

# **INTERIM JOINT COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND REVENUE**

## **Budget Review Subcommittee on Transportation**

### **Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of the 2018 Interim**

**October 25, 2018**

#### **Call to Order and Roll Call**

The third meeting of the Budget Review Subcommittee on Transportation of the Interim Joint Committee on Appropriations and Revenue was held on Thursday, October 25, 2018, at 10:00 AM, at Northern Kentucky University, Room 205, Health Innovation Center, Nunn Drive, Highland Heights, Kentucky. Representative Sal Santoro, Chair, called the meeting to order, and the secretary called the roll.

Present were:

Members: Senator Max Wise, Co-Chair; Representative Sal Santoro, Co-Chair; Representatives Ken Fleming, Chris Fugate, and Steven Rudy.

Guests: Hannah Edelen, President of Student Government, Northern Kentucky University; Andrew Aiello, General Manager, Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky; and, Candace McGraw, CEO, Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Airport.

LRC Staff: Justin Perry, David Talley, and Spring Emerson.

#### **Welcome to Northern Kentucky University**

Hannah Edelen, President of Student Government, provided opening remarks and welcomed attendees to Northern Kentucky University (NKU).

#### **Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky**

Andrew Aiello, General Manager, Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky (TANK), provided an overview of the agency, its activities, and budgetary needs.

In response to questions from Chair Santoro, Mr. Aiello said that bus services that had been provided previously to a business near the Atlanta airport but had been recently cut, had caused major issues for that business due to employees no longer having transit services. It makes employers think about where to invest, in order to keep the workforce pipeline going. This is not just a problem in Northern Kentucky, but also occurs at airports in Louisville, Lexington, and throughout the state. If Kentucky loses its federal funding due to a lack of matching funds, it would result in a negative effect.

Some employees pay fares, but some companies provide bus passes to their employees. Buses can cost up to \$400,000 each.

In response to questions from Representative Fleming, Mr. Aiello said approximately 20 percent of fares cover operating costs, and this is a consistent amount throughout the country. TANK has a fleet of clean diesel and diesel-electric hybrids. Electric vehicles are cost prohibitive now, but most fleets are likely to go all electric in the future. Population density does not support rail transportation at this time, according to consultant studies.

Chair Santoro commented that these topics will be discussed in more detail at future meetings.

### **Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Airport**

Candace McGraw, CEO, Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Airport (CVG), provided an overview of the airport, its activities, and budgetary needs.

In response to a question from Chair Santoro, Ms. McGraw said a variety of parking solutions is available, such as: valet parking; the parking garage, which is currently undergoing renovation as part of the consolidated rental car project; a long-term parking lot; and, within the next few weeks, another parking lot will be ready for use. The company is hesitant to build more parking garages at this time, due to future alternative modes of transportation and corresponding parking needs.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business before the subcommittee, a motion to adjourn was made by Representative Fugate, seconded by Co-Chair Wise, and the meeting was adjourned without objection at 10:46 AM.