

Members

Sen. Patricia Miller, Chairperson
Sen. Brent Waltz
Sen. Jean Breaux
Sen. Greg Taylor
Sen. Luke Kenley
Sen. Michael Crider
Sen. Brandt Hershman
Sen. Timothy Lanane
Rep. Michael Speedy
Rep. Cindy Kirchhofer
Rep. Jeffrey Thompson
Rep. John Price
Rep. Jerry Torr
Rep. Greg Porter
Rep. Cherrish Pryor
Rep. Ed DeLaney



CENTRAL INDIANA TRANSIT STUDY COMMITTEE

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Committee

Authority: P.L. 212-2013 (HEA 1011)

MEETING MINUTES¹

Meeting Date: November 21, 2013
Meeting Time: 9:00 A.M.
Meeting Place: State House, 200 W. Washington
St., Room 431
Meeting City: Indianapolis, Indiana
Meeting Number: 5

Members Present: Sen. Patricia Miller, Chairperson; Sen. Brent Waltz; Sen. Greg Taylor; Sen. Luke Kenley; Sen. Michael Crider; Sen. Timothy Lanane; Rep. Michael Speedy; Rep. Jeffrey Thompson; Rep. John Price; Rep. Jerry Torr; Rep. Greg Porter; Rep. Cherrish Pryor; Rep. Ed DeLaney.

Members Absent: Sen. Jean Breaux; Sen. Brandt Hershman; Rep. Cindy Kirchhofer.

Senator Miller called the meeting to order at 9:09 A.M.

Walter Kelly of Fishers spoke of his advocacy for public transit in Hamilton County. Pastor Al Goertemiller of Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Carmel spoke on behalf of IndyCAN (Indianapolis Congregation Action Network) and expressed the view that providing public transit is a moral imperative. David Thomas of Indianapolis shared his personal experience as a current bus rider who needs public transit in order to support himself and his family.

¹ These minutes, exhibits, and other materials referenced in the minutes can be viewed electronically at <http://www.in.gov/legislative>. Hard copies can be obtained in the Legislative Information Center in Room 230 of the State House in Indianapolis, Indiana. Requests for hard copies may be mailed to the Legislative Information Center, Legislative Services Agency, West Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2789. A fee of \$0.15 per page and mailing costs will be charged for hard copies.

Senator Miller thanked the witnesses who appeared before the Committee as well as committee members and staff. The Committee then considered a draft final report recommending that the General Assembly enact legislation to enable Hamilton County and Marion County to establish or improve public transit systems. Senator Miller stated that she and Senator Waltz would carry legislation based on the recommendation. Representative Price moved to include Johnson County in the recommendation; the motion was seconded and approved by consent. Senator Lanane moved to include Delaware County and Madison County in the recommendation; the motion was seconded and approved by consent. Senator Miller moved to include in the report a sample public question. See Exhibit A. The motion was seconded and approved by consent.

Senator Kenley spoke about the three potential revenue sources included in the final report: fares, corporate taxes, and income taxes. Representative Pryor encouraged the inclusion of minority and women business enterprise language in any introduced legislation and suggested that a regional governance structure might be necessary if several counties establish or improve their public transit systems. Representative DeLaney questioned whether the proposed corporate tax would apply to not for profit corporations, and Senator Kenley indicated that that question remains open for discussion.

Senator Waltz offered his thanks to Senator Miller and expressed his preference that at least 51% of transit operating costs be funded through the farebox and business taxes because most taxpayers will not use public transit. Senator Waltz also reiterated his request that any legislation include a road funding component. Senator Lanane confirmed that any corporate tax would be paid by the employer rather than employees. Senator Taylor raised concerns about the appropriate percentage of funding required from the farebox. Senator Taylor also stated that a public question should be binding on the local body posing the public question. Senator Miller assured Senator Taylor that those issues would be fully discussed during the legislative session.

Representative Torr voiced his support for the recommendation and agreed to work with Senator Miller during the 2014 legislative session. Representative Torr then moved adoption of the amended draft final report. The motion was seconded, and the amended draft final report was adopted 12-1. See Exhibit B.

Senator Miller adjourned the meeting at approximately 10:00 A.M.

Sample Public Question for Public Transportation CEDIT

Sec. 2. If a fiscal body adopts an ordinance under section 1 of this chapter, the county auditor shall certify the ordinance to the county election board, and the county election board shall place the following question on the election ballot in accordance with IC 3-10-9:

"Shall _____ County have the ability to impose:
(1) a county economic development income tax rate, not to exceed a rate of _____ (insert recommended rate included in the ordinance authorizing the local public question); and
(2) a business tax on corporations in the form of _____ (insert the type of tax proposed in the ordinance authorizing the local public question) and at the rate of _____ (insert recommended rate included in the ordinance authorizing the local public question);

to pay for improving or establishing public transportation service in the county through a public transportation project that _____ (insert the description of the public transportation project set forth in the ordinance authorizing the local public question)?"

CITS
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Ex. A

