TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A COMPREHENSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION FUNDING SOLUTION

Town of Oregon, Dane County

Resolution No. 02-2026

WHEREAS, local units of government in Wisconsin own and maintain approximately 90% of the public road miles in the state, including county highways, town roads, and city and village streets; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's economy—rooted in agriculture, manufacturing, and tourism—relies on a safe, reliable, and well-maintained transportation network; and

WHEREAS, local governments greatly appreciate the one-time infusions of General Purpose Revenue, primarily sales and income taxes, and other revenue provided in recent state budgets, which have enabled the initiation and continuation of the successful and popular Local Roads Improvement Program Supplemental (LRIP-S) and Agricultural Roads Improvement Program (ARIP); and

WHEREAS, despite modest increases from the state over the years, transportation aids to local governments remain insufficient to keep pace with inflation and rising construction costs, leaving many communities funded below 2000 levels in real dollars; and

WHEREAS, local governments throughout Wisconsin continue to struggle to perform even routine maintenance, pavement preservation, and safety improvements, resulting in deteriorating roads and bridges; and

WHEREAS, the inaugural inventory and assessment of small bridges between 6 to 20 feet found about 10% of the nearly 17,000 structures to be in poor or severe condition; and

WHEREAS, levy limits and other fiscal constraints prevent local governments from independently filling the funding gap created by inadequate state transportation aids; and

WHEREAS, absent sustainable state funding, many communities have been forced to address their shortfalls by significantly increasing borrowing, deferring essential projects, or imposing local vehicle registration ("wheel") taxes; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin motorists currently pay among the lowest transportation user fees in the Midwest, while neighboring states and dozens of others nationwide have enacted long-term revenue measures to keep their transportation systems competitive; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin is increasingly relying on General Purpose Revenues to make needed investments, potentially pitting transportation against other vital services, such as education; and

WHEREAS, continued lack of growing, dedicated, and predictable revenue places Wisconsin at a growing economic disadvantage by threatening the efficiency of freight movement, the safety of travelers, and the attractiveness of our state to businesses and residents; and

WHEREAS, both Wisconsin's aging Interstate highway system—largely constructed in the 1950s and 1960s—and our extensive network of state and local roads require predictable, adequate, and sustainable funding to meet current and future needs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Oregon Town Board strongly urges the Governor of Wisconsin and the State Legislature to enact a comprehensive, sustainable transportation funding solution that:

1. Provides adequate and reliable revenue growth for the efficient long-term planning and execution of state and local transportation programs;
2. Includes responsible and prudent use of General Purpose Revenue and bonding;
3. Adjusts any new and existing transportation user fees and other revenue mechanisms to sustain purchasing power in order to maintain and improve Wisconsin's transportation infrastructure; and
4. Ensures transportation continues to deliver for Wisconsin by adequately funding reconstruction, preservation, and safety investments on the state and local systems.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the clerk is hereby directed to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Governor's office, all members of the Wisconsin State Senate and Assembly representing districts within Town of Oregon.

Adopted this 21st day of April, 2026.

Carl Walser
Carl Walser (Apr 27, 2026 13:15:05 CDT)

Carl Walser, Town Chair

Attest:

Jennifer Hanson, Town Clerk

02-2026 Resoluation Transportation WTA transportation-resolution-2.1.26 _4_

Final Audit Report 2026-04-27

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AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

STATE OF WISCONSIN
Town of Oregon
Dane County

I, Jennifer Hanson, the town clerk of the Town of Oregon, Dane County, Wisconsin, attest and affirm all of the following:

1. That the following action was posted pursuant to s. 60.80 Wis. stats:

Resolution Number 02-26 – Supporting Comprehensive and Sustainable Transportation Funding Solution

2. That the above-noted action was posted as required in the following 2 places in the Town of Oregon, Dane County, Wisconsin:

    1. Oregon Town Hall, 1138 Union Road, Oregon, WI 53575

    2. Town of Oregon website https://townoforegonwi.gov/

3. That the posting of this action occurred at the following times and dates:

    Wednesday, April 15 at 12:00 p.m.

That I filed this affidavit in the records of the town clerk for the Town of Oregon on Wednesday, April 15, 2026.

Dated this 15th day of April 2026.

Jennifer J. Hanson, Town Clerk