

Apple and Corning partner to manufacture 100 percent of iPhone and Apple Watch cover glass in Kentucky

STAFF REPORT

Apple and Corning announced on Wednesday a major expansion of their long-standing partnership to make precision glass for Apple products. Apple is making a new \$2.5 billion commitment to produce all of the cover glass for iPhone and Apple Watch in Corning's Harrodsburg, Kentucky, manufacturing facility. This means that 100 percent of the cover glass on iPhone and Apple Watch units sold worldwide will be made in the U.S. for the first time.

Corning is creating the world's largest and most advanced smartphone glass production line at the Harrodsburg facility. Corning will now dedicate this entire facility to manufacturing for Apple, which will help increase Corning's manufacturing and engineering workforce in Kentucky by 50 percent. The two companies will also open a new Apple-Corning Innovation Center at the Harrodsburg plant. The Innovation Center will play a key role in the development and engineering of advanced materials and next-generation manufacturing platforms for Apple's future generations of products.

These projects are part of Apple's broader commitment to spend and invest more than \$600 billion in the U.S. economy over the next four years. This includes Apple's newly announced American Manufacturing Program (AMP), which will invest across America and incentivize global companies to onshore production and manufacture even more of Apple's critical components in the United States.

"Corning is a storied American company, and we're thrilled to work together to build the largest and most advanced production line ever created for



Apple and Corning recently announced that all glass for iPhones and Apple Watches will be manufactured in Kentucky. (Photo submitted)

smartphone glass," said Tim Cook, Apple's CEO. "Thanks to the power of American manufacturing, any customer anywhere in the world who buys a new iPhone or Apple Watch will be holding precision glass made right here in Kentucky. We're grateful to the President and his administration for their support for American manufacturing, and we're excited for the innovation this investment will unlock."

"Apple is an amazing partner for American manufacturers like us, and together, we've innovated and pushed the boundaries of what's possible," said Wendell Weeks, Corning's CEO.

"We developed and made the glass for the very first iPhone in Harrodsburg, Kentucky, 18 years ago. With this new multibillion-dollar commitment from Apple and the lighting of our most advanced manufacturing platform, we are hiring more people and bringing 100 percent of Apple's cover glass needs for iPhone and Apple Watch to the original home of the innovation."

This announcement continues a partnership that has been in place between Apple and Corning since the launch of the original iPhone in 2007. Today, the Harrodsburg, Kentucky, fa-

cility produces high-quality glass for Apple called Ceramic Shield. This advanced glass — the toughest in any smartphone — is the result of years of innovation by Apple and Corning engineers working closely together.

Since the creation of Apple's U.S. Advanced Manufacturing Fund in 2017, Apple has invested nearly \$500 million in Corning's Kentucky operations, with billions more spent on glass manufactured in the U.S.

Corning also provides raw materials used by another AMP company, GlobalWafers, which will use silicon from Corning to manufacture advanced bare wa-

fers in the U.S. for the first time. In that way, Corning also plays a key role in Apple's supply chain for producing advanced silicon chips in America.

Apple has a long history of investing in the U.S., creating opportunity and driving American innovation. Today, Apple partners with thousands of suppliers across all 50 states, supporting more than 450,000 supplier and partner jobs. In the next four years, Apple plans to directly hire 20,000 people in the U.S. — the vast majority focused on R&D, silicon engineering, software development, and AI and machine learning.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MIDDLESBOROUGH, KENTUCKY, ESTABLISHING THE AD VALOREM TAX LEVY ON PERSONAL PROPERTY FOR YEAR 2026

WHEREAS, in accordance with the provisions of Kentucky Revised Statutes the Middlesboro City Council deems enactment of the following ordinance to be in the best interest of the City of Middlesborough, and; WHEREAS, enactment of this ordinance is essential to ensure that sufficient funds are available to satisfy the budgetary requirements of the City. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Common Council of the City of Middlesborough, Kentucky as follows:

Section One: On every \$100.00 in value of all personal property

Public Notices

subject to taxation by said City for the year beginning January 1, 2026 and ending December 31, 2026 assessed for the said year by the Bell County Property Valuation Administrator for the said City as of January 1, 2025 by the Kentucky Railroad Commission, by the State Board of Valuations, and by any other assessing authorities, and by the Statutes of Kentucky, there is hereby levied and ordered an ad valorem tax at the rate of 23.20 cents on each \$100.00 of assessed valuation for the following purposes and in the specified amounts as follows: The sum of 23.20 cents is hereby levied on each \$100.00 of assessed valuation of personal property subject to tax for City purposes of defraying the necessary expenses for general operation of the City Government and services in the City of Middlesborough, including payment of salaries and all operating expenses of the Police and Fire Departments, Clerk, Collector, Assessor, City Attorney, Treasurer, Mayor and Councilmen, and all other employees of the City, and for supplies and equip-

Public Notices

ment for all departments, traveling expenses, and for all general operating expenses of every nature; and for the purposes of paying all general expenses of maintenance and repair of all City property, including street and rights-of-way, paying for all utility services used by the City; and for the purposes of expansion of airport facilities, buying rights-of-way, damages, court costs, and to purchase new pieces of equipment for use in any of the various departments of the City such as fire, police, or street departments, and for any and all general purposes for which such tax levy may be needed in the general operation of the City of Middlesborough. The overall tax on personal property of 23.20 cents is distributed as follows: General Fund 23.20

Section Two: This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon passage and publication: Section Three: All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are, to the extent of such conflict, hereby repealed. Enacted the day of June 2025. MAYOR: Boone Bowling ATTEST: Sandra Wilson, City Clerk

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MIDDLESBOROUGH, KENTUCKY, ESTABLISHING THE AD VALOREM TAX LEVY FOR YEAR 2025

WHEREAS, in accordance with provisions of Kentucky Revised Statutes, the Middlesborough City Council deems enactment of the following ordinance to be in the best interest of the City of Middlesborough and to be essential to ensure that sufficient funds are available to satisfy the budgetary requirements of the City. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Common Council of Middlesborough, Kentucky, as follows:

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Section One: On every \$100.00 in value of all real property subject to taxation by said City of the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026 assessed for the said year by the Bell County Property Valuation Administrator for the said City as of January 1, 2025, by the Kentucky Railroad Commission, by the State Board of Valuations, and by any other assessing authorities, and by the Statutes of Kentucky, there is hereby levied and ordered an ad valorem tax at the rate of 6.90 cents on each \$100.00 of assessed valuation for the following purposes and in the specified amounts as follows: The sum of 6.90 cents is hereby levied on each \$100.00 of assessed valuation of real property subject to tax for City purposes of defraying the necessary expenses for general operation of the City government and services in the City of Middlesborough, including payment of salaries and all operating expenses of the Police and Fire Departments, Clerk, Collector, Assessor, City Attorney, Treasurer, Mayor and Councilmen, and all other employees of the City, and for supplies and equipment for all departments, traveling expenses, and for all general purposes of paying all general expenses of maintenance and repair of all City property, including streets and rights-of-way, paying for all utility services used by the City; and for the purposes of expansion of airport facilities, buying rights-of-way, damages, court costs, and to purchase new pieces of equipment for use in any of the various departments of the City, such as Fire, Police, or Street Department, and for any and all general purposes for which such tax levy may be needed in the general operation of the City of Middlesborough.

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The overall tax on real property of 6.90 cents is distributed as follows: General Fund 6.90

Section Two: There has also been imposed a bank franchise and local deposit tax for year 202 at a rate of 0.025% said monies to be collected and paid into the General Fund. Said funds shall then be distributed as follows: General Fund 25.0

Section Three: A discount of 2% will be allowed if the total bill is paid through the month of November, 2025.

Section Four: A penalty of 5% shall be attached to the collections of all taxes levied and not paid before January, 2026.

Section Five: A penalty of 21% shall be attached to the collections of all taxes levied and not paid before February, 2026.

Section Six: This ordinance shall become effective upon enactment and publication as required by law. Enacted the day of June 2025. MAYOR: Boone Bowling City Clerk: Sandra Wilson

Middlesboro Daily News: Aug. 13, 2025 **ADVALOREM TAX**

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Bell County Cooperative Extension Service's most recent audit and adopted budget can be viewed anytime on the Department for Local Government's Public Portal website. If you would like to view our most recent financial statement, please visit us at our home office located at 10524 US Highway 25E, Pineville, Kentucky 40977, during our normal office hours of Monday-Friday 8am-4pm. This ad was paid for by Bell County Cooperative Extension Service dollars.

Middlesboro News: Aug. 13, 2024 **AUDIT/BUDGET**

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Middlesboro has implemented an Ordinance to create the position of IT Director in the Administrative Department with a paygrade 18.

Middlesboro News: Aug. 13, 2025 **ORDINANCE/IT**

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