



Bridge Repairs Rise To Top Of Lawmakers' Agenda

Governor Hopes To Have Plan For Legislature

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DES MOINES, Iowa -- Gov. Chet Culver and legislative leaders are looking at ways to raise money to repair the state's bridges and roads.

The news comes after the deadly bridge collapse in Minneapolis earlier this month.

Brad Anderson, Culver's spokesman, said Culver hopes to have a plan to present to the Legislature when it opens next year.

Anderson said the Iowa Transportation Commission approved a five-year plan in June that included \$500 million for bridge repairs.

He said the Iowa Department of Transportation has assured Culver that the plan will allow the state to make necessary repairs in a timely manner.

Meanwhile, an interim committee will study road funding issues and make a recommendation.

The group was established last December after a report showed that roads in Iowa face a nearly \$28 billion shortfall over the next two decades.

Iowa will need at least another \$200 million.

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