



For Immediate Release

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“Ever Get the Feeling You’ve Been Cheated?”

Walker Raids State Highway Funding to Pay for Foxconn Infrastructure

MADISON – The Walker Administration will be raiding \$134 million from the state highway rehabilitation fund to pay for local roads supporting Foxconn. This raid, which was not previously disclosed, is in addition to the \$3 billion in incentives Wisconsin is already giving to Foxconn. According to the Legislative Fiscal Bureau (LFB), it is “unlikely” that the work was accounted for in the state highway rehabilitation fund when the 2017-19 budget was adopted and “would likely result in the delay of other, previously planned rehabilitation projects on state highways.”

A spokesperson for Governor Walker claimed that the misuse of funds will be offset by the early completion of other highway projects, presumably WIS 441. However, according to the Walker Administration, these “savings were announced in April 2017,” and LFB confirmed they were likely already accounted for in the budget. Additionally, any savings generated by the completion of WIS 441 would require legislative action to be transferred to the highway rehabilitation program, according to the LFB.

In response, Assembly Democratic Leader Gordon Hintz (D-Oshkosh), released the following statement:

“One of two things is going on here: either the Walker Administration is double-counting previously announced savings and applying them to the completion of WIS 441 and the new Foxconn costs, or there are new, undisclosed savings that cannot be applied to Foxconn without legislative action. Regardless, the end result is state highway projects around the state will be shortchanged and delayed, all in the name of giving additional Wisconsin tax dollars to a foreign corporation. State highway rehabilitation funding is a zero sum game, and regardless of the gimmicks Governor Walker is playing to complicate the issue, the rest of the state will ultimately pay the price. When it comes to finding sustainable solutions for our state’s transportation needs, Walker kicks the can down the road and Wisconsin loses.”