



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P. O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707-7882

July 17, 2019

Mr. Craig Thompson
Secretary-Designee
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
4822 Madison Yards Way
P.O. Box 7910
Madison, WI 53707-7910

RE: Local Roads Funding in the State Budget

Dear Secretary-Designee Thompson:

Throughout the last several months, Senate Republicans have been working hard to ensure that some transportation funding in the State Budget would be dedicated specifically to local roads and bridges throughout our state. We met, negotiated and compromised on a plan that would invest \$90 million in the Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) so that local governments could fix and maintain the roads that are most in need in our communities.

The legislature passed this strong Local Road Funding package in our version of the budget because we heard our constituents. Road funding continues to be one of the most important issues to those we serve and we wrote this plan in order to make the investments that our constituents asked us for.

While we were disappointed that Governor Tony Evers vetoed \$15 million of these dollars to be spent elsewhere, we are optimistic that the remaining \$75 million will be dedicated to local roads and bridges. Unfortunately, the veto does not guarantee where the investment will be made and how it will be administered. In fact, the tone of the veto is concerning in that it highlights "transit" and allows for spending on transportation-related things, rather than a direct investment in local roads and infrastructure.

The intent of the legislature's budget was to invest in roads and bridges – pure and simple. We sought to deliver strong investment to our local governments so that they could fix roads. We directed it through the LRIP program with a 90-10 match so that it would have the impact we expected and would be attainable for most municipalities and governments.

We respectfully request that you implement the legislative intent of this investment as you plan to spend the \$75 million in our state budget. Our local roads need attention now and our local governments are ready.

Thank you for your willingness to respect legislative intent. Thank you for your time and consideration of our request

Sincerely,

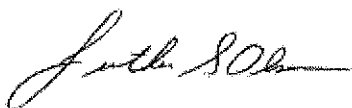
Howard Marklein
State Senator
17th Senate District

Alberta Darling
State Senator
8th Senate District

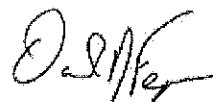
Devin LeMahieu
State Senator
9th Senate District



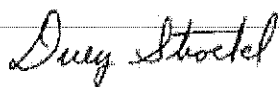
Tom Tiffany
State Senator
12th Senate District



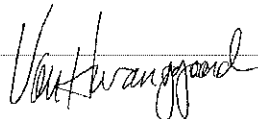
Luther Olsen
State Senator
14th Senate District



Dan Feyen
State Senator
18th Senate District

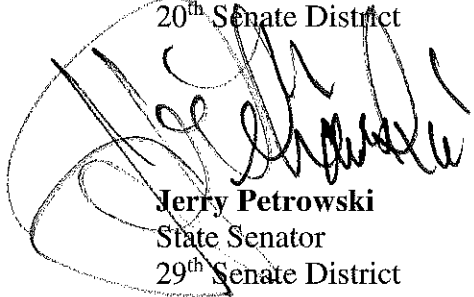


Duey Stroebel
State Senator
20th Senate District



Van Wanggaard
State Senator
21st Senate District

Kathy Bernier
State Senator
23rd Senate District



Jerry Petrowski
State Senator
29th Senate District