KYTC Newsletter

May 2024 Volume 95





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Gov. Beshear: Nearly \$2.6 Million Approved for Projects to Develop Sites and Buildings Across 3 Counties

To date, \$21.8 million in state support approved in Round 2 of the Kentucky Product Development Initiative

Today, Gov. Andy Beshear announced further site and building development across the state as three Kentucky Product Development Initiative (KPDI) projects were approved for nearly \$2.6 million in state funding.

Site and building development projects in Fulton, Hickman and Hopkins counties were approved today in the second round of the program. "As we look to build on our state's record economic momentum of the past four years, it is crucial that we prepare today for the investment and job opportunities of the future," said Gov. Beshear. "The support that the KPDI program provides for Kentucky communities ensures they have the resources necessary to accommodate growing industry across all our key growth sectors. Congratulations to the three communities that received approval today. I look forward to these investments resulting in quality jobs for Kentuckians."

The initiative, overseen by the Cabinet for Economic Development, provides funding for local communities to further invest in site and building upgrades to support future, well-paying jobs and economic growth across Kentucky.

Fulton County Fiscal Court, on behalf of the Hickman-Fulton County Riverport Authority Inc., was approved for \$500,000 in state funding for a more than \$4.1 million project. The funds will support replacement of a conveyor system and provide related upgrades at the Hickman-Fulton County Riverport.

The Hickman County Fiscal Court, in partnership with the Hickman County Industrial Development Authority, will invest \$182,000 into the development of a site in the Enterprise Park Clinton. The project was approved for \$91,000 in state support.

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Five Steps for Reducing Stress on and off the Jobsite

Workplace stress is a reality in any industry, and construction is no different. However, there are ways both for individuals to reduce their stress and for leaders to create a less stressful work environment.

Stress is a completely natural human experience. It is the body's way of responding to short-term challenges and threats in daily life. Millennia ago, it equipped humans to properly react to dangers such as predators, competitors, and life-threatening situations. Without stress, it's very possible our species would not have survived as long as it has. And while stress is still a necessary part of survival today, most of us are (hopefully) not facing regular attacks from bears or wondering if there are enough provisions to survive the winter months. Those are short-term stresses-the difference between life and death. The problem comes when our minds today make us feel like we're constantly facing life-threatening situations or are experiencing stress for long periods of time, leading to acute or chronic stress. The stresses many of us experience today are vastly different from what our ancient ancestors were forced to deal with, but still our bodies react the same. On the construction site, there are certainly potentially hazardous situations, and stress helps workers in those situations stay safe. Seeing a colleague at risk for a slip-and-fall may cause stress and help others quicken their reactions to assist them. Experiencing stress when in a hazardous area ensures workers are alert and mindful of every step and maneuver.

However, too much stress or unnecessary stress can actually distract workers and put both their physical health and mental health at greater risk.

STRESS ONSITE

On a jobsite, the most common causes of stress are being overworked, having unrealistic deadlines, performing physically dangerous or demanding tasks, lack of communication, poor work culture or environment and improper training. Additionally, there are often other stressors that workers bring to the construction site from home or from their personal lives that seep into work life. Dealing with chronic stress on the construction site is not only harmful to a worker's mental health but it can be dangerous for both the individual experiencing the stress and those around them. If a worker is distracted and not performing their job at a satisfactory level, their mistake can quickly put their coworkers' wellbeing at risk. So, how can workers on construction sites reduce their stress? Here are five strategies to employ to help workers reduce chronic stress and improve their mental health as well as the overall safety of the worksite.

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.





CEI DBE Supportive Services (855) 678-9323 www.kydbe.com

