

**Kenosha County  
Administrative Proposal Form**

**1. Proposal Overview**

Division: Highway

Department: Public Works and Development  
Services

Proposal Summary (attach explanation and required documents):

Repurpose Highway equipment capital funds to purchase a new message board and winter liquid dispensing equipment.

Dept./Division Head Signature:  Date: 7/28/20

**2. Department Head Review**

Comments:

Recommendation: Approval  Non-Approval

Department Head Signature:  Date: 7-28-20

**3. Finance Division Review**

Comments:

Recommendation: Approval  Non-Approval

Finance Signature:  Date: 7/28/20

**4. County Executive Review**

Comments:

Action: Approval  Non-Approval

Executive Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# COUNTY OF KENOSHA

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DATE: August 3, 2020  
TO: Finance Committee  
FROM: Clement Abongwa – Kenosha County Highway Commissioner  
SUBJECT: Repurpose Capital Funds – Purchase of Highway Equipment

The 2020 Highway Division Capital Budget included \$308,000 for the purchase of a new loader. The low bid for this piece of equipment was \$238,000 resulting in excess funds of \$70,000.

The Highway Division currently owns two message boards. One of these boards is past its useful life, not usable and needs costly repairs. The second board is usable but is showing signs of age and a lack of dependability. Due to the large amount of construction activity in the County, three working message boards are needed. These days, when demand warrants, the Highway Division must borrow boards from contractors, neighboring municipalities or the State to meet its needs. The cost of a replacement message board is \$21,000 and the Highway Division requests the repurposing of this amount to replace one message board this year.

The Highway Division is always looking for new and improved ways of providing effective snow removal methods. In addition to road salt, liquid magnesium chloride is used by many municipalities in certain situations. Magnesium chloride is less expensive than road salt and easier to work with as long as temperatures are within a certain range. After using this product on a limited basis for several years, the Highway Division has calculated that increasing the use of magnesium chloride during the right conditions is a less costly and more effective way to de-ice the highways in the County. Salt will still be used in most situations, but will be supplemented to a larger degree with the liquid. The recommendation is to outfit ten plow trucks with a liquid dispensing unit at a cost of \$4,000 per truck or \$40,000 in total.

These projects are included in the same budget appropriation category and therefore the repurposing of funds requires only the approval of the Finance Committee. No additional bonding is needed. The Highway Division requests the Finance Committee's approval and permission to repurpose \$61,000 to purchase the message board and de-icing equipment.

Thank you for consideration of this matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

Clement Abongwa  
Highway Commissioner