

## **Correspondence Table of Contents**

### **Public Hearings on District Maps**

Hearings will be held for each district. District 7 will be in January. District 5 is next on October 29. Anyone can listen in and there is a way to make comments.

### **WTA Town Advisory Committee Hearing Sessions – for Town Officials**

To be held October 20 6:30 and November 5 7:00. Purpose is to gather information to form WTA legislative priorities.

### **Appeal to use R2R funds for AutoCPR**

Jeff Byerhoff has made a well written appeal to use R2R funds to purchase a much needed life saving device for the SSAA. Total cost \$17,717 to be shared by communities.

### **COVID-19 Support for Residents**

\$19million set aside for help with childcare, healthcare navigators, food security, and energy and rental assistance.

### **Resident Letters/Comments**

- Invasive Species found on Town Land – Buckthorn -Thunder Bay Road
- Political sign placement
- Absentee voting
- Perch Lake access

### **Expansion of Cares Act**

There is another round of funding, \$100 million, to help small businesses, lodging, live music and performance venues, and more

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 24, 2020**

**CONTACT:** DOA Communications, [DOACommunications@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DOACommunications@wisconsin.gov)

## **People's Maps Commission Seeking Public Comment On Redistricting Maps**

### *First Public Hearing Oct. 1*

MADISON – The People's Maps Commission is holding an online public hearing 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 1, 2020, to seek public input on the upcoming redrawing of legislative redistricting maps.

The hearing is the first in a series of at least eight meetings the Commission will host. The focus of the hearing will be [Wisconsin's Eighth Congressional District](#) and highlight redistricting basics including why redistricting matters and how it works.

The online public hearing will include testimony from experts and also provide Wisconsinites the opportunity to express how they have been impacted by legislative redistricting and share their ideas for how Wisconsin can work together to achieve fair maps.

Every 10 years, each state redraws their legislative and congressional districts using data from the decennial census. In addition to the data from the 2020 U.S. Census, the Commission will use information gathered during the public hearing process to prepare new maps. It is then up to the Legislature to take up and approve the maps created by the Commission.

Although the Oct. 1 hearing will focus on the Eighth Congressional District, all Wisconsin residents are encouraged to watch and participate. Anyone wishing to testify at the hearing must register in advance by visiting the People's Maps Commission website [HERE](#). The deadline for remote public appearance requests for the October hearing is 5 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2020.

Remote public testimony will begin at 7:30 p.m. Each speaker has a time limit of 3 minutes. Registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis, with residents of Wisconsin's Eighth Congressional District being given priority.

For anyone unable to join online, written comments are strongly encouraged. All written comments also can be submitted at any time using the feedback form available on the People's Maps Commission website [HERE](#). Written comments will be reviewed by the commissioners and are public record.

Selected by a three judge panel, the Commission is a nine-member nonpartisan redistricting commission charged with drawing fair, impartial maps for the state of Wisconsin. More information about the Commission, its members and its activities is available [HERE](#).

Due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, the People's Maps Commission will host the public hearings online for each of Wisconsin's congressional districts. Agendas and additional details will be announced in advance of future meeting dates. The hearing dates are as follows:

- 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 1, 2020, 8th Congressional District
- Thursday, Oct. 29, 2020, 5th Congressional District
- Thursday, Nov. 19, 2020, 3rd Congressional District
- Wednesday, Dec. 9, 2020, 4th Congressional District
- January hearing date TBD, 7th Congressional District
- February hearing date TBD, 1st Congressional District
- March hearing date TBD, 6th Congressional District
- April hearing date TBD, 2nd Congressional District

Every legislative session, the Town Advocacy Council (TAC) hosts listening sessions with town leaders to gather ideas for pursuing legislation. The TAC executive committee uses the information gathered at these listening session to create a recommended list of priorities for the lobbying team. **We need your ideas to formulate our legislative priorities!**

In the last 5 years, the TAC has influenced adoption of 57 pieces of legislation & leveraged over \$300 million in efficiencies and additional funding based on the ideas shared at these listening sessions! Recent legislative priorities have included:

- Transportation
- Land Use
- Town Law Reform
- Volunteer Fire/EMS
- LOSAP Funding
- Broadband



You can read a description of the 2019-20 legislative priorities on the WTA website [here](#).

This year, the TAC will hold three virtual listening sessions hosted by three separate county units. Any town official from any county may participate in each discussion via telephone or via computer. **You do not need to be a TAC member to participate!** The TAC listening sessions will be held at the following times:

- **October 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30PM**
- **October 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM**
- **November 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM**

**Call-in / Log-in information is the same for each meeting:**

**Toll Free Phone #:** 1-888-788-0099 / 1-833-548-0276 / 1-833-548-0282 / 1-877 853 5247

You may dial any one of the four toll free numbers shown here. If the circuits are busy for one number, please just try the next.

**Meeting ID:** 967 9019 3842

**Password:** 921027

A meeting ID and password is required. You might be asked for a participant ID. You do not need one and can simply follow the instructions to continue to the next step to provide the password.

**Zoom**

**Connection:** <https://zoom.us/j/96790193842?pwd=Um83ZkRjWjFlaExwQkZlZDFzSWp6UT09>

October 2, 2020

From Jeff Byerhoff

Town Chairpersons,

I have recently been in contact with the Bayfield County Emergency Manager Jan Victorson regarding Covid related funding through Wisconsin Routes to recovery. Apparently many towns are struggling to identify needs to make use of this type of funding. As I understand currently, each municipality in Bayfield County has a minimum of \$5,000 earmarked in this program for Covid prevention and response.

As you well know, South Shore Area Ambulance (SSAA) provides EMS service for the four Towns that comprise the south shore communities. Like many elements of life, the delivery of EMS is ever changing and a fiscally challenging endeavor. As such, SSAA has many identified needs to protect our patients and first responders alike. I am happy to report that we have met some of these challenges and continue to work towards meeting others in a fiscally responsible manner. Most recently, we have signed the purchase order to obtain the Stryker Power load system to enable us to more effectively load and unload patients from our ambulance.

Other identified challenges include; long transport times, minimum staffing availability, and a service area that serves an older population. Exacerbating this challenge is the fact Covid has a higher mortality rate for the aged and those with underlying medical conditions, which is the population that we regularly serve here on the south shore.

It has been identified by the American Heart Association, The Department of Defense, and other nationally recognized organizations that CPR performed manually within an enclosed patient care space is a very high-risk activity. A Covid positive patient can easily infect EMS personnel as the caregivers are breathing heavily in a virus rich environment despite taking appropriate personal protective measures. I would also add the infection of an entire crew from just one of these calls seriously jeopardizes our ability to respond to any further calls during quarantine and recovery. Additionally, rescuer safety is compromised due to standing in a moving vehicle while performing CPR.

To help mitigate this safety threat, an automated CPR device has been identified as best practice for cardiac arrest patients. To this end, SSAA has obtained a quote of \$17,716.77 to purchase such a device.

As the SSAA is in the unique position of providing EMS care to 4 separate Towns, I would humbly ask that some or all of the 4 Towns consider utilizing their allotted Covid relief funding to make this purchase.

If you require additional information or I can anyway assist in this endeavor, please do not hesitate to ask.

Thank you,

Jeff Byerhof

Service Director, SSAA

815.761.2940

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** October 5, 2020

Contact: [GovPress@wisconsin.gov](mailto:GovPress@wisconsin.gov) or 608-219-7443

## **Gov. Evers Announces nearly \$50 million in COVID-19 Support for Wisconsinites**

*\$47 million includes support for child care, healthcare navigators, food security, and energy and rental assistance*

MADISON — Gov. Tony Evers announced today an additional \$47 million investment in COVID-19 support for child care, healthcare navigators, and energy and rental assistance to Wisconsinites across the state. The effort is funded through the Federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) and will be infused into existing CRF-funded programs and used for new programs as the pandemic continues to affect Wisconsinites.

“As we continue to fight this pandemic across our state, we need to make sure folks have the support they need from housing and food security, to making sure they have access to quality, affordable healthcare,” said Gov. Evers. “The investment announced today will provide critically important assistance for Wisconsinites as we continue to encourage folks to stay home as much as possible.”

\$10 million will be directed towards the COVID-19 Out-of-School Support Grant Program aimed at assisting Wisconsin organizations who are providing care to school-aged kids during the pandemic. Administered by the Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA), the program provides eligible organizations grant awards to cover pandemic-related impacts such as lost revenue, increased staffing costs, cleaning and sanitization, and additional costs to ensure high-quality programming otherwise impacted by COVID-19.

“Our out-of-school support providers are a critical part of the team of entities ensuring Wisconsin kids are getting what they need, whether their traditional school setting is in-person or virtual this year,” Gov. Evers continued. “What’s best for our kids is what’s best for our state, and these organizations are stepping up in a big way to make sure our kids have a safe place to go during this unprecedented pandemic.”

With winter on the horizon and as temperatures drop, making sure Wisconsinites have access to safe, warm housing is critical. \$10 million will be invested in the successful [Wisconsin Rental Assistance Program](#) (WRAP), in addition to the \$25 million [previously announced](#). To date, WRAP has helped nearly 10,000 households across the state as of October 5th. Additionally, \$10 million will go toward the [Food Security Initiative](#) in recognition of the role the program has played in combatting hunger. This investment is on top of the \$15 million [previously allocated](#) to this program.

To ensure Wisconsinites not only have access to housing but can pay their utility bills as we head into the winter months, \$15 million of the funds will be invested in Wisconsin’s Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), a program that is currently federally-funded and helps Wisconsinites with their heating costs. Interested individuals can visit [homeenergyplus.wi.gov/](http://homeenergyplus.wi.gov/) or call 1-866-HEATWIS for application and program details. An additional \$1 million investment will be directed towards the Keep Wisconsin Warm/Cool Fund (KWW/CF), a non-profit that provides a statewide safety net to individuals facing energy-related emergencies. Interested individuals can visit [kwwf.org/apply](http://kwwf.org/apply) to learn more about the KWW/CF application and

process.

Finally, ensuring everyone has access to quality, affordable healthcare continues to be a top priority, especially as COVID-19 surges across our state. Given the increasing number of Wisconsinites facing unemployment and the loss of employer-sponsored health insurance during the pandemic, \$1 million will be invested in the statewide health insurance navigator organization to help residents purchase health insurance on the federal marketplace or to enroll in BadgerCare. For many Wisconsinites, this may be their first time selecting a plan on the exchange, which can be a complicated process. This funding will help increase consumer education and access to healthcare navigators who can walk individuals through the process of selecting and purchasing an individual or family plan or in enrolling for BadgerCare if they are eligible. Wisconsinites can learn more about their health insurance options at [WisCovered.com](https://www.wiscovered.com).

This email was sent to [tobchair@cornywi.org](mailto:tobchair@cornywi.org) using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of the State of Wisconsin · 115 East, State Capitol · Madison, WI 53702

## **October 2020 Town Board Meeting - Citizen Letters /Comments**

All below have been edited for brevity

### **Invasive species found**

Yesterday we came across a buckthorn shrub growing along the trail at the south end of Thunder Bay Road on Roman's Point.

In the 30 plus years we have been in the area we have never seen a buckthorn. As the plant is very invasive and has taken over vegetation in the southern part of the state, we feel that it should be removed before being allowed to spread.

We would be glad to cut it down, but are not sure who this property belongs to. The lot in question was designed we believe in the 1980's to provide lake access for property owners on the east side of Thunder Bay Road.

The main thing is to remove the shrub as quickly as possible.

Please let us know if the town owns this property and whether we can remove the shrub.

**Response:** Eradication was approved and completed by correspondent and neighbors.

### **Political signs**

What is the law on the placement of political signs on road right of ways?

**Response:** Recommended that the proper place is on private property and out of ROW

### **Absentee Voting**

I have received my absentee ballot, but am concerned with the president's rhetoric about not counting mail in ballots. Can anyone advise if it would be more prudent to vote in person. I very much want my vote to count.

**Response:** Quite a safe process in the town of Bell. If you are concerned that the State Election Commission or other authority will declare that absentee ballots cannot/will not be counted – the best alternative is to vote in person.

### **Perch Lake Access**

Residents are concerned about new access the County cut into to Perch Lake off County C. Was the board aware and what's the plan? **Response:** Board was not informed by County. Plan is for low impact. No motorized access to lake.

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** October 6, 2020

Contact: [GovPress@wisconsin.gov](mailto:GovPress@wisconsin.gov) or 608-219-7443

## **Gov. Evers Invests Additional \$100 Million in Wisconsin Small Businesses and Economic Stabilization**

*Investments include second round of We're All In Grants and investments in tourism, entertainment, and cultural venues*

MADISON — Gov. Tony Evers today announced more than \$100 million in investments aimed at providing additional economic stabilization for small businesses and communities hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. The new infusion of funds includes an additional \$50 million for “We’re All In Grants,” an economic development grant program launched by Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) this summer. More than 26,000 businesses received “We’re all In Grants” statewide, but many continue to face economic challenges from the pandemic.

“Small businesses, including the tourism and lodging industries, are the backbone of our Wisconsin communities. The ongoing pandemic, combined with a lack of action at the federal level may force many of these businesses to shutter their doors for good,” said Gov. Evers. “That’s why we’re investing another \$100 million in businesses and communities across our state. Our communities are in desperate need of additional federal support, but we can’t wait a moment longer to do what we can here in Wisconsin.”

Today’s announcement also provides further investments in economic stabilization programs to support the lodging and tourism industry, live music and performance venues, cultural non-profits, and privately owned movie theaters. These efforts are funded through the Federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) and will help Wisconsin’s small businesses and venues that serve as cultural catalysts in communities across the state.

The new investments announced today include:

**Over \$50 million of \$5,000 We’re All In Grants to more than 10,000 Wisconsin small businesses.** The first phase of the program invested more than \$65 million in grants for more than 26,000 businesses statewide. This round of We’re All In Grants will prioritize businesses most impacted by the pandemic, including restaurants and taverns, hair and nail salons and barber shops, and other services. It will be administered by the Wisconsin Department of Revenue in partnership with WEDC. Learn more about the program and apply at [revenue.wi.gov](https://revenue.wi.gov).

“Wisconsin’s small businesses have demonstrated unbelievable creativity and ingenuity in adapting to the pandemic,” said WEDC Secretary and CEO Missy Hughes. “However, many of them are already stretched to the limit and are concerned about just surviving for the next few months.”

**\$20 million for the Wisconsin lodging industry.** In 2019, visitors to the state spent \$3.7 billion on lodging but recent reports indicate that up to two-thirds of all Wisconsin hotels face closure within the next 12 months without additional support. This investment will provide the lodging industry emergency resources to navigate a reduction in travel and cover the cost of implementing additional public health best practices as the pandemic continues.

**\$15 million for live music and performance venues throughout Wisconsin.** Music venues, which often serve as community gathering places and cultural hubs, were among the first small businesses to close and may be among the last to fully re-open. Many owners have been vocal in expressing the need for federal assistance to further supplement the state investments already made. Gov. Evers’ investment will help these venues that are shuttered and hopefully encourage a nationwide plan to save these businesses over the long term.

**\$10 million to support privately owned movie theaters.** Wisconsin movie theaters have not been spared the financial strain felt by movie theater companies nationally as content has been limited and activity limited across the state. This investment will assist privately owned movie theaters while federal support remains stalled.

**\$10 million in additional support for non-profit cultural venues.** The significant response to the original grant

announcement several weeks demonstrates the challenges faced by these community centers of learning and culture. The additional support will bring the full investment in these treasures to \$15 million and support local communities around the state.

**\$4 million in additional investments for destination marketing organizations and tourism drivers, bringing the total investment by the Evers Administration to \$12 million.** These funds will help meet the demonstrated need based on the applications received in recent weeks after Governor Evers announced the program in September.