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## **Governor Evers' Proposed 2023-2025 Budget**

### **Local Government Revenue**

- Sends 20 percent of the state's sales tax revenue back to local communities for shared revenue. The new shared revenue appropriation will provide an increased aid amount to municipalities and counties of \$576 million General Purpose Revenue (GPR) in fiscal year (FY) 2024-25. Would break down new aid into two pots: \$250 million for public safety grants and \$326 million in general equalized aids (under a 70/30 municipal-county split).
- Allows Milwaukee County to impose an additional 1 percent sales tax, with 50 percent of the resulting new revenue distributed to the City of Milwaukee if approved by local referendum.
- Allows counties to impose an additional 0.5 percent sales tax and allows municipalities with populations over 30,000, other than the City of Milwaukee, to impose a 0.5 percent sales tax to generate revenue for public safety and other essential services, if approved by local referendum.

### **Economy and Taxes**

- Cuts income taxes by 10 percent for single filers at or below \$100,000 in annual adjusted gross income and married-joint filers at or below \$150,000.
- Enhances the Homestead Credit to provide increased property tax relief to lower-income Wisconsinites, targeting seniors and individuals with disabilities.
- Fully repeals personal property tax while continuing to make payments to local governments to offset tax reduction.

### **Transportation and Infrastructure**

- Increases general transportation aids for both counties and municipalities by 4 percent in 2024 and another 4 percent in 2025.
- Restores the ability of cities, villages, and towns to use eminent domain to build pedestrian and bike paths.
- Allocates \$750 million for Broadband Expansion Grants.
- Pays down \$380 million in state debt in transportation revenue bonds.

### **Health and Safety**

- Provides \$150 million in FY 2023-24 in EMS Flex Grants to support public and private emergency medical services providers.
- Expands Medicaid in WI to 138% of the federal poverty level to bring an additional \$1.62 billion in federal funds to the state over two years.
- Provides \$4.1 million in funding to local health departments to implement an EKG screening program for youths participating in athletics.
- Legalizes recreational and medicinal marijuana usage and funds county mental health and substance use disorder programs with excise tax proceeds.

### **Safer Streets**

- Provides \$60 million over the biennium for traffic calming grants to construct traffic circles, pedestrian islands, bump-outs at crosswalks, and other treatments that slow vehicle traffic, making conditions safer for bikers and pedestrians.
- Restores roadway design considerations in state law that support non-motorist infrastructure known as Complete Streets, empowering local communities to safely integrate all modes of transportation.
- Invests \$6.5 million to cover the cost of comprehensive driver education for economically disadvantaged students and implements drivers licenses for all, regardless of documented status.
- Requires that courts order the use of an ignition interlock device (IID) for all offenses involving the use of alcohol and operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated (OWI) (including first-time offenders).

### **Education and K-12 Schools**

- Allocates \$2.6 billion overall investment in general and categorical aids for public schools.
- More than \$1 billion increase in special education aid over the biennium by increasing state reimbursement rates to 60 percent of cost.
- Provides \$18 million per year to reimburse schools for costs around an expanded list of school mental health professionals and \$580,000 per year for staff training on evidence-based strategies.
- Creates the Healthy Meals, Healthy Kids program through a \$120.2 million investment in FY 2024-25 to fully fund school breakfasts and lunches for all children.
- Provides \$4.3 million in FY 2023-24 and \$4.7 million in FY 2024-25 to increase the school breakfast reimbursement rate to 15 cents per meal and extends eligibility for the reimbursement.
- Invests \$4.9 million over the biennium to engage multiple stakeholders and strategies, including:
  - \$1.4 million for The Literacy Lab
  - \$3 million for the Wisconsin Reading Corps
  - \$500,000 for Reach Out and Read

### **Housing**

- Invests \$100 million to create a Municipal Home Rehabilitation Program to award grants to municipalities for renovating and restoring blighted residential properties in order to help increase available affordable housing options.
- Provides \$200 million into renovating and restoring existing residential properties, including providing low-interest and forgivable loans.
- Provides \$5 million to create a Housing Safety Grant Pilot Program for the city of Milwaukee for activities that support the improvement of rental housing safety, including:
  - Design and implementation of a central, searchable database for renters that discloses the history of rental properties
  - More robust property inspection programs
  - Funding to allow municipalities to help landlords remedy minor violations following inspections

### **Workforce Development**

- Provides \$36 million for bolstering the justice workforce, including assistant district attorneys and public defenders.
- Proposes that public and private sector workers get 12 weeks of paid family and medical leave benefits by Jan. 1, 2025 through a one-time state investment of \$243.3 million to jump-start the program.
- Proposes increase in minimum wage in \$1 yearly increments, up to \$10.25 by 2026.
- Allocates \$500 million for programs designed to support local and regionally-based projects to help expand the state's workforce, invest in healthcare infrastructure, and other capital projects.
- An \$8 million investment to promote a clean energy workforce.
- Allocates a \$100 million investment into the Workforce Innovation Grant Program and makes it a permanent state program.

### **Democracy and Elections**

- Allocates \$172,200 for Wisconsin Elections Commission to work with WisDOT to implement automatic voter registration; WisDOT will be appropriated an additional \$349,000.
- Allocates \$400,000 to create a grant program for municipalities to purchase Badger Books, an electronic version of the voter list used to check in voters.
- Provides \$2 million and 10 FTE jobs to start an Office of Election Transparency & Compliance.

### **Milwaukee-Specific Budget Items:**

- Provides \$10 million GPR in FY 2024-25 to the Milwaukee Mathematics Partnership, a collaboration among the Milwaukee Public Schools district, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and Milwaukee Area Technical College focused on consistent implementation of mathematics curriculum.
- Continue current funding to support quality and affordable child care in economically disadvantaged areas within the City of Milwaukee.
- Provides \$4,381,000 GPR in FY 2023-24 and \$11,082,000 GPR in FY 2024-25 to improve the continuum of care in the Milwaukee child welfare system with stabilization centers, aftercare services, mental and behavioral health services, and a Qualified Residential Treatment Program.
- Increases Milwaukee child welfare operations funding by \$484,600 GPR and \$26,300 Program Revenue-Federal (PR-F) in FY 2023-24 and \$767,900 GPR and \$35,000 PR-F in FY 2024-25, including 5.0 FTE all funds positions for case aides, performance monitors, and staff to support on-site child care for children removed from their homes.
- Modifies Milwaukee child welfare prevention services by replacing current Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funding within equivalent amount of GPR to allow for more flexible use of the funding. In addition, expand funding to support respite child care services for a total of \$4,398,000 GPR and -\$4,031,900 TANF in FY 2023-24 and \$4,764,100 GPR and -\$4,031,900 TANF in FY 2024-25.
- Provides \$1,820,000 GPR in FY 2023-24 and \$3,640,000 GPR in FY 2024-25 for behavioral and mental health services for youth as part of a larger initiative to provide a continuum of care for families in Milwaukee involved with the child welfare system.
- Expands the Transitional Jobs and Transform Milwaukee Jobs programs by providing an additional \$1.7 million TANF in each fiscal year, removing the requirement that individuals are unemployed for at least four weeks before being eligible, and allowing individuals who are eligible for unemployment insurance (UI), but not receiving UI benefits, to participate in the program.

- Provide \$7.25 million GPR in FY 2023-24 to create a pilot program that provides funding for whole-home upgrades within the city of Milwaukee with the goal of reducing energy burdens and creating a healthier living environment for households with lower incomes.
- Provides 5.0 FTE positions to increase Milwaukee child welfare operations staffing with additional case aides, performance monitors, and positions to support on-site child care for children removed from their homes.