

**Mayor's Infrastructure Finance Committee
Recommendations
May 2003**

Streets and Highways

Over the 12 year planning period, the street and highway system will need to raise about \$225 million in additional revenues to meet projected needs. (Note: Inflation is not factored into these projections.)

- Raise current wheel tax by \$5 per vehicle over a seven year period, with increases in 2004, 2007, and 2010. Total increase would be \$15 per vehicle. This raises about \$29.8 million over 12 years. – **Completed**
- Institute "Occupation Tax" on the retail sale of fuel in Lincoln equal to 5 cents per gallon, effective January 1, 2004. This raises about \$92.1 million over 12 years. – **State said if Occupation Tax increased, gas tax portion would be cut.**
- Seek voter approval for a \$6 million General Obligation (GO) bond for sidewalk maintenance in existing neighborhoods. – **A GO bond didn't pass by voters.**
- Seek voter approval for a \$96.5 million General Obligation (GO) bond for street rehabilitation in existing areas and for new construction. – **A GO bond didn't pass by voters.**
- Utilize Highway Allocation Bonds to "smooth out" revenue over the 12 year period. – **Highway Allocation Bond issued \$27 million in 2006 and \$35 million in 2004.**
- Should the GO bonds not receive initial voter approval, a second attempt should be made to gain approval.
- Should the Occupation Tax and the Wheel Tax changes not be approved, the City should approach the State about authorization for a local sales tax dedicated to street construction and maintenance.