

# State of Wisconsin

SENATE CHAIR  
**Alberta Darling**

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## Joint Committee on Finance

### MEMORANDUM

To: Members  
Joint Committee on Finance

From: Senator Alberta Darling  
Representative John Nygren

Date: August 5, 2020

Re: 14-Day Passive Review Approval – DOT

Pursuant to s. 84.54(2), Stats., attached is a 14-day passive review request from the Department of Transportation, received on August 5, 2020.

Please review the material and notify **Senator Darling** or **Representative Nygren** no later than **Monday, August 24, 2020**, if you have any concerns about the request or if you would like the Committee to meet formally to consider it.

Also, please contact us if you need further information.

Attachments

AD:JN:jm



**Wisconsin Department of Transportation**  
Office of the Secretary  
4822 Madison Yards Way, S903  
Madison, WI 53705

**Governor Tony Evers**  
**Secretary Craig Thompson**  
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August 5, 2020

The Honorable Alberta Darling  
Senate Chair, Joint Committee on Finance  
317 East, State Capitol  
PO Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53707-7882

The Honorable John Nygren  
Assembly Chair, Joint Committee on Finance  
309 East, State Capitol  
PO Box 8953  
Madison, WI 53708-8953

Dear Senator Darling and Representative Nygren:

As created by 2017 Wisconsin Act 368, Section 84.54 (1), Wisconsin Statutes, requires the Department to expend federal moneys on not less than 70 percent of the aggregate project components eligible for federal funding on projects upon which the Department expends federal moneys, including on Southeast Wisconsin freeway megaprojects. Section 84.54 (2), Wis. Stats., allows the Department to submit an alternate funding plan to the Joint Committee on Finance (the Committee) if the Department determines it cannot meet the requirement or it can make more effective and efficient use of federal moneys.

The funding provided for the Southeast Wisconsin freeway megaprojects program (program) in the 2019-2021 Biennial Budget, 2019 Wisconsin Act 9, as set by the Committee in its Omnibus Motion, makes it impossible to meet the requirements of s. 84.54 (1), Wis. Stats. While the Committee provided sufficient budget authority to meet the needs of the program in this biennium, the funding mix chosen includes federal funding as only 30 percent of that budget. Therefore, pursuant to s. 84.54 (2), Wis. Stats., the Department submits to the Committee this proposed alternate funding plan for the program in the 2019-2021 Biennium.

All projects in the program are of federal interest since they are classified as federal megaprojects and are on the Interstate System. Therefore, the percentage of federal funding on any individual project has little bearing. In that light and with the amount and percentage of federal funding provided in the 2019-2021 program budget, the schedule of projects in the program, and federal funding rules, the Department proposes to use the available federal funding budgeted for the program to address additional funding needs, if any, on program projects previously authorized with federal funding and for the let construction project for the North Leg of the Zoo Interchange, which is currently scheduled to be let on October 13, 2020.

**AUG 05 2020**

*St. Finance*

Thank you for your consideration of the Department's proposed alternate funding plan for the Southeast Wisconsin freeway megaprojects program. I look forward to your deliberations and decisions on our plan. Please contact Jim Donlin, the Department's Budget Director at (608) 266-9546 if the Committee additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Craig Thompson', written in a cursive style.

Craig Thompson  
Secretary-Designee

cc: Governor Tony Evers  
Members of the Joint Committee on Finance  
Secretary Joel Brennan, DOA  
Brian Pahnke, State Budget Director  
Jim Donlin, DOT Budget Director