



MISSOURI SENATE

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Senator Jane Cunningham's Last-Ditch Effort to Increase Metro Funding

Chesterfield Senator Requests Restoration of Services for Metro During Final Hours of Budget Debate

JEFFERSON CITY — During the final hours of the budget debate, in a last-ditch effort, Sen. Jane Cunningham, R-Chesterfield, sought approval of additional one time federal funds for the St. Louis Metro Transit System. The federal stimulus funds would restore some bus routes.

“While I am so grateful for the \$12 million we were able to allocate, I was hoping to inch a little closer to the \$35 million needed to restore all bus routes,” said Senator Cunningham.

Senator Cunningham worked with Metro’s president and CEO Bob Baer throughout the legislative session to restore much-needed service while the proposed allocation of federal stabilization funds for the project wavered in the General Assembly.

“I offered an amendment during the budget debate that would have secured more money for Metro and did my best to convince my Senate colleagues of the urgency of restoring this vital transportation network that connects many thousands of employers with employees and provides necessary transportation for many to schools and medical facilities,” Sen. Cunningham said.

In an email to Sen. Cunningham following the final budget adoption, Metro President and CEO Bob Baer applauded Sen. Cunningham for her efforts to maintain needed services for her constituents, both businesses and riders trying to get to their jobs. “Thank you for your support and leadership on the Metro appropriation. You were passionate on this issue, and it wouldn’t have happened without you and the role you played,” e-mailed Bob Baer.

“Senator Cunningham has worked very hard for Metro from the start of our efforts to secure emergency funding to restore transit services in St. Louis,” Baer said. “We appreciate her efforts, as well as her last minute attempt.”

For further information about Senator Cunningham and her legislation, you may visit her website at www.senate.mo.gov/cunningham or contact her Chief of Staff, Lucy LePage, at (573) 751-1186.