

City of Frankfort

Capital of Kentucky

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Where History Is Made Every Day!

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NEWS RELEASE

March 8, 2018 – For Immediate Release

Frankfort Receives \$7.99 Million in Federal Funding

Frankfort, KY - - Senator Mitch McConnell (R) Kentucky and Representative Andy Barr (R) 6th Congressional District of Kentucky announced on Tuesday, March 6, 2018 the award of nearly \$8 million in Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) funding to the City of Frankfort. The announcement follows a 6-month process by the City of Frankfort, along with local partners, including Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, Franklin County, Kentucky Capital Development Corporation, Frankfort Plant Board, Frankfort Independent Schools, Downtown Frankfort Inc., Chamber of Commerce and Frankfort/Franklin County Tourist & Convention Commission to advocate for funding for much needed improvements to the Second Street Corridor.

This funding will also leverage significant local and private sector investment from partners, including support from the Commonwealth of Kentucky, Frankfort Plant Board, Frankfort Transit System, Frankfort Independent Schools, and local developers.

This busy transportation route is challenging to pedestrians and bicyclists due to high speeds, narrow sidewalks, a wide roadbed, long crosswalks, illegal left turns, and limited bike accommodations. These conditions have impacted the economic viability of this area, as well as present a significant risk for children accessing the Second Street Elementary School.

According to US DOT Secretary Elaine L. Chao, "The TIGER grant program is a highly competitive program whose winners will be awarded with the funding they need to rebuild the infrastructure of their communities, TIGER grants will continue to fund innovative projects that will improve the safety of America's passengers and goods."

Frankfort's application included designs from the Greening America's Capitals master plan that was completed in 2013 and adopted by the Board of Commissioners in 2014. The project features revitalization of the 3,700-foot section of Second Street, as well as pedestrian and ADA accessibility at the Capital Avenue and East Main Street intersection, and is critical to Frankfort's move toward a walkable city. These funds will allow the elimination of underused travel lanes and reduce turning radii; improve pedestrian and bicycle safety; enhance streetscapes; improve connections between the state capitol building and downtown to attract tourists and visitors; and reduce storm water runoff entering the drainage system.

This project will cultivate activity and create a seamless and successful downtown, which in turn will spur the local economy and beautify our state's capital. This project will help maintain the places and institutions that make this capital city one of the most beautiful in the country and contribute to a sense of place which will help retain existing residents and attract new residents and businesses.

TIGER grants have historically achieved, on average, co-investment of \$3.6 dollars (including other Federal, State, local, private and philanthropic funds) for every TIGER dollar invested.