

Commonwealth of Kentucky

STATE SENATE

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FRANKFORT, KY 40601
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LEGISLATIVE MESSAGE LINE: 800-372-7181
AMANDA.MAYSBLEDSON@LRC.KY.GOV



SERVING DISTRICT 12
BOYLE, FAYETTE (PART),
MERCER, & WOODFORD COUNTIES
PO BOX 23112
LEXINGTON, KY 40523

SENATOR AMANDA MAYS BLEDSOE

March 22, 2024

The Honorable Andy Barr
United States House of Representatives
2709 Old Rosebud Road, Suite 100
Lexington, Kentucky 40509

Dear Representative Barr:

Please accept this letter as a sign of my support for Harrodsburg Mercer County Industrial Development Authority's push for economic growth, specifically on the Wilkinson Farm Mega Site, through the FY 2025 Community Project Funding process. Funds would be used for infrastructure improvement on the mega site.

Over the last 5-10 years, the community has experienced stagnation regarding industrial growth, primarily a result of a lack of publicly held product for industry to consider, and the closure of Trim Masters, once one of the community's legacy industries. Through a grassroots effort that began in 2021, the community successfully fought to overcome its inventory challenge in a big way.

A true mega site with 950+ acres of property, the location has access to convenient highways, railroad, and utilities. This site will soon be jointly owned by Mercer County and Harrodsburg. Site analysis and most due diligence has been completed by the community, LG&E/KU and other utility partners, and Bluegrass ADD. The Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development has been an invaluable partner and has brokered the opportunity for closing in on 20 Request for Information applications and over one-half dozen consultant-driven site visits over the last twelve months. The site has the potential to support millions of square feet of development and thousands of jobs.

We humbly request your full and fair consideration of the investment requested through the FY 2025 Community Project Funding process. Your support would be the cornerstone of the funding package that would allow this site to reach its true potential and attract employment opportunities that would forever change our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amanda Mays Bledsoe".

Amanda Mays Bledsoe
State Senator
District 12

AMB/ka

March 21, 2024

Congressman Andy Barr
Lexington District Office
2709 Old Rosebud Road, Suite 100
Lexington, KY 40509
Attn: Tatum Dale and McKinzil Todd Poe

Dear Representative Barr,

Please accept this letter as a sign of my advocacy for Harrodsburg Mercer County Industrial Development Authority's push for economic growth in my county, on the Wilkinson Farm Mega Site specifically.

Harrodsburg and Mercer County have aggressively pursued an opportunity to turn around the economic trajectory of the county. The community, the country's oldest west of the Allegheny Mountains, has 250 years of rich history. Even so, the community needs a shot in the arm for the future. Over the last 5 to 10 years, the community has experienced stagnation regarding industrial growth that was primarily a result of a lack of publicly held product for industry to consider, and the closure of Trim Masters, previously one of the community's legacy industries. Through a grassroots effort that began in 2021, the community successfully fought to overcome its inventory challenge in a big way.

This site is a very rare commodity in our state, a true Mega Site with 950 plus acres of property. It has frontage on US HWY 127 and convenient access to the Bluegrass Parkway, 2 miles of mainline NS rail, great utilities capacities (and potential for growth in that area), and a location that is bisected by high-voltage transmission (located only 6 miles from the LG&E EW Brown generation station). This site is under public control with robust support from our utility partners and will soon be jointly owned by Mercer County and Harrodsburg. The community, LG&E/KU, other utility partners, and Bluegrass ADD. have completed site analysis and most due diligence. KCED has been an invaluable partner and has brokered the opportunity for closing in on 20 RFI's and over a half dozen consultant-driven site visits over the last twelve months. The site has the potential to support millions of square feet of development and thousands of jobs.

We humbly request your full and faithful consideration of the investment requested through the FY25 CPF process. Your support would be the cornerstone of the funding package that would allow this site to reach its true potential and attract employment opportunities that would forever change our community.

Warm regards,

Susan T. Barrington
Magistrate of District 4
Mercer County Fiscal Court

Harrodsburg/Mercer County Joint Planning & Zoning Commission
109 Short St.
Harrodsburg, KY 40330
(859) 734-6066

March 21, 2024

Congressman Andy Barr
Lexington District Office
2709 Old Rosebud Rd, Suite 100
Lexington KY 40509
(Delivered Electronically, attn: Tatum Dale and McKinzie Todd Poe)

Dear Representative Barr-

Please accept this letter as a sign of my advocacy for Harrodsburg Mercer County Industrial Development Authority's push for economic growth in my county, on the Wilkinson Farm Mega Site specifically.

Harrodsburg and Mercer County have aggressively pursued an opportunity to turn the economic trajectory of the county around. The community, the nation's oldest west of the Alleghenies, has a rich history, but needs a shot in the arm for the future. Over the last 5-10 years, the community has experienced stagnation regarding industrial growth, that was primarily a result of a lack of publicly held product for industry to consider, and the closure of Trim Masters, previously one of the community's legacy industries. Through a grassroots effort that began in 2021, the community successfully fought to overcome its inventory challenge in a big way.

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***Harrodsburg/Mercer County Joint Planning & Zoning Commission
109 Short St.
Harrodsburg, KY 40330
(859) 734-6066***

We humbly request your full and faithful consideration of the investment requested through the FY25 CPF process. Your support would be the cornerstone of the funding package that would allow this site to reach its true potential and attract employment opportunities that would forever change our community.

Warm regards,

Shawn Moore, CFM CZI
Executive Director

Lake Village Water Association, Inc.

801 Pleasant Hill Drive
P.O. Box 303
Burgin, Kentucky 40310
(859) 748-5642
www.lakevillagewater.org

March 22, 2024

Congressman Andy Barr
Lexington District Office
2709 Old Rosebud Rd, Suite 100
Lexington KY 40509

Dear Representative Barr,

Please accept this letter as a sign of our advocacy for Harrodsburg Mercer County Industrial Development Authority's push for economic growth in our county, specifically on the Wilkinson Farm Mega Site.

Harrodsburg and Mercer County have aggressively pursued an opportunity to turn the economic trajectory of the county around. The community, the nation's oldest west of the Alleghenies, has a rich history, but needs a shot in the arm for the future. Over the last 5-10 years, the community has experienced stagnation regarding industrial growth, that was primarily a result of a lack of publicly held product for industry to consider, and the closure of Trim Masters, previously one of the community's legacy industries. Through a grassroots effort that began in 2021, the community successfully fought to overcome its inventory challenge in a big way.

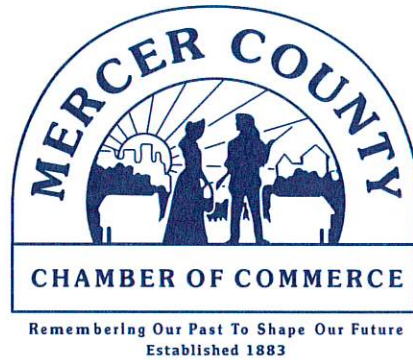
This site is a very rare commodity in our state, a true Mega Site with 950+ acres of property, frontage on US HWY 127 and convenient access to the Bluegrass Parkway, 2 miles of mainline NS rail, great public utility capacity, and a location that is bisected by high-voltage transmission lines, located 6 miles from the LG&E/KU EW Brown Generation Station. The site is under public control with robust support from our utility partners and will soon be jointly owned by Mercer County and the City of Harrodsburg. Site analysis and most due diligence has been completed by the community, LG&E/KU and other utility partners, and the Bluegrass ADD. KCED has been an invaluable partner and has brokered the opportunity for closing in on 20 RFI's and over a half dozen consultant-driven site visits over the last twelve months. The site has the potential to support millions of square feet of development and thousands of jobs.

We humbly request your full and faithful consideration of the investment requested through the FY25 CPF process. Your support would be the cornerstone of the funding package that would allow this site to reach its true potential and attract employment opportunities that would forever change our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike D. Sanford". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "M" and "S".

Mike D. Sanford, MPA
Executive Director
Lake Village Water Association, Inc.
Mercer County Sanitation District



March 19, 2024

Congressman Andy Barr
Lexington District Office

2709 Old Rosebud Rd, Suite 100
Lexington KY 40509

Dear Representative Barr-

Please accept this letter as a sign of our chamber's advocacy for Harrodsburg Mercer County Industrial Development Authority's push for economic growth in my county, on the Wilkinson Farm Mega Site specifically.

Harrodsburg and Mercer County have aggressively pursued an opportunity to turn the economic trajectory of the county around. The community, the nation's oldest west of the Alleghenies, has a rich history, but needs a shot in the arm for the future. Over the last 5-10 years, the community has experienced stagnation regarding industrial growth, that was primarily a result of a lack of publicly held product for industry to consider, and the closure of Trim Masters, previously one of the community's legacy industries.

Through a grassroots effort that began in 2021, the community successfully fought to overcome its inventory challenge in a big way.

This site is a very rare commodity in our state, a true Mega Site with 950+ acres of property, frontage on US HWY 127 and convenient access to the Bluegrass Parkway, 2 miles of mainline NS rail, great utilities capacities (and potential for growth in that area), and a location that is bisected by high-voltage transmission (located only 6 miles from the LG&E/KU EW Brown generation station). This site is under public control with robust support from our utility partners and will soon be jointly owned by Mercer County and Harrodsburg. Site analysis and most due diligence has been completed by the community, LG&E/KU and other utility partners, and Bluegrass ADD. KCED has been an invaluable partner and has brokered the opportunity for closing in on 20 RFI's and over a half dozen consultant-driven site visits over the last twelve months. The site has the potential to support millions of square feet of development and thousands of jobs.

We humbly request your full and faithful consideration of the investment requested through the FY25 CPF process. Your support would be the cornerstone of the funding package that would allow this site to reach its true potential and attract employment opportunities that would forever change our community.

Warm regards,

Jill S. Cutler

Executive Director

Mercer Chamber of Commerce

101 S. Main St. , Suite 1

Harrodsburg, Ky 40330

www.mercerchamber.com

859-734-2365



MERCER COUNTY SCHOOLS

BUILDING TRADITIONS THROUGH EXCELLENCE

Our Mission is to prepare students to excel in a global society by providing rigorous education in academics, arts, and extracurricular opportunities

March 21, 2024

Congressman Andy Barr
Lexington District Office
2709 Old Rosebud Rd, Suite 100
Lexington KY 40509
(Delivered Electronically, attn: Tatum Dale and McKinzie Todd Poe)

Dear Representative Barr,

I am writing to express my fervent support for the Harrodsburg Mercer County Industrial Development Authority's endeavor to stimulate economic growth in our community, particularly through the development of the Wilkinson Farm Mega Site.

Harrodsburg and Mercer County have been resolute in their pursuit of an opportunity to reshape the economic landscape of our county. Despite boasting a rich history as the nation's oldest settlement west of the Alleghenies, our community needs a substantial catalyst for future prosperity. In recent years, we have faced stagnation in industrial growth, largely due to a scarcity of publicly available land for industrial use and the closure of Trim Masters, a cornerstone industry in our area. However, through a grassroots initiative initiated in 2021, our community has successfully tackled these challenges head-on.

The Wilkinson Farm Mega Site stands as an exceptional asset within our state—a true Mega Site encompassing over 950 acres of prime property. Situated with frontage on US Highway 127 and convenient access to the Bluegrass Parkway, the site also boasts 2 miles of mainline Norfolk Southern rail access, robust utility capacities, and significant potential for further infrastructure growth. Moreover, its strategic location, just 6 miles from the LG&E/KU EW Brown generation station, ensures reliable access to high-voltage transmission lines.

Under public control and with unwavering support from our utility partners, the Wilkinson Farm Mega Site is poised for transformation. Extensive site analysis and due diligence, conducted collaboratively by the community, LG&E/KU, other utility partners, and Bluegrass ADD, have laid the groundwork for its development. With the invaluable assistance of KCED, we have already garnered substantial interest, with nearly 20 Requests for Information (RFIs) and numerous consultant-led site visits in the past year alone. The potential of this site is truly staggering, with the capacity to accommodate millions of square feet of development and create thousands of much-needed jobs for our community.

Furthermore, it's worth noting that our community takes immense pride in its commitment to education. Mercer County Senior High School recently achieved remarkable success, boasting the best KSA state testing scores in all of central Kentucky. This demonstrates our dedication to providing exceptional educational opportunities for our residents, further enhancing the appeal of our community as a destination for families and businesses alike.

We earnestly request your thorough consideration and support for the investment sought through the FY25 Community Project Funding process. Your backing would serve as the linchpin of the funding package needed to unlock the full potential of the Wilkinson Farm Mega Site, ushering in employment opportunities that have the power to reshape our community for generations to come.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We eagerly anticipate the opportunity to work together towards a brighter future for Harrodsburg and Mercer County.

Warm regards,

Superintendent
Mercer County Schools



March 21, 2024

Congressman Andy Barr
Lexington District Office

2709 Old Rosebud Rd, Suite 100
Lexington KY 40509

(Delivered Electronically, attn: Tatum Dale and McKinzi Todd Poe)

Dear Representative Barr-

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*Your adventure
in hospitality starts here....*

Harrodsburg/Mercer County Tourist Commission
P.O. Box 283 • Harrodsburg, Ky. 40330
859-734-2364

www.harrodsburgky.com • tourism@harrodsburgky.com



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Thanks,

Daarik Gray

Executive-Director

Harrodsburg-Mercer County Tourist Commission

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in hospitality starts here....*

Harrodsburg/Mercer County Tourist Commission
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