

Representative Bivens’ Legislative Update: Veterans, autism, public safety, and health



State Representative Ryan Bivens

During the third week of the interim, members of the General Assembly continued their work across a wide range of policy areas through interim joint and statutory committee meetings. Lawmakers received updates on Kentucky’s economy and workforce development, rural health care transformation, autism services, public safety, workforce licensing pathways, tourism and cultural initiatives, veterans’ care, and major capital projects. Across committees, discussions focused on federal funding opportunities, state agency programs, and efforts to strengthen services and outcomes for Kentuckians in every region of the commonwealth.

IJC on Economic Development & Workforce Investment: Members heard information regarding homeland security and the potential impact of conflict

in other countries on the Commonwealth’s economy. Members also met heard updates on the Kentucky Manufacturing Extension Partnership with the University of Louisville that aims to solve manufacturing problems in the Commonwealth.

IJC on Families & Children: Lawmakers received an overview of autism services available from early childhood through adulthood. Representatives from the Kentucky Department of Education, Cabinet for Health and Family Services, University of Kentucky, and other stakeholders highlighted efforts to expand support, improve access to services, and strengthen outcomes for individuals with autism and their families. The committee also approved the 2027 Social Services Block Grant Plan, which directs federal funding to programs including Adult Protective Services, Child Protective Services, and other services that support vulnerable Kentuckians and families.

IJC on Health Ser-

vices: Lawmakers received an update from the Cabinet for Health and Family Services on Kentucky’s Rural Health Transformation Plan, which includes initiatives to strengthen oral health, EMS and trauma care, chronic disease prevention and management, behavioral health, and maternal health in the state’s rural counties, as well as implementation plans, initiative objectives, and key results. Members then discussed the state’s application for federal block grants that support community-based mental health and substance use prevention and treatment services, highlighting block grant requirements and funding, people served, and key outcomes.

IJC on Licensing, Occupations, & Administrative Regulations: Legislators first heard from the Kentucky Board of Cosmetology on its executive briefing, which detailed the board’s mission, key accomplishments since January 2025, challenges, goals, and future legislative considerations. Legisla-

tors then heard from the Kentucky Board of Barbering on the state of barbering in the Commonwealth and ways to strengthen the profession. Other presenters discussed expanding pathways into barbering by reducing unnecessary barriers to work, creating new apprenticeship opportunities, and allowing more Kentuckians to earn a living through supervised, skill-based training.

IJC on Tourism, Small Business, & Information Technology: Members heard from the Kentucky Historical Society, Kentucky Arts Council, Arts and Heritage Cabinet, and Lexington Parks and Recreation about events across the state planned to celebrate America 250. Programs and events discussed include performing arts events like musical reenactments of revolutionary stories told of the nation and History of the state. Lexington is holding numerous events with concerts, fairs, and a race being held downtown for the general public.

IJC on Veterans, Military Affairs, & Public Protection: Legislators were briefed on the findings of a legislative report on Kentucky’s veterans nursing homes. The report focused on quality of care, staffing, and functional occupancy. The review also emphasized gaps in admissions, communication, and waitlists. Finally, the review shared recommendations focusing on single-occupancy transitions, better systems, staffing incentives, and modernization, while recognizing rising costs and emphasizing improved reporting and long-term planning.

Capital Projects & Bond Oversight: Members reviewed a variety of financial and capital project updates affecting state government, public universities, and local school districts. Discussions included construction projects, lease agreements, and public-private partnerships at Kentucky’s postsecondary institutions, as well as project amendments and lease approvals across state agencies. Members

also received updates on infrastructure loans, clean water grants, economic development funds, and state debt issuances. Finally, Jefferson County and Fayette County Public Schools briefed the committee on ongoing financial challenges facing their districts.

Commission on Race & Access to Opportunity: Members heard from a discussion on crime and community policing featuring Lexington Police Chief Lawrence B. Weathers, Louisville Police Chief Paul Humphrey, and Bowling Green Police Chief Michael Delaney. Chiefs shared perspectives on public safety trends in their communities and efforts to strengthen community policing strategies and partnerships across Kentucky.

As always, I can be reached anytime through the toll-free message line in Frankfort at 1-800-372-7181. You can also contact me via email at Ryan.Bivens@kylegislature.gov and keep track through the Kentucky legislature’s website at legislature.ky.gov.

250th Celebration

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A historic walking tour of Greensburg will be conducted by Green County Genealogical Society member Carolyn Scott.

The tour will begin at 11:30 a.m. at Allen’s Inn and will include visits to the Old Green County Clerk’s Office, Water Treatment Plant and Old City Hall, General Edward H. Hobson’s Home, Old Railroad Depot, Greensburg Presbyterian Church, Jeremiah Abell’s Cabin, Simon Settles Gun Shop (currently Stearman-Baker Law Office), and the Old Courthouse.

There will also be a number of sites one may visit at no cost including, the Green County Public Library, from 9 a.m. to noon, offering cornhusk doll making, a variety of kid’s activities, and a genealogical presentation on Finding Your Roots; the Green County Extension Homemakers, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., providing demonstrations on quilting, knitting, and crocheting at Allen’s Inn. Also, they will have a number of antique kitchen items on display; the Green County History Museum and Old Courthouse will be open for tours; and the Old Railroad Depot, from 9 a.m. to noon, will display information about Green

County’s railroad history.

The City of Greensburg will be an active participant in the celebration from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Starting at 4 p.m., plans include a parade down Main Street, various other activities, and fireworks to end the day.

Vendors, including the Green County Cattlemen’s Association, Greensburg American Legion and Eventful Moms from Campbellsville will be selling their food items.

Blake and Kasey Gordon’s World’s Best Lemonade, Millie’s Famous Candied Pecans, and the Popsicle Paradise Ice Cream Truck will also be there to quench your thirst or satisfy your taste buds.

Beginning at 7 p.m., a free concert on West Court Street will feature country music artist J.D. Shelburne, sponsored by the City of Greensburg and the Green County Arts Council.

Opening for J.D. Shelburne will be local artists, The Foster Children.

Mayor John Shuffett said, “The City and the Arts Council, along with our cornerstone partners, are proud to present a celebration of America’s 250th anniversary! The afternoon’s events will begin with an America-

themed, kid-focused parade. There will be your favorite food vendors, games, and fun for all ages. A free concert and fireworks show will conclude the day’s activities.”

BUDGET HEARING REGARDING PROPOSED USE OF MUNICIPAL ROAD AID AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE (LGEA) FUNDS.

A public hearing will be held by the City of Greensburg at City Hall on June 30th, 2026 at 10 a.m. CT for the purpose of obtaining public comments regarding the possible uses of the Municipal Road Aid (MA) and Local Government Economic Assistance (LGEA) Funds. All interested person(s) in Greensburg are invited to the hearing to submit verbal or written comments on possible uses of the MRA and LGEA Funds. Any person, who cannot submit written comments, should call the City of Greensburg at 270-932-4298 by 9 a.m. CDT June 30th, 2026.



CITY OF GREENSBURG BUDGET ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE CITY OF GREENSBURG'S ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2026 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2027.

WHEREAS, an annual budget proposal and message has been prepared and delivered to the legislative body, and **WHEREAS**, the legislative body has reviewed such budget proposal and made necessary modifications,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF GREENSBURG,

SECTION ONE: that the annual budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027 is hereby adopted as follows:

	GENERAL FUND	MUNICIPAL AID	LGEA	WATER & SEWER
RESOURCES AVAILABLE:				
Fund balance at June 30, 2026	\$709,227	\$36,640	\$85,171	\$389,185
REVENUES:				
Franchise fees	\$165,000			
ABC Licenses and Regulation Fees	\$87,000			
Insurance Premium tax	\$375,000			
Interest	\$3,000			
Intergovernmental	\$85,500	\$41,600	\$8,000	
Licenses and permits	17,500			
Occupational / Net Profit Taxes	\$940,000			
Other	\$75,600			
Property & Vehicle Taxes	\$343,000			
Rent	\$20,000			
Grants	\$473,957			\$1,000,000
Transfers In	\$36,000			
E-911	\$372,000			
Loan Proceeds				\$330,000
Charges for services-Water				\$941,000
Charges for services-Sewer				\$447,000
Total revenues	\$2,993,557	\$41,600	\$8,000	\$2,718,000
APPROPRIATIONS:				
Grants	\$473,957			\$1,000,000
City Maintenance	472,000			
Community Center	\$47,500			
General government	\$521,276			
Paddle Trail	\$50,500			
Public safety-fire	\$110,000			
Public safety-police	\$816,100			
911 Expenses	\$498,000			
Retirement of Indebtedness- Sewer				\$180,500
Retirement of Indebtedness- Water				\$265,000
Sewer operations				\$472,100
Water operations				\$798,500
Transfers Out		\$32,000	\$4,000	
Total appropriations	\$2,989,333	\$32,000	\$4,000	\$2,716,100
Excess of revenues				
Over / under appropriations	\$4,224	\$9,600	\$4,000	\$1,900
Fund balance at June 30, 2027	\$713,451	\$46,240	\$89,171	\$391,085

SECTION TWO: That this budget becomes effective upon its final reading and adoption, June 17, 2026.

John Michael Shuffett

John Michael Shuffett
Mayor

Kimberly Darnell

Kimberly Darnell
City Clerk / Treasurer

First Reading: 06/15/2026
Second Reading: 06/17/2026
Publication Date: 06/24/2026

Auberry charges

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The Commonwealth’s Attorney Office for the 11th Judicial Circuit presented the case to the Grand Jury on behalf of the Commonwealth.

Arraignment for Auberry, who was released from jail after posting a \$2,000 bond, is scheduled to take place on June 23, at Taylor Cir-

cuit Court.

The AG’s office noted the Kentucky Supreme Court’s rule on trial publicity limits the amount of information the Office can provide publicly, adding that the charges in an indictment are allegations only, and the defendant is presumed innocent, unless and until proven guilty.