

CAPITAL PLANNING ADVISORY BOARD

**2022-2028
Agency Capital Plan**

Staff Analysis and Comments

BRANCH:

Judicial - Court of Justice

OVERVIEW

The Kentucky Court of Justice (KCOJ) includes the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), Circuit Court, District Court, Court of Appeals, Supreme Court, and Circuit Court Clerks. The Judicial Article was passed in 1975 amending Kentucky’s Constitution to allow for formation of a unified court system.

The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) was established in 1976 and serves as staff to the Chief Justice in executing the policies and programs of the Judicial Branch, pursuant to the Kentucky Constitution, Section 110(5)(b), KRS 27A.020, and applicable court rules and orders. The AOC supports court facilities and programs in all 120 counties, with its main campus in Frankfort. The AOC administers the Judicial Branch budget, builds and maintains court facilities, maintains court statistics through a statewide case management database, administers personnel policies and payroll for court personnel, and provides educational programs for judges, circuit court clerks and support staff.

The AOC Department of Court Facilities is responsible for ensuring adequate space for all Court of Justice functions throughout the Commonwealth. This department is guided by KRS 26A.090-26A.168 and the Court of Justice Rules of Administrative Procedure, Part X. These documents establish county governments as the primary provider of space for the Court of Justice and allow for reimbursement to the local unit of government for the court’s share of operating expenses and for the use allowance payments (compensation for the original capital costs of the facility). Operating and use allowance payments are based on the Court of Justice’s percentage of occupancy in a given facility.

The AOC Department of Court Facilities is responsible for 242 facilities occupied by the Court of Justice. These include both local government owned and agency leased facilities which total over 2.9 million square feet. Responsibilities handled by the Facilities Department include providing technical and logistical assistance to court officials and local governments in designing, operating, maintaining, renovating, and equipping courtroom and office space, as well as overseeing the distribution and inventory of furnishing. Assistance is provided in OSHA and ADA issues. AOC provides oversight for maintenance and janitorial services in all KCOJ occupied facilities. Contracts for janitorial or maintenance are issued by the local government.

Changes in Space Since completion of the last capital plan, AOC has leased approximately 34,000 square feet in six counties at a cost of about \$359,000, and cancelled 15 leases statewide resulting in lease cost savings of about \$29,000. These spaces are utilized for court programs such as Drug Court and Driver’s License, and for office space.

Facilities Assessment Study AOC is conducting a facilities assessment study to assess the need for court facilities construction or renovation throughout the Commonwealth. GRW, Inc. will perform the study, and the anticipated completion date is June 2022. The report will take into account the age, space adequacy, projected needs, structural soundness, mechanical and electrical systems, security needs, and interior and exterior quality of existing court facilities per KRS 26A.160. All proposed projects included in this capital plan will be included in the study.

PROPOSED PROJECTS

Fund Source	<u>2022-2024</u>	<u>2024-2026</u>	<u>2026-2028</u>	<u>Total</u>
Other Long-Term Bonds	\$15,005,000	\$62,760,000	\$76,285,000	\$154,050,000

**2022-2028 CAPITAL PLAN
PLAN OVERVIEW
FORM SYP-P1**

Branch:	Judicial Branch
Cabinet / Function:	Judicial Cabinet
Agency / Institution:	Court of Justice

Before the passage of the 1975 Judicial Article, local governments were responsible for construction and maintenance of the Commonwealth's judicial facilities. Many of Kentucky's court facilities were constructed before 1975 and some are up to 150 years old. As a result, many court facilities were deficient in space, offer inadequate security, cannot accommodate new court technology, and are not accessible to all citizens.

The Administrative Office of the Courts, Department of Court Facilities, oversees capital construction projects. The 2014 General Assembly authorized judicial center projects in Henry and Nicholas counties. The 2018 General Assembly authorized judicial center projects in Bath and Oldham counties. The 2020 and 2021 General Assembly authorized judicial center projects in Barren, Butler, Clinton, Crittenden, Jessamine, Madison, and Scott counties.

The need for adequate court facilities is ongoing. The Kentucky Court of Justice (KCOJ) Administrative Procedures, Part X, govern the construction program for the KCOJ.

In the 2022-2028 Capital Plan, the KCOJ is asking for one project in the first biennium, four in the second biennium, and four in the third biennium.

**Kentucky Court of Justice
Proposed Projects Involving the General Fund**

*For the court facility projects, amounts are appropriated from the **general fund for use allowance payments** that support the debt service for local bonds issued to construct the project.*

2022-2024

1 Construction - Leslie County \$15,005,000

Construction of a 24,000 square foot judicial facility to accommodate the Kentucky Court of Justice functions which include but are not limited to Circuit Court, Family Court, District Court, Circuit Court Clerk, Specialty Courts, Pretrial Services, and Juvenile Services. The current courthouse is deficient in space and is not configured for safe, effective, and efficient Court of Justice operations. The new judicial facility will be in Leslie County and is projected to meet the needs of the county for at least 50 years. The building will be 100% occupied by the Court of Justice. (C-O)

CPAB Staff Notes

- *NEW Project – This project was not included in the agency’s last capital plan.*
- *The annual general fund use allowance is \$1,241,600.*
- *The courthouse was built in the 1950s and last renovated in the mid-1930s. The annex was last renovated in late 1930s. All Court of Justice functions in the county will move from the existing courthouse/annex to the new facility.*
- *Costs associated with development of the project include \$670,000-land acquisition; \$150,000-site survey/prep; \$845,000-project design; \$11,084,000-construction cost; \$500,000-moveable equipment/furniture; \$1,026,000-contingency; and \$730,000-bond financing costs.*
- *Specialized requirements for this project include: 1) three circulation patterns for separating public, court staff, and prisoners; 2) technology and security requirements to meet court needs; 3) secure entrance with metal detectors. Additionally, land acquisition will be included as part of the project.*

2024-2026

Construction - Caldwell County	\$15,655,000
Construction - Estill County	15,655,000
Construction - Lee County	15,655,000
Renovation/Addition - Fulton County	15,795,000

2026-2028

Construction - Clark County	\$27,185,000
Construction - Greenup County	16,315,000
Construction - Meade County	16,315,000
Renovation/Addition - Spencer County	16,470,000

**COURT OF JUSTICE
Authorized Projects**

Project Title	County	Authorization	Status
Construction - Bath County	Bath	2018-2020	Design/Phase C
E-Case and Docket Management System	Multi	2014-2016	Complete/Closed Out
Henry County	Henry	2014-2016	In construction
Nicholas County	Nicholas	2014-2016	In construction
Renovation - Jefferson Co. Hall of Justice	Jefferson	2018-2020	Cancelled
Renovation/Addition - Oldham County	Oldham	2018-2020	Design/Phase B

Completed Court Facility Construction Projects

Adair County.....	Completed 02/2010
Allen County.....	Completed 09/2012
Boyd County.....	Completed 06/2009
Bracken County.....	Completed 06/2013
Breckinridge County.....	Completed 04/2012
Campbell County.....	Completed 06/2012
Carlisle County.....	Completed 04/2011
Fleming County.....	Completed 01/2012
Franklin County.....	Completed 12/2013
Gallatin County.....	Completed 04/2008
Garrard County.....	Completed 01/2012
Grant County.....	Completed 02/2010
Grayson County.....	Completed 05/2009
Green County.....	Completed 03/2010
Hancock County.....	Completed 07/2011
Hart County.....	Completed 10/2008
Hopkins County.....	Completed 04/2012
Jackson County.....	Completed 02/2010
Laurel County.....	Completed 05/2010
Lawrence County.....	Completed 11/2013
Livingston County.....	Completed 12/2008
Logan County.....	Completed 02/2010
Marion County.....	Completed 07/2011
Mason County Repair Project.....	Completed 02/2019
Mercer County.....	Completed 03/2012
Monroe County.....	Completed 06/2011
Morgan County.....	Completed 04/2014
Owen County.....	Completed 08/2012
Pendleton County.....	Completed 03/2010
Pike County.....	Completed 08/2013
Pulaski County.....	Completed 09/2010
Robertson County.....	Completed 06/2009
Rowan County.....	Completed 05/2011
Russell County.....	Completed 07/2011
Shelby County.....	Completed 12/2011
Simpson County Repair Project.....	Completed 01/2019
Taylor County.....	Completed 10/2009
Todd County.....	Completed 08/2012
Trigg County.....	Completed 08/2009
Washington County.....	Completed 01/2009
Whitley County.....	Completed 10/2011
Wolfe County.....	Completed 06/2012