Ald. Bauman urges state to allocate more transportation funding to local projects

As the Milwaukee Common Council prepares to take on its annual budget process for the year ahead, Alderman Robert Bauman has drafted a resolution urging state legislators to allocate a greater share of transportation funding to local projects.

“The State of Wisconsin’s transportation spending priorities are completely out of balance,” Alderman Bauman said. “Even as municipalities statewide make the case for funding more local transit projects and road repair, the State of Wisconsin has increased allocations for major highway projects—even unwanted highway expansions.”

Alderman Bauman said he has introduced a resolution that urges the state legislature to allocate a greater share of the Transportation Fund to local transportation projects. Currently, he said local roads receive only 30 percent of transportation funding, even though they make up around 90 percent of the state’s lane-miles.

“The state should give a boost to local road repair and public transit, but there’s no need to raise gas taxes or registration fees,” Alderman Bauman said. “They already collect plenty of money; they just need to prioritize their spending more wisely.”

Alderman Bauman will join representatives from the Wisconsin Public Interest Research Group and the Story Hill Neighborhood Association for a news conference today that lays out a different vision for state transportation funding. It will take place at 2:00 p.m. in the Milwaukee City Hall rotunda, 200 E. Wells St.