

CHAPTER 84

STATE TRUNK HIGHWAYS; FEDERAL AID

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84.001 Definitions. As used in this chapter unless the context requires another interpretation:

(1) “Department” means the department of transportation.

(1m) “Division of hearings and appeals” means the division of hearings and appeals in the department of administration.

(1r) “Intelligent transportation system” means a specialized computer system or other electronic, information processing, communication, or technical system, including roadway detector loops, closed circuit television, permanent variable message signs, or ramp meters, that is used to improve the efficiency or safety of a surface transportation system.

(2) “Secretary” means the secretary of transportation.

History: 1977 c. 29; 1983 a. 27; 1993 a. 16; 2001 a. 16.

84.01 Department powers and duties. (1) OFFICES. The department shall maintain its principal office at Madison and district offices at such other cities, villages and towns as the necessities of the work demand.

(2) POWERS AND DUTIES; GENERAL PROVISION. The department shall have charge of all matters pertaining to the expenditure of state and federal aid for the improvement of highways, and shall

do all things necessary and expedient in the exercise of such supervision.

(3) DISTRICT OFFICES. Any internal reorganization of the department under s. 15.02 shall provide for maintenance by the department of district offices throughout the state.

(5) ADVISE LOCAL AUTHORITIES. The department shall advise towns, villages, cities and counties with regard to the construction and maintenance of any highway or bridge, when requested. On the request of any town, village, city or county board, or county highway committee, any supervision or engineering work necessary in connection with highway improvements by any town, village, city or county may be performed by the department and charged at cost to such town, village, city or county.

(6) SURVEYS AND PLANS. The department shall make provision for and direct the surveys, plans, construction, inspection and maintenance of all highways, whenever the construction or maintenance is under its jurisdiction.

(6m) GOALS AND ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS. (a) In this subsection, “economic development program” means a program or activity having the primary purpose of encouraging the establishment and growth of business in this state, including the creation and retention of jobs, and that satisfies all of the following:

1. The program receives funding from the state or federal government that is allocated through an appropriation under ch. 20.
2. The program provides financial assistance, tax benefits, or direct services to specific industries, businesses, local governments, or organizations.

(b) The department, in consultation with the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation, shall do all of the following for each economic development program administered by the department:

1. Establish clear and measurable goals for the program that are tied to statutory policy objectives.
2. Establish at least one quantifiable benchmark for each program goal described in subd. 1.
3. Require that each recipient of a grant or loan under the program submit a report to the department. Each contract with a recipient of a grant or loan under the program shall specify the frequency and format of the report to be submitted to the department and the performance measures to be included in the report.
4. Establish a method for evaluating the projected results of the program with actual outcomes as determined by evaluating the information described in subds. 1. and 2.
5. Annually and independently verify, from a sample of grants and loans, the accuracy of the information required to be reported under subd. 3.
6. Establish by rule a requirement that the recipient of a grant or loan under the program of at least \$100,000 submit to the department a verified statement signed by both an independent certified public accountant licensed or certified under ch. 442 and the director or principal officer of the recipient to attest to the accuracy of the verified statement, and make available for inspection the documents supporting the verified statement. The department shall include the requirement established by rule under this subdivision in the contract entered into by a grant or loan recipient.
7. Establish by rule policies and procedures permitting the department to do all of the following if a recipient of a grant or loan or tax benefits under the program submits false or misleading information to the department or fails to comply with the terms of a contract entered into with the department under the program and fails to provide to the satisfaction of the department an explanation for the noncompliance:
 - a. Recoup payments made to the recipient.
 - b. Withhold payments to be made to the recipient.
 - c. Impose a forfeiture on the recipient.

(7) EXPERIMENTS, MEETINGS, CONVENTIONS. The department shall conduct such investigations and experiments, hold such pub-

lic meetings and attend or be represented at such meetings and conventions inside or outside of the state as may, in its judgment, tend to promote improved highways, and shall cooperate with state and national organizations in experiments and work for the advancement of improved highways.

(8) DONATIONS. The department shall receive gifts, appropriations and bequests made to it or to the state for highway purposes, pay all moneys received by it into the state treasury, and, as far as practicable, expend the same in accordance with the wishes of the donor, such expenditures to be audited and paid as other disbursements of the department are audited and paid, and shall apportion the allotments of state highway funds among the counties and municipalities as provided by law.

(9) COUNTY TRUNK SYSTEM. (a) The department shall review the system of county trunk highways and alter the same so as to connect the system of adjoining counties into continuous and direct routes.

(b) To insure modern safe design in the construction of county trunk highways, the department shall establish rules providing uniform minimum design standards for the improvement of county trunk highways. “Improvement” as used in this paragraph includes construction, reconstruction and the processes incidental to building, fabricating or bettering a highway, but not maintenance.

Cross-reference: See also ch. [Trans 205](#), Wis. adm. code.

(10) RIGHT OF ENTRY. The department or its authorized representatives may enter private lands to make surveys or inspections.

(11) REPORTS AND BULLETINS. The department shall issue such bulletins, pamphlets and literature as it deems necessary.

(11m) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE COORDINATION AND REPORTING. (a) The department shall coordinate any economic development assistance with the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation.

(b) Annually, no later than October 1, the department shall submit to the joint legislative audit committee and to the appropriate standing committees of the legislature under s. 13.172 (3) a comprehensive report assessing economic development programs, as defined in sub. (6m) (a), administered by the department. The report shall include all of the information required under s. 238.07 (2). The department shall collaborate with the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation to make readily accessible to the public on an Internet-based system the information required under this subsection.

(12) ACTING COUNTY COMMISSIONER. The secretary of transportation shall appoint, upon the request of any county board, a county highway commissioner, who shall have all the powers and duties conferred by statutes upon county highway commissioners.

(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 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.

Cross-reference: See also ch. [Trans 515](#), Wis. adm. code.

(14) LABORATORIES. The department shall maintain in connection with the performance of necessary engineering for highway work and other functions, a materials testing and research laboratory and adequate facilities for highway marking and signing.

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(15) FEDERAL AID SYSTEMS OF HIGHWAYS. The department shall plan, select, lay out, add to, decrease, revise, construct, reconstruct, improve and maintain, or arrange for maintenance by subdivisions of the state or by any other means, the national system of interstate highways, federal aid highway system, system of secondary and feeder roads, federal aid grade crossings projects, federal forest highway systems and projects and other highway and related projects, all within the meaning of Title 23, USC and all acts amendatory thereof and supplementary thereto, and the federal regulations issued under such code; and receive all funds provided by any source to match or supplement such federal aid funds, and expend such funds in accordance with the requirements of acts of congress or of this state making such funds available and cooperate with federal authorities and subdivisions of the state in carrying out this subsection. This subsection shall not limit the other powers of the department relative to federal aid for highways.

(16) NOTICE OF ESTIMATED TRANSPORTATION AID. Annually, not later than October 1, the department shall notify each county and municipal clerk of the estimated transportation aid to the county or municipality for the following calendar year.

(17) IMPROVEMENTS FOR NEXT 6 YEARS. In each odd-numbered year, the department shall determine, as far as possible, what improvements will be made during the following 6-year period, and shall notify the county clerks prior to February 1 of each even-numbered year, as to the improvements in their respective counties. Such notice shall also be given to the department of natural resources and to the department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection.

(18) PLAN FOR TRANSPORTATION FINANCING FOR NEXT 10 YEARS. The department shall submit a 10-year plan that includes an estimate of total transportation fund revenues, proposed bonding, and estimated debt service for each year of the 10-year period covered by the plan. The plan shall include various scenarios with different levels of transportation spending, from bond or cash sources, and different levels of revenues, with at least one scenario resulting in achieving a stable debt service percentage by the end of the 10-year period. For any scenario resulting in an increasing debt service percentage, the plan shall identify the potential consequences for specific transportation programs of reduced net revenues.

(19) NOTARIES PUBLIC. The department is authorized to expend from its proper appropriations a sum sufficient to pay all fees and expenses necessarily incurred in qualifying employees deemed necessary as notaries public and securing notarial seals or rubber stamps; but such notaries shall receive no fees for notarial services rendered to the state.

(21) MOTOR VEHICLE WEIGHING STATIONS. The department, as a part of the improvement and maintenance of highways, may acquire, construct and maintain lands and facilities, including scales or weighing stations, for weighing, measuring or inspecting vehicles and loads operating on any public highway in the state. Lands necessary may be adjacent or contiguous to the highway and weighing station facilities may be constructed and maintained upon the traveled portion of the highway or any other part thereof. The department may not construct or locate a motor vehicle weighing facility in or adjacent to the village of Rockland in La Crosse County.

(23) BRIDGE STANDARDS. The department shall adopt standards and specifications for the design and construction of county, town, village, and city bridges, arches or culverts. The standards and specifications shall be developed after consultation with the department of natural resources, and shall be directed at preventing undue impairment of public rights in navigable waters. All highway bridges, arches, and culverts constructed or reconstructed by a county, town, village, or city shall be done in accordance with these standards and specifications.

Cross-reference: See also ch. [Trans 207](#), Wis. adm. code.

(26) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS. The department may, by agreement with the appropriate authority of an adjoining state, arrange for performing, financing and sharing of cost of construction, maintenance and operation of any bridge or other transportation project over or upon interstate boundary waters and approaches thereto under joint jurisdiction of the department and a governmental agency of the adjoining state.

(27) URBAN MASS TRANSIT SYSTEMS. The department may encourage generally and provide, without limitation by enumeration, for the construction of exclusive or preferential bus lanes, highway control devices, bus passenger loading areas and terminal facilities, including shelters, fringe and corridor parking facilities to serve bus, car pool and other public mass transportation passengers and, with the approval of the local authority charged with the maintenance of the highway facility, preferential lanes for car pool vehicles. All moneys granted or allotted to this state as federal aid for the purposes specified in this subsection shall be expended by the department in accordance with the act of congress relating to such federal aid funds.

(28) TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATIVE FACILITIES. The department may acquire, construct, develop, enlarge or improve administrative or operating facilities for its use under sub. (30) or s. [13.48 \(10\)](#).

(29) PLANTING OF TREES. The department shall by rule establish procedures for increasing the number of hardy and aesthetically pleasing trees planted on state trunk highway rights-of-way, while maintaining highway safety.

Cross-reference: See also ch. [Trans 280](#), Wis. adm. code.

(30) BUILD-OPERATE-LEASE OR TRANSFER AGREEMENTS. The department may enter into build-operate-lease or transfer agreements with private entities for the construction of transportation projects, including any projects to be financed under s. [84.59](#) for transportation administrative facilities under sub. (28) and, for projects that are not purchased by the state upon their completion, for the maintenance and operation of such projects. A project under this subsection may be constructed on state-owned land. An agreement under this subsection may not be entered into unless the department determines that the agreement advances the public interest, and the private entity has prior experience in design, construction, site development and environmental impact analysis and, for a project that is not expected to be purchased by the state upon its completion, has the capability of maintaining and operating the facility upon completion of the project. The following provisions shall be contained in any build-operate-lease or transfer agreement under this subsection, except that they shall be included in an agreement for a sale of property under par. (g) 3. only if they are relevant to that sale:

(a) A provision specifying that title is held by the private entity until title is transferred to the department pursuant to a lease with option to purchase at the appraised value or purchase at the appraised value of the constructed project upon its completion.

(b) If the agreement contains a lease that provides for payments to be made by the state from moneys that have not been appropriated at the time that the agreement is entered into, a provision containing the statement required under s. [16.75 \(3\)](#).

(c) A provision specifying that the project shall be constructed in accordance with requirements and specifications approved by the department of administration or, if the project is not a transportation administrative facility, approved by the department of transportation.

(d) A provision permitting inspection by agents of the department of transportation until title transfers as provided under par. (a) or by agents of the department of administration during construction.

(e) If applicable, a provision specifying that any operation and maintenance under the agreement by the private entity shall be

conducted in accordance with requirements and specifications approved by the department.

(f) A provision establishing a mechanism for the resolution of disputes.

(g) 1. In this paragraph, “park-and-ride facility” means a facility with a parking lot and, within a reasonable walking distance, a station or transfer point where commuters access a mass transit system.

2. If the department determines that such a provision advances the public interest, a provision exempting the private entity from the restrictions under ss. 84.25 (11) and 86.19 (1), and specifying any requirements that the department determines will practicably advance the purposes of ss. 84.25 (11) and 86.19 (1). This subdivision applies only to park-and-ride facilities.

3. Notwithstanding any other statute except ss. 13.48 (14) (am) and 16.848 (1), the department may sell, at the appraised value, the real estate upon which a park-and-ride facility is or may be located, if the department determines that the sale is in the best interests of the public and the department determines that the real estate will be used in a manner consistent with the state’s transportation interests.

(31) ACCOMMODATION OF UTILITY FACILITIES WITHIN HIGHWAY RIGHTS-OF-WAY. Notwithstanding ss. 84.06 (4), 84.063, 84.065, and 84.093, the department may, upon finding that it is feasible and advantageous to the state, negotiate and enter into an agreement to accept any plant or equipment used for the conveyance, by wire, optics, radio signal, or other means, of voice, data, or other information at any frequency over any part of the electromagnetic spectrum, or to accept any services associated with the collection, storage, forwarding, switching, and delivery incidental to such communication, as payment for the accommodation of a utility facility, as defined in s. 84.063 (1) (f), within a highway right-of-way. Any agreement 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 agreement.

(32) CONFIDENTIALITY OF BIDDER INFORMATION. (a) The department may not disclose to any person any information requested by the department for the purpose of complying with 49 CFR 26, as that section existed on October 1, 1999, that relates to an individual’s statement of net worth, a statement of experience, or a company’s financial statement, including the gross receipts of a bidder.

(b) This subsection does not prohibit the department from disclosing information to any of the following persons:

1. The person to whom the information relates.
2. Any person who has the written consent of the person to whom the information relates to receive such information.
3. Any person to whom 49 CFR 26, as that section existed on October 1, 1999, requires or specifically authorizes the department to disclose such information.

(33) HIGHWAY PROJECT DESIGN INVENTORY. (am) By July 1, 2014, and continuously thereafter, the department shall maintain an inventory of completed designs for highway projects such that the estimated costs of the inventory of projects for each program is not less than 30 percent of the annual amount of funding provided to each program. The department shall maintain an inventory for each of the following:

1. Major highway projects under s. 84.013 (2) (a).
2. Reconditioning, reconstruction, and resurfacing projects under s. 84.013 (2) (b).

(bm) 1. In this paragraph, “design-build project” means a highway project for which architectural, surveying, engineering, construction, and related services are provided by a single contractor awarded by low bid or by best value.

2. The department shall maintain an inventory of not fewer than 5 highway projects suitable for selection as design-build projects. The department shall ensure that the projects included in the inventory under this paragraph are sufficiently developed

to be selected as design-build projects. Before including a project in the inventory under this paragraph, the department shall ensure that any environmental assessment or environmental impact statement required under state or federal law for the project has been completed.

(34) FARMLAND PRESERVATION EXEMPTION. Chapter 91 and ordinances adopted, rules promulgated, and agreements entered into under that chapter apply to the department only with respect to buildings, structures, and facilities to be used for administrative or operating functions, including buildings, land, and equipment to be used for the motor vehicle emission inspection and maintenance program under s. 110.20.

(35) BIKEWAYS AND PEDESTRIAN WAYS. (a) In this subsection:

1. “Bikeway” has the meaning given in s. 84.60 (1) (a).
2. “Pedestrian way” has the meaning given in s. 346.02 (8) (a).

(b) Except as provided in par. (d), and notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter or ch. 82, 83, or 85, the department shall give due consideration to establishing bikeways and pedestrian ways in all new highway construction and reconstruction projects funded in whole or in part from state funds or federal funds appropriated under s. 20.395 or 20.866.

(d) The department may not establish a bikeway or pedestrian way as a part of a new highway construction or reconstruction project if any of the following apply:

1. Bicyclists or pedestrians are prohibited by law from using the highway that is the subject of the project.

2. The project is funded in whole or in part from state funds unless the governing body of each municipality in which a portion of the project will occur has adopted a resolution authorizing the department to establish the bikeway or pedestrian way. This subdivision does not apply if the federal government provides written notice to the department that establishment of a bikeway or pedestrian way as a part of a project is a condition of the use of federal funds for that project.

(36) SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENTS. (a) In this subsection, “sponsor” means any person, whether public or private, that enters into an agreement with the department under par. (b).

(b) Notwithstanding ss. 86.19 (1) and 86.191 (1), the department may enter into sponsorship agreements under which the department displays advertising, promotional, or sponsorship material, or other information, associated with the sponsor at locations owned or controlled by the department in exchange for the sponsor’s payment of fees or provision of services to the department. Sponsorship agreements may include sponsor recognition placed on such property of the department as department documents, highway maps, the department’s Internet site, department vehicles, and equipment owned or controlled by the department.

(d) 1. Except as provided in subd. 2., all fees received under this subsection shall be deposited in the general fund and credited to the appropriation account under s. 20.395 (3) (eg).

2. All fees received under this subsection from sponsorship agreements under which the department displays information associated with the sponsor at a passenger railroad station shall be deposited in the transportation fund.

(e) For each agreement under par. (b), the contract shall be awarded on the basis of competitive proposals in accordance with procedures established by the department. Requests for proposals shall be advertised in the manner determined by the department. Each contract shall be awarded to the person submitting the most advantageous competitive proposal as determined by the department. If the proposal of the person submitting the most advantageous competitive proposal is determined by the department to be less than the estimated reasonable value to the department or not in the public interest, the department may reject all proposals. The secretary shall enter into each 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.

(37) BUS SHELTER ADVERTISING. (a) In this subsection, “bus shelter” means a shelter or bench located at a transit stop for use by passengers of public transportation systems owned or operated by governmental units or public authorities and that was placed in accordance with s. 86.07 (2), applicable rules promulgated by the department, and any applicable federal regulations.

(b) Notwithstanding ss. 86.19 (1) and 86.191 (1), and subject to any applicable federal regulation, the department shall allow any sign to be placed upon a bus shelter located on a state trunk highway, if the sign does not impair the highway or impede vehicular traffic on the highway.

(38) WORK ZONE SAFETY EDUCATION. The department shall determine the materials to be used in the work zone safety instruction required under ss. 38.04 (4) (e) 9., 115.28 (11) (h), and 343.71 (5) (i).

History: 1971 c. 40, 125; 1973 c. 12; 1973 c. 243 s. 82; 1975 c. 189; 1977 c. 29 ss. 918 to 924, 1654 (1), (8) (a), (f), 1656 (43); 1977 c. 190, 272; 1979 c. 221, 314; 1981 c. 346 s. 38; 1983 a. 27, 130; 1985 a. 29, 300; 1987 a. 27; 1989 a. 31, 125, 345; 1993 a. 246; 1995 a. 225, 338; 1997 a. 27, 106; 1999 a. 9; 2001 a. 16; 2005 a. 25, 89, 392, 410; 2007 a. 20, 97, 125; 2009 a. 28; 2011 a. 32, 167; 2013 a. 20; 2015 a. 55; 2017 a. 37, 247, 365; 2019 a. 18; 2021 a. 240 s. 30; 2021 a. 267; 2023 a. 46, 160.

84.011 Who to sign contracts. The secretary, or the secretary’s designees, may sign and execute in the name of the department any conveyance or any contract or agreement with the federal government or its departments, subdivisions of this state, other states or subdivisions of other states, corporations, limited liability companies, associations, partnerships and individuals.

History: 1977 c. 29; 1993 a. 112, 490; 2007 a. 135.

84.012 Setoffs. All amounts owed by this state under this chapter are subject to being set off under s. 73.12.

History: 1985 a. 29.

84.013 Highway projects. (1) In this section:

(a) “Major highway project” means a project, except a project providing an approach to a bridge over a river that forms a boundary of the state, a high-cost state highway bridge project under s. 84.017, or a southeast Wisconsin freeway megaproject under s. 84.0145, that satisfies any of the following:

1m. The project has a total cost of more than \$30,000,000, subject to adjustment under sub. (2m), and involves any of the following:

a. Constructing a new highway 2.5 miles or more in length.
b. Reconstructing or reconditioning an existing highway by either relocating 2.5 miles or more of the existing highway or adding one or more lanes 5 miles or more in length to the existing highway.

c. Improving to freeway standards 10 miles or more of an existing divided highway having 2 or more lanes in either direction.

2m. The project has a total cost of more than \$75,000,000, subject to adjustment under sub. (2m), and is not described in subd. 1m.

(b) “Reconditioning” means work in addition to resurfacing. “Minor reconditioning” includes pavement widening and shoulder paving. “Major reconditioning” includes improvement of an isolated grade, curve, intersection or sight distance problem to improve safety. Major reconditioning projects may require additional property acquisition.

(c) “Reconstruction” means total rebuilding of an existing highway to improve maintainability, safety, geometrics and traffic service. It is accomplished basically on existing alignment, and major elements may include flattening of hills and grades, improvement of curves, widening of the roadbed, and elimination or shielding of roadside obstacles. Normally reconstruction will require additional property acquisition.

(d) “Resurfacing” means placing a new surface on an existing highway to provide a better all-weather surface and a better riding surface, and to extend or renew the pavement life. It generally

involves no improvement in capacity or geometrics. Resurfacing may include some elimination or shielding of roadside obstacles, culvert replacements, signals, marking, signing and intersection improvements. Usually no additional property acquisition is required; except possible minor acquisition for drainage and intersection improvements.

(2) (a) Subject to ss. 84.014 (6) (b), 84.555, and 86.255, major highway projects shall be funded from the appropriations under ss. 20.395 (3) (bq) and (bx) and (ct) and (4) (jq) and 20.866 (2) (ur) to (uum), (uus), and (uuu).

(b) Except as provided in ss. 84.017 and 84.555, and subject to ss. 84.014 (6) (c) and 86.255, reconditioning, reconstruction and resurfacing of highways shall be funded from the appropriations under ss. 20.395 (3) (cq) to (cx) and 20.866 (2) (uur), (uut), and (uuu).

(2m) The department shall annually adjust the amounts specified in sub. (1) (a) 1m. and 2m. to reflect the annual change in the Wisconsin Department of Transportation Price Index, Yearly Moving Average, as maintained by the department or, if at any time the department no longer maintains this index, another suitable index as determined by the department. Beginning in 2012, prior to October 1 of each year, the department shall compute the annual adjustment required under this subsection and shall publish the new adjusted amount applicable under sub. (1) (a) 1m. and 2m., which amount shall become effective on October 1 of that year. The department may not adjust the amounts specified in sub. (1) (a) 1m. and 2m. to an amount less than that specified in sub. (1) (a) 1m. and 2m.

(3) The department may proceed with construction of the following major highway projects:

(ab) STH 11 extending approximately 7.6 miles from west of Burlington to STH 36/83 east of Burlington, designated as the Burlington bypass, in Walworth and Racine counties.

(ac) USH 12 extending approximately 11.6 miles from the junction of USH 12 and I 90/94 to approximately 0.75 miles south of Ski Hi Road in Sauk County.

(ad) Notwithstanding s. 13.489 (4) (c), any project approved by the transportation projects commission under s. 13.489 (4m) (b).

(ae) USH 53 extending approximately 6.2 miles between I 90 and USH 14/61 near 7th Street in La Crosse, La Crosse County.

(af) I 43 extending approximately 14.3 miles between Silver Spring Drive in the city of Glendale and STH 60 in the village of Grafton, in Milwaukee and Ozaukee counties.

(ag) STH 57 extending approximately 17.3 miles from the junction of STH 57 with CTH “A” to STH 42 in Kewaunee and Door counties.

(b) I 41 extending approximately 23 miles between STH 96 in the town of Grand Chute and CTH “F” in the town of Lawrence, in Brown and Outagamie counties, including all interchanges, and including work on local roads as necessary for the completion of the project.

(bd) I 39/90 extending approximately 45 miles from USH 12/18 in Dane County to the Illinois–Wisconsin state line in Rock County.

(bp) USH 10 and USH 10/STH 441 extending approximately 5 miles from CTH “CB” in Winnebago County to Oneida Street in Calumet County.

(bt) STH 15 extending approximately 11 miles from STH 76 to USH 45, near New London, in Outagamie County.

(pm) STH 26 extending approximately 48 miles between I 90 in Janesville and STH 60 north of Watertown in Rock, Jefferson, and Dodge counties.

(ps) I 39/USH 51 extending approximately 8 miles from south of Fox Glove Road to north of Bridge Street, designated as the Wausau beltline, in Marathon County.

(ra) STH 23 between STH 67 and USH 41 in Sheboygan and Fond du Lac counties.

(re) USH 12 extending approximately 18.2 miles between the USH 12/14 interchange area in Middleton and STH 60 in Dane and Sauk counties.

(xb) USH 151 between the south interchange with STH 73 south of Columbus and USH 41 at Fond du Lac.

(ye) USH 10 between Appleton and Marshfield, in Winnebago, Outagamie, Waupaca, Portage and Wood counties.

(zb) USH 41 extending from 1.5 miles south of Frog Pond Road in Oconto County to 1.3 miles north of Schacht Road in Marinette County.

(zh) USH 18 from Main Street in the city of Prairie du Chien to STH 60 in the town of Bridgeport in Crawford County.

(zp) USH 41 from 0.5 miles south of STH 26 to 0.5 miles north of Breezewood Lane in the city of Neenah in Winnebago County.

(zt) USH 41 from Orange Lane in the town of Lawrence, one mile south of CTH “F” to CTH “M” in Brown County.

(3m) (c) The department shall complete the design work for any major highway project involving STH 57 between CTH “A” near Dyckesville and STH 42 in Kewaunee and Door counties by December 31, 2003.

(d) If the department reconstructs any part of STH 78 located in the village of Merrimac in Sauk County and requires water and sewer utilities lying beneath this reconstructed part of STH 78 to be relocated to a lower depth, the department shall pay 75 percent of the cost of relocating these water and sewer utilities.

(e) The department shall begin the major highway project enumerated under sub. (3) (ra) no later than July 1, 2009.

(f) The department shall construct an interchange on I 90/94/39 at Cuba Valley Road in Dane County if the federal highway administration approves the location of an interchange at that location and if the department receives a commitment for funding the full construction cost of the project from sources other than state funds.

(g) The department shall begin construction of the following projects no later than December 31, 2015:

1. A grade-separated interchange at CTH “V” and USH 151 in Fond du Lac County.

2. A grade-separated crossing of CTH “T” over USH 151 in Fond du Lac County.

(i) In conjunction with the resurfacing project on STH 102, the department shall construct a bicycle and pedestrian path and bridge, including lighting, along STH 102 from State Road to Fayette Avenue in the village of Rib Lake in Taylor County if the village contributes at least \$60,000 to the cost of the bicycle and pedestrian path project.

(k) Notwithstanding s. 13.489 (1m) (e), the department shall, in the 2013–15 fiscal biennium, commence the preparation of an environmental impact statement, as defined in s. 13.489 (1c) (b), for a proposed major highway project involving USH 12 from the city of Elkhorn to the city of Whitewater.

(4) (a) Subject to s. 13.489 (1m), in preparation for future major highway projects, the department may perform engineering and design work and studies for possible major highway projects not listed under sub. (3), but no major highway may be constructed unless the project is listed under sub. (3) or approved under sub. (6).

(b) The department may not, within any 6-year period, construct a highway project consisting of separate contiguous projects which do not individually qualify as major highway projects but which in their entirety would constitute a major highway project without first submitting the project to the transportation projects commission for its recommendations and report and without specific authorization under sub. (3), except as provided in par. (c) and sub. (6).

(c) The department may construct highway projects involving STH 59 between STH 164 on the eastern edge of the city of Waukesha and Calhoun Road in Waukesha County and STH 59 from Calhoun Road to the Waukesha County line in Waukesha County without first submitting the projects to the transportation projects commission for its recommendations and report and without specific authorization under sub. (3).

(5) Commencing with the 1985–87 biennial budget bill and biennially thereafter, the department shall request adjustments to the list of major highway projects under sub. (3) as listed projects are completed, projects are approved under sub. (6) and new projects are ready for construction. The department shall submit the proposed biennial adjustments for major highway projects to the transportation projects commission for review and recommendation as provided under s. 13.489.

(6) If following the enactment of the biennial budget bill the department determines that a highway project which was initially planned or designed as a reconditioning, reconstruction or resurfacing project is a major highway project and is ready for construction, the department shall submit the proposal for the specific project to the transportation projects commission for review and recommendation as provided under s. 13.489. After the transportation projects commission has submitted its report on the project, the department may request approval of the specific project as a major highway project from the joint committee on finance. If the joint committee on finance approves the project, the committee shall make such transfer of funds among the highway appropriations as deemed necessary and the department may proceed with construction.

(6m) Notwithstanding sub. (1) (a), if a highway improvement project within the corporate limits of a city, village or town has a cost of more than \$2,000,000, the city, village or town may, by resolution, petition the transportation projects commission to designate the project as a major highway project. This subsection does not apply to a highway improvement project on a freeway within the corporate limits of a city, village or town. The department may not construct a highway improvement project designated as a major highway project by the transportation projects commission under this subsection without specific authorization under sub. (3).

(9) If the department determines that a business development having a payroll exceeding \$10,000,000 in a calendar year is being located within a 3-mile radius of the intersection of I 90 and Town Line Road in Rock County, the department shall construct an interchange funded from the appropriations under s. 20.395 (3) (cq) to (cx) off of I 90 to Town Line Road.

History: 1983 a. 27; 1985 a. 29 ss. 1564 to 1566g, 3202 (51); 1987 a. 27 ss. 10cm, 1654un to 1654uws; 1987 a. 403; 1989 a. 31; 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 16, 237, 246; 1995 a. 27 s. 9116 (5); 1995 a. 113; 1997 a. 27; 1999 a. 9; 2001 a. 16, 109; 2003 a. 33; 2005 a. 25; 2007 a. 20; 2009 a. 28, 276; 2011 a. 32, 257; 2013 a. 20, 165; 2015 a. 55; 2017 a. 59; 2019 a. 9.

84.014 Southeast Wisconsin freeway rehabilitation; Marquette interchange reconstruction project. **(1)** In this section:

(a) “Interim repair” means any improvement not specified in a notice given under s. 84.01 (17) that is needed to remedy unanticipated roadway deficiencies.

(b) “Marquette interchange” means all highways, including ramps and shoulders, encompassing I 43, I 94, and I 794 in Milwaukee County within the area bordered by 25th Street to the west, North Avenue to the north, the southern end of Burnham Canal to the south, and the Milwaukee River to the east.

(c) “Reconstruction” means the rebuilding of highways and bridges, including improvements to enhance highway safety, design, or capacity. The term includes activities associated with such rebuilding, including design engineering, traffic mitigation, property acquisition, and utility facility relocation. The term does not include interim repairs.

(d) “Rehabilitation” means the reconditioning, reconstruction, or resurfacing, as defined in s. 84.013 (1) (b) to (d), of a freeway or the adding of one or more lanes to the freeway, and includes interim repairs.

(e) “Southeast Wisconsin freeway” means a state trunk highway, located in Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Walworth, Washington, or Waukesha county, that has 4 or more lanes of traffic physically separated by a median or barrier and that gives preference to through traffic by limiting access to interchanges only.

(2) Subject to ss. 84.555 and 86.255, any southeast Wisconsin freeway rehabilitation projects, including the Marquette interchange reconstruction project and projects that involve adding one or more lanes 5 miles or more in length to the existing freeway, may be funded from the appropriations under ss. 20.395 (3) (cr), (ct), (cw), and (cy) and 20.866 (2) (uum) and (uup).

(3) The department may not expend from the appropriations under s. 20.395 (3) (cr) and (cy) more than \$160,643,900 in the 2001–03 fiscal biennium for the Marquette interchange reconstruction project, unless the expenditure of more funds is approved or modified and approved by the joint committee on finance. From funds that would otherwise be expended from the appropriations under s. 20.395 (3) (cr) and (cy) for other southeast Wisconsin freeway rehabilitation projects, the department may exceed the expenditure limit for the 2001–03 fiscal biennium to meet project deadlines if the department makes a reduction in subsequent allocations for the Marquette interchange reconstruction project that is equal to the amount by which the applicable expenditure limit was exceeded.

(4) The department may transfer the funding of southeast Wisconsin freeway rehabilitation projects between the appropriations for s. 20.395 (3) (cr) and (cy) to minimize project costs.

(5) The department shall design the reconstruction of I 94 in Milwaukee and Waukesha counties, other than the Marquette interchange, to allow for expansion of capacity for vehicular traffic on I 94 in these counties to meet the projected vehicular traffic capacity needs, as determined by the department, for 25 years following the completion of such reconstruction.

(5m) (ag) In this subsection:

1e. “I 94 east–west corridor” means all freeways, including related interchange ramps, roadways, and shoulders, encompassing I 94 in Milwaukee County from 70th Street to 16th Street, and all adjacent frontage roads and collector road systems.

1m. “I 94 north–south corridor” means the Mitchell interchange of I 43, I 94, and I 894 in Milwaukee County, I 94 from the Illinois–Wisconsin state line in Kenosha County proceeding northerly through the Mitchell interchange to Howard Avenue in Milwaukee County, I 43/894 from the Mitchell interchange proceeding westerly to 35th Street in Milwaukee County, the STH 119 Airport Spur Parkway between I 94 and General Mitchell International Airport in Milwaukee County, and all freeways, roadways, shoulders, interchange ramps, frontage roads, and collector road systems adjacent or related to these routes or interchanges.

2. “Zoo interchange” means all freeways, including related interchange ramps, roadways, and shoulders, and all adjacent frontage roads and collector road systems, encompassing I 94, I 894, and USH 45 in Milwaukee County within the area bordered by I 894/USH 45 at Lincoln Avenue to the south, I 94 at 70th Street to the east, I 94 at 124th Street to the west, and USH 45 at Burling Street to the north.

(am) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the department may not expend any moneys from the appropriations under s. 20.395 (3) (cr), (cw), and (cy) for a southeast Wisconsin freeway rehabilitation project that involves adding one or more lanes 5 miles or more in length to the existing freeway unless the project is specifically enumerated in a list under par. (b).

(b) The department may proceed with the following southeast Wisconsin freeway rehabilitation projects:

2. Reconstruction of the I 94 north–south corridor.
3. Reconstruction of the Zoo interchange.

(6) (a) A southeast Wisconsin freeway rehabilitation project under this section may not simultaneously be considered a southeast Wisconsin freeway megaproject under s. 84.0145.

(b) Notwithstanding sub. (5m), a southeast Wisconsin freeway rehabilitation project under this section may also be considered a major highway project, eligible for funding under s. 84.013 (2) (a), if the project meets the criteria for a major highway project under s. 84.013 (1) (a) and satisfies all applicable requirements under ss. 13.489 and 84.013.

(c) Notwithstanding sub. (5m), a southeast Wisconsin freeway rehabilitation project under this section may also be eligible for funding under s. 84.013 (2) (b) if the project is not considered a southeast Wisconsin freeway megaproject under s. 84.0145 or a major highway project under s. 84.013.

History: 2001 a. 16, 109; 2005 a. 25; 2007 a. 20; 2009 a. 28; 2011 a. 32; 2013 a. 20; 2021 a. 58.

84.0145 Southeast Wisconsin freeway megaprojects.

(1) In this section:

(ae) “I 94 east–west corridor project” has the meaning given in s. 84.014 (5m) (ag) 1e.

(am) “I 94 north–south corridor” has the meaning given in s. 84.014 (5m) (ag) 1m.

(b) “Southeast Wisconsin freeway” has the meaning given in s. 84.014 (1) (e).

(c) “Southeast Wisconsin freeway megaproject” means any project on a southeast Wisconsin freeway having a total cost of more than \$500 million, subject to adjustment under sub. (4).

(d) “Zoo interchange” has the meaning given in s. 84.014 (5m) (ag) 2.

(2) Subject to sub. (3) and s. 86.255, any southeast Wisconsin freeway megaproject may be funded only from the appropriations under ss. 20.395 (3) (aq), (av), (ax), and (ct) and 20.866 (2) (uup), (uur), (uuv), and (uuz).

(3) (a) The department may not encumber or expend any moneys for construction of a southeast Wisconsin freeway megaproject unless the project is specifically enumerated in a list under par. (b).

(b) The department may provide funding for the following southeast Wisconsin freeway megaprojects:

1. The I 94 north–south corridor project.
2. The Zoo interchange project.
3. The I 94 east–west corridor project.

(4) The department shall annually adjust the amount specified in sub. (1) (c) to reflect the annual change in the Wisconsin Department of Transportation Price Index, Yearly Moving Average, as maintained by the department or, if at any time the department no longer maintains this index, another suitable index as determined by the department. Beginning in 2012, prior to October 1 of each year, the department shall compute the annual adjustment required under this subsection and shall publish the new adjusted amount applicable under sub. (1) (c), which amount shall become effective on October 1 of that year. The department may not adjust the amount specified in sub. (1) (c) to an amount less than that specified in sub. (1) (c).

History: 2011 a. 32; 2013 a. 20; 2017 a. 58; 2021 a. 58.

84.015 Federal highway aid accepted. (1) The state of Wisconsin assents to the provisions of Title 23, USC and all acts of congress amendatory thereof and supplementary thereto. The state of Wisconsin declares its purpose and intent to give assent to all federal highway acts and to make provisions that will insure receipt by this state of any federal highway aids that have been or may be allotted to the state including all increased and advanced appropriations, and insure that such highways and related facilities in this state as may be eligible to be improved or constructed in accordance with any such federal highway acts may be

improved, constructed and maintained in accordance therewith. The good faith of the state is pledged to make available funds sufficient to adequately carry out such construction and maintenance.

(2) The department may enter into all contracts and agreements with the United States relating to the construction and maintenance of streets and highways and related facilities under Title 23, USC and all acts amendatory thereof and supplementary thereto, submit such scheme or program of construction and maintenance as may be required by said code or rules and regulations of the United States promulgated thereunder and do all other things necessary fully to carry out the cooperation contemplated and provided for by said code.

History: 1977 c. 29 s. 1654 (8) (a).

84.016 Major interstate bridge projects. (1) In this section, “major interstate bridge project” means a project involving the construction or reconstruction of a bridge on the state trunk highway system, including approaches, that crosses a river forming a boundary of the state and for which this state’s estimated cost share is at least \$100,000,000.

(2) Notwithstanding ss. 84.013, 84.51, 84.52, 84.53, 84.555, and 84.95, but subject to s. 86.255, this state’s share of costs for any major interstate bridge project may be funded only from the appropriations under ss. 20.395 (3) (dq), (dv), and (dx) and 20.866 (2) (ugm).

History: 2009 a. 28; 2011 a. 30, 32; 2019 a. 9.

84.017 High-cost state highway bridge projects.

(1) In this section, “high-cost state highway bridge project” means a project involving the construction or rehabilitation of a bridge on the state trunk highway system, including approaches, that has a total estimated cost of more than \$150,000,000, but does not include any major interstate bridge project, as defined in s. 84.016 (1), or any project involving a bridge that is part of a southeast Wisconsin freeway megaproject enumerated under s. 84.0145 (3) (b).

(2) Subject to sub. (3) and s. 86.255, any high-cost state highway bridge project may be funded only from the appropriations under ss. 20.395 (3) (dr), (dw), and (dy) and 20.866 (2) (uup).

(3) (a) During the 2011–13 fiscal biennium, the department may encumber or expend moneys from any of the appropriations under s. 20.395 (3) (aq), (av), (ax), (br), (bq), (bv), (bx), (cq), (cv), and (cx) for preliminary costs associated with the reconstruction of the Hoan Bridge and approaches to the east bank of the Milwaukee River on I–794 in Milwaukee County.

(b) 1. Subject to subd. 2., during the 2013–15 fiscal biennium, the department may encumber or expend moneys from any of the appropriations under s. 20.395 (3) (aq), (av), (ax), (br), (bq), (bv), (bx), (cq), (cv), and (cx) for any costs associated with the reconstruction of the Hoan Bridge, including approaches, that exceed \$226,000,000.

2. The department may not encumber or expend more than \$10,000,000 from the appropriations specified in subd. 1. during the 2013–15 fiscal biennium for the purpose specified in subd. 1. unless the department submits to the joint committee on finance a request for authorization to encumber or expend the moneys and the joint committee on finance approves the request.

(4) A high-cost state highway bridge project under this section may not be considered a southeast Wisconsin freeway megaproject under s. 84.0145.

History: 2011 a. 32; 2013 a. 20.

84.02 State trunk highway system. (1) DESIGNATION. The system of highways known as the trunk highway system heretofore selected and laid out by the legislature and by the highway commission and by special legislative state trunk highway committees and approved by said highway commission and as revised, altered and changed by and under authority vested by law in the highway commission, is hereby validated and confirmed and designated the state trunk highway system but without prejudice to the exercise of the power given to change such system, and all acts

by which parts of said system were heretofore adopted or declared to be trunk highways are confirmed and validated. Section 82.19 (2) does not apply to the state trunk highway system.

(2) COUNTY LINE HIGHWAYS APPORTIONED. The apportionment heretofore made by the highway commission of portions of the state trunk highway system that lie on county lines is hereby ratified. The portion of such county line highways assigned to any county shall be considered as lying wholly within such county, and all the provisions for construction and maintenance shall apply to such portion just as though it lay wholly within the county to which assigned. Bridges on the state trunk highway system which span streams forming the boundary between 2 counties shall be considered as lying one-half in each county.

(3) CHANGES IN SYSTEM. (a) Changes may be made in the state trunk system by the department, if it deems that the public good is best served by making the changes. The department, in making the changes, may lay out new highways by the procedure under this subsection. Due notice shall be given to the localities concerned of the intention to make changes or discontinuances, and if the change proposes to lay a highway via a new location and the distance along such deviation from the existing location exceeds 2 1/2 miles, then a hearing in or near the region affected by the proposed change shall be held prior to making the change effective. The notice shall also be given to the secretary of natural resources either by registered mail or personally. Whenever the department decides to thus change more than 2 1/2 miles of the system the change shall not be effective until the decision of the department has been referred to and approved by the county board of each county in which any part of the proposed change is situated. A copy of the decision shall be filed in the office of the clerk of each county in which a change is made or proposed. Where the distance along the deviation from the existing location exceeds 5 miles the change shall constitute an addition to the state trunk highway system. The preexisting route shall continue to be a state trunk highway unless the county board of each county in which any part of the relocation lies and the department mutually agree to its discontinuance as a state trunk highway. Whenever such county board or boards and the department cannot so agree the department shall report the problem to the next ensuing session of the legislature for determination.

(b) The action of any town, village or county board or city council discontinuing, relocating or altering any highway on the state trunk system shall be void unless the department approves the same in writing.

(4) GUIDEBOARDS; WARNINGS; ROUTE MARKING. (a) The department shall mark the highways of the state trunk highway system and also the connecting highways. The markers shall be uniform, except that the numbers thereon shall correspond with the numbers given to various routes by the department and found on the official highway maps issued by the department. No similar design or marker shall be used for marking other highway routes.

(b) No person shall mark any other highway routes or trails unless the route marked shall coincide exactly with the state trunk system. No such routes shall be marked until exact descriptions of the routes selected for marking have been filed with and the routes and markings approved by the department. Every route laid out and marked shall be made to conform to the state trunk system, and the person responsible for the marking of such route shall remove or erase such marks from every portion of such route which does not coincide with the state trunk highway system. The department shall report to the department of financial institutions any violations of or failure to comply with the provisions of this subsection, and the department of financial institutions shall thereupon revoke the privilege, license or incorporation of the offender, and the department shall cause the offending marks to be erased, removed or destroyed. The expense of such erasure, removal or destruction shall be paid out of funds appropriated to the department, and may be recovered in the name of the state from the person responsible for such unauthorized marking.

(c) The department shall erect and maintain such standard guide and warning signs and lighting as it deems necessary within the right-of-way along the state trunk system, and it is unlawful to erect any lighting or display any other guide or warning signs upon the state trunk system, except in cases of emergency or when approved by the department. Any erection in violation hereof may be removed by the department.

(d) The department may cooperate with the Public Roads Administration or other designated agency of the federal government in formulating and adopting or changing a uniform system of numbering, or designating highways of interstate character within this state, and in the selection and erection of uniform danger signals and safety devices for the protection and direction of traffic.

(e) The department shall adopt a manual establishing a uniform system of traffic control devices for use upon the highways of this state. The system shall be consistent with and, so far as practicable, conform to current nationally recognized standards for traffic control devices.

(f) The department shall adopt a manual establishing a uniform system of signs, signals, markings and devices for the purpose of regulating, warning or guiding bicycle traffic on highways, streets and bikeways, as defined in s. 84.60 (1) (a). The system, shall be consistent with and shall conform to the system established under par. (e).

(5) MAPS. (a) As often as it deems necessary, the department shall publish highway service maps showing the state trunk highway system and such other main highways and other features as may seem desirable. Such highway service maps shall be sold by the department at a price to be fixed by it, which shall be not less than cost. The department may permit the use of its digital base map data for other maps and publications and may charge a fair fee for such use. The department shall make and publish or duplicate such highway service maps as are required for its use, and shall publish folded highway maps of Wisconsin for free distribution to the public. The department shall ensure that the folded highway maps bear information regarding the requirements of s. 347.48 (4).

(b) Upon publication of the highway service maps, the department shall distribute without charge 50 of these maps to each officer and member of the legislature. Any officer or member of the legislature may request additional highway service maps. The request may be written or oral. The fee for the additional maps shall be the fee set by the department under par. (a).

(c) Upon publication of the folded highway maps, the department shall distribute without charge 500 of these maps to each officer and member of the legislature and 300 of these maps to the legislative reference bureau. Any officer or member of the legislature may request additional folded highway maps. The request may be written or oral. No charge may be made for the additional folded highway maps.

(d) The highway service maps and folded highway maps published by the department for sale or distribution to the public under par. (a) shall include all of the following:

1. Identification of each veterans memorial highway or bridge designated under this chapter and the Wisconsin 9/11 Memorial Highway designated under s. 84.10295.

2. Identification of the location of each of the following:

a. Memorial Park in the city of Arcadia in Trempealeau County.

b. The All Veterans' Memorial in the village of Clear Lake in Polk County.

c. The Highground Veterans Memorial Park near the city of Neillsville in Clark County.

d. The Milwaukee County War Memorial Center in the city of Milwaukee in Milwaukee County.

e. The Richard I. Bong Veterans Heritage Center in the city of Superior in Douglas County.

f. The Wisconsin Korean War Veterans Memorial in the village of Plover in Portage County.

g. The Northern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery near the city of Spooner in Washburn County.

h. The Southern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery near the village of Union Grove in Racine County.

i. The Central Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery at King near the city of Waupaca in Waupaca County.

j. The Wisconsin Veterans Home at King near the city of Waupaca in Waupaca County.

k. The Wisconsin Veterans Home at Union Grove near the village of Union Grove in Racine County.

L. The Wisconsin Veterans Museum in the city of Madison in Dane County.

m. The Wisconsin National Guard Museum in the village of Camp Douglas in Juneau County.

n. The Wisconsin Veterans Tribute and the Citizen Soldier Monument in the village of Cadott in Chippewa County.

o. The Wisconsin Veterans Home at Chippewa Falls in the city of Chippewa Falls in Chippewa County.

p. The Wisconsin 9/11 Memorial and Education Center in the village of Kewaskum in Washington County.

(6) ALTERNATE ROUTES THROUGH CITIES, VILLAGES AND TOWNS. In cases where any state trunk highway passes near but not through the central or business portion of any city, village or town, the department may upon petition of any city, village or town designate an alternate route through such central or business portion, and shall install suitable marking to guide travelers over such alternate route. No such designation shall be made unless the department finds that public travel will be benefited. Any such designation may be revoked on 30 days' notice to the city, village or town if the department finds that public travel is not benefited. Such designation shall impose no responsibility on the state, except the cost of marking in the first instance. Such alternate routes shall be constructed and maintained and kept clear of snow, in a condition satisfactory to the department without expense to the state, and the department may require assurances to that effect before making such designation.

(7) ADDITIONS FROM COUNTY TRUNK HIGHWAYS. Whenever the traffic on any county trunk highway averages in any year 250 or more vehicles daily, the county board may by resolution request that such county trunk highway be added to the state trunk highway system. A copy of such resolution shall be filed with the department. If after investigation the department finds that the traffic on said county trunk highway meets the requirements of this subsection, it may by order add said highway to the state trunk highway system, but the total additions under this subsection shall not exceed 500 miles. Whenever the traffic on any portion of a state trunk highway averages in any year 150 or less vehicles daily, the county board of the county wherein such state trunk highway is situated may by resolution request that such be transferred to the county trunk highway system. A copy of such resolution shall be filed with the department. If after investigation the department finds that the traffic on said state trunk highway is as stated in said resolution, it may order said highway taken from the state trunk highway system and made a county trunk highway.

(8) JURISDICTIONAL TRANSFERS: STATE-LOCAL AGREEMENTS. (a) The department may make additions or deletions to the state trunk highway system by entering into a jurisdictional transfer agreement with a municipality or county. Addition to or deletion of any part of the state trunk highway system under this subsection may be made without regard to any mileage limitation or procedural requirement imposed under this section or chapter 518, laws of 1947.

(b) The transfer of a highway under a jurisdictional transfer agreement may not take effect until the agreement is approved by the department and by resolution of the governing body of the municipality or county that is a party to the agreement.

(c) A jurisdictional transfer agreement shall specify the length of time for which it is in effect and may contain any other terms and conditions regarding the maintenance or rehabilitation of any highway transferred under the agreement.

(d) The department and the municipality or county that is party to a jurisdictional transfer agreement shall maintain a record of the agreement.

(8m) REVERSION OF JURISDICTION. A highway that is under the jurisdiction of a municipality or county and that satisfies all of the following requirements shall be transferred to the jurisdiction of the department:

(a) Prior to September 23, 2017, jurisdiction of the highway was transferred under sub. (8) by the department to a municipality or county under a jurisdictional transfer agreement to which more than one municipality or county was party.

(b) The municipality or county to which jurisdiction of the highway was transferred under par. (a) subsequently transferred under an agreement under s. 66.0307 territory in which the highway is located to another municipality or county and the agreement under s. 66.0307 did not specifically address jurisdiction of the highway.

(c) Not later than 6 months after September 23, 2017, the governing body of the transferor and transferee municipalities or counties under par. (b) adopt resolutions stating the intent of the municipality or county to revert jurisdiction of the highway to the department and provide a copy of the resolution to the department.

(10) TEMPORARY ROUTES; DETOURS. (a) In case it is impracticable to maintain any portion of the state trunk highway system as laid out, pending its improvement or construction, the department may designate a temporary route as part of the state trunk highway system, and in such case the temporary route shall be considered part of the state trunk highway system in every respect, except that it may not be constructed as a state trunk highway.

(b) When any portion of the state trunk highway system is impassable or dangerous to travel or when it shall be deemed necessary because of construction or maintenance work or for other reasons to suspend all or part of the travel thereon, the department may route such travel over a detour around such portion of the state trunk highway system. Such detour may be routed over any other public highway or temporary highway which may be improved or maintained as part of the cost of constructing or maintaining the state trunk highway system to the extent necessary, as determined by the department, because of such additional travel. Such routing of state trunk highway traffic over other public highways shall not alter the existing status of such other public highways.

(11) CONNECTING HIGHWAYS. The state trunk highway system shall not include the marked routes thereof over the streets or highways in municipalities which the department has designated as being connecting highways. Those municipal streets or highways so excluded as state trunk highways but marked as such and designated as connecting highways are further described and the aids determined therefor under s. 86.32.

(12) STATE TRUNK SYSTEM MAPS. The department shall maintain in its permanent record a map of each county on a scale of not less than one-half inch per mile showing the official layout of the state trunk highway system. Annually, as soon as practical after January 1, a copy of such map, showing the official layout of the state trunk highway system in each county as it existed at the close of the previous calendar year, shall be filed with the county clerk and county highway commissioner thereof.

(13) PRIORITY. The department shall give high priority to the completion of the STH 28/USH 41 interchange in Washington County as part of the USH 41 corridor project.

(14) I 39 INTERCHANGE. If a waiver from the federal department of transportation is required for the construction of an interchange at the intersection of I 39 and Kowalski Road in Marathon County, and if the state department of transportation determines that construction of the interchange will have no adverse impact on safety in the vicinity of the intersection, the state department of transportation shall request a waiver to permit construction of the interchange. If a waiver is granted, or if the state department of transportation determines both that a waiver is not required and that such construction will have no adverse impact on safety in the vicinity of the intersection, the department of transportation shall design the interchange specified in this subsection and allocate funds from the appropriations under s. 20.395 (3) (cq) to (cx) sufficient to construct the interchange.

(15) USH 51 RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT IN DANE COUNTY. The department shall commence, in the 2007–08 fiscal year, the preparation of an environmental impact statement or environmental assessment, as applicable, for the USH 51 north segment reconstruction project in Dane County, which includes expanding USH 51 to a 4-lane divided highway from the intersection of USH 51 and Reardon Road to just north of the intersection of USH 51 and CTH “V”/Grinde Road in the village of DeForest. The department shall commence construction of this project no later than December 31, 2012.

History: 1971 c. 323 s. 27; 1973 c. 185; 1977 c. 29 ss. 926, 1654 (3), (6) (b), (8) (a); 1977 c. 272; 1979 c. 34, 221; 1981 c. 248, 346; 1983 a. 27; 1985 a. 29; 1989 a. 31; 1993 a. 246, 490; 1995 a. 27; 1999 a. 9; 2001 a. 16; 2003 a. 214; 2007 a. 20; 2009 a. 126; 2013 a. 20; 2015 a. 32, 130; 2017 a. 59; 2019 a. 20.

NOTE: 2003 Wis. Act 214, which affected this section, contains extensive explanatory notes.

Cross-reference: See also ch. Trans 208, Wis. adm. code.

A local unit of government is without jurisdiction to unilaterally change a segment of the state highway system. 61 Atty. Gen. 263.

84.03 Federal aid; state and local funds. (1) STATE AND FEDERAL AID. (a) All moneys granted or allotted to the state of Wisconsin as federal aid for highways and all state appropriations and other funds available to match or supplement such federal aid funds and so utilized by the department shall be expended by the department in accordance with the act of congress relating to such federal aid funds.

(b) Funds provided by any county, city, village or town to construct, reconstruct or improve any highway, street or bridge with state or federal aid under this chapter, shall be paid to the department or to the state treasury as the department may require and shall be expended in accordance with s. 84.06 and the federal acts relating to such federal aid. The use of state or federal aid in the construction, reconstruction or improvement of any highway, street or bridge not on the state trunk highway system shall not relieve the county, city, village or town of any obligation to maintain such highway, street or bridge. The department may allot to any city of the 1st class any state and federal highway funds to which such city may be entitled for the purpose of the payment of interest, debt charges, amortization or retirement of street or highway bonds issued pursuant to s. 67.05 or other applicable provisions of law. Such cities may use such highway funds so allotted for such purposes, paying interest, debt charges and costs, amortization or retirement of such bonds.

(c) On any highway, street or bridge hereafter constructed, reconstructed or improved with state or federal aid under this chapter, the location, form and character of informational, regulatory and warning signs, curb and pavement or other markings, and traffic signals installed or placed by any public authority or other agency shall be subject to the approval of the department; and the department is directed to approve only such installations as will promote the safe and efficient utilization of the highways, streets and bridges.

(2) FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS ADJUSTMENTS. (a) In this subsection:

1. “Amount of federal funds” means the sum of federal revenues received under the federal Intermodal Surface Transporta-

tion Efficiency Act of 1991, as amended, or under a substantially similar federal legislative act. “Amount of federal funds” does not include the first \$300,000,000 of federal moneys received by the state, pursuant to federal legislation enacted during the 111th Congress, for the purpose of reviving the economy of the United States, which moneys are intended to be used for transportation purposes.

2. “The schedule” means the schedule under s. 20.005 (3) as published in the biennial budget act for the first fiscal year of a fiscal biennium and as approved by the joint committee on finance under s. 20.004 (2) for the 2nd fiscal year of a fiscal biennium.

(b) 1. Subject to subd. 2., the secretary shall submit annually to the joint committee on finance a plan identifying how the secretary proposes to adjust the department’s appropriations for that state fiscal year to reflect the most recent estimate of the amount of federal funds that the department will be appropriated in that state fiscal year. The secretary shall submit the plan by the later of the following:

- a. December 1.
- b. Thirty days after the enactment of the federal legislation described under par. (a) 1. for that federal fiscal year.
- c. Thirty days after the enactment of the applicable federal appropriation bill for that federal fiscal year.

2. The secretary is required to submit a plan under subd. 1. only if the department’s most recent estimate of the amount of federal funds that the department will be appropriated under s. 20.395 in the current state fiscal year is less than 95 percent or more than 105 percent of the amount of federal funds shown in the schedule for the appropriations under s. 20.395 in that fiscal year.

(c) After receiving a plan under par. (b) 1., the cochairpersons of the joint committee on finance jointly shall determine whether the plan is complete. If the joint committee on finance meets and either approves or modifies and approves a plan submitted under par. (b) 1. within 14 days after the cochairpersons determine that the plan is complete, the secretary shall implement the plan as approved by the committee. If the joint committee on finance does not meet and either approve or modify and approve a plan submitted under par. (b) 1. within 14 days after the cochairpersons determine that the plan is complete, the secretary shall implement the proposed plan. If the joint committee on finance approves a plan under s. 84.555 for a state fiscal year, the joint committee on finance may modify a plan implemented under this paragraph for that fiscal year.

(4) PARK EAST FREEWAY CORRIDOR COST SHARING. (a) The maximum state share of costs for the project for the demolition of the Park East Freeway corridor in Milwaukee County, as provided in an agreement entered into on April 20, 1999, between the city of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, and the state, shall be \$8,000,000, of which \$6,800,000 shall be federal interstate cost estimate funds received by the state.

(b) The local share of costs of the project described in par. (a) shall be not less than the amount of \$17,000,000 provided for in the agreement specified under par. (a), of which \$14,450,000 shall be federal interstate cost estimate funds received by the city or county.

(9) IMPROVING STATE TRUNKS; LANDSCAPING AND ACQUIRING WAYSIDE AREAS. (a) Subject to s. 86.255, that part of the appropriation made by s. 20.395 (3), not required for the other purposes therein provided, may be used by the department for the improvement and traffic service of the state trunk highway system and connecting highways, for the purchase and operation of equipment, making surveys for locating local road materials, testing of materials, and for other purposes provided in this section, and to match or supplement federal aid for the construction, reconstruction or improvement of the federal aid highway system, secondary or feeder roads, the elimination of hazards at railroad grade crossings and for any other highway purpose for which the state may match or supplement federal aid funds pursuant to any act of congress. Where such funds are used for the improvement of the state

trunk highway system or connecting highways or to match or supplement federal aid they shall be expended in accordance with s. 84.06 and any applicable act of congress. Any funds expended pursuant to this paragraph shall be expended by the department on such projects within the provisions of this paragraph, and executed in such manner as the department shall from time to time determine will best meet the needs of travel and best promote the general welfare. Such funds may be used for improvements, within the provisions of this paragraph, independent of or in conjunction with other funds available for such improvements. Subject to s. 86.255, the requirements of any federal highway act, or regulations issued thereunder, may be met from such appropriation.

(b) In addition to the purposes provided in par. (a) there may be expended by the department a sum sufficient, not exceeding \$20,000, for marking highways as civil defense evacuation routes as requested by the secretary of local affairs and development prior to September 1, 1980 or the secretary of the department of administration on or after September 1, 1980.

(10) IMPROVEMENT OF CONNECTING HIGHWAYS. All connecting highways shall be constructed or reconstructed by the state in the same manner as portions of the state trunk highway system. It shall not be compulsory for the state to construct or reconstruct any such highway to a greater width than those portions of the state trunk system connecting therewith.

History: 1971 c. 125; 1973 c. 243 s. 82; 1977 c. 29 ss. 928, 929, 1654 (1), (3), (8) (a), 1656 (43); 1977 c. 272; 1977 c. 418 ss. 572, 573, 929 (55); 1979 c. 34 s. 2102 (52) (a); 1979 c. 361; 1983 a. 130; 1987 a. 27; 1997 a. 86; 1999 a. 9; 2001 a. 16, 109; 2003 a. 33; 2009 a. 2; 2011 a. 257.

84.04 Roadside improvement. (1) As used in this section:

(a) “Overlook” means a graded terrace, often enclosed by a masonry retaining wall, located on roadside areas where favorable topographic conditions provide an exceptional view or offscap from the road.

(b) “Roadside” means that portion of the right-of-way not occupied by surface courses, curbs, paved gutters, or paved median strips or by other highway structures.

(c) “Roadside improvement” means the application of the principles of landscape architecture to highway planning, design, location, and construction.

(d) “Turnout” means an informal surfaced or unsurfaced parking space for one or more cars or trucks, constructed at selected locations on roadsides in open country for purposes of rest and relaxation.

(e) “Wayside” means an area of land adjacent or in close proximity to the highway, with facilities developed for the convenience, comfort, and enjoyment of the motoring public, these developments to include parking, sanitary, cooking, and picnicking facilities, together with any other facility or improvement which the department deems desirable or necessary to accommodate travelers and provide convenient and safe access thereto by pedestrians and vehicles. “Wayside” includes rest areas.

(f) “Windbreak hedge” means a narrow planting of trees or shrubs for protection against the drifting of snow or sand.

(2) The department may construct and maintain parking areas, including car pool parking areas, waysides, overlooks, windbreak hedges, turnouts and carry on roadside improvement along, or in close proximity with state trunk highways. These activities may be performed within highway rights-of-way and upon lands otherwise publicly owned or controlled, or on lands acquired in proximity therewith. The department may acquire lands needed for such purposes.

(4) (a) At each rest area constructed and maintained by the department along an interstate highway designated under s. 84.29 (2), the department shall, subject to pars. (b) and (c), permanently display a POW/MIA flag on an outdoor flagpole.

(b) If a rest area described in par. (a) has fewer than 2 outdoor flagpoles, the department may display a POW/MIA flag at a suitable location indoors or, if the department determines after con-

sultation with at least 2 of the state’s veterans organizations that no suitable location indoors exists for the display of a POW/MIA flag, the department may display a poster or literature or both relating to the POW/MIA flag at a suitable location indoors in lieu of displaying the flag.

(c) Upon receipt of sufficient contributions, including in-kind contributions, from interested parties, including any county, city, village, or town, to cover the costs of displaying POW/MIA flags or posters or literature as specified in pars. (a) and (b), the department shall display the flags or posters or literature. No state funds, other than from the receipt of contributions under this paragraph, may be expended for the display of the flags or posters or literature.

(d) If a rest area described in par. (a) has fewer than 2 outdoor flagpoles, any facilities improvement project at the rest area commenced after April 13, 2006, shall include installation of outdoor flagpoles so that the rest area has at least 2 outdoor flagpoles.

History: 1973 c. 333 s. 201w; 1977 c. 29 ss. 930, 931, 1654 (6) (b), (8) (a); 1977 c. 101, 272; 1983 a. 189; 1985 a. 29; 1993 a. 490; 1997 a. 253; 2003 a. 33; 2005 a. 239.

84.05 Railroad crossing improvements. On a highway which the department has authority to construct and which crosses a railroad, if the department determines that the construction or reconstruction of a grade separation or the rearrangement or elimination of a grade crossing or other rearrangement of the highway or tracks is necessary in the interest of public safety or for convenience of public travel, the department shall make a plan of the construction proposed and an estimate of the cost thereof, including the cost of needed right-of-way; and shall endeavor to make an arrangement with all persons concerned as to all matters involved in the plan, including the portion of the cost of the contemplated work which the persons shall defray. If the department is unable to contract with the persons concerned as to the distribution and payment of the cost of the work or the maintenance thereof, the department shall lay the matter before the office of the commissioner of railroads, and the office of the commissioner of railroads shall review the proceedings and hold a hearing thereon in accordance with ss. 195.28 and 195.29, and shall fix the portion of the cost of the construction and of the maintenance which is to be paid by the persons or corporations concerned, and the portion of the cost, if any, to be paid by the public, which portion shall be paid from the transportation fund. The office of the commissioner of railroads shall determine the benefits, if any, which will inure to other highways, and apportion and charge to the units of government responsible for the construction of such other highways a fair portion of the cost.

History: 1977 c. 29 s. 1654 (8) (b), (9) (f); 1981 c. 347 s. 80 (2); 1985 a. 187; 1993 a. 16, 123.

84.06 Highway construction. (1) DEFINITIONS. In this section:

(a) Subject to par. (b), “improvement” or “highway improvement” includes all of the following:

1. Construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, and processes incidental to building, fabricating, or bettering a highway or street.

2. Highway operations or activities that are life-cycle or investment driven and that are based on an asset management philosophy in which taking action adds service life by preventing or delaying deterioration of highway system functionality.

(b) “Improvement” or “highway improvement” does not include any of the following:

1. Maintenance activities described in s. 84.07 (1).

2. The installation, replacement, rehabilitation, or maintenance of highway signs, highway lighting, or pavement markings or the maintenance of traffic control signals or intelligent transportation systems, unless incidental to building, fabricating, or bettering a highway or street.

(1m) PLANS. The department may prepare plans, estimates and specifications and undertake and perform all surveys, investigations and engineering work for any highway improvement within its jurisdiction. When provision has been made for the necessary funds for any such highway improvement and, if federal aid is to be utilized, when the project has been approved by the proper federal authorities, the department may proceed as provided in this section, with due regard to any applicable federal requirement or regulation.

(2) BIDS, CONTRACTS. (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 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.

(b) The department may designate the governing body of a city, county, village or town as its agent on behalf of the state to perform those bidding and contracting responsibilities under par. (a) that the department determines are appropriate to delegate. An agent so designated who enters into a contract under this subsection shall do so on behalf of the department and the state, and the state shall be a party to the contract. Any such contract is subject to the conditions specified for contracts entered into by the secretary. The department may authorize an agent who is designated under this paragraph to perform bidding and contracting responsibilities under par. (a) to administer the resulting contract on behalf of the state.

(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 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.

(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 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.

(6) EXCESS COST. Any excess in construction cost over the funds made available for any piece of work, shall be paid from unobligated funds as the department may determine, and any balance shall be credited to the appropriation from which the work was financed.

(7) INSPECTION AND PAYMENT. The department may provide for the inspection of each piece of work to insure its proper performance. All indebtedness incurred under this section for any highway improvement shall be paid out of the available funds subject, if federal aid is utilized, to any applicable federal requirement or regulation.

(8) CONTRACT FOR MATERIALS. Whenever an improvement has been determined upon and provision has been made for fully financing the cost the department, if it concludes that a probable saving can be effected thereby, may contract for any or all of the materials to be used in the improvement and for the delivery and storage of said materials at suitable points, and pay for the same out of any funds available for the improvement.

(9) CATTLE PASSES. As a part of any highway improvement or as a separate project under this section, cattle passes may be constructed at places determined to be necessary and practical.

(10) STUDY REQUIRED FOR HIGHWAY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS. The department shall conduct a study of the costs and benefits of each major highway development project which is commenced after July 1, 1980, and funded from the appropriation under s. 20.395 (3) (bq).

(11) STATE TRAILS. As a part of any highway improvement or as a separate project under this section, a portion of a hiking trail, cross-country ski trail, bridle trail or bicycle trail under the management of a state agency, municipality or nonprofit corporation may be incorporated into the highway right-of-way, and facilities for safe crossing of the highway may be provided.

(12) BORROW SITES. (a) In this subsection:

1. “Borrow” means soil or a mixture of soil and stone, gravel, or other material suitable for use in the construction of embankments or other similar earthworks constructed as part of a state highway construction project.

2. “Borrow site” means any site from which borrow is excavated for use in a specified state highway construction project.

3. “Political subdivision” means a city, village, town, or county.

(b) No zoning ordinance enacted under s. 59.69, 60.61, 60.62, 61.35, or 62.23 may apply to a borrow site if all of the following apply:

1. The borrow site is located on a property near the site of the state highway construction project on which the borrow is to be used.

2. The owner of the property has consented to the establishment of the borrow site on his or her property.

3. The borrow site is used solely for the specified state highway construction project and solely during the period of construction of the specified state highway construction project.

4. The owner of the property on which the borrow site is located agrees to any noise abatement or landscaping measures required by the governing body of the political subdivision during the period of use.

5. The owner of the property on which the borrow site is located agrees to reasonably restore the site after the period of use.

(c) This subsection does not apply to any borrow site opened for use after July 1, 2011.

(13) EXPENDITURES FOR INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS AND TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNALS. (a) The installation, replacement, or rehabilitation of traffic control signals and intelligent transportation systems, not incidental to another highway improvement, may be funded only from the appropriations under s. 20.395 (3) (eq), (et), (ev), (eu), (ex), and (ez).

(b) No later than September 1, 2014, and annually thereafter until September 1, 2019, the department shall prepare and submit a report under s. 13.172 (3) to the standing committees of the legislature with jurisdiction over transportation matters on the expenditures from s. 20.395 (3) (et), (eu), and (ez) and on any other pertinent information related to traffic signals and intelligent transportation systems.

History: 1971 c. 125; 1977 c. 29 ss. 932, 1654 (8) (a); 1977 c. 196 s. 131; 1977 c. 273; 1979 c. 32 s. 92 (9); 1979 c. 34, 314; 1983 a. 27; 1983 a. 524 ss. 31, 50; 1985 a. 225 s. 100; 1985 a. 300, 332; 1987 a. 98, 399; 1989 a. 31, 345; 1993 a. 496; 1995 a. 27; 1997 a. 237; 2001 a. 16; 2005 a. 410; 2009 a. 28; 2013 a. 20; 2021 a. 267.

The Department of Transportation may reevaluate a bidder’s prior qualification or reject the lowest bid on the ground of irresponsibility of the successful bidder, but, in both instances, notice and an opportunity for hearing on the reevaluation must be given to the contractor. 63 Atty. Gen. 60.

84.062 Alternative project delivery. (1) DEFINITIONS. In this section:

(a) “Alternative technical concepts” means a proposed alternative to the technical requirements provided by the office in the request for proposals for a project.

(b) “Best value design–build contract” means a design–build contract award made following a calculation of value as provided in a request for proposals.

(c) “Design–build contract” means a contract for a project under which the design, engineering, construction, and related services are provided by a single design–builder.

(d) “Design–builder” means a private legal entity, consortium, or joint venture that proposes to or executes a contract with the office to design, engineer, and construct a project under this section.

(dm) “Design professional” means a person registered under s. 443.03 or 443.04 or a firm, partnership, or corporation registered under s. 443.08.

(e) “Design–build project” means a project for which design, engineering, construction, and related services are procured through a single contract with a single private legal entity, consortium, or joint venture capable of providing the necessary design, engineering, construction, and related services.

(h) “Fixed price variable scope design–build contract” means a design–build contract award made to the lowest qualified responsible bidder able to provide the best qualitative scope of work at a price not to exceed a fixed price set by the office.

(i) “Low bid design–build contract” means a design–build contract award made to the lowest qualified responsible bidder.

(j) “Member” means a private legal entity that is a member of a consortium or joint venture that is a design–builder.

(k) “Office” means the department.

(L) “Project” means a project involving a highway improvement, as defined in s. 84.063 (1) (d).

(m) “Qualified responsible bidder” means a design–builder that is responding to a request for qualifications and that is certified by the technical review committee.

(n) “Responsive cost proposal” means a proposal that clearly identifies the costs of all services to be performed by the qualified responsible bidder, including all related fees, wages, and equipment and material costs.

(o) “Responsive technical proposal” means a proposal that clearly demonstrates a qualified responsible bidder’s understanding of the design, engineering, and construction services to be performed and clearly describes the bidder’s approach to the project.

(p) “Technical review committee” means the committee appointed under sub. (3).

(q) “Value engineering change” means a proposal that provides for a product of equal or improved quality to the product required by the department and that will reduce the project cost, improve safety, or decrease the time to complete the project.

(2) DESIGN–BUILD PROJECTS. (a) The department shall administer a pilot program under which not more than 6 contracts are awarded for design–build projects.

(b) The department cannot expend more than \$250,000,000 for 6 design–build contracts designated as follows:

1. One low bid design–build contract for a project with an estimated value of not more than \$25,000,000.

2. One best value design–build contract for a project with an estimated value of not more than \$75,000,000.

3. One fixed price variable scope design–build contract with an estimated value of not more than \$75,000,000.

4. Three contracts with a total estimated value of not more than \$125,000,000. The department may enter into a low bid design–build contract, best value design–build contract, or fixed price variable scope design–build contract under this subdivision.

(d) For each project designated under par. (b), the office shall solicit requests for qualifications, requests for proposals, and cost proposals as provided in this section and, subject to sub. (7) (c) and (d), let each project by contract to a qualified responsible bidder.

(e) No more than 6 months following the completion of a design–build project designated under par. (b), the office shall prepare a report, with input from the design–builder and the technical review committee, detailing the project, the decision to designate the project as a design–build project, the type of design–build contract let, and recommendations for statutory changes, if any. The office shall provide this report to the joint committee on finance and the senate and assembly standing committees having jurisdiction over transportation matters. The senate and assembly standing committees having jurisdiction over transportation matters shall schedule a hearing on the report not more than 30 days following distribution of the report by the chief clerks of the senate and the assembly. This paragraph does not apply to projects completed after December 31, 2025.

(3) TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE. (a) The secretary shall appoint 5 individuals to a technical review committee to evaluate proposals submitted under this section. The committee shall consist of the following:

1. An employee of the department representing a regional office of the department.

2. Two employees of the department representing the division of the department responsible for transportation project development.

3. One person representing a state association of architectural, engineering, or design companies.

4. One person representing a state association of transportation construction companies.

(b) The secretary cannot appoint to the technical review committee any person associated, as defined in s. 19.42 (2), with

a design–builder. No person appointed to the technical review committee may review proposals under this section when the proposed project could benefit the appointee or the appointee’s immediate family, as defined in s. 19.42 (7).

(c) A person appointed to the technical review committee is an agent of the department under s. 895.46.

(d) Except as otherwise provided in this section, all records of the technical review committee are open to public inspection and copying under s. 19.35 (1).

(4) BIDS. The office shall solicit design–build proposals in 2 phases. In the first phase, the office shall solicit requests for qualifications under sub. (5) and requests for proposals under sub. (6). The technical review committee shall certify responsible bidders as provided in sub. (5) (c) and shall score technical proposals as provided in sub. (6) (b). In the 2nd phase, the office shall solicit cost proposals and the technical review committee shall evaluate cost proposals as provided in sub. (7).

(5) REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS. (a) The office shall prepare a request for qualifications that includes all of the following:

1. Minimum required qualifications for certification as a qualified bidder, which shall include all of the following:

a. The design and construction experience of the design–builder or member, personnel, and contractors who will manage the design, engineering, and construction aspects of the project. The office cannot require a level of experience that will unreasonably restrict competition.

b. A requirement that the design–builder or member employ an individual who has no fewer than 5 years of experience in highway construction specific to highway improvement projects in this state.

c. A requirement that the design–builder or member be a design professional or will employ or contract with a design professional.

d. A sworn statement of the design–builder’s financial ability, equipment, and experience in design–build project delivery and any other information the office determines is necessary to determine a bidder’s competency.

2. Minimum required qualifications for certification as a responsible bidder, which shall include all of the following:

a. The design–builder is registered or authorized to do business in this state.

b. The design–builder submits a sworn statement that indicates that it has adequate financial resources to complete the work described in the request for qualifications, taking into account any other work the design–builder is currently under contract to complete.

c. The design–builder is bondable for the term of the proposed contract and is able to obtain a 100 percent performance bond and a separate 100 percent payment bond.

d. If the department has previously contracted with the design–builder or a member, the design–builder or member has a record of satisfactorily completing projects.

e. The design–builder or a member is not on a list maintained by the department identifying persons ineligible to bid due to suspension or debarment or on a list that the department of administration maintains for persons who violated statutory provisions or administrative rules relating to construction.

f. The design–builder or a member has been in business for at least 12 months.

g. The design–builder or a member has served as a contractor on no fewer than 5 projects administered by the department.

h. The design–builder can provide information to the technical review committee upon request about ownership, management, and control of the design–builder.

i. The design–builder or a member has not been debarred from any government contracts and has not been found to have committed tax avoidance or evasion in any jurisdiction in the previous 10 years.

j. The design–builder has not been disciplined under a professional license in any jurisdiction in the previous 10 years.

k. No design professional employed by the design–builder or a member or that the design–builder will contract with has been disciplined in any jurisdiction under a license that is currently in use.

3. Information about bid procedures and the proposed project, including all of the following:

- a. The type of contract to be awarded.
- b. The selection criteria for recommendation of design–builders for phase 2.
- c. Project requirements, including a scope of work statement and a schedule.
- d. The required completion date of the project.
- e. A description of requirements for the technical proposal for the project.

(b) The office shall advertise the request for qualifications. The office shall include in all advertisements under this paragraph the location and scope of work; the amount of bid guarantee required; the date, time, and place of bid or proposal opening; and the date when and place where plans will be available.

(c) The technical review committee shall certify at least 2 but not more than 4 design–builders as qualified responsible bidders. If the office does not receive at least 2 responses to the request for qualifications or if the technical review committee certifies only one design–builder as a qualified responsible bidder, the office may re–advertise or cancel the project.

(6) REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS. (a) The office shall prepare a request for proposals for each design–build contract that includes all the following:

1. The name, title, address, and telephone numbers of persons to whom questions concerning the proposal should be directed.
2. The procedures to be followed for submitting proposals, including how proposals must be delivered, the date and time by which they must be received, and the name and address of the person who is to receive them.
3. The date and time of the pre–proposal conference, if any.
4. A requirement that a technical proposal and a cost proposal be submitted in separate sealed proposals at the same time.
5. A clear description of the scope of all design, engineering, and construction work.
6. The criteria for evaluating proposals and their relative weight, if applicable.
7. The design criteria package, including a description of drawings, specifications, or other information to be submitted with the proposals, which shall allow the design–builder to use innovative projects meeting the criteria.
8. The project schedule and budget limits, if any.
9. The proposed terms and conditions of the contract.
10. Requirements relating to performance bonds, payments bonds, and insurance.
11. Amount of stipend, if any.
12. The procedures for awarding a contract.
13. A process to review and accept alternative technical concepts and value engineering change proposals.
14. A requirement that the design–builder perform not less than 30 percent of the construction services under the contract with labor provided by employees of the design–builder or member and equipment owned or rented by the design–builder or member.
15. Any other information the office determines is necessary.

(b) The technical review committee shall evaluate each technical proposal, which may include a confidential interview, and shall assign points in accordance with the request for proposals and subject to all of the following:

1. For a project that will be awarded as either a low bid design–build contract or a fixed price variable scope design–build contract, the technical review committee shall determine whether technical proposals are responsive to the request for proposals without ranking or scoring the proposals.

2. For a project that will be awarded as a best value design–build contract, the technical review committee shall determine whether technical proposals are responsive to the request for proposals and score each responsive technical proposal as required by the request for proposals. The technical review committee may award not more than 20 percent of the points awarded to a technical proposal on the basis of the design–builder’s qualifications and ability to design, contract, and deliver the project in accordance with any deadline established in the request for proposals. The technical review committee may award a technical proposal not more than 55 percent of the maximum number of combined points that may be awarded to a technical proposal and cost proposal.

(c) The office shall allow design–builders to include alternative technical concepts and value engineering changes in their proposals by describing the process for submission and evaluation of alternative technical concepts and value engineering changes in the request for proposals.

(d) The technical review committee cannot consider a proposal responsive unless the proposal includes a conceptual design, critical path method, bar schedule of the work to be performed or similar schematic, design plans and specifications, technical reports, and all other information required by the request for proposals. The technical review committee cannot consider any price or fee included in the technical proposal.

(e) The office shall notify the design–builder for each proposal that is determined to be responsive under par. (b) that the design–builder may submit a cost proposal under sub. (7). The office shall reject all proposals that are determined to be nonresponsive under par. (b).

(7) COST PROPOSALS. (a) Design–builders notified under sub. (6) (e) may submit a cost proposal, and the proposal shall include a fixed cost of design, engineering, and construction services prepared by a design professional that contains all design, engineering, construction, and quality assurance and quality control costs of the project.

(b) The technical review committee may open cost proposals only after the technical proposals have been reviewed as provided in sub. (6). At the time and place specified in the request for proposals, the technical review committee shall open cost proposals, read the proposals aloud, and, for a project that will be awarded as a best value design–build contract, make public the committee’s scoring of the technical proposals.

(c) Following a review of cost proposals, the department may issue a notice of intent to award a contract, subject to all of the following:

1. For a low bid design–build contract, the contract shall be awarded to the qualified responsible bidder that submitted a responsive technical proposal and submitted the lowest responsive cost proposal.

2. For a fixed price variable scope design–build contract, the contract shall be awarded to the qualified responsible bidder that submitted a responsive technical proposal and that submitted a responsive cost proposal that provides the maximum amount of services for the maximum fixed price set by the office or for an amount that is less than the maximum fixed price.

3. For a best value design–build contract, the contract shall be awarded to the qualified responsible bidder with the highest adjusted score, which shall be calculated by adding the bidder’s technical proposal score to the bidder’s cost proposal score. The technical review committee shall award the lowest qualified responsible bidder the maximum number of points that may be awarded to a cost proposal under the request for proposals, but not

less than 45 percent and not more than 75 percent of the maximum number of combined points that may be awarded to a technical proposal and cost proposal. For each remaining qualified responsible bidder, the technical review committee shall calculate the score for the cost proposal by reducing the maximum number of points that may be awarded to the cost proposal by at least 1 percent for each percentage point by which the cost proposal exceeds the lowest cost proposal.

(d) Following a review of cost proposals, the office may reject all proposals. If the office rejects all proposals or does not execute a contract after issuing an intent to award a contract under par. (c), the office may reissue the request for proposals and allow only the qualified responsible bidders originally notified under sub. (6) (e) to submit new proposals. The office may pay a reasonable stipulated fee to each design–builder that provides a responsive but unsuccessful proposal in response to the reissued request for proposals. If the reissued request for proposals specifies a maximum fixed price, the office cannot award a stipend to a design–builder whose proposal exceeds that price.

(e) Not fewer than 5 working days prior to executing a design–build contract, the department shall provide notice to each unsuccessful qualified responsible bidder that a notice of intent to award a contract has been issued.

(f) The department and the technical review committee shall maintain the confidentiality of information provided by design–builders as required by s. 84.01 (32).

(8) CONTRACT AWARD. (a) In this subsection:

1. “Construction services” means work necessary to construct a project, including trucking services and materials purchased regardless of whether the materials are installed by the design–builder.

2. “Specialty services” means work related to sanitary sewer systems, water main systems, staking, electrical, landscaping and erosion control, traffic control, signing, pavement marking, fencing, and other work identified by the office.

(b) No later than 10 days following the issuance of a notice of intent to award a design–build contract under sub. (7) (c), the office shall verify that the design–builder will perform not less than 30 percent of the construction services under the contract with labor provided by employees of the design–builder or member and equipment owned or rented by the design–builder or member.

(c) The design–builder shall submit to the office in the form prescribed by the office documentation of the construction services the design–builder or member will perform and the dollar value of the services.

(d) The office shall calculate the percentage of total construction services identified in the contract to be performed by the design–builder or member by subtracting the value of specialty services to be performed from the total contract amount and dividing the dollar value of construction services to be performed by the design–builder or member by the difference. If the value of construction services to be performed by the design–builder or member is less than 30 percent of the value of all construction services required under the contract, the office shall cancel the contract award.

(9) PROJECT DELIVERY. An individual identified in a response to a request for qualifications or in a technical proposal may be replaced by a design–builder if the office determines that the new individual meets the qualifications described in the response to the request for qualifications or in the technical proposal and that the individual’s qualifications are at least equal to the qualifications of the individual being replaced.

(10) LIABILITY. (a) Nothing in this section shall be construed as relieving a design–builder of 3rd–party liability or liability for loss or damage to property of the state or a county or municipality.

(b) All design services, including architectural and engineering services, provided under a design–build contract are services and not products.

(11) STIPULATED FEE. (a) The department shall award a stipulated fee of not less than three–tenths of 1 percent of the department’s estimated cost of design and construction as follows:

1. To each qualified responsible bidder that provides a responsive but unsuccessful proposal when the office issues a notice of intent to award a contract. If the request for proposals specifies a maximum fixed price, the office cannot award a fee to a proposal that exceeds the maximum fixed price.

2. To all qualified responsible bidders that provide a responsive proposal if the office does not issue a notice of intent to award a contract.

3. To all qualified responsible bidders if the office cancels the solicitation before the technical review committee reviews technical proposals.

(b) The department shall pay the fee to each qualified responsible bidder under par. (a) no later than 90 days after the department issues a notice of intent to award a contract, determines that it will not issue a notice of intent to award a contract, or cancels the solicitation.

(c) In consideration for paying the fee, the department may use work product contained in an unsuccessful proposal in connection with any proposed or awarded design–build project without making any additional compensation to the design–builder. If an unsuccessful design–builder waives the fee, the department cannot use work product in the design–builder’s unsuccessful proposal.

(12) RULES. The department may promulgate rules necessary to implement this section.

(13) APPEALS. (a) Any person aggrieved and directly affected by a decision of the office to issue a request for qualifications or a request for proposals under this section shall be entitled to judicial review of the decision as provided in ch. 227, subject to the procedural requirements of s. 227.53 (1). A person shall be considered a person aggrieved and directly affected by a decision of the office if any of the following apply to a request for qualifications or a request for proposals issued by the office under this section:

1. The request does not include qualifications, requirements, or other items required under this section.

2. The request does not comply with procedural requirements under this section.

3. The request contains material errors or omissions.

4. The request contains material discrepancies, deficiencies, or ambiguities that prevent a person from submitting a responsive proposal.

5. The request indicates a bias against or preference for a specific design–builder.

6. The request exceeds the department’s authority.

(b) Any person aggrieved and directly affected by a decision of the office to issue a notice of intent to award a contract under this section shall be entitled to judicial review of the decision as provided in ch. 227, subject to the procedural requirements of s. 227.53 (1). A person shall be considered a person aggrieved and directly affected by a decision of the office if any of the following apply to a notice of intent to award a contract under this section:

1. The design–builder that received the notice of intent to award a contract was improperly certified as a qualified responsible bidder.

2. A mathematical error was made in scoring any of the proposals that resulted in an improper intent to award a contract.

3. There is evidence of collusion or fraud involving either the design–builder that received the notice of intent to award a contract or a member of the technical review committee.

4. There is evidence of bias of a member of the technical review committee.

5. There is evidence that a member of the technical review committee has a conflict of interest because the committee member, a member of his or her immediate family, as defined in

s. 19.42 (7), or any organization or business with which the member is associated, as defined in s. 19.42 (2), may benefit from the intent to award a contract.

6. The technical proposal or cost proposal submitted by the design–builder that received the notice of intent to award a contract is not responsive to the request for proposals, contains conditions or qualifications not provided for in the request for proposals, or does not assign costs to all services identified in the technical proposal or is otherwise materially unbalanced.

(c) If the office prevails upon judicial review, following any protest and appellate court proceedings, the office shall be entitled to recover all costs and charges included in the final order or judgment, excluding attorney fees. Upon payment of costs and charges by the protester, the bond shall be returned. If the protesting party prevails, the protesting party shall be entitled to recover from the office all costs and charges included in the final order or judgment, excluding attorney fees. The entire amount of the bond shall be forfeited if the hearing officer determines that a protest was filed for a frivolous or improper purpose, including the purpose of harassing, causing unnecessary delay, or causing needless cost for the office or parties.

(14) DELIVERABLES. (c) No later than December 31, 2026, the office shall submit a report to the joint committee on finance and the senate and assembly standing committees having jurisdiction over transportation matters summarizing observations of the process utilized for alternative project delivery methods and describing the effectiveness of the alternative project delivery methods contracting procedures. The report shall include discussion on scope of work, history of projects selected, evaluation criteria, selection process, contract administration, work progression, time and cost comparisons between the traditional contracting method and alternative delivery methods, claims, and changes.

(d) No later than 6 months after receipt of the report required under par. (c), the joint committee on finance shall determine whether the alternative project delivery pilot program was successful in providing the department with additional tools that allow innovation, reduced project completion time, cost certainty, or reduced cost or other advantages or benefits and shall make a recommendation to the legislature as to whether the pilot program should be made permanent.

History: 2019 a. 9; 2021 a. 58; 2021 a. 240 s. 30; 2023 a. 46.

84.063 Utility facilities relocation. (1) DEFINITIONS. In this section:

(c) “Contractor” means a person who is seeking or has entered into a highway improvement contract with the department under s. 84.06.

(d) “Highway improvement” means a state trunk highway improvement project.

(e) “Owner” means an owner of a utility facility.

(f) “Utility facility” means any pipe, pipeline, duct, wire line, conduit, pole, tower, equipment or other structure, whether above-ground or underground, used for any of the following:

1. The transmission or distribution of electrical power or light.

2. The transmission, distribution or delivery of heat, water, gas, sewer, telegraph or telecommunication services.

(g) “Utility relocation delay” means a change in operations of a contractor or the rescheduling of work by a contractor that is caused by the uncompleted relocation or adjustment of a utility facility located in the right–of–way, regardless of whether the relocation or adjustment of the utility facility is identified in a plan under sub. (3).

(2) NOTIFICATION. (a) If a utility facility is within the right–of–way of a proposed highway improvement, the department shall identify the owner and notify the owner in writing of the proposed improvement.

(b) Within a specified period after the date the notice is received, the utility facility owner shall provide the department with a description and the general location of each utility facility in the proposed highway improvement right–of–way.

(3) PLANS. (a) If a utility facility owner provides the information required under sub. (2), the department shall send the utility facility owner at least one set of available project plans for the proposed highway improvement, including the location of the owner’s existing utility facilities.

(b) Within a specified period after receiving the project plans, the owner shall provide the department with a work plan. The period of time within which the owner is required to provide the department with a work plan shall reflect whether the utility facility owner is required to coordinate its work plan with another utility facility owner. The work plan provided by the owner shall include all of the following:

1. A copy of the project plans that verifies the location of all of the owner’s existing utility facilities specified on the plans by the department and that identifies the owners’ proposed location of relocated or additional utility facilities within the right–of–way of the proposed improvement.

2. A plan and a schedule of working days necessary to obtain any approval required by a governmental agency and to accomplish any proposed relocation or adjustment required by the proposed improvement.

(c) The department shall review and approve a work plan submitted under par. (b) for compliance with permit requirements and to ensure that the plan is reasonable. Approval of a work plan under this paragraph does not waive any requirement for approval of the work plan by any other governmental agency. The utility facility owner shall notify the department when all required approvals have been obtained. After receiving notification that all approvals have been obtained, the department shall notify the owner of the date on which the owner may proceed with its utility facility relocation work.

(d) The department shall notify the utility facility owner of any change in the highway improvement that requires additional relocation or adjustment of utility facilities. The department and the owner shall agree on a reasonable time to accomplish the additional work.

(4) RESPONSIBILITIES. (a) If additional utility facility relocation or adjustment work is required under sub. (3) (d), the department shall reimburse the owner for the additional work.

(b) The project contractor shall be responsible for any damages negligently caused to a utility facility.

(c) If the utility facility owner fails to comply with sub. (3), the department or its contractor shall not be liable to the owner for damages to a utility facility resulting from the highway improvement if the department or its contractor complies with s. 182.0175 (2), and the owner shall be liable to the department or its contractor for damages resulting from the failure to comply.

(4m) UTILITY RELOCATION DELAY DAMAGES CLAIMS. (a) A contractor that incurs costs as a result of a utility relocation delay may file a utility relocation delay damages claim with the department.

(b) The department shall notify the owner of the relevant utility facility upon receipt of a claim under par. (a). The owner may respond to the claim by providing additional information related to the claim. The owner may not request a contested case hearing under par. (d) 2. unless the owner provides additional information under this paragraph.

(c) The department shall consider all information provided by the contractor under par. (a) and, if applicable, the owner under par. (b). If the department determines that a utility relocation delay occurred, the department shall compensate the contractor for costs incurred as a result of the utility relocation delay. The department may not impose liquidated damages for work required by the contract that is not completed within the contract time or

within extra time allowed by the department as a result of the utility relocation delay. The amount of compensation under this paragraph shall be calculated and paid in accordance with the department's standard specifications for compensable delays.

(d) 1. If a utility relocation delay identified under par. (c) was caused by an owner's failure to complete a relocation in accordance with a work plan approved by the department under sub. (3), the owner shall be liable to the department for compensation paid to a contractor under par. (c). An owner shall not be liable under this subdivision when the failure to complete a relocation is caused by circumstances outside of the owner's reasonable control, as determined by the department upon consideration of any information provided by the owner to the department under sub. (3) or this subsection, including a delay caused by another owner identified in the work plan or reliance on a 3rd party to identify and verify the location of a utility facility requiring relocation. The department may not assess against the owner any fees, costs, or expenses in excess of the compensation paid under par. (c). Subject to subd. 2., an owner shall make payment to the department no later than 90 days after receiving notice of the amount owed.

2. Within 90 days after receiving an assessment notice under subd. 1., an owner may request a contested case hearing under s. 227.42 to review the decision of the department under subd. 1., and a hearing shall be scheduled if the owner previously responded to the claim as provided in par. (b). Any amount that the owner owes to the department under subd. 1. shall be stayed pending the contested case hearing.

3. If an owner fails to make payment of amounts owed to the department under this paragraph, the department may seek remedy by filing a civil suit against the owner.

(e) The department may not consider amounts paid or owed under par. (d) when making a determination on an owner's permit application, amounts paid to the owner under sub. (4) (a) or s. 84.09, or any other matter involving the owner.

(5) RULES. The department shall promulgate rules to implement and administer this section.

History: 1991 a. 39; 1999 a. 85; 2023 a. 46.

Cross-reference: See also ch. [Trans 220](#), Wis. adm. code.

84.065 Railroad and utility alteration and relocation loan program. (1) **PURPOSE.** The purpose of this section is to promote the state's interest in preserving and improving state trunk and connecting highways by means of a program to provide loans for railroad and public utility alterations and relocations associated with highway improvement projects.

(2) **DEFINITIONS.** In this section:

(a) "Improvement" has the meaning given in s. 84.06 (1).

(b) "Public utility" has the meaning given in s. 196.01 (5) and includes a telecommunications carrier, as defined in s. 196.01 (8m).

(c) "Railroad" has the meaning given in s. 195.02 (1).

(3) **ADMINISTRATION.** The department shall administer a loan program to assist public utilities and railroads with the costs of utility and railroad alterations and relocations that are associated with state trunk and connecting highway improvement projects and that are not subject to reimbursement by the department. The department shall have all powers necessary and convenient to implement this section, including the following powers:

(a) To specify conditions of eligibility for loans under this section. Such conditions shall include the requirement that the utility or railroad alteration or relocation must be part of a planned state trunk or connecting highway improvement project.

(b) To receive applications for loans under this section and to prescribe the form, nature and extent of the information which shall be contained in applications.

(c) To establish standards for the approval of loans under this section.

(d) To enter into loan agreements with applicants to ensure the proper use and prompt repayment of loans under this section. The

loan agreement shall permit the loan to be repaid without interest before the date on which the contract for the improvement project with which the utility or railroad alteration is associated is awarded. The loan agreement shall require the payment of interest on the outstanding balance of any loan that is not repaid by the date on which that contract is awarded, accruing from the date on which that contract is awarded. Interest shall be charged at a rate equal to the weekly prime rate for the week prior to the date on which the contract is awarded, as reported by the federal reserve board in federal reserve statistical release H. 15, plus 1 percent. The loan agreement shall require repayment of the principal and payment of any accrued interest within one year of the date on which the contract is awarded.

(e) To audit and inspect the records of loan recipients.

(4) **FUNDS.** Subject to s. 86.255, the department may make loans under this section from the appropriations under s. 20.395 (3) (bv) and (cv). The total outstanding balance of loans under this section may not exceed \$500,000.

(5) **RULES.** The department may promulgate rules as necessary to implement this section.

History: 1989 a. 31; 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 496; 1999 a. 9.

Cross-reference: See also ch. [Trans 30](#), Wis. adm. code.

84.07 Maintenance of state trunk highways. (1) **ROUTINE MAINTENANCE.** Subject to sub. (1r), the state trunk highway system shall be maintained by the state at state expense. The department shall prescribe by rule specifications for such maintenance and may contract with any county highway committee or municipality to have all or certain parts of the work of maintaining the state trunk highways within or beyond the limits of the county or municipality, including interstate bridges, performed by the county or municipality, and any county or municipality may enter into such contract. Maintenance activities include the application of protective coatings, the removal and control of snow, the removal, treatment and sanding of ice, interim repair of highway surfaces and adjacent structures, and all other operations, activities and processes required on a regular, continuing basis for the preservation of the highways on the state trunk system, and including the care and protection of trees and other roadside vegetation and suitable planting to prevent soil erosion or to beautify highways pursuant to s. 66.1037, and all routine measures deemed necessary to provide adequate traffic service. Maintenance activities also include the installation, replacement, rehabilitation, or maintenance of highway signs, highway lighting, and pavement markings, and the maintenance of traffic control signals and intelligent transportation systems. The department may contract with a private entity for services or materials or both associated with the installation, replacement, rehabilitation, or maintenance of highway signs, highway lighting, and pavement markings and the maintenance of traffic control signals and intelligent transportation systems.

(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 shall be subject to approval of the governor before it becomes effective.

(1m) **MASS TRANSIT SYSTEM, MAINTENANCE.** When the public mass transportation system uses a state trunk highway, such facilities shall be maintained by the state at state expense in accordance with this section. Maintenance shall be performed within the highway right-of-way, upon facilities and lands within the high-

way corridor, and upon such terminal and parking facilities as may be reasonably adjacent to the highway corridor.

(1r) **SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENTS.** The department may enter into sponsorship agreements under s. 84.01 (36) that require the sponsor to perform maintenance activities, in accordance with the department's standards, for the benefit of the department.

(2) **REPAYMENT FOR STATE WORK.** (a) Except as provided in par. (b), when any county or municipality maintains the state trunk highways within or beyond the limits of the county or municipality, including interstate bridges, in compliance with the arrangement with the department, the department shall pay the actual cost of the maintenance, including the allowance for materials and the use of county or municipal machinery and overhead expenses agreed upon in advance. Except as provided in par. (b), the payments shall be made upon presentation by the county highway committee or municipal clerk of a properly itemized and verified account. For payments made under this paragraph, the county highway committee or municipal clerk shall present the itemized accounts for maintenance work no later than one month following the period during which the work is performed.

(b) When any county or municipality maintains the state trunk highways within or beyond the limits of the county or municipality, including interstate bridges, in compliance with the arrangement with the department, the department and the county or municipality may agree to a payment method and terms other than that specified in par. (a), including payment according to a contract price for maintenance services rather than payment of the actual cost of the maintenance.

(3) **WEED CONTROL.** The highway patrolman shall destroy all noxious weeds as provided in s. 66.0407 on any highway which he or she patrols.

(4) **EMERGENCY REPAIRS; BLOCKING STREETS OR ROADS; DETOURS.** Except in case of emergency, no city, village or town shall obstruct any street or road over which any state trunk highway is marked unless it first makes arrangements with the department for marking a detour.

(5) **COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT MAINTENANCE CAPACITY AND FUNDING.** The department shall work cooperatively with county highway departments to determine an appropriate level of state work sufficient to fully utilize manpower and equipment needed for winter maintenance.

(7) **DEER KILLED BY VEHICLES.** The department shall establish a program for the removal and disposal of deer killed by vehicles on state trunk highways.

History: 1971 c. 125; 1975 c. 39; 1975 c. 394 s. 27; 1975 c. 421; 1977 c. 29 ss. 933 to 935, 1654 (8) (a); 1977 c. 418; 1979 c. 161; 1985 a. 29; 1993 a. 246; 1999 a. 150 s. 672; 2001 a. 16; 2003 a. 33, 214; 2011 a. 32; 2013 a. 20; 2017 a. 59 s. 578ym.

NOTE: 2003 Wis. Act 214, which affected this section, contains extensive explanatory notes.

84.072 Unified disadvantaged business certification program. (1) DEFINITIONS. In this section:

(a) "Business" means a sole proprietorship, partnership, limited liability company, joint venture, or corporation that is operated for profit.

(am) "Certifying authority" means the department or, if authorized under sub. (5m), a municipality or county.

(b) "Disadvantaged business" means a business that is all of the following:

1. At least 51 percent owned by one or more disadvantaged individuals who are U.S. citizens or persons lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence, as defined in 8 USC 1101 (a) (20).

2. Controlled in its management and daily business operations by one or more of the disadvantaged individuals who own the business.

3. A small business concern within the meaning given in 49 CFR 26.5.

(c) "Disadvantaged individual" means an individual found by a certifying authority to be socially and economically disadvantaged within the meaning given in 49 CFR 26.5.

(d) "Municipality" means a city, village, or town.

(2) **CERTIFICATION.** (a) Any business may apply to a certifying authority for certification as a disadvantaged business. All applications shall be sworn and notarized. A certifying authority shall certify as a disadvantaged business any business that meets the requirements under 49 CFR 26, subpart D, for such certification. A certifying authority shall follow all certification procedures and standards provided in 49 CFR 26 and all certification determinations shall strictly conform with 49 CFR 26 and federal guidelines established under that section. A certifying authority shall complete review and issue a decision concerning an application within 90 days after receiving the completed application, except that a certifying authority may extend its review period to not more than 150 days if, within those 90 days, the certifying authority provides written notice to the applicant specifying the reasons for the extension. No person may certify a business as a disadvantaged business for purposes of 49 CFR 26, except as provided in this section. A certifying authority may charge and collect reasonable fees for reviewing an application submitted under this paragraph.

(b) 1. Except as provided in sub. (6), a certifying authority is not required to review an application submitted by a business that has its principal place of business in another state, unless the business is certified as a disadvantaged business under a unified certification program that strictly conforms to 49 CFR 26 and to which that other state is a party.

2. If the department receives an application for a business that is certified as a disadvantaged business under a federally approved unified certification program pursuant to 49 CFR 26, the department may do any of the following:

a. Grant certification in reliance of the certification determination under the federally approved unified certification program.

b. Make an independent certification determination based on material submitted by the other certifying agency, supplemented by whatever additional information the department may request from the applicant.

c. Require the applicant to undergo the application process without regard to the other certification.

3. If a certifying authority that is a municipality or county receives an application for a business that is certified as a disadvantaged business under a federally approved unified certification program pursuant to 49 CFR 26, the certifying authority shall forward the application to the department for purposes of subd. 2.

(c) A certifying authority shall cooperate with any directive from the federal government under authority of 49 CFR 26 concerning certification under this section.

(d) Certification under this section is valid for 3 years, unless the department removes certification under sub. (4) or the certification is removed as provided in 49 CFR 26.87 or 26.89. A certifying authority may not require a business that is certified under this section to reapply during the 3-year period after its certification, unless the factual basis on which the certification is made materially changes.

(e) No certification of a business as a disadvantaged business for purposes of federal transportation assistance programs before September 1, 2001, is valid for contracts executed after February 28, 2002. Beginning on March 1, 2002, only a business certified under this section qualifies as a disadvantaged business enterprise for purposes of 49 CFR 26.

(2m) **CONFIDENTIALITY.** (a) A certifying authority may not disclose to any person any information that relates to an individual's statement of net worth, a statement of experience, or a company's financial statement, including the gross receipts of a bidder, or to any documentation submitted in support of those statements,

if the information was obtained for the purpose of complying with [49 CFR 26](#), as that section existed on October 1, 1999.

(b) This subsection does not prohibit a certifying authority from disclosing information to any of the following persons:

1. The person to whom the information relates.
2. If the certifying authority is a municipality or county, to the department.
3. If the certifying authority is the department, to a municipality or county authorized under sub. (5m).
4. Any person who has the written consent of the person to whom the information relates to receive such information.
5. Any person to whom [49 CFR 26](#), as that section existed on October 1, 1999, requires or specifically authorizes the certifying authority to disclose such information.

6. The federal department of transportation, if the certifying authority discloses the information for the purposes of a certification appeal proceeding in which the disadvantaged status of the individual is in question.

(3) IMPLIED CONSENT. Any municipality, county, or other person, including the Wisconsin Aerospace Authority created under subch. II of ch. 114, that accepts federal moneys from the appropriations under s. 20.395 (1) (bx), (2) (ax), (dx), (fx), or (mx), or (3) (bx), (cx), or (ex), or accepts other federal moneys for highway, transit, airport, or spaceport purposes, after September 1, 2001, is considered to have given consent to the unified certification disadvantage business program administered under this section.

(4) REQUIREMENTS OF CERTIFIED BUSINESSES. A business certified as a disadvantaged business shall, within 30 days after a change in the business's size, disadvantaged status, ownership, or control that could preclude its certification as a disadvantaged business under [49 CFR 26](#), notify the department of that change by sworn and notarized statement. A business certified as a disadvantaged business shall submit annually to the department a sworn, notarized statement attesting that there have been no changes to the business's size, disadvantaged status, ownership or control, or its gross receipts, that would preclude its certification as a disadvantaged business under [49 CFR 26](#). The notice shall include a statement that the business meets the size and gross receipts criteria for certification and shall include documentary evidence supporting that statement. The department shall remove the certification of any disadvantaged business that fails to provide the statement within 13 months after certification under this section, or within 13 months after it last submitted to the department the information required under this subsection, whichever is later.

(5) DIRECTORY OF CERTIFIED BUSINESSES. The department shall maintain a list of all businesses certified as a disadvantaged business by a certifying authority or by a state that is a party to an agreement under sub. (6). The list shall include the business name, address, telephone number, and types of work that the business is certified to perform as a disadvantaged business. The department shall make the list and any updated information available to any person, at no charge, on the Internet and in printed format. The department shall update the list at least annually, but shall update the electronic list available on the Internet by including additions, deletions, or other changes to the list as soon as the department makes such an addition, deletion, or other change.

(5m) CERTIFICATION BY A MUNICIPALITY OR COUNTY. The department may authorize any municipality or county to certify a business as a disadvantaged business. The authorization shall be in writing and shall require the municipality or county to conform strictly to the standards and processes provided in this section and rules promulgated under this section. The authorization shall be valid for one year. The authorization shall require the municipality or county to provide written notice to the department of any certification decision. The written notice shall include all of the information contained in the directory maintained under sub. (5).

The authorization shall require the municipality or county to forward applications to the department under sub. (2) (b) 3. Certification by a municipality or county is valid for 3 years, unless the department removes certification under sub. (4) or the certification is removed as provided in [49 CFR 26.87](#) or [26.89](#). No municipality or county authorized under this subsection may hear any appeals or complaints regarding certification decisions.

(6) RECIPROCAL CERTIFICATION AGREEMENTS. Notwithstanding sub. (2) (a), the department may enter into a reciprocal agreement with any other state establishing a joint unified certification program that strictly conforms to [49 CFR 26](#). The agreement may authorize the other state to certify as a disadvantaged business any business that is based in this state, or may authorize the department to certify as a disadvantaged business any business based in that other state.

(7) CERTIFICATION APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS. (a) Any business whose application for certification is denied, or is not reviewed within the time limits prescribed in sub. (2) (a), or whose certification is removed, may appeal that action as provided in [49 CFR 26.89](#) to the department.

(b) Any person may file with the department a signed, written complaint that a business that a certifying authority has certified under this section is not eligible for such certification. The department shall investigate complaints that it finds are supported by credible evidence. If, upon investigation, the department finds reasonable cause to believe that a business is not eligible for certification, the department shall notify the business of its findings in writing and shall proceed in the manner provided under [49 CFR 26.87](#).

(8) APPLICABILITY. This section does not apply if federal law does not require, as a condition of using federal funds, this state to establish goals for the participation of disadvantaged businesses or the employment of disadvantaged individuals in projects using federal funds.

History: 2001 a. 16, 104; 2005 a. 335.

84.075 Contracting with minority businesses and disabled veteran-owned businesses. (1c) In this section:

(a) "Disabled veteran-owned business" means a business certified by the department of administration under s. 16.283 (3).

(b) "Minority business" means a business certified by the department of administration under s. 16.287 (2).

(1m) (a) In purchasing services under s. 84.01 (13), in awarding construction contracts under s. 84.06 and in contracting with private contractors and agencies under s. 84.07, the department shall attempt to ensure that 5 percent of the total amount expended in each fiscal year is paid to contractors, subcontractors, and vendors that are minority businesses. In attempting to meet this goal, the department may award any contract to a minority business that submits a qualified responsible bid that is no more than 5 percent higher than the low bid.

(b) In purchasing services under s. 84.01 (13), in awarding construction contracts under s. 84.06, and in contracting with private contractors and agencies under s. 84.07, the department shall attempt to ensure that at least 1 percent of the total amount expended in each fiscal year is paid to contractors, subcontractors, and vendors that are disabled veteran-owned businesses. In attempting to meet this goal, the department may award any contract to a disabled veteran-owned business that submits a qualified responsible bid that is no more than 5 percent higher than the low bid unless doing so would violate the provisions of any federal law or regulation or any contract between the department and a federal agency or would otherwise result in a reduction of the amount of federal highway aid received by this state.

(c) If a contractor, subcontractor, or vendor is both a minority business and a disabled veteran-owned business, the department may award a contract under par. (a) or (b) but the qualified responsible bid must be no more than 5 percent higher than the low bid, as provided under pars. (a) and (b).

(2) The contractor shall report to the department any amount of the contract paid to subcontractors and vendors which are minority businesses or disabled veteran-owned businesses.

(3) The department shall at least semiannually, or more often if required by the department of administration, report to the department of administration the total amount of money it has paid to contractors, subcontractors, and vendors that are minority businesses and that are disabled veteran-owned businesses under ss. 84.01 (13), 84.06, and 84.07 and the number of contacts with minority businesses and disabled veteran-owned businesses in connection with proposed purchases and contracts. In its reports, the department shall include only amounts paid to businesses certified by the department of administration as minority businesses or disabled veteran-owned businesses.

History: 1983 a. 27; 1983 a. 390 ss. 4, 6; 1987 a. 27; 2009 a. 299; 2011 a. 32; 2011 a. 260 s. 80; 2013 a. 192; 2021 a. 239.

84.076 Disadvantaged business demonstration and training program. (1) DEFINITIONS. In this section:

(a) “Disadvantaged individual” means a minority group member, a woman or any other individual found by the department to be socially and economically disadvantaged within the meaning given in 49 CFR 26.5, unless successfully challenged as provided in 49 CFR 26.89.

(b) “Disadvantaged business” has the meaning given in s. 84.072 (1) (b).

(c) “Minority business” has the meaning given under s. 16.287 (1) (e).

(d) “Minority group member” has the meaning given under s. 16.287 (1) (f).

(2) **ADMINISTRATION.** (a) The secretary shall administer a demonstration and training program for the purpose of developing the capability of disadvantaged businesses to participate in construction projects funded under s. 20.395 (3) (bq), (bv), (bx), (cq), (cv), (cx), (eq), (ev) and (ex). From the amounts appropriated under those paragraphs, the secretary shall allocate \$4,000,000 each fiscal year for the awarding of contracts under this section. The secretary shall attempt to ensure that 75 percent of the amount so allocated each fiscal year is for the awarding of contracts under this section to minority businesses. The secretary may award 100 percent of the amount so allocated each fiscal year to one disadvantaged business.

(b) The secretary shall establish requirements for programs of preapprenticeship training and management and technical assistance designed to develop the expertise of disadvantaged individuals and disadvantaged businesses in transportation construction.

(3) **BIDS, CONTRACTS.** Section 84.06 (2) applies to bids and contracts under this section, except that the secretary shall reject low bids that do not satisfy the requirements under sub. (4). Each bid submitted under this section shall include the agreement specified under sub. (4) and, as a condition, a goal that at least 25 percent of the total number of workers in all construction trades employed on the project will be disadvantaged individuals.

(4) **CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBILITIES.** Each contractor shall agree to do one of the following in its bid submitted under sub. (3):

(a) 1. Assure that the contractor has developed a program of preapprenticeship training that satisfies the requirements established by the secretary under sub. (2) (b) and has experience in providing the training to disadvantaged individuals; and

2. Assure that the contractor has developed and has experience in providing a program of management and technical assistance to disadvantaged business subcontractors. The management and technical assistance program shall satisfy the requirements established by the secretary under sub. (2) (b) and shall include all of the following:

- a. On-site administrative support.
- b. Assistance with managing scheduling, finances and property.

c. The provision of other management services necessary to assist disadvantaged businesses in developing construction capabilities and opportunities for participation in construction projects.

(b) Obtain from a subcontractor that has experience in providing training to disadvantaged individuals a program of preapprenticeship training that satisfies the requirements established by the secretary under sub. (2) (b), and assure that the subcontractor has experience in providing a program of management and technical assistance to disadvantaged business contractors, and that the subcontractor’s management and technical assistance program satisfies the requirements established by the secretary under sub. (2) (b) and includes all of the requirements of par. (a) 2. A subcontractor under this paragraph need not be a disadvantaged business, but if the subcontractor is not a disadvantaged business, it may not be included within the goal established under sub. (3).

(5) **SUNSET.** This section does not apply after the later of the following:

(a) September 30, 1997.

(b) The date on which federal law does not require, as a condition of using federal funds, that this state establish goals for the participation of disadvantaged businesses or the employment of disadvantaged individuals in projects using federal funds.

History: 1987 a. 399; 1989 a. 31; 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 112; 1995 a. 113; 1997 a. 27; 2001 a. 16; 2011 a. 32; 2021 a. 239 s. 73.

This section is unconstitutional as applied to goals for disadvantaged business subcontractor participation in exclusively state-funded projects but is constitutional as applied to federally-funded projects. *Milwaukee County Pavers Ass’n v. Fiedler*, 731 F. Supp. 1395 (1990).

84.078 Use of recovered material. (1) In this section:

(am) “High-volume industrial waste” means fly ash, bottom ash, paper mill sludge or foundry process waste, or any other waste with similar characteristics specified by the department of natural resources by rule.

(ar) “Highway improvement” has the meaning given in s. 84.06 (1).

(bc) “Operator” has the meaning given in s. 292.31 (8) (a) 1.

(be) “Owner” has the meaning given in s. 292.31 (8) (a) 2.

(bg) “Person” means an individual, owner, operator, corporation, limited liability company, partnership, association, municipality, interstate agency, state agency or an officer or agent of a state agency, federal agency, department or instrumentality.

(bm) “Recovered material” means a material that is recovered or derived from solid waste.

(2) The department shall use or encourage the use of the maximum possible amount of recovered material, including glass, wastepaper, pavement and high-volume industrial waste as surfacing material, structural material, landscaping material and fill for all highway improvements, consistent with standard engineering practices. The department shall specify the proportion of recovered material that may be used in various types of highway improvements.

(3) (a) Notwithstanding chs. 160, 281 to 285 and 289 to 299, no person is required to take or pay for any remedial or corrective action as a result of environmental pollution resulting from the use of high-volume industrial waste in a highway improvement project if all of the following apply:

1. The high-volume industrial waste is incorporated into the highway improvement in accordance with the policies, guidelines and rules applicable to the highway improvement at the time of the design of the improvement and at the time of certification under subd. 2.

2. The department of natural resources certifies to the department of transportation, before the time that the department of transportation advertises for bids for the improvement, that the high-volume industrial waste intended to be used and the design for the use of the high-volume industrial waste comply with all

applicable state requirements or standards administered by the department of natural resources.

(b) The exemption under par. (a) extends to the transportation of high-volume industrial waste to or from the site of a highway improvement and to the storage of high-volume industrial waste at the site of a highway improvement. The exemption provided under par. (a) continues to apply after the date of certification by the department of natural resources under par. (a) 2., notwithstanding the occurrence of any of the following:

1. Statutes or rules are amended that would impose greater responsibilities on the department of transportation.

2. Alterations due to construction, maintenance, utility installation or other activities by the department of transportation or approved by the department of transportation after the completion of the highway improvement affect the high-volume industrial waste at the site of the highway improvement.

(c) The department of transportation and the department of natural resources may enter into agreements establishing standard lists of high-volume industrial waste that may be used in highway improvements and designs for the use of high-volume industrial waste in highway improvements that comply with rules of the department of natural resources applicable at the time of the design of the highway improvement in order to simplify certification under par. (a) 2. to the greatest extent possible.

(d) 1. Except as provided in subd. 3., no state agency may commence an action or proceeding under federal law to require remedial action or to recover the costs of remedying environmental pollution related to the use of high-volume industrial waste in a highway improvement certified under par. (a) 2.

2. Except as provided in subd. 3., no person may commence an action under state law to require remedial action or to recover the costs of remedying environmental pollution related to the use of high-volume industrial waste in a highway improvement certified under par. (a) 2.

3. If the department of transportation is named as a defendant or a respondent in an action or proceeding under federal law to require remedial action, or to recover the costs of remedying environmental pollution, related to the use of high-volume industrial waste in a highway improvement that satisfies the requirements under par. (a), the department of transportation may do any of the following:

a. Commence an action or proceeding under federal or state law to require remedial action, or to recover the costs of remedying environmental pollution, related to the use of high-volume industrial waste in that highway improvement.

b. Commence an action or proceeding to enforce any stipulation, agreement or judgment resulting from an action or proceeding described in this subdivision.

History: 1987 a. 27, 110; 1987 a. 403 s. 106; Stats. 1987 s. 84.078; 1989 a. 335; 1995 a. 27, 227.

84.08 Franchises. No franchise or permit granted by any town or village or city to any corporation to use any state trunk highway shall become effective unless such franchise or permit has been approved by the department. The order of the department shall provide for or approve the method by which the work authorized by the franchise or permit is to be done or by which the highway is to be restored to its former condition.

History: 1977 c. 29 s. 1654 (8) (a).

84.09 Acquisition of lands and interests therein.

(1) The department may acquire by gift, devise, purchase or condemnation any lands for establishing, laying out, widening, enlarging, extending, constructing, reconstructing, improving and maintaining highways and other transportation related facilities, or interests in lands in and about and along and leading to any or all of the same; and after establishment, layout and completion of such improvements, the department may, subject to any prior action under s. 13.48 (14) (am) or 16.848 (1), convey such lands thus acquired and not necessary for such improvements, with

reservations concerning the future use and occupation of such lands so as to protect such public works and improvements and their environs and to preserve the view, appearance, light, air and usefulness of such public works. Whenever the department deems it necessary to acquire any such lands or interests therein for any transportation related purpose, it shall so order and in such order or on a map or plat show the old and new locations and the lands and interests required, and shall file a copy of the order and map with the county clerk and county highway committee of each county in which such lands or interests are required or, in lieu of filing a copy of the order and map, may file or record a plat in accordance with s. 84.095. For the purposes of this section the department may acquire private or public lands or interests in such lands. When so provided in the department's order, such land shall be acquired in fee simple. Unless it elects to proceed under sub. (3), the department shall endeavor to obtain easements or title in fee simple by conveyance of the lands or interests required at a price, including any damages, deemed reasonable by the department. The instrument of conveyance shall name the state as grantee and shall be recorded in the office of the register of deeds. The purchase or acquisition of lands or interests therein under this section is excepted and exempt from s. 20.914 (1). The department may purchase or accept donations of remnants of tracts or parcels of land existing at the time or after it has acquired portions of such tracts or parcels by purchase or condemnation for transportation purposes where in the judgment of the department such action would assist in making whole the landowner, a part of whose lands have been taken for transportation purposes and would serve to minimize the overall costs of such taking by the public.

(2) If any of the needed lands or interests therein cannot be purchased expeditiously for a price deemed reasonable by the department, the department may acquire the same by condemnation under ch. 32.

(3) (a) The department may order that all or certain parts of the required land or interests therein be acquired by the county highway committee. When so ordered, the committee and agree on the maximum price, including damages, considered reasonable for the lands or interests to be so acquired. The committee shall endeavor to obtain easements or title in fee simple by conveyance of the lands or interests required, as directed in the department's order. The instrument of conveyance shall name the county as grantee, shall be subject to approval by the department, and shall be recorded in the office of the register of deeds and filed with the department. If the needed lands or interests therein cannot be purchased expeditiously within the appraised price, the county highway committee may acquire them by condemnation under ch. 32.

(b) Any property of whatever nature acquired in the name of the county pursuant to this section or any predecessor shall be conveyed to the state without charge by the county highway committee and county clerk in the name of the county when so ordered by the department.

(c) The county highway committee when so ordered by the department is authorized and empowered to sell and shall sell at public or private sale, subject to such conditions and terms authorized by the department, any and all buildings, structures, or parts thereof, and any other fixtures or personality acquired in the name of the county under this section or any predecessor. Any instrument in the name of the county, transferring title to the property mentioned in the foregoing sentence, shall be executed by the county highway committee and the county clerk. The proceeds from such sale shall be deposited with the state in the appropriate transportation fund and the expense incurred in connection with such sale shall be paid from such fund.

(d) Section 59.52 (6) (c) shall not apply to any conveyance or transfer made under this section.

(3m) The department may order that all or certain parts of the required land or interest therein be acquired for the department by a board, commission or department of the city, village or town

within whose limits the land is located. The city board or city, village or town commission or department shall be created or selected by the common council, village board or town board subject to the approval of the department. When so ordered, the board, commission or department created or selected and the department shall appraise and agree on the maximum price, including damages, considered reasonable for the lands or interests to be so acquired. The city, village or town board, commission or department shall endeavor to obtain easements or title in fee simple by conveyance of the lands or interests required, as directed in the department's order. The instrument of conveyance shall name the state as grantee and shall be recorded in the office of the register of deeds. If the needed lands or interests therein cannot be purchased expeditiously within the appraised price, the city, village or town board, commission or department may, subject to approval by the department, acquire them by condemnation in the name of the state under ch. 32. The city, village or town attorney may act as counsel in any proceedings brought under authority of this subsection. Special counsel may be employed with the consent of the governor and the secretary. The city, village or town, upon agreement with the department, may pay for the land or interests acquired from city, village or town funds made available for such purpose or not otherwise appropriated, as an advance subject to reimbursement by the department or as part of the city's, village's or town's contribution toward the cost of the improvement.

(4) The cost of the lands and interests acquired and damages allowed pursuant to this section, expenses incidental thereto, expenses of the county highway committee incurred in performing duties under this section and the county highway committee's customary per diem, or a per diem not to exceed the lawful rate permitted for members of county boards if the highway committee members receive an annual salary, are paid out of the available improvement or maintenance funds. Members of a highway committee who receive an annual salary shall be entitled to the per diem paid, as compensation for their services, in addition to their annual salary fixed pursuant to s. 59.10 (3) (i).

(5) (a) Subject to pars. (b) and (c) and any prior action under s. 13.48 (14) (am) or 16.848 (1), and subject to the approval of the governor, the department may sell at public or private sale property of whatever nature owned by the state and under the jurisdiction of the department when the department determines that the property is no longer necessary for the state's use for transportation purposes and, if real property, the real property is not the subject of a petition under s. 16.310 (2). The department shall present to the governor a full and complete report of the property to be sold, the reason for the sale, and the minimum price for which the same should be sold, together with an application for the governor's approval of the sale. The governor shall thereupon make such investigation as he or she may deem necessary and approve or disapprove the application. Upon such approval and receipt of the full purchase price, the department shall by appropriate deed or other instrument transfer the property to the purchaser. The approval of the governor is not required for public or private sale of property having an appraised value at the time of sale of not more than \$15,000, for the transfer of surplus state real property to the department of administration under s. 16.310, or for the transfer of surplus state personal property to the department of tourism under sub. (5s). The funds derived from sales under this subsection shall be deposited in the transportation fund, and the expense incurred by the department in connection with the sale shall be paid from such fund.

(b) Subject to the approval of the governor in the manner, scope, and form specified in par. (a), with respect to the sale of property acquired by the department for a project that is completed after May 25, 2006, the department shall, and with respect to the sale of property acquired by the department for a project that is completed before May 25, 2006, the department may offer for sale or transfer ownership of the property that the department determines is no longer necessary for the state's use for transporta-

tion purposes, if the property is not the subject of a petition under s. 16.310 (2). This disposition process shall take place within 24 months of the completion of the transportation project for which the property was acquired. Except as provided in par. (c) 3., the department shall offer limited and general marketable properties at appraised value, as determined by a state-certified or licensed appraiser, for not less than 12 months. If the department does not sell the property at or above its appraised value, the department shall offer the property for sale by means of sealed bids or public auction. For the purposes of this paragraph, a project is completed when final payment is made under the contract for the project.

(c) 1. Subject to any prior action under s. 13.48 (14) (am) or 16.848 (1), prior to conducting a public sale on a generally marketable surplus land parcel under par. (b), the department shall contact the county, municipality, and the local school district where the land parcel is located and the department of natural resources to solicit interest in acquiring the parcel for public use. Upon notification from the department, the county, municipality, local school district, and department of natural resources must respond to the department, stating their interest in the land for public use, within 60 days. Failure to respond within 60 days constitutes non-interest in the land parcel.

2. Except as provided in subd. 2m. and subject to any prior action under s. 13.48 (14) (am) or 16.848 (1), if a county, a municipality, a local school district, or the department of natural resources expresses interest in acquiring the land for public use, the department shall offer the county, municipality, local school district, or department of natural resources the property at its appraised value if all of the following are true:

a. The county, municipality, local school district, or department of natural resources provides a plan to the department identifying the proposed public use for the land parcel and the acreage involved in the public use.

b. The public use would benefit a cross-section of the population.

c. The land parcel will not be purchased for the generation of profit either through the sale price or its long-term intended public use.

2m. If a county, municipality, or a local school district expresses interest in acquiring the land for public use related to transportation or infrastructure, the department may, subject to any prior action under s. 13.48 (14) (am) or 16.848 (1), offer the county, municipality, or the local school district the property, for less than the appraised value of the property, if all of the following are true:

a. The county, municipality, or local school district provides a plan to the department identifying the proposed use of the property for transportation or infrastructure purposes.

b. The county, municipality, or local school district agrees to a permanent restriction on the use of the land for the purpose identified.

3. If the conditions of subd. 2. are met, the department shall transfer ownership of the land parcel to the county, municipality, local school district, or department of natural resources upon receipt of the appraised value of the land parcel. If the conditions of subd. 2m. are met, the department shall transfer ownership of the land parcel to the county, municipality, or local school district upon receipt of the agreed purchase price of the land parcel. Ownership of the land parcel shall be transferred contingent upon the public use identified under subd. 2., and shall remain in the ownership of the public entity preserving the public use.

(5m) Subject to the approval of the governor in the manner, scope, and form provided by sub. (5) (a), and subject to any prior action under s. 13.48 (14) (am) or 16.848 (1), the department may convey lands or interests therein acquired pursuant to this section and improvements installed thereon to municipalities within whose limits such lands or interests therein are located. The conveyance of said lands or interests therein and improvements shall restrict the use of the premises by the municipality to the uses for

which they were acquired, except that said lands or interests therein declared by the department to be excess may be so conveyed without restrictions as to use. This subsection shall apply only to the sale of property acquired by the department for a project that is completed before May 25, 2006. The department may sell property that is acquired by the department for a project that is completed after May 25, 2006, to a municipality under sub. (5) (c), as applicable.

(5r) In lieu of the sale or conveyance of property under sub. (5) or (5m), the department may, subject to the approval of the governor, donate real property that is adjacent to the veterans memorial site located at The Highground in Clark County and owned by the state and under the jurisdiction of the department to the Wisconsin Vietnam Veterans Memorial Project, Inc., for the purpose of the veterans memorial site located at The Highground in Clark County for the purpose of a memorial hall specified in s. 70.11 (9). The department may donate property under this subsection only when the department determines that the property is no longer necessary for the state's use for transportation purposes and is not the subject of a petition under s. 16.310 (2) and is transferred with a restriction that the donee may not subsequently transfer the real property to any person except to this state, which shall not be charged for any improvements thereon. Such restriction shall be recorded in the office of the register of deeds in the county in which the property is located. The department shall present to the governor a full and complete report of the property to be donated, the reason for the donation, and the minimum price for which the property could likely be sold under sub. (5), together with an application for the governor's approval of the donation. The governor shall thereupon make such investigation as he or she considers necessary and approve or disapprove the application. Upon such approval, the department shall by appropriate deed or other instrument transfer the property to the donee. The approval of the governor is not required for donation of property having an appraised value at the time of donation of not more than \$15,000. Any expense incurred by the department in connection with the donation shall be paid from the transportation fund.

(5s) In lieu of the sale or conveyance of personal property under sub. (5), the department of transportation may, upon the request of the department of tourism, transfer to the department of tourism, at no cost, personal property that is owned by the state and under the jurisdiction of the department of transportation and that the department of transportation has determined is no longer necessary for the state's use for highway purposes.

(6) Subject to any prior action under s. 13.48 (14) (am) or 16.848 (1), lands held by any other state department or independent agency may, with the approval of the governor, be conveyed to the department in the manner prescribed by statute and, if none is prescribed, then by a conveyance authorized by appropriate order or resolution of the head of the department or independent agency concerned.

(7) When transportation funds or federal aid are involved in financing an expressway project under s. 59.84, the department, proceeding under the general authority in this section, may order that all or certain parts of the required land or interests therein shall be acquired by the county board or its designated standing committee and the department shall appraise and agree on the maximum price, including all damages recoverable in condemnation proceedings, considered reasonable for the lands or interests to be so acquired. The county board or its designated standing committee shall endeavor to obtain easements or title in fee simple by conveyance of the lands or interests required, to the county or the state as grantee, all as directed in the department's order. The instrument of conveyance shall be subject to approval by the department, and shall be recorded in the office of the register of deeds and filed with the department. If the needed lands or interests therein cannot be purchased expeditiously within the agreed appraised price, the county board or its designated standing committee may acquire them by condemnation under ch. 32, but any

award by the county board or its designated standing committee in excess of the agreed appraisal price shall be subject to review by the department. For the purposes and in the manner provided in s. 59.84 (2) (d) 1., when so directed in the department's order, the county board or its designated standing committee may acquire remnants, and with the approval of the department the county board may dispose of remnants and may improve, use, maintain or lease lands and interests acquired and held in trust for the state until they are actually needed for expressway construction. The net proceeds of the sales or rentals shall be remitted to the state or retained and used for expressway purposes when so directed by the department.

(8) (a) In this subsection, "surplus land" means land under the jurisdiction of the department which is unused and not needed for department operations or included in the department's plan for construction or development.

(b) Biennially, beginning on January 1, 1984, the department shall submit to the state building commission and the joint committee on finance an inventory of surplus land containing a general description of the location and an estimated value of each parcel. For each inventory submitted after May 25, 2006, the inventory shall contain a report including the estimated marketable value totals, by marketable type, of the land parcels, the net gain and net sale of surplus properties in the previous 2-year period, and a summary of the 5 most recent reports submitted under this paragraph.

History: 1971 c. 40; 1973 c. 118 s. 7; 1977 c. 29 ss. 936, 1654 (1), (8) (a), (b); 1977 c. 272, 418; 1979 c. 310; 1983 a. 27; 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 246; 1995 a. 201, 406; 1997 a. 27, 35, 282; 1999 a. 83, 186; 2003 a. 33, 211, 327; 2005 a. 25, 392; 2007 a. 20; 2011 a. 32; 2013 a. 20.

Federal law required consideration and minimization of impact on lands containing Indian artifacts in designing a highway project but did not specifically require mitigation. Condemnation for mitigation outside the highway right-of-way was not authorized by this section. *Mitton v. DOT*, 184 Wis. 2d 738, 516 N.W.2d 709 (1994).

Neither the interest of a potential purchaser of property for sale under sub. (5) nor the general public's interest in such sales are within the zone of interests the statute is intended to protect. As such, a potential purchaser does not have standing to bring an action based on a violation of the procedures under sub. (5). *Chenequa Land Conservancy, Inc. v. Village of Hartland*, 2004 WI App 144, 275 Wis. 2d 533, 685 N.W.2d 573, 03–2486.

The commission has the power to condemn lands of one property owner to provide a public access road to another property owner who would otherwise be landlocked. 61 Atty. Gen. 36.

The highway commission may properly engage in hardship acquisitions under this section without the filing of an environmental impact statement under either federal or state law but must in such instances comply with the requirements of this section and s. 32.25 (1). 62 Atty. Gen. 200.

84.093 Cooperative acquisition of rights-of-way.

(1) The department, acting in the public interest, may contract with a public utility, as defined in s. 196.01 (5), or with a rural electric cooperative association, as described in s. 32.02 (10), for the receipt or furnishing of services, or the joint exercise of any power or duty required or authorized by law, relating to the acquisition, development or maintenance of rights-of-way to be used jointly by the department and a public utility or rural electric cooperative association. If parties to a contract under this section have varying powers or duties under the law, each may act under the contract to the extent of its lawful powers and duties. This section shall be interpreted liberally in favor of cooperative action between the department and a public utility or rural electric cooperative association.

(2) Any contract under this section may provide a plan for administration of the function or project, which may include provisions as to proration of the expenses involved, deposit and disbursement of funds appropriated, submission and approval of budgets and formation and letting of contracts.

History: 1997 a. 91; 1999 a. 32 s. 166.

84.095 Transportation project plats. (1) DEFINITIONS. In this section:

(a) "Parcel" means one or more pieces of land, or interests or rights in land, under the same ownership or control to be acquired or disposed of for a project and depicted on a plat.

(b) “Parcel number” means a unique number assigned to each parcel depicted on a plat.

(c) “Plat” means a map that is prepared for a project, or a part of a project. The plat shall consist of a single sheet or a detail and a title sheet.

(d) “Project” means a public transportation or transportation–related improvement project.

(e) “Project number” means a unique number assigned to the project by the department or the city, village, town or county that is undertaking the project.

(f) “Title sheet” means a sheet that includes, but is not limited to, limits of the project, location map, and identification of plat symbols and abbreviations.

(2) FILING OR RECORDING PLATS. (a) The department, or a city, village, town, or county, may submit any order or resolution relating to a project in the form of a plat for filing or recording in the office of the register of deeds in the county in which the parcel is located. The plat may include a separate title sheet and shall be filed or recorded within 20 days after the plat is signed under sub. (4) (a) 4. The register of deeds shall file or record any plat submitted under this subsection as a transportation project plat. A project authorized by an order or resolution may be described in more than one plat. Whenever a project is described in more than one plat, each plat may be submitted separately for filing or recording.

(b) 1. Plats filed or recorded under this section are for parcel or right of way delineation purposes only and do not effect a transfer or encumbrance of any title to real or personal property.

2. Submitting a plat for filing or recording under this section satisfies the requirements of ss. 32.05 (1), 83.08 (1), 84.09 (1) and 114.33 (6) with respect to filing with the county clerk or county highway committee any orders, resolutions, maps or plats for a project.

(3) AMENDING AND CORRECTING PLATS. (a) An order, resolution, or plat filed or recorded under this section may be amended or vacated only by the entity that submitted the order, resolution, or plat for filing or recording. Any amendment or vacation of an order, resolution, or plat filed or recorded under this section may be filed or recorded. The office of the register of deeds shall make suitable notations on the plat affected by an amendment or vacation that is filed or recorded. The register of deeds shall number any amendments to a plat consecutively in the order filed or recorded and shall describe each amendment using the following information to the extent the information applies:

Amendment (number) of transportation project plat (project number), recorded in volume (number) of transportation project plats, page (number), as document (number), on (date), (county name) register of deeds, and located in (quarter section, section, township and range; recorded private claim; or federal reservation).

(b) Corrections to a plat may be made only by the entity that prepared or submitted the plat for filing or recording and only if the correction does not affect the interests or rights required. Corrections to a plat shall be made by filing or recording with the register of deeds an affidavit of correction that identifies the affected plat and states the defect in or change to the plat along with the correct information. An affidavit of correction may not be used to reconfigure parcels or rights and interests required for the project. Affidavits of correction may be used to correct distances, angles, directions, bearings, chords, lot and block numbers, street names, or other scrivener errors. The register of deeds shall make suitable notations on the plat to which the affidavit refers. The record of the affidavit of correction, or a certified copy of the record, is prima facie evidence of the facts stated in the affidavit.

(4) PLAT DETAIL AND FORMAT. (a) No plat may be filed or recorded in any office of a register of deeds unless the plat includes a certification that it contains all of the following, either as part of the drawing or written elsewhere on the plat:

1. An official order or resolution of the department, city, village, town or county authorizing the project. If the plat is to be used only to delineate existing highway right–of–way, the plat must refer to a resolution or revised relocation order from a previous project. If a recorded or revised relocation order does not exist, the department may establish right–of–way.

2. The project number.

3. The plat number, the date on which the plat was prepared and the signature of the person under whose direction the plat was prepared.

4. The signature of the person authorized by the department or the city, village, town or county to sign the plat.

5. A scale, north arrow and basis of reference.

7. The coordinate reference and datum.

8. The existing and new locations of the transportation facility.

9. The delineation of each parcel. For each parcel, a description of the following shall be included:

a. The parcel number.

b. The right, title or interest in land required.

c. The area of the parcel required.

11. Reference to platted land surveys or other surveys of record and the locations of known monuments established for such surveys.

12. The locations of known public land survey monuments.

(b) In addition to the information required under par. (a), a plat for a highway project shall include the following:

1. The designation of the highway and any adjacent or intersecting streets or highways by name, number or letter.

2. A description of the reference line for the highway by bearing and distance.

3. The location of the highway reference line by bearing and distance from a boundary line of a section or from a recorded private claim or federal reservation.

4. A description of the highway right–of–way boundaries by bearing and distance.

5. The locations of existing reference lines and right–of–way lines.

(c) Notwithstanding its depiction on a plat, the boundary of a parcel extends to the boundary of the adjoining property parcel or body of water.

(d) The requirements under this section and in s. A–E 7.08, Wis. Adm. Code, entitled “U.S. public land survey monument record” in effect on January 1, 2004, contain all of the requirements for a transportation project plat.

(5) PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYOR’S CERTIFICATE. A plat prepared for filing or recording under this section shall include a certificate of a professional land surveyor licensed under s. 443.06 that the plat is a correct representation of the project described and that the identification and location of each parcel can be determined from the plat. This subsection does not apply to plats prepared by the department.

(6) PLAT DIMENSIONS AND MEDIA. (a) No plat may be filed or recorded in the office of a register of deeds unless the plat has a one–inch margin on all sides, and is produced on any material that is capable of clearly legible reproduction or other media that is acceptable to the register of deeds. The dimensions of the plat shall be 22 inches wide by 30 inches long. Larger plats may be used if acceptable to the register of deeds and agreeable to the agency who submitted the plat. A plat that is submitted for filing or recording shall contain a blank space at least 3 inches by 3 inches in size for use by the register of deeds.

(b) The requirements of s. 59.43 (2m) do not apply to plats submitted under this section.

(7) DESCRIPTION FOR PARCELS AND REMNANT PARCELS. (a) Whenever a plat has been filed or recorded under this section, any

parcel depicted in the plat that is required for a project by conveyance or eminent domain proceedings shall be described using the following information to the extent the information applies:

Parcel (number) of transportation project plat (project number), recorded in volume (number) of transportation project plats, page (number), as document (number), recorded in (county name), Wisconsin.

(b) A description under par. (a) is a sufficient legal description for purposes of s. 32.05 or 706.05 (2m) (a).

(c) Subsequent conveyances, mortgages, and other instruments affecting title to an adjoining parcel of land and its associated rights or interests may refer to the parcel description in par. (a) as an exception to the conveyance.

(d) The plat may be used to depict remnant parcels to be disposed of or to delineate existing highway right-of-way.

(8) INDEXING OF PLATS. (a) The register of deeds shall index plats filed or recorded under this section in the manner described in s. 59.43 (12m), whether or not the county board has enacted an ordinance requiring such an index.

(b) Within 3 working days after the date on which a plat is submitted for recording under this section, the register of deeds shall assign a document number and, at the option of the register of deeds, a volume and page where the plat is recorded, and the register of deeds shall provide written notice of the recording information to the agency that submitted the plat.

(8m) SURPLUS PARCELS. The department may not divide a surplus parcel, as defined by the department, under this section.

(9) LOCAL REVIEW. No state agency, city, village, town or county may require the review or approval of a plat as a condition of filing or recording the plat if the plat is prepared in accordance with this section.

History: 1997 a. 282; 2005 a. 446; 2013 a. 358; 2017 a. 102; 2017 a. 365 s. 111.

84.10 Maintenance and operation of bridges not on state trunks. (1) The amounts allocated under s. 20.395 (3) (cq) and (eq) for the purposes described in this subsection shall be expended by the department for the maintenance and operation of bridges not on the state trunk highway system which were constructed, reconstructed, or purchased under s. 84.11 before August 9, 1989, and under s. 84.12 and free bridges located in connecting highways in 4th class cities, and towns, which have a length, not including approaches, of 300 feet or more, or a swing or lift span. Except as provided in a jurisdictional transfer agreement under s. 84.16, all matters relating to the maintenance and operation of such bridges shall be under the control of the department. Maintenance and operation shall not include the roadway lighting system and shall not include snow and ice removal and control for bridges located on connecting highways. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the department shall designate and mark the bridge specified in s. 84.1024 in the manner and under the conditions specified in s. 84.1024. The department may arrange with any county highway committee or with any city, village or town for the operation or maintenance or both of any such bridge; and any county highway committee, city, village or town may enter into such arrangement. This subsection does not apply to sub. (2).

(2) The joint committee on finance may transfer moneys to s. 20.395 (3) (cq) from any other segregated revenue appropriations of the department for state operations from the transportation fund, upon request of the department, for the purpose of supplementing moneys allocated under s. 20.395 (3) (cq) for the rehabilitation of a local bridge for which improvement is a state responsibility and which has been posted with a weight limitation as provided in s. 349.16 (2).

History: 1971 c. 125 s. 522 (1); 1973 c. 243 s. 82; 1977 c. 29; 1979 c. 34 s. 2102 (52) (a); 1989 a. 31; 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 246; 1997 a. 27; 2007 a. 6.

84.101 Military memorial highways and bridges. The department shall maintain all markers that designate any state trunk highway or bridge on the state trunk highway system as a

memorial that is associated with the armed forces or any branch or unit of the armed forces, any specific soldier or soldiers, any armed forces award or honor, or any war or armed conflict, that is otherwise military in nature, or that is designated under s. 84.10295, and, notwithstanding ss. 84.1028 (2), 84.1029 (2), 84.1031 (2), 84.1034 (2), 84.1036 (2), 84.1039 (2), and 84.1041 (2), the department shall bear the cost, in an amount not to exceed a total of \$2,000 per year on a statewide basis, of such maintenance and shall only perform maintenance under this section in amounts above that sum to the extent that the department has received local or private funding for such maintenance.

History: 2007 a. 167; 2019 a. 20.

84.1018 Veterans of the American Revolution Memorial Bridge. (1) The department shall designate and, subject to sub. (2), mark the bridge on I 39/90/94 across the Wisconsin River between the towns of Dekorra and Caledonia in Columbia County as the “Veterans of the American Revolution Memorial Bridge,” as a living memorial to and in honor of veterans who are buried in Wisconsin who served this nation in the American Revolution.

(2) Upon receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties, including any county, city, village, or town, to cover the costs of erecting and maintaining markers, the department shall erect and maintain, at the 2 interstate rest areas located nearest to the bridge specified in sub. (1), markers identifying the bridge as the “Veterans of the American Revolution Memorial Bridge.” No state funds, other than from the receipt of contributions under this subsection, may be expended for the erection or maintenance of the markers.

History: 2007 a. 161 s. 1; 2009 a. 180 s. 97; Stats. 2009 s. 84.1018.

84.1019 Fifty-seventh Field Artillery Brigade Memorial Highway. (1) The department shall designate and, subject to sub. (2), mark the entire route of STH 57, commencing at STH 59 in the city of Milwaukee in Milwaukee County and proceeding northerly to STH 42 in the village of Sister Bay in Door County, as the “57th Field Artillery Brigade Memorial Highway” as a living memorial to and in honor of the members of the 57th Field Artillery Brigade of the Wisconsin national guard, also known as the “Iron Brigade,” who have bravely served their country with pride, distinction, sacrifice, devotion, and honor since World War I, including deployment to Afghanistan.

(2) Upon receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties, including any county, city, village, or town, to cover the costs of erecting and maintaining markers along the route specified in sub. (1) to clearly identify to motorists the designation of the route as the “57th Field Artillery Brigade Memorial Highway,” the department shall erect and maintain the markers. No state funds, other than from the receipt of contributions under this subsection, may be expended for the erection or maintenance of the markers.

History: 2007 a. 163 s. 1; 2009 a. 180 s. 96; Stats. 2009 s. 84.1019.

84.102 Governor Nelson Dewey Memorial Highway. In order to commemorate the first governor of the state of Wisconsin, the department shall designate and mark as the “Governor Nelson Dewey Memorial Highway” STH 81 from its junction with STH 35 in Grant County to Cassville, Governor Dewey’s hometown.

History: 1989 a. 76.

84.1021 Georgia O’Keeffe Memorial Highway. (1) The department shall designate and, subject to sub. (2), mark the route of STH 19 from Sun Prairie to Marshall in Dane County as the “Georgia O’Keeffe Memorial Highway” in recognition of the artistic contributions and accomplishments of Georgia O’Keeffe, who was born in the town of Sun Prairie in 1887.

(2) Upon receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties, including any county, city, village, or town, to cover the costs of erecting and maintaining markers along the route specified in sub. (1) to clearly identify to motorists the designation of the route as the “Georgia O’Keeffe Memorial Highway,” the

department shall erect and maintain the markers. No state funds, other than from the receipt of contributions under this subsection, may be expended for the erection or maintenance of the markers.

History: 2005 a. 137.

84.10215 Stephen Ambrose Memorial Highway.

(1) The department shall designate and, subject to sub. (2), mark the route of USH 12 from CTH “P” to County Line Road in the city of Whitewater as the “Stephen Ambrose Memorial Highway” in recognition and appreciation of the significant scholastic and literary accomplishments of American historian Stephen Ambrose, who spent much of his early life in the city of Whitewater, began his academic career by attending the University of Wisconsin–Madison, and has deep roots in south central Wisconsin.

(2) Upon receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties, including any county, city, village, or town, to cover the costs of erecting and maintaining markers along the route specified in sub. (1) to clearly identify to motorists the designation of the route as the “Stephen Ambrose Memorial Highway,” the department shall erect and maintain the markers. No state funds, other than from the receipt of contributions under this subsection, may be expended for the erection or maintenance of the markers.

History: 2009 a. 172.

84.10217 Lee and Lynn Copen Memorial Highway.

(1) The department shall designate and, subject to sub. (2), mark the route of STH 50 from 60th Avenue to 70th Avenue in Kenosha County as the “Lee and Lynn Copen Memorial Highway” in recognition and appreciation of: their legacy of community service; Lee’s distinguished and outstanding service as a 25-year veteran of the Kenosha County Sheriff’s Department; Lynn’s nationally recognized and invaluable advocacy as the Victim/Witness Coordinator for the Kenosha County District Attorney’s office and as a volunteer in the community; and Lee and Lynn Copen’s shared dedication to justice.

(2) Upon receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties, including any county, city, village, or town, to cover the costs of erecting and maintaining markers along the route specified in sub. (1) to clearly identify to motorists the designation of the route as the “Lee and Lynn Copen Memorial Highway,” the department shall erect and maintain the markers. No state funds, other than from the receipt of contributions under this subsection, may be expended for the erection or maintenance of the markers.

History: 2009 a. 193 s. 1; 2011 a. 260 s. 80.

84.1022 Green Bay Ethnic Trail. (1) The department shall designate and mark a transportation corridor commencing at the state line in Kenosha County and proceeding northerly to Green Bay in Brown County as the “Green Bay Ethnic Trail” to commemorate the historical achievements and contributions of earlier ethnic settlements along the shore of Lake Michigan.

(2) The transportation corridor shall consist of the following highway route:

(a) In Kenosha County, commencing at Russel Road at the Illinois–Wisconsin state line and proceeding northerly for approximately 16.7 miles on STH 31 to its junction with CTH “MM” in Racine County.

(b) In Racine County, proceeding northerly for approximately 0.9 mile on CTH “MM” to its junction with STH 38; then proceeding westerly for approximately 1.0 mile on STH 38 to its junction with STH 31; then proceeding northerly for approximately 4.0 miles on STH 31 to its junction with STH 32; and then proceeding northerly for approximately 6.9 miles on STH 32 to its junction with 10th Avenue in the city of South Milwaukee in Milwaukee County. The route shall include STH 32 commencing at Four Mile Road and proceeding northerly for approximately 2 miles to its junction with STH 31.

(c) In Milwaukee County, proceeding northerly for approximately 1.6 miles on 10th Avenue to its junction with STH 32; then proceeding northerly for approximately 0.8 mile on STH 32 to its junction with STH 62; then proceeding northerly for approxi-

mately 1.8 miles on STH 62 to its junction with Layton Avenue in the city of Cudahy; then proceeding westerly for approximately 0.1 mile on Layton Avenue to its junction with Kinnickinnic Avenue; then proceeding northerly for approximately 2.2 miles on Kinnickinnic Avenue to its junction with STH 32; then proceeding northerly for approximately 2.3 miles on STH 32 to its junction with 1st Street in the city of Milwaukee; then proceeding northerly for approximately 0.5 mile on 1st Street to its junction with STH 59; then proceeding westerly for approximately 0.1 mile on STH 59 to its junction with 2nd Street; then proceeding northerly for approximately 0.6 mile on 2nd Street to its junction with N. Plankinton Avenue; then proceeding northerly for approximately 0.6 mile on N. Plankinton Avenue to its junction with Kilbourn Avenue; then proceeding westerly for approximately 0.1 mile on Kilbourn Avenue to its junction with N. Old World 3rd Street; then proceeding northerly for approximately 0.7 mile on N. Old World 3rd Street to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive; then proceeding northerly for approximately 3.0 miles on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive to its junction with STH 57; and then proceeding northerly for approximately 9.9 miles on STH 57 to its junction with Green Bay Road in the village of Thiensville in Ozaukee County.

(d) In Ozaukee County, proceeding northerly for approximately 5.7 miles on Green Bay Road to its junction with S. Falls Road in the village of Grafton; then proceeding northerly for approximately 0.2 mile on S. Falls Road to its junction with 12th Avenue; then proceeding northerly for approximately 1.8 miles on 12th Avenue to its junction with Green Bay Road; then proceeding northerly for approximately 2.8 miles on Green Bay Road to its junction with Green Bay Avenue in the village of Saukville; then proceeding northeasterly for approximately 1.0 mile on Green Bay Avenue to its junction with STH 33; then proceeding easterly for approximately 1.1 miles on STH 33 to its junction with Green Bay Road; then proceeding northerly for approximately 1.0 mile on Green Bay Road to its junction with Hillcrest Drive; then proceeding easterly for approximately 0.1 mile on Hillcrest Drive to its junction with CTH “LL”; and then proceeding northeasterly for approximately 11.9 miles on CTH “LL” to its junction with CTH “LLL” in Sheboygan County.

(e) In Sheboygan County, proceeding northerly for approximately 0.2 mile on CTH “LLL” to its junction with Main Street in the village of Cedar Grove; then proceeding northerly for approximately 0.9 mile on Main Street to its junction with STH 32; then proceeding northerly for approximately 18.1 miles on STH 32 to its junction with STH 42; and then proceeding northerly for approximately 6.7 miles on STH 42 to its junction with Pioneer Road in the village of Spring Valley in Manitowoc County.

(f) In Manitowoc County, proceeding northwesterly for approximately 0.8 mile on Pioneer Road to its junction with STH 42; then proceeding northerly for approximately 11.0 miles on STH 42 to its junction with US 151; then proceeding easterly for approximately 0.5 mile on US 151 to its junction with CTH “R”; and then proceeding northwesterly for approximately 20.6 miles on CTH “R” to its junction with CTH “T” in Brown County.

(g) In Brown County, proceeding northwesterly for approximately 0.6 mile on CTH “T” to its junction with E. Main Street in the village of Denmark; then proceeding westerly for approximately 0.2 mile on E. Main Street to its junction with Green Bay Road; then proceeding northwesterly for approximately 0.5 mile on Green Bay Road to its junction with CTH “R”; then proceeding northwesterly for approximately 1.8 miles on CTH “R” to its junction with Steve’s Cheese Road; then proceeding northwesterly for approximately 1.0 mile on Steve’s Cheese Road to its junction with CTH “R”; then proceeding northwesterly for approximately 0.8 mile on CTH “R” to its junction with Stage Coach Road; then proceeding northwesterly for approximately 1.3 miles on Stage Coach Road to its junction with CTH “R”; and then proceeding northwesterly for approximately 9.6 miles on CTH “R”, ending at the easterly shore of the Fox River in the city of Green Bay.

(3) The department shall erect markers at regular intervals along the route specified in sub. (2), including at appropriate areas

historical markers, to clearly identify to motorists each change from one road, street or highway to another road, street or highway along the designated route. The department shall erect historical markers at appropriate areas along the designated route. Any marker erected by the department shall clearly identify to motorists the designation of the route in commemoration of the diverse ethnic heritage along the shore of Lake Michigan in this state.

History: 1993 a. 6.

84.10225 Rock River Trail Scenic and Historic Route.

(1) The department shall designate and, subject to sub. (2), mark the following route, through Rock, Dane, Jefferson, Dodge, and Fond du Lac counties, as the “Rock River Trail Scenic and Historic Route” to increase public appreciation of the river, its scenic beauty, and the historic landmarks along the river’s course:

(a) Commencing in Rock County, at the Illinois–Wisconsin state line where Shirland Avenue crosses the bridge from Illinois over the Rock River and enters Wisconsin and proceeding into the city of Beloit; turning left on Water Street, then proceeding to Mill Street; turning right on Broad Street; turning left on State Street; turning right on Public Avenue; turning left on Pleasant Street, which is also USH 51, then proceeding to Riverside Drive toward Janesville; turning left on Happy Hollow Road and proceeding across the river; then turning right on CTH “D,” which is also Afton Road, and proceeding into the city of Janesville.

(b) In the city of Janesville, proceeding from CTH “D” and turning right on W. Rockport Road; turning left on Center Avenue, which is also USH 51, and then following USH 51 across the river toward Centerway; turning left on N. Parker Drive, which is also USH 51, west on Memorial Drive and crossing the river; turning right on N. Washington Street, which is also CTH “E”; turning left on USH 14; turning right on CTH “H” toward Fulton; turning right on CTH “M” toward Indianford; then turning left on CTH “F” toward the city of Edgerton.

(c) In the city of Edgerton, proceeding on CTH “F” to S. Main Street; turning right on E. Fulton Street, which is also STH 59; then proceeding as provided in par. (d) or (e).

(d) Proceeding in the city of Edgerton east on STH 59 across the river at Newville; then turning left on CTH “N” and proceeding to the east; then turning left on STH 26 toward the city of Fort Atkinson; then, in Jefferson County, proceeding on the main route north on STH 26 to business route STH 26 to Janesville Avenue; then turning right on W. Milwaukee Avenue in the city of Fort Atkinson.

(e) If the route in par. (d) is not taken, then proceeding in the city of Edgerton east on STH 59; turning left on E. Mallwood Drive; turning left on N. Hillside Road and proceeding into Dane County; then, in Dane County, turning right on STH 106 toward Jefferson County and Fort Atkinson; then, in Jefferson County, proceeding east on STH 106 to Riverside Drive in the city of Fort Atkinson; then, in the city of Fort Atkinson, turning right on Robert Street, which is also USH 12, and proceeding across the river; then turning left on W. Milwaukee Avenue.

(f) In Jefferson County, proceeding in the city of Fort Atkinson on W. Milwaukee Avenue; turning left on S. Main Street, which is also business route STH 26, and proceeding across the river to N. Main Street; turning right on N. 3rd Street; turning left on N. High Street; then turning right on CTH “K” to S. Rockwell Avenue in the city of Jefferson.

(g) In the city of Jefferson, proceeding on S. Rockwell Avenue and turning right on S. Main Street, also known as business route STH 26; proceeding to N. Main Street; turning left on W. Puerner Street and proceeding across the river; turning right on N. Jackson Avenue, which is also CTH “N,” and proceeding to the village of Johnson Creek; turning right on CTH “B” and then proceeding across the river to Aztalan Street.

(h) In the village of Johnson Creek, proceeding on Aztalan Street and turning left on Union Street, which is also CTH “Y”; then proceeding to Jefferson Road, toward the city of Watertown.

(i) In the city of Watertown, proceeding on Jefferson Road; turning left on S. Church Street, which is also business route STH 26; turning right on W. Milwaukee Street; turning left on S. Water Street, before the bridge; turning right on W. Main Street, which is also STH 19, and proceeding across the river to E. Main Street; turning left on N. 6th Street; turning left on E. Madison Street; turning right on N. 4th Street and proceeding across the river; turning right on Labaree Street; turning left on Boughton Street; turning right on Park View Lane; turning right on Hall Street; bearing right on E. Main Street; turning right on E. Main Street, which is also STH 19, and proceeding across the river; turning left on S. Concord Avenue, which is also CTH “E”; turning left on Oconomowoc Avenue and proceeding across the river; turning right on East Gate Drive; turning right on River Road; turning right on Hustisford Road; turning right on CTH “P” and proceeding across the river; turning left on CTH “E”; turning left on North Side Drive; turning left on CTH “F” and proceeding across the river to Ixonia; turning right on STH 16; turning left on Rock River Road and proceeding across the river; turning right on River Valley Road; turning right on Gopher Hill Road; turning right on CTH “CW” and proceeding across the river; then turning left on N. River Road and proceeding to Highview Road toward Dodge County.

(j) In Dodge County, proceeding on Highview Road across the river; turning right on CTH “O” and proceeding across the river to Ashippun; turning left on STH 67; turning left on CTH “EE”; turning left on Monroe Road; turning right on CTH “MM”; turning left on CTH “EE”; turning left on Elmwood Road and proceeding across the river; turning right on Riverview Road; then turning right on CTH “R” to S. Lake Street in the village of Hustisford.

(k) In the village of Hustisford, proceeding on S. Lake Street, then bearing right on E. Griffith Street; turning left on N. Ann Street; turning right on W. Tweedy Street, which is also CTH “R,” and proceeding across the river; turning left on CTH “E”; turning left on CTH “S” and proceeding across the river; then turning right on Main Street Road and proceeding to Main Street, which is also STH 33, in the city of Horicon.

(L) In the city of Horicon, proceeding on Main Street, which is also STH 33, to Highway Street, then to Barstow Street, and then proceeding across the river to S. Vine Street and the intersection with E. Lake Street to begin the loop known as the Horicon Marsh Parkway; turning left on E. Lake Street and proceeding across the river to W. Lake Street, which is also CTH “E”; turning right on STH 26; turning right on CTH “I”; turning right on STH 49 and proceeding across the river; turning right on CTH “Z”; turning right on Rockvale Road; turning left on Dohrman Road; turning right on CTH “TW”; turning right on STH 28 and proceeding to Clason Street; turning right on E. Lake Street, which is also STH 33; then proceeding to S. Vine Street to end the loop known as the Horicon Marsh Parkway.

(m) Proceeding to the northern terminus of the Rock River Trail Scenic and Historic Route by, from the Horicon Marsh Parkway, turning left on STH 49 toward the city of Waupun; turning right on Gateway Street in the city of Waupun; turning right on Fond du Lac Street and proceeding across the river, in Fond du Lac County; turning left on Spring Street and proceeding to E. Spring Street; turning left on N. Madison Street, which is also CTH “M,” and proceeding across the river; turning right on Monroe Street; turning left on N. Forest Street; turning right on E. Main Street and proceeding to W. Main Street; turning right on County Park Road, which is also CTH “MMM”; then proceeding to the northern trail head at the south branch of the Rock River in Waupun County Park.

(n) If the route in par. (m) is not taken, then proceeding to the eastern terminus of the Rock River Trail Scenic and Historic Route by, from the Horicon Marsh Parkway, turning south on Dohrman Road; turning left on CTH “TW” toward the village of Kekoskee; proceeding in the village of Kekoskee on CTH “TW”

across the river; turning right on CTH “Y” and proceeding to Kekoskee Street in the city of Mayville; turning right, in the city of Mayville, on Furnace Street, which is also CTH “Y”; turning left on Taylor Street, which is also CTH “Y”; turning right on N. Main Street, which is also CTH “Y”; turning left on Bridge Street, which is also CTH “Y,” and proceeding across the river; turning right on S. German Street, which is also CTH “Y,” and proceeding across the river; turning left on Gill Road and proceeding across the river; turning left on CTH “AY”; turning right on McArthur Road toward the village of Theresa; turning left, in the village of Theresa, on Wisconsin Street; proceeding to W. Rock River Street; proceeding to E. Rock River Street; turning right on Mill Street; then proceeding to the eastern trail head at the east branch of the Rock River in Rivers Edge Park in the village of Theresa.

(2) (a) Subject to par. (b), upon receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties, including any county, municipality, state agency other than the department, or federal agency, to cover the costs of fabricating, erecting, and maintaining markers along the route specified in sub. (1) to clearly identify to motorists the designation of the route as the “Rock River Trail Scenic and Historic Route,” the department shall erect and maintain the markers.

(b) 1. Except as provided in subd. 2., the department may not encumber or expend any state funds from any appropriation to the department under s. 20.395 for the costs of fabrication, erection, maintenance, or replacement of markers identified in par. (a).

2. The department may encumber or expend funds received as contributions to cover the costs of fabrication, erection, maintenance, or replacement of markers identified in par. (a), which may include funds received from another state agency for this purpose.

3. The department may not encumber or expend any federal funds from any appropriation to the department under s. 20.395 for the costs of fabrication, erection, maintenance, or replacement of markers identified in par. (a) except federal funds expressly allocated by federal law or by the applicable federal agency for the markers identified in par. (a).

History: 2013 a. 30.

84.1023 Avery Wilber Memorial Bridge. (1) Upon completion of the construction of a bridge on STH 156 across the Shioc River in the town of Navarino in Shawano County, the department shall designate and, subject to sub. (2), mark the bridge as the “Avery Wilber Memorial Bridge” as a living memorial to and in honor of a World War II hero.

(2) Upon receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties, including any county, city, village, or town, to cover the costs of erecting and maintaining markers for the bridge specified in sub. (1) to identify clearly to motorists the designation of the bridge as the “Avery Wilber Memorial Bridge,” the department shall erect and maintain the markers as provided in sub. (1). No state funds, other than from the receipt of contributions under this subsection, may be expended for the erection or maintenance of the markers.

History: 2007 a. 30.

84.1024 Veterans Memorial Bridge. (1) The department shall designate and, subject to sub. (2), mark the 4th Street bridge, under the department’s jurisdiction under s. 84.10 (1), on CTH “L” across the Wisconsin River in the city of Tomahawk in Lincoln County as “Veterans Memorial Bridge” as a living memorial to and in honor of all Wisconsin veterans, living and dead, of all wars in which the United States has engaged.

(2) Upon receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties, including any county, city, village, or town, to cover the costs of erecting and maintaining markers at the bridge specified in sub. (1) to clearly identify to motorists the designation of the bridge as “Veterans Memorial Bridge,” the department shall erect and maintain the markers. No state funds, other than from the receipt of contributions under this subsection, may be expended for the erection or maintenance of the markers.

History: 2007 a. 6.

84.1025 Frank Lloyd Wright Memorial Highway. In recognition of the architectural accomplishments of Frank Lloyd Wright, the department shall designate and mark as the “Frank Lloyd Wright Memorial Highway” USH 14 commencing at Richland Center and proceeding easterly to Madison.

History: 1991 a. 27, 39.

84.10255 Frank Lloyd Wright Trail. (1) The department shall designate and, subject to subs. (2) and (3), mark the following route, through Kenosha, Racine, Milwaukee, Waukesha, Jefferson, Dane, Iowa, Sauk, and Richland counties, as the “Frank Lloyd Wright Trail”:

(a) Commencing in Kenosha County, where STH 31 enters Wisconsin; turning onto and proceeding on STH 165 west; entering I 94 and then proceeding on I 94 to Dane County.

(b) In Dane County, proceeding on I 94; exiting to and proceeding on STH 30; exiting to USH 151 and then proceeding on USH 151 south; exiting to USH 14 west and then proceeding on USH 14 west to Richland County.

(c) In Richland County, proceeding on USH 14 west, ending at the junction of USH 14 and CTH “Q.”

(d) In Sauk County, in addition to the route described in par. (b), turning from USH 14 onto STH 23 south and proceeding on STH 23 south to Iowa County.

(e) In Iowa County, proceeding on STH 23 south, ending at the junction of STH 23 and CTH “C” nearest to the Frank Lloyd Wright Visitor Center.

(2) Subject to sub. (3), the department shall erect and maintain all of the following markers along the route specified in sub. (1):

(a) At the end of the route in Kenosha County, one marker facing each direction of travel to identify to motorists the designation of the route as the “Frank Lloyd Wright Trail.”

(b) In Racine County, at the interchange of I 94 and STH 20, one marker facing each direction of travel to identify to motorists the location of the SC Johnson Administration Building and Research Tower at the headquarters of S.C. Johnson and Son, Inc., in the city of Racine and Wingspread in the village of Wind Point.

(c) In Dane County, on USH 151, one marker facing each direction of travel to identify to motorists the location of Monona Terrace in the city of Madison and the First Unitarian Society Meeting House in the village of Shorewood Hills.

(d) In Sauk County, at the junction of USH 14 and STH 23, one marker facing each direction of travel to identify to motorists the continuation of the route and Taliesin in Iowa County.

(e) In Iowa County, on STH 23, one marker facing each direction of travel to identify to motorists the designation of the route as the “Frank Lloyd Wright Trail” and the location of the Frank Lloyd Wright Visitor Center and Taliesin in the town of Wyoming.

(f) In Richland County, at the junction of USH 14 and CTH “Q,” a marker facing each direction of travel to identify to motorists the designation of the route as the “Frank Lloyd Wright Trail” and the location of the Richland Museum and Visitors Center in the city of Richland Center.

(3) (a) Subject to par. (b), upon receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties, including any county, municipality, state agency other than the department, or federal agency, to cover the costs of fabricating, erecting, and maintaining markers along the route specified in sub. (1) to identify to motorists the designation of the route as the “Frank Lloyd Wright Trail” and the location of buildings designed or constructed by Frank Lloyd Wright that are open to the public and that are within 15 miles of the route specified in sub. (1), the department shall erect and maintain the markers.

(b) 1. Except as provided in subd. 2., the department may not encumber or expend any state funds from any appropriation to the department under s. 20.395 for the costs of fabrication, erection, maintenance, or replacement of markers identified in par. (a).

2. The department may encumber or expend funds received as contributions to cover the costs of fabrication, erection, maintenance,

nance, or replacement of markers identified in par. (a) that may include funds received from another state agency for this purpose.

3. The department may not encumber or expend any federal funds from any appropriation to the department under s. 20.395 for the costs of fabrication, erection, maintenance, or replacement of markers identified in par. (a) except federal funds expressly allocated by federal law or by the applicable federal agency for the markers identified in par. (a).

History: 2015 a. 270.

84.1026 Wisconsin Law Enforcement Officers Highway. (1) The department shall designate and, subject to sub. (2), mark the route of USH 151, commencing at the Wisconsin–Iowa border and proceeding easterly to Manitowoc, as the “Wisconsin Law Enforcement Officers Highway” to commemorate and honor all law enforcement officers of this state for their dedicated public service in defending and protecting life, health, and property.

(2) Upon receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties, including any county, city, village, or town, to cover the costs of erecting and maintaining markers along the route specified in sub. (1) to clearly identify to motorists the designation of the route as the “Wisconsin Law Enforcement Officers Highway,” the department shall erect and maintain the markers. No state funds, other than from the receipt of contributions under this subsection, may be expended for the erection or maintenance of the markers.

History: 2003 a. 218, 327.

84.1027 Wisconsin Fire Fighters and Emergency Medical Technicians Highway. (1) The department shall designate and, subject to sub. (2), mark the route of STH 54, commencing at Algoma in Kewaunee County and proceeding westerly to the Wisconsin–Minnesota border, as the “Wisconsin Fire Fighters and Emergency Medical Technicians Highway” to recognize and honor all fire fighters and emergency medical technicians of this state for their dedicated service to the public in protecting life, health, and property.

(2) Upon receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties, including any county, city, village, or town, to cover the costs of erecting and maintaining markers along the route specified in sub. (1) to clearly identify to motorists the designation of the route as the “Wisconsin Fire Fighters and Emergency Medical Technicians Highway,” the department shall erect and maintain the markers. No state funds, other than from the receipt of contributions under this subsection, may be expended for the erection or maintenance of the markers.

History: 2003 a. 218.

84.1028 Wisconsin Fire Fighters–EMT/Citizen Soldier Bridge. (1) The department shall designate and, subject to sub. (2), mark the westbound lanes of any bridge on STH 29 across the Chippewa River in Chippewa County as the “Wisconsin Fire Fighters–EMT/Citizen Soldier Bridge” to recognize and honor all fire fighters and emergency medical technicians of this state for their dedicated service to the public in protecting life, health, and property, and in recognition of the right of the citizens of this state to keep and bear arms and as a tribute to all citizen soldiers of this state.

(2) Upon receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties, including any county, city, village, or town, to cover the costs of erecting and maintaining markers on the bridge specified in sub. (1) to clearly identify to motorists the designation of the bridge as the “Wisconsin Fire Fighters–EMT/Citizen Soldier Bridge,” the department shall erect and maintain the markers. No state funds, other than from the receipt of contributions under this subsection, may be expended for the erection or maintenance of the markers.

History: 2003 a. 218.

84.1029 Wisconsin Law Enforcement/Citizen Soldier Bridge. (1) The department shall designate and, subject to sub.

(2), mark the eastbound lanes of any bridge on STH 29 across the Chippewa River in Chippewa County as the “Wisconsin Law Enforcement/Citizen Soldier Bridge” to recognize and honor all law enforcement agencies in this state for their tireless efforts in preventing and detecting crime and enforcing state and local laws, and in recognition of the right of the citizens of this state to keep and bear arms and as a tribute to all citizen soldiers of this state.

(2) Upon receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties, including any county, city, village, or town, to cover the costs of erecting and maintaining markers on the bridge specified in sub. (1) to clearly identify to motorists the designation of the bridge as the “Wisconsin Law Enforcement/Citizen Soldier Bridge,” the department shall erect and maintain the markers. No state funds, other than from the receipt of contributions under this subsection, may be expended for the erection or maintenance of the markers.

History: 2003 a. 218.

84.10295 Wisconsin 9/11 Memorial Highway. The department shall designate and mark the route of STH 28, commencing at the I 41 and STH 28 interchange in Dodge County and proceeding easterly to the intersection with STH 144 in Washington County, as the “Wisconsin 9/11 Memorial Highway” as a living memorial for the lives lost in the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, for the protective services personnel who responded to the attacks, and for the veterans who served in subsequent conflicts.

History: 2019 a. 20.

84.103 Veterans Memorial Highways. (1) WISCONSIN VETERANS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY. The department shall designate and mark the following routes as parts of the “Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Highway” as living memorials to and in honor of all Wisconsin veterans, living and dead, of all wars in which the United States has engaged:

(a) I 94 commencing at Milwaukee and proceeding westerly to Madison.

(b) I 90 and I 94 commencing at Madison and proceeding northwesterly to the junction of I 90 and I 94 approximately 2 miles east of Tomah.

(c) I 90 commencing at the junction in par. (b) and proceeding westerly to La Crosse.

(e) I 94 commencing at the junction in par. (b) and proceeding northwesterly to Hudson.

(f) I 90 commencing at Madison and proceeding southerly to Beloit.

(g) I 94 commencing at Milwaukee and proceeding southerly to the state line.

(1m) WORLD WAR I VETERANS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY. The department shall designate and mark STH 29 commencing at Kewaunee and proceeding westerly to the state line at Prescott as the “World War I Veterans Memorial Highway” as a living memorial to and in honor of all Wisconsin veterans, living and dead, of World War I.

(1r) WORLD WAR II VETERANS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY. The department shall designate and mark USH 41 commencing at Milwaukee and proceeding northerly to Marinette as the “World War II Veterans Memorial Highway” as a living memorial to and in honor of all Wisconsin veterans, living and dead, of World War II.

(1t) PURPLE HEART MEMORIAL HIGHWAYS. (a) The department shall designate USH 14 commencing at the Wisconsin–Minnesota border and proceeding easterly to Richland Center and the entire route of STH 21 as “Purple Heart Memorial Highways” as permanent memorials to and in honor of all persons wounded, injured, or killed as the direct result of enemy action who have been awarded this high honor in the name of the president of the United States. The department shall erect permanent memorial markers along the designated routes to identify the designation of the highways under this subsection.

(b) Notwithstanding s. 86.19 (1), upon request by a municipality and receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties

to cover the costs of erecting and maintaining the signs, the department shall erect and maintain within the right-of-way of STH 21 within the boundaries of the municipality 2 signs, one sign facing each direction of traffic, marking the route of STH 21 within the municipality as a “Purple Heart Memorial Highway.”

(2) **KOREAN WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY.** The department shall designate and mark the route of USH 51, extending from the Wisconsin–Illinois border to the Wisconsin–Michigan border, as the “Korean War Veterans Memorial Highway” as a living memorial to and in honor of all Wisconsin veterans, living and dead, of the Korean war.

(3) **VIETNAM WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY.** The department shall designate and mark the route of USH 10, commencing at Manitowoc and proceeding westerly to the Wisconsin–Minnesota border, as the “Vietnam War Veterans Memorial Highway” as a living memorial to and in honor of all Wisconsin veterans, living and dead, of the Vietnam war.

(4) **MARKERS.** The department shall erect at regular intervals along the routes of the highways under this section markers, including at appropriate areas historical markers, to clearly identify to motorists the respective designations of the highways as memorials to Wisconsin veterans.

History: 1977 c. 29 ss. 938, 1654 (8) (a); 1987 a. 117, 399; 1989 a. 31, 343; 1993 a. 347; 2021 a. 91.

84.1031 Citizen Soldier Highway. (1) The department shall designate and, subject to sub. (2), mark, the route of STH 27, commencing at Brule and proceeding southerly to Prairie du Chien, as the “Citizen Soldier Highway” in recognition of the right of the citizens of this state to keep and bear arms and as a tribute to all Wisconsin veterans, members of the national guard and any other reserve component of the U.S. armed forces, law enforcement officers, and fire fighters, and to the first citizen soldiers of this state, American Indians.

(2) Upon receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties, including any county, city, village, or town, to cover the costs of erecting and maintaining markers along the route specified in sub. (1) to clearly identify to motorists the designation of the route as the “Citizen Soldier Highway,” the department shall erect and maintain the markers. No state funds, other than from the receipt of contributions under this subsection, may be expended for the erection or maintenance of the markers.

History: 2003 a. 218.

84.10315 128th Infantry Memorial Highway. (1) The department shall designate and, subject to sub. (2), mark the entire route of STH 128, commencing at STH 72 in Pierce County and proceeding northerly to STH 64 in St. Croix County, as the “128th Infantry Memorial Highway” to honor the members of the 128th Battalion of the 32nd Infantry Brigade for bravery, sacrifice, and devotion in their service in Iraq as well as World Wars I and II.

(2) Upon receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties, including any county, city, village, or town, to cover the costs of erecting and maintaining markers for the route specified in sub. (1) to clearly identify the designation of the route as the “128th Infantry Memorial Highway,” the department shall erect and maintain 2 markers, at separate locations, for the route. No state funds, other than from the receipt of contributions under this subsection, may be expended for the erection or maintenance of the markers.

History: 2013 a. 18.

84.1032 Blue Star Memorial Highway. The department shall designate STH 23 commencing at Sheboygan and proceeding westerly to the Sheboygan County line as a “Blue Star Memorial Highway” to commemorate and honor the armed forces of the United States of America and all individuals who have served or will serve in this nation’s armed forces.

History: 1993 a. 20.

84.1033 Leo Frigo Memorial Bridge. No later than 6 months after May 9, 2002, the department shall designate and

mark the bridge on I 43 across the Fox River in the city of Green Bay as the “Leo Frigo Memorial Bridge” in recognition and appreciation of Leo Frigo, a civic and philanthropic leader in the Green Bay area whose legacy includes one of the largest food pantry programs in the nation for feeding the hungry.

History: 2001 a. 101.

84.10335 Bart Starr Memorial Bridge. (1) The department shall designate and, subject to sub. (2), mark the bridge on STH 29 across the Fox River in the city of Green Bay in Brown County as the “Bart Starr Memorial Bridge.”

(2) Upon receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties, including any county, city, village, or town, to cover the costs of erecting and maintaining markers at the bridge specified in sub. (1) to clearly identify to motorists the designation of the bridge as the “Bart Starr Memorial Bridge,” the department shall erect and maintain the markers. No state funds, other than from the receipt of contributions under this subsection, may be expended for the erection or maintenance of the markers.

History: 2021 a. 74.

84.1034 Airborne Brigade, 173rd, Highway. (1) The department shall designate and, subject to sub. (2), mark the entire route of STH 173, commencing at STH 21 in Monroe County and proceeding northeasterly to STH 73 in the city of Nekoosa in Wood County, as the “173rd Airborne Brigade Highway” as a living memorial to and in honor of the members of the 173rd Airborne Brigade, also known as the “Sky Soldiers,” who bravely served their country and brought great credit to this state from 1963 to 1972, including deployment to Vietnam in 1965 as the first major ground combat unit of the U.S. army to serve there, and who have continued to serve in Europe since the year 2000.

(2) Upon receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties, including any county, city, village, or town, to cover the costs of erecting and maintaining markers along the route specified in sub. (1) to clearly identify to motorists the designation of the route as the “173rd Airborne Brigade Highway,” the department shall erect and maintain the markers. No state funds, other than from the receipt of contributions under this subsection, may be expended for the erection or maintenance of the markers.

History: 2005 a. 238.

84.10343 Carson Holmquist Memorial Highway. (1) The department shall designate and, subject to sub. (2), mark the entire route of STH 87 as the “Carson Holmquist Memorial Highway” in honor and recognition of Sergeant Carson Holmquist who lost his life in the July 16, 2015, attack on the U.S. Naval and Marine Reserve Center in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

(2) Upon receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties, including any county, city, village, or town, to cover the costs of erecting and maintaining markers along the route specified in sub. (1) to clearly identify the designation of the route as the “Carson Holmquist Memorial Highway,” the department shall erect and maintain the markers. No state funds, other than from the receipt of contributions under this subsection, may be expended for the erection or maintenance of the markers.

History: 2015 a. 347.

84.10345 Nichole M. Frye Memorial Bridge. The department shall designate and mark the bridge on STH 141 in the town of Lena in Oconto County as the “Nichole M. Frye Memorial Bridge” in honor and recognition of Nichole M. Frye, who sacrificed her life in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

History: 2005 a. 338; 2007 a. 97 s. 105.

84.1035 Peace Memorial Highway. The department shall designate and mark USH 53 commencing at La Crosse and proceeding northerly to Superior as the “Peace Memorial Highway” to commemorate the contributions and devotion of the citizens of this state to international peace and greater understanding among nations. The department shall erect markers at regular intervals along the route, including at appropriate areas historical markers,

to clearly identify to motorists the designation of the highway as a memorial to international peace.

History: 1989 a. 343.

84.10355 Governor Patrick Lucey Highway. The department shall designate the route of STH 35 from the village of Ferryville in Crawford County to the city of Prairie du Chien in Crawford County as the “Governor Patrick Lucey Highway” in recognition and appreciation of Patrick J. Lucey, who served with distinction as both the governor of Wisconsin from 1971 to 1977 and as the U.S. Ambassador to Mexico from 1977 to 1979. The department shall mark this route, by erecting and maintaining appropriate signs, to clearly identify to motorists the route as the “Governor Patrick Lucey Highway.”

History: 2013 a. 20.

84.1036 Major Richard I. Bong Memorial Highway.

(1) The department shall designate and, subject to sub. (2), mark the route of USH 2, extending from the Wisconsin–Minnesota border to the Wisconsin–Michigan border, as the “Major Richard I. Bong Memorial Highway” in recognition and appreciation of the many military accomplishments of Major Richard I. Bong during World War II, including being awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor in 1944 and being widely known as America’s greatest war ace.

(2) Upon receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties, including any county, city, village, or town, to cover the costs of erecting and maintaining markers along the route specified in sub. (1) to clearly identify to motorists the designation of the route as the “Major Richard I. Bong Memorial Highway,” the department shall erect and maintain the markers. No state funds, other than from the receipt of contributions under this subsection, may be expended for the erection or maintenance of the markers.

History: 2003 a. 218.

84.1037 Donald K. “Deke” Slayton Memorial Highway.

(1) The department shall designate and, subject to sub. (2), mark STH 27 in Monroe County commencing at Sparta and proceeding southerly to Cashton as the “Donald K. ‘Deke’ Slayton Memorial Highway” as a living memorial to and in honor of Donald K. “Deke” Slayton, who brought credit to this state and, in particular, Monroe County for his contribution to this country’s space program as one of the 7 original astronauts and as a participant in the first joint United States–Soviet space mission.

(2) Upon receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties, including any county, city, village, or town, to cover the cost of erecting and maintaining markers along the route specified in sub. (1) to clearly identify to motorists the designation of the route as the “Donald K. ‘Deke’ Slayton Memorial Highway,” the department shall erect and maintain the markers. No state funds, other than from the receipt of contributions under this subsection, may be expended for the erection or maintenance of the markers.

History: 2001 a. 16 s. 2307m; 2001 a. 104 s. 72.

84.1038 Iron Brigade Memorial Highway.

The department shall designate and mark, consistent with any standards that may be developed by the department for memorial highway designations, USH 12 from the state line in Walworth County to the state line in St. Croix County as the “Iron Brigade Memorial Highway” as a living memorial to and in honor of the members of the Second, Sixth and Seventh Wisconsin regiments who served in the Iron Brigade of the Union army in the Civil War of 1861 to 1865.

History: 1993 a. 442.

84.10383 Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm Memorial Highway.

The department shall designate and mark the entire route of STH 80 as the “Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm Memorial Highway” as a living memorial to, and in honor of, all Wisconsin veterans, living and dead, of both Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm.

History: 2023 a. 69.

84.1039 84th Division “Railsplitters” Memorial Highway. (1) The department shall designate and mark, subject to sub. (2), STH 33 commencing at La Crosse and proceeding easterly to Port Washington as the “84th Division ‘Railsplitters’ Memorial Highway” as a living memorial to and in honor of the men and women of the 84th Division who by their bravery and sacrifice in World Wars I and II brought great credit to this state and to their division, which traces its lineage back to the service of Abraham Lincoln in this state during the Blackhawk war of 1832.

(2) Upon receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties, including any county, city, village or town, to cover the cost of erecting and maintaining markers along the route specified in sub. (1) to clearly identify to motorists the designation of the route as the “84th Division ‘Railsplitters’ Memorial Highway”, the department shall erect and maintain the markers. No state funds, other than from the receipt of contributions under this subsection, may be expended for the erection or maintenance of the markers.

History: 1995 a. 297.

84.10395 Staff Sergeant Daniel D. Busch Memorial Highway. (1) The department shall designate and, subject to sub. (2), mark the route of STH 33 commencing at the eastern border of the city of Portage and proceeding westerly to the Columbia County line as the “Staff Sergeant Daniel D. Busch Memorial Highway” in honor and recognition of Staff Sergeant Daniel D. Busch.

(2) Upon receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties, including any county, city, village, or town, to cover the costs of erecting and maintaining markers along the route specified in sub. (1) to clearly identify the designation of the route as the “Staff Sergeant Daniel D. Busch Memorial Highway,” the department shall erect and maintain the markers. No state funds, other than from the receipt of contributions under this subsection, may be expended for the erection or maintenance of the markers.

History: 2019 a. 23.

84.104 32nd Division Memorial Highway.

In order to commemorate the 32nd Infantry Division, also known as The Red Arrow Division, which, while composed mainly of men from Wisconsin, Illinois and Michigan, brought fame and glory to these states during World Wars I and II by their sacrifice, devotion and bravery and which is now established as a Wisconsin national guard division, the department is directed to establish a highway memorial designated route 32 by renumbering certain existing highways linking Illinois and Michigan through Wisconsin. Beginning at the Illinois–Wisconsin state line renumber state trunk highway 42 to a point where it joins the present Wisconsin state trunk highway 32 at Sheboygan; continuing over the present Wisconsin state trunk highway 32 north to the junction with U.S. highway 8 at Laona; continuing over the present Wisconsin state trunk highway 32 north to junction with U.S. highway 45 at Three Lakes; thence north on U.S. highway 45 to Michigan–Wisconsin state line at Land O’Lakes. The department is further directed that in addition to the numeral 32, the highway markers on this highway carry a red arrow, and that historical markers be erected and maintained along the highway in honor of the 32nd Division and its members.

History: 1977 c. 29 s. 1654 (8) (a).

84.1041 Freedoms Bridge. (1) The department shall designate and, subject to sub. (2), mark the bridge on STH 13 across the south fork of the Flambeau River in the town of Fifield in Price County that, as of November 20, 2003, has been numbered B–50–21 by the department as “Freedoms Bridge” in honor and recognition of all veterans who fought to preserve freedoms in the Korean War.

(2) Upon receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties, including any county, city, village, or town, to cover the costs of erecting and maintaining markers at the bridge specified

History: 1977 c. 29 s. 1654 (8) (a).

(1) The department shall designate and, subject to sub. (2), mark the bridge on STH 13 across the south fork of the Flambeau River in the town of Fifield in Price County that, as of November 20, 2003, has been numbered B–50–21 by the department as “Freedoms Bridge” in honor and recognition of all veterans who fought to preserve freedoms in the Korean War.

(2) Upon receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties, including any county, city, village, or town, to cover the costs of erecting and maintaining markers at the bridge specified

in sub. (1) to clearly identify to motorists the designation of the bridge as “Freedoms Bridge,” the department shall erect and maintain the markers. No state funds, other than from the receipt of contributions under this subsection, may be expended for the erection or maintenance of the markers.

History: 2003 a. 68.

84.10415 Steven Drees Memorial Bridge. The department shall designate and mark the bridge on USH 41 across the Peshtigo River in the city of Peshtigo as the “Steven Drees Memorial Bridge” in honor of Private First Class Steven Drees, a member of the 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, United States Army, who died on June 28, 2009, as a result of combat wounds suffered on June 24, 2009, while serving in Afghanistan.

History: 2009 a. 127.

84.10416 Veterans Memorial Bridge in Marinette County. (1) The department shall designate and, subject to sub. (2), mark, but not beyond the Wisconsin–Michigan border, the bridge on USH 141 across the Menominee River in the city of Niagara in Marinette County as “Veterans Memorial Bridge” as a living memorial to and in honor of all Wisconsin veterans, living and dead, of all wars in which the United States has engaged.

(2) Upon receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties, including any county, city, village, or town, to cover the costs of erecting and maintaining markers for the bridge specified in sub. (1) to clearly identify to motorists the designation of the bridge as the “Veterans Memorial Bridge,” the department shall erect and maintain the markers. No state funds, other than from the receipt of contributions under this subsection, may be expended for the erection or maintenance of the markers.

History: 2011 a. 48.

84.10417 Valentine T. Warrichaiet Memorial Bridge. The department shall designate and mark the bridge on USH 41 across the Oconto River in the city of Oconto in Oconto County as the “PFC Valentine T. Warrichaiet Memorial Bridge” in recognition of his service to the United States of America, as a living memorial to, and in honor of Private First Class Valentine T. Warrichaiet, a member of the 17th Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division, United States Army, who was killed in action on July 9, 1953, while serving in North Korea.

History: 2017 a. 276.

84.1042 Lloyd Spriggle Memorial Bridge. The department shall designate and mark, consistent with any standards that may be developed by the department for memorial highway designations, the bridge on USH 63 across the Wisconsin channel in Pierce County as the “Lloyd Spriggle Memorial Bridge” in recognition and appreciation of Lloyd Spriggle, a local civic leader of Pierce County who actively worked for over 50 years to preserve and protect the environment and to improve the water quality and the beauty of the rivers, streams, lakes and forests of this state.

History: 1993 a. 364.

84.1043 Cinco De Mayo Memorial Highway. In recognition of the day of celebration that commemorates Mexico’s victory over an invading French army on May 5, 1862, and in recognition and appreciation of the contributions and cultural heritage of Hispanics in the state whose ancestors originated in Mexico, the department shall designate and mark as the “Cinco De Mayo Memorial Highway” the route of STH 59 within the city of Milwaukee.

History: 1991 a. 39.

84.1044 John R. Plewa Memorial Lake Parkway. The department shall designate and mark I 794 and STH 794 in Milwaukee County commencing from the Daniel Webster Hoan Memorial Bridge and proceeding southerly to the intersection with East Layton Avenue as the “John R. Plewa Memorial Lake Parkway” in recognition and appreciation of the life of John R.

Plewa and his public service as a member of the Wisconsin legislature for more than 20 years.

History: 1999 a. 9.

84.1045 Roland Kampo Bridge. The department shall designate and mark, consistent with any standards that may be developed by the department for memorial highway designations, the Little Lake Butte des Morts bridge on STH 441 in Winnebago County as the “Roland Kampo Bridge” in recognition and appreciation of Roland Kampo, a local civic leader of the Fox valley region who was instrumental in the creation of the tri-county expressway in Calumet, Outagamie and Winnebago counties.

History: 1993 a. 237.

84.1046 Airborne Forces Memorial Bridge. (1) The department shall mark the bridge across the Wisconsin River on USH 10 in the city of Stevens Point as the “Airborne Forces Memorial Bridge” in recognition and appreciation of the military service performed by members of the airborne forces of the U.S. armed services, who served in time of war and in time of peace.

(2) The department shall erect a sign on each end of the bridge to clearly identify to motorists the marking of the bridge under this section. In cooperation with the applicable local municipalities, the department shall erect a permanent granite monument in close proximity to the bridge. The department shall design the permanent granite monument after consultation with the badger state chapter of the 82nd airborne division association. The department shall not expend more than \$5,000 for the erection of the monument and the signs under this subsection.

History: 1993 a. 278; 1993 a. 491 s. 136; Stats. 1993 s. 84.1046.

84.1047 POW/MIA Memorial Highway. The department shall designate the route of STH 13, commencing at Wisconsin Dells and proceeding northerly to Superior as the “POW/MIA Memorial Highway” as a living memorial to and in honor of all prisoners of war, ex-prisoners of war and those who are currently or were formerly missing in action, of all wars in which the United States has engaged. The department shall erect markers at appropriate locations in close proximity to the route of the highway under this section to commemorate the designation of the highway.

History: 1993 a. 396 s. 1; 1993 a. 491 s. 137; Stats. 1993 s. 84.1047.

84.10475 Deputy LaVonne Zenner Memorial Bridge. (1) The department shall designate and, subject to sub. (2), mark the overpass on STH 13 and CTH “A” over USH 10 in the towns of Cameron and Marshfield in Wood County as the “Deputy LaVonne Zenner Memorial Bridge” in recognition and appreciation of her service to her community and her dedication to service in law enforcement.

(2) Upon receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties, including any county, city, village, or town, to cover the costs of erecting and maintaining markers at the overpass specified in sub. (1) to clearly identify to motorists the designation of the overpass as the “Deputy LaVonne Zenner Memorial Bridge,” the department shall erect and maintain the markers. No state funds, other than from the receipt of contributions under this subsection, may be expended for the erection or maintenance of the markers.

History: 2021 a. 211.

84.1048 Polish Heritage Highway. (1) In recognition of the outstanding contributions that Polish Americans have made to the vitality and quality of life in central Wisconsin, the department shall designate STH 66, commencing at Stevens Point and proceeding easterly to Rosholt, as the “Polish Heritage Highway” to commemorate and honor the achievements of central Wisconsin residents of Polish ancestry.

(2) Upon receipt of contributions totaling not less than \$800 from interested parties, including any city, village, town or county, the department shall erect markers along STH 66 in the following locations:

(a) One marker at the east end of Stevens Point to clearly identify the designation of the route to motorists proceeding easterly.

(b) One marker at the east end of Rosholt to clearly identify the designation of the route to motorists proceeding westerly.

(3) No state funds may be used for the erection of any marker under this section.

History: 1997 a. 27.

84.1049 Polish Veterans Memorial Highway. In recognition of their courageous, dutiful and selfless service to this state and the U.S. armed forces, the department shall designate and mark STH 160, commencing at STH 29 at Angelica and proceeding easterly to STH 32 at Pulaski, as the “Polish Veterans Memorial Highway” to commemorate and honor the military service and patriotism shown by this state’s Polish veterans throughout its history.

History: 1997 a. 27.

84.105 National parkways. (1) DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO COOPERATE WITH FEDERAL AGENCIES. The legislature of the state of Wisconsin hereby declares that the intent of this section is to assent to any act of the United States congress authorizing the development of any national parkway located wholly or partly within the state of Wisconsin, to the full extent that is necessary to secure any benefits under such act, provided that the hunting of migratory waterfowl and other game and fishing shall not be prohibited or otherwise restricted by the United States government or any of its designated agencies in control of said project, and to authorize the appropriate state boards, commissions, departments and the governing bodies of counties, cities, towns and villages and especially the department of transportation to cooperate in the planning and development of all national parkways that may be proposed for development in Wisconsin, with any agency or department of the government of the United States in which is vested the necessary authority to construct or otherwise develop such national parkways. Whenever authority shall exist for the planning and development of any national parkway, of which any portion shall be located in this state, it shall be the duty of the department of transportation to make such investigations and studies in cooperation with the appropriate federal agency, and such state boards, commissions and departments as shall have an interest in such parkway development, to the extent that shall be desirable and necessary in order to provide that the state shall secure all advantages that may accrue through such parkway development and that the interests of the counties, cities, villages and towns along the route shall be conserved.

(2) DEFINITIONS. For the purposes of this section, all terms applying to any parkway, such as “secretary”, “parkway”, “scenic landscape”, “sightly or safety easement”, “access”, “parkway road”, “parkway development”, “national parkway”, “frontage”, and other or similar terms, which are defined in any act of the United States Congress applicable to such national parkway, shall have the meanings set forth in such act. The term “national parkway” as used in this section shall mean and include the Great River Road and appurtenances thereto, as provided in section 14 of P.L. 83–350, or any other parkway or road in Wisconsin projected in general accordance with the recommended plan set forth in the joint report submitted to the congress November 28, 1951, by the secretaries of commerce and interior pursuant to the act of August 24, 1949 (P.L. 81–262) to the end that the department shall have authority to act with reference to them as provided by this section.

(3) DEPARTMENT SHALL MAKE INVESTIGATIONS. The department shall have full authority to make such investigations, surveys, studies and plans in connection with any proposed national parkway or parkway development as it shall deem necessary or desirable in order to determine if the proposed development, under the terms of the act of the United States Congress applicable to such parkway or any regulations under such act, are advantageous to the state. Such parkway development may be any portion of the proposed parkway, which it may be proposed to construct as a project under such act. The department may hold such hear-

ings in connection with such investigations as it deems necessary or desirable, and shall give notice of such hearings by publication of a class 2 notice, under ch. 985, in the area affected.

(4) FINDING AND DETERMINATION. When the department has completed its investigations with respect to any proposed national parkway development, it shall make its findings and determination with respect to such proposed development. Such finding and determination shall state whether or not such proposed national parkway development is deemed advantageous to the state, shall include such information with respect to the development as shall be necessary to state its character and extent, and shall estimate the cost thereof and separately, the amount and character of lands necessary to be acquired in fee simple and in easements, with their cost, and needed to carry out the development.

(5) PARKWAY TO BE STATE TRUNK HIGHWAY. If the department, after such investigations and studies, shall find that the proposed parkway development is advantageous to the state, it shall have full authority to perform, on behalf of the state, each and every duty required of the state by the act of the U.S. congress applicable to such parkway development, in order to secure the proposed development project for the state. For the purposes of such development project, the parkway shall be a portion of the state trunk highway system.

(6) RIGHT-OF-WAY AND EASEMENTS. All lands for right-of-way to be acquired in fee simple and all easements necessary to be acquired for the purposes of the proposed national parkway development shall be acquired by the department in the name of the state, as may be required by the act of the U.S. congress applicable thereto. Any lands owned by the state, or by any county, city, village or town, may be conveyed to the United States for the purposes of the parkway in the manner provided by law. The department may acquire such lands by gift, purchase agreement, or by exercising the right of eminent domain in any manner that may be provided by law for the acquirement of lands for public purposes. The department may convey such lands to the U.S. government or any of its agencies, as may be required by the act of the U.S. congress applicable to such national parkway.

(7) LIBERAL CONSTRUCTION. All powers granted in this section shall be liberally construed in favor of the department and any proposed national parkway development projects.

History: 1973 c. 333 s. 201w; 1977 c. 29 ss. 939, 1654 (8) (a), (c), 1656 (43); 1979 c. 32; 1989 a. 359; 1993 a. 490.

84.1051 Gaylord Nelson Highway. (1) The department shall designate and, subject to sub. (2), mark the entire route of USH 63 as the “Gaylord Nelson Highway” in recognition and appreciation of Gaylord Nelson, the native son of Clear Lake who served with distinction as both the governor from 1959 to 1963 and a U.S. senator from 1963 to 1981, and whose legacy includes numerous environmental achievements, including the founding of Earth Day, the creation of the Knowles–Nelson Stewardship Program, and the preservation of the Apostle Islands in Lake Superior.

(2) Upon receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties, including any county, city, village, or town, to cover the costs of erecting and maintaining markers along the route specified in sub. (1) to clearly identify to motorists the designation of the route as the “Gaylord Nelson Highway,” the department shall erect and maintain the markers. No state funds, other than from the receipt of contributions under this subsection, may be expended for the erection or maintenance of the markers.

History: 2009 a. 116.

84.1052 Michael G. Ellis Memorial Interchange. (1) The department shall designate and, subject to sub. (2), mark the interchange of I 41, USH 10, and STH 441 in Winnebago County as the Michael G. Ellis Memorial Interchange.

(2) Upon receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties, including any county, city, village, or town, to cover the costs of erecting and maintaining markers for the interchange specified in sub. (1) to clearly identify the designation of the inter-

change as the “Michael G. Ellis Memorial Interchange,” the department shall erect and maintain the markers. No state funds, other than from the receipt of contributions under this subsection, may be expended for the erection or maintenance of the markers.

History: 2019 a. 3.

84.1053 Jeannetta Simpson–Robinson Memorial Highway. (1) The department shall designate and, subject to sub. (2), mark the route of I 43, commencing at the North Avenue interchange in the city of Milwaukee and proceeding northerly to the Keefe Avenue and Atkinson Avenue interchange in the city of Milwaukee, as the “Jeannetta Simpson–Robinson Memorial Highway” in recognition and appreciation of the good works of Jeannetta Simpson–Robinson, a lifelong community leader and activist who championed the poor, the disadvantaged, children, and peaceful non–violent resolutions to conflicts.

(2) Upon receipt of sufficient contributions from interested parties, including any county, city, village, or town, to cover the costs of erecting and maintaining markers along the route specified in sub. (1) to clearly identify to motorists the designation of the route as the “Jeannetta Simpson–Robinson Memorial Highway,” the department shall erect and maintain the markers. No state funds, other than from the receipt of contributions under this subsection, may be expended for the erection or maintenance of the markers.

History: 2009 a. 151 s. 1; 2011 a. 260 s. 80.

84.106 Scenic byways program. (1g) **DEFINITIONS.** In this section:

(a) “Connecting highway” has the meaning given in s. 340.01 (9).

(b) “Highway” has the meaning given in s. 340.01 (22).

(c) “Local highways” has the meaning given in s. 86.31 (1) (c) for “local roads.”

(d) “State trunk highway” has the meaning given in s. 340.01 (60).

(1m) **DESIGNATION.** The department shall develop, implement, and administer a program to designate highways or portions of highways in this state, including, notwithstanding sub. (2), state trunk highways, connecting highways, and local highways, that have outstanding scenic, historic, cultural, natural, recreational, or archaeological qualities as scenic byways. The department may seek designation by the federal government of a highway designated as a scenic byway under this section as a national scenic byway or as an All–American Road.

(2) **RULES.** The department shall promulgate rules under this section consistent with 23 USC 162 and regulations established under that section.

(3) **MARKING HIGHWAYS.** Highways designated as scenic byways under this section may be marked with signs conforming with the manual of uniform traffic control devices adopted by the department under s. 84.02 (4) (e) that identify the highway as a scenic byway. The department shall have exclusive authority to erect these signs, and shall bear all expense in connection with the erection and maintenance of the signs, on state trunk highways. The local authority with jurisdiction over the highway, for maintenance purposes, shall have exclusive authority to erect these signs, and shall bear all expense in connection with the erection and maintenance of the signs, on local highways and connecting highways.

History: 1999 a. 9; 2011 a. 147.

Cross-reference: See also s. Trans 201.23 and ch. Trans 202, Wis. adm. code.

84.107 Great River Road. (1) The department shall designate and mark as the “Great River Road” the route in Grant, Crawford, Vernon, La Crosse, Trempealeau, Buffalo, Pepin and Pierce counties commencing at the Wisconsin–Illinois border and proceeding northerly on STH 35 to its junction with STH 133; then proceeding westerly on STH 133 to its junction with CTH “VV” near Cassville; then proceeding northerly on CTH “VV” to its junction with CTH “A”; then proceeding westerly on CTH “A” to

its junction with CTH “X” in Bagley; then proceeding northerly on CTH “X” to its junction with CTH “C”; then proceeding easterly on CTH “C” to its junction with STH 35, with all of the preceding highways in Grant County; then proceeding northerly on STH 35 to its junction with USH 14/61 in La Crosse County; then proceeding northerly on USH 14/61 to its junction with USH 53; then proceeding northerly on USH 53 to its junction with STH 35; then proceeding northerly on STH 35 to its junction with Business 35/CTH “HD” near Holmen; then proceeding northerly on Business 35/CTH “HD” to its junction with STH 35; then proceeding northerly on STH 35 to its junction with USH 10 in Pierce County; and then proceeding westerly on USH 10 to the Wisconsin–Minnesota border.

(2) If the department, after investigations and studies, finds that any proposed Great River Road development is advantageous to the state, it shall have full authority to perform, on behalf of the state, each and every duty required of the state, in order to secure and complete the proposed development project. For the purposes of such development projects, the Great River Road shall be a portion of the state trunk highway system.

History: 1993 a. 357.

84.11 Local bridge construction and reconstruction.

(1) **DEFINITIONS.** In this section:

(a) “Construction” includes reconstruction.

(b) “Local bridge” means a bridge which is not on the state trunk highway system or on marked routes of the state trunk highway system designated as connecting highways.

(1g) **ADMINISTRATION.** The department shall administer the local bridge construction program and shall have all powers necessary and convenient to implement this section.

(1m) **ELIGIBILITY AND PROJECT EXTENT.** Local bridges are eligible for construction under this section. Projects under this section include all approaches and embankments, acquisition of lands necessary for right-of-way or other purposes, and all other necessary appurtenances.

(1r) **RULES.** The department shall promulgate rules to implement this section. The rules shall include criteria for selecting and evaluating projects which are eligible for construction under this section.

(2) **INITIATION OF PROCEEDINGS.** Proceedings for the construction of a bridge project under sub. (1m) may be initiated by a petition filed with the department. The petition shall state that the petitioner desires such construction, and the approximate location thereof, and that, in the opinion of petitioner, the construction is necessary and is a bridge project eligible for construction under this section. The petition may be filed by any county, city, village or town. The petition shall be duly adopted by the governing body of the county, city, village or town, and a certified copy of the adopted petition shall be filed with the department.

(3) **HEARING.** Within 60 days of the receipt of a petition under sub. (2), the department shall fix a time and place for a hearing and give notice of the hearing by publication of a class 2 notice, under ch. 985, in the vicinity of the proposed bridge project. Notice shall also be given by registered letter addressed to the clerks of the counties, cities, villages and towns in which any part of the bridge project will be located. The notice shall also be given to the secretary of natural resources either by registered mail or personally. The hearing may be held in any county, city, village or town in which any part of the bridge project will be located.

(4) **FINDING, DETERMINATION, AND ORDER.** After such hearing the department shall make such investigation as it considers necessary in order to make a decision in the matter. If the department finds that the construction is necessary it shall determine the location of the project and whether the project is eligible for construction under this section. The department shall also determine the character and kind of bridge most suitable for such location and estimate separately the cost of the bridge portion and the entire project. The department shall make its finding, determination, and order, in writing, and file a certified copy thereof with the

clerk of each county, city, village, and town in which any portion of the bridge project will be located and also with the secretary of state and the secretary of administration. The determination of the location of the project made by the department and set forth in its finding, determination, and order shall be conclusive as to such location and shall constitute full authority for laying out new streets or highways or for any relocations of highways made necessary for the construction of the project and for acquirement of any lands necessary for such streets or highways, relocation or construction. The estimate of cost made by the department shall be conclusive insofar as cost may determine eligibility of construction under this section.

(5m) APPORTIONMENT OF COST. The state shall pay one-third of the cost of projects constructed under sub. (1m), the county or counties in which the bridge project is located shall pay one-third, and the one or more cities, villages and towns in which any part of the bridge project is located shall pay one-third, except that to the extent discretionary federal aid for highways allocated to Wisconsin is used to finance any portion of the cost of the project, the portion of the cost to be borne by the state and any county, city, village or town, respectively, shall be proportionately reduced. The portion to be paid by the counties shall be borne equally by the counties in which the bridge project is located, except that no bridge project shall be considered as located within a county unless an entrance to the bridge proper is wholly or partly within the limits of that county. If a bridge project wholly within one county is located in more than one city, village or town, their respective portions of the cost shall be in proportion to their respective assessed valuations as last equalized by the county board prior to the date of the department's finding, determination and order. If such cities, villages or towns are located in more than one county, the portion of the cost paid by all cities, villages and towns shall first be apportioned equally according to the number of counties, and then to the cities, villages and towns in each county in proportion to their respective assessed valuations as provided in this subsection.

(5n) DESIGN-BUILD CONTRACTS. (a) In this subsection, "design-build contract" means a contract for a project under which the engineering, design and construction services are provided by a single entity.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section and ss. 84.01 (13) and 84.06 (2), the department may enter into a design-build contract for the design and construction of a bridge for which funding is provided under s. 84.11 (5), 1993 stats., and for which no contract for construction is awarded before May 1, 1999. The department may enter into a contract under this paragraph only if all of the following conditions are met:

1. The design-build contract is awarded through a competitive selection process that utilizes, at a minimum, contractor qualifications, quality, completion time and cost as award criteria. In order to be eligible to participate in the selection process, the contractor must be prequalified by the department as a design consultant and as a contractor.

2. The design-build contract is approved by the secretary of the federal department of transportation under an experimental program described under section 1307 (d) of P.L. 105–178 pursuant to the authority granted under section 1307 (e) of P.L. 105–178.

3. The design-build contract is approved by the governor.

(c) No later than 5 years after October 29, 1999, the department shall submit a report to the governor, and to the legislature under s. 13.172 (2), describing the effectiveness of the design-build process contracting procedures under this subsection.

(5r) MILWAUKEE 6TH STREET VIADUCT COST SHARING. Notwithstanding sub. (5m), the costs for any project governed by an agreement that is in effect before June 30, 1993, for which funding is provided under s. 84.11 (5), 1993 stats., and for which no contract for construction is awarded before May 1, 1999, shall be paid as specified in an agreement entered into on or after

April 20, 1999, by the city and county in which the bridge is wholly located and this state.

(6) PROVISION OF PORTIONS OF COSTS BY LOCAL UNITS. If the department makes a finding and determination favorable to the construction of any bridge project under this section, it shall issue an order to proceed with the project according to the priorities for projects established under sub. (1r). The governing body of each county, city, village and town required by the order to pay a portion of the cost of the project shall at its next regular or special meeting determine the method and initiate proceedings to provide such portion. Within 5 days after the adjournment of such meeting the governing body of any such city, village or town shall cause its clerk to certify the action of such governing body to the county clerk and the department. Within 5 days after the adjournment of such meeting of the county board the county clerk shall certify the action of the county board to the department. The governing body of any such county, city, village or town, in addition to the portion which it is by such order required to pay, and the governing body of any other county, city, village or town which will be especially benefited by the construction of such bridge may provide all or part of the portion which any county, city, village or town is by such order required to pay or which the state is required to pay.

(6a) COUNTY BOARD ACTION. If any city, village or town which is required by the order of the department to pay a portion of the cost of a bridge project under sub. (1m) fails to comply with sub. (6) and provide the portion of the cost which it is required to pay, or if the city, village or town does not hold a regular or special meeting within 30 days after the date of the department's finding, determination and order, the county board of the county in which the city, village or town is located may take action to provide such portion, and to assess all or part thereof against the city, village or town as a special tax, in one or more installments as the county board determines. The county clerk shall certify the tax or each installment of the tax to the clerk of the city, village or town, who shall place it in the next tax roll; and it shall be levied, collected and paid into the county treasury as are other county taxes.

(7m) EXECUTION AND CONTROL OF WORK. Subject to the control and supervision over the navigable waters of the state conferred by law upon the department of natural resources, and the control exercised by the United States, the construction under this section of any bridge project shall be wholly under the supervision and control of the department. The secretary shall make and execute all contracts and have complete supervision over all matters pertaining to such construction and shall have the power to suspend or discontinue proceedings or construction relative to any bridge project at any time in the event any county, city, village or town fails to pay the amount required of it as to any project under sub. (1m), or in the event the secretary determines that sufficient funds to pay the state's part of the cost of the bridge project are not available. All moneys provided by counties, cities, villages and towns shall be deposited in the state treasury, when required by the secretary, and paid out on order of the secretary. Any of such moneys deposited for a project eligible for construction under sub. (1m) which remain in the state treasury after the completion of the project shall be repaid to the respective counties, cities, villages and towns in such amounts as to result in the distribution provided in sub. (5m).

(8) MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION. The county, city, village or town in which a bridge project is located is responsible for the maintenance and operation of a bridge constructed under this section. Except as provided in a jurisdictional transfer agreement under s. 84.16, this subsection does not apply to a bridge constructed under this section before August 9, 1989.

(9) EXCEPTIONS. Nothing in this section prevents construction of a local bridge under other applicable programs.

History: 1971 c. 323 s. 27; 1973 c. 336 s. 78; 1975 c. 49; 1977 c. 29 ss. 940, 1654 (8) (a); 1981 c. 346; 1983 a. 27; 1989 a. 31; 1997 a. 252; 1999 a. 9; 2001 a. 103; 2003 a. 33.

Cross-reference: See also chs. NR 320 and Trans 215, Wis. adm. code.

84.115 Bridge in Door County. (1) Notwithstanding ss. 84.11 and 84.14, and subject to sub. (3) (b), the department shall construct a bridge in the city of Sturgeon Bay in Door County that connects upper Door County and lower Door County. Construction of the bridge shall commence not later than one year after July 27, 2005, and prior to reconstruction of the Michigan Street Bridge in the city of Sturgeon Bay in Door County.

(2) (a) In this subsection, “design–build procurement process” means a method of contracting for a project under which the engineering, design, and construction services are provided by a single private entity or consortium that is selected as part of a single bidding process for the project.

(b) Notwithstanding ss. 84.01 (13), 84.06 (2), and 84.11 (5n), the department may utilize a design–build procurement process for the project specified in sub. (1) if all of the following conditions are met:

1. The contract is awarded through a competitive selection process that utilizes, at a minimum, contractor qualifications, quality, completion time, and cost as award criteria. To be eligible to participate in the selection process, a bidder must have prior experience in design and construction and must be prequalified by the department as a design consultant and as a contractor.

2. The contract is approved by the appropriate federal authority if, in the judgment of the secretary, such approval is necessary for purposes relating to state eligibility for federal aid.

(3) (a) Notwithstanding s. 84.11 (5m), the bridge project specified in sub. (1) shall be funded only from the appropriations under s. 20.395 (3) (cq), (cv), and (cx).

(b) Door County shall contribute \$1,500,000 to fund its share of the costs of the bridge project specified in sub. (1). The city of Sturgeon Bay shall acquire lands necessary for rights–of–way and other purposes, and construct or reconstruct as necessary all highway approaches, associated with construction of the bridge specified in sub. (1), but shall not otherwise be required to contribute to the costs of the bridge project specified in sub. (1).

History: 2005 a. 25.

84.12 Interstate bridges. (1) **ELIGIBILITY.** All bridge projects which include bridges located over any state boundary waters shall be eligible to construction and reconstruction under this section, but such eligibility shall not require that any such project be constructed under this section exclusively or bar any eligible project from construction under any other provision of law that may be applicable. Projects shall include all approaches and embankments, all lands necessary for right–of–way or other purposes, and all other necessary appurtenances. Such bridge projects shall be classified as follows:

(a) Any bridge project not included in par. (b).

(b) Any bridge project so located as to form an interstate connection between the state trunk highway system of this state and the corresponding system of the adjoining state, and where such bridge and approach in the adjoining state is under the jurisdiction of the state highway department of the said state.

(2) **INITIATION OF PROCEEDINGS.** (a) *By county, city, village or town.* Proceedings under this section may be initiated by a petition filed with the department by any county, city, village or town in which a portion of the bridge project will be located. The petition shall state that the petitioner desires such construction and the approximate location thereof; and shall further state that, in the opinion of petitioner, such construction is necessary and is a bridge project eligible under this section. The petition shall be duly adopted by the governing body of the county, city, village or town and a certified copy of the petition, as adopted, shall be filed with the department.

(b) *By the department.* Proceedings under this section may also be initiated by the department on its own motion stating the approximate location of the construction and that it appears to be necessary and to be a bridge project eligible under this section.

(3) **HEARING, INVESTIGATION AND NEGOTIATIONS.** Within 60 days of the receipt of such a petition or on its own motion, the department shall fix a time and place for a hearing. The department shall give notice and hold the hearing in the manner provided by s. 84.11 (3). The department shall also give notice by registered letter addressed to the transportation department of the adjoining state and to the governing body of the county, and of the city, village or town of the adjoining state in which any portion of the bridge project will be located. The department may make such investigation as it deems necessary and conduct such negotiations with the transportation department and other authorities in the adjoining state as it deems advisable.

(4) **FINDING, DETERMINATION, AND ORDER.** If the department finds that the construction is necessary, and that provision has been made or will be made by the adjoining state or its subdivisions to bear its or their portions of the cost of the project, the department, in cooperation with the state highway department of the adjoining state, shall determine the location thereof, the character and kind of bridge and other construction most suitable at such location, estimate the cost of the project, and determine the respective portions of the estimated cost to be paid by each state and its subdivisions. In the case of projects eligible to construction under sub. (1) (a) the department shall further determine the respective portions of the cost to be paid by this state and by its subdivisions which are required to pay portions of the cost. The department, after such hearing, investigation, and negotiations, shall make its finding, determination, and order in writing and file a certified copy thereof with the clerk of each county, city, village, or town in this state in which any part of the bridge project will be located, with the secretary of state, and the secretary of administration and with the state highway department of the adjoining state. The determination of the location set forth in the finding, determination, and order of the department shall be conclusive as to such location and shall constitute full authority for laying out new streets or highways or for any relocations of the highways made necessary for the construction of the project and for acquiring lands necessary for such streets or highways, relocation or construction.

(5) **APPORTIONMENT OF COST.** The portion of the cost of such project to be paid by this state and its subdivisions shall be borne as follows:

(a) The cost of projects eligible to construction under sub. (1) (a) to be borne by this state and its subdivisions shall be borne by the state and the counties, cities, villages and towns in which any part of the project in this state will be located in the manner and proportion provided by s. 84.11 (5) (a) and (am), 1987 stats.

(b) The cost of projects eligible to construction under sub. (1) (b), to be borne by this state and its subdivisions shall be borne by the state; provided that such cost may be shared in the manner and proportion provided in s. 84.11 (5) (b), 1987 stats., by the one or more counties, cities, villages and towns in which any part of the bridge project in this state will be located and by the application and matching of federal aid in the manner and proportion provided in s. 84.11 (5) (b), 1987 stats.

(6) **PROVISION OF COSTS BY LOCAL UNITS.** When the department has made and filed its finding, determination and order favorable to the construction of any bridge project under this section, the governing body of each county, city, village and town of this state required by the order to pay a portion of the cost, in the case of bridge projects eligible to construction under sub. (1) (a), shall take action at its next regular or special meeting to arrange to provide such portion. Within 5 days after the adjournment of such meeting the clerk of the governing body of the city, village or town shall certify the action of the governing body to the county clerk and the department. Within 5 days after the adjournment of such meeting of the county board the clerk shall certify the action of the county board to the department. In the case of projects eligible to construction under sub. (1) (b), when the department shall have made and filed its finding, determination and order favorable

to such construction, the governing body of each county, city, village and town in which any part of the bridge project in this state will be located shall take action at its next meeting to determine what amount, if any, shall be offered and paid toward such construction and to arrange to provide any amount so determined upon. Such action shall be certified to the department within 5 days after any such meeting.

(7) **EXECUTION AND CONTROL OF WORK.** Subject to the control and supervision over the navigable waters of the state conferred upon the department of natural resources, and the control exercised by the United States, the construction under this section of any bridge project shall be under the joint supervision and control of the department and of the transportation department of the other state concerned. If the transportation department of the other state is not authorized to act jointly with this state in such bridge project arrangements may be made with such subdivisions of the other state as may have proper authority, represented by their proper officers. Control shall be exercised in the manner deemed most expedient by the secretary and such department or by the secretary and the officers of the subdivisions of the other state concerned in the construction. Contracts for the construction of said bridge projects may be made and executed by the secretary and the transportation department of the other state jointly, or jointly by the secretary and such subdivisions of the other state as may participate in the construction, or by appropriate agreement between the parties with respect to financing and control of the work, the authority of either state may contract for all or part of the construction. The secretary may suspend or discontinue proceedings or construction relative to any bridge project at any time in the event any county, city, village or town fails to pay the amount required of it as to any project eligible to construction under sub. (1) (a) or offered by it as to any project eligible to construction under sub. (1) (b), or in the event the secretary determines that sufficient funds to pay the state's part of the cost of the bridge project are not available. All moneys available from this state, or its subdivisions, shall be deposited in the state treasury when required by the secretary and shall be paid out only upon the order of the secretary. Moneys deposited by such subdivisions which remain in the state treasury after the completion of such project shall be repaid to the respective subdivisions in the proportion paid in.

(8) **CONNECTION WITH STATE TRUNK HIGHWAY SYSTEM.** To carry out this section the department may add to the state trunk highway system any bridge constructed or purchased under this section, and any road or street eligible to become a portion of the state trunk highway system, which will form the most reasonable and practical connection from such bridge to the state trunk highway system. In such cases limitations on the total mileage included in the state trunk highway system shall not apply.

(9) **CONSTRUCTION OF INTERSTATE TOLL FACILITIES.** Adjoining states may construct toll facilities, including bridges and land crossings over any state boundary waters, under the following terms and conditions:

(a) The bridge construction authority or the state highway authority of the adjoining state shall petition the secretary that such toll bridge construction is necessary because the petitioning state lacks funds sufficient to join with this state in equally sharing the costs of a free bridge. The secretary shall thereupon cause a thorough investigation of the matter to be made including without limitation by enumeration: the suitability and advisability of any proposed location, the financial limitations of the adjoining state and the economic effect of the proposed bridge upon the economy and welfare of this state. The department shall hold a public hearing and give notice thereof by registered letter addressed to the transportation department of the adjoining state and to the governing body of the county, city, village or town of this state and the adjoining state in which any part of the bridge project is proposed to be located. The department shall also publish a class 3 notice, under ch. 985, in the official state newspaper of this state.

(b) The department shall within 60 days after the conclusion of such hearing submit a full report of findings and conclusions to

the secretary of transportation and the governor. Such findings and conclusions may be based on evidence secured by the department in any form and is not limited to facts determined from evidence at the public hearing mentioned above. If it is determined that it is in the best interest of the economy and welfare of the state that such bridge be constructed at a location agreeable to the department and the highway department of the adjoining state, and such determination is approved by the secretary of transportation and the governor, the following is authorized:

1. The department is authorized to acquire all necessary lands within this state and build, construct and maintain necessary approaches to the bridge within this state;

2. The department is authorized to make contributions or commitments out of funds available for highway construction in Wisconsin. Contributions shall not exceed 50 percent of the total costs of the toll facility, but shall only be made if the findings of the department, as approved by the secretary of transportation and the governor that such contributions are for the best interests of the economy and welfare of this state.

3. The toll bridge shall be exempt from all taxes assessed by this state.

4. All findings and conclusions approved by the secretary of transportation and governor shall be published by a class 1 notice, under ch. 985, in the official state newspaper. The findings and conclusions shall not be subject to administrative review under ch. 227 and shall only be set aside if it is determined by a court of competent jurisdiction that there is not substantial evidence to sustain the decision of the department as approved by the secretary of transportation and the governor. Action to contest the decision shall be commenced no later than 30 days after the date of publication thereof.

History: 1973 c. 336 s. 78; 1977 c. 29 ss. 941, 1654 (8) (a), 1656 (43); 1989 a. 31; 1993 a. 490; 2003 a. 33.

Cross-reference: See also ch. NR 320, Wis. adm. code.

84.13 Purchase of toll bridges. (1) Any toll bridge eligible to be reconstructed as a free bridge under s. 84.11 or 84.12 may be purchased under such section and made a free bridge, and the procedure in such case, so far as applicable, shall be the same as for the construction or reconstruction of bridges. If the department is unable to agree with the owners of such toll bridge as to purchase price, the toll bridge may be condemned by exercising the right of eminent domain under ch. 32. Any toll bridge so purchased or acquired may be later reconstructed under this chapter in the same manner as other free bridges may be reconstructed.

(2) The department may enter into and consummate agreements with the United States for the acquisition by the United States and subsequent transfer to this state of such toll bridge as provided by 5 Stat. 4071, 23 USC 129, as subsequently amended or supplemented from time to time. Any toll bridge so acquired may be later reconstructed under this chapter in the same manner as other free bridges may be reconstructed.

History: 1977 c. 29 ss. 942, 1654 (8) (b); 1981 c. 347 s. 80 (2); 1993 a. 16.

84.135 Purchase of interstate toll bridges. (1) The legislature intends by the enactment of this section to provide a means for the ultimate conversion of interstate toll bridges located in part in this state to free bridges. Where any portion of an interstate toll bridge on a route of a state trunk highway is located outside this state, it may be acquired pursuant to the provisions of this section in lieu of the methods of acquisition provided in s. 84.13.

(2) The department, on its own initiative or upon petition adopted by a majority vote of the governing body of a county, town, city or village, may acquire such bridge by purchase or by exercising the right of eminent domain in such court as may have jurisdiction thereof and in accordance with the laws applicable thereto; or, with the consent and approval of the department, and on such terms and conditions as it may prescribe, such right of eminent domain may be exercised by the county, city or other political subdivision in which any part of such interstate toll bridge is located and revenue bonds for the acquisition of such

bridge out of tolls may be issued in accordance with the statutes relating to municipal borrowing insofar as the same may be applicable. In acquiring such bridge the department, county, town, city or village may proceed as provided by ch. 32.

(3) Such bridge may be acquired by the department subject to an agreement whereby all or part of the acquisition cost will be advanced to or later paid to the state by a county, town, city or village in which any part of such bridge is located, from the proceeds of revenue bonds or other source, and the department will convey the bridge to such political subdivision. Pursuant to such agreement, such bridge shall be maintained and operated by such political subdivision from the date it is acquired by the state.

(4) If, under the provisions of this section, any bridge is acquired by, or conveyed by the department to a county, town, city or village, such political subdivision shall maintain and operate the same under the direction of the department, charging such tolls as may be fixed by the department. Such tolls shall be used for the maintenance, repair and operation of such bridge and to repay, or provide a sinking fund sufficient to amortize, within a period of not to exceed 20 years from the date of acquisition thereof, the acquisition cost of such bridge, including reasonable interest and financing costs, paid by such political subdivision. After such cost has been repaid, or a sinking fund sufficient for such amortization has been so provided, title to such bridge shall revert to the state and the bridge shall thereafter be maintained and operated by the department free of tolls, as part of the state trunk highway system.

(5) Any acquisition costs incurred by the state pursuant to this section shall be paid from any funds available for the improvement of state trunk highways and connecting highways.

(6) Any such bridge may be acquired, operated, maintained and reconstructed in cooperation with an adjoining state or municipality thereof.

History: 1977 c. 29 s. 1654 (3), (8) (a).

84.14 Bridge construction. (1) **ORDER OF CONSTRUCTION.** The department shall hold hearings on proposed bridge projects under ss. 84.11 and 84.12 in the order in which they are initiated. The secretary shall allot aid for the construction, reconstruction or purchase of bridges and the department may undertake such projects in the order the secretary deems advisable.

(3) **PARTICIPATION IN TOWN BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION.** Whenever any municipality has participated in the cost of the construction, reconstruction, or purchase of a bridge under s. 84.11 or 84.12, the property in such municipality shall thereafter be subject to taxation by the county for the construction and repair of bridges within the county under s. 82.08.

(4) **LEGALITY OF PROCEEDINGS HERETOFORE HAD.** All bridges constructed, reconstructed or purchased pursuant to proceedings initiated by petitions filed with the highway commission prior to September 25, 1929, or by the highway commission on its own motion, under s. 87.02, 1927 stats., s. 87.03, 1927 stats., s. 87.04, 1927 stats., s. 87.05, 1927 stats., or s. 87.055, 1927 stats., as those sections existed prior to September 25, 1929, shall be construed to have been constructed, reconstructed or purchased under s. 84.11 or 84.12, and shall be operated and maintained as provided by s. 84.15.

History: 1977 c. 29; 1983 a. 36; 1987 a. 403 s. 256; 2003 a. 214.

NOTE: 2003 Wis. Act 214, which affected this section, contains extensive explanatory notes.

84.15 Bridges. (1) **MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF INTRASTATE BRIDGES.** Except as provided in a jurisdictional transfer agreement under s. 84.16, all matters relating to the maintenance and operation of bridges constructed, reconstructed or purchased under s. 84.11 before August 9, 1989, shall be under the jurisdiction and complete control of the department and the cost of such maintenance and operation thereof shall be the direct obligation of the state. Such portion of the approaches as may be determined by the department shall be considered a part of such bridge for

maintenance and operation purposes. The portion of the approaches or highway not considered a part of such bridge for maintenance and operation purposes as determined by the department shall be maintained by the town, city or village in which it lies but this provision shall not diminish or otherwise affect the duty of the county with respect to the county trunk highways or the state with respect to the state trunk highways. Authority is given the department to carry fire or tornado insurance, or both, on bridges where such hazard exists and the premium on such insurance shall be included as a portion of such maintenance and operation costs.

(2) **ACROSS BAY OF GREAT LAKES.** In the case of any intrastate bridge built across a bay of any of the Great Lakes, the maintenance under sub. (1) shall be deemed to include repair or reconstruction necessitated by any accidental damage done to such bridge by vessels using such bay, or some other catastrophe, in which event the department may use for such repair or reconstruction moneys available for the construction of such bridges.

(3) **INTERSTATE BRIDGES, WISCONSIN'S SHARE.** The provisions of this section shall also apply to all interstate bridges constructed, reconstructed or purchased under s. 84.12; and the term "bridge" as used in sub. (1) means Wisconsin's portion of such interstate bridges.

History: 1977 c. 29 s. 1654 (8) (a); 1989 a. 31.

84.16 Jurisdictional transfers of bridges. (1) The department may transfer its jurisdiction over bridges constructed, reconstructed or purchased under s. 84.11 before August 9, 1989, or under s. 84.12 to any local unit of government by entering into a jurisdictional transfer agreement with the local unit of government. Deletion of any part of the state trunk highway system under this section may be made without regard to any mileage limitation or procedural requirement imposed under s. 84.02 or chapter 518, laws of 1947.

(2) The jurisdictional transfer agreement must be approved by the department and the governing body of any municipality or county board involved before the transfer of any bridge becomes effective.

(3) A jurisdictional transfer agreement may contain any terms and conditions that the department and the local unit of government may deem necessary regarding maintenance or rehabilitation of any bridge transferred.

History: 1989 a. 31.

84.17 Bridge inspection and inventory. (1) In this section:

(a) "Highway" means all public ways and thoroughfares specified in s. 340.01 (22).

(b) "Highway bridge" means a bridge on a highway in this state which crosses waterways, other topographical barriers, other highways or railroads.

(c) "Rehabilitating" means making major repairs necessary to restore the structural integrity of a highway bridge or making repairs necessary to correct a major safety defect.

(2) The department shall conduct an inspection and inventory of all highway bridges on the highways in this state. The inspection and inventory of local highway bridges shall be done in consultation with local authorities. The department shall complete the inspection and inventory required under this subsection prior to July 1, 1979, if it is practicable to do so, and in any case prior to December 31, 1980, and shall submit the inspection and inventory report to the federal government in accordance with the provisions of 23 USC 144. The inspection and inventory shall include all highway bridges on any highway in the state. The department shall classify each highway bridge according to its safety, serviceability and necessity for public use and shall determine the cost of rehabilitating the highway bridge or of replacing the highway bridge with a comparable facility. The department shall adopt standards for the highway bridge inspection and inventory program under this subsection.

(3) After the initial inspection and inventory under sub. (2) is completed, all highway bridges in the state shall be inspected on a continuing basis as determined by the department. The department shall establish standards for the continuing inspection program. The responsibility for the continuing inspection program shall be as follows:

(a) The department shall be responsible for inspecting the highway bridges on the state trunk highway system.

(b) Local authorities and other authorities shall be responsible for inspecting highway bridges on highways under their jurisdictions.

History: 1979 c. 7.

Cross-reference: See also ch. [Trans 212](#), Wis. adm. code.

84.18 Local bridge program. (1) **PURPOSE.** The local bridge program is created to accelerate the reconstruction or rehabilitation of seriously deteriorating local bridges.

(2) **DEFINITIONS.** In this section:

(a) “Coordinating agency” means the county which coordinates the submission of applications from eligible applicants within the county to the department.

(b) “Eligible applicant” means county, city, village, town or combination thereof.

(c) “Entitlement” means the amount of aids a coordinating agency will be eligible to receive under this section as determined under sub. (5).

(d) “Local bridge” means a bridge which is not on the state trunk highway system or on marked routes of the state trunk highway system designated as connecting highways.

(e) “Local bridge project” means a project for the design and construction or rehabilitation of a seriously deteriorating local bridge and minimum approaches.

(f) “Seriously deteriorating local bridge” means a local bridge exhibiting deficiencies that meet the criteria established by the department.

(3) **ADMINISTRATION.** The department shall administer a local bridge program which provides an entitlement of funds to the coordinating agency for the reconstruction or rehabilitation of seriously deteriorating local bridges. The department shall provide the same percentage of the cost of a local bridge project as the percent established under [23 USC 144](#) (f).

(4) **APPLICATIONS.** Any eligible applicant may apply to the coordinating agency for funds under this section. A separate application is required for each local bridge project. The application shall describe the specific local bridge project for which funds are to be used. The department shall prescribe the form, nature and extent of information to be contained in the application.

(5) **DETERMINATION OF ENTITLEMENT.** The department shall determine the entitlement to the coordinating agency based upon the ratio between the estimated cost of reconstructing or rehabilitating seriously deteriorating local bridges in that county and the estimated cost of reconstructing or rehabilitating the seriously deteriorating local bridges in the state which are eligible under this section, exclusive of any bridge that is programmed for construction under an order by the department under s. [84.11](#) (4). The estimated cost of reconstructing or rehabilitating the seriously deteriorating local bridges in the state and individual counties shall be based upon those bridges identified in the inventory of bridges made under s. [84.17](#).

(6) **EXECUTION AND CONTROL OF WORK.** Subject to s. [30.2022](#) and the control exercised by the United States, the construction under this section of any local bridge project shall be wholly under the supervision and control of the department. The secretary shall make and execute all contracts and have complete supervision over all matters pertaining to such construction and shall have the power to suspend or discontinue proceedings or construction relative to any bridge project at any time in the event any county, city, village or town fails to pay the amount required of it for any project eligible for construction under this section, or if the secretary

determines that sufficient funds to pay the state’s part of the cost of such bridge project are not available. All moneys provided by counties, cities, villages and towns shall be deposited in the state treasury, when required by the secretary, and paid out on order of the secretary. Any of the moneys deposited for a project eligible for construction under this section which remain in the state treasury after the completion of the project shall be repaid to the respective county, city, village or town in proportion to the amount each deposited.

(7) **RULES.** The department shall adopt rules to implement this section.

(8) **EXCEPTIONS.** Nothing in this section prevents any of the following:

(a) Construction or rehabilitation projects under other bridge programs if applicable.

(b) The sharing of the cost under s. [82.08](#) to fund the local share of a local bridge project.

History: 1981 c. 20, 314; 1989 a. 31; 2003 a. 118; 2023 a. 162.

Cross-reference: See also ch. [Trans 213](#), Wis. adm. code.

Section 82.08 does not allow a town to apply for funds from a county for the remaining cost of a bridge project after funds under this section have already been obtained for the project. Read together, the statutes do not permit a town to participate in both programs because they have conflicting requirements for which entity supervises the project. [OAG 1–23](#).

84.185 Transportation facilities economic assistance and development. (1) **DEFINITIONS.** In this section:

(a) “Business” means a company located in this state, a company that has made a firm commitment to locate a facility in this state, or a group of companies at least 80 percent of which are located in this state.

(am) “Economic development project” means a business development that directly retains jobs or increases the number of jobs in this state.

(b) “Governing body” means a county board, city council, village board, town board, regional planning commission or transit commission under s. [59.58](#) (2) or [66.1021](#).

(bm) “Grant ceiling” means the department’s maximum financial participation in an improvement.

(c) “Improvement” includes construction, reconstruction and the activities, operations and processes incidental to building, fabricating or bettering a transportation facility, but not maintaining or operating a transportation facility.

(ce) “Job” means a position providing full-time equivalent employment. “Job” does not include initial training before an employment position begins.

(cm) “Political subdivision” means a county, city, town, or village.

(d) “Transportation facility” means any of the following:

1. A highway as defined in s. [340.01](#) (22).

2. A runway, taxiway or apron of an airport as defined in s. [114.002](#) (7).

3. A harbor improvement as defined in s. [85.095](#) (1) (b).

4. Rail property consisting of an industrial lead, spur, team track property or trackside intermodal transfer facility.

5. A segment of railroad track, if the conditions under sub. (2) (c) are met.

(2) **APPROVAL OF IMPROVEMENTS.** (a) The secretary may approve the improvement of a transportation facility under this section if the improvement is a component of an economic development project.

(b) The secretary may approve an improvement under this section only after determining all of the following:

1. Whether the improvement is a justified transportation need. An improvement qualifies as a justified transportation need only when the secretary determines that the costs of the improvement are substantially balanced by significant transportation benefits resulting from the improvement.

2. The cost of the improvement.

3. The ratio of the cost of the improvement to the number of jobs retained or created in this state resulting directly from the improvement or economic development project.

4. The number of jobs which the improvement or economic development project will cause to be retained or increased in this state.

5. Whether the political subdivision will contribute, from funds not provided by this state, not less than 50 percent of the cost of the improvement.

6. The value of the expenditures required for local infrastructure relating to the improvement.

7. Whether the improvement is compatible and complementary to other transportation facilities and improvements in the political subdivision.

8. Whether the improvement serves a public purpose.

9. Whether the improvement is unlikely to be made without assistance under this section.

10. Whether the improvement will be located in an area of high unemployment or low average income.

11. Whether the improvement will contribute to the economic growth of this state and the well-being of the residents of this state.

12. Whether a business that would be helped by an improvement is financially sound.

14. Whether the improvement would have a significant negative impact on other businesses.

(c) The secretary may approve the relocation of a segment of railroad track as an improvement of a transportation facility if the land on which the track lies is necessary for the expansion or continued operation of an existing business facility and the conditions under pars. (a) and (b) are met.

(3) DEPARTMENT SHARE. (a) When awarding a grant under this section, the department shall establish a grant ceiling. Except as provided in par. (b) 2., the grant ceiling shall not be amended after the secretary has approved an application for funding. Except as provided in par. (b), the grant ceiling shall be the lesser of the following:

1. 50 percent of the anticipated cost of the improvement.

2. Five thousand dollars for each job retained or created in this state resulting directly from the improvement or economic development project.

(b) 1. If the secretary finds that special circumstances exist, the secretary may increase the grant ceiling determined under par. (a).

2. The secretary may increase the grant ceiling determined under par. (a) by \$50,000 if the secretary determines that all of the following apply:

a. The improvement includes the construction, expansion or rehabilitation of a rail spur or other facility related to railroads.

b. The applicant demonstrates that the improvement will result in a reduction in the amount of motor truck traffic entering or exiting the area or community in which the improvement is located.

c. The department received the application for assistance under this section before April 27, 1998, and either the improvement was not completed by that date or not all reimbursements under this section were made by that date.

3. The department may reduce the grant ceiling determined under par. (a) for any reason, including the following:

a. The grant ceiling determined under par. (a) is based on 50 percent of the anticipated cost of the improvement and would result in a grant exceeding \$1 million.

b. Grants for all eligible applications would exceed available funds.

(3m) REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS. The department shall accept, review, and make determinations on applications for assistance under this section on a continuing, year-round basis. The depart-

ment shall make a determination on each application for assistance under this section within a reasonable time after its receipt by the department.

(4) RULES. The department shall promulgate rules establishing criteria for making determinations under this section. The rules shall include criteria to rank projects and make competitive selections, and criteria and procedures for the repayment of loans made under sub. (6m).

(6m) ADMINISTRATION. From the appropriations under s. 20.395 (2) (iq), (iv) and (ix), upon the approval of the secretary under sub. (2), the department may make improvements to or provide other assistance for the improvement of a transportation facility under sub. (1) (d) 1. to 3. or provide other assistance for the improvement of a transportation facility under sub. (1) (d) 4. or 5. The department may make loans from the appropriations under s. 20.395 (2) (iq) and (iw) for the improvement of a transportation facility. The state share of costs for the improvement of a transportation facility, including any loans made under this subsection for the improvement of the transportation facility, may not exceed 50 percent of the cost of the improvement.

(7m) AGREEMENTS. The department may enter into agreements with a governing body or private source, or both, respecting the financing of an improvement under this section.

(8m) EXCEPTION. Nothing in this section prevents the improvement of a transportation facility under other applicable provisions.

(8r) ETHANOL PRODUCTION FACILITIES. The department may not make a grant under this section after July 27, 2005, for an improvement related to an economic development project that involves the construction of an ethanol production facility, unless the department determines a competitive bidding process is used for the construction of the ethanol production facility.

(9) EXCLUSION OF PRIVATE ROADS. No private road or driveway, as defined in s. 340.01 (46), may be improved under this section.

History: 1987 a. 27; 1989 a. 31; 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 16; 1997 a. 237; 2001 a. 109; 2005 a. 25; 2007 a. 20; 2011 a. 32; 2019 a. 63.

Cross-reference: See also ch. Trans 510, Wis. adm. code.

84.20 State repair and maintenance of highways and streets.

Damage to any county trunk or town highway or city or village street caused by reason of its use as a detour designated by the department or for hauling materials incident to the maintenance, repair or construction by the department of any state trunk highway or street over which a state trunk highway is routed, shall be repaired by the department. Such highway or street shall also be maintained by the department during such use. Subject to s. 86.255, the cost of such repairs and maintenance shall be paid from funds appropriated and available to the department for the maintenance and improvement of state trunk highways and connecting highways under s. 20.395 (3).

History: 1973 c. 333 s. 201w; 1977 c. 29 ss. 1654 (3), (6) (b), (8) (a), 1656 (43); 1999 a. 9.

84.25 Controlled-access highways. (1) AUTHORITY OF DEPARTMENT; PROCEDURE.

The legislature declares that the effective control of traffic entering upon or leaving intensively traveled highways is necessary in the interest of public safety, convenience and the general welfare. The department is authorized to designate as controlled-access highways the rural portions of the state trunk system on which, after traffic engineering surveys, investigations and studies, it shall find, determine and declare that the average traffic potential is in excess of 2,000 vehicles per 24-hour day. Such designation of a portion of any state trunk highway in any county as a controlled-access highway shall not be effected until after a public hearing in the matter has been held in the county courthouse or other convenient public place within the county following notice by publication of a class 3 notice, under ch. 985, in a newspaper published in the county. If the department shall then find that the average traffic potential is as provided by this subsection, and that the designation of the highway as a controlled-ac-

cess highway is necessary in the interest of public safety, convenience and the general welfare, it shall make its finding, determination and declaration to that effect, specifying the character of the controls to be exercised. Copies of the finding, determination and declaration shall be recorded with the register of deeds, and filed with the county clerk, and published as a class 1 notice, under ch. 985, in the newspaper in which the notice of hearing was published, and the order shall be effective on such publication. Not more than 1,500 miles of highway shall be designated as controlled–access highways under authority of this section.

(2) CONTROLLED–ACCESS HIGHWAY DEFINED. For the purposes of this section, a controlled–access highway is a highway on which the traffic is such that the department has found, determined and declared it to be necessary, in the interest of the public safety, convenience and the general welfare to prohibit entrance upon and departure from the highway or street except at places specially designated and provided for such purposes, and to exercise special controls over traffic on such highway or street.

(3) CONSTRUCTION; OTHER POWERS OF DEPARTMENT. In order to provide for the public safety, convenience and the general welfare, the department may use an existing highway or provide new and additional facilities for a controlled–access highway and so design the same and its appurtenances, and so regulate, restrict or prohibit access to or departure from it as the department deems necessary or desirable. The department may eliminate intersections at grade of controlled–access highways with existing highways or streets, by grade separation or service road, or by closing off such roads and streets at the right–of–way boundary line of such controlled–access highway and may divide and separate any controlled–access highway into separate roadways or lanes by raised curbs, dividing sections or other physical separations or by signs, markers, stripes or other suitable devices, and may execute any construction necessary in the development of a controlled–access highway including service roads or separation of grade structures.

(4) CONNECTIONS BY OTHER HIGHWAYS. After the establishment of any controlled–access highway, no street or highway or private driveway, shall be opened into or connected with any controlled–access highway without the previous consent and approval of the department in writing, which shall be given only if the public interest shall be served thereby and shall specify the terms and conditions on which such consent and approval is given.

(5) USE OF HIGHWAY. No person shall have any right of entrance upon or departure from or travel across any controlled–access highway, or to or from abutting lands except at places designated and provided for such purposes, and on such terms and conditions as may be specified from time to time by the department.

(6) ABUTTING OWNERS. After the designation of a controlled–access highway, the owners or occupants of abutting lands shall have no right or easement of access, by reason of the fact that their property abuts on the controlled–access highway or for other reason, except only the controlled right of access and of light, air or view.

(7) SPECIAL CROSSING PERMITS. Whenever property held under one ownership is severed by a controlled–access highway, the department may permit a crossing at a designated location, to be used solely for travel between the severed parcels, and such use shall cease if such parcels pass into separate ownership.

(8) RIGHT–OF–WAY. Any lands or other private or public property or interest in such property needed to carry out the purposes of this section may be acquired by the department in the manner provided in s. 84.09.

(9) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS. To facilitate the purposes of this section, the department and the governing bodies of a city, county, town or village are authorized to enter into agreements with each other or with the federal government respecting the financing, planning, establishment, improvement, maintenance,

use, regulation or vacation of controlled–access highways or other public ways in their respective jurisdictions.

(10) LOCAL SERVICE ROADS. In connection with the development of any controlled–access highway, the department and county, city, town or village highway authorities are authorized to plan, designate, establish, use, regulate, alter, improve, maintain, or vacate local service roads and streets or to designate as local service roads and streets any existing roads or streets, and to exercise jurisdiction over local service roads in the same manner as is authorized over controlled–access highways under the provisions of this section, if, in their opinion, such local service roads or streets shall serve the necessary purposes.

(11) COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISES. No commercial enterprise, except a vending facility which is licensed by the department of workforce development and operated by blind or visually impaired persons, or a commercial enterprise exempted from this subsection by an agreement under s. 84.01 (30) (g), shall be authorized or conducted within or on property acquired for or designated as a controlled–access highway.

(12) UNLAWFUL USE OF HIGHWAY; PENALTIES. It shall be unlawful for any person to drive any vehicle into or from a controlled–access highway except through an opening provided for that purpose. Any person who violates this provision shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$100 or by imprisonment for not more than 30 days, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

(13) VACATING. A controlled–access highway shall remain such until vacated by order of the department. The discontinuance of all state trunk highway routings over a highway established as a controlled–access highway shall summarily vacate the controlled–access status of such section of highway only after a traffic engineer survey investigation and study finds, determines and declares that the vacating of the controlled–access status is in the public interest. Such vacating shall not be effected until after a public hearing is held in the county courthouse or other convenient place within the county, following notice by publication under sub. (1). The department shall record formal notice of any vacation of a controlled–access highway with the register of deeds of the county wherein such highway lies. When the county board, or county boards in the case of boundary line roads, by resolution enacted and filed with the department prior to the vacating of a controlled–access by the department, requests that the controlled–access highway be continued pursuant to s. 83.027, then and thereafter all authority established by s. 83.027 shall be in effect with respect to such controlled–access highway, except that the county need not comply with s. 83.027 (1), and the department shall be relieved of any further authority for such controlled–access highway.

History: 1977 c. 29 s. 1654 (8) (a); 1987 a. 258; 1993 a. 490; 1995 a. 27 ss. 3520, 9130 (4); 1997 a. 3; 1999 a. 9.

This section does not mean that once access is granted it may not be taken away. Estoppel is seldom applied against a government and would not be justified under the facts. *Surety Savings & Loan Ass'n v. State*, 54 Wis. 2d 438, 195 N.W.2d 464 (1972).

Sub. (3) authorizes the Department of Transportation to change access to a highway designated as controlled access in whatever way it deems “necessary or desirable.” In controlled–access highway cases, abutting property owners are precluded from compensation for a change in access under s. 32.09 (6) (b) as a matter of law. However, exercises of the police power cannot deprive the owner of all or substantially all beneficial use of the property without compensation. If the replacement access is so circuitous as to amount to a regulatory taking of the property, compensation is due and the abutting property owner may bring an inverse condemnation claim under s. 32.10. Provision of some access preserves the abutting property owner’s controlled right of access to the property. Reasonableness is not the standard to apply to determine if compensation is due under s. 32.09 (6) (b). *Hoffer Properties, LLC v. DOT*, 2016 WI 5, 366 Wis. 2d 372, 874 N.W.2d 533, 12–2520.

By allowing the Department of Transportation (DOT) to designate an existing highway “controlled–access” and to thereafter “regulate, restrict or prohibit access to or departure from it as the department deems necessary or desirable,” sub. (3) grants DOT broad control over the entire portion of the existing highway that has been designated “controlled–access,” including placement and replacement of access points. Because elimination of direct access points is a means of restricting or prohibiting access, it cannot be correct that the statute does not grant DOT authority to eliminate an owner’s direct access points. *Hoffer Properties, LLC v. DOT*, 2016 WI 5, 366 Wis. 2d 372, 874 N.W.2d 533, 12–2520.

Under sub. (1), it is the designation of a highway as “controlled–access” that must be “necessary in the interest of public safety, convenience and the general welfare” and that is an exercise of the police power. The designation as “controlled–access”

serves as a precondition for the operation of the other subsections of this section. These subsections grant the Department of Transportation expansive powers after a proper designation of “controlled-access,” including authority over how the general public and abutting property owners access the highway. Once the highway has been designated “controlled-access,” the department may change the access points in whatever way it “deems necessary or desirable.” *Hoffer Properties, LLC v. DOT*, 2016 WI 5, 366 Wis. 2d 372, 874 N.W.2d 533, 12–2520.

The phrase “from time to time” in sub. (5) indicates that the legislature enabled the Department of Transportation to periodically change the terms and conditions by which any person—abutter or otherwise—has access to a controlled-access highway. Replacing direct access with a more circuitous route is inarguably a change of the “terms and conditions” by which an abutter is allowed to enter the highway. *Hoffer Properties, LLC v. DOT*, 2016 WI 5, 366 Wis. 2d 372, 874 N.W.2d 533, 12–2520.

Sub. (6) eliminates an abutting property owner’s right to compensation under s. 32.09 (6) (b) for a change to existing access at the moment the Department of Transportation designates the highway “controlled-access.” Replacement access that results in a circuitous route rather than a direct one is a lawful—if regrettable—result of controlling access. *Hoffer Properties, LLC v. DOT*, 2016 WI 5, 366 Wis. 2d 372, 874 N.W.2d 533, 12–2520.

84.27 Institution roads. The department may administer a program to improve highways forming convenient connections between the University of Wisconsin System and state charitable or penal institutions, and the state trunk highway system, or to construct roadways under or over state trunk highways that pass through the grounds thereof, or to construct and maintain all drives and roadways on such grounds or the grounds of the state capitol. Within the limitations and for the purposes of this section, work may be performed by or under the supervision or authority of the department, upon the request for such work filed by the board of regents of the University of Wisconsin System or the state boards, commissions, departments or officers, respectively, as to such work in connection with the institution controlled by them. The cost of any work under this section shall be the responsibility of the board of regents of the University of Wisconsin System or the state boards, commissions, departments or officers involved.

History: 1971 c. 100 s. 23; 1973 c. 243 s. 82; 1977 c. 29 ss. 1654 (8) (b), 1656 (43); 1979 c. 34 s. 2102 (52) (a); 1981 c. 20.

84.28 State park, forest and riverway roads. (1) Moneys from the appropriations under s. 20.370 (7) (mc) and (mr) may be expended for the renovation, marking, and maintenance of a town or county highway located within the boundaries of any state park, state forest, or other property under the jurisdiction of the department of natural resources. Moneys from the appropriations under s. 20.370 (7) (mc) and (mr) may be expended for the renovation, marking, and maintenance of a town or county highway located in the lower Wisconsin state riverway as defined in s. 30.40 (15). Outside the lower Wisconsin state riverway as defined in s. 30.40 (15), or outside the boundaries of these parks, forests, or property, moneys from the appropriations under s. 20.370 (7) (mc) and (mr) may be expended for the renovation, marking, and maintenance of roads that the department of natural resources certifies are utilized by a substantial number of visitors to state parks, state forests, or other property under the jurisdiction of the department of natural resources. The department of natural resources shall authorize expenditures under this subsection. The department of natural resources shall rank projects eligible for assistance under a priority system and funding may be restricted to those projects with highest priority. In ranking projects, the department of natural resources shall consider whether the project is for the renovation, marking, or maintenance of roads used for forestry management on property under the jurisdiction of the department of natural resources.

(2) The department may administer a program for the construction, maintenance and marking of roads, including fire roads, service areas, trailer or vehicle parking stalls or parking areas and other facilities consistent with highway construction and for the marking of scenic routes in the state parks, state forests, the lower Wisconsin state riverway as defined under s. 30.40 (15), state fish hatcheries, other public used areas under the jurisdiction of the department of natural resources and other public lands as defined in ch. 24, for highways or fire roads leading from the most convenient state trunk highways to such lands, and for the relocation and construction of state trunk highways in or near state parks when required in the interests of public safety. Within the limitations

and for the purposes of this section, work may be performed by or under the supervision or authority or with the approval of the department, upon the request for such work filed by the department of natural resources as to the lower Wisconsin state riverway, as defined in s. 30.40 (15), or as to state park or forest lands, or by the board of commissioners of the public lands as to other classes of public lands. Outside the lower Wisconsin state riverway, as defined in s. 30.40 (15), and outside the limits of the park, state forest and public land areas, direct connections to the most convenient state trunk highway may be built or maintained under this section. Roads in unincorporated areas within 5 miles of the boundaries of the Horicon national wildlife refuge or the Horicon marsh wildlife area may be built or maintained under this section upon request of the town board, if the department of transportation certifies that such roads are or will be used by a substantial number of visitors to such area. Costs incurred under this section shall be the responsibility of the department of natural resources, commissioners of public lands or town board, as appropriate.

History: 1971 c. 164; 1973 c. 243 s. 82; 1975 c. 181; 1977 c. 29 ss. 1654 (8) (a), 1656 (43); 1979 c. 34 s. 2102 (52) (a); 1981 c. 20; 1983 a. 27; 1989 a. 31; 1997 a. 27; 2011 a. 32; 2015 a. 55.

84.29 National system of interstate highways.

(1) DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO COOPERATE WITH FEDERAL AGENCIES. The legislature of the state of Wisconsin hereby declares that the intent of this section is to assent to acts of the United States Congress heretofore and hereafter enacted, authorizing development of the national system of interstate highways located wholly or partly within the state of Wisconsin to the full extent that it is necessary or desirable to secure any benefits under such acts and to authorize the appropriate state boards, commissions, departments, and the governing bodies of counties, cities, towns and villages, and especially the department of transportation, to cooperate in the planning, development and construction of the national system of interstate highways that may be proposed for development in Wisconsin, with any agency or department of the government of the United States in which is vested the necessary authority to construct or otherwise develop or aid in the development of such system. Whenever authority shall exist for the planning and development of a national system of interstate highways of which any portion shall be located in this state, it shall be the duty of the department of transportation to make such investigations and studies in cooperation with the appropriate federal agency, and such state boards, commissions, departments and municipalities as shall have interest in such system development, to the extent that shall be desirable and necessary to provide that the state shall secure all advantages that may accrue through such interstate system development and that the interest of municipalities along such system shall be conserved.

(2) ROUTES OF INTERSTATE SYSTEM, STATE TRUNK HIGHWAYS. Upon finding by the department that the development of any proposed highway as a route of the national system of interstate highways, hereinafter designated the interstate system or interstate highways, or any portion thereof, including the laying out, construction, maintenance and operation of any part thereof as a freeway or expressway, is in the promotion of the public and social welfare of the state and for the benefit of public travel, the department is empowered and it shall have full authority to lay out, construct, operate and maintain such highway as a part of the state trunk highway system. Except as otherwise provided by this section, all provisions of law relative to the acquisition of land for highway purposes and for surveys, plans, establishing, laying out, widening, enlarging, extending, constructing, reconstructing, improving, maintaining and financing of other state trunk highways shall apply to the interstate highways undertaken in this state.

(3) CHANGES IN EXISTING HIGHWAYS AND UTILITIES. It is recognized that in the construction of interstate highways in this state to modern standard and design, mutually agreed upon by the department and the federal agency, to promote the public and social welfare, and benefit public travel of the state, and meet the

needs of national defense, it will become necessary for the department to make or cause to be made changes in the location, lines and grades of existing public highways, railroads and public utility transmission lines and facilities.

(4) **LAYING NEW HIGHWAYS FOR INTERSTATE SYSTEM.** Upon finding and determination by the department that it is not in the public interest and that it is impractical to establish the route of the interstate system on or along an existing state trunk highway, the department is authorized and empowered to lay out and establish a new and additional state trunk highway for the interstate highway. As an interstate highway may be established, laid out and constructed on a new location as an expressway or freeway which is not on and along an existing public highway, no right of access to the highway shall accrue to or vest in any abutting property owner. As an interstate highway may be established, laid out and constructed as an expressway or freeway on and along an existing public highway, reasonable provision for public highway traffic service or access to abutting property shall be provided by means of frontage roads as a part of the interstate highway development, or the right of access to or crossing of the public highway shall be acquired on behalf of the state as a part of the interstate highway improvement project. The occupation or use of any part of an existing public highway is authorized for the construction of the interstate system. The action of the department relative to establishment, layout, location or relocation of any part of the interstate system shall be conclusive.

(5) **CONSTRUCTION OF GRADE SEPARATIONS AT INTERSECTIONS.** In the furtherance of the public interest and general welfare of the state and the traveling public in the development of the interstate system, the department is authorized and empowered to construct grade separations at intersections of any interstate highway with other public highways and railroads and to change and adjust the lines of public highways and if necessary combine or relocate the same to adjust traffic service to grade separation structures. The entire cost of grade separations and relocations and alterations of local roads as so determined by the department shall be a part of the construction of and financed as a part of the cost of the interstate highway. The department may by agreement with a county or municipality or by order summarily vacate or relocate any town, county, city or village highway as part of the construction of an interstate highway but shall pay any damage legally payable under existing law to any property owner directly injured by the vacation or relocation of such street or highway. The department is empowered to enter into agreement with the unit of government having jurisdiction over the local highway relocated or altered as a part of the interstate highway improvement with respect to maintenance thereof, and in the absence of mutual agreement to the contrary, such relocated or altered highway shall be maintained by the unit of government having jurisdiction thereof before it was so relocated or altered, except any parts thereof which the department determines to be useful in the operation of or for access to the interstate highway, which parts shall be maintained by the state, subject to s. 84.07 (1r), as a part of the interstate highway. The action by the department relative to vacation and relocation or combining a public highway under jurisdiction of any county, town, city or village shall be conclusive.

(6) **POWER TO RELOCATE AND CLOSE HIGHWAYS.** (a) Without limiting the authority extended by other provisions of this section, the department is authorized on behalf of the state, to enter into an agreement with the governing body of any county or municipality having jurisdiction over any highway and, as provided in such agreement, to relocate any such highway or to close the same at or near the point of intersection with any interstate highway, or to make provision for carrying such highway over or under the interstate highway, and may do any and all things on such highway as may be necessary to lay out, acquire rights-of-way for, and build the same.

(b) No highway of any kind shall be opened into or connected with the interstate highway by a municipality unless the department approves the same and fixes the terms and conditions on

which such connection shall be made. The department may give or withhold its approval or fix such terms and conditions as it deems will best serve the public interest.

(7) **POWERS GRANTED LIBERALLY CONSTRUED.** All powers granted in this section shall be liberally construed in favor of the state in the furtherance of the expeditious and orderly construction of any interstate highway project.

(8) **ESTABLISHING FREEWAY STATUS.** After adoption of an order by the department laying out and establishing any portion of the interstate system as an expressway or freeway, the highway described in the order shall have the status of a freeway or expressway for all purposes of this section. Such order shall not affect private property rights of access to preexisting public highways, and any property rights taken shall be acquired in the manner provided by law. No previously existing public highway shall be converted into a freeway or expressway without acquiring by donation, purchase, or condemnation the right of access thereto of the owners of abutting lands.

History: 1977 c. 29 ss. 944, 1654 (8) (a), (c); 1977 c. 43, 203; 1993 a. 490; 2013 a. 20.

84.295 Freeways and expressways. (1) **LEGISLATIVE INTENT.** In the interest of promoting public safety and convenience and the general welfare, the legislature of the state of Wisconsin declares that the intent of this section is to provide for the development of a well balanced and integrated state trunk highway system further modernized and improved to adequate standards to provide needed increased traffic capacity, relieve the congestion on overtaxed existing highways, and otherwise more adequately serve the present and anticipated future needs of highway travel, and toward that end to prevent conflicting costly economic development on areas of lands to be available as right-of-way when needed for future highway construction.

(2) **INVESTIGATIONS, SURVEYS AND STUDIES.** As a function in the improvement of state trunk highways and connecting highways the department is authorized to make investigations, surveys and studies of the present and anticipated needs for the improvement of desirable, probable additions to the state trunk highway system, and to otherwise carry out the expressed intent of this section.

(3) **DESIGNATING FREEWAYS AND EXPRESSWAYS.** Where the department finds that the volume and character of the traffic to be served thereby warrant the construction or the acquisition of right-of-way for the ultimate construction of a highway to accommodate 4 or more lanes for moving traffic and that such development is in the public interest, it may by order designate as freeways or expressways segments of state trunk highways having currently assignable traffic volumes in excess of 4,000 vehicles per day. The findings, determinations and orders of the department under this subsection shall be recorded. Except as otherwise provided by this section, all provisions of law relative to the acquisition or dedication by subdivision plat or otherwise, of land and interests in land for highway purposes, and relative to surveys, plans, establishing, laying out, widening, enlarging, extending, constructing, improving, maintaining and financing of state trunk highways shall apply to the segments designated freeways or expressways pursuant to this section. The “Hampton Avenue Corridor” in Milwaukee County shall not be designated as a freeway or expressway under this subsection.

(4) **CHANGES IN EXISTING HIGHWAYS AND UTILITIES.** It is recognized that in the construction of freeways or expressways to modern standard and design, to promote the public and social welfare and benefit public travel of the state, it will become necessary for the department to make or cause to be made changes in the location, lines and grades of existing public highways, railroads and public utility transmission lines and facilities.

(4m) **MUNICIPAL UTILITY RELOCATION; FREEWAY CONSTRUCTION.** (a) The state shall pay 90 percent of the eligible costs of the relocation or replacement of any municipal utility facilities required by the construction of any freeway undertaken by the

department. The affected municipal utility shall pay the balance of such costs.

(b) This subsection applies only to relocations or replacements that:

1. Involve municipal utility facilities located on publicly held lands prior to such relocation or replacement;
2. Are not eligible for state reimbursement under any other provision of law; and
3. Take place after July 1, 1976.

(c) In administering this subsection the department shall use the same procedures and accounting principles as are applicable to utility relocations and replacements for which full reimbursement is required by law.

(d) In order to be eligible for reimbursement under this subsection, any entry upon or occupation of state freeway right-of-way after relocation or replacement by a metropolitan sewerage district acting under s. 200.11 (5) (b) or 200.35 (7) shall be done in a manner acceptable to the department.

(e) In this subsection:

1. “Eligible costs” mean the actual costs of relocating or replacing utility facilities less the:
 - a. Salvage value of the old facilities;
 - b. Used life credit on the old facilities; and
 - c. Cost of any upgrading of the facilities being replaced or relocated made solely for the benefit and at the election of the utility and not attributable to the freeway construction.

2. “Municipal utility facilities” mean any utility facilities owned by any town, village, or city or any joint local water authority created under s. 66.0823 or any town sanitary district established under subch. IX of ch. 60, or under the jurisdiction of any metropolitan sewerage district established under ch. 200.

3. “Publicly held lands” include any right or interest in real estate held by the state or by any county, city, village, town or other body politic and corporate.

(5) DESIGNATING HIGHWAYS AS FREEWAYS OR EXPRESSWAYS. Where a state trunk highway is established on a new location which is not on or along an existing public highway, and the state trunk highway is designated as a freeway or expressway no right of access to the highway shall accrue to or vest in any abutting property owner. Where a state trunk highway is on or along any highway which is open and used for travel and is designated as a freeway or expressway, reasonable provision for public highway traffic service or access to abutting property shall be provided by means of frontage roads as a part of the freeway or expressway development, or the right of access to or crossing of the public highway shall be acquired on behalf of the state as a part of the freeway or expressway improvement project. The occupation or use of any part of an existing public highway is authorized for the construction of a freeway or expressway. The action of the department relative to designation, layout, location or relocation of any part of a freeway or expressway shall be conclusive.

(6) CONSTRUCTION OF GRADE SEPARATIONS AT INTERSECTIONS. In the furtherance of the public interest and general welfare of the state and the traveling public in the development of freeways or expressways, the department is authorized and empowered to construct grade separations at intersections of any freeway or expressway with other public highways and railroads and to change and adjust the lines of public highways and if necessary combine, relocate or extend the same to adjust traffic service to grade separation structures. The entire cost of grade separations and relocations, alterations or extensions of local roads as so determined by the department shall be a part of the construction of and financed as a part of the cost of the freeway or expressway. The department may by agreement with a county or municipality or by order summarily vacate or relocate any town, county, city or village highway as part of the construction of a freeway or expressway but shall pay any damage legally payable under existing law to any property owner directly injured by the vacation or

relocation of such street or highway. The department is empowered to enter into agreement with the units of government having jurisdiction over a local highway relocated, altered or extended as a part of the freeway or expressway improvement with respect to maintenance thereof, and in the absence of mutual agreement to the contrary, such relocated, altered or extended highway shall be maintained by the unit of government having jurisdiction thereof before it was so relocated, altered or extended, except any parts thereof which the department determines to be useful in operation of or for access to the freeway or expressway, including structures over the freeway or expressway, which parts shall be maintained by the state, subject to s. 84.07 (1r), as a part of the freeway or expressway. The action by the department relative to vacation, relocation, extension or combining of a public highway under jurisdiction of any county, town, city or village shall be conclusive.

(7) AUTHORITY TO RELOCATE AND CLOSE HIGHWAYS. (a) Without limiting the authority extended by other provisions of this section the department may, on behalf of the state, enter into an agreement with the governing body of any county or municipality having jurisdiction over any highway and, as provided in such agreement, relocate or extend any such highway or close the same at or near the point of intersection with any freeway or expressway, or make provision for carrying such highway over or under the freeway or expressway, and may do any and all things on such highway as may be necessary to lay out, acquire rights-of-way for, and build the same.

(b) No highway of any kind shall be opened into or connected with a freeway or expressway by a municipality unless the department approves the same and fixes the terms and conditions on which such connections shall be made. The department may give or withhold its approval or fix such terms and conditions as it deems will best serve the public interest.

(8) POWERS GRANTED LIBERALLY CONSTRUED. The provisions of this section are not restricted by other provisions of the statutes, and all powers granted in this section shall be liberally construed in favor of the state in the furtherance of the expeditious and orderly construction of any freeway or expressway project and in the furtherance of the orderly operation of a freeway or expressway designated pursuant to this section.

(9) ESTABLISHING FREEWAY STATUS. After the adoption of an order by the department laying out and designating any portion of a state trunk highway as a freeway or expressway, the highway described in the order shall have the status of a freeway or expressway for all purposes of this section. Such orders shall not affect private property rights of access to preexisting public highways, and any property rights to be taken shall be acquired in the manner provided by law. No previously existing public highway shall be developed as a freeway or expressway without acquiring by donation, purchase or condemnation the right of access thereto of the owners of abutting land.

(10) ESTABLISHING LOCATIONS AND RIGHT-OF-WAY WIDTHS FOR FUTURE FREEWAYS OR EXPRESSWAYS. (a) Where, as the result of its investigations and studies, the department finds that there will be a need in the future for the development and construction of segments of a state trunk highway as a freeway or expressway, and where the department determines that in order to prevent conflicting costly economic development on areas of lands to be available as rights-of-way when needed for such future development, there is need to establish, and to inform the public of, the approximate location and widths of rights-of-way needed, it may proceed to establish such location and the approximate widths of rights-of-way in the following manner. It shall hold a public hearing in the matter in a courthouse or other convenient public place in or near the region to be affected by the proposed change, which public hearing shall be advertised and held as are state trunk highway change hearings. The department shall consider and evaluate the testimony presented at the public hearing. It may make a survey and prepare a map showing the location of the freeway or expressway and the approximate widths of the rights-of-way needed for

the freeway or expressway, including the right-of-way needed for traffic interchanges with other highways, grade separations, frontage roads and other incidental facilities and for the alteration or relocation of existing public highways to adjust traffic service to grade separation structures and interchange ramps. The map shall also show the existing highways and the property lines and record owners of lands needed. Upon approval of the map by the department, a notice of such action and the map showing the lands or interests therein needed in any county shall be recorded in the office of the register of deeds of such county. Notice of the action and of the recording shall be published as a class 1 notice, under ch. 985, in such county, and within 60 days after recording, notice of the recording shall be served by registered mail on the owners of record on the date of recording. With like approval, notice and publications, and notice to the affected record owners, the department may from time to time supplement or change the map.

(b) After such location is thus established, within the area of the rights-of-way as shown on the map or in such proximity thereto as to result in consequential damages when the right-of-way is acquired, no one shall erect or move in any additional structure, nor rebuild, alter or add to any existing structure, without first giving to the department by registered mail 60 days' notice of such contemplated construction, alteration or addition describing the same, provided that this prohibition and requirement shall not apply to any normal or emergency repairs or replacements which are necessary to maintain an existing structure or facility in approximately its previously existing functioning condition. When the right-of-way is acquired, no damages shall be allowed for any construction, alterations or additions in violation of this paragraph.

(c) Without limiting any authority otherwise existing, any of the rights-of-way needed may be acquired at any time by the state or by the county or municipality in which such freeway or expressway is located. If one owner's contiguous land is acquired to an extent which is less than the total thereof shown on the map as needed, consequential damages to the portion not acquired shall be allowed if found to exist.

History: 1971 c. 252; 1975 c. 425; 1977 c. 29 ss. 945, 1654 (3); (8) (a); 1983 a. 532 s. 36; 1993 a. 301, 490; 1999 a. 150 s. 672; 2013 a. 12, 20; 2015 a. 55.

84.30 Regulation of outdoor advertising. (1) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND PURPOSE. To promote the safety, convenience and enjoyment of public travel, to preserve the natural beauty of Wisconsin, to aid in the free flow of interstate commerce, to protect the public investment in highways, and to conform to the expressed intent of congress to control the erection and maintenance of outdoor advertising signs, displays and devices adjacent to the national system of interstate and defense highways, it is hereby declared to be necessary in the public interest to control the erection and maintenance of billboards and other outdoor advertising devices adjacent to said system of interstate and federal-aid primary highways and the Great River Road.

(2) DEFINITIONS. In this section, unless the context otherwise requires:

(a) "Adjacent area" means an area which is adjacent to and within 660 feet of the nearest edge of the right-of-way of any interstate or primary highway or the Great River Road, which 660 feet distance shall be measured horizontally along a line normal or perpendicular to the center line of the highway.

(b) "Business area" means any part of an adjacent area which is zoned for business, industrial or commercial activities under the authority of the laws of this state; or not zoned, but which constitutes an unzoned commercial or industrial area as defined in par. (k). In adjacent areas along the interstate system business areas shall be limited to commercial or industrial zones within the boundaries of incorporated municipalities, as those boundaries existed on September 1, 1959, and all other areas where the land-use as of September 1, 1959, was clearly established by state law as industrial or commercial.

(c) "Center line of the highway" means a line equidistant from the edges of the median separating the main-traveled ways of a divided highway, or the center line of the main-traveled way of a nondivided highway.

(d) "Commercial or industrial activities" for purposes of unzoned industrial and commercial areas mean those activities generally recognized as commercial or industrial by local zoning authorities in this state, except that none of the following activities shall be considered commercial or industrial:

1. Outdoor advertising structures.
2. Agricultural, forestry, ranching, grazing, farming and similar activities, including, but not limited to wayside fresh produce stands.
3. Activities normally or regularly in operation less than 3 months of the year.
4. Transient or temporary activities.
5. Activities not visible from the main-traveled way.
6. Activities more than 660 feet from the nearest edge of the right-of-way.
7. Railroad tracks and minor sidings.
8. Areas which are predominantly used for residential purposes.

(e) "Erect" means to construct, build, raise, assemble, place, affix, attach, create, paint, draw, or in any other way bring into being or establish; but it does not include any of the foregoing activities when performed as an incident to the change of advertising message or customary maintenance of the sign structures.

(em) "Great River Road" means any highway officially designated as part of the Great River Road system by the department and approved by the appropriate authority of the federal government and any highway designated as part of the Great River Road under s. 84.107. Signs along the Great River Road shall be regulated as are signs along primary highways.

(f) "Interstate highway" means any highway at any time officially designated as a part of the national system of interstate and defense highways by the department and approved by the appropriate authority of the federal government.

(fm) "Landmark sign" means a sign of historic or artistic significance, the preservation of which is consistent with the purposes of this section, as determined by the department, including signs on farm structures or natural surfaces.

(g) "Maintain" means to allow to exist.

(h) "Main-traveled way" means the through traffic lanes exclusive of frontage roads, auxiliary lanes and ramps.

(hm) "Municipal welcome sign" means an official sign erected and maintained by a municipality that the municipality determines is necessary to inform motorists of the territorial boundaries of the municipality.

(i) "Primary highway" means any highway, other than an interstate highway, at any time officially designated as a part of the federal-aid primary system by the department and approved by the appropriate authority of the federal government.

(j) "Sign" means any outdoor advertising sign, display, device, notice, figure, painting, drawing, message, placard, poster, billboard, or other thing, which is designed, intended, or used to advertise or inform, any part of the advertising or informative contents of which is visible from any place on the main-traveled way of any portion of an interstate highway or primary highway.

(k) "Unzoned commercial or industrial areas" mean those areas which are not zoned by state or local law, regulation or ordinance, and on which there is located one or more permanent structures devoted to a commercial or industrial activity or on which a commercial or industrial activity is actually conducted whether or not a permanent structure is located thereon, and the area along the highway extending outward 800 feet from and beyond the edge of such activity. Each side of the highway will be considered

separately in applying this definition. All measurements shall be from the outer edges of the regularly used buildings, parking lots, storage or processing and landscaped areas of the commercial or industrial activities, not from the property lines of the activities, and shall be along or parallel to the edge or pavement of the highway.

(km) “Urban area” means any area which is an urbanized area or urban place, as determined by the department under **23 USC 101** (a) and regulations adopted thereunder and approved by the appropriate federal authority. Maps of urban area boundaries shall be available for inspection at offices of the department and copies of such maps shall be provided at cost to anyone requesting the same.

(L) “Zoned commercial or industrial areas” mean those areas which are zoned for business, industry, commerce or trade pursuant to a state or local zoning ordinance or regulation.

(2m) CONDITIONAL USES AND SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS NOT CONSIDERED. No uses of real property that are authorized by special zoning permission, including uses by conditional use, special exception, zoning variance or conditional permit, may be considered when determining whether the area is a business area.

(3) SIGNS PROHIBITED. No sign visible from the main–traveled way of any interstate or federal–aid highway may be erected or maintained, except the following:

(a) Directional and other official signs, including, but not limited to, municipal welcome signs and signs pertaining to natural wonders, scenic and historical attractions, which are required or authorized by law, and which comply with rules which shall be promulgated by the department relative to their lighting, size, number, spacing and such other requirements as are appropriate to implement this section, but such rules shall not be inconsistent with, nor more restrictive than, such national standards as may be promulgated from time to time by the secretary of transportation of the United States under **23 USC 131** (c).

(b) Signs advertising the sale or lease of property upon which they are located if such signs comply with rules of the department.

(c) Signs advertising activities conducted on the property on which they are located if such on–property signs comply with applicable federal law and the June 1961 agreement between the department and the federal highway administrator relative to control of advertising adjacent to interstate highways. No on–property sign may be erected in a location where it constitutes a traffic hazard. If the department issues permits for outdoor advertising signs, the department is not required to issue permits for on–property signs that conform to the requirements of this paragraph. On–property signs may be illuminated, subject to the following restrictions:

1. Signs that contain, include or are illuminated by any flashing, intermittent or moving light or lights are prohibited, except electronic signs permitted by rule of the department.

2. Signs that are not effectively shielded as to prevent beams or rays of light from being directed at any portion of the traveled ways of the interstate or federal–aid primary highway and that are of such intensity or brilliance as to cause glare or to impair the vision of the driver of any motor vehicle, or that otherwise interfere with any driver’s operation of a motor vehicle, are prohibited.

3. No sign may be so illuminated that it interferes with the effectiveness of or obscures an official traffic sign, device or signal.

(d) Signs located in business areas on March 18, 1972.

(e) Signs to be erected in business areas subsequent to March 18, 1972 which when erected will comply with sub. (4).

(f) Signs located in urban areas outside the adjacent area.

(g) Landmark signs lawfully in existence on October 22, 1965.

(h) Signs outside the adjacent area which are not erected with the purpose of their message being read from the main–traveled way of an interstate or primary highway.

(i) Signs on farm buildings which are utilized by owners of the building for agricultural purposes if the signs promote a Wisconsin agricultural product unless prohibited by federal law.

(j) 1. Signs erected by the Crime Stoppers, the nationwide organization affiliated with local police departments, on or before October 14, 1997, without regard to whether the department has issued a license for the sign. The department may not remove a sign authorized under this paragraph unless the sign does not conform to federal requirements. The requirements under s. **86.19** do not apply to signs described in this subdivision.

2. Notwithstanding subd. 1., whenever a sign authorized under this paragraph requires replacement due to damage or deterioration, the department shall require the sign to be licensed under sub. (10) and to meet all of the requirements of this section and s. **86.19**.

(4) SIGN CRITERIA. The department shall effectively control or cause to be controlled, the erection and maintenance of outdoor advertising signs, displays and devices that are erected subsequent to March 18, 1972 in all business areas. Whenever a bona fide county or local zoning authority has made a determination of customary use, as to size, lighting and spacing such determination may be accepted in lieu of controls by agreement in the zoned commercial and industrial areas within the geographical jurisdiction of such authority. In all other business areas, the criteria set forth below shall apply:

(a) Size of signs shall be as follows:

1. The maximum areas for any one sign shall be 1,200 square feet with a maximum height of 30 feet and maximum length of 60 feet, inclusive of any border and trim but excluding the base or apron, supports and other structural members.

2. The areas shall be measured by the smallest square, rectangle, triangle, circle or combination thereof which will encompass the entire sign.

3. The maximum size limitations shall apply to each side of a sign structure and signs may be placed back–to–back, side–by–side, or in V–type construction with not more than 2 displays to each facing, and such sign structure shall be considered as one sign.

(b) Signs may be illuminated, subject to the following restrictions:

1. Signs which contain, include, or are illuminated by any flashing, intermittent, or moving light or lights are prohibited, except those specified in par. (bm) and those giving public service information such as time, date, temperature, weather, or similar information.

2. Signs which are not effectively shielded as to prevent beams or rays of light from being directed at any portion of the traveled ways of the interstate or federal–aid primary highway and which are of such intensity or brilliance as to cause glare or to impair the vision of the driver of any motor vehicle, or which otherwise interfere with any driver’s operation of a motor vehicle are prohibited.

3. No sign shall be so illuminated that it interferes with the effectiveness of, or obscures an official traffic sign, device, or signal.

(bm) Signs may contain multiple or variable messages, including messages on louvers that are rotated and messages formed solely by use of lights or other electronic or digital displays, that may be changed by any electronic process, subject to all of the following restrictions:

1. Each change of message shall be accomplished in one second or less.

2. Each message shall remain in a fixed position for at least 6 seconds.

3. The use of traveling messages or segmented messages is prohibited.

4. The department, by rule, may prohibit or establish restrictions on the illumination of messages to a degree of brightness that is greater than necessary for adequate visibility.

(c) Spacing of signs shall be as follows:

1. On interstate and federal-aid primary highways signs may not be located in such a manner as to obscure, or otherwise physically interfere with the effectiveness of an official traffic sign, signal, or device, obstruct or physically interfere with the driver's view of approaching, merging, or intersecting traffic.

2. On interstate highways and freeways on the federal-aid primary system no 2 structures shall be spaced less than 500 feet apart. Outside of incorporated villages and cities, no structure may be located adjacent to or within 500 feet of an interchange, intersection at grade, or safety rest area. Said 500 feet shall be measured along the interstate or freeway from the beginning or ending of pavement widening at the exit from or entrance to the main-traveled way.

3. On nonfreeway federal-aid primary highways outside incorporated villages and cities, no 2 structures shall be spaced less than 300 feet apart. Within incorporated villages and cities, no 2 structures shall be spaced less than 100 feet apart.

4. The spacing between structures provisions in subs. 1., 2. and 3. do not apply to structures separated by buildings or other obstructions in such a manner that only one sign-facing located within the spacing distances in subs. 1., 2. and 3. is visible from the highway at any one time.

5. a. Official and on-premises signs, as defined in 23 USC 131 (c), and structures that are not lawfully maintained shall not be counted nor shall measurements be made from them for purposes of determining compliance with spacing requirements.

b. The minimum distances between structures shall be measured along the nearest edge of the pavement between points directly opposite the signs along each side of the highway and shall apply only to structures located on the same side of the highway.

(d) 1. Signs shall not be erected or maintained which imitate or resemble any official traffic sign, signal or device.

2. Signs shall not be erected or maintained upon trees, or painted or drawn upon rocks or other natural features, except landmark signs.

3. Signs shall not be erected or maintained which are structurally unsafe or in substantial disrepair.

(5) NONCONFORMING SIGNS. (a) Signs outside of business areas which are lawfully in existence on March 18, 1972 but which do not conform to the requirements herein are declared nonconforming and shall be removed by the end of the 5th year from said date.

(b) A sign lawfully erected after March 18, 1972 and which subsequently does not conform to this section shall be removed by the end of the 5th year after it becomes nonconforming.

(bm) Signs lawfully erected, but which do not conform to the requirements of sub. (3) (c), are declared nonconforming but are not subject to removal, except as otherwise provided in this paragraph. To allow such signs to exist, to perform customary maintenance thereon or to change the advertising message thereof, does not constitute a violation of sub. (3), but to enlarge, replace or relocate such signs, or to erect additional signs, shall constitute a violation subjecting the sign to removal without compensation, unless upon completion of such work all signs upon the property conform to the requirements of sub. (3).

(br) 1. In this paragraph:

a. "Copy" means the advertising or other information or images on a sign face created to communicate to the public.

b. "Copy change" means the process of substituting copy on a sign face, which may include removing a face and substituting another face or other processes such as painting on wood, metal, or vinyl, affixing printed paper or vinyl to the face, changing the

message mechanically, or electronically changing the copy from a remote location.

c. "Customary maintenance" on a sign includes nailing, bolting, fastening, cleaning, and painting; replacing its components with equivalent or similar components; except as provided in this subd. 1. c., replacing structural components, including upright supports; making copy changes; upgrading existing illumination for energy efficiency or worker safety; adding catwalks or handrails to address safety; installing an apron to a sign structure to display identification of the sign owner; or replacing the sign face. "Customary maintenance" does not include repairs that involve, within a period of 36 consecutive months, replacing more than 60 percent of the wooden upright supports of a sign or replacing more than 30 percent of the length above ground of each broken, bent, or twisted upright metal support of a sign.

d. "Destroyed," with respect to a nonconforming sign, means that upright supports are physically damaged such that, within a period of 36 consecutive months, in the case of a sign structure with wooden upright supports, more than 60 percent of the supports are broken and, under normal repair practices, would need to be replaced or, in the case of a sign structure with metal upright supports, more than 30 percent of the length above ground of each broken, bent, or twisted support would, under normal repair practices, need to be replaced.

e. "Sign face" or "face" means the material components of a sign on which the advertising or other information is displayed including any trim, border, or molding.

f. "Substantial change," with respect to a nonconforming sign, includes increasing the number of upright supports; changing the physical location; increasing the square footage or area of the sign face; adding changeable message capability; or adding illumination, either attached or unattached, to a sign that was previously not illuminated. "Substantial change" does not include customary maintenance.

g. "Substantially the same," with respect to a nonconforming sign, means that no substantial change has been made to the sign since it became nonconforming.

2. Notwithstanding par. (a) or (b), signs described in sub. (3) (a), (d), (e), (f), or (h) that were lawfully erected but that no longer conform to applicable requirements are, upon notice by registered mail from the department to the sign owner, declared nonconforming but are not subject to removal, except as provided in subs. 4. and 5.

3. Subject to subd. 4., a sign described in subd. 2. shall remain substantially the same as it was on the date it became nonconforming. To allow a sign described in subd. 2. to exist, to perform customary maintenance on such a sign, or to change the advertising message on such a sign, does not constitute a violation of sub. (3) or (4).

4. Except as provided in this subdivision, to make a substantial change to a sign described in subd. 2. or to erect additional signs shall constitute a violation of subs. (3) and (4). In determining whether a change to a sign constitutes a violation of sub. (3) or (4), the department may not consider any changes to that sign that no longer exist. If the department determines that a change to a sign constitutes a violation of sub. (3) or (4), the department shall notify by registered mail the sign owner and the owner of the property upon which the sign is located of the alleged violation. If the alleged violation is remedied within 60 days of receipt of the notice under this subdivision, the activity does not constitute a violation of sub. (3) or (4).

5. a. Except as provided in subd. 5. b., and notwithstanding subd. 3., a sign described in subd. 2. that is destroyed is subject to removal without compensation.

b. Notwithstanding subs. 3. and 4., if a nonconforming sign is damaged or destroyed by a criminal or tortious act, the sign may be repaired or replaced. If the sign is replaced, the replacement sign may not incorporate any elements that constitute a substantial

change from the sign that was damaged or destroyed. The repair or replacement of a sign under this subdivision is not limited to activities constituting customary maintenance.

6. A sign described in sub. (3) (a) that is declared nonconforming as provided in subd. 2. may not be converted to any sign described in sub. (3) (d), (e), (f), or (h).

(c) Should any commercial or industrial activity, which has been used in defining or delineating an unzoned area, cease to operate, the unzoned area shall be redefined or redelineated based on the remaining activities. Any signs located within the former unzoned area but located outside the unzoned area, based on its new dimensions, shall become nonconforming.

(d) The department shall give highest priority to the removal or relocation of signs advertising products of general availability in commercial channels when such signs fail to conform under this subsection.

(5m) MARS CHEESE CASTLE SIGNS IN KENOSHA COUNTY. Notwithstanding any other provision of law and any local ordinance or other restrictions on signs, the Mars Cheese Castle business in Kenosha County may relocate its on-premises signs located near the intersection of I 94 and STH 142 in Kenosha County and maintain such signs at their new location.

(5r) SIGNS NONCONFORMING UNDER LOCAL ORDINANCES THAT ARE REALIGNED BECAUSE OF STATE HIGHWAY PROJECTS. (a) In this subsection, “realignment” means relocation on the same site.

(b) If a highway project of the department causes the realignment of a sign that does not conform to a local ordinance, the realignment shall not affect the sign’s nonconforming status under the ordinance.

(c) If in connection with a highway project of the department the department proposes the realignment of a sign that does not conform to a local ordinance, the department shall notify the governing body of the municipality or county where the sign is located and which adopted the ordinance of the sign’s proposed realignment. Upon receiving this notice, the governing body may petition the department to acquire the sign and any real property interest of the sign owner. If the department succeeds in condemning the sign, the governing body that made the petition to the department shall pay to the department an amount equal to the condemnation award, less relocation costs for the sign that would have been paid by the department if the sign had been realigned rather than condemned. Notwithstanding s. 86.30 (2) (a) 1. and (b) 1., 1g., and 1r., if the governing body fails to pay this amount, the department may reduce the municipality’s or county’s general transportation aid payment under s. 86.30 by an equal amount.

(d) This subsection does not permit the alteration or movement of a sign that is nonconforming under this section.

(6) JUST COMPENSATION. The department shall pay just compensation upon the removal or relocation on or after March 18, 1972, of any of the following signs which are not then in conformity with this section, regardless of whether the sign was removed because of this section:

(a) Signs lawfully in existence on March 18, 1972.

(b) Signs lawfully in existence on land adjoining any highway made an interstate or primary highway after March 18, 1972.

(c) Signs lawfully erected on or after March 18, 1972.

(7) MEASURE. The just compensation required by sub. (6) shall be paid for the following:

(a) The taking from the owner of such sign, all right, title and interest in and to the sign and the owner’s leasehold relating thereto, including severance damages to the remaining signs which have a unity of use and ownership with the sign taken, shall be included in the amounts paid to the respective owner, excluding any damage to factories involved in manufacturing, erection, maintenance or servicing of any outdoor advertising signs or displays.

(b) The taking of the right to erect and maintain such signs thereon from the owner of the real property on which the sign is located.

(8) AGREED PRICE. Compensation required under subs. (6) and (7) shall be paid to the person entitled thereto. If the department and the owner reach agreement on the amount of compensation payable to such owner in respect to any removal or relocation, the department may pay such compensation to the owner and thereby require or terminate the owner’s rights or interests by purchase. If the department and the owner do not reach agreement as to such amount of compensation, the department or owner may institute an action to have such compensation determined under s. 32.05.

(9) SIGN INFORMATION. On and after March 18, 1972 all signs, or structures on which there are displays, shall have stated thereon the names and addresses of the owner thereof, and the date of its erection; but if the address of the owner is on file with the department it need not be stated thereon.

(10) LICENSE REQUIREMENT. (a) On or after January 1, 1972, no person shall engage or continue to engage in the business of outdoor advertising in areas subject to this section without first obtaining a license therefor from the department. The fee for the issuance of a license or for the renewal thereof shall be \$250 payable in advance. Each license shall remain in force until the next succeeding December 31 and may be renewed annually.

(b) Application for license or a renewal thereof shall be made on forms to be furnished by the department, shall contain such information as the department requires and shall be verified under oath by the applicant or an authorized officer or agent. Renewal applications shall be filed on or before the December 1 preceding the expiration date. Upon receipt of an application containing all required information, in due form and properly executed, together with any bond required by par. (c) and upon payment of the required license fee, the department shall issue a license to the applicant or renew the existing license.

(c) No license to engage or continue to engage in the business of outdoor advertising shall be granted to any applicant who does not reside in this state or, in the case of a foreign corporation or foreign limited liability company not authorized to do business in this state until such applicant files with the department a bond payable to the state and with a surety approved by the attorney general, in the sum of \$5,000 conditioned upon the licensee observing and fulfilling all applicable provisions of this section. Upon default thereof the department may enforce the collection of such bond in any court of competent jurisdiction. The bond shall remain in effect so long as any obligation of such licensee to the state remains unsatisfied.

(d) The department may, after a hearing with 30 days’ prior written notice to the licensee, revoke the license if the department finds that the licensee has knowingly made false statements in the application or is violating this section. Such revocation shall not become effective if within 30 days after written notice of the findings has been given to the licensee, he or she corrects such false statement or terminates any such violation.

(10m) ANNUAL PERMIT FEE REQUIREMENT. The department may promulgate a rule requiring persons specified in the rule to pay annual permit fees for signs. The rule shall specify that no permit fee may be charged for an off-premises advertising sign that is owned by a nonprofit organization. If the department establishes an annual permit fee under this subsection, failure to pay the fee within 2 months after the date on which payment is due is evidence that the sign has been abandoned for the purposes of s. Trans 201.10 (2) (f), Wis. Adm. Code.

(11) DEPARTMENT REMOVAL. Any sign erected in an adjacent area after March 18, 1972, in violation of this section or the rules promulgated under this section, may be removed by the department upon 60 days’ prior notice by registered mail to the owner thereof and to the owner of the land on which said sign is located,

unless such sign is brought into conformance within said 60 days. No notice shall be required to be given to the owner of a sign whose name is not stated on the sign or on the structure on which it is displayed, or whose address is not stated thereon or is not on file with the department.

(12) **FEDERAL COMPLIANCE.** The department on behalf of the state is authorized and directed to seek agreement with the secretary of transportation of the United States acting under the provisions of 23 USC 131, as amended, that the provisions of this section are in conformance with that federal law and provide effective control of outdoor advertising signs as set forth therein.

(13) **FEDERAL FUNDS.** The department may accept any allotment of funds by the United States, or any agency thereof, appropriated to carry out the purposes of 23 USC 131, as amended, from time to time. The department shall take such steps as are necessary from time to time to obtain from the United States, or the appropriate agency thereof, funds allotted and appropriated, under 23 USC 131 for the purposes of paying the federal government's 75 percent of the just compensation to be paid to sign owners and owners of real property under 23 USC 131 (g) and this section.

(14) **DEPARTMENT RULES.** The department may promulgate rules deemed necessary to implement and enforce this section. The department shall promulgate rules to restrict the erection and maintenance of signs as to their lighting, size, number and spacing when such signs are visible from the highway but outside the adjacent area. The department shall by rule establish a priority system for the removal or relocation of all signs not specified in sub. (5) (d) which fail to conform to the requirements of sub. (5).

(15) **FUNDS REQUIRED.** Despite any contrary provision in this section no sign shall be required to be removed unless at the time of removal there are sufficient funds, from whatever source, appropriated and immediately made available to the department with which to pay the just compensation required and unless at such time the federal funds, required to be contributed to this state under 23 USC 131 have been appropriated and are immediately available to the state for the payment of compensation which is eligible for federal participation.

(16) **SEVERABILITY.** If any provision or clause of this section or application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the section which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this section are declared to be severable. If any portion of this section is found not to comply with federal law and federal billboard removal compensation that portion shall be void without affecting the validity of other provisions of the section.

(17) **TRANSPORTATION FUND.** All fees collected for the issuance of permits provided for under this section shall be paid into the transportation fund.

(18) **HEARINGS; TRANSCRIPTS.** Hearings concerning sign removal notices under sub. (11) or the denial or revocation of a sign permit or license shall be conducted before the division of hearings and appeals as are hearings in contested cases under ch. 227. The decision of the division of hearings and appeals is subject to judicial review under ch. 227. Any person requesting a transcript of the proceedings from the division of hearings and appeals shall pay the amount established by the division of hearings and appeals by rule for the transcript.

History: 1971 c. 197; 1975 c. 196, 340, 418; 1977 c. 29 ss. 946, 1654 (1), (8) (a); 1977 c. 43, 273; 1977 c. 418 s. 924 (48); 1979 c. 90 s. 24; 1979 c. 154, 253; 1981 c. 347; 1983 a. 92, 189, 463; 1989 a. 56; 1991 a. 316; 1993 a. 16, 112, 357; 1997 a. 27; 1999 a. 9, 185; 2001 a. 109; 2005 a. 149, 464; 2007 a. 20; 2011 a. 32; 2017 a. 232, 320.

Legislative Council Note, 1979: [As to sub. (5) (bm)] Chapter 196, laws of 1975, outlined standards for outdoor advertising signs. Section 2 of chapter 196, laws of 1975, pertaining to existing signs which did not conform to the standards, was not incorporated into the statutes. This act incorporates section 2 of chapter 196, laws of 1975, into the statutes. [Bill 458–A]

Cross-reference: See also ch. Trans 201, Wis. adm. code.

This section is the exclusive remedy for determining just compensation for signs meeting the criteria of sub. (6). Compensation includes the value of the sign structure, leasehold value, and location, but it does not include attorney fees. *Vivid, Inc. v. Fiedler*, 219 Wis. 2d 764, 580 N.W.2d 644 (1998), 96–1900.

This section did not prevent the leaseholder of a sign subject to an administrative order for removal due to discontinuance of a legal nonconforming use from pursuing judicial review of the administrative review of the order under s. 227.52. *Eller Media, Inc. v. Division of Hearings & Appeals*, 2001 WI App 269, 249 Wis. 2d 198, 637 N.W.2d 96, 00–3497.

Sub. (3) (a) provides two separate conditions. A sign must: 1) be required or authorized by law; and 2) comply with rules promulgated by the Department of Transportation that are no more restrictive than national standards. The “no more restrictive” language does not apply to the “required or authorized by law” condition. “Authorized by law” is a reference to whether a sign is authorized by a law other than this section and rules promulgated thereunder. Because there is no limitation on the source of other law, there is no reason why other law may not be a local zoning ordinance. *Donaldson v. Town of Spring Valley*, 2008 WI App 61, 311 Wis. 2d 223, 750 N.W.2d 506, 07–1418.

The administrative and judicial review provided in sub. (18) is the exclusive procedure for challenging the legality of a sign after issuance of a removal order, even when the Department of Transportation has removed the sign. A determination under sub. (18) that a sign is legal is a necessary predicate to just compensation for the sign. The entire statutory scheme provides for a determination on the legality of a sign under sub. (18) and, if the ultimate determination is that the sign is legal, there is a procedure in subs. (7) and (8) for obtaining just compensation. This scheme adequately provides the means both to challenge a removal order on the ground a sign is legal and to obtain just compensation if that challenge succeeds. *Lamar Central Outdoor, LLC v. DOT*, 2008 WI App 187, 315 Wis. 2d 190, 762 N.W.2d 745, 08–0439.

The phrase “brought into conformance” in sub. (11) could mean that a billboard must conform to the laws either: 1) as they applied to the circumstances when the permit issued; or 2) as they apply to current circumstances. Because the statute is ambiguous, the Department of Transportation is required to promulgate a new interpretation of the statute as a rule under s. 227.10. *Lamar Central Outdoor, LLC v. Division of Hearings & Appeals*, 2019 WI 109, 389 Wis. 2d 486, 936 N.W.2d 573, 17–1823.

Persons in the business of erecting on–premise signs are subject to the licensing requirement of sub. (10) (a). 66 Atty. Gen. 295.

The general rule is that a government does not commit a taking when it exercises its contractual rights rather than its governmental prerogative. A city that terminates a lease in its capacity as a landlord does not owe just compensation under this section. *City of La Crosse v. Fairway Outdoor Funding, LLC*, 575 F. Supp. 3d 1087 (2021).

Outdoor Sign Regulation in Eden and Wisconsin. Larsen. 1972 WLR 153.

84.305 Vegetation obstructing view of outdoor advertising signs. (1) In this section:

(am) “Invasive species” has the meaning given in s. 23.22 (1) (c) and, in addition, means species not indigenous to Wisconsin including hybrids, cultivars, subspecific taxa, and genetically modified variants whose introduction causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health, and also includes individual specimens, seeds, propagules, and any other viable life–stages of such species.

(b) “Main–traveled way” has the meaning given in s. 84.30 (2) (h).

(c) “Sign” has the meaning given in s. 84.30 (2) (j), but also includes any sign that is attached to a building or similar structure, that is within 100 feet of a highway right–of–way, and that advertising activities conducted on the property on which it is located.

(d) “Vegetation” means any tree, shrub, hedge, woody plant, or grass.

(e) “Viewing zone” means, with respect to a sign, the area commencing at the point on the main–traveled way of the highway nearest the sign for the direction of travel for which the sign face is oriented and extending, in a direction opposite of the direction of travel of the main–traveled way from which the sign face is visible and intended to be viewed, in a line along the highway pavement edge for a distance of 1,000 feet.

(2) Notwithstanding ss. 66.1037 and 86.03, and subject to sub. (2m), upon application, the department shall issue permits to sign owners for the trimming or removal of vegetation that is located in the right–of–way of a highway under the jurisdiction of the department for maintenance purposes and that obstructs a sign if, within a distance of 500 continuous feet along any portion of the viewing zone, any portion of the face of the sign is not viewable because of an obstruction to sight by vegetation in the highway right–of–way.

(2m) (a) The department may not issue a permit under this section authorizing the trimming or removal of vegetation obstructing the view of a sign if the department first collected a permit fee under s. 84.30 (10m) for that sign within the immediately preceding 5 years. This paragraph does not apply with respect to a sign that is attached to a building or similar structure,

that is within 100 feet of a highway right-of-way, and that advertises activities conducted on the property on which it is located.

(b) The department may impose on a permit under this section any condition or restriction determined to be necessary or suitable by the department if the permit application seeks authorization for the trimming or removal of vegetation at or with respect to any of the following:

1. An archaeological site or site of a federally recognized American Indian tribe or band.
2. A location that is part of a known habitat of endangered species or threatened species under s. 29.604.
3. Vegetation that serves as a junkyard screen, as described in s. 84.31.

(c) The department may deny an application under this section for a permit for a sign for which the department has issued a removal order and the removal order was received by the sign owner prior to the department's receipt of the application.

(3) (a) Subject to pars. (d) to (i) and subs. (2m) (b), (4), and (6), a permit issued under this section authorizes the permittee to trim or remove obstructing vegetation to the extent necessary to eliminate the obstruction and provide an unobstructed view of a sign for 500 continuous feet within the viewing zone. A permit issued under this section shall specify the vegetation or the portion of the highway right-of-way to which the permit applies.

(b) An application for a permit under this section shall specifically describe the work proposed by the applicant. The department shall grant or deny an application for a permit under this section, and notify the applicant of the department's decision, within 60 days of receipt of the application. If the department denies an application for a permit under this section, the department shall notify the applicant of reasons for the denial.

(d) A permit issued under this section may not authorize trimming or removal of vegetation located within a municipality and within 10 feet of the nearest edge of the highway pavement without prior approval for the trimming or removal from the municipality.

(g) A permit issued under this section may not authorize the permittee to clear-cut any highway right-of-way. The permit authorizes the permittee to trim or remove only the vegetation specified in the permit, or only vegetation within the area of the right-of-way specified in the permit, in accordance with the terms of the permit. All trimming of vegetation authorized under a permit shall be performed in compliance with applicable standards of the American National Standards Institute, but if the trimming cannot be accomplished in compliance with these standards, the vegetation may be removed as provided in sub. (5).

(h) All trimming and removal of vegetation under a permit issued under sub. (2) shall be conducted within the hours of the day and days of the week specified by the department in the permit.

(i) A permit issued under this section may not authorize the permittee to trim or remove vegetation in the median of a divided highway.

(4) Each permit issued under this section shall authorize the permittee to employ 3rd-party contractors, including any arborist or landscape contractor, to perform work authorized under the permit. Each permit issued under this section shall require the permittee to retain a certified arborist for the purposes specified in sub. (5) (d). A permittee shall be responsible for any such work performed by a contractor on behalf of the permittee that is not authorized by the permit as if the work were performed directly by the permittee.

(5) (a) Each permit issued under this section shall require a permittee that removes any tree with a diameter of 2 inches or more as measured at breast height to compensate the department for all such trees removed, in compliance with the requirements under pars. (d) and (f).

(ag) Each permit issued under this section shall require a permittee that removes vegetation to also remove the vegetation's stump, to grade level, and to dispose of all vegetation removed, including the stump, at a location away from the highway right-of-way.

(d) 1. For each permit issued under sub. (2), a certified arborist retained by the permittee shall determine the number of trees with a diameter of 2 inches or more, as measured at breast height, that are to be removed.

3. In calculating the total number of trees under subd. 1., a certified arborist shall not include any vegetation that was dead, diseased, or determined to be an invasive species at the time of its removal.

4. In determining whether a tree with multiple leaders has a diameter of 2 inches or more, as measured at breast height, for purposes of calculating the total number of trees under subd. 1., a certified arborist shall consider only the diameter of the tree's largest leader.

(f) 1. A permittee shall compensate the department \$200, as adjusted under subd. 2., for each tree removed under a permit, as calculated by the certified arborist retained by the permittee according to the method specified in par. (d).

2. Annually, beginning on July 1, 2015, the department shall adjust the fee under subd. 1. by a percentage that is equal to the percentage change in the U.S. consumer price index for all urban consumers, U.S. city average, as determined by the bureau of labor statistics of the U.S. department of labor, for the 12-month period ending on December 31 of the previous calendar year. However, the department may not adjust the fee under subd. 1. to an amount that is less than \$200.

(6) (a) The department shall have authority to supervise and determine how the work authorized under a permit issued under this section is carried out.

(b) The department may impose any condition or restriction on a permit issued under this section that the department customarily imposes in connection with work performed on highway rights-of-way.

(7) Nothing in this section prohibits a sign owner and the department from voluntarily negotiating for, and the department from authorizing without the issuance of a permit under this section, the trimming or removal of any vegetation in a highway right-of-way in order to provide an unobstructed view of a sign, except in situations where sub. (3) (d) would apply if a permit were issued under this section. Nothing in this section restricts the department's authority with respect to departmental maintenance operations in the rights-of-way of highways under the department's jurisdiction.

(8) Any person aggrieved by a decision of the department under this section, or by the department's failure to act on an application within the time limits specified in this section, is entitled, upon request, to a contested case hearing before the division of hearing and appeals in the department of administration, and to judicial review thereof, in accordance with ch. 227.

History: 2005 a. 465; 2011 a. 230; 2013 a. 231.

84.31 Regulation of junkyards. (1) DECLARATION OF PURPOSE; PUBLIC NUISANCES. In order to promote the public safety, health, welfare, convenience and enjoyment of public travel, to protect the public investment in public highways, to preserve and enhance the scenic beauty of lands bordering public highways, to attract tourists and promote the prosperity, economic well-being and general welfare of the state, it is declared to be in the public interest to regulate and restrict the establishment, operation and maintenance of junkyards in areas adjacent to interstate and primary highways within this state. All junkyards in violation of this section are declared public nuisances.

(2) DEFINITIONS. In this section:

(a) “Automobile graveyard” means an establishment or place of business which is maintained, used, or operated for storing, keeping, buying or selling wrecked, scrapped, ruined or dismantled motor vehicles or motor vehicle parts. Ten or more such vehicles constitute an automobile graveyard.

(b) “Illegal junkyard” means a junkyard which is established, expanded or maintained in violation of any statute or rule promulgated thereunder or local ordinance.

(c) “Industrial activities” mean those activities generally recognized as industrial by local zoning authorities in this state, including scrap metal processors, except that none of the following activities shall be considered industrial:

1. Agricultural, forestry, ranching, grazing, farming and similar activities, including, but not limited to wayside fresh produce stands.

2. Activities normally or regularly in operation less than 3 months of the year.

3. Transient or temporary activities.

4. Activities not visible from the main-traveled way.

5. Activities more than 300 feet from the nearest edge of the right-of-way.

6. Railroad tracks and minor sidings.

7. Activities conducted in structures which are principally used for residential purposes.

8. Junkyards, excluding scrap metal processors.

(d) “Interstate highway” means any highway at any time officially designated as a part of the national system of interstate and defense highways by the department and approved by the appropriate authority of the federal government.

(e) “Junk” means any old or scrap metal, metal alloy, synthetic or organic material, or waste, or any junked, ruined, dismantled or wrecked motor vehicle or machinery, or any part thereof.

(f) “Junkyard” means any place which is owned, maintained, operated or used for storing, keeping, processing, buying or selling junk, including refuse dumps, garbage dumps, automobile graveyards, scrap metal processors, auto-wrecking yards, salvage yards, auto-recycling yards, used auto parts yards and temporary storage of automobile bodies or parts awaiting disposal as a normal part of a business operation when the business will continually have like materials located on the premises, and sanitary landfills. The definition does not include litter, trash, and other debris scattered along or upon the highway, or temporary operations and outdoor storage of limited duration.

(g) “Primary highway” means any highway, other than an interstate highway, at any time officially designated as part of the federal-aid primary system by the department and approved by the appropriate authority of the federal government.

(h) “Scrap metal processor” means a fixed location at which machinery and equipment are utilized for the processing and manufacturing of iron, steel or nonferrous metallic scrap into prepared grades and whose principal product is scrap iron, scrap steel or nonferrous metal scrap for sale for remelting purposes.

(i) “Screened” means hidden from view in a manner compatible with the surrounding environment.

(j) “Unzoned industrial areas” mean those areas which are not zoned by state law or local ordinance, and on which there is located one or more permanent structures devoted to an industrial activity other than scrap metal processing or on which an industrial activity other than scrap metal processing, is actually conducted whether or not a permanent structure is located thereon, and the area along the highway extending outward 800 feet from and beyond the edge of such activity. Each side of the highway will be considered separately in applying this definition. All measurements shall be from the outer edges of the regularly used buildings, parking lots, storage or processing and landscaped areas of the industrial activities, not from the property lines of the activities, and shall be along or parallel to the edge or pavement of the highway.

(k) “Zoned” includes the establishment of districts without restrictions on use.

(L) “Zoned industrial area” means any area zoned industrial by a state law or local ordinance.

(3) JUNKYARDS; PROHIBITION; EXCEPTIONS. No person may own, establish, expand or maintain a junkyard, any portion of which is within 1,000 feet of the nearest edge of the right-of-way of any interstate or primary highway, except the following:

(a) Those which are not visible from the main-traveled way of an interstate or primary highway.

(b) Those which are screened so as not to be visible from the main-traveled way of an interstate or primary highway.

(c) Those which are located in a zoned or unzoned industrial area.

(4) NONCONFORMING JUNKYARDS; SCREENING; REMOVAL. (a) A nonconforming junkyard is any junkyard which:

1. Was lawfully established and maintained prior to June 11, 1976, but which does not comply with this section or rules adopted under this section. A junkyard shall be considered nonconforming under this section even if it was maintained in violation of rules related to screening adopted under s. 289.05 (1).

2. Is lawfully established on or after June 11, 1976, but which subsequently does not comply with this section or rules adopted under this section.

(b) A junkyard has a nonconforming status only to the extent that it is not in compliance with this section or rules adopted under this section or rules related to screening adopted under s. 289.05 (1) at the time this section or rules adopted under it or under s. 289.05 (1) become applicable to the junkyard. A junkyard retains its nonconforming status as long as it is not abandoned, destroyed or discontinued, or extended, enlarged or substantially changed, or otherwise altered so as to be in violation of any state statute or rule or local ordinance. A junkyard is presumed to be abandoned if inactive for more than one year.

(c) Every nonconforming junkyard shall be screened, relocated, removed or disposed of within 5 years after it becomes nonconforming. The department shall cause nonconforming junkyards to be screened, relocated, removed or disposed of in accordance with this section and rules adopted under this section.

(d) The department may contract for such services and acquire such property or interests therein as are necessary to accomplish the screening, relocation, removal or disposal of a nonconforming junkyard. Acquisition may be by gift, purchase, exchange or the power of eminent domain under ch. 32. Acquired property may be sold or otherwise disposed of by the department as it deems proper. Disposal of property acquired under this section is not subject to approval by the governor or other state agency.

(e) If a junkyard is screened by the department, the department shall retain title to the screening material where practicable, but the owner and operator of the junkyard shall maintain the screening. Any owner or operator who fails to maintain the screening is subject to the penalty under sub. (6) (c).

(5) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS. Any other provision of this section to the contrary notwithstanding, no nonconforming junkyard is required to be screened, relocated, removed or disposed of by the department unless there are sufficient state funds appropriated and available to the department for such purposes and unless federal funds have been appropriated and are immediately available to the state for the purpose of federal participation required under 23 USC 136.

(6) ILLEGAL JUNKYARDS. (a) If a junkyard is an illegal junkyard but not a nonconforming junkyard, the department shall give the owner or operator thereof notice of the illegal status of the junkyard. The notice shall specify the respects in which the junkyard is illegal and shall state that unless the junkyard is brought into compliance with the law within 30 days at the expense of the owner or operator, the department shall take one or more of the courses of action authorized in par. (b). The notice shall inform the owner or operator that if he or she requests a hearing on the

matter in writing within the 30-day period, a hearing shall be conducted by the division of hearings and appeals as are hearings in contested cases under ch. 227. Requests for hearings shall be served on the department and the division of hearings and appeals.

(b) If the owner or operator of a junkyard is given notice under par. (a) and does not bring the junkyard into compliance within 30 days and a hearing is not requested, or does not bring the junkyard into compliance after a hearing on the matter and a determination that compliance is required, the department may, in addition to any other remedies available under law:

1. Petition a court of appropriate jurisdiction to, and such court shall, issue an order compelling compliance.

2. Enter upon the land where the junkyard is located and relocate, remove or dispose of the junkyard and collect the cost of relocation, removal or disposal from the owner or operator of the junkyard, who shall be jointly and severally liable for such costs.

3. Request the district attorney to commence an action to collect the forfeiture under par. (c).

(c) Any person who owns, establishes or maintains a junkyard in violation of this section or any rule adopted under this section and which is not a nonconforming junkyard may be required to forfeit not less than \$25 nor more than \$1,000 for each offense. Each day in violation constitutes a separate offense.

(7) **RULES.** The department may adopt rules to accomplish the purposes of this section and to comply with the requirements of 23 USC 136, as amended, and rules and guidelines adopted thereunder. In interpreting this section, the department may be guided by federal law and interpretations approved by appropriate authorities of the federal government.

(8) **AGREEMENTS.** (a) The department may enter into agreements with the designated authority of the federal government relating to the control of junkyards and may take such action as is necessary to comply with the terms of such agreements.

(b) The department and another state agency may enter into agreements for the purpose of assigning to the other state agency the responsibility for the administration of this section and rules adopted under this section. To the extent responsibility for administration is assigned to the other agency under such agreements, the other state agency shall have the same powers and duties conferred on the department under this section. The department shall reimburse the other state agency from the appropriation under s. 20.395 (3) (cq) and (cx) for all expenses, including administrative expenses, incurred by the other state agency in connection with the screening, relocation, removal or disposal of junkyards under the authority assigned to the other state agency, except that no moneys may be reimbursed for the acquisition of land or interests in land contrary to s. 86.255.

(9) **OTHER LAWS.** Nothing in this section shall be construed to abrogate or affect any law or ordinance which is more restrictive than this section. The provisions of this section are in addition to and do not supersede the requirements under ss. 59.55 (5), 175.25, 218.205 to 218.23 and 289.05 to 289.32, or rules or ordinances adopted thereunder which apply to junkyards. Provisions of this section apply to any junkyard licensed or permitted by a local unit of government or another state agency.

History: 1975 c. 340; 1977 c. 29 ss. 947, 1654 (8) (a), 1656 (43); 1977 c. 377 s. 30; 1979 c. 34 s. 2102 (39) (g), (52) (a); 1981 c. 347 s. 80 (2); 1983 a. 189; 1985 a. 182 s. 57; 1987 a. 351; 1993 a. 16; 1995 a. 201, 227; 1997 a. 35; 1999 a. 9; 2017 a. 365.

84.40 Department; relation to nonprofit corporations.

(1) As used in this section, unless the context requires otherwise:

(a) “Existing highways and other improvements,” in relation to any conveyance, lease or sublease made under sub. (2) (a), (b) and (c), means any portion of the national system of interstate and defense highways in this state, including all bridges, tunnels, overpasses, underpasses, interchanges, lighting, approaches, signing, weighing stations, administration, storage and other buildings, facilities or appurtenances which in the judgment of the department are needed or useful for interstate highway purposes,

and all improvements and additions thereto which were erected, constructed or installed prior to the making of such conveyance, lease or sublease.

(b) “New highways and other improvements,” in relation to any conveyance, lease or sublease made under sub. (2) (a), (b) and (c), means any portion of the national system of interstate and defense highways in this state, including all bridges, tunnels, overpasses, underpasses, interchanges, lighting, approaches, signing, weighing stations, administration, storage and other buildings, facilities or appurtenances which in the judgment of the department are needed or useful for interstate highway purposes, and all improvements and additions thereto or to existing interstate highways and other improvements which are erected, constructed or installed after the making of such conveyance, lease or sublease.

(c) “Nonprofit-sharing corporation” means a nonstock corporation which was in existence on May 1, 1967 and was organized under ch. 181 or corresponding prior general corporation laws.

(2) In order to provide new highways or improve existing highways and to enable the construction and financing thereof, to refinance any indebtedness created by a nonprofit corporation for new highways or making additions or improvements to existing highways located on public right-of-way available for highway purposes or on lands owned by the nonprofit corporation, or for any one or more of said purposes, but for no other purpose unless authorized by law, the department:

(a) Subject to any prior action under s. 13.48 (14) (am) or 16.848 (1), may sell and convey to a nonprofit-sharing corporation any public right-of-way available for highway purposes and any existing highways or other improvements thereon owned by the state or under the jurisdiction of the department for such consideration and upon such terms and conditions as the department deems in the public interest.

(b) May lease to a nonprofit-sharing corporation, for terms not exceeding 30 years each, any public right-of-way available for highway purposes and any existing highways or improvements thereon owned by the state or under the jurisdiction of the department upon such terms, conditions and rentals as the department deems in the public interest.

(c) May lease or sublease from such nonprofit-sharing corporation, and make available for public use, any such public right-of-way available for highway purposes and existing highways and other improvements conveyed or leased to such corporations under pars. (a) and (b), and any new highways or other improvements constructed upon such public right-of-way available for highway purposes or upon any other land owned by such corporation, upon such terms, conditions and rentals, subject to available appropriations, as the department deems in the public interest. With respect to any property conveyed to such corporation under par. (a), such lease from such corporation may be subject or subordinated to one or more mortgages of such property granted by such corporation.

(d) Shall enter into lease and sublease agreements under par. (c) for highway projects only when the projects meet the department’s standard specifications for road and bridge construction and when arrangements are made that all construction be under the direct supervision of the department.

(e) May establish, operate and maintain highways and other improvements leased or subleased under par. (c).

(f) Shall submit the plans and specifications for all such new highways or other improvements and all conveyances, leases and subleases and purchase agreements made under this subsection to the governor for approval before they are finally adopted, executed and delivered.

(g) May pledge and assign, subject to available appropriations, all moneys provided by law for the purpose of the payment of rentals pursuant to leases and subleases entered into under par. (c) as security for the payment of rentals due and to become due under

any lease or sublease of such highways and other improvements made under par. (c).

(h) Shall, upon receipt of notice of any assignment by any such corporation of any lease or sublease made under par. (c), or of any of its rights under any such lease or sublease, recognize and give effect to such assignments, and pay to the assignee thereof rentals or other payments then due or which may become due under any such lease or sublease which has been so assigned by such corporation.

(i) May purchase and acquire from such nonprofit-sharing corporation any right-of-way available for highway purposes and any new highways and other improvements for which leases and subleases have been executed pursuant to par. (c) upon such terms and conditions as the department deems in the public interest.

(3) All lease and sublease agreements executed under this section and all contracts entered into pursuant to the lease and sublease agreements shall be processed, governed by and performed in accordance with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations. Sections 66.0901, 84.015, 84.03 and 84.06 are applicable to all contractual instruments for the construction of highway projects subject to lease and sublease in the same manner as they are applicable to the department.

(4) All conveyances, leases and subleases made under this section shall be made, executed and delivered in the name of the department and signed by the secretary or the secretary's designees.

History: 1977 c. 29 ss. 948, 1654 (8) (a); 1981 c. 314; 1993 a. 490; 1999 a. 150 s. 672; 2013 a. 20.

84.41 State liability; applicable laws; tax exemption; securing of federal aids. (1) LIABILITY OF STATE. The state shall be liable for accrued rentals and for any other default under any lease or sublease executed under s. 84.40 and may be sued therefor on contract as in other contract actions pursuant to ch. 775, but it shall not be necessary for the lessor under any such lease or sublease or any assignee of such lessor or any person or other legal entity on behalf of such lessor to file any claim with the legislature prior to the commencement of any such action. However, the corporation or bondholders may not reenter or take possession of the highway land, easements or structures by reason of any default in the payment of rent or for any other reason.

(2) APPLICATION OF STATE LAWS. All laws of this state including those pertaining to the regulation of motor vehicles and highways, shall apply to the projects subject to lease and sublease executed under s. 84.40.

(4) CONTRACTOR'S LIENS; PERFORMANCE AND PAYMENT BONDS. The provisions of s. 779.15 pertaining to contractor's liens and related matters, and s. 779.14 relating to performance and payment bonds, shall apply in the same manner as such law applies to other state highway construction projects.

(5) TAX EXEMPTION. All lands leased and re-leased under any approved project shall be exempt from taxation.

(6) NO STATE DEBT CREATED. Nothing contained in this section or s. 84.40 shall create a debt of the state.

(7) SECURING OF FEDERAL AIDS. The department shall do all things necessary to secure federal aids in carrying out the purposes of this section and s. 84.40.

History: 1977 c. 29 s. 1654 (8) (a); 1979 c. 32 s. 92 (5), (9); 2015 a. 55; 2017 a. 59.

84.42 Limitations on bonding. The department's authority to act under ss. 84.40 and 84.41 is limited to completion of highway I-94 between Tomah and Eau Claire, the interstate bridge, including the approaches, on highway I-94 at Hudson and highway I-90 between Tomah and La Crosse.

History: 1977 c. 29 s. 1654 (8) (a).

84.51 Construction of state highways. (1) The secretary with approval of the governor and subject to the limits of s. 20.866 (2) (ur), (us) and (uu) may direct that state debt be contracted for the purposes set forth in subs. (2) and (3) subject to the limits set

forth in subs. (2) and (3). Said debts shall be contracted in accordance with ch. 18.

(2) It is the intent of the legislature that state debt not to exceed \$185,000,000 for the construction of highways be appropriated over a 6-year period except that if funds allocated to any project hereunder are not used for such project or if additional highway construction funds are made available hereunder, they shall first be used for development of state trunk highway 45 from the intersection with highway 41 to and including the West Bend bypass, and except that no funds shall be used for the construction of the proposed Bay freeway and no funds shall be used for the "Augusta Bypass" project in Eau Claire County. Nothing in this section shall be construed so as to allow the redevelopment of state trunk highway 83 in Washington and Waukesha counties. U.S. numbered highway 16 from Tomah to the interchange with I-90 east of Sparta shall be retained as part of the state highway system in the same route as in use on November 1, 1969. The improvement project for state trunk highway 23 from Sheboygan to Fond du Lac shall be undertaken as swiftly as practicable.

(3) It is the intent of the legislature that state debt not to exceed \$15,000,000 shall be incurred for the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, resurfacing, development, enlargement or improvement of the connecting highway facility known as the 27th Street viaduct in Milwaukee County.

History: 1971 c. 40, 202, 264, 307; 1973 c. 90; 1977 c. 29; 1981 c. 20; 1983 a. 212; 1989 a. 56 s. 259.

84.52 Construction of intrastate and interstate bridges. (1) The secretary, with the approval of the governor and subject to the limits of s. 20.866 (2) (ug), may direct that state debt be contracted for the construction of bridges as set forth in sub. (2) and subject to the limits set therein. Said debts shall be contracted in accordance with ch. 18.

(2) It is the intent of the legislature that state debt not to exceed \$46,849,800 may be incurred for the construction or reconstruction of local bridges as provided by s. 84.11 and interstate bridges as provided by s. 84.12. Construction under this subsection shall be in accordance with the bridge needs of the state as determined in the biennial budget bill.

History: 1973 c. 333; 1977 c. 29; 1981 c. 27; 1989 a. 31.

84.53 Matching of federal aid. (1) The secretary with the approval of the governor, subject to the limits of s. 20.866 (2) (ut), may direct that state debt be contracted for the matching of federal aid as set forth in sub. (2) and subject to the limits set therein. Said debt shall be contracted in accordance with ch. 18.

(2) It is the intent of the legislature that state debt not to exceed \$10,000,000 may be incurred for the purpose of matching federal aid for the construction of highway facilities.

History: 1973 c. 333; 1977 c. 29

84.54 Minimum federal expenditures for projects receiving federal funding. (1) Except as provided in sub. (2), for all of the following projects on which the department expends federal moneys, the department shall expend federal moneys on not less than 70 percent of the aggregate project components eligible for federal funding each fiscal year:

(a) Southeast Wisconsin freeway megaprojects.

(b) Major highway development projects.

(c) State highway rehabilitation projects with a total cost of less than \$10 million.

(2) If the department determines that it cannot meet the requirements under sub. (1) or that it can make more effective and efficient use of federal moneys than the use required under sub. (1), the department may submit a proposed alternate funding plan to the joint committee on finance. If the cochairpersons of the committee do not notify the department within 14 working days after the date of the department's submittal that the committee has scheduled a meeting for the purpose of reviewing the proposed plan, the department may expend moneys as proposed in the plan. If, within 14 working days after the date of the submittal, the

cochairpersons of the committee notify the department that the committee has scheduled a meeting for the purpose of reviewing the proposed plan, the department may expend moneys as proposed in the plan only upon approval of the committee. The department may continue with any projects subject to the funding requirement under sub. (1) while the committee conducts its review, including any hearings conducted by the committee.

History: 2017 a. 368.

84.555 Additional funding of major highway and rehabilitation projects. (1) Notwithstanding ss. 84.51 and 84.59, major highway projects, as defined under s. 84.013 (1) (a), for the purposes of ss. 84.06 and 84.09, southeast Wisconsin freeway rehabilitation projects under s. 84.014, and state highway rehabilitation projects for the purposes specified in s. 20.395 (3) (cq), may be funded with the proceeds of general obligation bonds issued under s. 20.866 (2) (uum) if all of the following conditions are satisfied:

(a) The department's most recent estimate of the amount of federal funds, as defined in s. 84.03 (2) (a) 1., that the department will be appropriated under s. 20.395 in the current state fiscal year is less than 95 percent of the amount of federal funds shown in the schedule, as defined in s. 84.03 (2) (a) 2., for the appropriations under s. 20.395 in that fiscal year.

(b) The secretary has submitted a plan to the joint committee on finance for the use of proceeds of general obligation bonds issued under s. 20.866 (2) (uum) and the joint committee on finance has approved the plan, except that the secretary may not submit, and the joint committee on finance may not approve, a plan for the use of an amount of proceeds of general obligation bonds that exceeds the difference between the amount of federal funds, as defined in s. 84.03 (2) (a) 1., actually available to the department to be appropriated under s. 20.395 in the current state fiscal year and the amount of federal funds shown in the schedule, as defined in s. 84.03 (2) (a) 2., for the appropriations under s. 20.395 in that fiscal year.

(1m) Notwithstanding sub. (1) and ss. 84.51 and 84.59, the proceeds of general obligation bonds issued under s. 20.866 (2) (uum) are allocated for expenditure obligations under s. 84.95 and s. 84.014, the proceeds of general obligation bonds issued under s. 20.866 (2) (uup) and (uuv) may be used to fund expenditure obligations for the Marquette interchange reconstruction project under s. 84.014, for the reconstruction of the I 94 north–south corridor, as defined in s. 84.014 (5m) (ag) 1m., for the reconstruction of the Zoo interchange, as defined in s. 84.014 (5m) (ag) 2., for the reconstruction of the I 94 east–west corridor, as defined in s. 84.014 (5m) (ag) 1e., for southeast Wisconsin freeway megaprojects under s. 84.0145, and for high–cost state highway bridge projects under s. 84.017, and the proceeds of general obligation bonds issued under s. 20.866 (2) (uur) and (uuv) may be used to fund expenditure obligations for southeast Wisconsin freeway megaprojects under s. 84.0145.

(2) The joint committee on finance may approve, or modify and approve, a plan received under sub. (1) (b) using the procedure specified in s. 84.03 (2) (c). No plan submitted under sub. (1) (b) may be implemented unless the joint committee on finance has approved, or modified and approved, the plan.

(3) The secretary may submit a plan under sub. (1) (b) at any time during a state fiscal year after the condition specified in sub. (1) (a) is satisfied for that fiscal year.

History: 2001 a. 109; 2003 a. 33; 2005 a. 25; 2007 a. 20, 100; 2011 a. 32; 2013 a. 20; 2021 a. 58.

84.56 Additional funding for major highway projects. Notwithstanding ss. 84.51, 84.53, 84.555, and 84.59, major highway projects, as defined under s. 84.013 (1) (a), for the purposes of ss. 84.06 and 84.09, may be funded with the proceeds of general obligation bonds issued under s. 20.866 (2) (uus) and (uuv).

History: 2009 a. 28; 2021 a. 58.

84.57 Additional funding for certain state highway rehabilitation projects. (1) Notwithstanding ss. 84.51, 84.53, 84.555, 84.59, and 84.95, and subject to sub. (2), state highway rehabilitation projects for the purposes specified in s. 20.395 (6) (aq) may be funded with the proceeds of general obligation bonds issued under s. 20.866 (2) (uut) and (uuv).

(2) Only state highway reconstruction projects, pavement replacement projects, and bridge replacement projects may be funded with the proceeds of general obligation bonds issued under s. 20.866 (2) (uut).

History: 2009 a. 28; 2021 a. 58.

84.58 Additional contingent funding for major highway and rehabilitation projects. Subject to 2015 Wisconsin Act 55, section 9145 (1v), the proceeds of general obligation bonds issued under s. 20.866 (2) (uuu) may be used to fund major highway projects under s. 84.013 and state highway rehabilitation projects for the purposes specified in s. 20.395 (3) (cq).

History: 2015 a. 55.

84.585 Additional contingent funding for southeast Wisconsin freeway megaprojects. Subject to 2017 Wisconsin Act 58, section 60 (1c), the proceeds of general obligation bonds issued under s. 20.866 (2) (uuz) may be used to fund southeast Wisconsin freeway megaprojects under s. 84.0145 (3) (b) 1.

History: 2017 a. 58.

84.59 Funding of transportation facilities and highway projects. (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 may be funded with the proceeds of revenue obligations issued subject to and in accordance with subch. II of ch. 18.

(2) (a) The department may, under s. 18.561 or 18.562, deposit in a separate and distinct fund outside the state treasury, in an account maintained by a trustee, revenues derived under s. 341.25. The revenues deposited are the trustee's revenues in accordance with the agreement between this state and the trustee or in accordance with the resolution pledging the revenues to the repayment of revenue obligations issued under this section.

(b) The department may, under s. 18.562, deposit in a separate and distinct special fund outside the state treasury, in an account maintained by a trustee, revenues derived under ss. 341.09 (2) (d), (2m) (a) 1., (4), and (7), 341.14 (2), (2m), (6) (d), (6m) (a), (6r) (b) 2., (6w), and (8), 341.145 (3), 341.147 (3), 341.16 (1) (a) and (b), (2), (2e), and (2m), 341.17 (8), 341.19 (1), 341.25, 341.255 (1), (2) (a), (b), and (c), and (5), 341.26 (1), (2), (2m) (am) and (b), (3), (3m), (4), (5), and (7), 341.264 (1), 341.265 (1), 341.266 (2) (b) and (3), 341.268 (2) (b) and (3), 341.269 (2) (b), 341.30 (3), 341.305 (3), 341.308 (3), 341.36 (1) and (1m), 341.51 (2), and 342.14 and from any payments received with respect to agreements or ancillary arrangements entered into under s. 18.55 (6) with respect to revenue obligations issued under this section. The revenues deposited are the trustee's revenues in accordance with the agreement between this state and the trustee or in accordance with the resolution pledging the revenues to the repayment of revenue obligations issued under this section. Revenue obligations issued for the purposes specified in sub. (1) and for the repayment of which revenues are deposited under this paragraph are special fund obligations, as defined in s. 18.52 (7), issued for special fund programs, as defined in s. 18.52 (8).

(3) The secretary may pledge revenues received or to be received in any fund established under sub. (2) to secure revenue obligations issued under this section. The pledge shall provide for the transfer to this state of all pledged revenues, including any interest earned on the revenues, which are in excess of the amounts required to be paid under s. 20.395 (6) (as). The pledge shall provide that the transfers be made at least twice yearly, that the transferred amounts be deposited in the transportation fund and that the transferred amounts are free of any prior pledge.

(4) The department shall have all other powers necessary and convenient to distribute the pledged revenues and to distribute the proceeds of the revenue obligations in accordance with subch. II of ch. 18.

(5) The department may enter into agreements with the federal government or its agencies, political subdivisions of this state or private individuals or entities to insure or in any other manner provide additional security for the revenue obligations issued under this section.

(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, 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. 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 arrange-

ments 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.

(7) Unless otherwise expressly provided in resolutions authorizing the issuance of revenue obligations or in other agreements with the holders of revenue obligations, each issue of revenue obligations under this section shall be on a parity with every other revenue obligation issued under this section and in accordance with subch. II of ch. 18.

History: 1983 a. 27, 212; 1985 a. 29; 1987 a. 27; 1989 a. 31; 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 16; 1995 a. 113; 1997 a. 27; 1999 a. 9; 2001 a. 16; 2003 a. 33; 2005 a. 25; 2007 a. 20; 2009 a. 28, 135; 2011 a. 32; 2013 a. 20, 363; 2015 a. 55; 2017 a. 59; 2019 a. 9; 2021 a. 58, 178.

84.60 Bikeways. (1) In this section:

(a) “Bikeway” means a public path, trail, lane or other way, including structures, traffic control devices and related support facilities and parking areas, designated for use by bicycles, electric scooters, electric personal assistive mobility devices, and other vehicles propelled by human power. The term also includes “bicycle lane” as defined in s. 340.01 (5e) and “bicycle way” as defined in s. 340.01 (5s).

(b) “Highway” means any state trunk highway, national parkway, expressway, interstate highway or freeway.

(2) The department may establish a bikeway separately or in conjunction with any existing highway.

(3) Bikeways established under this section shall be considered highways for the purposes of ss. 84.06, 84.07 and 84.09.

History: 1977 c. 29; 2001 a. 90; 2019 a. 11.

84.95 General obligation bonding for highway rehabilitation projects. Notwithstanding ss. 84.51, 84.53, and 84.59, state highway rehabilitation projects for the purposes specified in s. 20.395 (3) (cq) may, under s. 84.555, be funded with the proceeds of general obligation bonds issued under s. 20.866 (2) (uum) and such projects may be funded with the proceeds of general obligation bonds issued under s. 20.866 (2) (uur).

History: 2003 a. 33; 2005 a. 25.