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For Immediate Release

January 26, 2017

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Audit Shows Need for Forward-Thinking Budget Planning

Madison...Following the release of the Legislative Audit Bureau's (LAB) audit on the State Highway Program, Senator Luther Olsen (R-Ripon) expressed concern over the way cost estimates have been calculated by the Department of Transportation (DOT).

The audit revealed that the DOT's cost projections for highway programs have not factored in inflation and the resulting increase in project costs over time. The audit shows that the funding enumerated only covers about half of the true costs to complete planned projects. "It looks like completion of new highway projects are going to cost a lot more than we thought. We will have to deal with that or realize we can only complete about half of the work," Olsen said.

A copy of the full audit report can be found on the LAB's [website](#).

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