

MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release: Friday, August 17, 2007

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NewCities Institute Announces 2nd Kentucky Initiative - NewCity Madisonville-Hopkins County

WHO:

Hundreds of citizens from Madisonville and Hopkins County are expected to join public officials and community leaders, affiliates and partners on Tuesday, September 18; Thursday, September 20; and Saturday morning, September 22, 2007 for the collaborative launch of the NewCity Madisonville-Hopkins County project. The official Kickoff Event will be held on Saturday, September 22nd at 9 a.m. in the Brown Springs Middle School.

WHAT/ WHEN:

Tuesday, September 18, 7:00 p.m. – Dawson Springs Public Library and the White Plains Senior Citizens Center – Community Listening Sessions

Thursday, September 20, 2:00 p.m. – Trover Clinic Tower – Community Listening Session

Thursday, September 20, 7:00 p.m. – Madisonville Community College - Community Listening Session

Saturday, September 22, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Browning Springs Middle School - Kickoff Rally and Community Charette

At the Listening Sessions on Tuesday and Thursday, citizens are invited to share their personal views on what they'd like to see as local priorities at the NewCity Madisonville-Hopkins County. All events are open and free to public. Refreshments will be provided.

On Saturday morning, the community will come together again – all in one location - at the Brown Springs Middle School – for a Kickoff Rally and Community Charette. Citizens will be asked to transform their words into images and to imagine “all that is possible” in Madisonville and Hopkins County

The NewCity Madisonville-Hopkins County initiative is a four-month project to establish a vision, priorities and strategies for Madisonville and Hopkins County's future. What makes this initiative so important is that everyone in the community is welcome to get involved.

The initiative is unlike previous visioning or strategic planning efforts because it needs average citizens to step up and participate in order to be successful. Community leaders are not driving the process, but they are giving citizens the opportunity to choose community priorities and then work together to make grassroots changes and forge the future that the community wants.

The NewCities Institute (NCI) is a national nonprofit based in Lexington, Kentucky which was created in 2001 to move communities into their brightest futures. The NewCity Madisonville-Hopkins County process will be intense, collaborative and transparent and is expected to last four months. The institute finished its work on similar initiatives with Moscow, Idaho and Morehead/Rowan County in late 2006.

“We can think of no better way to give people more power in improving their quality of life while strengthening the sense of community and civic engagement,” said Sylvia L. Lovely, NCI President.

Partners for NewCity Madisonville-Hopkins County include the City of Madisonville, the Hopkins County Fiscal Court, Trover Health System, and the Madisonville-Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce.

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