



# The WisDOT Connector *Express*

September 19, 2008...Volume 9, Issue 13

## **\$8 billion transferred to highway trust fund**

Congress approved and President Bush has signed a measure transferring \$8 billion from the U.S. Treasury into the highway account of the federal Highway Trust Fund (in 1998, \$8 billion was moved from the trust fund to the general fund for deficit reduction). The trust fund includes money derived from the federal fuel tax that has remained at 18.4 cents per gallon since 1993. The recent depletion of the highway account of the trust fund is attributed to a nationwide drop in motor fuel consumption. Future transportation revenues will be debated when Congress considers a new federal transportation reauthorization bill in 2009.

## **Contractor/DBE Workshop for I-94 Corridor set for October 1**

Interested contractors and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises can learn more about opportunities associated with the I-94 North-South Corridor project at a workshop set for Wednesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>. WisDOT staff will be conducting the workshop to be held from 2 – 4 p.m. at the Wyndham Milwaukee Airport Hotel and Convention Center (4747 S. Howell Ave., Milwaukee). Construction on the \$1.9 billion, 35-mile project is scheduled to begin in 2009 and run until 2016. The workshop will allow contractors to learn more about probable contract packages and opportunities that will occur over the next two years. For more information, contact WisDOT's Debra Evers at (262) 548-6767 or via e-mail at [debra.evers@dot.state.wi.us](mailto:debra.evers@dot.state.wi.us).

## **Wisconsin State Patrol members honored**

Twelve members of the Wisconsin State Patrol recently received special awards at a ceremony at the State Capitol. Those honored for life-saving and other exemplary service include: troopers Michael Heffernan, David Arras and Michael Marcks of Eau Claire; Vincent Caruso of Necedah; Joshua Riley of Elkhorn; Lawrence Brown of Hudson; Andrew Emmel of Janesville; John Kosterman of Racine; and Edward Witkiewicz of Sun Prairie. Also honored were Captain Jeffrey Frenette of Wausau and Police Communications Operators Timothy Ehlenfeldt of Evansville and Rebekah McAleese of Mosinee. More information on the awards can be found at:

[www.dot.wisconsin.gov/opencms/export/nr/modules/news/news\\_0949.html\\_786229440.html](http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/opencms/export/nr/modules/news/news_0949.html_786229440.html)

## **Upcoming events**

October 1, I-94 Corridor Contractor/DBE Workshop, Wyndham Milwaukee Airport Hotel, 2 – 4 p.m.

October 10, National Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day

November 12 and 13, TDA of Wisconsin transportation funding symposium, Monona Terrace, Madison [www.tdawisconsin.org/events.iml](http://www.tdawisconsin.org/events.iml)

November 19, WisDOT Annual Fall Rail Conference, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Madison

*The WisDOT Connector Express* is produced by:

Wisconsin Department of Transportation

Office of Public Affairs, PO Box 7910

Madison, WI 53707-7910

Phone: (608) 266-3581 E-mail: [opa.exec@dot.state.wi.us](mailto:opa.exec@dot.state.wi.us)

Web site: [www.dot.wisconsin.gov](http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov)

Back issues available at [www.dot.wisconsin.gov/library/publications/format/newsletters/connector.htm](http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/library/publications/format/newsletters/connector.htm)