



**2025-26 LEGISLATIVE SESSION REVIEW: BUDGET AND POLICY
OUTCOMES**



2025-26 Legislative Review

- Transportation funding
 - Funding levels
 - Future funding sources
- **Grant writing help – VETOED**
- Weight limit AG bill
- **Heavy Equipment license bill - FAILED**
- TRANS Code 206 (LRIP)





Transportation Revenue

- \$565 million one-time GPR transfer
- Almost \$200 million in new revenue
 - \$50 increase in vehicle title fees (\$116.3 million).
 - 10% increase in registration fees for vehicles over 6,000 pounds (\$26.3 million).
 - Increases in driver's license and license plate issuance fees (\$28.9 million).
 - Introduction of “blackout” and “retro” license plates with a \$25 annual fee (\$16.7 million).



GPR Transfers to the Transportation Fund (in millions)





State Budget – General Transportation Aids

- 4.2% baseline increase for the GTA rate per mile
 - Almost \$10 million
- Additional 3% increase in each year of the biennium for rate per mile and share of cost

2025

\$2,734 per mile

2026

\$2,930 per mile

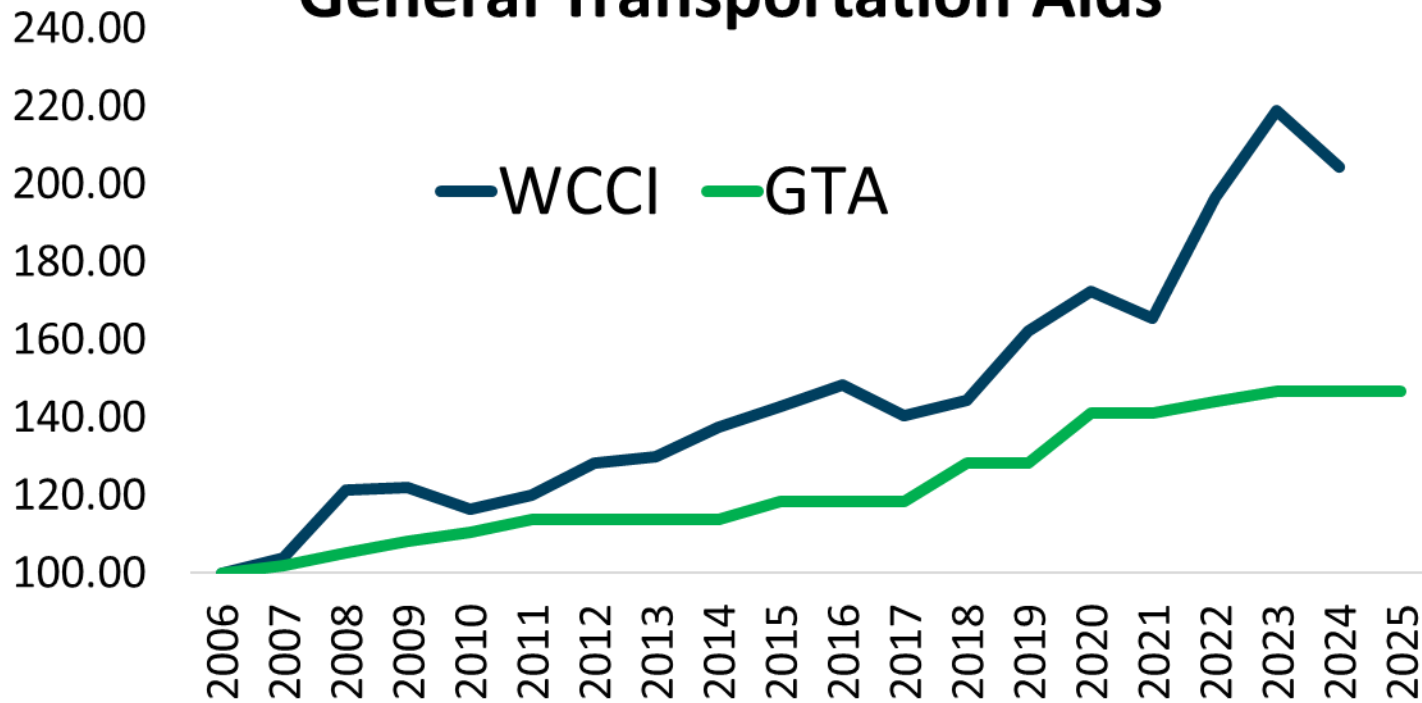
2027

\$3,018 per mile



But...we have inflation

Wisconsin Construction Cost Index vs General Transportation Aids

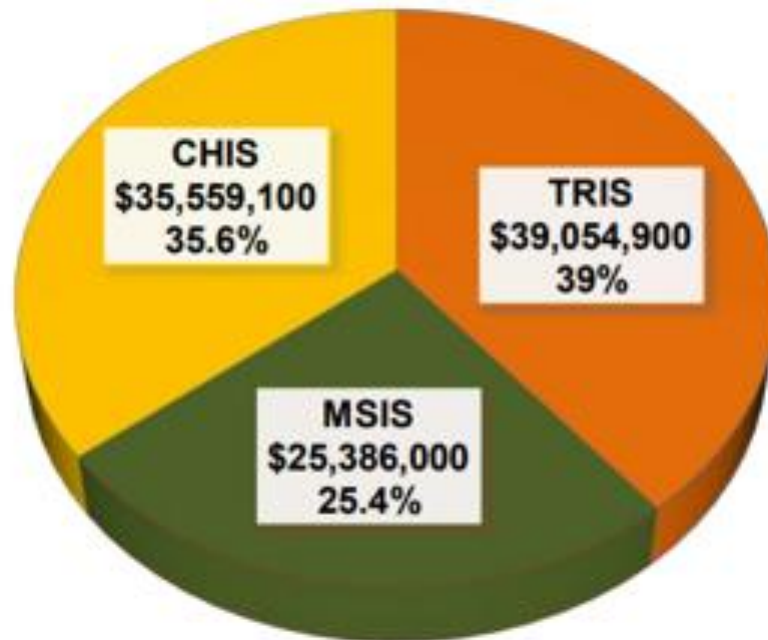


- Average town reported a 35% increase in bid prices in last 5 years
- 1 out of 3 towns reported increases over 50%



Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP)

- LRIP-Supplemental
 - \$100M, one-time supplemental (fourth iteration)
 - Statewide competitive “up to” 90-10 grant



Source: WisDOT

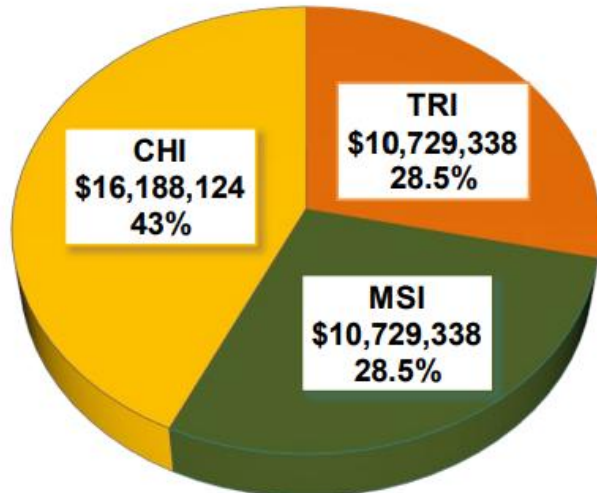


Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP)

- Entitlement (TRI) and Discretionary (TRID) funded at same levels as last biennium
 - Statewide competitive 50-50 grants

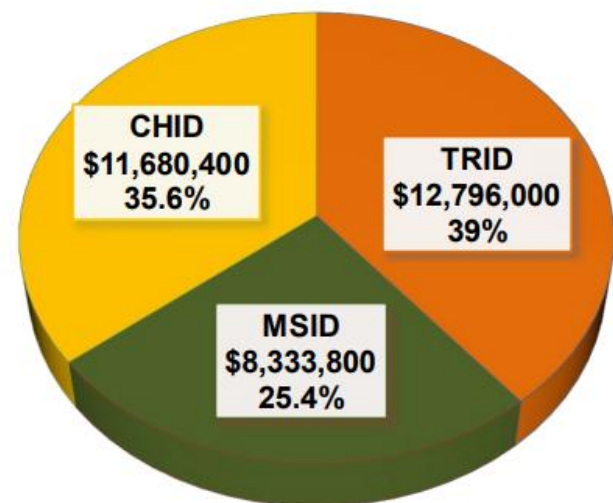
ENTITLEMENT DISTRIBUTION PER COMPONENT

\$37,646,800
(DOES NOT INCLUDE CARRYOVER)



DISCRETIONARY DISTRIBUTION PER COMPONENT

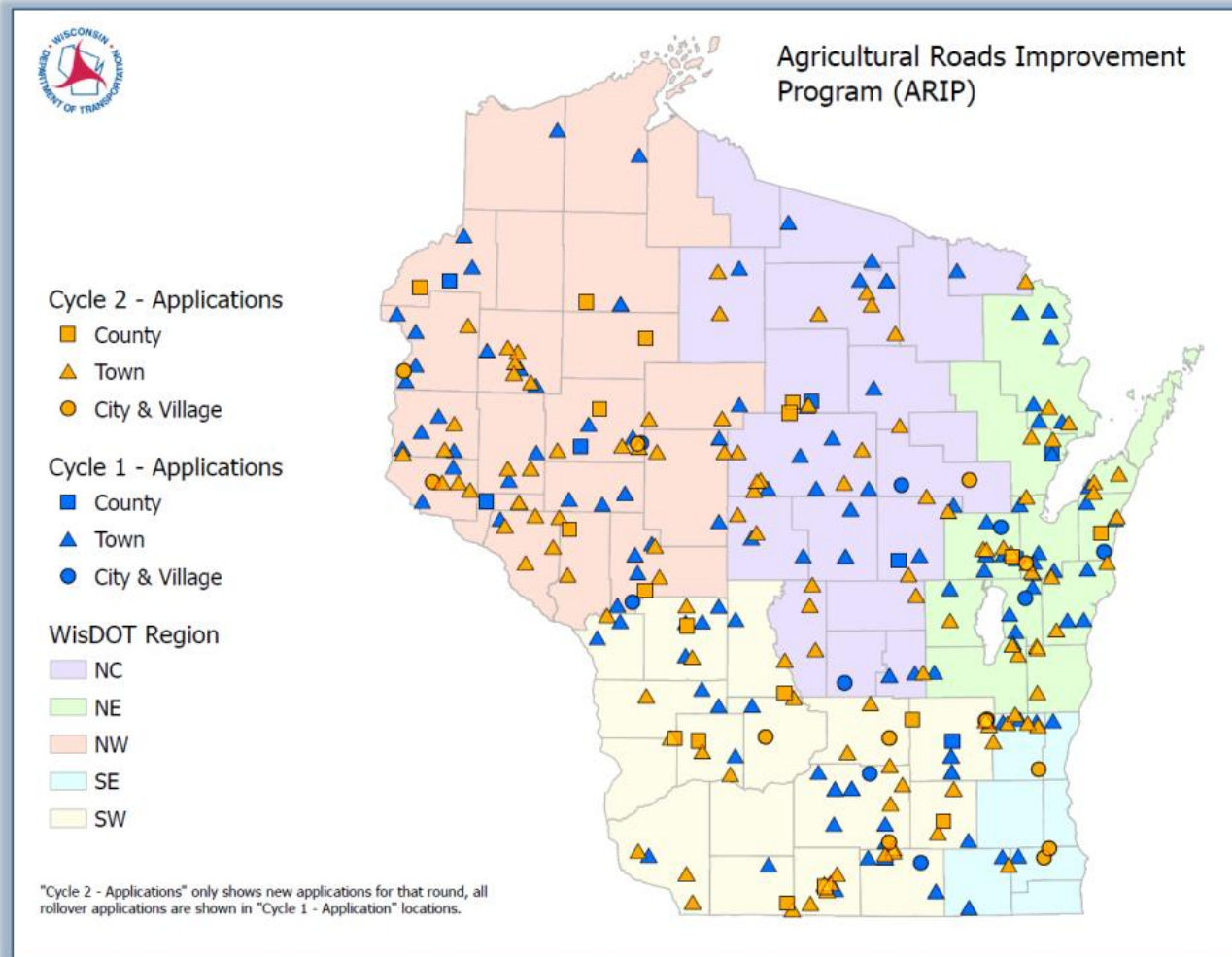
\$32,810,200
(DOES NOT INCLUDE CARRYOVER)



Source: WisDOT



Agricultural Road Improvement Program (ARIP)



2023-25 Award
Distribution
Source: WisDOT



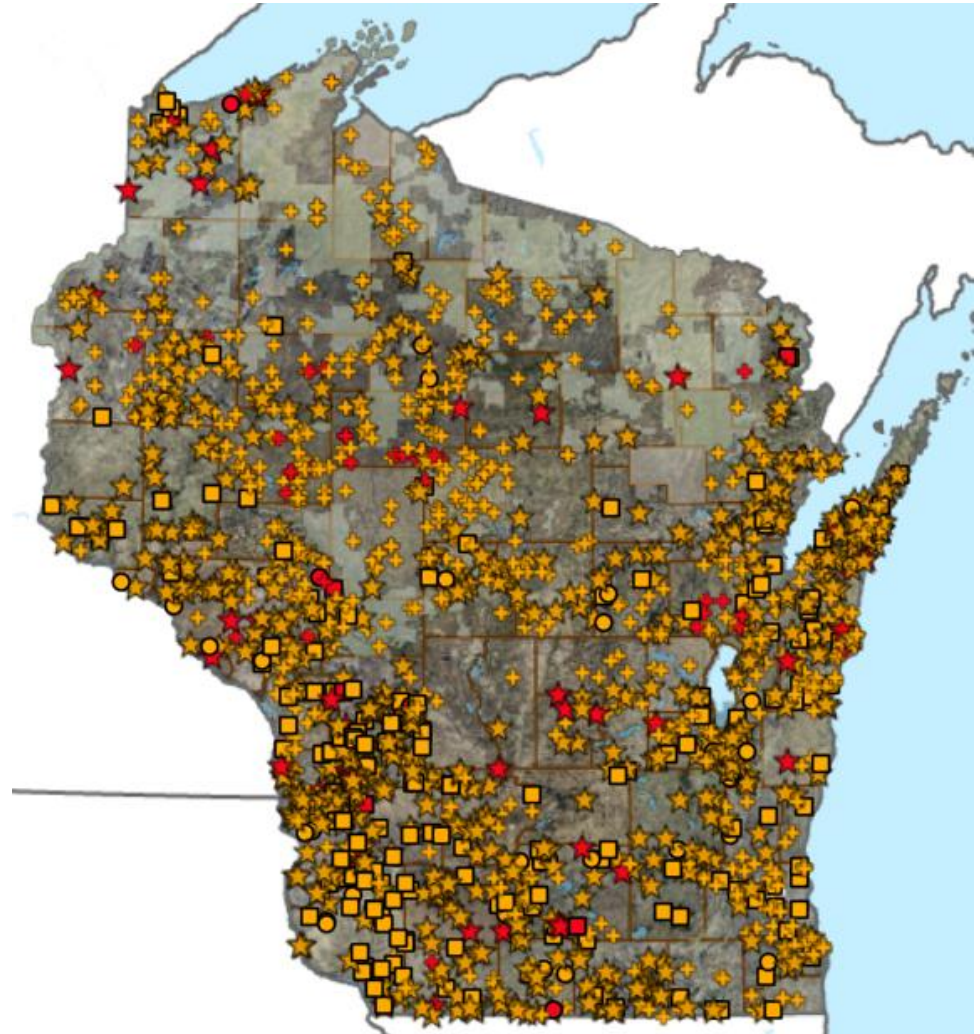
Agricultural Road Improvement Program (ARIP)

- \$150M, one time (second iteration)
- Statewide competitive “up to” 90-10 grant
 - Round One: \$50 million (closed)
 - Round two: \$70 million (due June 29)
- \$30 million is designated for small bridge/culvert repair and replacement
 - ARIP rules do not apply



Small Bridges

- Inventory & Inspection of 6' – 20' structures
 - Completed in 2025
 - Over 17,000 structures
 - 1,600+ poor/severe structures





Small Bridges

- Local Small Structures Improvement Program (LSSIP)
 - \$30 million of ARIP funding for 6' – 20' structures
 - Prioritization for poor/severe structures
 - Deadline May 1
 - Awards expected in July



Bidding Law Changes

- 2025 Wisconsin Act 188
- Increased thresholds for non highways contracts
 - Bidding for “Public highway contracts” stays the same
- Wis. Stat. § 60.47(1)(as).



Biding Law Changes

- General “public contracts”
 - “for the construction, execution, repair, remodeling or improvement of any public work or building or for the furnishing of materials or supplies”
- New Thresholds
 - \$10,000 and less
 - No bidding requirements
 - \$10,000.01 to \$50,000
 - Class 1 notice under ch. 985 of the proposed contract
 - \$50,000 +
 - Class 2 notice under ch. 985
 - Sealed bids
 - Lowest responsible bidder



Wisconsin Town Law Forms

60.47 (2) (a): Resolution and notice of public contract with estimated cost more than \$5,000 but not more than \$25,.

The following statutes affect this form: s. 60.47 (2) (a), Wis. stats.

STATE OF WISCONSIN

Town of _____

_____ County

The Town Board of the Town of _____, _____ County, Wisconsin, by this resolution, adopted by a majority of the town board on a roll call vote with a quorum present and voting and proper notice having been given, resolves and orders as follows:

The town board is authorized to enter into a public contract, as defined in s. 60.47 (1), Wis. stats., with an estimated cost of the public contract to the town of more than \$5,000, but not more than \$25,000, to be executed by the town board or its agents after _____, 20__.

Due to the estimated cost of the public contract to the Town of _____, the town clerk shall publish this resolution as a class 1 notice under s. 985.07, Wis. stats., before the above-noted public contract execution date as required under s. 60.47 (2) (a), Wis. stats.

Any person interested in the proposed public contract to be executed shall contact _____ at _____ prior to _____, 20__.



Biding Law Changes

- “Public highway contracts”
 - “a contract for the construction, execution, repair, remodeling, or improvement of a highway”
- Same Old Thresholds
 - \$5,000 and less
 - No bidding requirements
 - \$5,000.01 to \$25,000
 - Class 1 notice under ch. 985 of the proposed contract
 - \$25,000 +
 - Class 2 notice under ch. 985
 - Sealed bids
 - Lowest responsible bidder

Note: LRIP rules require publication in a newspaper



Wisconsin Town Law Forms

60.47 (2) (b): Resolution and notice of advertisement for proposals to perform public contract with estimated cost of more than \$25,.

The following statutes affect this form: s. 60.47 (2) (b), Wis. stats.

STATE OF WISCONSIN

Town of _____
_____ County

The Town Board of the Town of _____, _____ County, Wisconsin, by this resolution, adopted by a majority of the town board on a roll call vote with a quorum present and voting and proper notice having been given, resolves and orders as follows:

The town, by the town board, is authorized to enter into a public contract with a responsible bidder, as defined in s. 60.47 (1), Wis. stats., with an estimated cost for the public contract to the Town of _____ greater than \$25,000.

Due to the estimated cost of the public contract to the Town of _____, the town clerk shall publish this resolution as a class 2 notice under s. 985.07, Wis. stats., to serve as an advertisement for bids to perform the terms of the public contract for the Town of _____ as described below:

1. The town board, by this resolution, establishes and provides notice of the following general bid specifications and conditions for the bid and for the proposed public contract: *[list conditions and specifications]*.
2. The town board reserves the right to reject any and all bids submitted for the public contract without any basis, and without disclosure for cause. The proposed public contract will not be a town road improvement project under s. 86.31, Wis. stats., for which specific criteria and procedures apply for contracting with any county.
3. The bids for the public contract shall be submitted by the bidders for acceptance to _____ *[designate town officer]* at _____ *[designate location]* before _____, 20__ *[specify deadline date]*, at _____ .m. *[specify time]*
4. The bidders' proof of financial responsibility are as follows: *[list requirements]*.
5. The bids for the public contract will be opened by the town board or its agents at _____ *[designate location]* on _____, 20__ *[specify date]* at _____ *[specify time]*.

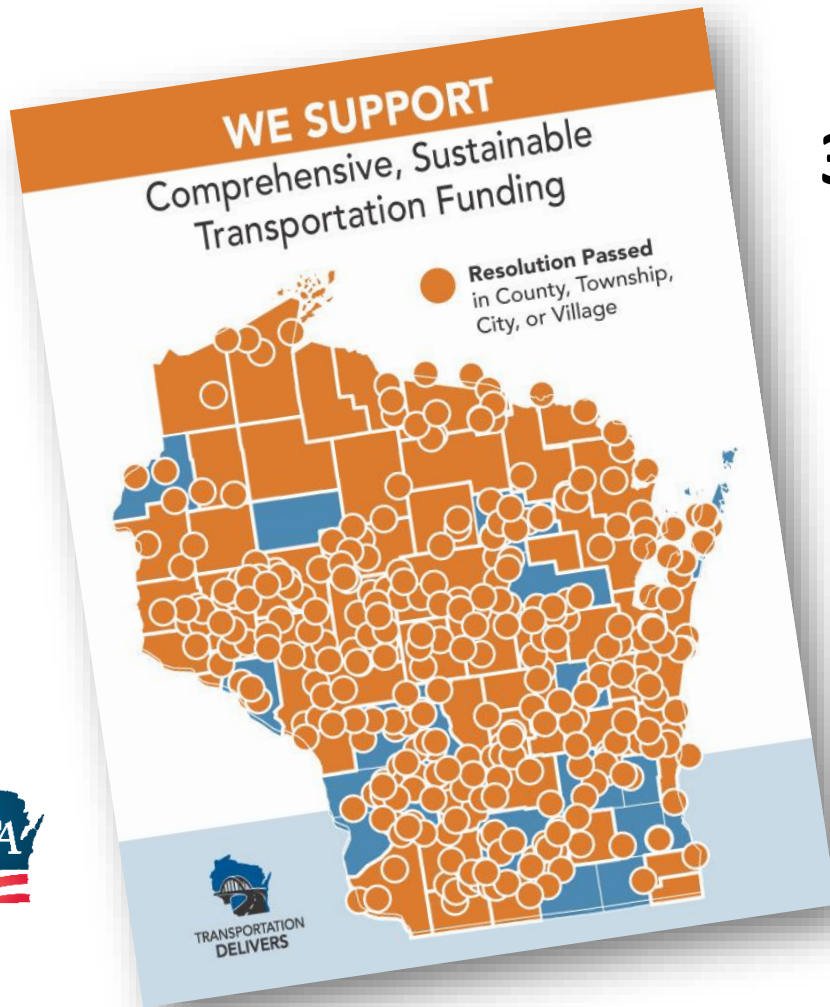


Grant Help

- \$3 million was set aside for local grant writing and grant compliance assistance
 - \$5,000 grants
 - Municipalities under 7,500 in population
 - VERY simple applications
- Legislation needed to pass before funding could be released
 - SB337 / AB326 (Sen. Marklein / Rep. Kurtz)
 - VETOED by Governor Evers



Transportation Resolutions



350+ Passed So Far

- Way to show local government support
- Create media stories, social media content
- Touch point with legislators



May 2026 Candidate and Legislator Forums

May 14	Thursday	Northeast: Appleton DJ Bordini Center	Breakfast Meetings 7:30 – 9:00 AM
May 18	Monday	Southwest: La Crosse Radisson	
May 19	Tuesday	Northwest: Eau Claire The Lismore	
May 20	Wednesday	North Central: Wausau Hilton Garden Inn	
May 27	Wednesday	Southeast: Oak Creek Homewood Suites & Conference Center	
May 28	Thursday	South Central: Janesville Woodman's Sports & Convention Center	



Visit TDAWisconsin.org for more information and to RSVP.





Questions?