



Transportation Finance Issues

How is transportation money spent?

Biennial spending plan

The state transportation budget for 2015-17 totals \$6.82 billion. Major categories of spending include:

- State highway expenditures
- Local aid and assistance programs
- State operations, including Division of Motor Vehicles and Division of State Patrol
- Debt service/reserves

Most funds are used on existing roads and bridges

The largest part of the budget goes toward rehabilitating existing highways and bridges. About eight percent of the total budget goes toward the maintenance and operation of the current system, including traffic control signals. Major highway construction is a small part of the total budget (about 7.1 percent).

Large portion of the budget returns money to local communities

General transportation aids (GTA), the largest category of local aid, is used to partially offset the cost of maintaining and improving the road system owned by local governments.

State transit aids provide a large share of the operating costs of public transit systems.

Local transportation capital assistance includes support for rail, harbor and aeronautics programs as well as funding for bike and pedestrian facilities and local road and bridge projects.

Divisions of Motor Vehicles and State Patrol

The other category of spending in WisDOT's budget finances all of the departments non-modal activities. This includes long-range planning, Division of Motor Vehicles, Division of State Patrol and the department's administrative costs.

2015-17 TRANSPORTATION BUDGET ALL FUNDS

TOTAL BUDGET \$6.82 BILLION

2015 Wisconsin Act 55

