

A report from News Center Maine: Once again we hear the DOT Commissioner pitch for more money for our roads and bridges. [View this report online.](#)

How about cancelling the I-395/Route 9 Connector?

AND – the blue-ribbon commission was discussed as if they have all the answers when if you go to their [website](#) you will find that they could not reach consensus on how to fix the problem,

The **Commission has completed its work** and has issued its [final report](#). At the fifth and final meeting, the commission voted unanimously in support of the following findings:

- Finding #1. Assuming an annual \$100 million general obligation bond package, the current unmet annual transportation funding need in Maine is approximately \$232 million.
- Finding #2. The federal government should be challenged to continue providing one third of Maine's transportation funding need.
- Finding #3. Given findings #1 and #2, the pragmatic state level funding target that Maine should address is approximately \$160 million, about two thirds of \$232 million.
- Finding #4. Once the annual transportation funding need is met, Maine's reliance on bonding to supplement transportation funding should be reduced in a fiscally responsible manner.
- Finding #5. That given the complexity and importance of the issues inherent in transportation funding, **the commission did not have enough time to fully develop a funding solution framework that it could support** recommending to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation.

Given the findings above, the commission voted unanimously in support of the following recommendation.

- That the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation report out a bill to immediately continue and authorize the commission to continue the work started by the commission, so that a recommendation may be submitted to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation and can be acted upon before the end of the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature (see Appendix C for proposed language).