



1 WEST WILSON, ROOM 1150
POST OFFICE BOX 7851
MADISON, WI 53707-7851

State of Wisconsin Council on Physical Disabilities

Voice: 608-266-7974
TTY: 608-267-9880
Fax: 608-266-3386
www.pdcouncil.state.wi.us

November 17, 2004

Governor Jim Doyle
State Capitol, Room 115 East
Madison, WI 53702

Dear Governor Doyle:

The Wisconsin Council on Physical Disabilities supports an increase in Elderly and Disabled Transportation Aids, commonly referred to as 85.21 funding.

For fiscal year 2006, we support an increase of \$2 million. For fiscal year 2007, we support an increase of \$4 million.

Currently, nine out of ten people eligible for elderly and disabled transportation are not receiving these services. Transportation is essential for many people with disabilities to get to work, to access medical care, to acquire rehabilitation services and to live independently in the community. This is particularly true in rural areas where services are more limited than in urban settings.

With increased funding, counties can reduce or eliminate waiting lists and service caps. They can recruit additional volunteer drivers and research alternative transportation options. While the numbers look big, the requested amounts are miniscule compared to the funds allocated to build and maintain roads in Wisconsin. Increased 85.21 funds would significantly help elders and people with disabilities have access to Wisconsin's existing road system.

The Council hopes you will support these modest increases to improve the lives of Wisconsin's citizens with disabilities.

Sincerely,

JorJan Borlin
Chairperson

cc: Donna Wong, Governor's liaison