

KY Democratic Senate candidate says voters deserve 'honest answer' about McConnell's health



SPENCER MAHON - RR

Charles Booker is the Democrat nominee for Senator McConnell's seat.



KENTUCKY LANTERN PHOTO BY AUSTIN ANTHONY

U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell at the Fancy Farm Picnic on Saturday, Aug 2, 2025.

that Mitch McConnell has lacked the capacity to represent us in the Senate. That fact, along with the developing news now, is deeply concerning. Continuing to ignore this is not leadership. It's elder abuse. and it's time for him to relinquish the business of Kentucky back to the people," Booker said.

"Kentuckians of every stripe, from lifelong Republicans and Democrats to first-time voters, deserve a clear and honest answer about their senator's condition. This seat carries too much responsibility, and represents too many people, for anything less than real accountability. He, like every American, deserves great healthcare and transparent leadership."

Thursday afternoon, a spokesperson for McConnell said: "Senator McConnell appreciates the

outpouring of support he's receiving while he continues his recovery in the hospital. The Senator continues to improve, and is working closely with his staff on Kentucky and Senate matters while the Senate is out of session." The Lantern had asked about McConnell's health and if he would like to respond to Booker.

On June 22, a spokesperson said McConnell was "still working closely with staff on Senate business and Kentucky matters as he continues his recovery" and he would not vote in the Senate that week.

In 2024, the GOP-controlled state General Assembly passed a law that requires the governor to call a special election to fill a vacant U.S. Senate seat and allow the winner to serve until the end of the unexpired term.

McKenna Horsley
Kentucky Lantern

The Kentucky Democrat who is hoping to succeed Republican U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell says that Kentuckians "deserve a clear and honest answer about their senator's condition."

McConnell, 84, was admitted to a hospital on June 14 for an undisclosed

reason, a spokesperson previously said. Since then, his team has given a few vague updates on McConnell's condition.

U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell speaks during the Fancy Farm Picnic on Saturday, Aug 2, 2025. (Austin Anthony for the Kentucky Lantern)

Charles Booker, a former state representa-

tive from Louisville, said Thursday afternoon that while "I am concerned about the health of Senator Mitch McConnell" and this is a personal time for him and his family, "our entire commonwealth and country are vested in Senator McConnell's ability to serve."

Booker, who is facing Republican U.S. Rep. Andy

Barr for the seat this fall, said that "it is imperative that Kentuckians know what is going on." Booker referred to media reports about a 911 call obtained by Punchbowl News requesting an Advanced Life Support response to McConnell's residence near Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C.

"What is clear is that we have known for some time

Two more people confirmed dead from floods, governor says

McKenna Horsley
Kentucky Lantern

Gov. Andy Beshear has announced two more people died from severe flooding that swept through Kentucky last week.

Beshear said in a Tuesday morning social media post that one death was in Hardin County and another was in Jefferson County, making the total number of deaths from the floods six.

Previously, the Madison County coroner announced John Powell, Patricia Beck and Garnett Isbell died in Madison County in flood-related

deaths. A fourth person, who has not been identified, also died in Jackson County.

"Please join Britanny and me as we pray for their families during this difficult time," Beshear said in his post.

The governor has said the state plans to make a request for both public and individual assistance from the federal government.

Kentuckians affected by the storm can report issues to Kentucky Emergency Management via an online unmet needs survey and damage reporting tool.



BLAKE VICKERS — RR

Governor Andy Beshear visited the Madison County Emergency Operations Center.

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PROPOSED LAND USE CHANGE



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

There will be a public hearing of the Madison County Planning Commission on **Tuesday July 21, 2026**

at the **Madison County Courthouse Annex, 1st Floor at 5:30 p.m.** The purpose is to consider a Land Use Change for **215 Avawam Dr from UC-1 (Single Family Residential) to UC-2 (Multi-Family Residential)** as shown on the map above. Contact the Madison County Planning and Development Office at 859-624-4780 for questions. Applications and other documentation may be found on the Madison County website at www.madisoncountky.gov under the Planning and Development tab.

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