



Testimony

Unified Government Public Relations
701 N. 7th Street, Room 620
Kansas City, Kansas 66101

Mike Taylor, Public Relations Director
913.573.5565 mtaylor@wycokck.org

Public Safety Boat Ramp in Wyandotte County

HB 2599

**Delivered to
Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee**

The Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City is requesting this legislation to allow a boat ramp to be built on the Kansas River near I-35 and 7th Street in Kansas City, Kansas.

The easement is to allow the Unified Government to construct a new boat ramp which will be used by the fire department and other emergency responders for water rescues and other public safety uses. The land lies within restricted areas meant only for public safety and levee control and will not be opened to public use.

The project is being partially funded by the federal government through a grant for ports and waterway security. We just recently learned specific legislative approval was needed for the Secretary of State to grant the easement. The reason it requires legislative action is because the easement and boat ramp will be private... for emergency responder use only... and not open to the public.

The federal grant expires July 1, 2014, so the window for the Unified Government to get the approval and the built is very small.

HB 2599 received an expedited hearing in the House Federal and State Affairs Committee and was approved by the full House by a vote of 120-2.

The Unified Government and KCK Fire Department appreciate your attention to this issue and we thank you for your cooperation in making this project possible.