

CAPITAL PLANNING ADVISORY BOARD

2026 - 2032

Capital Planning System Reports

BRANCH:

Executive Branch

CABINET/FUNCTION:

Cabinet of the General Government

AGENCY:

Department of Veterans Affairs

MISSION AND PROGRAMS

Pursuant to KRS Chapter 40, the Kentucky Dept. of Veterans Affairs (KDVA) is responsible for providing services to Kentucky's 300,000+ Veterans. KDVA is responsible for counseling and assisting veterans in applying for the state and federal benefits which they and their families may be entitled. These benefits include educational, training, and retraining services; health, rehabilitation, housing services; employment services; and financial assistance as may be provided for in federal, state, and local laws. Effective Dec. 16, 1998, responsibility for operating the Kentucky State Veterans Nursing Homes was transferred to KDVA. KRS 40.315, enacted during the 1998 Regular Session, directs that the KDVA establish, operate, and maintain State Veterans Cemeteries.

KDVA carries out its responsibilities of various programs and a centralized support staff:

- Commissioner's Office in Frankfort has executive, management, and support staff.
- State Programs Division: Homeless Veterans, Women's Veterans and KY Vets located in the Frankfort office
- Benefits Division: 21 offices across the Commonwealth to assist veterans in obtaining benefits.
- Office of Kentucky Veterans Centers operates four State Veterans Homes (SVH) providing skilled nursing care and services for Kentucky veterans. The facilities are:
 - Thomson-Hood Veterans Center, 285 beds in Wilmore (Jessamine County) built in 1992;
 - Paul Patton Eastern Kentucky Veterans Center, 120 beds in Hazard (Perry County) built in 2002;
 - Eddie Ballard Western Kentucky Veterans Center, 120 beds in Hanson (Hopkins County) built in 2002 with 36 additional beds added in 2013 for a total of 156 beds; and,
 - Carl M Brashear Radcliff Veterans Center, 120 beds in Radcliff (Hardin County) built in 2017.
 - A new 60 bed State Veterans Home in Bowling Green (Warren) is currently in the construction phase, estimated completion summer 2025.
- Cemeteries Division:
 - Kentucky Veterans Cemetery West (KVCW) in Hopkinsville, opened 2004, with 80 total acres.
 - Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Central (KVCC) in Radcliff, opened 2007, with 99 total acres.
 - Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North (KVCN) in Williamstown, opened 2008, with 97 total acres.
 - Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Northeast (KVCNE) in Grayson opened 2010, with 79 total acres.
 - Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Southeast (KVCSE) in Hyden opened 2018, with 43 total acres.

The US Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) awarded the state grants covering 100% of the construction costs for these cemeteries.

FUNDING SUMMARY

Fund Source	2026-2028 Biennium	2028-2030 Biennium	2030-2032 Biennium	Total
Federal Funds	2,000,000	-	-	2,000,000
General Fund	35,410,000	5,295,000	3,383,000	44,088,000
Total	37,410,000	5,295,000	3,383,000	46,088,000

CAPITAL PLANNING ADVISORY BOARD

2026 - 2032

Capital Planning System Reports

BRANCH:

Executive Branch

CABINET/FUNCTION:

Cabinet of the General Government

AGENCY:

Department of Veterans Affairs

PLAN OVERVIEW

The Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs (KDVA) has two distinct programmatic areas that have capital related needs: Veterans Cemeteries and Veterans Centers.

KDVA has received grants from the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs (VA) to construct cemeteries in regions of the Commonwealth in which Veterans require greater access to Veterans Cemeteries. KDVA oversees five State Veterans Cemeteries in Hopkinsville, Radcliff, Williamstown, Grayson, and Hyden. These grants pay 100% of the cemetery construction costs (site development/admin and maintenance buildings), but do not cover land acquisition. The VA grants provide 100% of the cost of renovations/expansions; however, continued maintenance of the grounds and facilities is not covered and is an expense of the state.

The Division of State Veterans Cemeteries is requesting one project in FY 2028 for Columbarium Wall Expansion in our cemetery located in Grayson. The project is funded 100% by the Federal Government.

KDVA owns and operates four Veterans Nursing Homes providing skilled long-term nursing care for Kentucky veterans in Central, Eastern, and Western Kentucky. The VA allows state veterans nursing homes to apply for construction, renovation, and expansion grants.

The Office of the Kentucky Veterans Centers is requesting a total of eight projects over the upcoming six years including two large interior/exterior renovation projects, Phase II of an HVAC complete system replacement, a cooling tower replacement, two parking lot renovations, and two outdoor activity space projects. Thompson Hood Veterans Center (THVC), Eastern Kentucky Veteran Center (EKVC), Western Kentucky Veteran Center (WKVC) are all dated facilities, twenty to thirty years old, that require much needed repairs and renovations. These repairs are needed in order to comply with federal regulations and ensure a safe environment for the residents.

KDVA also requests continuance of its maintenance pool funding. The Cemeteries are in need of maintenance funds to maintain the properties as required by Federal law. The nursing facilities are 24/7 operations which must meet certain federal and state operational regulations in order to remain open and provide care to residents. As buildings age and regulations change, more maintenance will be required for this type of skilled nursing care setting.

2026-2028 Biennium
(Projects listed by agency priority; descriptions are from the agency submission)

(Projects listed by agency priority; descriptions are from the agency submission)

- 3 of 5

5	Replace Cooling Tower - THVC	1,500,000
	Thomson-Hood Veterans Center (THVC) is a 285-bed skilled nursing facility located in Wilmore, KY. It was constructed in 1990 providing 24/7 nursing care. THVC requests to replace existing cooling towers that have reached their end-of-life cycle. (C-PI)	
	<u>CPAB Staff Notes</u>	
	- New Project not included in a previous Capital Plan.	
6	Renovate Parking Lot/Replace Exterior Lighting - WKVC	1,800,000
	Western Kentucky Veterans Center (WKVC) is a 156 bed veterans nursing facility. WKVC is requesting renovation of the parking lot and outdoor lighting replacement. 902 KAR 20:310 and Title 38 Section 51.200(VA regulations) provide requirements for structural specifications for nursing facilities. (C-PI)	
	<u>CPAB Staff Notes</u>	
	- Included in the 2024-2030 Capital Plan originally to be completed in the 2028-2030 biennium. No previous authorization.	
7	Renovate Parking Lot and Walking Track - EKVC	1,600,000
	Eastern Kentucky Veterans Center (EKVC) is a 120 bed veterans nursing facility in Hazard, KY. EKVC is requesting to renovate its parking lot to ensure the safety of its staff and visitors and to expand the existing walking path for veterans expanded use and enjoyment. 902 KAR 20:310 and Title 38 Section 51.200 (VA regulations) provide licensure requirements for structural specifications for the construction, alteration and maintenance of nursing facilities. (C-PI)	
	<u>CPAB Staff Notes</u>	
	- New Project not included in previous Capital Plan.	
2026-2028 Biennium Total:		35,410,000
		<u>2028-2030 Biennium</u>
	2028-2030 Maintenance Pool KDVA	2,795,000
	Construct Outdoor Pavilion & Activity Area - RVC	1,000,000
	Construct Storage Building, Pavilion, Activity Area - BGVC	1,500,000
2028-2030 Biennium Total:		5,295,000
		<u>2030-2032 Biennium</u>
	2030-2032 Maintenance Pool KDVA	3,383,000
2030-2032 Biennium Total:		3,383,000

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Proposed Projects Involving Other Fund Sources
(amounts in **bold** are the total budget)

2026-2028 Biennium

(Projects listed by agency priority; descriptions are from the agency submission)

Expand Columbarium Wall - KVCNE

2,000,000 FF

Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Northeast (KVCNE) is located in Grayson, KY and occupies seventy-nine acres. KVCNE is requesting a columbarium wall expansion to install two additional columbarium walls; 128 niches per wall, 256 niches total. Federally funded. (C-O)

2026-2028 Biennium Total:

2,000,000