



Freight & Regional Economic Development

How the Panama Canal Expansion Will Impact the Purchase Region

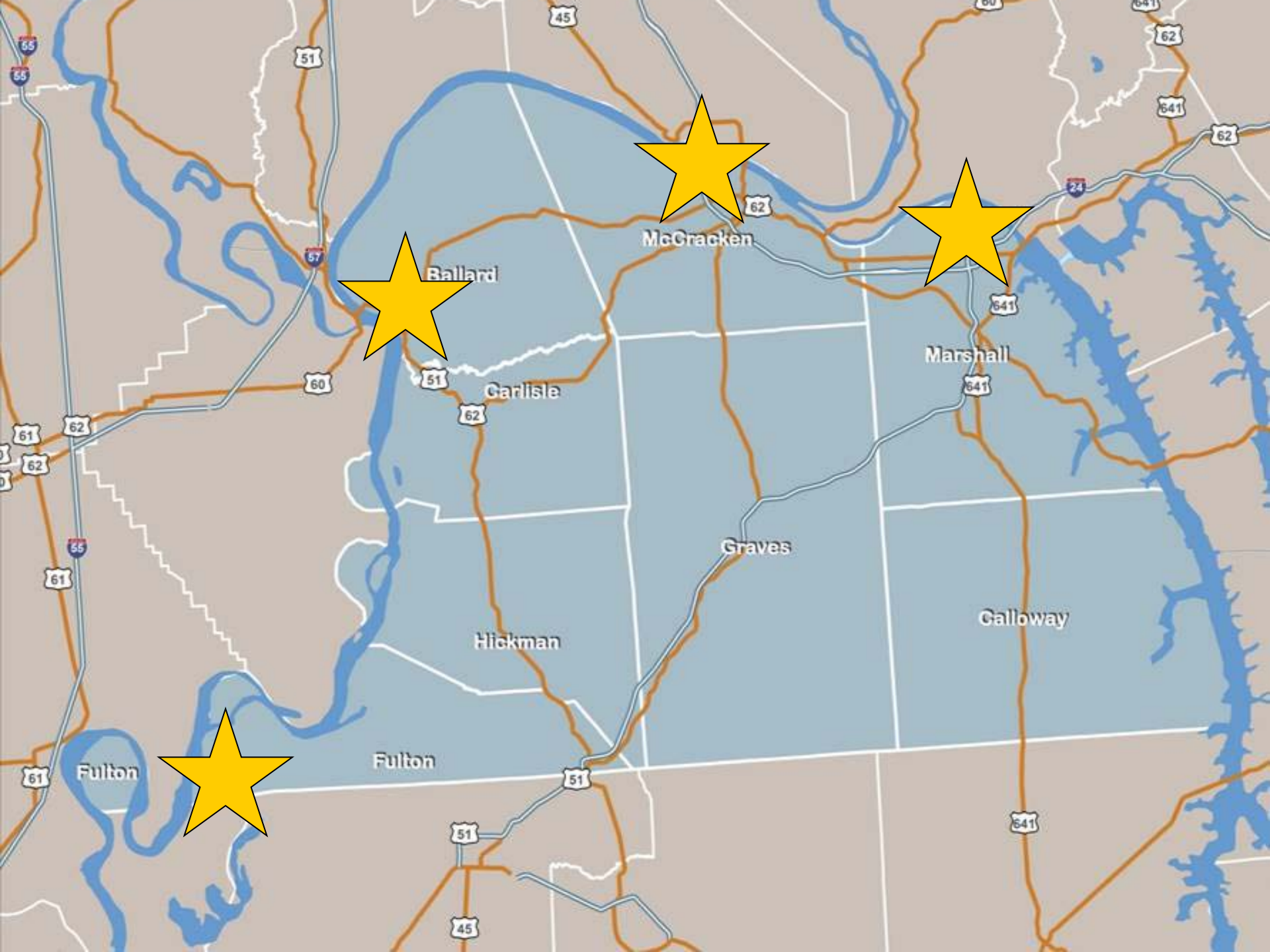
Western Kentucky has the largest concentration of major navigable rivers in the world. Paducah is at the center linking Pittsburgh, Mobile, the Gulf of Mexico, New Orleans, St. Louis, Minneapolis/St. Paul and Chicago, via the Illinois River.

Only New Orleans, with its ships, tugboats and petrochemical industry, has a bigger inland river presence.

*Professional Mariner
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SOURCE: Image courtesy of Hanson Professional Services, Inc., as published in Kentucky Riverport Improvement Project, prepared for the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, January 2008.



Booming Business

In Paducah, there are 23 barge companies with operating headquarters or corporate offices employing 5,000 people

As well, there are 150 support or supply companies employing up to 10,000 people

\$155 Million Annual Impact







Panama Canal Expansion Impact



Paducah Area Chamber of Commerce Transportation Summit

PADD Community & Economic Development Committee

Paducah-McCracken Co Riverport Authority

US Dept of Transportation Study Connecting Paducah and I-55

Regional Chamber Alliance Adopts I-69 as its Major Objective

Current Planning



Exploring Foreign Trade Zone for Region

Feasibility Study on Infrastructure Needs

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

Where We're Headed

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