

MINUTES

KENTUCKIANA REGIONAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (KIPDA)

REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

MEETING CONDUCTED THROUGH ZOOM

April 9, 2024

The Regional Planning Council of the Kentuckiana Regional Planning and Development Agency met at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, April 9, 2024 via Zoom video conference. Members in attendance were:

- Mr. Ryan Libke, Planning and Zoning, Shelby County, Kentucky
- Mr. Keith Griffiee, Chief Financial Officer, Bullitt County, Kentucky
- Honorable Scott Bates, Judge/Executive, Henry County, Kentucky
- Honorable Jason Stanley, Henry County Deputy Judge/Executive, Henry County, Kentucky
- Mr. Mike Ray, Volunteer, Henry County Planning and Zoning, Henry County, Kentucky
- Mr. Brian Davis, Louisville Metro Government, Jefferson County, Kentucky
- Mr. Mike King, Louisville Metro Government, Jefferson County, Kentucky
- Mr. Jim Urban, Oldham County Planning and Zoning, Oldham County, Kentucky
- Mr. Brian Fogle, Oldham County Planning and Zoning, Oldham County, Kentucky
- Honorable Scott Travis, Judge/Executive, Spencer County, Kentucky
- Ms. Julie Sweazy, Spencer County Planning and Zoning, Spencer County, Kentucky
- Ms. Diana Arnold, Trimble County Planning and Zoning, Trimble County, Kentucky

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

REPRESENTING

| | |
|-----------------|-------|
| Felicia Harper | KIPDA |
| Rachael Miller | KIPDA |
| Dustin Duncan | KIPDA |
| Ryan Lloyd | KIPDA |
| Jennifer Wilson | KIPDA |
| Mick Logsdon | KIPDA |

Mr. Libke called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROLL CALL

Ms. Miller called roll. A quorum was present.

MINUTES FROM JANUARY 9, 2024

Judge Bates moved to approve the minutes from the Tuesday, January 9, 2024 Regional Planning Council meeting. Ms. Arnold seconded. Motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

KIPDA UPDATES

Mr. Lloyd stated that due to the recent severe weather in the region, the Community and Economic Development (CED) Division is anticipating a disaster declaration from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) soon. This will provide Hazard Mitigation grant funding for the region. Also, CED staff are working on obtaining funding for three or four Cleaner Water grants for Louisville Water Company. There are also ongoing and completed projects in Bullitt and Oldham Counties.

In addition, Mr. Lloyd stated he has also been working on the Clean Energy and Resiliency project. The KIPDA Community and Economic Development (CED) Division Area Development Districts (ADDs) across the state are partnering with the U.S. Energy and Environment Cabinet on this project. Currently, Mr. Lloyd has been working with the systems across the region to collect data on energy resilience on critical facilities; however, more information and data from officials and emergency managers within the region is needed. The second stakeholder meeting is scheduled for June 17 at 10:00 a.m.

Ms. Harper stated that there will be a KIPDA and American Planning Association (APA) training on September 17 at KIPDA. The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) process is open for projects and all cities qualify for these grants.

In Spencer County, a CDBG grant was awarded to Taylorsville Health to construct a new immediate care facility.

Mr. Logsdon stated that the Biennial Highway Plan, which aims to fund many road projects throughout the state. The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) has opened the second round of funding. Shelby County is looking to construct a new interchange, and there will be public meetings regarding this project on April 16 and 17.

COUNTY QUARTERLY UPDATES

BULLITT COUNTY

Mr. Griffie stated that the first public planning meeting Comprehensive Plan will be held in the next four weeks. The county recently received its Road Plan from Frankfort and is pleased with it. Construction on 44 is in the planning stages, and the county is trying to speed that project up to avoid conflicts with a construction project in Mt. Washington. The county has received \$25 million in funding for a regional Brown Cancer Center which will serve rural communities.

HENRY COUNTY

Mr. Stanley stated Henry County is currently working on its Comprehensive Plan.

Judge Bates added that due to the recent tornado, the county will hold an emergency management meeting to discuss what went right versus what went wrong during that incident.

JEFFERSON COUNTY

Mr. King stated that Ms. Emily has retired from Louisville Metro Government. The Floyds Fork regulations are currently being worked on, and a recommendation was made to the Metro Council for any changes. Hopefully, these changes will be in place by May. A moratorium on adjustments to residential code bill was vetoed. Housing needs outreach is being conducted in Louisville Metro to determine design ideas, locations, etc. Also, a Metro housing study was recently completed and released.

Mr. Davis added that requests for building permits have decreased slightly. The city will create updated regulations language for property within the Floyds Fork overlay.

OLDHAM COUNTY

Mr. Fogle stated that Oldham County will update its zoning ordinances to implement stricter standards for short-terms rentals, with non-owner occupied units forbidden from residential zones. The county is looking at allowing Core Station, a 500-acre, mixed-use development project to be constructed. A committee meeting will be held to discuss the Highway 53 project, and the county will soon need to update its Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. urban reported that a study on a KY-22 project that would run from the Jefferson County line to 329 in Crestwood was completed. Also, a new project on Clore Lane is getting started, and a study of the 329 bypass in Crestwood recently began.

SHELBY COUNTY

Mr. Libke reported that the City of Shelbyville is looking at adding regulations for short-term rentals and the City of Simpsonville is in the last stages of a complete rewrite of their planning and zoning codes.

SPENCER COUNTY

Judge Travis stated that the county plans to discuss potential planning and regulations for the construction of solar farms. Planning and zoning is working on adding regulations for distilleries, breweries, and wineries. The Mill Road project is underway with pipe installation with road resurfacing to follow. The population increase in the county has created more traffic along with more wear and tear on state roads. Many roads throughout the county are in need of shoulder work because they are very narrow. Also, blacktop resurfacing will soon begin on county roads.

TRIMBLE COUNTY

Ms. Arnold stated that the County will hold a workshop for planning and zoning ordinance revisions. Also, the County is looking to put a code enforcement board in place.

KENTUCKY CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Ms. Boldman, Executive Director and Legislative Agent with the Kentucky Conservation Committee (KCC) gave a presentation on the organization and its activities. The Kentucky Conservation Committee is a 501(c)(4) direct advocacy nonprofit that monitors and develops critical policy issues and legislation affecting Kentucky's land, air, and water since 1975. KCC was formed in 1975 following a panel discussion at the University of Kentucky that included the Sierra Club, Audubon Society, and the Berry family where they expressed the need to have a dedicated body lobbying presence for the environment.

Later partners included the Kentucky Natural Lands Trust and The Nature Conservancy. During the 1976 General Assembly, these groups, through KCC, petitioned for the passage of a bottle bill. This was a priority during the 1976, 1978, 1980, and 1982 legislative sessions.

Hundreds of bills cross Kentucky legislators' desks each year. However, lawmakers do not hear enough from their constituents and their personal concerns in ways that can become actionable bills. More often than not, legislators tend to get their information from think tanks and commercial lobbyists representing business interests, not citizen interests. Citizen lobbying, with the support of a nonprofit lobbying team, can be an effective way to counter the influence of commercial lobbyists.

KCC focuses their efforts on environmental issues such as climate change and resiliency, clean energy, land conservation, and leveraging the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), and other federal grants. Unfortunately, funding for land conservation in Kentucky has been steadily decreasing. The funding received comes from environmental fines, Kentucky environmental license plates, and unmined minerals tax. At the conclusion of the current legislative session, \$2 million of the \$18 million will be restored that had been swept from the fund. However, core funding shortfalls still need to be addressed.

KCC promotes economic development in the form of trails, waterways, resiliency, solarization, and more. Also, KCC utilizes federal grants such as the IRA, BIL, etc. to help develop “climate pollution reduction” projects in Louisville, Lexington, and Bowling Green, KY. They are awaiting word on “solar for all” project grants through the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. Fortunately, “solarize” programs are becoming more popular throughout Kentucky. These programs allow homeowners and companies to bulk purchase solar panels at a discount, and the panel installers are vetted and certified. There are solar projects planned for this year in Louisville, Lexington, Frankfort, and Boyle County. Some of these solar programs offer funding for low-income homeowners.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Regional Planning Council meeting will be held on July 9, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. in the Burke Conference Room and via Zoom video conference.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Judge Bates moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Davis seconded. Motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.