

**KENTON COUNTY FISCAL COURT
RESOLUTION 24-26**

A RESOLUTION OF THE FISCAL COURT OF KENTON COUNTY, KENTUCKY, EXPRESSING ITS SUPPORT AND ENDORSEMENT OF THE EFFORTS AND ANALYSIS OF THE KENTON COUNTY SITE READINESS INITIATIVE AND DIRECTING THE PROJECT TEAM TO CONTINUE WITH THE SUBSEQUENT PHASES OF IMPLEMENTATION.

WHEREAS, the Kenton County Fiscal Court is responsible for the economic well-being of Kenton County, Kentucky, and economic development has long been recognized as a public purpose in the Commonwealth of Kentucky;

WHEREAS, officials with the BE NKY Growth Partnership have informed the Kenton County Fiscal Court that they have limited readily available sites to pitch to prospective manufacturing companies;

WHEREAS, Kenton County has begun to experience the development of speculative warehousing and distribution facilities on the county lines between eastern Boone County and western Kenton County;

WHEREAS, the BE NKY Growth Partnership informs the Kenton County Fiscal Court that, in comparison to warehousing and distribution, manufacturing projects generate a greater quantity of jobs at higher salaries per project, consume less land, and generate less truck traffic;

WHEREAS, once undeveloped land is largely gone, opportunities for new manufacturing projects will be severely limited;

WHEREAS, warehousing and distribution have a place in the county and region's economy, but they cannot dominate future development to the exclusion of all else;

WHEREAS, given this guidance from the BE NKY Growth Partnership, the county administration assembled a project team consisting of Kenton County Planning & Development Services, the Northern Kentucky Port Authority, and the BE NKY Growth Partnership to advise the Fiscal Court on appropriate actions;

WHEREAS, the project team believed that private sector advice and recommendations were essential to the effort, the Northern Kentucky Port Authority issued requests for proposals and requests for qualifications to evaluate and propose recommendations around the needs of infrastructure, utilities, sites, and financing;

WHEREAS, the Northern Kentucky Port Authority selected Gresham Smith, Hemmer Companies, and the Catalytic Fund as successful respondents to those requests and contributed to the efforts of the Initiative;

WHEREAS, the project team updated the Kenton County Fiscal Court at its October 15, 2024, meeting;

WHEREAS, multiple studies and discussions over the years have identified the need for Kenton County to develop sites to bring production-oriented uses to the southwest Kenton County area, generally within the I-75 and US-25 corridors; and,

WHEREAS, the county is interested in establishing clear physical boundaries to encourage industrial development in specific areas, while preserving the residential and agricultural makeup of most of southern Kentucky County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FISCAL COURT OF KENTON COUNTY, KENTUCKY, THAT:

The Kenton County Fiscal Court instructs the project team to proceed with the next phases of implementation. This involves targeted outreach and ongoing collaboration with local and regional stakeholders to ensure the initiative continues to advance in several key areas. These areas include, but are not limited to, public engagement, exploration of land use and zoning proposals, designing and prioritizing infrastructure and utilities, stream mitigation, marketing, and business development.

This 29th day of October, 2024.

KRIS A. KNOCHELMANN
COUNTY JUDGE/EXECUTIVE

ATTEST:

FISCAL COURT CLERK