



Area Agency on Aging and Independent Living
Area Development District
Metropolitan Planning Organization



For Immediate Release

Greg Burress
greg.burress@kipda.org

KIPDA/KYTC Awarded Grant to Reconnect Portland to the Riverfront



Proposed project rendering (source: KYTC)

Louisville, Ky. (January 13, 2025) – The Kentuckiana Regional Planning and Development Agency (KIPDA) has been rewarded a \$14.5 million grant from the US Department of Transportation’s Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program to improve pedestrian connectivity to the Ohio River for the Portland area of Louisville.

The project will improve multimodal connections through the I-64 interchange at 22nd Street by upgrading intersections and ramps. 22nd Street from Northwestern Parkway to Bank Street will

11520 Commonwealth Drive
Louisville, KY 40299
www.kipda.org

Phone: 502.266.6084
Fax: 502.266.5074
TDD: 1.800.648.6057





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be designed as a Complete Street, and two pedestrian bridges over I-64 will be reconstructed. These improvements will improve safety and access to essential services for all users in this historically disadvantaged area.

“This is a transformative project that aligns with regional efforts to expand access to amenities such as Waterfront Park,” said KIPDA Executive Director Jarrett Haley. **“I commend the project team’s efforts and look forward to getting the work started.”** The application was submitted in partnership with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, which will oversee the project.

“The I-64 interchange at 22nd Street has long been a barrier for pedestrians,” said KYTC District 5 Chief Engineer Matt Bullock. **“This project provides practical solutions while serving as a model for other connectivity proposals moving forward.”** KYTC held several public hearings during the application process to receive feedback from residents. Public comments were instrumental in crafting an application representative of community needs.

KIPDA and KYTC are currently working through preliminary grant requirements, including environmental reviews and historic preservation protocols. Final project design should be completed by fall 2026 with construction occurring through 2028.

Please contact Community Outreach Specialist Greg Burress, greg.burress@kipda.org for media availability.