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Jim Gray Secretary

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Gov. Beshear Announces Nearly \$1.5 Million To Strengthen Kentucky's Public Riverports

Third round of funding awards includes 6 projects to support economic growth

FRANKFORT, Ky. (March 19, 2025) – Today, Gov. Andy Beshear announced nearly \$1.5 million for a third round of funding to enhance Kentucky's riverports and increase economic opportunities, efficiency and connectivity for Kentucky industries. The funds are spread across six projects at five of Kentucky's public riverports.

"Kentucky's success is only possible when we continue to invest in safe and efficient infrastructure," said Gov. Beshear. "Strengthening our riverports supports our economy today and for years to come, allowing everyone to thrive in our New Kentucky Home."

The funding comes from a grant program established by the 2024 General Assembly and approved by Gov. Beshear. The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) is responsible for administering the funds.

Kentucky Public Riverport Construction and Maintenance Awardees

Kentucky Public Riverport Construction and Maintenance (KPRCM) program funding invests \$7.5 million per fiscal year to improve riverport facilities and infrastructure for new construction, major replacement or repair projects. The <u>latest round of funding</u> supports six projects at five of Kentucky's public riverports.

Henderson County Riverport Authority received \$208,890 to replace a material handler to help offload and move goods more efficiently.

Eddyville Riverport and Industrial Development Authority received \$515,075 for a project to increase storage capacity for barges from 12 to 18 total.

Owensboro Riverport Authority received \$381,743 to repave and widen the access road that serves all trucks entering and exiting warehouses on the complex.

Two other riverports, the Hickman-Fulton County Riverport Authority and Paducah-McCracken County Riverport Authority, received funds totaling more than \$300,000 for material loading upgrades.

"Team Kentucky understands the importance of all modes of transportation to help our state prosper," said KYTC Secretary Jim Gray. "The investments we make today will continue to serve Kentuckians for years to come."

This is the third round of KPRCM grants to be announced this fiscal year. In August 2024, the <u>Governor announced just over \$5 million investment for eight riverport</u> projects. The second round <u>was announced in January of this year</u>, providing \$1 million for two riverports.

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