

**INFORMATIONAL REPORT
OF THE
JOINT STUDY COMMITTEE ON MASS
TRANSIT AND TRANSPORTATION
ALTERNATIVES**



**Indiana Legislative Services Agency
200 W. Washington Street, Suite 301
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204**

November, 2008

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2008

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ALTERNATIVES
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Staff

Sarah Freeman
Attorney for the Committee

James Sperlik
Fiscal Analyst for the Committee

Karen Firestone
Fiscal Analyst for the Committee

A copy of this report is available on the Internet. Reports, minutes, and notices are organized by committee. This report and other documents for this Committee can be accessed from the General Assembly Homepage at <http://www.in.gov/legislative/>.

I. STATUTORY DIRECTIVE

The Indiana General Assembly enacted IC 2-5-28 establishing the Joint Study Committee on Mass Transit and Transportation Alternatives (Committee) and directing the Committee to do the following:

- (1) Review Indiana department of transportation studies regarding mass transit that have been conducted by the department.
- (2) Review federal legislative activity regarding development and expansion of mass transit as well as revenue streams on the federal level.
- (3) Review mass transit initiatives of other states.

The Legislative Council did not assign any topics to the Committee for the 2008 interim session.

II. SUMMARY OF WORK PROGRAM

The Committee met two times during the 2008 interim between legislative sessions on August 20, 2008, and October 28, 2008. The Committee is not required to file a final report but is instead submitting this informational report. Meeting minutes for the Committee can be accessed from the General Assembly Homepage at <http://www.in.gov/legislative/>.

At the meeting on August 20, 2008, the Committee addressed the following topics:

- (1) The Committee received public testimony in support of mass transit.
- (2) Brian Piascik of URSCorporation and John Meyers of HNTB testified before the Committee on the mass transit and commuter rail feasibility studies required under SEA 105-2007.

At the meeting on October 28, 2008, the Committee addressed the following topics:

- (1) State Representative Charlie Schlottach (R-Missouri), chairman of the Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Commission (MIPRC), discussed MIPRC's role at the federal level and reported on the involvement of MIPRC's member states.
- (2) Derrick James, senior government affairs officer for Amtrak, discussed Amtrak's partnerships with various states to provide additional passenger rail service.
- (3) Sarah Freeman, staff attorney for the committee, presented an overview of Indiana's statutory transportation-related entities and funds.
- (4) The Committee received public testimony in support of mass transit.

The Committee made no findings or recommendations.