

Resolution No. 47 - 11/18
**Urging the State of Wisconsin to “Just Fix It” as it Relates to Funding Wisconsin’s
Transportation System**

1 Moved/Sponsored by: Public Works Committee
2

3 **WHEREAS**, local government in Wisconsin is responsible for nearly 90% of the road miles in
4 the State; and,
5

6 **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin’s diverse economy is dependent upon county and town roads as well as
7 city and village streets and transit systems across the State; and,
8

9 **WHEREAS**, Walworth County and other local governments across Wisconsin have been
10 highlighting our unmet transportation needs in many different avenues including events such as
11 the historic Turnout for Transportation event in September of 2016 where local governments in
12 every region of this State held simultaneous meetings calling on the State Legislature to
13 prioritize transportation and pass a sustainable funding package; and,
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15 **WHEREAS**, while the increase in transportation funding for locals in the last budget was
16 certainly appreciated, many still are not back to 2011 levels when adjusted for inflation; and,
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18 **WHEREAS**, local units of government, including Walworth County, continue to struggle to
19 meet even the most basic maintenance needs for our transportation system; and,
20

21 **WHEREAS**, states surrounding Wisconsin and across the country have stepped up with
22 sustainable plans to fund their state and local roads; and,
23

24 **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin will be at a competitive disadvantage if it does not implement a revenue
25 and spending plan that addresses both our Interstate highways that were built in the 1950s and
26 1960s *and* our local and state roads; and,
27

28 **WHEREAS**, levy limits do not allow local governments to make up for inadequate state
29 funding; and,
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31 **WHEREAS**, local governments would not be forced to turn to local wheel taxes or increased
32 borrowing or exceeding their levy limits if the State would finally pass a sustainable funding
33 plan for transportation; and,
34

35 **WHEREAS**, the Walworth County Board of Supervisors recognizes that our state highway and
36 interstate system is the backbone of our surface transportation system and plays a vital role in the
37 economy of Wisconsin. Both local *and* state roads need to be properly maintained in order for
38 our economy to grow; and,
39

40 **WHEREAS**, from a competitive standpoint Wisconsin motorists pay significantly less than any
41 of its neighbors when one considers the annual cost of the state gas tax and vehicle registration
42 fees; and,

Policy and Fiscal Note
Resolution No. 47 - 11/18

- I. **Title:** Urging the State of Wisconsin to “Just Fix It” as it Relates to Funding Wisconsin’s Transportation System

- II. **Purpose and Policy Impact Statement:** The purpose of this advisory resolution is to urge the Governor and Legislature to agree upon a solution that will adequately and sustainably fund Wisconsin’s transportation system.

- III. **Budget and Fiscal Impact:** Passage of this advisory resolution will have no impact on the County budget. If the State were to implement the relief requested in this resolution, it would likely increase user fees such as the gas tax. It could also result in increased state revenue to the County. The impact of taxes and revenue would depend entirely on how the State would structure this program.

- IV. **Referred to the following standing committees for consideration and date of referral:**

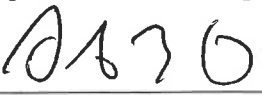
Committee: Public Works

Meeting Date: October 15, 2018

Vote: 5-0


County Board Meeting Date: November 5, 2018

Policy and fiscal note has been reviewed and approved as an accurate statement of the probable policy and fiscal impacts associated with passage of the attached resolution.



David A. Bretl
County Administrator/Corporation Counsel

10/16/18
Date



Nicole Andersen
Deputy County Administrator – Finance

10/17/18
Date

If unsigned, exceptions shall be so noted by the County Administrator.