

# LOUISVILLE COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW COMMISSION MINUTES

Friday, September 1, 2023  
3:00 p.m.

## I. CALL TO ORDER:

Co-Chair Nemes called the meeting to order at **3:06pm**.

This meeting was held pursuant to KRS 61.826

## II. ROLL CALL:

**Present (15):** Co-Chair Rep. Jason Nemes  
Co-Chair Earl Jones  
Senator Gerald Neal  
Senator Julie Raque Adams  
Senator Mike Nemes  
Rep. Ken Fleming  
Rep. Pamela Stevenson  
CM Jecorey Arthur  
CM Anthony Piagentini  
CW Cindi Fowler  
Marianne Butler  
Shelby Williams Somervell  
Scott Shoenberger  
Mayor Bonnie Jung  
Chief Sean Dreisbach

**Absent (0):**

**Attendees:** Dr. Paul Coomes  
Professor Bill Hoyt  
Professor Matt Ruther

### **III. COMMISSIONER RECOMMENDATION DISCUSSION:**

- Co-Chair Nemes states he and Fleming agreed that they would not recommend stacking of taxes. It's not allowed throughout the state but in good faith they will not be making that recommendation.
- Neal expresses concern of the commission's thoroughness, specifically as it relates to a needs-based review of Louisville. He feels the body is unready to make recommendations, therefore he would prefer to slowdown and hear additional community needs.
- Arthur refuted claims work was not done by the Services committee. He also explained he watched all Public Comment meetings.
- Nemes states he and the Commission are prepared to make recommendations and vote today.
- Neal reiterates his concerns that the body is unready and they Commission is inadequate to make recommendations.
- Co-Chair Jones states the deadline from the General Assembly is fast approaching and he is unaware of any way to extend the deadline.
- Co-Chair Nemes claims some recommendations have been left out based upon consideration of how well the Commission was informed on topics, example: PVA. He also says that the plan for today is to put recommendations into piles based upon what they can agree to, disagree on and is off the table, and those that still need some work but are in the mix.

#### **Road Funding**

- Nemes suggests taking his recommendation and adding Butler's 2 recommendations, explaining the formula of the current road fund system dates back to the 1940's and explain that it is inadequate today.
- Neal again reiterated his concern and caution
- Piagentini & Butler spoke to KYTC District 5 support for hiring additional staff to review projects faster before costs increase. Nemes expresses concern about specificity District 5. Butler agrees to KYTC across the board instead of specifically District 5
- 14 Yes
- Neal confirms we are voting in concept, not direct language, confirmed by Commission

#### **Affordable Housing**

- Butler's recommends a new tax credit to encourage multi-family housing.

- Butler explains it allows Developers to ask for financial assistance, instead of direct funding they are provided a tax credit that will not exceed \$20M and would not exceed 10 years.
- Raque Adams brings up concerns of not encouraging ownership.
- Fleming states the State lacks an appetite for tax credits in the next session. He cautions against a specific (\$20M) number
- Butler clarifies that multi-family is not just renters, could be patio homes or condos.
- Nemes agrees to draft a more general recommendation incorporating Butler's & Shoenberger's suggestions.
- 14 Yes Votes

### **Tax Incentives KBI/KDI**

- Combined KBI & KDI recommendations together to draft additional language to be considered at a future meeting.
- 14 Yes Votes

### **TARC**

- Co-Chair Nemes recommends Metro Council study TARC and strongly opposes additional funding
- Fleming's language is a starting point, additional input from Raque Adams & Somervell will be incorporated
- 12 Yes Votes / 1 Present / 1 Abstain (Shelby Somervell's employer has a partnership with TARC)

### **Taxing Authority**

- Fleming & Somervell proposed the General Assembly present a constitutional amendment to allow local governments to levy additional taxes, not just a sales tax.
- Current local governments rely predominately on occupational & property taxes.
- Senator Neal spoke to deferring this until it is vetted further.
- Co-Chair Nemes suggests adding language, "to address service needs"
- Fleming explains that he is not supporting increasing taxes, just a diversification of tax structure for local governments
- 12 Yes / 1 No / 2 Present

## **Forbidding Annexation with Large Companies**

- Fears of small cities annexing large companies like Ford & General Electric precipitated a recommendation to keep the occupational taxes of these companies funding Louisville Metro, not other small cities.
- Intended for “BIG” companies, no specific definition
- 13 Yes / 2 Present

## **Government & Board Structure - Service District Information**

- Arthur wants to ensure if a service district is suggested to be created, the residents will be informed of their available options.
- Intended as a ballot initiative, via a petitioning process.
- 15 Yes

## **EMS**

- Nemes suggest making EMS’ primary jurisdiction into USD since their services are not provided at an equal level in the suburban areas, due to suburban EMS providing the service
- EMS would be the 4th USD service
- There will be a gap in the cost of funding the service. A 7 year (July 1, 2030), up to 10% supplement by Suburban Fire is suggested to account for needs of USD during change over.
- All EMS service providers are to create an interlocal agreement to account for when one makes a run into another fire district
- EMS provider should be paid whether they transport an individual or not.
- Encouragement from members to delay a vote on recommendations until the Mayor’s office has had an opportunity to implement changes.
- 8 Yes / 5 No / 2 Present

## **Scheduling a Follow Up Meeting**

- A Special Meeting was called for 9/7 at 2pm
- The 9/8 at 3pm meeting is expected to be held as well.

## **IV. ADJOURNMENT:**

Co-Chair Jones adjourned the meeting at **5:55pm**.

This meeting was held pursuant to KRS 61.826