



U.S. Congressman Andy Barr  
2430 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Barr:

The sixteen colleges of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System are united in our commitment to making life better for our students, communities, and the citizens of Kentucky. Every day we work to improve the quality of life and employability of the citizens of the Commonwealth by serving as the primary provider of college and workforce readiness, transfer education, and workforce education and training. Central Kentucky's economic vitality depends on a safe and efficient transportation network for business and industry – and higher education providers like KCTCS and Bluegrass Community and Technical College depend on that same transportation network to be able to provide the education those businesses and industry depend on.

For more than two decades, community leaders representing our organizations have advocated for transportation improvements to the Newtown Pike corridor. It is a vital transportation artery for Central Kentucky's economic and workforce development – serving as the central “connection point” for north/south and east/west interstate commerce.

KCTCS and BCTC fully support investments in the Newtown Extension to improve interconnectivity in the region and along the state's vital corridors. Maintaining adequate funding for transportation infrastructure is one of the most important investments in economic development. Funding for the Newtown Pike Extension is a critical to completing this project, which contributes greatly to:

- Reducing congestion and improving public safety.
- Improving connectivity to interstate highways I-75, I-64 and I-65 and other state highways, the Bluegrass Airport, rail systems and public transit.
- Strengthening economic competitiveness and logistics infrastructure for key employers in Central Kentucky, who employ thousands of the region's workers.
- Improving access to the higher education providers like Bluegrass Community and Technical College, the University of Kentucky, and Transylvania University.
- Improving access to regional healthcare providers.



**Dr. Paul Czarapata**  
**Interim President**

Kentucky Community and Technical College System  
300 North Main Street • Versailles, KY 40383  
P: 859-256-3132 • F: 859-256-3116  
kctcs.edu

- Enhancing access to signature tourism destinations, including downtown Lexington and the newly expanded and renovated convention space at Central Bank Center, Rupp Arena at Central Bank Center, Keeneland Racecourse, bourbon distilleries, horse farms, Alltech, the Distillery District entertainment destination and numerous restaurants and retail stores.

We appreciate your support of federal funding for the Newtown Extension.

Sincerely,



Dr. Paul Czarapata  
Interim President  
Kentucky Community and Technical College System  
College



Dr. Koffi Akakpo  
President  
Bluegrass Community and Technical

