

Resolution No: 38-16

Resolution In Support of Legislation to Provide for Sustainable Funding of Wisconsin's
Transportation System
"Just Fix It"

TO THE HONORABLE SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY BOARD OF THE COUNTY OF
POLK:

Gentlemen:

WHEREAS, local government in Wisconsin is responsible for maintaining about 90% of the
road miles in the state; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's diverse economy is dependent upon county and town roads as well as
city and village streets and transit systems across the state; and

WHEREAS, according to "Filling Potholes: A New Look at Funding Local
Transportation in Wisconsin," commissioned by the Local Government Institute of Wisconsin
(LGI) the condition of Wisconsin's highways is now in the bottom third of the country; and

WHEREAS, state funding for local roads in Wisconsin has failed to keep up with costs over the
past several decades which has adversely affected local transportation finances; and

WHEREAS, in "Filling Potholes," the Local Government Institute of Wisconsin reported that
municipal transportation spending had declined from \$275 per capita in 2000 to \$227 in 2012;
and

WHEREAS, Mass Transit Operating Aids and County Elderly and Disabled Transportation
assistance programs are funded through the state gas tax and vehicle registration user fee system
and re critical to ensuring that transportation services are delivered to vulnerable citizens,
therefore proper funding for these programs helps ensure that all citizens have an opportunity to
access the workplace as well as the marketplace; and

WHEREAS, the levy cap does not allow local government to compensate for the loss of state
funding; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's over-reliance on borrowing results in a greater share of the state's
dedicated funding sources – the state gas tax and vehicle registration fees – being used to pay
debt service rather than fund transportation needs; and

WHEREAS, safety is a primary concern and responsibility of local governments across
Wisconsin but, according to TRIP, a national non-profit transportation research group,
Wisconsin had 347 non-interstate, rural road fatalities in 2013; and

WHEREAS, the Polk County Board of Supervisors recognizes that our state highway and
interstate system is the backbone of our surface transportation system and plays avital role in the

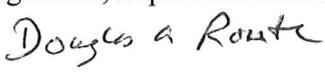
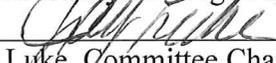
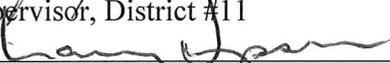
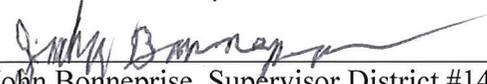
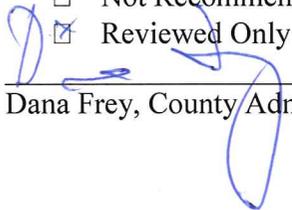
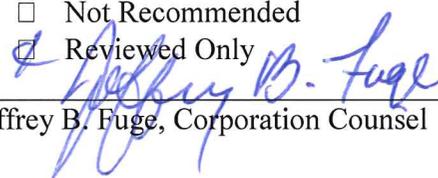
37 economy of Wisconsin, meaning both local *and* state roads need to be properly maintained in
 38 order for our economy to grow; and

39 WHEREAS, from a competitive standpoint Wisconsin motorists pay significantly less than any
 40 of our neighbors in combined state gas taxes and vehicle registration fees; and

41 WHEREAS, the Transportation Finance and Policy Commission, appointed by the
 42 Governor and Legislature, clearly found that if Wisconsin does not adjust its user fees, the
 43 condition of both our state and local roads will deteriorate significantly over the next decade.

44 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Polk County Board of Supervisors urges the
 45 Governor and Legislature to “Just Fix It” meaning agree upon a sustainable solution, one that
 46 includes a responsible level of bonding and adjusts our user fees to adequately and sustainably
 47 fund Wisconsin’s transportation system.

48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Polk County Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk to
 49 send a copy of this resolution to the Wisconsin State Legislators who represent the constituents
 50 of Polk County and to the Office of the Governor.

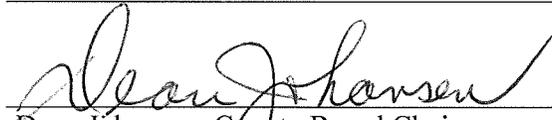
Funding Source/ Funding Amount:	
Date Reviewed as to Appropriations:	
Committee Recommendation as To Appropriation:	
Effective Date:	Upon passage
Dated Submitted To County Board	October 18, 2016
Submitted and Sponsored By the Polk County Public Safety and Highway Committee:	 Joe DeMulling, Supervisor District #15 <hr/> Doug Route, Supervisor District #1 
 Jay Luke, Committee Chair Supervisor, District #11 <hr/>  Larry Jepsen, Supervisor District #12 <hr/>  John Bonneprise, Supervisor District #14	
Review By County Administrator: <input type="checkbox"/> Recommended <input type="checkbox"/> Not Recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reviewed Only  Dana Frey, County Administrator	Review By Corporation Counsel: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved as to Form <input type="checkbox"/> Recommended <input type="checkbox"/> Not Recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reviewed Only  Jeffrey B. Fuge, Corporation Counsel
Acknowledgement of County Board Action	

Mark As Appropriate:

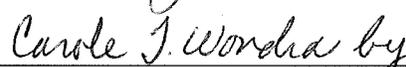
At its regular business meeting on the 18th of October 2016, the Polk County Board of Supervisors considered and acted on the above resolution, Resolution No. __-16: Resolution In Support of Legislation to Provide for Sustainable Funding for Wisconsin's Transportation System, "Just Fix It", as follows:

- Adopted by simple majority of the board of supervisors by a vote of _____ in favor and _____ against.
- Adopted by unanimous vote.
- Defeated by a vote of _____ in favor and _____ against.
- Defeated by voice vote.
- Action Deferred by Procedural Action, as follows: _____

SIGNED BY:



Dean Johansen, County Board Chairperson

Attest:  by 
Carole T. Wondra, County Clerk Deputy County Clerk

CERTIFIED COPY OF POLK COUNTY RESOLUTION

STATE OF WISCONSIN

COUNTY OF POLK

I Carole T. Wondra, Polk County Clerk due hereby certify that the attached hereto and incorporated herein is a full, true and correct copy of Resolution No. 38-16 adopted by the Polk County Board of supervisors at its regular business meeting held on October 18, 2016.

Carole T. Wondra by Marilyn M. Blake

Carole T. Wondra, Polk County Clerk

Dep. Co. Clerk

Date

11/3/16