

Wisconsin's Budget Still in Crisis After "Deal"

Written by Democratic Party of Wisconsin, Melissa Baldauff
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GOP Budget "Deal" Announced Wednesday Fails to Invest in Wisconsin's Priorities. Is the result of four years of failed Republican leadership.

MADISON - After weeks of stalled negotiations, public in-fighting, and partisan political gamesmanship, legislative Republicans announced that they had allegedly reached a deal on Scott Walker's "crap budget," yet Wednesday's budget press conference leaves Wisconsin with more questions than answers on how exactly Republicans will fix the budget crisis created by four years of their poor choices.

The budget proposal, which is still light on details, will reportedly include \$850 million in bonding, to include \$500 million in transportation bonding. But even this significant amount of borrowing that kicks the can down the road isn't enough to support all of the needed investments in infrastructure; Republican leaders acknowledged that a number of road projects would need to be delayed around the state, jeopardizing thousands of construction jobs.

News of the budget agreement came as the state Department of Public Instruction was releasing estimates that 234 Wisconsin public school districts -- approximately 55 percent -- would receive less in state general aid than they did in the previous year. But while there's troubling news for our public schools, many that are still in tough budget situations after facing a \$1.6 billion cut in Walker's first budget, the largest cut to public education in Wisconsin history, unaccountable voucher schools remain poised to receive millions of dollars in taxpayer funding.

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