

# Work at industrial park OK'd

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## Lots to be available by December

Bardstown City Council and Nelson County Fiscal Court are moving ahead with infrastructure improvements at Nelson County Industrial Park. Last week, Bardstown City Council approved a \$300,000 expenditure for water lines and pumping systems leading into the industrial center. Also last week, Nelson County Fiscal Court awarded a \$1.07 million bid to Louisville-based Caldwell Tanks Incorporated for the construction of a 750,000-gallon water tank. Fiscal Court also approved the advertisement of bids for road construction. Judge Executive Dean Watts said businesses were already looking at property at the undeveloped park. "We hope to have sellable property by December," Watts said. The 420-acre park was purchased about a year ago by county government. While the county owns the property, Nelson County Economic Development



BOB WHITE/The Kentucky Standard - NCEDA executive director Kim Huston points to the boundaries of the 420-acre Nelson County Industrial Park. The property is visible from the Blue Grass Parkway.

Agency executive director Kim Huston said the industrial facility was a joint project between NCEDA and Bardstown and county governments. "We will be the marketers of the property and help secure the infrastructure," Huston said. Recent inquiries about park property from several large businesses prompted local officials to put a rush on infrastructure improvements. "The calls are starting and the visits are coming," Huston said. "This spurred the city and county into getting to work on it. It's on the fast track." Accessibility to the Blue Grass Parkway, high visibility and level land make the Nelson County Industrial Park an ideal place for business, Huston said. "We've been told by state and economic leaders that this is one of the best pieces of ground in the state," Huston said. A grant request for two road improvements related to the park - one off Woodlawn Road and another near Parkway Baptist Church - is currently pending. Exact layout of roads within the park will depend on clients and their requested lot sizes, Huston said. A second industrial center, Wilson Industrial Park, has less than 70 available acres. Huston said the county lost one business already due to needing more space than currently available at the Wilson site. Unlike Wilson Industrial Park, Nelson County Industrial Park does not offer a rail line for tenants. But Nelson County Industrial Park offers other valuable amenities. "Wilson Industrial Park is nice for businesses that like to be tucked away and out of view," Huston said. "We've had some companies who really like the visibility and accessibility Nelson County Industrial Park has to the parkway." Next for Nelson Industrial Park would be the installation of sewer lines. Huston said the exact routing of sewer lines hadn't been finalized. "We're still looking at a few different options," Huston said.