



COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF WELLS, MINNESOTA

On Monday, February 25, 2008 the MN House of Representatives and State Senators overrode the Governor's veto of the transportation bill. It was no longer necessary to pass a resolution in support of the Comprehensive Road and Transit Funding so the council passed on this item.

Council Member _____ introduced the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

**CITY OF WELLS
RESOLUTION NO. 2008-04**

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING
COMPREHENSIVE ROAD AND TRANSIT FUNDING**

WHEREAS, all Minnesota communities benefit from a sound, efficient and adequately funded transportation system that offers diverse modes of travel; and

WHEREAS, the integrity of Minnesota's transportation infrastructure is dependent upon long-term planning and ongoing maintenance, both of which require dedicated and sustainable revenue sources; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota leaders have not increased dedicated funding levels for roads, bridges and transit systems to keep pace with growing costs and changing needs; and

WHEREAS, transportation analysts in consultation with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) estimate Minnesota will have to invest an additional \$1.5 billion per year in transportation infrastructure for the next ten years in order to meet identified needs on Minnesota's state highways and bridges, county roads, city streets, metro and rural transit systems and local bridges; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota's transportation system is failing to meet the capacity needs necessary to sustain population growth and promote economic development; and

WHEREAS, congestion, inefficient transportation systems and lack of transportation choices lead to greater dependence on foreign oil, increased environmental degradation, and economic disadvantages for Minnesota's businesses and residents; and

WHEREAS, many rural roads are not built to modern safety standards and are not meeting the needs of industries that depend on the ability to transport heavy loads; and

WHEREAS, local cost participation requirements for trunk highway and county projects are onerous and are contributing to strains on city budgets; and

WHEREAS, transportation infrastructure maintenance and improvement costs significantly contribute to rising property taxes; and

WHEREAS, insufficient state funding has delayed regionally significant road construction and reconstruction projects across Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, current funding for roads, bridges and transit systems across all government levels in Minnesota is inadequate, and this under-investment diminishes quality of life for Minnesota residents and hinders Minnesota's progress as a national business, economic and civic leader.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF _____ that this Council requests that the Minnesota Legislature pass a comprehensive and balanced transportation funding package that permanently increases dedicated funding for transportation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF _____ that this Council requests that Governor Tim Pawlenty allow a comprehensive and balanced transportation funding package that permanently increases dedicated funding for transportation that is passed by the Legislature to become law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF _____ that this Council requests that a comprehensive and balanced transportation funding package be based upon multiple revenue sources, which may include but not be limited to general obligation and trunk highway bonds; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF _____ that this Council supports funding options including, but not limited to, the following:

- An increase in the gas tax;
- Indexing of the gas tax, provided there is a limit on how much the tax can be increased for inflation in a given amount of time;
- Increases in vehicle registration taxes (a.k.a. license tab fees);
- Trunk highway bonding, provided the Legislature implements reasonable restrictions on the amount of debt service the state will incur and provided the Legislature appropriates funding to assist with local costs related to projects funded with trunk highway bonds;

- General obligation bonding for local roads and bridges, particularly for roads of regional significance and to assist with local cost participation requirements pertaining to trunk highway projects;
- Sales tax exemptions for state and local transportation construction projects; and
- New local funding tools, such as local option sales tax authority or authority to establish street improvement districts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF

_____ that this Council defines a comprehensive and balanced transportation funding package as an initiative that permanently increases dedicated funding for state and local road and transit systems in Greater Minnesota and the Metropolitan Area.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Council Member _____ and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor:

and the following voted against the same:

Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Wells, on Monday, February 25, 2008.

By: _____
Dave Jacobson, Mayor

Attest:



Ronda C. Allis, City Administrator

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