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Governor's historical capital budget investment saves taxpayers money, supports nearly \$7 billion in economic activity and 45,000 jobs.

MADISON — Gov. Tony Evers <u>this week released</u> \$3.8 billion in recommended investments in his 2023-25 Capital Budget for the renovation and renewal of the state's existing infrastructure and to support major projects across the state in 28 counties. To highlight these investments and their regional and statewide impact, Gov. Evers visited projects in communities in Janesville, Green Bay, Milwaukee, Spooner, and at three University of Wisconsin (UW) System campuses.



"With our state in the best fiscal position we've ever been in and an unprecedented budget surplus of about \$7 billion, we have a responsibility and the opportunity to create prosperity that will define our state for generations, and these capital building projects will do just that," said Gov. Evers. "From improving state facilities and modernizing our UW campuses to investing in local community projects that will pay dividends for years to come, my capital budget recommendations are about doing the right thing and investing in and building the sort of future

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we want to see for our state."

The governor's proposal represents one of the strongest investments to date for Wisconsin's facility infrastructure without the burden of 20 years of debt service for general obligation debt. At a four percent comparison interest rate, Gov. Evers' plan to fund \$1.9 billion of the capital improvement projects instead of borrowing will save taxpayers nearly \$1 billion in future debt service payments.

The recommended investments will also help grow the economy by providing family-supporting jobs and supporting businesses throughout the state. According to Associated General Contractors of Wisconsin, for every \$1 in construction spending, there is \$1.84 of economic activity generated in Wisconsin. Additionally, for every \$1 million of construction spending, 12 jobs are supported in the state's economy. As a result, it is estimated the governor's proposed Capital Budget supports approximately \$6.8 billion in economic activity and 45,000 jobs throughout Wisconsin.

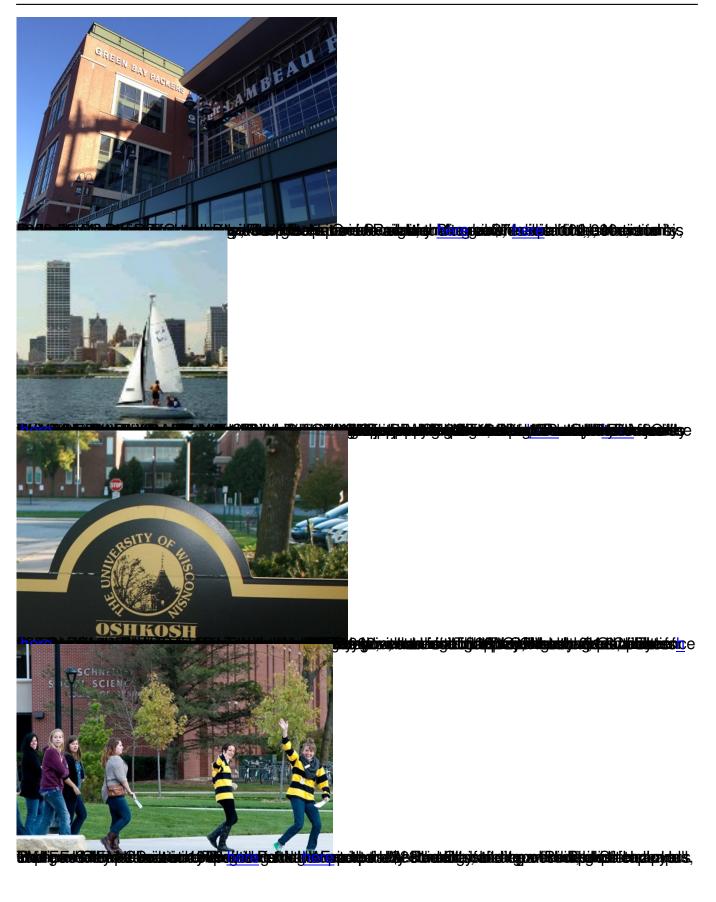
The 2023-25 Capital Budget Agency Requests and Governor's Recommendations can be found <u>here</u>, and highlights from the governor's visits across the state are below.



On Tuesday, Feb. 28, Gov. Evers and Wisconsin Department of Administration Secretary Kathy Blumenfeld visited Janesville to announce the release of his 2023-25 Capital Budget recommendations with a visit to the Janesville Area Convention and Visitors Bureau. While there, he announced his recommendations include a \$15 million investment to support the construction of the Woodman's Sports and Convention Center in Janesville. This facility will provide a new ice arena and multi-purpose spaces for athletics, conventions, and trade shows. Drawing crowds from Madison, Milwaukee, Chicago, and beyond, it's estimated the new facility could generate more than \$13 million annually in new economic output in Janesville alone. He was joined for the announcement by City Council President Paul Benson, Johnson Financial Group Regional President Larry Squire, State Rep. Sue Conley (D-Janesville), State Sen. Mark Spreitzer (D-Beloit), representatives from the Janesville Area Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Janesville Jets hockey team, and many other local elected and community leaders. Photos from the event are available here and here.

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