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HENDERSON, MAYFIELD AND POWDERLY RECOGNIZED WITH 2013 ENTERPRISE CITIES AWARDS

Cities of Dayton, Glasgow and Louisville named runners-up.

AWARDS CEREMONY PHOTOS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.

Contact KLC Communications at 1.800.876.4552.

LEXINGTON, KY – The cities of Powderly, Mayfield, Henderson, Dayton, Glasgow and Louisville were recognized with Enterprise Cities Awards by the Kentucky League of Cities (KLC) during its annual Conference & Expo on Friday, October 4 in Covington.

The Enterprise Cities Awards, given since 1999, go to municipalities that have demonstrated entrepreneurship, innovation and excellence in local governance. Entries are judged in seven key areas: innovativeness or creativity of the project, long-term value to the community, adaptability to other cities, use of public/private partnerships, ability to achieve project benchmarks, community-citizen participation and program efficiency.

“Cities learn from each other,” said Jon Steiner, KLC executive director/CEO. “In these challenging times, it is a priority that communities are innovative and resourceful to serve citizens and promote their local uniqueness. These cities have demonstrated the kind of initiative that can serve as examples for all Kentucky cities.”

This year, sponsorship from Collins & Company, Inc., allowed KLC to make a \$1,000 donation to all winners and a \$250 donation to runners-up in support of their projects.

Cities with a population under 2,500

Winner

City of Powderly - City Revitalization

The City of Powderly, in Muhlenberg County, may be small in size but it is big on pride. In the last year, Mayor Bobby Creagor and the city council have made tremendous strides in an overall community improvement, recreation, safety and beautification. With a goal of building a sense of community, and by using grants, including the state’s Scattered Housing Grant program, city leaders have put a large focus on helping citizens refurbish housing. Additional grants have helped improve and build parks. The efforts have resulted in an increased tax base and economic improvements, but more importantly the city has transformed the community’s collective spirit. Powderly now

has a fall festival and is alive with attractive and cost-efficient housing, beautiful flowers and yards, and citizens who take pride in their homes, neighborhoods and community.

Runner-up

City of Dayton Safe Harbor Initiative

The horrific events of Newtown, Connecticut prompted the City of Dayton to do anything it could to prevent a similar event in its community. The city partnered with the Dayton Independent Schools and Monitor Closely, a private company, to install a system of cameras on and around school grounds. The Safe Harbor initiative is the first of its kind in Kentucky and in the Cincinnati region. The system allows the Dayton police officers to monitor school activity 24/7 from a laptop, tablet and even their smart phones. Safe Harbor helps to alleviate the worst fear, a possible school shooting, but it also helps police monitor unknown intruders, suspicious activity by students and even bullying. Safe Harbor gives parents, educators, the police and community at large a greater peace of mind.

Cities with population 5,001-14,999

Winner

City of Mayfield – Mayfield’s Unique Connection with Kids

The City of Mayfield created the perfect way to connect with kids in the community – online at www.cityofmayfield.org. Mayfield created an interactive children’s page on the city’s website that features everything from information on how city government works to local history and safety tips from the police and fire departments. Using a popular pirate theme throughout, the children’s homepage features a treasure map and incorporates the city’s branding slogan, “Discover Our Hidden Treasures.” The site, conceived and completed in less than a year, also includes games and activities, downloadable coloring and activity pages, links to city services and tips on how kids can be good environmental stewards of their town. Site development involved a local media/design firm and also included input from city departments and from kids! Prior to the site, there was very little historic and community information easily available to children. Now it’s all in one place – on the City of Mayfield website.

Runner-up

City of Glasgow - Glasgow’s Alternative Transportation Endeavor (GATE)

In 2011, private citizens approached the City of Glasgow with the concept of a citywide green space development to further solidify the sense of community and connect residents with its rich rural heritage. Fast forward to March 2013 when the vision became a reality as the city council gave final approval for Glasgow’s Alternative Transportation Endeavor (GATE), a 20-year transportation plan incorporating existing and future routes and other underutilized natural and man-made routes. Funding for the project is pending and city leaders are optimistic that it will come through. The vision is a “gateway” that not only gives alternatives to recreational needs but also to commuting, shopping and general day-to-day travel options. The plan is designed to promote and encourage a variety of measureable benefits such as a healthy lifestyle, increased property values, inexpensive flood area development, industrial development, lowered

transportation costs, increased tourism and decreased criminal activity. Best of all, it was a project envisioned by citizens, and it will be made a reality by the City of Glasgow.

Cities with population over 15,000

Winner

City of Henderson - River Walk

The Henderson River Walk is a showplace at the heart of the city. It was the result of a public/private vision years in the making. An original one-mile "river walk" trail was constructed in the 1980s, but for years local physician Dr. John Logan dreamed of a bigger space that celebrated Henderson's river history, provided recreational and passive parks options for citizens, and connected the existing trail to downtown Henderson. Dr. Logan worked with city officials to develop plans and secure private funding and grants as well as city, county and federal funds for the construction of today's Henderson River Walk. In the fall of 2012, most construction was complete and the River Walk celebrated a community dedication in July 2013. Today, the River Walk spans 2.5 miles where local residents and visitors enjoy the River Walk and park areas. The space includes the walking/running/riding trail, sitting parks, children's play and water areas, boat ramps, fountains and other assets, all located adjacent to downtown and running along the city's historic river area. All aspects of the River Walk are maintained by the city and its departments. The River Walk provides a space for the community to come together for festivals and events and is a tribute to the city's river history as well as an asset for its future.

Runner-up

City of Louisville - LouieStat Program

Established in January 2012, Louisville's Office of Performance Improvement (OPI) is helping Mayor Greg Fischer pursue his goal of asking (and answering) three fundamental questions. What is city government doing? How well are we doing it? And, how can we do it better? LouieStat, (short for Louisville Statistics) uses data to help Louisville Metro government departments answer each of the questions by tracking and analyzing key performance data. City departments meet with the mayor every six to eight weeks to review data and discuss progress. To date, LouieStat has helped the city identify key areas for improvement both internally and in service to the public. Examples include removing more than 200 days from key administrative processes and reducing unscheduled overtime and workers' compensation costs by \$2 million. Though the program is young, as more departments are onboard, the city sees potential for ongoing positive outcomes, better public service and tremendous savings, all of which leads to further transparency and public satisfaction.

There were not winners selected for the 2,501-5,000 category.

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