



State of Wisconsin  
2025 - 2026 LEGISLATURE

LRBb0634/2  
EVM&ZDW:cdc&ajk

**SENATE AMENDMENT 11,  
TO SENATE SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 2,  
TO SENATE BILL 45**

July 2, 2025 - Offered by Senators HESSELBEIN, SMITH, SPREITZER, DRAKE, L. JOHNSON, ROYS, CARPENTER, DASSLER-ALFHEIM, HABUSH SINYKIN, KEYESKI, LARSON, PFAFF, RATCLIFF and WALL.

\*\*\*AUTHORS SUBJECT TO CHANGE\*\*\*

At the locations indicated, amend the substitute amendment as follows:

**1.** At the appropriate place, insert the schedule for s. 20.395 from 2025 Senate Bill 45 covering the department of transportation.

**2.** At the appropriate places, insert all of the following:

**“SECTION 1.** 86.315 (1) of the statutes is renumbered 86.315 (1) (intro.) and amended to read:

86.315 (1) (intro.) From the appropriation under s. 20.395 (1) (fu), the department shall annually, on March 10, pay to counties having county forests established under ch. 28, for the improvement of public roads within the county forests which are open and used for travel and which are not state or county trunk highways or town roads and for which no aids are paid under s. 86.30, the amount of

~~\$351~~ following amounts per mile of road designated in the comprehensive county forest land use plan as approved by the county board and the department of natural resources;

(1m) If the amount appropriated under s. 20.395 (1) (fu) is insufficient to make the payments required under ~~this subsection~~ sub. (1), the department shall prorate the amount appropriated in the manner it considers desirable.

**SECTION 2.** 86.315 (1) (a) of the statutes is created to read:

86.315 (1) (a) In calendar year 2025, \$351.

**SECTION 3.** 86.315 (1) (b) of the statutes is created to read:

86.315 (1) (b) In calendar year 2026, \$361.

**SECTION 4.** 86.315 (1) (c) of the statutes is created to read:

86.315 (1) (c) In calendar year 2027 and each year thereafter, \$373.”.

**3.** At the appropriate places, insert all of the following:

“**SECTION 5.** 20.395 (2) (fq) of the statutes is renumbered 20.395 (2) (fd) and amended to read:

20.395 (2) (fd) *Local roads improvement discretionary supplement.* As a continuing appropriation from the general fund, the amounts in the schedule for the local roads improvement discretionary supplemental grant program under s. 86.31 (3s) and for the grants under 2025 Wisconsin Act ... (this act), section 9144 (1) and (2).

**SECTION 6.** 86.31 (3g) of the statutes is amended to read:

86.31 (3g) COUNTY TRUNK HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS — DISCRETIONARY GRANTS. From the appropriation under s. 20.395 (2) (ft), the department shall allocate \$5,127,000 in fiscal years 2014-15 to 2016-17 and \$5,393,400 in fiscal year

2017-2018 to fund county trunk highway improvements with eligible costs totaling more than \$250,000. In fiscal year 2023-24 the department shall allocate \$5,615,600 to fund county trunk highway improvements with such eligible costs. In fiscal year 2024-25 ~~and each fiscal year thereafter~~, the department shall allocate \$5,840,200 to fund county trunk highway improvements with such eligible costs. In fiscal year 2025-26, the department shall allocate \$6,015,400 to fund county trunk highway improvements with such eligible costs. In fiscal year 2026-27 and each fiscal year thereafter, the department shall allocate \$6,195,900 to fund county trunk highway improvements with such eligible costs. The funding of improvements under this subsection is in addition to the allocation of funds for entitlements under sub. (3).

**SECTION 7.** 86.31 (3m) of the statutes is amended to read:

86.31 **(3m)** TOWN ROAD IMPROVEMENTS — DISCRETIONARY GRANTS. From the appropriation under s. 20.395 (2) (ft), the department shall allocate \$5,732,500 in fiscal years 2011-12 to 2016-17 and \$5,923,600 in fiscal year 2017-18 to fund town road improvements with eligible costs totaling \$100,000 or more. In fiscal year 2023-24, the department shall allocate \$6,151,900 to fund town road improvements with such eligible costs. In fiscal year 2024-25 ~~and each fiscal year thereafter~~, the department shall allocate \$6,398,000 to fund town road improvements with such eligible costs. In fiscal year 2025-26, the department shall allocate \$6,590,000 to fund town road improvements with such eligible costs. In fiscal year 2026-27 and each fiscal year thereafter, the department shall allocate \$6,787,600 to fund town road improvements with such eligible costs. The funding of improvements under

this subsection is in addition to the allocation of funds for entitlements under sub. (3).

**SECTION 8.** 86.31 (3r) of the statutes is amended to read:

**86.31 (3r) MUNICIPAL STREET IMPROVEMENTS — DISCRETIONARY GRANTS.**

From the appropriation under s. 20.395 (2) (ft), the department shall allocate \$976,500 in fiscal years 2009-10 to 2016-17 and \$3,850,400 in fiscal year 2017-18 to fund municipal street improvement projects having total estimated costs of \$250,000 or more. In fiscal year 2023-24, the department shall allocate \$4,006,600 to fund municipal street improvement projects having such total estimated costs. In fiscal year 2024-25 ~~and each fiscal year thereafter~~, the department shall allocate \$4,166,900 to fund municipal street improvement projects having such total estimated costs. In fiscal year 2025-26, the department shall allocate \$4,291,900 to fund municipal street improvement projects having such total estimated costs. In fiscal year 2026-27 and each fiscal year thereafter, the department shall allocate \$4,420,700 to fund municipal street improvement projects having such total estimated costs. The funding of improvements under this subsection is in addition to the allocation of funds for entitlements under sub. (3).

**SECTION 9.** 86.31 (3s) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

86.31 **(3s)** (a) Funds provided under s. 20.395 (2) ~~(fq)~~ (fd) shall be distributed under this subsection as discretionary grants to reimburse political subdivisions for improvements. The department shall solicit and provide discretionary grants under this subsection until all funds appropriated under s. 20.395 (2) ~~(fq)~~ (fd) have been expended.

**SECTION 10.** 86.31 (3s) (bm) of the statutes is renumbered 86.31 (3s) (bm) 1. and amended to read:

86.31 **(3s)** (bm) 1. From the appropriation under s. 20.395 (2) (fq), 2023 stats., the department shall allocate in 2023-24 amounts for county trunk highway improvements, town road improvements, and municipal street improvements so that the total funding under s. 20.395 (2) (fq), 2023 stats., in 2023-24 is distributed among these groups at the same percentage that each group is allocated from the total funding allocated under par. (b).

**SECTION 11.** 86.31 (3s) (bm) 2. of the statutes is created to read:

86.31 **(3s)** (bm) 2. From the appropriation under s. 20.395 (2) (fd), the department shall allocate in fiscal year 2025-26 amounts for county trunk highway improvements, town road improvements, and municipal street improvements so that the total funding under s. 20.395 (2) (fd) in fiscal year 2025-26 is distributed among these groups at the same percentage that each group is allocated from the total funding allocated under par. (b).

**SECTION 9144. Nonstatutory provisions; Transportation.**

(1) VILLAGE OF ONTARIO STREET DEVELOPMENT. Notwithstanding limitations on the amount and use of aids provided under s. 86.31 or eligibility requirements for receiving aids under s. 86.31, in the 2025-27 fiscal biennium, from the appropriation under s. 20.395 (2) (fd), the department of transportation shall award a grant to the village of Ontario for residential street development. The grant under this subsection shall be in the amount of \$500,000.

(2) VILLAGE OF DEFOREST INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENT. Notwithstanding limitations on the amount and use of aids provided under s. 86.31 or eligibility

requirements for receiving aids under s. 86.31, in the 2025-27 fiscal biennium, from the appropriation under s. 20.395 (2) (fd), the department of transportation shall award a grant to the village of DeForest for improvements to the I 39/CTH “V” interchange. The grant under this subsection shall be in the amount of \$6,000,000.”.

**4.** At the appropriate places, insert all of the following:

**“SECTION 12.** 20.395 (2) (cq) of the statutes is amended to read:

20.395 (2) (cq) *Harbor assistance, state funds.* As a continuing appropriation, the amounts in the schedule for harbor assistance under s. 85.095 (2) (a), for administration of the harbor assistance program under s. 85.095 and for grants under 1999 Wisconsin Act 9, section 9150 (4f), 2013 Wisconsin Act 20, section 9145 (4i) and (4u), 2015 Wisconsin Act 55, section 9145 (1c), 2017 Wisconsin Act 59, section 9145 (4d), ~~and 2023 Wisconsin Act 19, section 9144 (2), and 2025 Wisconsin Act .... (this act), section 9144 (1).~~

**SECTION 13.** 20.866 (2) (uv) of the statutes is amended to read:

20.866 (2) (uv) *Transportation, harbor improvements.* From the capital improvement fund, a sum sufficient for the department of transportation to provide grants for harbor improvements. The state may contract public debt in an amount not to exceed ~~\$120,000,000~~ \$197,300,000 for this purpose. ~~The state may contract additional public debt in an amount up to \$32,000,000 for this purpose. The state may contract additional public debt in an amount up to \$15,300,000 for this purpose.~~

**SECTION 9144. Nonstatutory provisions; Transportation.**

(1) HARBOR ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PRIORITY. Notwithstanding s. 85.095 (2)

and (3), in the 2025-27 fiscal biennium, when making grant awards for the harbor assistance program under s. 85.095, the department of transportation shall give priority to municipalities in which a shipbuilder in this state is conducting operations.

**SECTION 9144. Nonstatutory provisions; Transportation.**

(1) CITY OF SHEBOYGAN MARINA EDUCATIONAL FACILITY. In the 2025-27 fiscal biennium, from the appropriations under ss. 20.395 (2) (cq) and 20.866 (2) (uv), notwithstanding the eligibility criteria under s. 85.095, the department of transportation shall award a grant under s. 85.095 (2) (a) to the city of Sheboygan for the construction of an educational facility at the Harbor Centre Marina. The amount of the grant awarded under this subsection shall be \$3,000,000 or the total cost of the project, whichever is less.”.

**5.** At the appropriate places, insert all of the following:

“**SECTION 14.** 20.866 (2) (uup) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

20.866 (2) (uup) 1. From the capital improvement fund, a sum sufficient for the department of transportation to fund the Marquette interchange reconstruction project under s. 84.014, as provided under s. 84.555, the reconstruction of the I 94 north-south corridor and the zoo interchange, as provided under s. 84.555 (1m), the reconstruction of the I 94 east-west corridor, as provided under s. 84.555 (1m), southeast Wisconsin freeway megaprojects under s. 84.0145, as provided under s. 84.555 (1m), and high-cost state highway bridge projects under s. 84.017, as provided under s. 84.555 (1m). The state may contract public debt in an amount not to exceed \$704,750,000 for these purposes. In addition, the state may contract public debt in an amount not to exceed \$107,000,000 for the reconstruction of the

Zoo interchange and I 94 north-south corridor, as provided under s. 84.555 (1m), as southeast Wisconsin freeway megaprojects under s. 84.0145, in an amount not to exceed \$216,800,000 for high-cost state highway bridge projects under s. 84.017, as provided under s. 84.555 (1m), in an amount not to exceed \$300,000,000 for southeast Wisconsin freeway megaprojects under s. 84.0145, as provided under s. 84.555 (1m), in an amount not to exceed \$95,000,000 for the reconstruction of the Zoo interchange, as provided under s. 84.555 (1m), as a southeast Wisconsin freeway megaproject under s. 84.0145, and in an amount up to ~~\$40,000,000~~ \$225,171,300 for the reconstruction of the I 94 east-west corridor, as provided under s. 84.555 (1m), as a southeast Wisconsin freeway megaproject under s. 84.0145.”.

**6.** At the appropriate places, insert all of the following:

“**SECTION 15.** 20.866 (2) (uuv) of the statutes is amended to read:

20.866 (2) (uuv) *Transportation; design-build projects.* From the capital improvement fund, a sum sufficient for the department of transportation to fund design-build projects under s. 84.062 that are state highway rehabilitation projects, major highway projects, or southeast Wisconsin freeway megaprojects. The state may contract public debt in an amount up to ~~\$20,000,000~~ \$112,500,000 for this purpose.”.

**7.** At the appropriate places, insert all of the following:

“**SECTION 16.** 20.395 (5) (eq) of the statutes is renumbered 20.395 (5) (ep) and amended to read:

20.395 (5) (ep) *Driver education grants, state funds.* As a continuing appropriation, from the general fund, the amounts in the schedule for driver



education grants. All moneys lapsed to the general fund under s. 20.145 (1) (g), but not to exceed to \$6,000,000 in a fiscal year, shall be credited to this appropriation account.”.

**8.** At the appropriate places, insert all of the following:

**“SECTION 9144. Nonstatutory provisions; Transportation.**

(1) PRIORITIZATION OF LOCAL BRIDGE AND CULVERT ASSESSMENT IN CERTAIN GRANTS. During the 2025-27 fiscal biennium, the department of transportation shall designate 10 percent of moneys appropriated under s. 20.395 (2) (fd) and 10 percent of the moneys appropriated under s. 20.395 (2) (fc) and (fu) for grants for improvements to bridges or culverts identified as being in poor or worse condition in local bridge and culvert assessments performed under s. 85.64. The department of transportation shall establish criteria for evaluating the suitability of projects for which applications are made under s. 86.31 (3o) and (3s) for the moneys designated under this subsection. If the department does not receive sufficient complete grant applications meeting the criteria under this subsection in the 2025-27 fiscal biennium, the moneys designated under this subsection shall be available for any other purpose for which the moneys were appropriated.”.

**9.** At the appropriate places, insert all of the following:

**“SECTION 17.** 84.185 (3) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

84.185 (3) (a) 2. ~~Five~~ Fifteen thousand dollars for each job retained or created in this state resulting directly from the improvement or economic development project.

**SECTION 18.** 85.52 (3) (am) of the statutes is created to read:

85.52 (3) (am) If the department finds that special circumstances exist, the department may award to an eligible applicant for a loan or other assistance under par. (a) totalling \$100,000 or more a grant for the purpose of engaging a certified public accountant licensed or certified under ch. 442 to make any certifications or attestations required by the department as a condition of receiving a loan or other assistance under par. (a).”.

**10.** At the appropriate places, insert all of the following:

“**SECTION 19.** 20.866 (2) (uv) of the statutes is amended to read:

20.866 (2) (uv) *Transportation, harbor improvements.* From the capital improvement fund, a sum sufficient for the department of transportation to provide grants for harbor improvements. The state may contract public debt in an amount not to exceed ~~\$120,000,000~~ \$197,300,000 for this purpose. ~~The state may contract additional public debt in an amount up to \$32,000,000 for this purpose. The state may contract additional public debt in an amount up to \$15,300,000 for this purpose.~~”.

**11.** At the appropriate places, insert all of the following:

“**SECTION 20.** 20.866 (2) (uw) of the statutes is amended to read:

20.866 (2) (uw) *Transportation; rail acquisitions and improvements and intermodal freight facilities.* From the capital improvement fund, a sum sufficient for the department of transportation to acquire railroad property under ss. 85.08 (2) (L) and 85.09; to provide grants and loans for rail property acquisitions and improvements under s. 85.08 (4m) (c) and (d); and to provide intermodal freight facilities grants under s. 85.093. The state may contract public debt in an amount

not to exceed ~~\$250,300,000~~ \$305,300,000 for these purposes. ~~The state may contract additional public debt in an amount up to \$30,000,000 for these purposes. The state may contract additional public debt in an amount up to \$20,000,000 for these purposes.”.~~

**12.** At the appropriate places, insert all of the following:

**“SECTION 21.** 341.14 (6r) (b) 23. of the statutes is created to read:

341.14 **(6r)** (b) 23. In addition to the fee under subd. 2., a voluntary payment of \$25 shall be collected in connection with the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on an annual basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 70. In addition to the fee under subd. 2., a voluntary payment of \$50 shall be collected in connection with the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on a biennial basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 70. if the plate is issued or renewed during the first year of the biennial registration period or \$25 for the issuance or renewal if the plate is issued or renewed during the 2nd year of the biennial registration period. No plate may be issued for the special group specified under par. (f) 70. unless the voluntary payment under this subdivision is collected. All moneys received under this subdivision, in excess of \$23,700 or the actual initial costs of production for the special group plates under par. (f) 70., whichever is less, shall be deposited in the transportation fund.

**SECTION 22.** 341.14 (6r) (b) 24. of the statutes is created to read:

341.14 **(6r)** (b) 24. In addition to the fee under subd. 2., a voluntary payment of \$25 shall be collected in connection with the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on an annual basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 71. In addition to

the fee under subd. 2., a voluntary payment of \$50 shall be collected in connection with the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on a biennial basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 71. if the plate is issued or renewed during the first year of the biennial registration period or \$25 for the issuance or renewal if the plate is issued or renewed during the 2nd year of the biennial registration period. No plate may be issued for the special group specified under par. (f) 71. unless the voluntary payment under this subdivision is collected. All moneys received under this subdivision, in excess of \$23,700 or the actual initial costs of production for the special group plates under par. (f) 71., whichever is less, shall be deposited in the transportation fund.

**SECTION 23.** 341.14 (6r) (cb) of the statutes is created to read:

341.14 (6r) (cb) Notwithstanding par. (c), special group plates issued under par. (f) 70. shall have a black background and white lettering displaying the word “Wisconsin” and identifying letters or numbers or both, not exceeding 7 positions and not less than one position.

**SECTION 24.** 341.14 (6r) (cr) of the statutes is created to read:

341.14 (6r) (cr) Notwithstanding par. (c), special group plates issued under par. (f) 71. shall have a yellow background and black lettering displaying the words “America’s Dairyland” and “Wisconsin” and identifying letters or numbers or both, not exceeding 7 positions and not less than one position.

**SECTION 25.** 341.14 (6r) (e) of the statutes is amended to read:

341.14 (6r) (e) The department shall specify one combination of colors for special group plates for groups or organizations which are not military in nature

and not special group plates under par. (f) 35. to 47., 50., ~~and~~ 59., 70., and 71., for each professional football team under par. (f) 55., for each professional baseball team under par. (f) 60., and for each professional basketball team under par. (f) 65. The department shall specify one combination of colors for special group plates under par. (f) 35. to 47. Subject to par. (c), the department shall specify the word or words comprising the special group name and the symbol to be displayed upon special group plates for a group or organization which is not military in nature after consultation with the chief executive officer in this state of the group or organization. The department shall require that the word or words and symbol for a university specified under par. (f) 35. to 47. be a registration decal or tag and affixed to the special group plate and be of the colors for a university specified under par. (f) 35. to 47. that the president of the University of Wisconsin System specifies. The department shall consult the chief trademark officer of Harley-Davidson Michigan, LLC before specifying the colors for the special group plate under par. (f) 61r.

**SECTION 26.** 341.14 (6r) (f) 70. of the statutes is created to read:

341.14 **(6r)** (f) 70. Persons interested in obtaining blackout registration plates.

**SECTION 27.** 341.14 (6r) (f) 71. of the statutes is created to read:

341.14 **(6r)** (f) 71. Persons interested in obtaining retro registration plates.

**SECTION 28.** 341.14 (6r) (fm) 7. of the statutes is amended to read:

341.14 **(6r)** (fm) 7. After October 1, 1998, additional authorized special groups may only be special groups designated by the department under this paragraph.

The authorized special groups enumerated in par. (f) shall be limited solely to those special groups specified under par. (f) on October 1, 1998. This subdivision does not apply to the special groups specified under par. (f) 3m., 6m., 9g., 9m., 12g., 12m., 15m., 15n., 15o., 15p., 15q., 19m., 33m., 48m., 49d., 49h., 49s., 54., 55., 55m., 56., 57., 58., 59., 60., 61., 61m., 61r., 62., 63., 64., 65., 65m., 66., 67., 68., ~~and 69., 70., and 71.~~ 71.”.

**13.** At the appropriate places, insert all of the following:

“**SECTION 29.** 85.20 (4m) (a) 6. cm. of the statutes is amended to read:

85.20 (**4m**) (a) 6. cm. From the appropriation under s. 20.395 (1) (hd), the department shall pay ~~\$32,738,900 for calendar year 2022, \$65,477,800 for calendar year 2023, and~~ \$66,787,400 for calendar year 2025, \$69,458,900 for calendar year 2026, and \$72,237,300 for calendar year 2027 and each calendar year thereafter; to the eligible applicant that pays the local contribution required under par. (b) 1. for an urban mass transit system that has annual operating expenses of ~~\$80,000,000~~ \$100,000,000 or more. If the eligible applicant that receives aid under this subd. 6. cm. is served by more than one urban mass transit system, the eligible applicant may allocate the aid between the urban mass transit systems in any manner the eligible applicant considers desirable.

**SECTION 30.** 85.20 (4m) (a) 6. d. of the statutes is amended to read:

85.20 (**4m**) (a) 6. d. From the appropriation under s. 20.395 (1) (he), the department shall pay ~~\$8,602,700 for calendar year 2022, \$17,205,400 for calendar year 2023, and~~ \$17,549,500 for calendar year 2025, \$18,251,500 for calendar year 2026, \$18,981,600 for calendar year 2027 and each calendar year thereafter; to the eligible applicant that pays the local contribution required under par. (b) 1. for an

urban mass transit system that has annual operating expenses in excess of ~~\$20,000,000~~ \$30,000,000 but less than ~~\$80,000,000~~ \$100,000,000. If the eligible applicant that receives aid under this subd. 6. d. is served by more than one urban mass transit system, the eligible applicant may allocate the aid between the urban mass transit systems in any manner the eligible applicant considers desirable.

**SECTION 31.** 85.20 (4m) (a) 7. a. of the statutes is amended to read:

85.20 **(4m)** (a) 7. a. From the appropriation under s. 20.395 (1) (hb), beginning with aid payable for calendar year 2002 and for each calendar year thereafter, the uniform percentage for each eligible applicant served by an urban mass transit system operating within an urbanized area having a population as shown in the ~~2010~~ most recent federal decennial census of at least 50,000 or receiving federal mass transit aid for such area, and not specified in subd. 6.

**SECTION 32.** 85.20 (4m) (a) 7. b. of the statutes is amended to read:

85.20 **(4m)** (a) 7. b. For the purpose of making allocations under subd. 7. a., the amounts for aids are ~~\$24,976,400 in calendar years 2020 to 2023 and~~ \$25,475,900 in calendar year 2025, \$26,494,900 in calendar year 2026, and \$27,554,700 in calendar year 2027 and each calendar year thereafter. These amounts, to the extent practicable, shall be used to determine the uniform percentage in the particular calendar year.

**SECTION 33.** 85.20 (4m) (a) 8. a. of the statutes is amended to read:

85.20 **(4m)** (a) 8. a. From the appropriation under s. 20.395 (1) (hc), beginning with aid payable for calendar year 2002 and for each calendar year thereafter, the uniform percentage for each eligible applicant served by an urban mass transit system operating within an area having a population as shown in the ~~2010~~ most

recent federal decennial census of less than 50,000 or receiving federal mass transit aid for such area.

**SECTION 34.** 85.20 (4m) (a) 8. b. of the statutes is amended to read:

85.20 **(4m)** (a) 8. b. For the purpose of making allocations under subd. 8. a., the amounts for aids are ~~\$5,292,700 in calendar years 2020 to 2023 and~~ \$5,398,600 in calendar year 2025, \$9,800,600 in calendar year 2026, and \$10,192,600 in calendar year 2027 and each calendar year thereafter. These amounts, to the extent practicable, shall be used to determine the uniform percentage in the particular calendar year.”.

**14.** At the appropriate places, insert all of the following:

**“SECTION 35.** 16.5185 (5) of the statutes is created to read:

16.5185 **(5)** Beginning on June 30, 2025, in each fiscal year, the secretary shall transfer from the general fund to the transportation fund an amount equal to the amount calculated by the department approximating the marginal difference between the sales tax generated from the sale of automotive parts, accessories, tires, and repair and maintenance services in fiscal year 2019-20 and the fiscal year of the transfer.”.

**15.** At the appropriate places, insert all of the following:

**“SECTION 36.** 84.01 (13) of the statutes is amended to read:

84.01 **(13)** ENGINEERING SERVICES. The department may engage such engineering, consulting, surveying, or other specialized services as it deems advisable. Any engagement of services under this subsection is exempt from ss. 16.70 to 16.75, 16.755 to 16.82, and 16.85 to 16.89, but ss. 16.528, 16.752, and



16.754 apply to such engagement. Any engagement involving an expenditure of ~~\$3,000~~ \$100,000 or more shall be by formal contract approved by the governor. The department shall conduct a uniform cost-benefit analysis, as defined in s. 16.70 (3g), of each proposed engagement under this subsection that involves an estimated expenditure of more than \$300,000 in accordance with standards prescribed by rule of the department and consider and document the results of the analysis before the determination of whether to undertake the proposed engagement. The department shall review periodically, and before any renewal, the continued appropriateness of contracting pursuant to each engagement under this subsection that involves an estimated expenditure of more than \$300,000.

**SECTION 37.** 84.06 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

84.06 (2) (a) All such highway improvements shall be executed by contract based on bids unless the department finds that another method as provided in sub. (3) or (4) would be more feasible and advantageous. Bids shall be advertised for in the manner determined by the department. Except as provided in s. 84.075, the contract shall be awarded to the lowest competent and responsible bidder as determined by the department. If the bid of the lowest competent bidder is determined by the department to be in excess of the estimated reasonable value of the work or not in the public interest, all bids may be rejected. The department shall, so far as reasonable, follow uniform methods of advertising for bids and may prescribe and require uniform forms of bids and contracts. Except as provided in par. (b), the secretary shall enter into the contract on behalf of the state. Every such contract is exempted from ss. 16.70 to 16.75, 16.755 to 16.82, 16.87 and 16.89, but ss. 16.528, 16.752, and 16.754 apply to the contract. Any such contract involving an

expenditure of ~~\$1,000~~ \$250,000 or more shall not be valid until approved by the governor. The secretary may require the attorney general to examine any contract and any bond submitted in connection with the contract and report on its sufficiency of form and execution. The bond required by s. 779.14 (1m) is exempt from approval by the governor and shall be subject to approval by the secretary. This subsection also applies to contracts with private contractors based on bids for maintenance under s. 84.07.

**SECTION 38.** 84.06 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

84.06 (3) CONTRACTS WITH COUNTY OR MUNICIPALITY; DIRECT LABOR; MATERIALS. If the department finds that it would be more feasible and advantageous to have the improvement performed by the county in which the proposed improvement is located and without bids, the department may, by arrangement with the county highway committee of the county, enter into a contract satisfactory to the department to have the work done by the county forces and equipment. In such contract the department may authorize the county to purchase, deliver, and store materials and may fix the rental rates of small tools and equipment. The contract shall be between the county and the state and shall not be based on bids, and may be entered into on behalf of the county by the county highway committee and on behalf of the state by the secretary. Such contract is exempted from s. 779.14 and from all provisions of chs. 16 and 230, except s. 16.754. If the total estimated indebtedness to be incurred exceeds ~~\$5,000~~ \$100,000 the contract shall not be valid until approved by the governor. The provisions of this subsection relating to agreements between a county and the state shall also authorize and apply to such arrangements between a city, town, or a village and the

state. In such cases, the governing body of the city, town, or village shall enter into the agreement on behalf of the municipality.

**SECTION 39.** 84.06 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

84.06 (4) SPECIAL CONTRACTS WITH RAILROADS AND UTILITIES. If an improvement undertaken by the department will cross or affect the property or facilities of a railroad or public utility company, the department may, upon finding that it is feasible and advantageous to the state, arrange to perform portions of the improvement work affecting such facilities or property or perform work of altering, rearranging, or relocating such facilities by contract with the railroad or public utility. Such contract shall be between the railroad company or public utility and the state and need not be based on bids. The contract may be entered into on behalf of the state by the secretary. Every such contract is exempted from s. 779.14 and from all provisions of chs. 16 and 230, except ss. 16.528, 16.752, and 16.754. No such contract in which the total estimated debt to be incurred exceeds ~~\$5,000~~ \$100,000 shall be valid until approved by the governor. As used in this subsection, “public utility” means the same as in s. 196.01 (5), and includes a telecommunications carrier as defined in s. 196.01 (8m), and “railroad” means the same as in s. 195.02. “Property” as used in this subsection includes but is not limited to tracks, trestles, signals, grade crossings, rights-of-way, stations, pole lines, plants, substations, and other facilities. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to relieve any railroad or public utility from any financial obligation, expense, duty, or responsibility otherwise provided by law relative to such property.

**SECTION 40.** 84.07 (1b) of the statutes is amended to read:

84.07 (1b) EMERGENCY REPAIR AND PROTECTION OF STATE TRUNK HIGHWAYS.

To accomplish prompt repair, protection or preservation of any state trunk highway which has been closed or is being jeopardized by extraordinary damage by flood, structure failure, slides, or other extraordinary condition of necessity and emergency, the department may, if it is deemed for the best interest of the state, proceed at once to repair or protect the highway with forces and services of private constructors and agencies, summarily engaged by the department and cause said work to be done by negotiated contract or agreement without calling for competitive bids, provided that any such contract or agreement involving an estimated expenditure in excess of ~~\$10,000~~ \$100,000 shall be subject to approval of the governor before it becomes effective.”.

**16.** At the appropriate places, insert all of the following:

“**SECTION 41.** 20.395 (2) (ja) of the statutes is created to read:

20.395 (2) (ja) *Local traffic calming grants.* From the general fund, as a continuing appropriation, the amounts in the schedule for the local traffic calming grant program under s. 85.024.

**SECTION 42.** 85.024 of the statutes is created to read:

**85.024 Local traffic calming grants.** The department shall develop and administer a local traffic calming grant program. From the appropriation under s. 20.395 (2) (ja), the department shall award grants to counties, cities, villages, and towns for infrastructure projects that are eligible for funding under the federal transportation alternatives program and that are designed to reduce the speed of vehicular traffic. The department shall prescribe the form, nature, and extent of information that shall be contained in applications for grants under this section and

shall establish criteria for evaluating applications and for awarding grants under this section.”.

**17.** At the appropriate places, insert all of the following:

“**SECTION 43.** 84.013 (3) (be) of the statutes is created to read:

84.013 (3) (be) I 39/90/94 extending approximately 67 miles in Dane, Columbia, Sauk, and Juneau counties from USH 12/18 in Madison to USH 12/STH 16 in Wisconsin Dells, including I 39 from I 90/94 to Levee Road near the city of Portage, and including all interchanges and work on adjacent roadways necessary for the completion of the project.

**SECTION 44.** 86.255 (2) (c) of the statutes is created to read:

86.255 (2) (c) The purchase of any land, easements, or development rights in land executed in the name of the department for the completion of the I 39/90/94 project under s. 84.013 (3) (be).”.

**18.** At the appropriate places, insert all of the following:

“**SECTION 45.** 342.14 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

342.14 (1) For filing an application for the first certificate of title, ~~\$157~~ \$277, by the owner of the vehicle.

**SECTION 46.** 342.14 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

342.14 (3) For a certificate of title after a transfer, ~~\$157~~ \$277, by the owner of the vehicle, except that this fee shall be waived with respect to an application for transfer of a decedent’s interest in a vehicle to his or her surviving domestic partner under ch. 770 or an immediate family member.

**SECTION 47.** 343.21 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

343.21 (1) (a) For the initial issuance or renewal of a license authorizing only the operation of “Class D” motor vehicles, other than a probationary license under s. 343.085, ~~\$24~~ \$32.50.”.

**19.** At the appropriate places, insert all of the following:

“**SECTION 48.** 20.395 (3) (cq) of the statutes is amended to read:

20.395 (3) (cq) *State highway rehabilitation, state funds.* As a continuing appropriation, the amounts in the schedule for improvement of existing state trunk and connecting highways; for improvement of bridges on state trunk or connecting highways and other bridges for which improvement is a state responsibility, for necessary approach work for such bridges and for replacement of such bridges with at-grade crossing improvements; for the construction and rehabilitation of the national system of interstate and defense highways and bridges and related appurtenances; for activities under s. 84.04 on roadside improvements; for bridges under s. 84.10; for the bridge project under s. 84.115; for payment to a local unit of government for a jurisdictional transfer under s. 84.02 (8); for the disadvantaged business demonstration and training program under s. 84.076; for the purpose specified in s. 84.017 (3); for the transfers required under 1999 Wisconsin Act 9, section 9250 (1) and 2003 Wisconsin Act 33, section 9153 (4q); and for the purposes described under 1999 Wisconsin Act 9, section 9150 (8g), 2001 Wisconsin Act 16, section 9152 (4e), 2007 Wisconsin Act 20, section 9148 (9i) (b) and (9x), 2021 Wisconsin Act 58, section 9144 (5), ~~and~~ 2023 Wisconsin Act 19, section 9144 (8), and 2025 Wisconsin Act .... (this act), section 9144 (1). This paragraph does not apply to any southeast Wisconsin freeway megaprojects under s. 84.0145, to any southeast Wisconsin freeway rehabilitation projects under s. 84.014 that also qualify as major

highway projects under s. 84.013, or to the installation, replacement, rehabilitation, or maintenance of highway signs, traffic control signals, highway lighting, pavement markings, or intelligent transportation systems, unless incidental to the improvement of existing state trunk and connecting highways.

**SECTION 2.** 20.395 (3) (cs) of the statutes is created to read:

20.395 (3) (cs) *State highway rehabilitation, service funds.* All moneys received from the fund created under s. 18.57 (1) as reimbursement for the temporary financing under sub. (9) (th) of state highway rehabilitation projects for the purposes specified under sub. (3) (cq) that are financed under s. 84.59, for the purpose of financing such projects

**SECTION 49.** 20.395 (4) (jq) of the statutes is amended to read:

20.395 (4) (jq) *Transportation facilities and highway projects revenue obligation funding.* As a continuing appropriation, all proceeds from revenue obligations issued under s. 84.59 and deposited into the fund created under s. 18.57 (1), for the transportation administrative facilities purposes of s. 84.01 (28) ~~and~~, for major highway projects as defined under s. 84.013 (1) (a) for the purposes of ss. 84.06 and 84.09, and for state highway rehabilitation projects for the purposes specified in sub. (3) (cq), providing for reserves and for expenses of issuance and management of the revenue obligations. Estimated disbursements under this paragraph shall not be included in the schedule under s. 20.005.

**SECTION 50.** 20.395 (9) (th) of the statutes is amended to read:

20.395 (9) (th) *Temporary funding of projects financed by revenue bonds.* A sum sufficient to provide initial, temporary funding for any project to be financed under s. 84.59 which is a major highway project enumerated under s. 84.013 (3) or

a project under s. 84.01 (28) approved under s. 13.48 (10) or authorized under s. 84.01 (30) or a state highway rehabilitation project for a purpose specified in sub. (3) (cq). The department shall keep a separate account of expenditures under this paragraph for each such project. As soon as moneys become available from the proceeds of the obligation issued under s. 84.59 to finance that project, an amount equal to the amounts expended under this paragraph shall be paid from those proceeds into the transportation fund and credited to the appropriation account under sub. (3) (br) or (cs) or (4) (at).

**SECTION 51.** 84.59 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

84.59 (1) Transportation facilities under s. 84.01 (28) ~~and~~, major highway projects as defined under s. 84.013 (1) (a) for the purposes under ss. 84.06 and 84.09, and state highway rehabilitation projects for the purposes specified in s. 20.395 (3) (cq) may be funded with the proceeds of revenue obligations issued subject to and in accordance with subch. II of ch. 18.

**SECTION 52.** 84.59 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:

84.59 (6) The building commission may contract revenue obligations when it reasonably appears to the building commission that all obligations incurred under this section can be fully paid from moneys received or anticipated and pledged to be received on a timely basis. Except as provided in this subsection, the principal amount of revenue obligations issued under this section may not exceed ~~\$4,055,372,900~~ \$4,644,920,600, excluding any obligations that have been defeased under a cash optimization program administered by the building commission, to be used for transportation facilities under s. 84.01 (28) ~~and~~, major highway projects for the purposes under ss. 84.06 and 84.09. ~~In addition to the foregoing limit on~~



~~principal amount, the building commission may contract revenue obligations under this section up to \$142,254,600, excluding any obligations that have been defeased under a cash optimization program administered by the building commission, to be used for transportation facilities under s. 84.01 (28) and major highway projects for the purposes under ss. 84.06 and 84.09. In addition to the foregoing limit on principal amount, the building commission may contract revenue obligations under this section up to \$128,258,200, excluding any obligations that have been defeased under a cash optimization program administered by the building commission, to be used for transportation facilities under s. 84.01 (28) and major highway projects for the purposes under ss. 84.06 and 84.09, and state highway rehabilitation projects for the purposes specified in s. 20.395 (3) (cq).~~ In addition to the foregoing limits on principal amount, the building commission may contract revenue obligations under this section as the building commission determines is desirable to refund outstanding revenue obligations contracted under this section, to make payments under agreements or ancillary arrangements entered into under s. 18.55 (6) with respect to revenue obligations issued under this section, and to pay expenses associated with revenue obligations contracted under this section.

**SECTION 9144. Nonstatutory provisions; Transportation.**

(1) SOUND BARRIERS ON I 894. During the 2025-27 fiscal biennium, the department of transportation shall allocate \$19,500,000 from the appropriation under s. 20.395 (3) (cq) for the construction of sound barriers on I 894, between 27th street and 76th street, in Milwaukee County.”.

**20.** At the appropriate places, insert all of the following:

**“SECTION 9244. Fiscal changes; Transportation.**

(1) TRANSFER FROM FORESTRY ACCOUNT TO TRANSPORTATION FUND. On July 1, 2026, there is transferred from the conservation fund, from the moneys received for forestry activities, to the transportation fund \$25,000,000.”.

**21.** At the appropriate places, insert all of the following:

“**SECTION 53.** 20.395 (1) (ba) of the statutes is created to read:

20.395 (1) (ba) *Transit capital assistance grants.* From the general fund, as a continuing appropriation, the amounts in the schedule for transit capital assistance grants under s. 85.203.

**SECTION 54.** 85.203 of the statutes is created to read:

**85.203 Transit capital assistance grants. (1)** In this section:

(a) “Eligible applicant” has the meaning given in s. 85.20 (1) (b).

(b) “Public transit vehicle” means any vehicle used for providing transportation service to the general public that is eligible for replacement under settlement guidelines, as defined in s. 16.047 (1) (b).

(2) The department shall administer a transit capital assistance grant program. From the appropriation under s. 20.395 (1) (ba), the department shall award grants to eligible applicants for the replacement of public transit vehicles. The department shall establish criteria for awarding grants under this section.”.

**(END)**