

BUDGET REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Minutes of the 5th Meeting of the 2025 Interim

October 15, 2025

Call to Order and Roll Call

The fifth meeting of the Budget Review Subcommittee on Transportation was held on October 15, 2025, at 10:30 AM in Room 131 of the Capitol Annex. Senator Donald Douglas, Chair, called the meeting to order, and the secretary called the roll.

Present were:

Members: Senator Donald Douglas, Co-Chair; Representative Ken Upchurch, Co-Chair; Representatives John Blanton, Josh Branscum, Randy Bridges, Thomas Huff, Mary Beth Imes, Tom Smith, and Ashley Tackett Laferty.

Guests: Jason Siwula, Deputy State Highway Engineer, Department of Highways, KYTC; Chad LaRue, Executive Director, KY Association of Highway Contractors (KAHC); and, Jeremy Edgeworth, Freight, Rail, and Waterways Coordinator, Department of Highways, KYTC.

LRC Staff: Justin Perry, Jeremy Simpson, and Spring Emerson.

Alternative Delivery Methods for Road Projects

Jason Siwula, Deputy State Highway Engineer, Department of Highways, KYTC; and Chad LaRue, Executive Director, KAHC, presented information on Alternative Delivery Methods for Road Projects.

In response to Representative Branscum, Mr. Siwula said every project is unique with different factors to consider. Oversight of contracts is challenging due to the variations in projects and their particular needs. KYTC utilizes resources to deliver projects in the most efficient way possible.

Chair Douglas said if assistance is needed with changes in legislation, please bring it before the subcommittee for consideration.

In response to Representative Blanton, Mr. Siwula said completion dates are included in all project specifications, both fixed contract completion dates and what is termed working-day contracts in which the completion date is based on actual number of days the contractor is able to work, due to weather and other factors.

In response to Representative Bridges, Mr. Siwula said projects are awarded differently based on the type of contract being used. Mr. LaRue added that the lowest bid is not always accepted, due to differences in technical needs and other issues that are taken into consideration.

In response to Representative Smith, Mr. LaRue said the KAHC is supportive of Alternative Delivery Methods.

Approval of Minutes

Co-Chair Upchurch moved to approve the September 17, 2025 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Representative Bridges, and the minutes were approved without objection by voice vote.

Short Line Infrastructure Preservation and Industrial Access and Safety Improvement Programs for Railroads

Jeremy Edgeworth, Freight, Rail, and Waterways Coordinator, Department of Highways, KYTC, presented information on the Short Line Infrastructure Preservation and Industrial Access and Safety Improvement Programs for Railroads.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.