

In September 2019, Commissioner Van Note made the following statement: **"We are cutting it too damn close – it's just too close."**

My question is if we are indeed "cutting it too damn close" – why are we wasting \$100 million on the I-395 connector when there are other unmet needs that obviously worry the commissioner?



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LeuaoxDp174>

From [Channel 2 news](#) on April 30: Commissioner Van Note discusses the fuel tax: "That money has stopped flowing." The DOT is projecting a 40%, \$74 million loss in Highway Fund revenues from April to the end of September. He also stated that most work will go on as planned and that they thought Federal monies would be available to make up for the covid losses, but that hasn't materialized. Money that the state has already received cannot be used to make up for revenue losses. Van Note also stated (disturbingly) that they could take some money out of the transportation bond that will be voted on in June, even though that money was for projects planned next year.

Remember the old Popeye cartoons where Wimpy says "I'll gladly pay you Tuesday for a hamburger today." The DOT cannot operate in this fashion – hoping that next "Tuesday" will take care of itself or the feds will dump them some more money to spend.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MYEsOw0651k>