



Tony Evers

Office of the Governor | State of Wisconsin

March 14, 2025

The Honorable Sean Duffy
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Duffy:

I write to encourage you to take immediate action to end the unlawful and harmful obstructions to federal approvals and federal funding for crucial transportation projects across the nation and here in your home state of Wisconsin. The chaos caused by President Trump's executive orders and subsequent actions by federal agencies, including the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT), have led to delays and uncertainty about the availability of congressionally approved transportation funding programs and the projects these programs Congress intended to support.

As outlined in a letter penned by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) sent to you on March 4, 2025, states are experiencing review and permitting delays due to a pause on approvals within USDOT. As you are aware, Wisconsin currently has many critical federally funded projects at a high level of readiness. Continued uncertainty or delays will only slow down the government efficiency of delivering these infrastructure improvements for the people and businesses of Wisconsin. Examples of projects include:

- **Muskego Yard Project** – The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) program grant to vastly improve the Muskego Freight Rail Yard Bypass is a lynchpin that will shape freight movement across Wisconsin for years to come, strengthening supply chains and getting more American products to market faster.
- **Hwy 47 and Hwy 55 Project** – The Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) program grant (formerly RAISE grant) in Menominee County will improve connectivity in this rural area, enhancing the forestry sector, reducing the high-risk of long truck detours and ultimately getting more forestry products into the economy.
- **Local Community Projects** – Road and bridge projects in small communities such as the St. Croix River Bridge project in Douglas County will improve economic development and quality of life for residents across rural Wisconsin.

We are hopeful that these and the many other essential federally funded infrastructure projects that will enhance public safety, commerce and prosperity for our people and businesses will receive the required approvals in a timely fashion so as to not further delay our efforts to efficiently deliver these advancements within our state.

We believe it is imperative to efficiently deliver these improvements to the people and businesses that deserve them.

Additionally, federal funding allocated to states through congressionally approved formula programs, such as more than \$78 million allocated to Wisconsin to assist private development of electric charging stations through the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) program, have continued to be paused, threatening at least 15 already-approved electric vehicle infrastructure projects for private entities, utilizing approximately \$7 million in NEVI funding, including multiple projects located in the congressional district you used to represent in the U.S. Congress. More than \$56 million that Wisconsin has been allocated in future rounds of the NEVI program is also at risk due to the uncertainty caused by unnecessary delays at USDOT.

These delays and obstructions hurt Wisconsinites and Wisconsin communities. As a fellow Wisconsinite, I urge you to end these obstructions and support states in implementing lawful federal funding and needed approvals. Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tony Evers". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tony Evers
Governor