

Daniel P. Vrakas
County Executive



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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VRAKAS CALLS FOR END TO TRANSPORTATION FUND RAIDS

Referendum would ask state to change constitution to prohibit raids on Transportation Fund

WAUKESHA, Wis. – Saying it is time to restore the integrity of the state Transportation Fund, Waukesha County Executive Dan Vrakas today requested that a countywide advisory referendum on preventing raids of the state Transportation Fund appear on the November ballot. Under the ordinance submitted to the County Board today by Vrakas, voters would be asked if they support an amendment to the State Constitution requiring that “*all transportation funds collected or received be used solely to fund Wisconsin’s transportation system and infrastructure.*”

Over the past decade the state of Wisconsin has transferred approximately \$1.2 billion from the State’s segregated transportation fund to the state’s general fund. The segregated transportation fund, which is mostly funded (90%) by the gas tax and vehicle registration fees, is intended to be used for transportation infrastructure building and improvements. Transportation infrastructure plays a key role in attracting and retaining businesses and producing jobs in the state and nationwide.

“It is time to lock up these funds so that the segregated transportation fund is used for the purpose of which it is intended,” said Vrakas. “We need to make sure that we are being transparent with taxpayers. When a taxpayer pays the gas tax or their vehicle registration fee they should be confident that their dollars are going to fund transportation projects.”

The ordinance has been submitted to the County Board and will be considered by the Public Works and Executive Committees later in the month. A vote on the ordinance by the full board will take place on June 23.

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