



Governor Beshear Announces \$55 Million Grant to Expand Mountain Parkway in Wolfe County

Federal grant will fund improvement to 11 miles of parkway

Gov. Andy Beshear announced Tuesday that his administration successfully secured for a \$55,150,000 Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) to fund the Mountain Parkway Expansion through Wolfe County. The grant was awarded to the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC).

The federal grant will be used to widen 11 miles of the Mountain Parkway, creating a safer and modernized four-lane corridor for drivers travelling between Interstate Highway 64 and Salyersville. The expansion will increase capacity for freight and goods along this corridor, reduce travel time and connect Eastern Kentucky to the rest of the commonwealth.

“This is a great step forward for the people of Eastern Kentucky, is great news for Team Kentucky and will open up the region for so many opportunities,” Gov. Beshear said.

The INFRA grant will fund the following:

- Upgrade the last remaining two-lane section of the Mountain Parkway corridor between I-64 and Salyersville;

- Improve the safety and efficiency of travel through the corridor;
- Provide for the reconstruction of the existing Campton interchange (KY 191) to allow full eastbound and westbound access;
- Modernize the Hazel Green interchange (KY 1010) to improve safety and mobility.

“Moving forward with construction on the Wolfe County segment will bring the Mountain Parkway Expansion one step closer to closing the only gap in a 400-mile, four-lane, high-speed corridor for commerce and mobility across Kentucky,” said Jim Gray, Secretary of Transportation. “Closing this gap is an investment in safety, in future economic development and most of all, in Kentuckians.”

This investment in the Parkway will also provide significant support for Kentucky's growing shipping, manufacturing and logistics industries.

Updates on this project can be found on the Mountain Parkway Expansion website at <http://mtnparkway.com/>

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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.

How to See Your Company Through the COVID-19 Storm

Guidance for setting clear goals & getting your organization back to work

The COVID-19 pandemic has had far-reaching impacts on every aspect of daily life. World leaders and citizens alike are reacting to the rapidly changing situation as society enters a new reality for which there is no playbook. Business owners and executive teams from every industry are being tested.

For those in construction, 2020 was off to a solid start as firms largely continued the positive trend of productive operations in the field and rewarding financial results. Strong backlogs, busy jobsites, and few signs of an economic slowdown gave owners little warning of the crisis on the horizon.

As the situation continued to evolve, construction firms responded to new safety protocols, governmental orders, stimulus packages and new operating procedures on job sites. Rapidly changing best practices required quick reactions based on the best information available at the time.

The new reality caused by the pandemic was largely influenced by health experts, news reports, national and local elected officials, and political gamesmanship—all influences that historically would not have dictated how an owner and executive team would run their construction firm. Although helpful in gaining an understanding of the disease, leadership teams were tasked with digesting volumes of new information and responding in real time to best position their companies.

New information about the pandemic continues to progress and impact daily life, while owners and executive teams need to shift from reacting to the situation, to proactively charting the course. As your business moves back to work, the following are a few items to consider.

Right (Size) the Ship

Heading into 2020, most construction firms had a well-thought-out strategy on how to continue operational and financial success. Then along came the pandemic.

Although we cannot ignore its negative impact on workers and businesses, strategic plans reflect the culture of a company and define what the firm is in business to do and how to do it in the current environment.

Now is the time to get back to your strategic plan, layer on what the pandemic means to your blueprint, and adjust the business to meet the predefined goals.

Strategic plans also reflect opportunities to achieve long-term goals, many of which have been impacted, but unchanged due to the pandemic. Stimulus plans were intended to reduce negative impacts from the pandemic, but are not a sustainable answer to ongoing operations. Many construction firms are experiencing decreased projected revenue and increased uncertainty in cash flow.

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Supportive Services Offered:

- Estimating Training
- Building Capacity
- Mobilization Financing
- Bonding Assistance
- Marketing Plan Development
- Creating a Business Plan
- Building a Website
- Plan Reading



Within the past 3 months,
CEI assisted DBEs
in obtaining

**\$6 MILLION
IN BONDING!!**

Contact CEI for Bonding,
Financing or Insurance needs!

 (855) 678-9323

 www.kydb.com

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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.