



**Vrakas Unveils Capital Plan
5-Year proposal focuses on sustainability**

Waukesha, WIS. – Today Waukesha County Executive Dan Vrakas unveils his 2009-2013 Capital Projects Plan that focuses on long term and sustainable facility needs, highway improvements, technology upgrades and park enhancements. At \$94.7 million, the plan represents the prioritization of future capital needs, which have been linked to strategic planning.

Vrakas says, “My proposed Capital Projects Plan continues Waukesha County’s legacy of fiscal responsibility by striking a balance between infrastructure maintenance and delivering critical services to ensure our future growth and economic viability. It also introduces a number of environmentally sustainable initiatives that minimize our impact on the ecosystem while saving significant tax dollars in the long run.”

As the County Courthouse turns 50 years old in 2009, the plan addresses long-term facility needs. It includes proposals to increase public safety through a new secure connector to separate the public from inmate movement and general maintenance of the existing Courthouse facility until a major infrastructure renovation happens in 2016. Other facility projects include:

- Planning for the construction of a new Human Services Center in 2013 at an estimated cost of \$32 million.
- Expanding space at the Medical Examiner’s Office
- Making continued investments in Waukesha County’s higher education at the UW-Waukesha campus totaling \$2.5 million

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“Vrakas Unveils Capital Plan” continued . . .

About 57% or \$54 million in plan spending is dedicated to highway improvements, of which more than \$21 million will be spent on repaving roads, repairing bridges and making spot safety improvements. It also provides the necessary funding to enhance safety at three highly traveled intersections over the next year. Other transportation projects include:

- Construction of 1.1 miles of CTH Y (Racine Avenue) includes \$2.0 million in 2009 (last year funding) for a total project cost of \$13.1 million.
- Expanding 1.5 miles of CTH VV (Silver Spring Drive) in 2009 and a Phase II project for 1.5 miles in 2010 – 2012 for \$3.4 million in county funding and nearly \$6.6 million in federal funding for land acquisition and construction.
- Completing the second phase of 2.5 miles of CTH L (Janesville Road) with \$21.0 million in funding through 2013.

Deleted from the plan is an expansion project for 1.1 miles of CTH TT (Meadowview Road) because the state’s Department of Transportation is unwilling to partner with the County and City of Waukesha in a cooperative agreement to address the critical project.

The plan makes significant technology investments with the Justice and Public Safety areas with the replacement of the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system for \$2.5 million.

Park projects include \$2.3 million for park roadway maintenance and \$775,000 for pavement improvements along the Lake Country and Bugline Recreational Trails. In an effort to maintain a high level of service at six parks, the plan proposed replacing 18 of the 22 concrete vault restrooms.

The Capital Projects planning process provides opportunities for the County to make infrastructure improvements and operational changes that save real, ongoing tax dollars through environmentally friendly conservation efforts. The 2009-2013 plan identifies a number of “green” projects that include recycling existing pavement and reusing it in construction projects and exploring the use of low flow fixtures, waste composting systems, solar thermal water heating, solar electric lighting, as well as solar powered and natural ventilation systems.

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