



DUEY STROEBEL

STATE SENATOR • 20TH DISTRICT

For Immediate Release:
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Sen. Stroebel Applauds Secretary Gottlieb's No New Tax Sentiment *Stroebel calls for full prevailing wage repeal and fed-swap*

Madison, WI – Senator Duey Stroebel issued the following statement WiDOT Secretary Mark Gottlieb's interview with the Wisconsin State Journal:

Secretary Gottlieb has the right idea: Wisconsin cannot afford a tax increase. I applaud Secretary Gottlieb's statements yesterday that he will not request tax or fee increases. Wisconsin remains ranked 43 in total tax liability. Legislators should not support any increased tax burden on Wisconsin families and businesses before all DOT efficiencies are exhausted.

Holding the line on transportation taxes ought not to mean more borrowing or delayed projects. I am calling on Secretary Gottlieb to go a step further in his budget. Also included in his request should be the widely supported [Fed-Swap legislation](#) I authored this session. The proposal would swap federal transportation dollars in local projects resulting in a 25% savings in delivery costs. The idea was successfully implemented in Kansas by Democrat former Governor Kathleen Sebelius. The Fed-Swap would have saved a southeast Wisconsin county nearly \$2 million on a project.

Additionally, the full repeal of prevailing wage for state projects and elimination of stringent state regulations on local governments should be priorities for policy makers.

Wisconsin can have great roads by squeezing more efficiency out of the DOT bureaucracy. While many road building special interests tell us our roads are in shambles, the [2014 Reason Foundation Annual Report on Highways](#) says our roads are ranked 15 in the country.

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