

1 SHEBOYGAN COUNTY RESOLUTION NO. 24 (2016/17)

2  
3 Re: Supporting "Just Fix It" for Statewide Road Maintenance

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6 WHEREAS, local governments in Wisconsin are responsible for about 90% of the road  
7 miles in the state, and

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9 WHEREAS, Wisconsin's diverse economy is dependent upon county and town roads as  
10 well as city and village streets and transit systems across the state, and

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12 WHEREAS, according to *Filling Potholes: A New Look at Funding Local Transportation*  
13 *in Wisconsin* commissioned by the Local Government Institute of Wisconsin (LGI), the condition  
14 of Wisconsin's highways now ranks in the bottom third of the country, and

15  
16 WHEREAS, the failure of state funding for local roads in Wisconsin to keep up with costs  
17 over the past several decades has adversely affected local transportation finances, and,  
18 according to *Filling Potholes*, municipal transportation spending has declined from \$275 per  
19 capita in 2000 to \$227 in 2012, and

20  
21 WHEREAS, Wisconsin's over-reliance on borrowing eats away at the state's segregated  
22 funding sources – the state gas tax and vehicle registration fees – which increasingly pay debt  
23 service rather than fund transportation needs, and

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25 WHEREAS, although safety is a primary concern and responsibility of local governments  
26 across Wisconsin, according to TRIP, a national non-profit transportation research group,  
27 Wisconsin had 347 non-interstate, rural road fatalities in 2013, and

28  
29 WHEREAS, although our state highway and interstate system is the backbone of our  
30 surface transportation system and plays a vital role in the economy of Wisconsin, both local *and*  
31 state roads need to be properly maintained in order for our economy to grow, and

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33 WHEREAS, from a competitive standpoint, Wisconsin motorists pay significantly less  
34 than any of our neighbors when the annual cost of the state gas tax and vehicle registration fees  
35 are combined, and

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37 WHEREAS, the Transportation, Finance, and Policy Commission appointed by the  
38 Governor and Legislature found that if Wisconsin does not adjust its user fees, the condition of  
39 both our state and local roads will deteriorate significantly over the next decade, and

40  
41 WHEREAS, the Sheboygan County Board has made the hard choice to implement a  
42 County sales tax to support local transportation, and now it is time for the State of Wisconsin to  
43 make similar hard choices;

44  
45 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Sheboygan County Board of  
46 Supervisors urges the Governor and Legislature to "Just Fix It" and to agree upon a sustainable  
47 solution – one that includes a responsible level of bonding and adjusts our user fees to  
48 adequately and sustainably fund all of Wisconsin's transportation systems including a targeted  
49 fund increase for local units of government.

STATE OF WISCONSIN ) I, Jon Dolson do hereby  
COUNTY OF SHEBOYGAN ) certify that the above is a  
true and correct copy of the original on file in the office of the  
County Clerk and that it was adopted by the County Board of  
Supervisors on this date.

Date: 10-18-2016  
(Seal)

  
County Clerk

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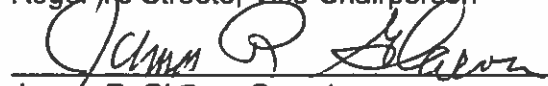
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the County Clerk is directed to forward copies of this Resolution to the Governor, Sheboygan County legislative delegation, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and such other public officials as the Chairperson of the Transportation Committee may deem appropriate.

Respectfully submitted this 20th day of September, 2016.


**TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jacob Van Dixhorn, Chairperson

  
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Roger Te Stroete, Vice-Chairperson

  
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James P. Glavan, Secretary

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard C. Bemis

  
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Al Bosman

Opposed to Introduction:

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