## Montgomery County Board of Commissioners Ordinance 2024-5

## An Ordinance Re-Establishing the Cumulative Bridge Fund

Whereas, the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners has expressed a desire to re-establish and maintain a Cumulative Bridge Fund ("Cum Bridge Fund"), as provided for in Indiana Code §8-16-3, and impose a tax levy on all real and personal property in Montgomery County, under Indiana Code §6-1.1-41, to provide money for the construction, repair, maintenance and inspection of bridges in Montgomery County; and

Whereas, the tax rate for 2024 for the Cumulative Bridge Fund is \$0.075 per \$100 of assessed valuation, and the maximum property tax rate for the Fund per Indiana Code §8-16-3 is \$0.10 per \$100 of assessed valuation; and

Whereas, the Commissioners provided to the affected taxpayers of Montgomery County notice of this proposed ordinance and of the public hearing, as required by Indiana Code §5-3-1, by publishing on February 14, 2024 and February 21, 2024 notice of the public hearing in the *Journal Review* and *The Paper of Montgomery County*, two newspapers of general circulation in Montgomery County, Indiana; and

Whereas, the Commissioners conducted a public hearing on the proposed ordinance on February 26, 2024 at which time no taxpayers testified

regarding the re-establishment of the Cumulative Bridge Fund and the proposed increase in the tax rate of such Fund; and

Whereas, the Commissioners introduced this ordinance on February 12, 2024; and

Whereas, the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance may, under Indiana law, adjust the County's maximum tax rate for the Cumulative Bridge Fund based on trending and reassessment of taxable property located in the County, and the proposed tax increase is subject to approval by the Department; and

Whereas, the Commissioners have a purpose for which the funds can be spent, specifically the construction, repair, maintenance and inspection of bridges, and desire to reestablish the tax rate of the Cumulative Bridge Fund at the proposed rate of \$0.075 per \$100 assessed valuation; and

Whereas, the Commissioners find that the Cumulative Bridge Fund should be re-established and that the tax rate for the Cumulative Bridge Fund should be \$0.075 per \$100 assessed valuation.

It is therefore ordained that the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners enact:

Section 1. Cumulative Bridge Fund Re-Establishment. The Montgomery County Board of Commissioners hereby re-establishes the Cumulative Bridge Fund pursuant to Indiana Code §6-1.1-41, to be used for the purposes allowed and set forth in Indiana Code §8-16-3, including the construction, repair, maintenance and inspection of bridges, and now establish the rate to be \$0.075 per \$100 assessed valuation on all taxable real property and personal property in Montgomery County, Indiana.

Section 2. Tax Rate. The County Board of Commissioners now levies a tax on all real and personal property in Montgomery County to provide funds to the Cumulative Bridge Fund. The property tax will not exceed \$0.075 on each \$100 of assessed valuation. This tax rate will be levied beginning with taxes for 2024, due and payable in 2025.

Section 3. <u>DLGF Approval</u>. The County Board of Commissioners directs the County Auditor to submit, to the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance, all proofs of publication of the notices to taxpayers and the Commissioner's public hearing held on February 26, 2024 and a certified copy of this ordinance, as provided by Indiana Code § 6-1.1-41-4, as the County's proposal for re-establishing the Cumulative Bridge Fund and imposing a tax levy by the County to be approved by the Department of Local Government Finance. This proposal must be submitted to the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance before May 31, 2024, in accordance with Indiana Code § 6-1.1-41-4. This ordinance is subject to the approval of the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance.

Section 4. Publication of Notice of Adoption. The Auditor shall publish notice of adoption of this ordinance within thirty (30) days of the adoption of this ordinance.

Section 5. Advertisement. The Auditor shall annually advertise this tax levy in the same manner as other tax levies are advertised.

Section 5. Repeal of Conflicting Ordinances. The provisions of all other County ordinances in conflict with the provisions hereof, if any, are of no further force or effect and are hereby repealed.

<u>Section 6</u>. <u>Duration and Effective Date</u>. The provisions of this Ordinance shall become effective immediately and remain in full force and effect until repealed by ordinance.

Adopted this 26th day of February, 2024.

Montgomery County, Indiana Board of Commissioners

Voting No:

John Frey, President

James D. Fulwider, Vice President

Dan Guard, Member

Attest:

Mindy Byers, Auditor