

Detention Center Update

I am pleased to report that the Kenton County Detention Center project is moving along on track. The fiscal court and the sellers of property located on Decker Crane Lane reached settlement on the purchase price of the land closed on all parcels in the late summer of 2008.

The county has also engaged the services of Turner Construction, a nationally recognized construction management firm, with significant experience in detention center construction who will be responsible for day-to-day oversight and bidding of the construction of this facility.

The county has also engaged the services of James W. Berling Engineers, a Northern Kentucky based firm, with significant experience in hillside construction projects who has taken responsibility for preparing the site for construction.

To date, the site prep work is nearly complete via a contract with Coppage Construction and the fiscal court will vote in December on the firm responsible for the completion of the site prep and infrastructure installation.

It is being planned to place other bids into the arena shortly after the first of the 2009 calendar year. Based on the construction timeline we have established with Turner and the architectural partnership of our local architects, Brandstetter Carroll, Inc, and the DLR Group, a nationally recognized firm in detention center design, we are seeking to complete this project in the late summer or fall of 2010.

Cost estimates on the project continue to be finalized and we anticipate having what is called a Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) from Turner in early 2009.

Finally, the county voted last week to retain the services of Ross-Sinclair and Associates as the fiscal agents on the project and the paperwork is in process for making application to the state for permission to sell bonds in the spring of 2009 to cover the construction costs on the facility.

Ralph A. Drees
County Judge Executive