

March 23, 2010

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-143

**RESOLUTION BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AUTHORIZING THE PLACEMENT
ON THE NOVEMBER 2010 BALLOT OF AN ADVISORY REFERENDUM QUESTION
WITH REGARD TO A POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL TAX FOR MASS TRANSIT PURPOSES**

To the Honorable Members of the Racine County Board of Supervisors:

WHEREAS, mass transit in Southeastern Wisconsin has been the subject of various legislative proposals since 2005, some already enacted and others still pending; and

WHEREAS, some of these proposals would permit imposition, within Racine County, of new taxes, such as a sales tax or a local vehicle registration fee, to provide the local share of funds for mass transit, which could include both bus and KRM (Kenosha-Racine-Milwaukee) commuter rail transit; and

WHEREAS, in Resolution 2006-160, the Racine County Board of Supervisors expressed its support for a vehicle rental fee as the sole funding mechanism for commuter rail; and

WHEREAS, in Resolution 2008-134S, the Racine County Board of Supervisors expressed its opposition to a sales tax as a funding mechanism for commuter rail; and

WHEREAS, given the conflicting provisions of legislative proposals for funding mass transit in Southeastern Wisconsin, and the expectation that more proposals will be introduced, members of the public have expressed a desire that their views on this matter be heard; and

WHEREAS, the Racine County Board of Supervisors desires to hear the views of the public on this important matter; and

WHEREAS, subsection 59.52 (25) of the Wisconsin Statutes permits the County Board of Supervisors to conduct a countywide referendum for advisory purposes; and

WHEREAS, the following advisory referendum question provides a way for the public to express its views on how the local share of mass transit in Racine County should be funded:

Should any new tax to support transit or rail services, such as a sales tax or local vehicle registration fee, be permitted in any part of Racine County?

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Racine County Board of Supervisors will place on the November 2010 ballot the following as an advisory referendum question:

3
4 Should any new tax to support transit or rail services, such as a sales tax
5 or local vehicle registration fee, be permitted in any part of Racine
6 County?
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8 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Governor,
9 to Racine County's state legislative delegation, and to the Southeastern Regional Transit
10 Authority (SERTA).

11 Respectfully submitted,

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13 1st Reading _____

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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15 2nd Reading _____

Peter L. Hansen, Chairman

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17 BOARD ACTION
18 Adopted _____
19 For _____
20 Against _____
21 Absent _____

Robert N. Miller, Vice-Chairman

Karen A. Nelson, Secretary

22
23 VOTE REQUIRED: Majority

24
25 Prepared by:
26 Corporation Counsel

Joseph F. Bellante, Jr.

Robert D. Grove

Jeff Halbach

Dan F. Sharkozy

Van H. Wanggaard

Pamela Zenner-Richards

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44 The foregoing legislation adopted by the County Board of Supervisors of
45 Racine County, Wisconsin, is hereby:

46 Approved: _____
47 Vetoed: _____

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49 Date: _____,
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51
52 _____
William L. McReynolds, County Executive