

TAX MATTERS

SEPTEMBER 25, 2008, Issue #08-39, by Bernard Ridens, Executive Director
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1. URGENT! RIVERSCAPE PUBLIC MEETING
2. STACK THE STADIUM
3. NATIONAL TAXPAYERS UNION POSITION ON BAILOUTS
4. MySmartGov.org
5. PUBLIC MEETINGS

REVIEW OF PAST TAX MATTERS

SEPTEMBER 18, 2008 (#08-38)

- IMPACTS OF PROPERTY TAX REFORM
 - The Center for Urban Policy and the Environment gave observations of our state's property tax reform in an August 2008 publication:
<http://www.policyinstitute.iu.edu/PubsPDFs/Property%20Tax%20Reform.pdf>
- CITIZENS' GUIDE TO PROPERTY TAX AND MORE
 - <http://www.in.gov/dlgf/2516.htm>

SEPTEMBER 11, 2008 (#08-37)

- TAX CAPS AND GAPS #2
 - If lower cap percentages are to be proposed by this organization, what do you feel would be fair? Should there be different caps? Should the state lock in on one cap for all types and let the trended AV be the variable?
- COUNTY COUNCIL SURVEY
 - <http://tax.vigocounty.org/tax/polls.html>

SEPTEMBER 4, 2008 (#08-36)

- TAX CAPS AND GAPS
 - The feedback I have had concerning the one, two and three-percent tax caps to be implemented in 2009 has been positive. However, these caps also lead to unfair taxing.
- GUBERNATORIAL DEBATES
 - Three gubernatorial debates have been set for this fall. The public may submit questions by filling out a form at www.indianadebatecommission.com.

The Taxpayers Association is a not-for-profit organization supported by membership dues. Any citizen or group of citizens in Vigo County may be a member. Current members are encouraged to promote membership in the organization by giving the attached application to a potential member. [See the TA application and dues structure.](#) This is NOT an invoice for your dues.

1. URGENT! RIVERSCAPE PUBLIC MEETING

After several months of study and talking with hundreds of community members about their ideas and dreams, HNTB Corporation has completed drawings for two Riverscape plans. Wabash River Development and Beautification Inc. and the Vigo County Area Planning Commission invite you to be among the first to see the two plans.

Riverscape Public Meeting

Thursday, September 25, 6-8 p.m.

Council Chambers

Vigo County Complex

121 Oak Street

The public will have an opportunity to review the plans and comment on their preferences. From those comments, HNTB will deliver one master plan at the end of the year-long project. This plan will be the framework for procuring necessary funding to bring the plans to life.

2. STACK THE STADIUM

It's a new era for the Indiana State football program and the Sycamores kick off that era at home on **Saturday, September 27, at noon** against Southeast Missouri State. In an effort to rally excitement for the home opener, the Terre Haute Chamber of Commerce has announced their "Stack The Stadium" ticket promotion for the game at Memorial Stadium.

Companies and fans can purchase a minimum block of 25 tickets at \$4 per ticket for the game between the Sycamores and the Redhawks. Several blocks of tickets have already been sold for the game, so do not wait to purchase tickets to what is shaping up to be an exciting contest.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call the Indiana State ticket office at (812) 237-3737 or (877) ISU-TIXS.

Source: ISU Athletics

3. NATIONAL TAXPAYERS UNION POSITION ON BAILOUTS

No more bailouts!

Are you tired of hearing about how your tax dollars are going to bail out government-sponsored enterprises and private institutions? We are.

Did you send your hard-earned money to the IRS to cover the fiscal mismanagement at Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, Bear Stearns, and AIG? We didn't.

Do you like the sound of a new \$25 billion bailout for big auto companies? We don't.

It's time to say, "enough is enough!"

4. MySmartGov.org

MySmartGov.org is a new grassroots organization that is trying to persuade the 2009 General Assembly to adopt the recommendations to streamline government made by the Indiana Commission on Local Government Reform.

The General Assembly has already abolished township-assessing duties in most townships, shifting those duties to their respective county assessors. The Legislature left it to the voters in the state's 43 largest townships (such as our own Harrison Township) to decide whether they also want to shift assessing duties to the county, and that question will be on the November 4 ballot. MySmartGov.org is working to educate voters in those townships about the issue and urge them to vote "yes" on the ballot question.

MySmartGov.org launched a web site by the [same name](#) as well as a blog at www.stopgoverninglikethis.com.

Source: Indiana Chamber of Commerce *Interim Update*

5. PUBLIC MEETINGS

The purpose of this calendar is to encourage taxpayers to attend public meetings. Taxpaying persons working at your business or living in your neighborhood should be encouraged to attend a meeting of their choice at least once per year. The date and time for the meetings listed below are always subject to change. The contact person is also listed. You should call the appropriate office and confirm the date and time if you plan to attend.

Date	Time	Public Meeting	Location	Contact Info
Fri. Sep. 26	5:30 pm	Information Technology Advisory Board	City Hall – 1 st Floor	Brad 244-2316
Tue. Sep. 30	9:00 am	County Commissioners	County Annex	Judy 462-3367
Wed. Oct. 1	9:00 am	City Board of Zoning Appeals	City Hall – 1 st Floor Conf. Room	Bernard 235-1361
Wed. Oct. 1	7:00 pm	County Area Planning Commission	County Annex	Vickie 462-3354
Thur. Oct. 2	7:00 pm	City Council – Sunshine Meeting	City Hall – Courtroom	Michelle 232-3375
Mon. Oct. 6	6:30 pm	Riley Town Board	Riley Town Hall	Wanda 894-2410
Tue. Oct. 7	9:00 am	County Commissioners	County Annex	Judy 462-3367
Tue. Oct. 7	10:00 am	City Board of Sanitary Commissioners	City Hall – 3 rd Floor	Sally 235-5458
Tue. Oct. 7	4:30 pm	Honey Creek Conservancy District	3241 S. 3 rd Place	Craig 232-4311
Wed. Oct. 8	10:00 am	Area Board of Zoning Appeals	County Annex	Bernard 235-1361
Wed. Oct. 8	2:00 pm	E-911 Advisory Board	County Jail – Sheriff's Training Room	Greg 462-3226 ext. 320
Wed. Oct. 8	4:30 pm	City Park Board – General Meeting	Deming Park	Eddie 232-2727
Wed. Oct. 8	7:00 pm	Airport Authority	Airport	Kara 877-2524
Thur. Oct. 9	7:00 pm	City Council – Regular Meeting	City Hall – Courtroom	Michelle 232-3375
Mon. Oct. 13	6:00 pm	West Terre Haute Town Board	500 W. Nat'l, WTH	Melody 533-2034
Tue. Oct. 14	9:00 am	County Commissioners	County Annex	Judy 462-3367
Tue. Oct. 14	2:00 pm	Board of Public Works and Safety	City Hall – 1 st Floor	Robin 232-4767
Tue. Oct. 14	4:15 pm	Vigo County Redevelopment Commission	County Annex	Amanda 234-2524
Tue. Oct. 14	7:00 pm	Seelyville Town Board	Seelyville Water Office	Tamara 877-2665
Wed. Oct. 15	9:30 am	Clay-Owen-Vigo Solid Waste District	109 E. Nat'l, Brazil IN	Janet 800-387-3380
Wed. Oct. 15	4:00 pm	City Redevelopment Commission	City Hall – 1 st Floor	Phenny 232-0018
Wed. Oct. 15	5:00 pm	Vigo County Board of Health	County Annex	Louise 462-3428
Thur. Oct. 16	1:30 pm	Tree Advisory Board	City Hall Mayor's Conf. Room	Jennifer 232-4028

END

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