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GOVERNOR EVERS OUTLINES NEW, WORKABLE FUNDING SOURCES TO REPAIR CRUMBLING INFRASTRUCTURE

(MADISON, Wis.) – Governor Tony Evers has accomplished in one night what his predecessor of eight years failed to do – identify and propose bold, fair and meaningful funding increases for transportation. In Evers’ budget address delivered Thursday night, Terry McGowan, president and business manager of the Wisconsin Operating Engineers said, “This budget proposal not only addresses badly needed funding to fix our roads, but we stop burning up the state’s credit card and begin to responsibly address our crumbling infrastructure.”

Evers identified several new revenue sources for transportation in his 2019-2021 biennial budget, which will certainly generate much debate in the republican-controlled legislature, but McGowan said, “Fixing our roads and bridges is not a partisan issue. We are closing down major highways for emergency repairs as potholes become canyons, endangering our families, causing monstrous delays and interrupting commerce.”

McGowan concluded, “Tonight Governor Evers made it clear that he stands with working people and not special interests.”

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Established in 1902, Operating Engineers Local 139 is a statewide trade union that primarily represents skilled Operators of heavy construction equipment and mechanics who service the machines. The union has 10,000 active and retired members and is headquartered in Pewaukee. Local 139 also maintains district offices in Madison, Appleton and Altoona, as well as a state-certified training school for Operating Engineers in Coloma.