



For Immediate Release
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Rep Shankland Statement on Governor's Transportation Budget

Walker signals he will kick the can down the road instead of searching for long-term infrastructure funding solution

Madison – Assembly Assistant Democratic Leader Katrina Shankland (D-Stevens Point) issued the following statement after reviewing Governor Walker's letter to DOT Secretary Mark Gottlieb regarding the Department's forthcoming budget request, which will be submitted to the governor's office this fall:

"When I travel my district and across Wisconsin, I hear the same thing from town board chairs, small business owners, and Wisconsin families alike: we need to invest in our infrastructure. We can't afford to kick the can down the road like Governor Walker continues to do. Wisconsin needs bold action on our transportation funding now.

"That is why I am so disappointed after reading the governor's letter to Secretary Gottlieb, which offers not-so-subtle suggestions to the secretary about what his budget request should look like. Governor Walker has signaled once again that he intends to kick the long-term infrastructure funding can down an ever-deteriorating, pothole-filled road instead of working with lawmakers to craft a long-term solution for our transportation funding woes.

"It is important to note that in the last budget, Democratic legislators proposed a return to indexing the state's fuel tax rate - but Republican legislators voted it down. While Democratic legislators are committed to a long-term solution to our chronic transportation funding shortfall, I'm disappointed to see more of the same from the governor: punting on an issue that's vital to everyone. As people travel across the state for the upcoming July 4th holiday weekend, I hope they recognize the cost of doing nothing, and encourage Republicans to put our roads ahead of their own partisan politics."

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