



Transportation Finance Issues

How is transportation money spent?

Legislature approves a biennial spending plan

- The Legislature debates and approves a biennial budget for transportation spending. The state transportation budget for 2007-09 totals \$5.9 billion. Major categories of spending include:
 - State highway expenditures
 - Local aids and capital assistance
 - State operations, including motor vehicle services and State Patrol

Most highway funds are used on existing roads and bridges

- The largest part of the state highway budget goes toward rehabilitating existing highways and bridges.
- About 30% of WisDOT's total budget is used to resurface, recondition and reconstruct the state's aging highway infrastructure, including the Marquette Interchange in Milwaukee. Another 7% of the budget goes toward the maintenance and operation of the current system.
- Major highway construction is a small part of the total budget (about 11%).

One-third (33%) of total budget returned to local communities

- General transportation aids (GTA), the largest category of local aid, is used to partially offset the cost of maintaining and improving the road system owned by local governments.
- State transit aids fund more than 35% of the operating costs of public transit systems.
- GTA and transit represent about 95% of the local aids budget.
- Local transit capital assistance includes support for rail, harbor and aeronautics programs, as well as funding for bike and pedestrian facilities.

Motor vehicle and State Patrol part of transportation budget

- The “other” category of spending in WisDOT’s budget finances all of the department’s non-modal activities. This includes long-range planning, Division of Motor Vehicle services and activities, the Wisconsin State Patrol and the department’s administrative costs

2007-09 TRANSPORTATION BUDGET

MAJOR CATEGORIES - ALL FUNDS

TOTAL BUDGET \$5.9 BILLION

FINAL (2007 Wisconsin Act 20)

