

2020 REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BUDGET REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION  
of the  
HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND REVENUE

2nd Meeting

February 24, 2020

The House Budget Review Subcommittee on Transportation of the House Standing Committee on Appropriations and Revenue held its second meeting of the 2020 Regular Session on February 24, 2020, at 2:00 PM, in Room 131 of the Capitol Annex. The Chair called the meeting to order, and the secretary called the roll.

Members Present: Representative Sal Santoro, Chair; Representatives Chris Fugate, Chris Harris, Samara Heavrin, Thomas Huff, Charles Miller, Phillip Pratt, Brandon Reed, Bart Rowland, Steven Rudy, John Sims Jr and Ken Upchurch.

Guests: Jim Gray, Cabinet Secretary, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC); Eric Perez, Staff Assistant, Office of Transportation Delivery, KYTC; Todd Bloch, Commissioner, Department of Aviation, KYTC; Brad Schwandt, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Aviation, KYTC; Jake Dahl, State Aviation Engineer, Department of Aviation, KYTC; Robin Brewer, Executive Director, Office of Budget and Fiscal Management, KYTC; and, representing the Kentucky Infrastructure Coalition were Ashli Watts, President and CEO, Kentucky Chamber of Commerce; Bill Dieruf, Mayor, City of Jeffersontown, Kentucky and President, Kentucky League of Cities; Tommy Turner, Larue County Judge-Executive and Chair of the Judge-Executive Legislative Committee; and, Gary Moore, Boone County Judge-Executive and President of the Kentucky Association of Counties.

LRC Staff: Justin Perry, David Talley, Dillard Collier, Jim Thornton, and Spring Emerson.

**Approval of Minutes**

Chair Santoro called for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2020 meeting. Motion was made by Representative Fugate, seconded by Representative Huff, and the minutes were approved without objection.

**Public Transportation**

Mr. Perez provided an overview of the Office of Transportation Delivery and its budgetary issues.

In response to a question from Chair Santoro regarding the amount of the federal grant for LexTran, Mr. Perez said they had been granted \$2.4 million in discretionary funds.

### **Department of Aviation**

Mr. Bloch provided an overview of the Department of Aviation and its budgetary issues.

In response to a question from Chair Santoro regarding pavement maintenance, Mr. Bloch said it is still a significant need.

In response to a question from Representative Sims, Mr. Bloch said the drone port is located in Hazard between Knott and Perry Counties, and is not owned by the state, therefore nothing has been budgeted for it.

In response to a question from Representative Upchurch regarding the \$9 million bond in 2020, Mr. Bloch said not all of that has been spent, but there is a list of projects that will use those funds, and they are all accounted for.

In response to a question from Chair Santoro, Mr. Bloch said when airport lighting is replaced, it is being converted to LED.

Mr. Bloch said investment in airports would benefit community growth, which is very important in Kentucky. He said Thursday is Aviation Aerospace Day and there will be a unique opportunity to see the only World War I fighter plane left in existence during a big event to be held in Bowling Green on May 16 and 17, 2020.

### **Kentucky Infrastructure Coalition**

Ms. Watts, Mr. Dieruf, Mr. Turner, and Mr. Moore provided information regarding the possibility of raising the motor fuels tax to help fund transportation infrastructure.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further questions, the meeting was adjourned at 3:05 PM.