



WISCONSIN STATE SENATOR  
**TIM CARPENTER**  
SENATOR – 3RD DISTRICT

State Capitol • PO Box 7882 • Madison, WI 53707-7882 • Phone: (608) 266-8535

September 19, 2017

Governor Scott Walker  
115 East  
State Capitol

Dear Governor Walker,

I am writing to request that you veto several items in the recently passed State Budget bill (Assembly Bill 64). Specifically, these veto requests pertain to earmarks ('pork') for very specific transportation-related projects or projects that while maybe warranted, fail to take into account the necessity of completing the Zoo Interchange project in Milwaukee and addressing the deteriorating condition of local roads throughout the state.

I would like to have you use your partial veto power for the following provisions:

- **On page 148, line 18**: decrease the funding for Fiscal Year 2017-18 by \$3,200,000. It is my understanding that this is the appropriation inserted for Fincantieri Bay Shipbuilding in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin as part of its Harbor Assistance grant request. Along with this, please veto **lines 5 – 11 on page 1042** which specifically references this request of Fincantieri Bay Shipbuilding.
- **On page 149, line 10**: decrease the funding for Fiscal Year 2017-18 by \$5,700,000. It is my understanding that this is the appropriation inserted for airport improvement projects in Wisconsin Rapids at Alexander Field (\$4,000,000) and in Appleton at Appleton International Airport (\$1,700,000).
- **On page 310, line 18**: veto the language starting with that line through page 311, line 9. This language refers to harbor assistance and aeronautics assistance using state funds contained within this budget.
- **On page 153, line 14**: decrease the funding for Fiscal Year 2017-18 by \$9,700,000 and decrease the funding for Fiscal Year 2018-19 by \$9,700,000. It is my understanding these are the appropriations inserted for the State Highway 23 construction and rehabilitation project in Sheboygan County and Fond du Lac County.
- **On page 1041, line 1**: veto the language from that line through line 21. This would eliminate the language referencing the State Highway 23 construction and rehabilitation project, as well as the language referencing the Airport Improvement Project funding for Alexander Field and Appleton International Airport.
- **On page 150, line 7**: increase the funding for Fiscal Year 2017-18 by \$18,600,000 and increase the funding for Fiscal Year 2018-19 by \$9,700,000 to increase funding for the Local Roads Improvement program.
- **On page 1044, line 10**: veto the language from that line through line 16. This language specifically prohibits the Department of Transportation from using any state or federal funds for the north leg of the Zoo Interchange project between Swan Boulevard and Burleigh Street in Milwaukee County.

By eliminating the specific earmarks I have mentioned and then allocating the same funding to the Local Roads Improvement program, you could increase funding statewide for local roads improvement by \$28,300,000.

The reallocation I am suggesting would amount to an increase of 51% for the Local Roads Improvement program. As you know and have likely heard, the condition of many local roads throughout the state are bad and worsening. We need to take action now to make the necessary repairs and improvements. The vetoes I have suggested and the reallocation of those funds to the Local Roads Improvement program would be a significant step in the right direction.

I look forward to hearing your response.

Sincerely,

**TIM CARPENTER**

State Senator

3<sup>rd</sup> Senate District