



Commonwealth of Kentucky
Office of the Governor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Governor Beshear appoints members of new Kentucky Public
Transportation Infrastructure Authority**

'Essential step' toward financing Ohio River bridges, other mega-projects

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Oct. 14, 2009)—Gov. Steve Beshear today appointed the 11 members of the new Kentucky Public Transportation Infrastructure Authority.

“This is an essential step toward financing new bridges across the Ohio River, as well as other projects that are critically important but simply too large for our traditional system of transportation funding,” Gov. Beshear said.

By legislative mandate, the Governor’s appointments include representatives of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, the Finance and Administration Cabinet and specified organizations. They also include private citizens with expertise in transportation infrastructure. Appointees are:

- **Mike Hancock**, Frankfort, acting secretary of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet and former state highway engineer. By law, he will serve as chairman.
- **Lori Flanery**, Louisville, deputy secretary of the Finance and Administration Cabinet.
- **Marion County Attorney Joe Mattingly**, Lebanon, representing the Kentucky Association of Counties.
- **Letcher County Judge-Executive Jim Ward**, Whitesburg, representing the Kentucky County Judge-Executives Association.
- **Mayor Elaine Walker**, Bowling Green, representing the Kentucky League of Cities.
- **Don Kelly**, Lexington, civil engineer and a former secretary of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet.

- **Glenn B. Mitchell**, Frankfort, former commissioner of fiscal management for the Transportation Cabinet and former deputy secretary, Finance and Administration Cabinet, now retired.
- **Laura Douglas**, Louisville, vice president of E.ON US.
- **Charlie Johnson**, Louisville, trucking industry business executive.
- **Nelda Barton-Collings**, Corbin, retired business executive and former chair, Kentucky Chamber of Commerce.
- **Larry Sanderson**, Paducah, Plumbers and Steamfitters Union Local 184.

Creation of the 11-person authority was provided for in House Bill 3 of the 2009 General Assembly. The authority's mission is to promote the availability of and enhance accessibility to improved transportation services within Kentucky.

The panel can enter into bi-state agreements with Indiana on projects that would serve both states, such as the Louisville-Southern Indiana Ohio River Bridges and a proposed Interstate 69 bridge near Henderson and Evansville, Ind.

The state authority can create bi-state authorities to arrange financing of specific Kentucky-Indiana projects. It also can create local authorities for projects entirely within Kentucky.

The infrastructure authority, by mandate of HB 3, must hold its first meeting by Nov. 1. Awaiting it is a recommendation from a special Kentucky-Indiana work group for creation of a bi-state authority to oversee the bridges project between Louisville and southern Indiana.

The project would involve construction of new bridges across the Ohio River from downtown Louisville and from the Gene Snyder Expressway in eastern Jefferson County. In addition, the Kennedy Interchange, where Interstates 64, 65 and 71 come together in downtown Louisville, would be reconstructed. The project's initial financial plan, issued in January 2008, estimated a cost of \$4.1 billion, with Kentucky's share being \$2.9 billion.

The working group was appointed by Gov. Beshear, Louisville Mayor Jerry Abramson and Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels, pursuant to a request by the Louisville Metro Council. The group met on Sept. 15 in Louisville.

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