

WISCONSIN TRANSPORTATION BUILDERS ASSOCIATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Governor's budget proposal provides strong foundation for critical projects through new revenue sources

MADISON, Wis. – Providing the state's transportation system with **nearly \$1 billion** in new funding would help begin critical road projects that make your drive safer, smoother, and better through central, southeast, and northeast Wisconsin.

Gov. Tony Evers proposed doing just that Tuesday night, asking the Legislature to increase vehicle title fees, capture car part sales taxes, and boost the amount the state can borrow for large transportation projects.

The increases would help pay for shovel-ready work such as the 67-mile expansion and modernization of I-39/90/94 from Madison to Wisconsin Dells and I-94 East-West running past American Family Field, while continuing progress on a 23-mile expansion of I-41 from Appleton to Green Bay.

"The critical importance of keeping our roads safe and our economy strong through smart transportation investment is one of the rare areas of the state budget with bi-partisan consensus," said Wisconsin Transportation Builders Association Executive Director Steve Baas.

"This is a strong starting position as the Legislature begins its own work on the budget."

The governor's budget proposal would generate a combined \$419 million in new revenue for the Transportation Fund by increasing the state's title fee by \$120 per vehicle and dedicating the sales tax from car parts and tires to the Transportation Fund.

The governor also proposed borrowing about \$630 million to support Major and Southeast Mega projects and the state's highway rehabilitation program.

In his "Budget in Brief," Evers wrote, "this budget uses borrowing in the way it is intended – to build generational transportation projects in a timely fashion."

WTBA agrees, noting the proposed plans would mean hefty funding increases to state highway rehab (18%), Southeast Megas (26%), and the state's Majors programs (34%).



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"We appreciate Governor Evers' ongoing commitment to sufficient, sustainable transportation funding and look forward to working with the Legislature to build on the solid foundation the Governor has laid out in his budget," said Baas.

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For more than 85 years, the <u>Wisconsin Transportation Builders Association</u> has served its members through state and federal advocacy, industry expertise, and a commitment to problem solving. Every day, WTBA works to build a stronger Wisconsin economy by ensuring sufficient, sustainable transportation funding, regulatory clarity, and projects that shape a safe and reliable transportation system for the entire state. More than 270 companies across the state are members.