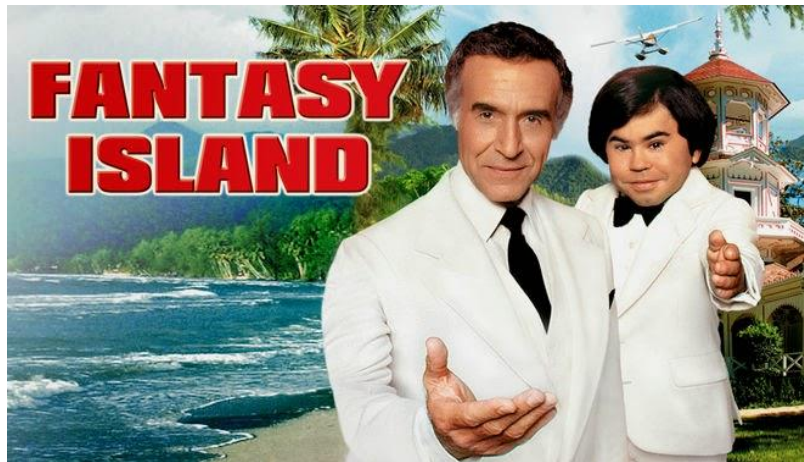


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Budget Fantasies Continue

“Mr. Roarke, what is their fantasy?”

*“Well Tattoo, **Governor Walker** introduced a budget in February designed around soundbites he can use for his re-election campaign in 2018.”*

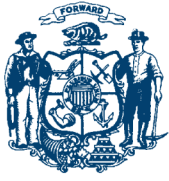
“The budget provides an increase in funding for public schools in Wisconsin, but does not make up for cuts made over the past six years. It also does nothing to address the challenges facing low spending districts. These low spending districts are continuously trapped between cutting teachers or going to voters to raise their own property taxes.”

“For the fourth straight budget, the Governor is also undermining the state’s economic future by refusing to address the transportation funding shortfall. His inaction on transportation has led to record transportation debt, delayed projects, crumbling infrastructure, and massive increased costs to taxpayers in the future.”

“In addition, his proposed fantasy budget spends \$366 million more than the revenue collected and leaves an ending balance of just \$12 million. The Governor is hoping voters will ignore his fiscal and economic mismanagement of the state in order to secure another four years in public office, on top of the 25 years he will have already been in office.”

*“The **State Senate** will do whatever the Governor wants to pass a budget.”*

“In 2015, Joint Finance co-chairwoman Senator Alberta Darling said on transportation funding ‘We can’t kick the can down the road any longer. I know we’ve said that before – but we can’t.’ Now the Senate seems to be saying, ‘Well we have been unwilling and unable to make a responsible decision on transportation funding for the past six years, what’s two years longer?’”



*“The **State Assembly** seems to recognize that governing by rigid ideology and no tax pledges has damaged the state’s infrastructure and economy. They say they want a tax increase in order to stop borrowing money and delaying transportation projects. But Assembly Republicans have been no match for the Governor’s stubborn refusal to address crumbling infrastructure, record debt service, and massive cost increases. In an act of frustration, they have recently decided to ask a collection of special interest groups to deliver a transportation funding solution by Monday.”*

“In addition, they seem to realize that their shortsighted budget decisions in the past have made it difficult to come up with the revenue to fund both education and tax cuts. Some Assembly Republicans want to deliver other people’s fantasies of crippling the craft brewery industry or expanding taxpayer funded school vouchers.”

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