

## General Transportation Aids (GTA) (Wis. Stats. ss.86.30, 86.302, 86.303 and 86.305)

### Program Overview:

- General Transportation Aids (GTA) provides state funds as aid payments to offset the cost of county and municipal transportation-related expenditures.
- All 1,924 local governments receive GTA payments on a calendar year basis.
- Payments for each local government are determined by one of two statutory formulas:
  - Share of Costs (SOC) – payment is based on a percentage of a six-year average of certain transportation costs reported to the WI Department of Revenue (WI DOR).
  - Rate Per Mile (RPM) – payment is based on a statutory amount per centerline mile.
- In addition to the formulas, statutory limits on minimum and maximum payments are applied.
  - Payments may not be less than 90 percent of the previous year.
  - Payments may not be more than 115 percent of the previous year (SOC formula only).
  - Payments may not be more than 85 percent of the 3-year average of reported transportation costs (municipal appropriation only).
- Payments may also be reduced due to statutory penalties for late reporting of costs to WI DOR.
- Statute specifies that GTA payments must be used for “transportation related expenditures.”

### Program Funding:

- 2017-19 Biennium - \$212,667,400 SEG for counties and \$683,589,200 SEG for municipalities (\$896,256,600 SEG total).
- Statutory annual distributions are \$111,093,800 for counties and \$348,639,300 for municipalities, which are not totally reflected in the 2017-19 biennium due to overlap between calendar year payment schedules and state fiscal year appropriations.

### Challenges:

- Increasing local transportation costs.
- Use of GTA payments is not tracked or analyzed by WisDOT.
- Payments to a local government may vary by year based on statutory factors.

### Policy/Budget Opportunities:

- Increased funding to compensate for increasing local transportation costs.