



## The Fayette Alliance

603 West Short Street  
Lexington, KY 40508  
(859) 281-1202

January 10, 2011

The Hon. Linda Gorton, Vice Mayor  
LFUCG  
200 East Main Street  
Lexington, KY 40507

Dear Vice Mayor Gorton,

My name is Knox van Nagell and I am the executive director of The Fayette Alliance. The Fayette Alliance is Lexington's only land-use advocacy organization dedicated to advancing a sustainable Lexington that benefits all of us by promoting farmland preservation, responsible development, and the improvement of our infrastructure and environment. You can learn more about The Fayette Alliance at [www.fayettealliance.com](http://www.fayettealliance.com).

I am writing you on behalf of The Fayette Alliance Board of Directors, to respectfully request that you appoint an LFUCG Bike Trail Taskforce.

As you know, Lexington-Fayette County is the horse capital of the world—headquarters of a vibrant \$3 billion agricultural economy, a world renowned Bluegrass landscape, and unparalleled natural and cultural resources.

In the interests of responsibly leveraging our precious farmland as a community amenity for Lexingtonians and visitors alike, the Alliance respectfully requests that you create an LFUCG bike trail taskforce to judiciously examine the use, location, and funding of a trail system in the rural area of Lexington-Fayette County. The findings of this taskforce could then be reported to both the Mayor and Council for potential adoption and implementation.

We believe that key community stakeholders should have a seat at the taskforce table in the interests of sound political process, including representatives not only from the Gray administration and Council, but also leaders from the agricultural, neighborhood, development, cycling, trail, preservation, business, and tourism sectors. If prudently and transparently accomplished, this diverse group would have ownership of, and commitment to the project—a necessary ingredient to its ultimate success.

The Bike Trail Taskforce is a remarkable opportunity for Lexington-Fayette County—whose work could result in a rural trail "blueprint" for our community. Such a system could link the current trails of our emerging urban environments to our breathtaking farmland in Fayette County and the greater Bluegrass Region—creating an extraordinary economic development, quality of life, tourism, and transportation tool for our city and state.

The Fayette Alliance truly appreciates your consideration and leadership. Please let me know how I can be of further assistance, and call me anytime at 281-1202.

All my best,

Knox van Nagell  
Executive Director

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Knox van Nagell