

# Community Facilities & Services

## CHAPTER SIX

### INTRODUCTION

Community facilities and services is a collective term used to describe a variety of essential activities that sustain and enhance the quality of life for residents within a community. The provision of utilities, public safety programs, and facilities for public health, safety, education, and recreation are all issues that increasingly challenge local governments. Planning is essential to ensure that the provision of these services and facilities meets the future needs of the community.

The provision of community facilities and services can also be used to guide future development. One example of this might be the decision to extend water and sewer service to an area targeted for development. As an economic development tool, the adequacy of facilities and services is also an important consideration. Industrial prospects making a decision to locate in a specific community will examine the quality of resources and services of an area. On the other hand, the limited provision of utilities and other services only within incorporated areas or an “urban services boundary” can enable the community to restrict growth to certain areas where provision of these services are cost effective and promote responsible development.

Planning for the future development of facilities and services must incorporate all of the aforementioned elements. Prioritizing community facilities and services can only be accomplished by careful analysis of the existing levels of provision and projecting future needs. Decisions of who gets what, when, and where are among the most critical issues facing service providers with limited revenue and increasing costs.

This chapter addresses the following community facilities and services in Henderson County; education (schools and libraries), recreation, utilities (water, wastewater, storm water, natural gas, electricity, and solid waste) and emergency services (fire, police, rescue squad, emergency management, ambulance and hospitals).

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## EDUCATION

### HENDERSON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

The residents of Henderson County are served by one public school district. The Henderson County School District has eight elementary schools, two middle schools, one high school and one alternative center which serves students who are not performing well in a traditional school setting. Table 6-1 is a list of schools and a summary of their facilities. The Henderson County Board of Education employs 1057 staff members and is one of the largest employers in Henderson County. There are 288 substitute employees. The 2005-2006 budget is over 55.3 million dollars.

Table 6-2 shows the enrollment for each school from the 1999-2000 school year to the 2003-2004 school year. The enrollment at Seventh Street Elementary School is also shown for the 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 school years. Seventh Street Elementary School was closed after the 2000-2001 school year. The enrollment at both the elementary schools and middle schools declined during the period. However, enrollment at Henderson High School increased 26.8% from 1,608 to 2,039 during the same period. Overall, enrollment in the Henderson County School District declined 1.93 percent.

The Kentucky Department of Education categorizes schools and school districts based on their facility needs. Overall the Henderson County School District is considered to have limited facility needs. Each school is also given a rating ranging from one for excellent condition to five for poor condition. All of Henderson's schools are rated average or better except for the Central Alternative School which has a four rating for fair to poor which means that it is in need of renovation. The current school facilities plan for Henderson County indicates that while most of the schools are in need of some renovations or additions, no new schools are needed.

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**TABLE 6-1  
INVENTORY OF EXISTING PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES  
SERVING HENDERSON COUNTY**

School Address	Build. Assess.*	Grades	Sept. 2005 Enrollment/ Capacity	Building Size (Sq. Ft.)	Approx. Site Acreage	Year Built/ Renovated
<b>Elementary Schools</b>						
AB Chandler Elementary 11215 U.S. 60 W Corydon, KY 42406	2	K-5	308 575	51,000	40	1990
Bend Gate Elementary 920 Bend Gate Road Henderson, KY 42420	1	K-5	493 550	67,413	17.2	1959 1972/1994
Cairo Elementary 10694 Hwy 41-A Henderson, KY 42420	1.5	K-5	287 300	40,360	13.5	1961 1989
East Heights Elementary 1776 Adams Lane Henderson, KY 42420	3	K-5	436 600	72,168	34	1973 1996
Jefferson Elementary 315 Jackson Street Henderson, KY 42420	2	K-5	364 500	48,873	4.25	1964 1992
Niagara Elementary 13043 Hwy 136 E Henderson, KY 42420	2	K-5	318 300	43,586	13.5	1959 1990
South Heights Elementary 1199 Madison Street Henderson, KY 42420	2	K-5	449 600	61,664	7.5	1960 1986
Spottsville Elementary 9190 US 60 E Spottsville, KY 42458	3	K-5	466 550	50,110	12	1980
<b>Middle Schools</b>						
Henderson County North Middle School 1707 Second Street Henderson, KY 42420	2	6-8	798 1,350	101,364	35	1953 1970/1999
<i>Serves students coming from Cairo, East Heights, Spottsville and South Heights Elementary Schools</i>						
Henderson County South Middle School 800 South Alves Street Henderson, KY 42420	2		709 1,050	93,540	31	1952 1982/1992/1998
<i>Serves students coming from A B Chandler, Bend Gate, Jefferson and Niagara Elementary Schools</i>						
<b>High School</b>						
Henderson County Senior High School 2424 Zion Road Henderson, KY 42420	2	9-12	2,185 1,920	361,171	76	1967 1972/2002/2003
<b>Alternative Schools</b>						
Central Learning Center 851 Center Street Henderson, KY 42420	4	K-12	83 300	32,040	4.2	1974

\*Building assessments explain the relative building conditions for each facility using the following

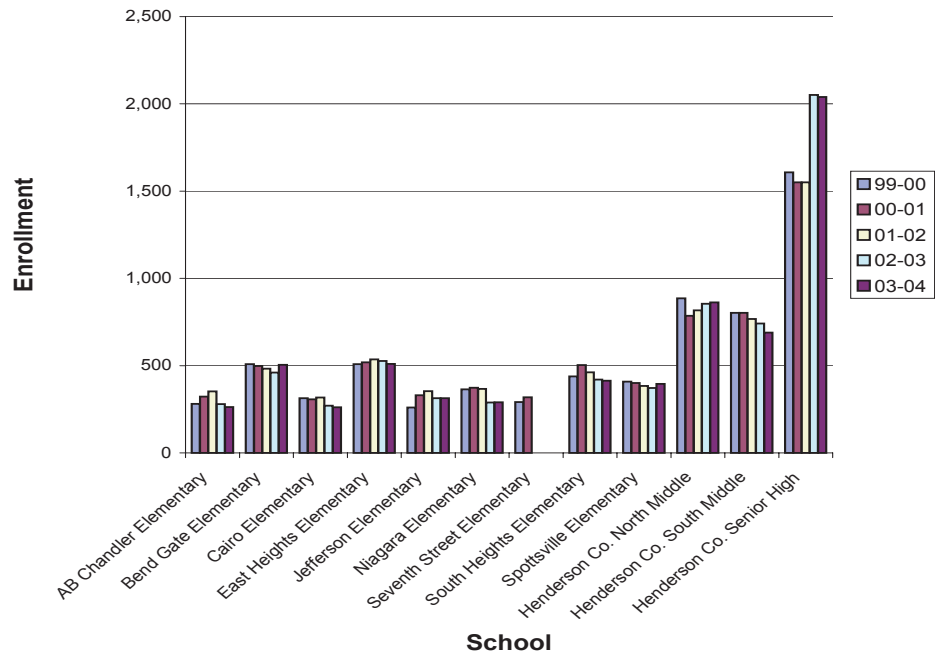
- 1 - Excellent (new, generally less than 10 years)
- 2 - Better (generally 10-20 years old)
- 3 - Good/Average (20-30 years old)
- 4 - Fair/Poor (30-40 years old, needs renovation)
- 5 - Poor (older than 40 years old)

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**Table 6-2  
HENDERSON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT RATES**



SCHOOL	99-00	00-01	01-02	02-03	03-04	% CHG
AB Chandler Elementary	281	323	353	280	263	-18.6%
Bend Gate Elementary	509	498	482	461	505	1.4%
Cairo Elementary	314	307	318	271	261	-16.9%
East Heights Elementary	508	519	536	527	510	0.4%
Jefferson Elementary	260	331	354	314	313	20.4%
Niagara Elementary	364	373	367	289	290	-20.3%
Seventh Street Elementary	291	319	0	0	0	-100.0%
South Heights Elementary	438	503	462	420	413	-5.7%
Spottsville Elementary	408	401	384	372	396	-2.9%
Henderson Co. North Middle	886	786	817	855	862	-2.7%
Henderson Co. South Middle	803	802	768	741	689	-14.2%
Henderson Co. Senior High	1,608	1,551	1,551	2,051	2,039	26.8%
<b>Total Enrollment</b>	<b>6,670</b>	<b>6,713</b>	<b>6,392</b>	<b>6,581</b>	<b>6,541</b>	<b>-1.9%</b>

Source: Kentucky Department of Education, 11/29/05

The state of Kentucky uses the Commonwealth Accountability Testing System (CATS) to hold schools accountable for student progress. CATS has three components: the Kentucky Core Content Tests, National Comprehensive Test of Basic Skills (CTBS/5), and other measures of the school's performance including attendance, retention, and drop out rates. Combined these three elements make up the Henderson County School District's CAT'S Performance Scores for every two-year period. Kentucky Core Tests measure the ability of Henderson County students to use knowledge in each subject. Kentucky's

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test rates student performance using four categories: Novice, Apprentice, Proficient, and Distinguished. These categories translate into a scale of 0-140, with 100 being considered proficient. The state goal for all schools is 100 by the year 2014.

The national norm referenced test used in Kentucky, the CTBS/5, measures the basic skills of Henderson County students and allows the district to compare their performance with national benchmarks established in 1996. These scores are reported in percentiles. A percentile shows the percentage of students who fell below a particular score on the test. For example, a percentile of 60 would show that the average student in Henderson County's school scored equal to or better than 60 percent of all students who took the test. A school district report card and a report card for each school which details the district and school performance based on CATS the CTBS/5 test can be found at the Henderson County School District web site: <http://www.henderson.k12.ky.us>.

Other measures of performance are the degree to which the Henderson County School District succeeds in getting students to come to school, the degree to which students had to repeat the content of a grade for a year (retention rate) and the drop out rate. The performance factors for the 2003-2004 school year are shown in Tables 6-3 and 6-4.

**TABLE 6-3**

	<b>Attendance Rate</b>	<b>Retention Rate</b>	<b>Dropout Rate</b>
<b>District</b>	94.5%	3.6%	3.7%
<b>State</b>	94.3%	3.4%	2.2%

**TABLE 6-4**

## **TRANSITION TO ADULT LIFE**

	<b>College</b>	<b>Military</b>	<b>Work</b>	<b>Voc/Tech Training</b>	<b>Work/PT School</b>	<b>Not Successful</b>
<b>District</b>	59.1%	1.4%	27.3%	3.7%	3%	5.5%
<b>State</b>	54.8%	2.9%	26.7%	4.9%	6.7%	4%

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Student resources are summarized below and compare the Henderson County School District with that of the state of Kentucky overall.

**TABLE 6-5**  
**STUDENT RESOURCES**

	<b>District</b>	<b>State</b>
Spending per student	\$7,926	\$7,007
Student teacher ratio	16:1	16:1
Student/Computer ratio	3.8:1	3.8:1
% of Classrooms with KETS/		
Internet access	100%	100%

The district spends 11.6% more per student than districts in the state overall. However the student teacher ratio, student/computer ratio, and percentage of classrooms with KETS workstations and internet access are equal to the state average overall.

In addition to the public schools in Henderson County, there is currently one non-public school recognized as certified by the Kentucky Department of Education. This is Holy Name Elementary School located at 628 Second Street in Henderson. This school serves grades K-8 and had a 2005 enrollment of 628.

## **COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**

Henderson Community College and Murray State's Henderson Regional Campus are both located in the City of Henderson. There are also nine additional places of higher education within 40 miles of the city. The facilities along with their straight line distance from Henderson are as follows:

University of Southern Indiana	Evansville, IN	10 Miles
University of Evansville	Evansville, IN	10 Miles
Daymar College	Owensboro, KY	26 Miles
Owensboro Community College	Owensboro, KY	26 Miles
Kentucky Wesleyan College	Owensboro, KY	26 Miles
Brescia College	Owensboro, KY	26 Miles

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WKU Owensboro Extended Campus	Owensboro, KY	26 Miles
Madisonville Community College	Madisonville, KY	35 Miles
Oakland City University	Oakland City, IN	37 Miles

In addition, Vocational-Technical Training is available at secondary schools, called Area Technology Centers (ATC), operated by the Cabinet for Workforce Development. Other secondary schools are operated by public school districts. The post-secondary schools, called technical colleges, are governed by the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS). The following Area Technology Centers are located within 60 miles of Henderson County.

Webster County ATC	Dixon, KY	23 Miles
Ohio County ATC	Hartford, KY	46 Miles
Muhlenberg County ATC	Greenville, KY	49 Miles
Caldwell County ATC	Princeton, KY	53 Miles

## **HENDERSON COMMUNITY COLLEGE (HCC)**

In the fall of 1960, the Northwest Extension of the University of Kentucky opened its doors for the first time to 256 Henderson, Union, and Webster county residents. In 1964, the Northwest Extension became Henderson Community College (HCC), a charter member of the University of Kentucky Community College System. HCC currently enrolls students in academic, technical, and transfer programs. It is estimated that the college provides training for more than 4,000 citizens through its continuing education program. Henderson Community College became a member of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System in 1998.

Henderson Community College currently offers Associate Degrees or certificates of completion in 12 academic programs. In addition, Associate Degree programs are available that are equivalent to the sequences of courses taken in the first two years at four year colleges and universities. These college transfer programs allow students to spend their first two years of study for a baccalaureate degree in an academic institution that is close to home and reasonable in cost.

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## Henderson Community College CAMPUS MAP



The college is located along US 60 on 120 acres. Buildings on the campus include an Administrative Building, Hartfield Library, Student Center and Bookstore, Arts and Sciences Building, Technical Building and Fine Arts Center. The Hecht S. Lackey Administration Building was the original building on the campus and currently houses administrative and faculty offices as well as classrooms, conference rooms, an interactive TV room (for credit/non-credit instruction and video conferencing), and the Adult Learning Center (Adult Basic Education/Literacy). The student center houses the bookstore, grill, student lounge, indoor recreation facilities, a music classroom, and faculty offices. The Roberts H. English Arts and Sciences Building houses classrooms, computer laboratories, conference rooms, the Computer Information Systems (CIS), Business Technology, and Human Services programs, the Career Connections Center, cooperative education, and offices for faculty and staff. The Academic Technical Building provides classrooms, conference rooms and laboratories for the clinical laboratory technical, medical assistant technology, nursing and dental hygiene programs, and offices for faculty and staff. The Joseph M. Hartfield Library houses the Learning Skills Center, television and radio studios used in communications class instruction, career counseling and placement, faculty and staff offices and classrooms. The Fine Arts Center has



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a performance hall that accommodates up to 1,000 people, dressing rooms, prop storage, green room, catering and concessions area, gallery space for visual arts, public meeting rooms for general community and college use.

In 2005, the Kentucky General Assembly approved \$13,066,000 in funding for a new building on campus know as the Tri-County Technology Center. Construction on the 50,277 square foot building is expected to begin in 2006 and be completed by December, 2007. The center will offer customized training and education for businesses and industries. It will also house a Student Success Center, Adult Learning Center, an Assessment Center and the Career Connections Center. The programs provide instruction and support services for career exploration, tutoring, advising, developmental studies, GED preparation, vocational assessment and vocational rehabilitation. The facility includes a large, high ceiling flexible open space for trade oriented training, two large lecture halls, classrooms, an interactive TV lab for long distance learning, offices and various sized conference rooms. The college has identified the need for a child care center on campus, however funding for a center is not currently available.

## **MURRAY STATE - HENDERSON REGIONAL CAMPUS**

Murray State University leases the old Seventh Street Elementary School building located at 328 Seventh Street from the Henderson County School District for a regional campus which opened in the Spring of 2003. Murray State uses about two-thirds of the building. The facilities include eight classrooms, a meeting room for up to 40 people, two computer labs and four interactive television labs. The remainder of the building is currently leased back to the Henderson School District. The Henderson Regional Campus currently serves some 350 non-traditional students each year. The facility has capacity to serve many more students as four additional classrooms are not being utilized. Academic programs currently offered at the Henderson Regional Campus include Bachelor's Degrees in Business Administration, Elementary Education, Nursing- RN to BSN, Independent Studies and Telecommunications Systems Management. Master's Degrees in Education/Administration, Education/Guidance and Counseling, Special Education, Business Administration (MBA) and Telecommunications Systems Management are also offered.

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## **HENDERSON COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICE**

Henderson County has been served by the Henderson County Public Library for over 100 years. The library first opened its doors at its location at 101 South Main Street on August 1, 1904. According to the library service, opening of the library can be attributed to the perseverance of Edward Jonas who was the publisher of the Henderson Journal. He was able to convince philanthropist Andrew Carnegie to give the community funding to build the library. The original building is a Neoclassical Revival style of cut limestone. It is a contributing structure to the South Main and South Elm Streets Historic District. It is the City of Henderson's oldest public building still in use. Since its original construction, the library has had many additions, renovations and restorations. A large modern rear wing was added in 1979-1980 and a children's library was added in 2000. The original building was restored in 2001. In 2003 the original rotunda roof was replaced. At this time the stained glass and skylight on top of the rotunda were removed, refurbished and restored to their original location. The library has two meeting rooms which may be used for meetings or programs by organizations whose membership is open to the public. While there are no branch locations, a bookmobile service delivers books and other library materials throughout the county free-of-charge for homebound residents. There are no current plans for any new additions or branch locations.

## **PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES**

Leisure and recreational activities are increasingly important elements contributing to the overall quality of life in a community. Unlike other community facilities discussed in this chapter, the provision of recreational facilities and programs is not always viewed as essential. Therefore, securing public funds can often be difficult. However, the citizens of Henderson County have a variety of opportunity for recreation. In addition, the county is rich in natural resources that have recreational potential. There are several Wildlife Management Areas in the county.

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## CITY OF HENDERSON PARKS & RECREATION

Parks located in the City of Henderson are shown on Figure 6-1. The city's Parks and Recreation Department maintains recreational facilities in the City of Henderson and also operates two local municipal cemeteries. The following recreational facilities are maintained by the city:

*Atkinson Park* is located at North Elm Street and is the city's most popular park. Facilities available at the park include the Henderson Municipal Golf Course which has nine holes, a proshop, and cart rental. In addition the park has the Atkinson Pool area with an L-shaped main pool, wading pool, water slide and mushroom waterfall. The enclosed Denton Shelter is available for rent and can accommodate 125 people. There are also two softball fields, ten open air picnic shelters, a skate park, a sand volleyball court, playground equipment and rest rooms in the park. The Gathering Place provides activities and meals to senior citizens. There is a Riverwalk which is one mile in length that parallels the Ohio River with two scenic overlooks. The Park Field is managed by the Henderson Recreation Association and has four baseball fields. Park Field has a seating capacity of 5,750.

*Hays Park*, located north of Atkinson Park, serves as a boat launching facility into the Ohio River. Facilities include a dock, parking for 100 trailers, picnic tables and grills, and rest room facilities.

*Redbanks Park* located along the Ohio River in downtown Henderson was opened in 2004. It features a river walk, benches, open space and a history walk.

*Kimmel Park* is located on the corner of Adams Street and 7th Street. Facilities include an open shelter, basketball court, playground equipment, grills and rest rooms.

*Audubon Mill* and *Sunset Parks* are located along the Ohio River on Water Street in the Henderson Central Business District. Facilities include two boat

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launching ramps, docks, parking, amphitheater, picnic tables and playground equipment. In 2004 an interactive water feature was added between these parks. A tourism welcome center with a community room and a local history display was opened next to Audubon Mill Park in 2005. Restrooms are located off of the patio area of the Welcome Center.

*Central Park* is located in the Henderson Central Business District beside the Courthouse and the Municipal Center. Facilities include a gazebo, picnic tables, swings, and toddler play structure surrounded by several varieties of shade trees. A replica of a historic fountain was added in 2004.

*John F. Kennedy Community Center* is located at 515 South Alvasia Street. Facilities include a gymnasium and fitness/weight room.

*W.C. Handy Park* is located on Alvasia Street behind the John F. Kennedy Center. Facilities include basketball courts, an open shelter, and playground equipment.

*Anthony Brooks Park* is located on Madison Street, across from the John F. Kennedy Center. Facilities include playground equipment and a small open picnic shelter.

*Peewee Park* is located near North Middle School. The City of Henderson leases the park from Henderson School District. It has four baseball fields for Peewee League baseball which serves children five to ten years old. There are rest rooms, a concession stand and batting cages in the park. The park is operated by the Parent Coaches Management Association.

*Community Park* is located on KY 136, in the southeastern section of Henderson. Facilities include a large open shelter with rest rooms, five small picnic shelters, two softball fields, a basketball court, two tennis courts, play structures, and swings.

*Doc Hosbach Tennis Complex* is located on Water Street in the Central Business District. Facilities include twelve lighted tennis courts.

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*Dr. William L. Newman Recreational Complex* is located at 1100 Madison Street off of Sand Lane. Facilities include four softball fields, four soccer fields, walking/biking trail, a nature trail, playground equipment, and open shelter.

Cemeteries maintained by the city include Fernwood Cemetery and Fairmont Cemetery. Fernwood Cemetery, located on Madison Street, was established in 1849 and is the resting place of several state politicians and other famous citizens. Fairmont Cemetery, located on Highway 60 and Drury Lane, was established in 1921 and contains 28-30 acres of land.

## **HENDERSON COUNTY SCHOOL RECREATIONAL FACILITIES**

Each of the eight Henderson County elementary schools has an indoor gymnasium and an outdoor playground with playground equipment. A B Chandler Elementary School also has a 20 acre wooded area with a pond for recreational use. North Middle School has a gymnasium, a football field with track and a softball field. South Middle School has a gymnasium and a football field with track. The Henderson County Senior High School has a gymnasium, an auxiliary gym with four courts, a football field with track, a baseball field, a soccer field, 12 tennis courts, two football practice fields and two soccer practice fields.

## **CITY OF CORYDON PARKS**

The City of Corydon maintains two parks within the city. Crawford Field & Park is somewhat less than one acre. It has a softball diamond, a tennis court, a playground with four sets of swings and other equipment, and a gravel walking trail. A Lions Club building in the park has rest rooms, a concession stand and picnic area. The City hopes to pave the walking trail in the future. Chandler Veterans Memorial Park covers about one fourth of a city block. The park has memorials honoring Governor Happy Chandler and United States war veterans. There is a concrete table and bench in the park.

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## **HENDERSON COUNTY PARKS**

The Henderson County 4H Fairgrounds, located off of Airline Road just east of the Edward T Breathitt Parkway (Figure 6-1), is the only county park maintained by the Henderson County Road Department. The 20 acre park currently has a 90' by 40' exhibition building and a tractor pull area. There is a shelter and bridge along a walkway to the creek that were constructed out of recycled materials. The county is currently working on improvements to the fairgrounds including the addition of a 120' by 40' livestock exhibition building, viewing stands with rest rooms and a concession area, and a horse arena. The county is also investigating the possibility of constructing a new boat launch facility on the Green River.

Smith Mills Park is less than one acre in size and is located in the rural community of Smith Mills in western Henderson County. The park has a playground and open field and is maintained by the Henderson Lions Club.

## **STATE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES**

One state park operated by the Kentucky Department of Parks is located in Henderson County. John James Audubon State Park is 692 acres and located off of US 41 N just south of the Ohio River (Figure 6-1). The John James Audubon Museum, which showcases the artist's life and works, is located in the park. There is a two level, 9,000 square foot nature center located adjacent to the museum. A full time naturalist offers interpretive programs. Facilities at the park include six cottages available for rent year round. The campground has 69 sites with utilities and a playground. There is a 28 acre recreation lake with a playground, four picnic shelters and seasonal boat rentals. Other facilities include a 325 acre nature preserve/bird sanctuary with hiking trails, a tennis court and a nine hole golf course.

Sloughs Wildlife Management Area (WMA) is located in Henderson and Union Counties and consists of approximately 10,000 acres. The property is owned by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers and licensed to the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR) for wildlife management purposes. The Sloughs WMA is a premier birding area for rails, sparrows,

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and wrens of the marsh. Shorebirds and puddle ducks can also be sighted in the spring. In the marshy area, typical birds to spot are Sora, Virginia Rail, King Rail, Le Conte's Sparrow, Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow, Marsh Wren, and Sedge Wren. Sightings of American and Least Bittern are also possible. Common Moorhens have also been located in this area. Some hunting is allowed in the Sloughs WMA under special state regulations.

The Sloughs WMA consists of several units as follows:

*SAUERHEBER*- is located 6.5 miles northwest of Geneva on KY 268. This waterfowl refuge and National Natural Landmark contains 1,775 acres where up to 30,000 Canada geese and 10,000 ducks winter annually. Observation platforms are located near the refuge edge on KY 268. This tract is also Kentucky's largest Great Blue Heron rookery. Portions of this unit are closed to the public October 15th through March 15th annually as designated by signs.

*JENNY HOLE-HIGHLAND CREEK* - 2.5 miles west of Smith Mills and 1.5 miles North of Uniontown on KY 136.

*ASH FLATS* - 3 miles NE of Hebbardsville on Mason Landing Road.

*GRASSY POND-POWELLS LAKE* - Located six miles north of Uniontown and 12 miles west of Smith Mills on KY 136.

Habitats in these areas consist of alternating ridges and sloughs, woodlands, brushy area and open fields. Waterfowl, swamp rabbit, squirrel, deer, quail, raccoon, beaver, coyote, and dove are found here. Nutting, bird watching, and horseback riding are permitted on all units. Primitive camping is allowed and all units have limited access by gravel roads.

Green River State Forest is located in the Henderson County about five miles northeast of the City of Henderson. Green River State Forest, which currently covers 1,106 acres, was established in July 1998. The Kentucky Division of Forestry manages the forest for multiple uses. The forest is open to the public for most recreational uses including hiking, hunting and fishing. Off-road vehicles are prohibited. The goal for the forest include re-establish-

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ing as much bottom land hardwood forest as possible for research, wildlife habitat and to protect the unique habitat of cypress swamp located along the Green River. Slightly more than half of the property consists of bottomland including 65 to 70 acres of swampland. The rest of the forest is gently sloping uplands. The Division of Forestry plans to acquire additional adjoining property to expand the forest.

## **OTHER RECREATIONAL FACILITIES**

In addition to the public park and recreational facilities in Henderson County, there are a number of private facilities. One major facility is the Henderson County Family YMCA located at 460 Klutey Park Drive. The building was originally constructed in 1973. From 1998 to 2002 the building was extensively renovated and several additions were constructed. The facility now includes 2 indoor pools (a 25 meter lap pool and a 35' by 40' warm water therapy pool); two gyms; three exercise rooms with free weights, cybex machines, treadmills and stair climbers; a multi-purpose fitness area; two indoor tennis courts; a racquetball court; a youth fitness area; an indoor walk/jog track, a community room and kitchen for parties and workshops; and separate men's and women's health locker rooms that include private lockers, showers and saunas. Outside there are playing fields and a picnic pavilion. Outdoor swimming pools are also located at the Henderson Country Club and Aqua City. Golf courses in the county include 18 hole courses at Henderson County Club and Players Club of Henderson. There is a nine hole golf course at Bent Creek Golf Course which is currently being expanded to an 18 hole course.

As communities grow, it is important to insure that land is available for parks, recreation, open space and greenways to meet the future needs of the community. The recreational needs of communities vary greatly. As there is no recreational master plan for Henderson or Henderson County, it is recommended that a strategic planning process be undertaken to develop one using a systems approach to planning. The systems approach is defined as the processes of assessing the park, recreation and open space needs of a community and translating that information into a framework for meeting the physical, spatial and facility requirements to satisfy those needs. It is also recommended that a comprehensive guide to parks and recreation guide be developed for public and school recreational facilities in the county and updated every six months.

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## **PUBLIC UTILITIES**

### **WATER SERVICE**

Henderson County is served by two public water systems. These are the Henderson Water Utility and Henderson County Water District. There are also three non-community systems which provide water to portions of Henderson County. The only public treated water supplier in the county is Henderson Water Utility. Henderson County Water District purchases water from them. According to the Water Resource Development Plan prepared by the Kentucky Water Resource Development Commission, public water is provided to about 90 percent of Henderson County's residents. In areas of the county not served by public water approximately 4,400 people rely on private domestic water supplies. About 90 percent of these households rely on private domestic wells. The remaining ten percent use other sources of water.

### **HENDERSON WATER UTILITY**

The Henderson Water Utility is owned by the City of Henderson. By City Ordinance, the utility is managed by the Henderson Water and Sewer Commission which is appointed by the Mayor and ratified by the City Commission. The Henderson Water Utility operates two water treatment plants. The North Treatment Plant provides treated water to the City of Henderson and most of Henderson County. The North Water Treatment Plant was constructed at an elevated location on Water Street in Henderson in 1961. Originally, this plant consisted of a raw water and high service pumping station, flash mixing, three combination flocculation-sedimentation basins, six rapid sand filters, chemical feeders, laboratory, office and a finished water storage reservoir. The design capacity of the plant was 6.0 million gallons of water per day.

In 1990 the North Water Treatment Plant was renovated and expanded which doubled the capacity of the plant to 12.0 mgd. This was accomplished primarily by using the latest current high rate technology within the confines of the existing structures. This plant was the first in Kentucky to utilize this specific technology, which resulted in, not only a lower unit cost, but provided the capabilities of producing higher quality water.

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In 1996 the Henderson Water Utility constructed a second water treatment plant known as the South Water Treatment plant. This plant is located in the south end of Henderson County near Robards. The source of raw water is surface water from the Green River. The treatment capacity is four million gallons per day. This facility serves the industrial area in the south end of Henderson County and some of Henderson County Water District's customers in the southern part of their service area. It also provides treated water to the City of Sebree in Webster County and the community of Beech Grove in McLean County.

The Henderson Water Utility north system has six water storage tanks with a combined storage capacity of 7.58 million gallons. In addition, the north system has a 1.2 million gallon clearwell at the north treatment plant. The Henderson Water Utility south system currently includes two elevated storage tanks with a combined capacity of 2.0 million gallons and a 0.8 million gallon treatment plant clearwell. These include three elevated tanks, two ground storage tanks and one standpipe. Henderson Water provides water service to approximately 10,500 customers in the City of Henderson and nearby fringe areas and 500 additional customers in the south end of Henderson County. Figure 6-2 shows the location of the utility's water lines in and near the City of Henderson and Figure 6-3 shows the fire hydrants for the same area.

Henderson Water Utility does not have a current, useable master plan for its water systems. While it has been able to accommodate recent growth, it has become increasingly evident that improvements to the existing treatment, storage, and distribution systems are needed to maintain acceptable levels of service. To that end, planning has begun for improvements that include (1) the replacement or rehabilitation of the oldest water mains as well as increasing the size of many of the smaller pipelines, (2) expanding the South Water Treatment Plant capacity from 4.0 to 8.0 MGD, and (3) increasing the storage capacity at both the north and south systems.

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## HENDERSON COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

The Henderson County Water District purchases an average of 1.35 million gallons of treated water a day from the Henderson Water Utility. As of December 2005, the water district served 5,921 customers in Henderson County and 229 customers in Webster County for a total of 6,150 customers. Henderson Water District has eight storage tanks including two standpipes and six elevated tanks. The total storage capacity is 1.65 million gallons. Figure 6-4 shows the district's waterlines in Henderson County.

## OTHER WATER SYSTEMS

There are three other private water treatment systems in Henderson County. The Alcan Ingot, Sebree Aluminum Plant located in the south end of Henderson County has a treatment capacity of 1.4 million gallons per day. The raw water source is surface water from the Green River. Trocadero Plaza, located at 3801 US Highway 41 N just north of the Ohio River across from Ellis Park, has a water treatment system with a capacity of 3,840 gallons per day. It uses wells as a water source. Ellis Park Race Course, located at 3300 US Highway 41 N just north of the Ohio River, has treatment capacity of 360,000 gallons per day. Wells in the alluvium of the Ohio River are the source of water. The Henderson Water Utility is currently designing a waterline across the Ohio River to provide Ellis Park with water service.

## WASTEWATER SERVICE

Henderson County is served by two public wastewater collection systems. These are the Henderson Water Utility and the Corydon Municipal Wastewater System. The only public wastewater treatment facilities are owned and operated by the Henderson Water Utility. Corydon's waste is pumped to Henderson's North Treatment Plant for processing. According to the Strategic Water Resource Development Plan prepared by the Kentucky Water Resource Development Commission in March 2000, public sewer is provided to about 65 percent of Henderson County's residents. In areas of the county not served by public sewer approximately 6,400 households rely on private on-site treatment systems.

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## **HENDERSON WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM**

The Henderson Water Utility operates two wastewater treatment plants (WWTP) and 60 pumping stations. This system serves approximately 9,878 connections, of which 8,811 are residential, 950 commercial, 51 industrial and 79 institutional. The wastewater collection system covers approximately fifteen square miles and consists of some 130 miles of sanitary and combined storm-sanitary sewers ranging in size from six inches to 48 inches. Approximately 75% of the sewer lines are 20 years or older.

The Henderson North WWTP is located near the Ohio River on Drury Lane in the west end of Henderson. It was constructed as a primary treatment facility in 1954 and upgraded to secondary treatment in 1975. The plant was renovated and expanded in 1991, and again in 1997. The north plant has a design capacity of 15 million gallons per day (MGD) and operates at about 50% capacity or 6.5 MGD. The plant provides full primary and secondary treatment and discharges effluent into the Ohio River. The North WWTP processes wastewater from the collection system for the City of Henderson, the City of Corydon and some areas adjacent to Henderson city limits as shown in Figure 6-5.

The Henderson South WWTP is located south of Robards near the Four Star Industrial Park. This plant has a design capacity of 8 MGD, except for its effluent discharge pumping capacity which is 4 MGD. This plant currently operates at 75% of its discharge capacity or 2.5 MGD. It was constructed in 1996. The south plant discharges effluent into the Green River. While this plant primarily serves industries, it also treats wastewater from the City of Sebree in Webster County. The sewer lines served by this plant are shown at the bottom of Figure 6-6, the county sewer line map.

The anticipated ten year future service area for sewer service in Henderson County is shown on Figure 6-6. This proposed future service area is known as the Sewer Facilities Planning Area and is used for future projections of customers and demand when sizing wastewater treatment facilities and collection lines. The area to be treated by the North WWTP anticipates growth around the Henderson city limits due to development and future growth

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around the proposed I-69. It is anticipated that future development will be concentrated along US 41 towards Robards. It is also anticipated that when sewers are extended to I-69, they will eventually (within the next 20 years) be extended along US 60 to serve the communities of Baskett and Spottsville. In preparation for this anticipated expansion, Henderson Water Utility has begun planning for the elimination or rehabilitation of 38 of its 62 sewage pumping stations to help assure the continued adequate capacity of its sewer collection and transmission systems. The Sewer Facilities Planning Area for the South WWTP includes the City of Robards which is just north of the plant as well as areas north and south of Sebree in Webster County.

## **CORYDON MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER SYSTEM**

The City of Corydon owns and operates the city's wastewater collection system. The wastewater is pumped to the Henderson North WWTP for treatment by way of a six inch sewer force main. The Corydon collection system is in good condition as it was newly constructed in 1994. The entire city is served by approximately 298 connections including 290 residential, 7 commercial and one institutional customer. The system consists of six and eight inch PVC sewer lines, 56 manholes and three pump stations. Figure 6-6 shows the location of the three pump stations, however as accurate digitized mapping for the sewer lines in Corydon are not currently available, the line locations are not included.

## **STORM WATER**

The Henderson Water Utility is responsible for storm water drainage within the City of Henderson. The Henderson County Road Department is responsible for storm water along county roads and approves access points for new subdivisions. The City of Henderson has been designated a "small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System" (Small MS4 or sMS4) community by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and the Kentucky Division of Water (DOW). The Henderson Water Utility administers the federal and state regulations associated with this program. The program is currently funded by a storm water fee charged for all properties within the City of Henderson based on the impervious area of the property; however a rate

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increase under review by the Henderson City Commission is slated to eliminate this storm water fee and incorporate storm water costs into the first tier of the wastewater rate. This change would take effect on April 1, 2006. The MS4 Program consists of six elements, termed “ minimum control measures,” which are outlined below:

1. **Public Education and Outreach.** Distributing educational materials and performing outreach activities to inform citizens about the impacts polluted storm water runoff discharges can have on water quality.
2. **Public Participation/Involvement.** Providing opportunities for citizens to participate in program development and implementation, including effectively publicizing public hearings and/or encouraging citizen representatives on a storm water management panel.
3. **Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination.** Developing and implementing a plan to detect and eliminate discharges to the storm sewer system (includes developing a system map and informing the community about hazards associated with illegal discharges and improper disposal of waste).
4. **Construction Site Runoff Control.** Developing, implementing, and enforcing an erosion and sediment control program for construction activities that disturb one or more acres of land (controls could include silt fences and temporary storm water detention ponds).
5. **Post-Construction Runoff Control.** Developing, implementing, and enforcing a program to address discharges of post-construction storm water runoff from new development and redevelopment areas. Applicable controls could include preventative actions such as protecting sensitive areas (e.g. wetlands) or the use of structural BMPs such as grassed swales or porous pavement.
6. **Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping.** Developing and implementing a program with the goal of preventing or reducing pollutant runoff from municipal operations. The program must include municipal staff training on pollution prevention measures and techniques (e.g., regular street sweeping, reduction in the use of pesticides or street salt, or frequent catch basin cleaning).



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The Henderson Water Utility operates one storm water treatment facility, the Third Street CSO/Storm Water Basin. This facility provides primary treatment for one combined sewer overflow (CSO) and detention from storm water runoff from one watershed within the city.

One area of particular concern is the Canoe Creek Watershed which drains a significant portion of the City of Henderson and Henderson County. Within the City of Henderson, Canoe Creek is very flat and winding with a fall of only ten inches per mile. The creek winds back and forth for fifteen miles from Fifth Street to the mouth of the creek at the Ohio River. This long path slows the flow of water, causes repeated flooding and makes it difficult and expensive to maintain the creek by keeping it free of debris and silt. The Henderson Water Utility maintains some portions of the stream, but lacks access and permanent drainage easements in many areas. The drainage problems associated with Canoe Creek have been studied numerous times dating back to 1956. Each study proved to provide, at best, only limited relief to these drainage problems due primarily to the lack of adequate funding, the lack of easements, and the failure to create a local entity with adequate authority to address the problems associated with Canoe Creek.

## NATURAL GAS SERVICE

Natural gas service is provided by two distributors in Henderson County. Henderson Municipal Gas (HMG) provides natural gas service to the City of Henderson, some areas adjacent to Henderson and the City of Corydon (Figure 6-7). HMG was established in 1859 and is the fifth oldest natural gas system in the United States. HMG is served from the Texas Gas Interstate Pipeline. The system consists of 215 miles of main lines and 185 miles of service lines. There are approximately 10,150 meters serving 9,000 residential, 1,100 commercial and 50 industrial customers.

Atmos Energy provides natural gas to Country View Estates in the City of Henderson, the City of Robards and portions of the unincorporated areas of Henderson County. Atmos Energy acquired Western Kentucky Gas Company

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in December, 1997. The operations in Kentucky continued to operate under the Western Kentucky Gas name until October 2002 when all five of the utility’s operating divisions changed their long-standing trade names to Atmos Energy under a new national trademark. Atmos Energy has approximately 1,663 customers in Henderson County. The service areas and the number of meters in operation as of December, 2005 are as follows:

Poole	73 Meters	Niagara	65 Meters
Country View	357 Meters	Baskett	371 Meters
Finley	107 Meters	Spottsville	185 Meters
Anthoston	84 Meters	Farm Taps	120 Meters
Zion	201 Meters	Robards	100 Meters

## ELECTRIC SERVICE

Electric service in Henderson County is provided by three suppliers. These are Henderson Municipal Power & Light, Kenergy and Kentucky Utilities Company. The approximate service areas are shown on Figure 6-8. The information for Figure 6-8 was obtained from the Kentucky Public Service Commission. It should be noted that the service areas are approximate and overlap in some areas.

## HENDERSON MUNICIPAL POWER & LIGHT

Henderson Municipal Power and Light (HMP&L) is owned by the City of Henderson. HMP&L provides electric service to a majority of the city’s occupants. Henderson was the first city in Western Kentucky to own its own power generating plant. The first electric streetlights were lit on August 15, 1896. With the illumination of the town by these 154 street lights, the next step was for the city to investigate furnishing electricity to private customers. By 1950, increasing demand for electricity led the city to construct the Station One power plant during the years of 1950 and 1951. Two diesel generators were moved to the new plant to join a pair of 5,000 kW coal fired units. Within four years the city had to expand and add a 10,000 kW unit. In 1965 a 26,000 kW unit was installed. By 1969 the city was running out of capacity, and in

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1973, the Station Two power plant went into commercial operation with an installed capacity of 350,000 kW.

The Federal Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 affected HMP&L's Station Two power plant. A \$42 million installation of flue gas deculfurization equipment (scrubbers) to reduce sulfur dioxide emissions was accomplished in 1995. Low NOx (nitrogen oxide) burners to reduce nitrous oxide emissions were installed at the plant in 1996. The Station One power plant debt was retired in 1995 and the final bond payment on Station Two was made in 2003. HMP&L completed construction of a seventh substation in 1996, and added selective catalytic reduction (SCRs) equipment to Station Two in 2004 to meet further required reductions in NOx emissions. Henderson is one of only two cities in Kentucky that owns its own power plant. Its rates are among the lowest in the nation.

## **KENERGY CORPORATION & BIG RIVERS ELECTRIC CORP.**

Kenergy Corporation is a not for profit electric distribution cooperative formed in July 1999 through the consolidation of Henderson Union Electric Cooperative Corp. and Green River Electric Corporation. The corporate headquarters are located in Henderson at 6402 Old Corydon Road. They purchase electric power at wholesale and distribute it to customers within their service area. Kenergy serves in excess of 51,000 households, commercial enterprises and industries along more than 6,700 miles of line in all or portions of 14 western Kentucky counties - Breckinridge, Caldwell, Crittenden, Daviess, Hancock, Henderson, Hopkins, Livingston, Lyon, McLean, Muhlenberg, Ohio, Union and Webster. They serve some areas within the City of Henderson as well as other areas of the county. They have 8,284 customers in Henderson County.

Big Rivers Electric Corporation (BREC) is the transmission cooperative owned by Kenergy, Jackson Purchase Energy Corporation in Paducah, KY and Meade County Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation in Brandenburg, KY. BREC's headquarters are located at 201 Third Street in Henderson. Through a 25-year agreement with BREC, Western Kentucky Energy (WKE) leases and operates the BREC-owned power generation plants from which most of the

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power distributed by Kenergy is produced. Kenergy also distributes electricity supplied by LG&E Marketing, Inc., SIGECO and Cinergy.

## **KENTUCKY UTILITIES CO. & WESTERN KENTUCKY ENERGY**

Kentucky Utilities Company (KU) provides electric service in portions of Henderson and Henderson County. KU has approximately 2,789 customers in Henderson County. KU is a regulated electric utility, based in Lexington, Kentucky, serving 485,253 electric customers in 77 Kentucky counties and 29,730 electric customers in five counties in Virginia (under the name Old Dominion Power - ODP). Kentucky Utilities officially began business on December 2, 1912 serving five properties (Versailles, Lawrenceburg, Somerset, Elizabethtown and Shelbyville). KU acquired Old Dominion Power Company (ODP) in 1926. In 1998, KU's parent company, KU Energy, was acquired by LG&E Energy, which owned neighboring utility Louisville Gas and Electric Company. The acquisition of KU Energy, along with the 25-year lease agreement with Big Rivers Electric, more than doubled the size of LG&E Energy.

Powergen, based in the United Kingdom, bought LG&E Energy in 2000, and in 2001, Powergen agreed to be acquired by Germany's E.ON. The deal was completed in 2002. In 2003, E.ON transferred LG&E Energy from Powergen to another subsidiary, E.ON US Holdings.

Like KU, Western Kentucky Energy (WKE) is a wholly owned subsidiary of E.ON U.S. and is not affiliated with Big Rivers Electric Corporation. WKE generates electricity at four stations that it operates and maintains under a 25-year lease agreement with Big Rivers Electric Corporation. The stations are owned by Big Rivers Electric Corporation with the exception of HMP&L Station Two which is owned by Henderson Municipal Power & Light. WKE's corporate headquarters are located at 145 N. Main Street in Henderson in the historic Soaper Hotel Building.

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## **SOLID WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE**

The Sanitation Collection Division of the City of Henderson Public Works Department provides door to door solid waste collection services within the City of Henderson. They operate four garbage collection routes, six days a week. Waste is taken to the city owned transfer station on Stratman Road. The transfer station is operated by Dozit, Inc. under an agreement with the City of Henderson. Waste is transferred from collection vehicles to semi-trailers and then taken to the Dozit Landfill in Union County for disposal. County residents can also take solid waste to the transfer station for disposal. Door to door collection of recyclables is available to households in the City of Henderson from Allied Waste Services, Inc. for a fee. Allied Waste Services takes the recycled materials to their facility in Evansville, Indiana.

The City of Henderson also owns and operates a residual landfill near the transfer station on Stratman Road. The landfill is permitted to accept waste from Henderson County, nine surrounding Kentucky counties and three neighboring counties in Indiana. The residual landfill has a life expectancy of 15 years.

Private solid waste collection companies provide door to door solid waste collection services in the remainder of Henderson County. The county certifies these private haulers. As of January 2006 there were six certified companies operating in the county. The Henderson County Road Department operates a recycling drop off center at 5682 Airline Road. It is open seven days a week and currently accepts aluminum cans, newspaper, mixed paper, cardboard, magazines, plastic, glass, tin cans, Freon free used appliances and scrap metal. They also recycle automobile batteries and tires. Equipment includes two compactor bailers, a can crusher, a glass crusher and a roll off truck. The Tri-County Recycling Alliance has its office at the recycling center. It is a non-profit organization dedicated to the reduction, reuse and recycling of solid waste in Henderson, Webster and Union Counties.

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## **PUBLIC WORKS**

The City of Henderson Public Works Department is currently housed at two locations. The Street and Traffic Control Division and the Solid Waste Division are located at the Public Works Garage at 1131 Fifth Street. The Facilities Maintenance Division and the Engineering Division are located in the Municipal Center at 222 First Street. The City of Henderson is planning to move the Public Works Department and the Gas Department to a new facility. The old public works garage is more than 30 years old, is prone to flooding, has poor sanitary facilities and is undersized. It is anticipated that the new facility will be 40,000 square feet and will include garage equipment, equipment sheds and salt storage. The location of the new facility has not been determined yet as land for the facility will have to be purchased. It is anticipated that construction of the new service center will begin in the 2007 fiscal year.

## **EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Emergency services in Henderson County are dispatched through a central enhanced 911 Communications Center located at the Henderson Police Department at 1990 Barret Court in Henderson. It is a fully automated computer aided dispatch interfaced with a records management system. The 911 center is staffed by a supervisor and 13 dispatchers. They provide dispatch services for the following agencies: Henderson City Police Department, Henderson City Fire Department, Henderson County Sheriff's Department, Henderson City/County Ambulance Service, Henderson Coroner's Office, ten county volunteer fire departments, and the Henderson City/County Rescue Squad. The 911 Communications Center also monitors burglar and fire alarms, and can activate the outdoor warning systems for both the city and the county for severe weather.

## **FIRE PROTECTION**

Fire protection is provided by the Henderson City Fire Department (within Henderson city limits) and ten volunteer fire departments (in the remainder of the county). The primary service area for each fire department is shown on Figure 6-9. The City of Henderson Fire Department is staffed by

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paid personnel who provide protection for the city 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. The fire department has 58 uniformed officers and eight non-uniformed employees that operate out of the following four city fire stations:

Station 1	332 Washington Street
Station 2	29 US 41 S
Station 3	1740 North Green Street
Station 4	531 US ALT 41

The city fleet consists of five pumper/apparatus, one aerial/ladder truck, one heavy rescue vehicle, one hazardous materials response vehicle, and six support vehicles (vans and cars). The fire department also responds to emergency medical calls, auto accidents, carbon monoxide alarms, and other special rescue situations such as trench rescue, hazardous materials response, high angle rope rescue, and confined space rescue.

The Henderson Fire Department is preparing to construct a new three bay fire station to provide improved service for the north section of the City. This new facility will replace the existing Station 3 which is located in a forty-year-old building. The new facility will be located on US 60 East near Bend Gate Road on a site formerly occupied by the Starlight Drive-In. The station is being designed to initially house eight firefighters with room to expand to include four additional personnel for a total of twelve personnel. This state of the art station will provide additional space, appropriate facilities for female firefighters, a fitness room and office and workspace for the firefighters stationed at the facility. While the fate of the existing Station 3 building has not yet been determined, it is anticipated that construction of the new station will start in July or August 2006 with the facility operational by the spring of 2007.

The remainder of Henderson County is provided fire protection by the following volunteer fire departments, which receive \$8,000 each annually from the Henderson County Fiscal Court:

*Corydon Civil Defense Fire Department* - provides service in and around the City of Corydon. Their equipment consists of two 1,100 gpm pumpers, one 3000 gallon tanker, one 1,000 gallon pumper a one-ton pickup truck squad/grass unit and one grass unit with a 350 gallon tank.

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*Robards Volunteer Fire Department* - provides service in and around the City of Robards. Their equipment includes one 1000 gpm pumper/apparatus, one 1850 gallon tanker/pumper, and one brush truck with a 250 gpm pumper.

*Spottsville Volunteer Fire Department* - equipment consists of one 300 gpm brush truck with 300 gallon tank, one 750 gpm pumper/tanker with a 1400 gallon tank, one 750 gpm pumper/apparatus with 1000 gallon tank and two additional pumpers/apparatus.

*Cairo Volunteer Fire Department* - equipment consists of one 1800 gallon tanker, one 1000 gpm pumper/apparatus, and one 200 gallon brush truck.

*Reed Volunteer Fire Department* - equipment consists of two 1000 gpm pumpers/apparatus, one 1000 gallon tanker, and one brush truck.

*Smiths Mill Volunteer Fire Department* - equipment consists of one 1000 gallon tanker, two 500 gpm pumpers/apparatus, one brush/grass truck, and one support truck.

*Zion Volunteer Fire Department* - equipment consists of one 4000 gallon tanker, one 750 gpm pumper/apparatus, one 1000 gpm pumper/apparatus, and one brush truck.

*Baskett Volunteer Fire Department* - equipment consists of one 1000 gpm pumper/apparatus, one 2000 gallon tanker, one 1250 gpm pumper/apparatus, and one 4-wheel drive vehicle for brush fires.

*Hebbardsville Volunteer Fire Department* - equipment consists of one 750 gpm pumper/apparatus, one 5000 gallon tanker, and one 1000 gpm pumper/apparatus.

*Niagara Volunteer Fire Department* - equipment consists of two 1000 gpm pumpers/apparatus, one 4000 gallon tanker, and one brush truck.

The Poole Volunteer Fire Department, located in Webster County, also serves a portion of southern Henderson County west of Robards.

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## **HENDERSON CITY/COUNTY RESCUE SQUAD**

The Henderson City/County Rescue Squad provides backup for the city and county fire departments. They are housed in a two bay station located on Airline Road near the Henderson County Road Department garage. They are responsible for rescues in the county including trapped and lost victims and dragging operations. The Rescue Squad also provides on-scene support to the county volunteer fire departments on county structure fires. The Rescue Squad's equipment includes one 1 ton converted ambulance response vehicle, one 16 foot and one 19 foot flat bottom john boats, one 17 foot V-bottom Sea Ray boat, two Ford type II ambulances, and one Ford converted to a type III ambulance. Although the Rescue Squad has "ambulance type" equipment, they do not transport patients. The rescue squad is staffed by volunteers.

## **HENDERSON COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

The Henderson County Emergency Management Agency is located in the Peabody Building at 1990 Barret Court. It is staffed by the Henderson County Emergency Management Director who is responsible for coordinating mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery efforts in Henderson County and the cities therein. An Emergency Operations Center (EOC), located in the Peabody Building on Barret Court. The EOC can be activated during emergencies as needed. The Emergency Management Agency equipment includes one Mobile Command Post.

## **POLICE PROTECTION**

Police protection is provided by the City of Henderson Police Department (within the City of Henderson). The Henderson County Sheriff's Department provides protective services in the remainder of Henderson County (including the cities of Corydon and Robards). In addition, Kentucky State Police Post 16 which serves Daviess, Hancock, Henderson, McLean, Ohio, and Union Counties is located in Henderson County at 8415 US Highway 41 South.

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The Henderson Police Department is located at 1990 Barret Court in what was previously known as the Peabody Building. The department is currently divided into three divisions: the Service Division, Traffic and Patrol Division, and Investigations Division. The Service Division includes the Chief of Police, Deputy Chief, Training Sergeant, thirteen Communications Officers, eleven School Crossing Guards, one Parking Enforcement Officer, and seven Civilian Administrative Personnel. The Traffic and Patrol Division includes: one Major, three Lieutenants, three Sergeants, four corporals, and 40 Traffic and Patrol Officers. This Division also includes the following specialized units: one K-9 Officer and Handler, two Bicycle Patrol Officers, one D.A.R.E. Officer, and two School Resource Officers. The Investigations Division includes: one Major, one Sergeant, five Detectives, one ID/Crime Scene Sergeant, one ID/Crime Scene Officer, and one Property Officer. The Henderson City Police Department equipment includes 62 cars, two Jeep 4X4's, one 4X4 pickup truck, one Emergency Response Team panel truck, one Evidence Collection panel truck, and one 11 passenger van.

The Henderson County Sheriff's Department is located in the Henderson County Courthouse on North Main Street. In addition to the Sheriff, the department is staffed by one captain, one patrol lieutenant, one investigative lieutenant, one detective, one patrol sergeant, ten full time road deputies, four office personnel, 15 court bailiffs, and two civil process servers. In addition to providing police patrol services in the county and the cities of Corydon and Robards, the Sheriff's Department responsibilities include collection of taxes, court security, warrant and civil process service, and transportation of prisoners including transporting state prisoners from county to county. The Sheriff's Department equipment includes 13 marked cruisers, four unmarked cars, one 2 ½ ton truck, one 6 wheel drive utility vehicle with a mobile generator and light plant, and two 15 passenger vans.

## **HENDERSON CITY/COUNTY AMBULANCE SERVICE**

Community Methodist Hospital contracts with Henderson City and County governments to provide Advanced Life Support (ALS) Ambulance Service to all of Henderson County. The Ambulance Service is equipped with six ambulances and provides Advanced Life Support level on each responding

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unit. The South Station recently moved from the Henderson Medical Complex Building to a newly constructed South Station Ambulance Service at 383 Borax Drive. The new station provides bay area for 3 ALS ambulances, 2 Mass Causality Incident (MCI) trailers and one support vehicle. The MCI trailer is a command and control trailer towed to the scene of a mass causality incident to be used as either a medical command trailer or a medical aid station. The building also houses administration, billing, education and maintenance to support the Henderson Ambulance Service. The North Station is located at Methodist Hospital.

The Ambulance Service can provide automobile extrication services for trapped victims in addition to general medical/ambulance service. Long distance transports can be done as contracted at the time necessary. Contractual services are also available to meet the industrial needs of the area.

## **METHODIST HOSPITAL**

Community Methodist Hospital is located at the corner of 12th and Elm Street adjacent to Atkinson Park in the City of Henderson. The original hospital complex was constructed as an 80-bed facility in 1948 by the U.S. Federal Works Agency under the Lanham Act. In 1958, an additional 41-bed complex was constructed and in 1968, a new 126-bed hospital was completed on land adjacent to the old facility.

Community Methodist Hospital changed its name to Methodist Hospital in 1998 with the opening of the new six-floor North Tower facility addition to acknowledge the expanded region of health care coverage. The North Tower includes a new and expanded Intensive Care floor; Laboratory and Pathology and expanded 24 hour Emergency Services Department on the first floor; Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy Services located on the ground floor, a fully monitored Telemetry unit on the third floor and a Rehabilitation Unit on the fourth floor licensed to provide Comprehensive Physical Rehabilitation care.

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Methodist Hospital provides health care services primarily in Henderson, Union, and Webster counties and portions of the surrounding counties including southern Indiana and Southern Illinois. Methodist Hospital owns and operates Methodist Hospital Union County in Morganfield, Kentucky; Methodist Hospital Ambulatory Care Center in Dixon, Kentucky; the Methodist Hospital Home Health Agency, the Methodist Hospital Primary Care Center with seven licensed sites including four elementary schools, Henderson County High School, the Henderson Housing Authority Cabell-Platt Center and The Salvation Army; and, Methodist Hospital Counseling Service with sites in Henderson and Owensboro, Kentucky. Methodist Hospital operates a community based Home Medical Equipment service, which provides in-home durable medical equipment including respiratory, sleeping disorders, phototherapy and ambulatory assistive devices, etc. The Henderson City/County and Union County Ambulance Service are operated and managed by Methodist Hospital Henderson and Methodist Hospital Union County.

In addition, Methodist Hospital owns and operates the Community Care Network, a managed care program including hospitals, physicians and pharmacies networked for the purpose of providing cost-effective quality health care.

Methodist Hospital has 219 adult and pediatric patient beds with 15 Level II Neonatal Intensive Care (NICU) beds, 12 Normal Nursery bassinets, a 12-bed ICU Unit, and a Rehabilitation Center with 24 Comprehensive Physical Rehabilitation beds. Notable facilities include ambulatory and inpatient surgical rooms; Radiology with nuclear diagnostic services, vascular imaging, a special procedures lab, a “state of the art” multi-slice CAT Scan, Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), combined PET/CT, Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy Services, Renal Dialysis, in surgery Extra-Corporeal Shock-wave Lithotripsy (ESWL); respiratory therapy, a birthing center, a cardiac catheterization unit, Intensive Out-Patient Chemical Dependency Services, and a 24-hour physician-staffed emergency room.

Methodist Hospital also has an on-site Child Day Care Center, which began operation in 1981. Construction was completed on a new two-story building located on the north section of the campus that houses the Methodist

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Hospital Child Care Services on the first floor and the Business Office on the second floor. Construction of this facility paved the way for demolition of the 1946 facility and construction of the new South Tower.

The hospital has been operating a Home Health Agency since 1986, which is licensed to serve a three county region of Henderson, Union and Webster counties. A total of 32,333 patient visits were completed in 2005. The agency is located at 110 Second Street. For the 2005 calendar year, there were a total of 30,684 hospital in-patient days, 280,341 out-patient visits, 24,430 emergency room visits, 612 babies born and 1,069 in-patient surgeries and 5,427 out-patient surgeries. The organization employs a total of 1,202 persons currently. Of these 702 are directly related to patient care while the remaining 500 provide general support services such as housekeeping, dietary, etc.

A cancer center, which was opened in 1987, is also located on the hospital grounds. This is a privately owned facility which leases land from the hospital to enhance patient convenience for this needed service. This center provides physician ordered radiation treatment with a Linear Accelerator and eliminates the need for patients to travel in order to receive radiation treatment.

Methodist Hospital has broken ground on its largest construction project ever – to replace the hospital on its existing campus. Initially to be built three stories tall, the South Tower project will someday be seven stories, encompassing services from Obstetrics, Nursery and Neonatal Intensive Care to Pediatrics, Medical and Surgical units, Admissions, Pharmacy, a new Cafeteria and Dietary Department, as well as, a new Riverside Entrance and Lobby will also become part of the South Tower in future phases.

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