

2     **RESOLUTION:     Urging State Legislators to Vote in Favor of Transportation Dollars Solely**  
3                           **for Transportation Purposes**  
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5     **TO THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

6             **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin's transportation infrastructure is a fundamental component of its ability to attract and  
7 retain businesses that produce jobs; and

8             **WHEREAS**, gas taxes and vehicle registration fees comprise over 85% of the State's segregated  
9 transportation account. Revenues from these two user fees have been declining and are inadequate to meet the  
10 existing transportation needs in the State of Wisconsin; and

11            **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin's past practice of transferring money from the segregated transportation fund to the  
12 general fund has eroded the public's confidence that the "user fees" they pay through the State gasoline tax and  
13 vehicle registration fees will be used for their intended purpose; and

14            **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin's practice of replacing the dollars transferred from the State's segregated  
15 transportation fund with general obligation bonds place the State in the position of bonding to fund ongoing  
16 operations; and

17            **WHEREAS**, the debt service for these bonds is being paid for out of the State's general fund which hinders  
18 its ability to fund other programs like Shared Revenue, Youth Aids, Community Aids, and the operation of the court  
19 system in the future; and

20            **WHEREAS**, Winnebago County placed an advisory referendum on the November 2010 ballot asking,  
21 "Should the Wisconsin Constitution be amended to prohibit any further transfers or lapses from the segregated  
22 transportation fund?" and over 70% of Winnebago County's residence voted in favor of such a proposed  
23 Constitutional amendment; and

24            **WHEREAS**, 53 other counties in the State of Wisconsin also asked the same advisory referendum question  
25 with the support for such question being similar throughout other counties; and

26            **WHEREAS**, first consideration of this Constitutional amendment passed the Wisconsin State Legislature  
27 overwhelmingly last session on a bi-partisan basis; and

28            **WHEREAS**, the 2012-2013 session of the Wisconsin State Legislature has the opportunity to pass a second  
29 consideration of this Constitutional amendment and in doing so will give the citizens of the entire State of Wisconsin  
30 the opportunity to vote for amending the State Constitution to ensure transportation revenues are spent for  
31 transportation purposes; and

32            **WHEREAS**, passage of such an amendment will align ourselves with the states of Minnesota, Iowa, and  
33 Michigan in protecting the purpose for transportation user fees.

34            **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby  
35 strongly urges our State representatives to vote in favor of a second consideration of the joint resolution to protect  
36 the transportation fund, thereby giving voters across the State the opportunity to vote on a binding referendum to  
37 amend the Constitution and ensure the transportation user fees they pay will be spent for transportation purposes.

38            **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that a copy of this Resolution  
39 be transmitted to all legislators representing Winnebago County constituents in the State Legislature.  
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Respectfully submitted by:  
**HIGHWAY COMMITTEE**

Committee Vote: **4-0**  
Vote Required for Passage: **Majority of Those Present**

Approved by the Winnebago County Executive this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013.

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Mark L Harris  
Winnebago County Executive