



Gov. Beshear Announces \$23 Million Committed for School Highway Safety Projects

Allocation funds nearly 70 highway projects in 44 counties

Today, Gov. Andy Beshear announced plans to invest \$23 million to improve highway safety near public schools, protecting students, educators and families. Gov. Beshear charged the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet with prioritizing and targeting safety projects near school sites using state funding allocated in the 2020 Highway Plan. Nearly 70 safety improvement projects in 44 counties across the state are included in the award: to see the full list, [click here](#).

“These projects merge two key areas I’ve been committed to investing in since day one as Governor: education and infrastructure,” said Gov. Beshear. “Once completed, these projects will ensure safe access to and around our schools, as well as improve quality of life for the thousands of Kentucky families that drop off and pick up children every day.”

Over the next two years, funding will be used to design and/or construct projects, ranging from new turn lanes and crosswalks to pavement markings and new entrances. Counties across the state will benefit from upgrades to existing school flashing lights, pedestrian crosswalk beacons and roadside signs encouraging distraction-free driving. The new projects are also expected to create contracting and design jobs.

In Western Kentucky, funding will be allocated this year to begin designs for new turn lanes at Pride Elementary in Hopkins County. The new turn lanes will

significantly improve afternoon traffic flow in and out of the school. Pedestrian safety improvements will also include the replacement of sidewalks within the turn lane project area, upgrading sidewalk ramps to be ADA compliant and restriping the crosswalks.

“For years we have battled a traffic congestion problem in our area and we are excited about a solution,” said Pride Elementary Principal Kristy Saint.

“Our Falcons are the largest number of walkers of any elementary in our county, and we have three crossing guards. To receive this generous gift, we are so excited. So on behalf of Team Hopkins – Team Pride – we want to say thank you Team Kentucky,” said Hopkins County Schools Superintendent Dr. Deanna Ashby.”

In Central Kentucky, Bardstown City Schools in Nelson County will receive more than half a million dollars to construct new sidewalks along Templin Avenue, safely connecting Bardstown Primary School with a new elementary school across the street scheduled to open next January.

“This new sidewalk addition is going to connect our new elementary school, it’s going to bring students and families closer to our school and provide them even better access,” said Bardstown City Schools Superintendent Dr. Ryan P. Clark.

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About The KYTC

The goal of the DBE Supportive Services Program is to increase the number of DBEs participating on KYTC contracts and facilitate the opportunity for DBEs to obtain contracts. The services are designed to:

- Assist established construction firms to move them from bidding as a subcontractor to bidding as a Prime Contractor to produce sound bids.
- Provide access to training increases DBE expertise in handling of daily business operations.



About The Program

The Construction Estimating Institute (CEI) works with KYTC as the statewide provider of the federally funded Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) Supportive Services Program. We want to increase the number of certified DBEs participating in highway and bridge construction, as well as assist DBEs in growing and eventually becoming self-sufficient. Additionally, CEI provides supportive services by assisting prime contractors and consultants with identifying DBEs for subcontracting opportunities on priority projects.

6 Steps to a Safer Jobsite

Gilbane Building Company's 6 protocols for a safer site amid COVID-19 & beyond

The No. 1 priority of Gilbane Building Company has always been the safety of its workers, and at no time has that been more critical than during the past year.

COVID-19 has impacted how and when work gets done — ushering in a new level of safety protocols. While most of these were in response to the immediate threat of COVID-19, these new practices may also be helpful in managing contagion of the yearly flu and many of them will continue for the foreseeable future.

Gilbane turned to the latest Internet of Things (IoT) wearables to support its efforts in keeping workers safe. It also found creative ways to implement standard best practices to overcome jobsite limitations.

The following are six safety protocols Gilbane has found effective in keeping its workers safe during the pandemic.

1. Reduce the number of people working together

Some of the practices the company implemented before the pandemic, such as using modular construction and just-in-time delivery to expedite projects and limit the number of people working together at a time. During the pandemic, Gilbane has been conducting more detailed planning than usual to determine who needs to be on site, as well as when and where, so it can assign workers to specific shifts and zones to minimize interactions. By leveraging automated check-in functionality with turnstiles or wearable technology, Gilbane has been able to avoid clusters around entry and

egress points. Specific location-based IoT sensors can also be used to monitor where workers congregate to better maintain capacity limits in specific zones.

2. Using sensors to alert workers when they get too close

Even when contact is reduced as much as possible, tradespeople still need to work in close proximity, and social distancing is a proven way to minimize the spread of COVID-19. To enhance social distancing efforts, Gilbane has deployed Proximity Trace from Triax Technologies to provide real-time feedback through audio and visual alerts when workers get too close to each other.

3. Be inventive in following protocols

Handwashing, temperature checks and mask wearing are key methods of controlling the spread of COVID-19. Increasing access to handwashing stations and the availability of hand sanitizers at project sites has been important, especially where running water may not be readily available throughout the jobsite. The plumbers on one jobsite rigged up a portable tankless warm water unit by attaching spigots to landscaping bins and adding wheels.

4. Change the attitude about calling in sick

In the construction environment, some workers may feel that calling in sick is a stigma, regardless of how ill they feel.

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Supportive Services Offered:

- Estimating Training
- Building Capacity
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- Marketing Plan Development
- Creating a Business Plan
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CEI is an educational organization providing the highest quality construction training in the industry. Over 100,000 owners, estimators, project managers, field supervisors, office support staff, foremen, laborers, and key management personnel have attended courses that are offered nationwide. The courses provide students with construction skills training and the critical information needed to be effective within their companies and organizations.