

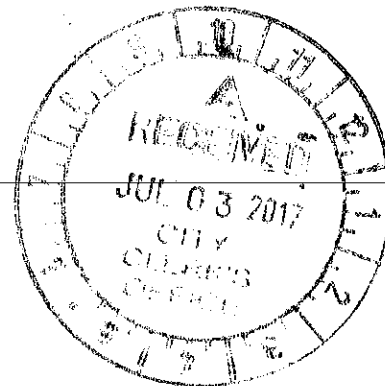


Jennifer Shilling

WISCONSIN STATE SENATOR
32ND SENATE DISTRICT

June 27, 2017

Common Council of La Crosse
Attn: Teri Lehrke
400 La Crosse St
La Crosse, WI 54601-3374



Dear Teri,

Thank you for sending me a resolution on behalf of the City of La Crosse regarding local road improvements and the transportation budget. I appreciate that you took the time to share your thoughts with me, and I want to take this opportunity to update you on this issue.

In 2015, Governor Walker signed the 2015-17 biennial budget into law as Wisconsin Act 55. After weeks of closed-door meetings about transportation funding, Republicans cut nearly \$500 million from desperately needed road and bridge projects. These drastic cuts threaten the safety and reliability of Wisconsin's transportation network and are estimated to cost the state more than 5,000 private sector jobs and millions of dollars in loan interest payments.

While the Governor continues to block common sense proposals and instead borrows money for road repairs, my Democratic colleagues and I will continue to work towards sustainable solutions to fix our state's infrastructure. As you noted, local transportation repairs and transit systems need more funding and have been waiting too long for repairs. Finding a long-term solution for funding our transportation system is critical, and it is important that we consider all potential solutions to address this ongoing issue.

Having safe, reliable infrastructure is crucial for our state's economy, and remains a top priority for Democrats in the Legislature. Moving forward, I will continue to support investments in transportation that promote our state's ability to compete not only in today's economy, but to remain competitive in the future.

I know this issue is very important to you, and I can assure you that I have made a note of your views. I will be sure to keep your thoughts in mind as I continue to work with my colleagues to expand economic opportunities, strengthen communities and create a level playing field for families across Wisconsin.

Thank you for sharing your insights regarding transportation funding. It is a privilege to represent you in the State Senate, and I hope that you will not hesitate to contact me again.

Sincerely,

Jennifer K. Shilling
State Senator
32nd Senate District

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