

Excerpt from Governor Mills' State of the State speech on January 21, 2020 reference transportation:

So, while we're at it, in the words of my friend and fellow governor, Gretchen Whitmer of Michigan, **let's fix the damn roads!**

Just last week the Maine DOT released its three-year Work Plan. Chronic underfunding and **cost increases keep us from maintaining our essential infrastructure**. With a shortfall of as much as \$232 million a year, it's time to put our heads together and get creative. I want that Blue-Ribbon Commission to keep working on this for as long as it takes. I signed the Resolve that allows them to continue that work this morning.

Partisan posturing and **skinny mix won't fix the roads**. Creative ideas will.

I'm not opposed to using some general fund dollars to improve our infrastructure, boost our economy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

This is not a partisan issue.

There are no Democratic roads or Republican bridges.

We can fix this. Because we are not Washington, we are Maine.

Yes—Governor Mills, we can fix this but it needs to start with the DOT suspending all new projects, to include the \$100 million controversial I-395/Route 9 connector, and reallocate those funds to Maine's unmet essential transportation needs. This is a crisis and it needs to be treated as such with everything in play. Skinny mixing the same road every few years is a waste of money in the long term—let's fix the damn roads!