



PULASKI COUNTY JUDGE EXECUTIVE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MEDIA RELEASE

COUNTY UPDATE

Where We're Going, We Need Roads

By Judge Executive Marshall Todd

Somerset, Ky. (April 17, 2026) – The other day, we highlighted legislation passed by the Legislature during the 2026 Regular Session that had been signed into law by the Governor. House Bills(HB) 502 and 900 and House Joint Resolution(HJR) 76 each have an economic impact for Pulaski County and over the next few weeks we want to do a deep dive on what they bring to us here. Every Friday, we will focus on each individual bill and what they mean for our community.

Before we talk about those bills, we need to thank the individuals responsible for bringing them to us. We have really good representation in both the Senate and the House in Frankfort. Rick Girdler has served in the Kentucky Senate since 2017 and among other committee assignments is Vice Chair of the Senate Standing Committee on Banking&Insurance.

We have five individuals who share representation of Pulaski County in the State House of Representatives. David Meade is Speaker of the House Pro Tem, which means he is a member of House Leadership and second in command serving under

Speaker of the House David Osborne. Shane Baker has been serving in the House since 2021 and is Vice Chair of the House Standing Committee on Postsecondary Education. Josh Bray has been a member of the Kentucky House of Representatives since 2021 as well and is, among other committee assignments, the Vice Chair of the House Standing Committee on Appropriations&Revenue, which oversees the state budget every two years. Josh Branscum shares Pulaski County with the others and is Chair of the House Standing Committee on Economic Development&Workforce Investment.

The last member of that team that represents Pulaski County is the gentleman that is responsible for the Road Plan that's contained within HB 502. Representative Ken Upchurch has served in the House from 1999 to 2010 and then 2013 to now. In that tenure and while serving in the House Majority, he has served as Transportation Chair and now is Chair of the Budget Review Subcommittee on Transportation, which puts him over Kentucky's Biennial Highway Construction Plan. Rep. Upchurch announced his retirement from the Legislature but not before passing a robust and generational infrastructure funding plan for the roads throughout the Commonwealth. For this among other reasons, the "Gentleman from Wayne" will be missed. In his time in the Kentucky Legislature, he has seen modern history unfold and has had a front seat view of all of it, giving us a seat at the table as well. Our working relationships with all our representatives in Frankfort have put us in a good position for state funding for many years to come and we appreciate their advocacy for Pulaski County.

HB 502 sees record funding throughout the state but what, specifically, does it bring to Pulaski County? Several projects are included in the Biennial plan. They are:

- Somerset Northern Bypass construction
- Horizontal and vertical realignment of KY-196 at White Oak Creek (from 1.0 mile east of Warner Road to 0.3 mile west of Sievers Road)
- Congestion reduction and safety improvements along US 27 between General Burnside Island and Cumberland River Bridge
- Bridge replacement on KY-196 at Little White Oak Creek
- KY-39 improvements from milepoint 6.47 to milepoint 10.673
- Capacity and safety upgrades along KY-90 between Wayne County line and New Cumberland River Bridge
- Safety and access improvements along KY-461 from south of Buck Creek to Pulaski/Rockcastle line

- Minor widening along KY-914, including added turning lanes and relocated entrance
- Safety improvements along KY-1642 at KY-1577
- Installation of a turning lane from KY-914 into the Pulaski County Compost Site

All in all, we're looking at millions in state funding for road projects allocated to Pulaski County alone. All thanks to open communications between our office and our representation in Frankfort. It's these working relationships with policy makers in local, state, and federal government that make the difference. Next week, we'll focus on HJR 76 and the Local Assistance Road Program(LARP). We received all the funding we requested through LARP and will share the specifics of those projects next week.

As always, the Pulaski County Judge Executive's Office is open Monday through Friday 8:00am to 4:30pm. You can reach me by calling the office at (606)678-4853 or by sending me an email at mtodd@pcgovt.com. God Bless you all and thank you for your continued support.

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