



OFFICE OF
MONROE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
100 West Kirkwood Avenue
The Courthouse Room 322
BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA 47404

Telephone 812-349-2550
Facsimile 812-349-7320

Julie L. Thomas, President Lee Jones, Vice President Penny Githens, Commissioner

John Hamilton, Mayor City of Bloomington
401 N. Morton Street
Bloomington, IN 47404

Dear Mayor Hamilton,

Given the clear and overwhelming support for the creation of a Capital Improvement Board (CIB), made evident at last night's meeting of elected County and City officials, we write to invite you to attend our November 6th meeting to discuss this exciting opportunity. It is our intention to immediately begin drafting an Ordinance to create a CIB, and we wish to get your input. Because the Convention Center Expansion Project ("Project") is important to the public and the public must be included in this process and the discussions, your attendance at our next meeting, which will be broadcast by our local community television station, will ensure transparency.

In our July 24th Memo, which is attached, we stated that a CIB could legally manage all of the phases of this Project, because of the statutory authority given to a CIB. Fortunately, this means the CIB could also, legally, manage the design phase. We raised this issue to you in July and have been ready to move forward; however, your input on the Board membership is critical. Your response to our Memo indicated support for a CIB. We are pleased that you reiterated that support last night. We hope you will commit to work out the necessary details with us by the end of November.

Pursuant to Indiana Code 36-10-8-4 (a) the CIB is composed of seven members. Subsection (b) states: "*The county executive shall determine in the creating ordinance which units within the county shall make appointments to the board. In addition, the creating ordinance must provide that no more than four (4) of the members be affiliated with the same political party.*" It is our intention to create membership terms which are fair, inclusive, and upon which both the City and County agree.

If Monroe County and the City of Bloomington are the units of government who make appointments, we all must acknowledge that both Monroe County and the City of Bloomington currently are heavily Democratic. We suggest that whichever unit gets to make four appointments, also be required to appoint the three non-Democratic appointments. There may be other ways to make appointments, but we offer that as an initial suggestion. We look forward to your input on November 6th.

Time is of the essence; therefore, we look forward to your prompt reply. If you cannot make the November 6th meeting, we meet every single Wednesday. We could meet with you on November 13th or the 20th. We promise to manage our agenda to accommodate your, or your proxy's, schedule. Please do not let this invitation linger, as this Project is too important.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to working with you in a cooperative, inclusive, and transparent manner. In the spirit of inclusion, we are copying our Council colleagues, whose partnership is essential.

Sincerely,
Monroe County Board of Commissioners

Julie Thomas, President

Lee Jones, Vice President

Penny Githens, Member

CC: Monroe County Council, City of Bloomington Common Council