



WISCONSIN TOWNS
ASSOCIATION

Empowering Town Officials

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May 24, 2019:

Dear Legislators:

Two weeks ago, we provided some background on **Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating** system (PASER) that is used by local officials to determine the condition of their roads. The two facts sheets we provided communicated that town roads have significant maintenance and construction needs.

Today's fact sheets examine the impact of construction inflation on the buying power of General Transportation Aids. As you will note, there is a \$1,144 gap in buying power as compared to 2003. Some legislators have questioned the construction business index. So, we sampled actual town bid documents to determine asphalt inflation. From 2003 to 2019, asphalt increased 194%. GTA only increased 31%. Is it any wonder town governments struggle to provide roads that are both safe and promote a 21st century economy?

Have town businesses and citizens earned a 21st century economy? Or, will they be stuck with 20th century infrastructure?

Sincerely,

Mike Koles
WTA Executive Director

CC: Governor Evers