

## Katrina Shankland 71st ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

## Media Release

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## Rep. Shankland: Building Commission Doubles Down on Obstructionism, Fails to Recommend \$2.4 Billion Capital Budget

MADISON – Yesterday, Republican members of the State Building Commission refused to recommend Governor Evers' proposed capital budget. Their vote rejected the entire \$2.4 billion worth of construction projects across Wisconsin, including the \$96 million Albertson Hall replacement project on the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point campus.

Rep. Katrina Shankland (D- Stevens Point) issued the following statement:

"Until the 2019-21 budget cycle, our State Building Commission had maintained a decades-long tradition of meaningful bipartisan collaboration. The commission used to dependably negotiate in good faith and recommend projects together for funding, but that tradition seems to have come to an untimely end. I'm extremely disappointed that my Republican colleagues voted yesterday to double down on their obstructionist political games by refusing for the second budget cycle in a row to recommend any building projects at all.

"This costly vote means that instead of being included from the start of state budget negotiations, individual building projects will be pitted against each other, competing to be included by the members of the Joint Committee on Finance. Many of these projects are already long overdue for these investments, such as the Albertson Hall replacement project on the UW-Stevens Point campus, which requires immediate attention to the tune of \$96 million.

"This is no time to play games with crucial infrastructure funding, and the people of Wisconsin deserve better. I will do everything in my power to ensure that the Albertson Hall replacement project and other crucial infrastructure projects are included in our state budget so they can receive the funding they so sorely need."

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