



The WisDOT Connector *Express*

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Governor OK's local bridge improvement projects

Governor Jim Doyle recently announced 308 bridge projects totaling \$65.5 million in state and federal funds have been approved for the 2009-2012 Local Bridge Improvement Assistance Program. The program provides funds for bridge projects in 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 to help counties and local governments rehabilitate or replace deteriorating bridges. Traditionally, the program has operated on a three-year cycle, but a fourth year has been added to better balance the project-letting schedule, encourage program stability, and get approved projects into the system sooner in the event additional federal funding becomes available. Projects receive 80% federal funding and require a 20% local government share. A list of [approved projects](http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/localgov/highways/approved.htm) (<http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/localgov/highways/approved.htm>) can be found on the WisDOT Web site.

Wisconsin to receive nearly \$600,000 in federal child safety funds

Wisconsin will receive \$587,816 in federal funding to help protect more children from injuries and deaths while riding in motor vehicles. Following enactment of a child booster seat law last year, Wisconsin became eligible for the Child Safety and Child Booster Seat Incentive Grant Program from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The federal dollars will be used to: purchase and distribute child passenger safety seats and booster seats to low-income families; enforce child passenger safety laws; and educate citizens on the proper use and installation of child safety seats. Interested groups can receive application information by contacting the Wisconsin Information Network for Safety at 1-866-511-9467.

Public transit fall conference set for Oct. 16 – 18 in Janesville

The 2007 Wisconsin Public Transit Conference is set for October 16 – 18 at the Holiday Inn Conference Center in Janesville. The conference will gather three statewide organizations: the Wisconsin Urban and Rural Transit Association (fixed-route bus systems); the Wisconsin Rural and Paratransit Providers (state and county-supported elderly and disabled transportation providers), and the Wisconsin Association of Taxicab Owners (operators of exclusive ride and shared-ride taxi services throughout the state). Other participants will include staff from the Federal Transit Administration and WisDOT, along with vendors and suppliers to the transit industry. More information can be found at: www.wurta.com/wurta/.

September traffic fatalities

September was the second deadliest month of the year so far on Wisconsin streets and highways. According to preliminary data, traffic crashes claimed 78 lives last month placing it second behind July's 85 deaths. Traffic fatalities through September totaled 570 - that's 44 above this time last year but 16 below the five-year average.

Upcoming events

October 10	National Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day
October 16 – 18	2007 Wisconsin Public Transit Conference, Holiday Inn Conference Center, Janesville, WI.
October 30 – 31	2007 Statewide Traffic Incident Management Conference, Radisson Paper Valley Hotel, Appleton
November 14	2007 WisDOT Annual Freight Railroad Conference, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Madison, WI. (registration deadline October 29, 2007)

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