

Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Jim Gray Mayor

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Mayor Jim Gray

FROM:

Scott Shapiro

Senior Advisor to the Mayor

DATE:

October 14, 2014

RE:

BEAM Manufacturing Innovation Conference

This memo requests council authorization to approve payment of \$20,000 to the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce for Lexington's sponsorship of the Kentucky Manufacturing and Innovation Conference, a BEAM initiative.

Sponsored by both Lexington and Louisville, the conference is being jointly produced by the Kentucky Association of Manufacturers and the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce. It is being held at the Lexington Center on October 14.

The BEAM initiative's goal is to help Central Kentucky's strong manufacturing industry become even stronger. Identified in the BEAM initiative's report last fall was a need to focus on innovation in manufacturing. This conference features speakers on a range of innovation topics, including digital manufacturing, big data, and advances in materials and joining. The host of the conference is Jennifer McNelly, president of the National Manufacturing Institute. More details on the conference can be found at www.KYManufacturingConference.com.

Funds for this sponsorship are budgeted in the FY15 economic development budget.