule (DBPR). Improved tank cycling and lower water age are widely recognized best practices for minimizing disinfection byproduct formation.

The new transmission main will also improve energy efficiency and operational performance. A larger-diameter main reduces hydraulic head loss, allowing the system to deliver the same or greater water volumes at lower pumping pressure. As pumping represents most of the a water utility's electricity use, this improvement will reduce long-term power consumption and operating costs at the City's high-service pumping station.

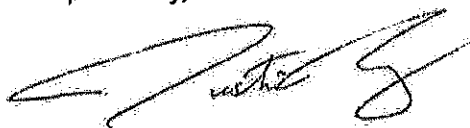
This 24-inch transmission main has been identified in the City's long-range water system improvements plan and is included among current municipal utility capital projects. Community Project Funding would close the remaining funding gap, allowing the City to bid and construct the project on a FY27 schedule.

Nicholasville maintains current Consumer Confidence Reports and public utility disclosures, and the City will comply with all federal requirements associated with Community Project Funding awards. The City will also report measurable outcomes including increased system capacity, improved tank turnover performance, and reduced energy use per million gallons pumped.

This project represents a targeted, high-impact federal investment. It supports job-creating industrial development already funded through prior federal appropriations, strengthens water supply resilience for neighboring water districts, improves compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act, and lowers long-term operating costs for local ratepayers.

Thank you for your consideration and continued support of infrastructure investments that strengthen the communities of Jessamine County.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin Ray", is written over a horizontal line.

Justin Ray
Deputy Judge/Executive
Jessamine County Fiscal Court

CITY HALL
Division of Grants



517 North Main Street
Nicholasville, Kentucky 40356
859-885-1121

The Honorable Andy Barr
U.S. House of Representatives
Sixth Congressional District of Kentucky
Washington DC Office
2430 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: FY 2027 Community Project Funding Request— Nicholasville Regional Water Supply Capacity Upgrade

Dear Congressman Barr:

On behalf of the City of Nicholasville, I respectfully request your support for Nicholasville's Regional Water Supply Capacity Upgrade Project. Community Project Funds will help us to complete construction of 22,071 linear feet of 24-inch ductile iron transmission main from the Nicholasville Water Treatment Plant to the City's distribution system.

This project adds a 24-inch parallel transmission main to relieve the bottleneck created by three smaller, legacy mains—one installed in the 1950s—between the water treatment plant and our system. The City's water plant is currently rated at 7 MGD and serves approximately 14,500 retail customers plus two wholesale water districts; the new main is the critical step that will enable staged pumping increases toward an ultimate 15 MGD future capacity to meet demand.

Nicholasville and Jessamine County are growing steadily. U.S. Census estimates show the City's population rising from 31,108 (2020 base) to 33,458 (2024)—a 7.6% increase—and projections continue upward. Recent federal investment to expand the Industrial Park is expected to support more than 600 jobs, which further increases peak and average day water demand as sites are absorbed.

The transmission main is regional in nature. In addition to City customers, Nicholasville provides wholesale water to Jessamine County Water District No. 1 and Jessamine-South Elkhorn Water District, extending reliable supply and fire protection to unincorporated growth corridors. Our adopted rate ordinance and public filings confirm these wholesale relationships and active purchased-water adjustments.

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517 North Main Street
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By increasing flow capacity, the project improves turnover in our three distribution storage tanks—reducing water age and helping the City maintain compliance with EPA’s Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule (DBPR), which enforces location-specific LRAA limits for TTHM/HAA5. Better tank cycling and lower water age are recognized practices to mitigate DBP formation.

A larger-diameter transmission main materially reduces head loss, allowing the same or greater flow at lower velocity and pump head. Peer-reviewed analyses and industry guidance demonstrate that upsizing pumped mains and optimizing operations reduces energy consumption, and pumps account for the majority of a water utility’s electricity use. In short, this project will lower power costs at our high-service station over the life of the asset.

The 24-inch main is identified in the City’s long-standing system improvements and is listed among current utility capital projects. CPF funds would close the remaining gap to bid and construct on an FY27 schedule.

This is a focused, high-return investment: it supports job-creating industrial sites already funded at the federal level, strengthens regional resilience for two neighboring water districts, improves Safe Drinking Water Act compliance, and lowers ongoing operating costs for our ratepayers. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Alex W. Carter'.

Alex Carter, Mayor
City of Nicholasville
(859) 885-1121
Alex.Carter@Nicholasvilleky.gov



Visit Jessamine
200 S. Main Street
Nicholasville, KY 40356
859-354-5433 | director@visitjessamine.com

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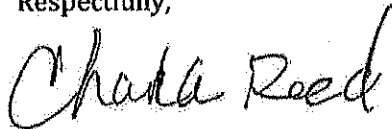
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As Nicholasville continues to grow and welcomes increasing numbers of visitors, this project represents a vital, high-return investment in the city's future. Enhancing our water system's capacity and reliability will support job creation, investments in industrial infrastructure, strengthen regional resilience, ensure we can meet tourism-driven demand, and deliver long-term cost savings for our ratepayers.

We appreciate your support in securing this critical infrastructure improvement for our community.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charla Reed". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Charla Reed

Visit Jessamine

(859) 354-5433

director@visitjessamine.com