

Fayette Alliance

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Executive Director

Knox van Nagell, J.D

June 9th, 2014

LFUCG Council 200 East Main Street Lexington, KY 40507

Dear Vice Mayor Gorton and Council members,

My name is Knox van Nagell, and I am writing this letter on behalf of Fayette Alliance.

Founded in 2006, Fayette Alliance is a coalition of citizens dedicated to achieving sustainable growth in Lexington-Fayette County through land use advocacy, education, and promotion.

Through our efforts at government and beyond, Lexington can become the model for sustainable growth, by connecting and balancing its vibrant city with its unique and productive Bluegrass farmland.

In furtherance of this mission, Fayette Alliance supports the Council's proposed FY 2015 Budget. The budget contains funding for many important community programs that have a countywide land-use impact, and they include:

- A \$2 million local-match for the Purchase of Development Rights Program, which will preserve our iconic Bluegrass farmland and promote the "factory floor" of Fayette County's signature \$2.4 billion agricultural industry.
- A \$20,000 allocation to finance the Neighborhood Information Management System (NIMS). This computer database will track crime, LexCall service, code enforcement, and building permits in neighborhoods surrounding the University of Kentucky campus. Such information will be instrumental in assessing challenges and opportunities in town/gown areas; promote collaboration between U.K. and the city of Lexington; and inform land use policies moving forward.
- A \$100,000 bond allocation to complete the renovation of the Kentucky Theatre, which is a community icon that contributes to Lexington's civic pride and character.



• Nearly \$1 million in allocations to maintain greenways and improve parks in our neighborhoods, which are essential in advancing Lexington's unique sense of community and quality of life.

Fayette Alliance appreciates your leadership and foresight in drafting this budget proposal. We respectfully urge its approval for economic development, environmental stewardship, and public welfare in Lexington-Fayette County.

Thank you for your commitment to sustainably grow our city and promote our farms. We look forward to working with you to make this vision a reality, and please contact me anytime if I can ever be of assistance.

With highest regards,

Knox van Nagell, J.D. Executive Director Fayette Alliance