

MINUTES OF THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dwayne Umbarger at 8:35 a.m. on January 14, 2010, in Room 152-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Bruce Kinzie, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Daniel Yoza, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Jill Shelley, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Julian Efird, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Cindy Shepard, Committee Assistant

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairman Umbarger welcomed everyone and introduced the Committee members and staff. Regular meetings are scheduled Tuesday through Fridays at 8:30 a.m. in room 151-S of the Capitol. The Senator turned the Committee's attention to the recent activities of the Special Committee on Transportation.

Jill Shelley, Kansas Legislative Research Department, gave a brief overview of the Special Committee on Transportation's three interim meetings. The Committee was directed by the Legislative Coordinating Council to study the need and potential financing mechanisms for a new comprehensive transportation plan, review the status of the current Comprehensive Transportation Program enacted in 1999, and examine 2009 **SB 323** and 2009 **HB 2382**, which deal with creating a new comprehensive transportation plan.

Ms. Shelley reported that the first meeting was devoted to background on the issue and work completed to date on ideas for a new plan. Officials from the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) and legislative staff presented information on topics including history of previous plans, motor fuel taxes, registration fees, bonding, the gap between funding levels recommended by the Governor's Transportation - Leveraging Investments in Kansas (T-LINK) Task Force and amounts expected from current funding streams. A subcommittee was chosen to review options and recommend funding sources for a transportation plan.

At its second meeting, Ms. Shelley stated that the Committee heard an update on KDOT's pilot project selection process and reviewed a set of scenarios for funding and financing a new program. Economic Lifelines presented an overview of priorities for a new transportation program and projects identified by city and county officials.

She continued with the Committee's third meeting reporting that KDOT officials reviewed two funding scenarios to address the gap of approximately \$5.7 billion between current revenue sources and the amount for maintenance and other types of projects identified as necessary by the T-Link Task Force. The Committee voted to offer both scenarios for debate on financing a new transportation plan. Copies of handouts prepared by KDOT for the third meeting of the Special Committee on Transportation were distributed (Attachment 1).

Discussion followed in regard to getting a primary seat belt bill passed in the House and receiving the \$11.2 million that is still available from the federal government. Concerns were expressed that the State Highway Fund needs to be protected and not raided to cover general budget shortfalls.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:59 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for January 19, 2010.