

2015-2017 DANE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

General Principles

The unique role counties play in administering state programs---human services, transportation, the environment, surface and ground waters, health, the justice system and other state-mandated services---must be recognized:

1. The state must fairly share responsibility with the counties in determining the scope, design and cost of statewide programs;
2. The state must provide an adequate and predictable share of funding for state services delivered by the counties;
3. The state must help counties reduce the need to rely on property taxes; and
4. The state should enhance the ability of counties to more effectively manage county government.
5. The state shall perform a biennial review of all mandated programs to determine continued need for the programs and annually review all mandated programs funded at 50% or less.

Eliminate Racial Disparities

The elimination of racial disparities and the elevation of racial equity are among the most important priorities and responsibilities of Dane County. Specific areas that help alleviate racial disparities include Child Welfare, Economic Wellbeing, Family Structure, Youth Initiatives, Education, Prevention, Employment, Criminal Justice, Health Care, Housing, Transportation, Economic Development, Contracting and Service Delivery.

In order to impact the current state and community crisis, we must be deliberate and proactive in our public policy response.

- 1) Juvenile Justice: Support continued funding for early intervention and intensive treatment programs.
- 2) Career Development for Youth: Support funding to provide educational, work skill development, transportation and mentoring services for youth or young adults who are at risk of dropping out, have dropped out of high school or who are unemployed post high school and lack the knowledge and skills necessary to secure and maintain gainful employment.
- 3) Early Childhood Initiative: Support legislation to continue funding for the Early Childhood Initiative programs.
- 4) Apprenticeship/Internships: **Encourage Provide incentives for** the business community and technical college system to create and support apprenticeship/internship opportunities to ~~unemployed post high school~~ young adults. **Expedite entry and graduation from the programs to meet increasing demands to fill vacancies created by an aging boomer workforce.**
- 5) 17 Year Olds: Remove 17 year olds from the adult correctional system and return them to Juvenile Courts and Juvenile Corrections.
- 6) Countywide Youth Collaboration: Create two pilot programs funded at \$100,000 to foster countywide collaborative actions with School Districts, Law Enforcement Task Forces (drug, gang....). County Human Services, Sheriff, District Attorney, Community Youth Service Organizations and target services for all students, including parole activities.

- 51 7) Prevention Funding: Support initiatives that provide additional funds for primary
52 prevention programs including delinquency, child abuse/neglect and elder/abuse neglect.
- 53 8) Youth Programs: Support continuation and expansions of programs focusing on
54 prevention of delinquency, alcohol and other drug use, child abuse and neglect and domestic
55 violence. Support increased funding and support for youth after school programs, especially at
56 the middle school level.
- 57 9) Youth Aids: Support legislation to increase state funding for out-of-home care costs for
58 juvenile offenders now paid for by Dane County. Limit increases in state rates for out of home
59 placements for juveniles (including corrections, child caring institutions and residential care
60 facilities) to no more than the increase in Youth Aids.
- 61 10) Relative Caregivers: Support legislation/policies that provide additional State support to
62 relatives who take care of non-custodial children.
- 63 11) Dental Access: Support policies and/or legislation that would ensure access to dental
64 care for all residents including those on Medical Assistance.
- 65 12) Voter Registration Changes and Voter Identification Requirement: Oppose legislation
66 which changes same day voter registration, alters times for absentee ballot voting and requires
67 photo identification to vote.
- 68 13) Support Wisconsin's Successful System of Election Day Voter Registration: Support
69 Election Day voter registration and urge Wisconsin Legislature to maintain the current system.
- 70 14) Regional Transit Authority (RTA): **Maintain Restore** statutory language to allow
71 creation of a Regional Transit Authority/Authorities covering at a minimum the federally-
72 designated Metropolitan Planning Area, and support statutory language to allow up to a half-
73 cent sales tax which would go to citizens for a binding referendum, be contingent on receiving
74 federal transit funds and RTA governance/operating structure would be determined after
75 consultation with community partners participating in the RTA. Support that sales tax funds are
76 used for commuter rail, bus transit, emergency/disabled transportation, local road and county
77 highway projects.
- 78 15) State Audit Probation & Parole Program: Request the Legislative Audit Bureau to
79 analyze Wisconsin's probation and parole program for effectiveness and efficiencies; to identify
80 improvements in procedures to streamline the revocation process in order to reduce days in jail;
81 and compare the Wisconsin program to other states.
- 82 16) Prisoner Re-Entry: Adequately fund prisoner community re-entry programs to increase
83 success and effectiveness.
- 84 17) Youth Courts: Support and fund Youth Courts in Wisconsin High Schools.
- 85 18) Close Public Defender Eligibility Gap: Support changing Public Defender eligibility levels
86 to the same level as eligibility for appointed counsel to eliminate the gap that currently requires
87 the court to appoint counsel at county expense.
- 88 19) Minority Outreach: Support state-sponsored outreach to communities about available
89 support services.
- 90 20) Income Maintenance Programs: Support funding levels and legislation that provide
91 sufficient resources to administer non-cash benefit programs such as Food Stamps, Medical
92 Assistance, Child Care and issue benefits to all eligible people. Oppose changes to the
93 eligibility/enrollment process and services funded under Medicaid and Income Maintenance.
- 94 21) Restrictions on Local Fair Housing Ordinances: Oppose legislation that impinges on the
95 rights of tenants by allowing landlords to discriminate based on a tenant's income, occupation,
96 rental history, credit information, arrest/conviction history and Social Security number.
- 97 22) Wisconsin's Fair Employment Act: Oppose permitting an employer to refuse to employ,
98 bar or terminate from employment an individual who has been convicted of a felony and who
99 has not been pardoned for that felony, and pre-empting local government from adopting
100 ordinances concerning employment discrimination based on arrest or conviction records that
101 prohibit activity allowed under the state Fair Employment Act.

- 102 23) Landlord Regulation: Repeal 2011 WI Act 108, which prohibits local government
 103 ordinances that place limits or requirements on landlords (Fair Housing Ordinance). Repeal
 104 2011 WI Act 143, which prohibits a local government from imposing a moratorium on eviction
 105 actions and amends/creates new provisions that benefit landlords including but not limited to
 106 allowing: landlord discretion in disposing/storing of medical/personal items; landlords to
 107 withhold a tenant's security deposit or portion of for damages, unpaid rent/utility bills; and
 108 severability of rental agreements. Repeal 2011-2012 budget bill provision which deletes
 109 landlord foreclosure notice. **Repeal 2013 WI Act 76 (Prohibit Local Landlord Ordinances).**
- 110 24) Minimum wage: Enacted 11/4/14 Referendum Ballot question, "Should the State of
 111 Wisconsin increase the minimum wage to \$10.10 per hour?" Dane County voters approved this
 112 item by 73.6% yes votes and 26.4% no votes.
- 113 25) Medicaid Expansion: Support implementation of the Medicaid expansion under the
 114 federal Affordable Care Act (ACA). Allow Wisconsin to use the Medicaid option to close the gap
 115 in BadgerCare for childless adults. If WI closes the gap, full federal funding will be available for
 116 three years 2014-2016, followed by gradual reductions to 90% by 2020. ACA creates other
 117 innovative benefits and programs that states and counties will help to implement, including a
 118 new mandatory coverage group for young adults who leave foster care up to the age of 26
 119 years old. **Accept available federal funds for BadgerCare to ensure that thousands of**
 120 **Wisconsin citizens have access to quality and affordable health coverage.**
- 121 26) County Jail: Support full state funding for probation/parole holds; continued support for
 122 the Treatment Alternative Program (TAP); more funding for incarceration alternatives; support
 123 Justice Impact Statements.
- 124 27) Court Interpreters: Support appointing court interpreters to all cases regardless of
 125 indigency and support an increase in state funding for reimbursement to counties for interpreter
 126 services.
- 127 28) Wisconsin Community Justice Reinvestment Act: Support creation of WCJRA to provide
 128 sentencing judges with more effective treatment options while reducing the prison population
 129 and sharing the savings with counties to fund local criminal justice/treatment programs.
- 130 ~~29) Medicaid Expansion Funding: Enacted referendum question for 11/4/14 Election~~
 131 ~~ballot,~~
 132 ~~"Shall the Governor and Legislature accept available federal funds for BadgerCare to~~
 133 ~~ensure that thousands of Wisconsin Citizens have Access to quality and affordable~~
 134 ~~health coverage?"~~
 135 ~~Dane County voters approved by 81.7% yes votes and 18.3% no votes.~~
- 136 **29) Prevailing Wage: Oppose legislation that eliminates the prevailing wage**
 137 **requirement for public works and other projects. The prevailing wage guarantees fair**
 138 **bids, quality work and middle class wages for skilled workers in Dane County.**

140
 141 **Criminal Justice and Public Safety**

- 143 1) State Court System: Increase state funding of the circuit court system, including court
 144 security.
- 145 2) Victim-Witness Program: Support full state funding of program costs.
- 146 3) Child Support: Request the Legislature designate additional state monies to the
 147 Wisconsin County Child Support Program in order to continue to provide the current high level
 148 of service.
- 149 4) EMS Services: Support legislation that encourages financial support of volunteers in
 150 emergency medical services and that address liability issues and professional standards.
 151 Support state reimbursement for radio frequency and upgrade requirements.

- 152 5) Clerk of Court Fees: Pursue statutory changes to increase the county share of
153 fines/forfeitures.
- 154 6) License Fee: Support \$12 for driver's license suspension if the fee is payable by the
155 defendant.
- 156 7) Communications Surcharge for 911 Systems: ~~Support legislation that authorizes~~
157 ~~surcharges on telephones, both for landline/wireless phones and any current/future~~
158 ~~communications technology that accesses the 911 system. Surcharges would be used~~
159 ~~to defray the property tax cost of operation and equipment for local 911 systems.~~
160 ~~Remove the Sunset clause within WI Act 48 and include personnel/operational costs as~~
161 ~~an allowable cost under the surcharge. Provide local government access to landline~~
162 ~~surcharge funds. Support legislation to redirect electronic communications surcharge to~~
163 ~~County 911 Centers.~~
- 164 8) Recording Fees: Support legislation that allows counties to re-coup the cost of
165 locating/recording 911 records for individuals when the costs of searching/recording those
166 records exceed \$25. Current statutes prohibit counties from recouping the cost when the cost
167 exceeds \$50.
- 168 9) Conceal and Carry Weapons: Provide an exclusion for the facilities and grounds of the
169 Alliant Energy Center, "Weapons may not be carried onto the grounds, parking lots or areas
170 associated with convention, entertainment and sporting facilities nor brought into venues where
171 the public assembles for tradeshows, demonstrations, conventions, consumer shows,
172 entertainment, sporting or educational events, including zoos, convention centers, arenas, horse
173 arenas, hockey arenas, concert and sporting venues for public assembly events, including when
174 those facilities are used for private events."; oppose weapons in institutions of higher learning,
175 public schools, child care facilities, community centers and health care facilities; and amend
176 conceal and carry legislation to increase all fee amounts to provide County Sheriffs with
177 sufficient funds to administer the conceal and carry law.
- 178 10) First Responder Training: Require training for first responders (police officers,
179 paramedics...) on appropriate procedures for identifying, assisting and interacting with older
180 adults who may have complications from abuse, dementia, mental health or other disorders.
- 181 11) Domestic Violence: Support state funding for domestic violence prevention, intervention
182 and prosecution, including funding for three ADA positions dedicated to domestic violence, and
183 shelter services.
- 184 12) Fee Increase for Jury Trial: Support legislation to increase the fee for a jury trial from \$6
185 to \$15. The funding is needed to offset increases in juror compensation.
- 186 13) Prisoner Hospitalization: Oppose any legislation that would reverse/overturn the WI
187 Supreme Court ruling on the Meriter case. Update the statutory language regarding prisoner
188 hospitalization.
- 189 14) Industrial Hemp: Support legalizing the production of industrial hemp.
- 190 15) District Attorney Funding: Support increased state funding for more Assistant District
191 Attorney positions to meet growing caseloads.
- 192 16) Criminal Background Check: Support additional funds to the Department of Justice to
193 enable the conducting of uniform criminal background checks of to-be-hired direct care workers
194 by public and non-profit agencies.
- 195 17) Emergency Communications Interoperability: Enact local and state communication
196 networks for disaster events and fund through State grants.
- 197 18) Interstate Traffic Tickets: Amend State Statutes allowing Wisconsin to join the Interstate
198 Compact on Traffic Forfeitures to facilitate collection of out of state traffic violators and capture a
199 needed revenue source for the state and county.

200
201

202 19) Multi-line Telephone System (MLTS) calls to 911: Support legislation requiring
203 owner/operators of these systems to deliver to Wisconsin 9-1-1 Centers precise location
204 information instead of merely the “headquarters office” location and call-back numbers now
205 delivered when callers from their system dial 9-1-1 seeking aid.

206 20) Support Gun Control: Ban habitual criminals from obtaining concealed carry permits,
207 make the purchase of a firearm for someone who is prohibited from possessing a firearm a
208 felony, make the possession of a concealed firearm by those prohibited under Wisconsin law a
209 felony and require that private gun sales be subject to criminal background checks performed by
210 a federally licensed gun dealer.

211 21) Mental Health Screenings: Support and fund mental health screening and treatment for
212 inmates in county juvenile detention, shelter homes and county jails.

213 **22) Legalize Marijuana: Enacted a referendum for Spring 2014 Election ballot,**
214 **“Should the state Support legislation legalizing marijuana.?”— Dane County voters**
215 **approved by 64.5% yes votes and 35.5% no votes.**

216 **23) Open Records Law: Support updating the open records law to cover all county**
217 **costs for new and emerging labor-intensive records requests and associated costs**
218 **including redaction.**

219 220 221 Human Services

222 General Issues

223
224 1) Key Funding Streams: Support Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in key
225 funding areas from the state including Youth Aids, Community Aids, COP and CIP.

226 Economic Assistance

227
228
229 1) W-2 Funding: Support funding to pay all W-2 cash benefits and administrative expenses
230 2) TANF Childcare: Support sufficient funding for TANF childcare. Expand eligibility to
231 include childcare support for low-income individuals pursuing higher education leading to
232 employment.

233 3) Homeless Services: Provide additional State funding for services to assist individuals,
234 unaccompanied youth and families who are homeless.

235 4) Property Tax Exemptions Low Income Housing: Clarify 70.11 Wis. Stats. to define
236 “maintenance” as “repair and maintenance of property, capital replacements, insurance
237 premiums, project management, debt retirement, project-related reserves, general
238 administrative expenses, resident services, utilities, financing costs, preservation expenses and
239 similar project-related expenses.”

240 5) Centralization of Economic Support Programs: Oppose initiatives to remove income
241 maintenance administration from counties and create a centralized income maintenance unit.

242 6) Medicaid Funding: Support enabling counties to accept/administer Medicaid funding at
243 the county level.

244 **7) Medicaid Expansion Funding: Enacted 11/4/14 referendum ballot question, “Shall**
245 **Governor & Legislature accept available federal funds for BadgerCare to ensure that**
246 **thousands of Wisconsin citizens have access to quality and affordable health**
247 **coverage?”— Dane County voters approved this item by 81.7% yes votes and 18.3% no**
248 **votes.**

249 **7) Drug Testing: Oppose legislation that would enact drug testing as a requirement**
250 **for public benefits.**

253
254
255
256
257
258
259
260
261
262
263
264
265
266
267
268
269
270
271
272
273
274
275
276
277
278
279
280
281
282
283
284
285
286
287
288
289
290
291
292
293
294
295
296
297
298
299
300
301
302
303

Services to Older Adults, the Developmentally/Physically Disabled and Mentally Ill

- 1) Birth to Three: Support additional financial support from the state for this program. Support a modification of State Statutes to require health insurers to make third party payments to defray the cost of Birth to Three care for families that have private health insurance policies.
- 2) Community Support Program (CSP): Continue program. Have additional state funding to help reduce county costs and serve those whom can benefit from the program.
- 3) RSVP Services: Support increased funding for the RSVP Program
- 4) Seniorcare and BadgerCare: Maintain Seniorcare and BadgerCare continuing programs.
- 5) Handicap Access: Support “visit ability” legislation to allow handicap access devices in new homes or eliminate barriers in older homes.
- 6) Long Term Care Reform: Plans developed by the state in the area of long term care need to protect quality and availability of services to consumers and maintain control by the county of programs or relieve the county of financial aid and/or legal obligations for the programs and participants if the county is not involved with these programs in the future. The required county contribution towards LTC should be equitably negotiated. Support adequate funding for the start-up and ongoing funding of ADRCs. Amend Chapter 55 to delineate state and county responsibilities.
- 7) Equitable Funding for Long Term Care: Extend higher federal MA reimbursement rates under the federal stimulus package to current county-administered long term care MA waiver programs where county revenues comprise the non-federal match. Support freezing further county participation in Family Care until the State can fully fund county program start-up costs and find more equitable ways of funding Family Care without penalizing counties, such as Dane, for the substantial financial commitment and innovative approaches already taken to meet long term care needs of its residents.”
- 8) Employment Services for Older Adults: Extend the use of state **and county** funds to encourage the business community and technical colleges to create and support retraining and placement of older adults entering/re-entering employment, especially those lacking English proficiency.
- 9) Family Caregivers: Provide financial support and tax credits to family caregivers.
- 10) Dementia Patient Rights: Oppose **2013 AB 575 which** imposes **legislation to impose** new guardianship requirements, involuntary psychotropic drug administration and emergency detention requirements in Chapters 51 and 55.
- 11) **Comprehensive Community Services (CCS): Support continued full funding of the state match.**
- 12) **InvestaCare (Long Term Care Investment Fund): Support legislation to establish a long term care investment savings program for individuals 18 years and older to meet future long term care needs through financial contributions.**

Programs to Serve Children, Youth and Families

- 1) Kinship Care: Support funding to meet needs of all that are eligible.
- 2) Wisconsin Medicaid Cost Reporting (WIMCR): Eliminate WIMCR program or fully reimburse counties for the revenues they would have received under the Community Services Deficit Reduction Benefit (CSDRB) and Community Based Medicaid Administrative Claiming (CBMAC) programs which were impacted by the creation of WIMCR.
- 3) Family Child Care: Support legislation to extend the state rules governing foster care background checks to family day care providers.

304 4) At-Risk Youth Report to School Board: Develop a program for newly released at-risk
305 students to interact with/give progress reports to school boards.

306
307 Public Health Services

308
309 1) Response to Local Public Health Emergencies: Support legislation that recognizes the
310 critical role of local Public Health Departments in responding to public health emergencies and
311 provides adequate funding to respond to all threats to public health.

312 2) Public Health Prevention: Support initiatives that maintain the integrity and effectiveness
313 of public health prevention services.

314 3) Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease: Support the WI Department of Health and Family Services
315 in its efforts to amend the administrative code to include Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease as a
316 reportable disease.

317 4) Medical Marijuana: Support legislation allowing residents with debilitating medical
318 conditions to acquire and possess marijuana for medical purposes if supported by their
319 physician. Dane County voters approved this item in 11/2/10 general election, 75.49% yes and
320 24.50% no.

321 5) Women's Health Care: Repeal all state laws that prohibit women from having access to
322 safe and legal abortions, that don't protect women's health and don't ensure a woman's dignity,
323 equality and autonomy.

324
325 Veteran Services

326
327 1) Armed Forces: Support the Dane County soldiers who are presently serving. Support
328 protecting families and jobs rather than utilizing precious resources and funds to wage a war.

329 2) VFW Halls: Support a property tax exemption for chartered veterans' organizations.

330 3) Property Tax Credit: Eliminate the 65 year old age limit, drop the disability rating from
331 100% to 30% or greater, and allow 10 consecutive years of Wisconsin residency after
332 separation (this expands eligibility to veteran applicants whose home of record was not
333 Wisconsin).

334 4) Trust Fund: Support an increase from state GPR to help stabilize the Trust Fund so
335 veterans will no longer pay for their own benefits and programs. The Trust Fund is financed
336 through veteran programs such as personal and home loans.

337 5) Wisconsin GI Bill: Fully fund the Wisconsin GI Bill without any limitations on eligibility.

338 6) State Funding for the Veteran Trust Fund: Support increased funding in the State
339 budget bill to insure solvency of the Veterans Trust Fund including but not limited to, the
340 exploration of permanent state funding for the WI Dept. of Veteran Affairs and the veteran
341 programs/benefits that the Department oversees.

342 7) Ending Veteran Homelessness: Support ending veteran homelessness by 2015 through
343 maximizing state and federal resources and streamlining local housing processes.

344 **8) Mass Transit for Disabled Veterans: Support fully funding bus passes and other**
345 **mass transit costs for all service-connected disabled veterans in all Wisconsin locations**
346 **and transit programs.**

347
348 Transportation, Land Use and the Environment

349
350 1) Water Quality: Maintain level of DNR funds for water quality planning and watershed
351 projects. Support increased DNR financial assistance as an incentive to reduce non point
352 source pollution. Seek a fair share of state funding for inland waterways and lakes. Target
353 state funds to where there is a high likelihood of project success, where recipient units of
354 government have a proven track record of meeting state and local water resource goals.

355 Support legislation to provide additional funding and staffing for local water quality protection,
356 improvement and unfunded mandates.

357 2) Local Transportation: Support a greater share of state and federal transportation
358 funding going toward local transportation needs and services. Funding should be increased for
359 General Transportation Aids, State Highway Maintenance, the County Highway Improvement
360 Program (CHIPS) and Specialized Transportation for older adults and persons with disabilities.
361 Require “farmland mitigation” for highway improvement projects. In addition, funding formulas
362 that discriminate against urban counties should be revised and the local match (now 50%) for
363 CHIPS should be decreased.

364 Support state-federal funding for Amtrak service to Milwaukee and Madison. Support continued
365 state funding for further planning and implementation of a commuter rail system and regional
366 bus links to outlying communities in Dane County. Also, support increased funding for
367 Transport 2020 and rail rehabilitation and purchases.

368 Support state/federal funding for the Midwest Regional Rail Initiative.

369 3) Bicycle Trail Funding: Work with Legislators and State Agencies to obtain transportation
370 aids for bicycle trails with significant commuter traffic. Support allowing bike path maintenance
371 costs to be eligible for transportation aids. Support the creation and development of a statewide
372 Bike Trail Task Force. Integrate bicycle transportation into future commuter transportation
373 systems.

374 4) Regional Trail System: Request DNR assistance in development of regional trail
375 systems.

376 5) Highway Workers Safety: Earmark a portion of every state construction/maintenance
377 contract to fund increased local law enforcement in construction/maintenance zones.

378
379 6) Soil Erosion: Support DNR and/or legislative streamlining of NR297 process to deal
380 more quickly with cropland soil erosion that threatens water resources. Control soil erosion to
381 acceptable limits, e.g., tolerable soil loss levels, for the production of food and fiber. Support
382 DATCP Soil and Water Resource Management programs implementation, e.g., NR243 cost
383 sharing and Land and Water Resource Management Plan implementation and cost sharing.

384 7) Recycling: Support long-term state funding for state’s recycling program. Support
385 continued state efforts to expand markets for recycled materials. Amend statutes to allow local
386 governments or other entities to receive more than one state grant for innovative demonstration
387 projects.

388 8) Landfill Siting: Allow municipalities to replace existing public landfills without a new DNR
389 needs determination. Amend statutes to modify landfill negotiation-mediation process to include
390 counties as an appropriate governing body for the approval of negotiated agreements. Amend
391 statutes to prohibit the construction of landfills until the mediation-negotiating process is
392 complete.

393 9) Cleansweep: Support increased state/federal funding for household and Ag Clean
394 Sweep.

395 10) Boating Laws: Support legislation making fines and associated penalties for drunken
396 boating commensurate with those for drunken driving.

397 11) Stewardship Fund: Support annually adjusting the State Stewardship Fund for inflation
398 to maintain at least 1990 funding levels. Eliminate Stewardship Fund requirements for hunting
399 and trapping.

400 12) State Urban Forestry Grants: Allow towns, counties, and non-profits to access both the
401 federal and state funds in the Urban Forestry Grant Program.

402 13) Payments in Lieu of Taxes: Authorize counties to make payments in lieu of taxes to
403 other local units of government when the county takes land off the tax rolls for conservation
404 purposes.

405

- 406
407 14) Holding Tanks as Systems of Last Resort: Support changes in statutes and
408 administrative rules that oppose using holding tanks except as a last resort for new and
409 replacement septic systems. Modify rules and statutes to ensure funding from the Wisconsin
410 Fund is for the least costly systems, excluding holding tanks, unless a holding tank is the
411 system of last resort.
- 412 15) Revise Formula for DATCP Administrative Funding to Counties: Support a revision in
413 the formula the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) uses to
414 distribute administrative funding to counties for administration of the Farmland Preservation
415 Program, Nutrient Management Program and the implementation of performance standards.
416 Use criteria for distribution that include number of farms, acres of cropland, number of livestock
417 and amount of resource waters in a county.
- 418 16) State Commercial Building Code: Support the exemption from the state Commercial
419 Building Code of farm buildings used for agricultural purposes or horse boarding/stabling
420 facilities.
- 421 17) Fair Motorboat Gas Tax Allocation: Support legislation to fairly allocate motorboat fuel
422 tax through a more equitable distribution formula.
- 423 18) Stormwater Utility: Amend the WI Stats. to allow counties to create and manage a
424 stormwater utility.
- 425 19) Mercury Products Ban: The State should ban the sale of mercury-containing products,
426 with the exception of dental fillings and fluorescent lamps. If the ban is implemented on a
427 phased-in basis, retailers should be required to take back for recycling those mercury-containing
428 products that they are selling until the ban for each product takes effect.
- 429 20) Boater Registration Act: Authorize the state to license, regulate, and require
430 education/training for operation of motorized watercraft.
- 431 21) Mercury Rules: Support changes to the mercury rules to achieve a 90% reduction per
432 DNR rule.
- 433 22) Wisconsin Land Information Program: Support the continuation of the Wisconsin Land
434 Information Program and grants.
- 435 23) DNR Budget Reductions: Oppose reductions in DNR staffing that affect Dane County
436 water programs, ~~(water including regulatory programs, lake/fishery, runoff specialists,~~
437 ~~conservation wardens, land conservation and parks programs), and others).~~
- 438 24) Comprehensive Planning: Oppose legislation, which repeals the comprehensive
439 planning statutes.
- 440 26) Power Plants: Support efforts to clean up dirty power plants.
- 441 27) Transmission Lines: Request the State supports an independent study of the need for
442 additional high voltage transmission lines through Dane County.
- 443 28) Takings Legislation: Oppose legislation that would require county government to
444 compensate real property owners for restricted use or loss of property value as a result of law or
445 regulations.
- 446 29) Greenhouse Air Pollution: ~~Reduce greenhouse air pollution by updating and~~
447 ~~implementing the Governor's Global Warming Task Force recommendations and~~
448 ~~increasing funding for county energy efficiency measures. Provide funding for county-~~
449 ~~level climate action planning, mitigation, and adaptation.~~
- 450 30) Airport Authority: Oppose legislation that takes airport governance away from county
451 government and gives it to a private/public airport authority.
- 452 31) American Transmission Company (ATC) Requirement: Urge Wisconsin Public Service
453 Commission to require ATC to construct power lines underground to protect Dane County
454 economic and environmental resources while enhancing resiliency and reliability during extreme
455 weather events.
- 456

- 457 32) Reduce Fine Particle Emissions: Target fine particle pollution non-attainment areas by
458 providing increased funding and new incentives for fine particle emission reduction programs,
459 including programs that reduce emissions from transportation sources and point sources
460 through the increased use of alternative fuels, renewable energy sources, and energy efficiency
461 improvements.
- 462 33) Diesel Idling Regulations: Support statewide implementation of diesel idling regulations
463 for trucks, buses and other diesel engines.
- 464 34) Comprehensive Approach to Control Lake Levels: Request the DNR to adopt a
465 comprehensive approach to managing the levels of the lakes through collaboration with affected
466 parties, including dam operators, municipalities and regulatory agencies toward improving
467 natural hydrologic conditions and habitat.
- 468 35) Oppose State Increases in Landfill/Solid Waste Fees and Program Reductions: Oppose
469 state increases to the landfill recycling tipping fee and environmental repair fee. Oppose the
470 elimination or reduction of recycling and solid waste programs.
- 471 36) Verona Road Project: Support mitigation measures to lessen the impact of the Verona
472 Road construction project on surrounding neighborhoods and local businesses. Those
473 measures include noise barriers, monitoring air quality, preservation of commercial areas,
474 minimizing impacts on established neighborhoods, storm water management (steer away from
475 Dunn's Marsh), and develop bike lanes, pedestrian/bicycle bridges and sidewalks on frontage
476 and neighborhood roads.
- 477 37) Alternative Energy Production: Support statewide funding in the form of grants and
478 incentives leading to the increased use of renewable energy sources such as wind, solar and
479 biomass.
- 480 38) Green Jobs Economic Development: Support statewide funding in the form of grants or
481 incentives, for counties to develop, create and attract green job opportunities with green
482 companies or industry.
- 483 39) Keep Asian Carp Out of Wisconsin Waterways: Call on the WI Department of Natural
484 Resources and the federal government to increase their efforts to stop the destructive advance
485 of the Asian carp through Wisconsin.
- 486 40) Mining Reform: Monitor mining reform legislation, oppose provisions that usurp local
487 government role and suspend floodplain rules that would nullify flood insurance and federal
488 disaster assistance.
- 489 41) Renewable Energy: Oppose legislation that restricts or prevents waste-to-energy and
490 renewable energy as viable energy sources for utilities and consumers.
- 491 42) North Mendota Parkway: Oppose the construction of four lanes on Main Street (HWY
492 19) in Waunakee. Support an update of the 2003 North Mendota Parkway traffic study, and
493 request WIDOT to consider how the proposed North Mendota Parkway, Hwy 19, CTH K, CTH M
494 and Hwy 13 relate to each other and Hwy 12. Support an implementation review of the "North
495 E-Way".
- 496 43) Restore Funding for Soil & Water Resource Management Program: Return \$9.3 million
497 to state aid for county conservation employees who assist WI farmers and help grow the state's
498 agriculture industry.
- 499 44) Clean Energy Choice: Support legislation to increase affordability/sustainability of
500 renewable energy in Wisconsin.
- 501 45) Divestment from Fossil Fuels: Support zero investments in fossil fuel companies for
502 Dane County, all local governments and state institutions.
- 503 46) Support Local Control of Erosion and Storm Water Management Standards: Oppose
504 standardizing regulation of construction site erosion, storm water management and prohibiting
505 local governments from enacting local ordinances that are stricter than statewide standards.

- 506 47) Support Local Control of Nonmetallic Mining: Oppose any state legislation that
 507 preempts local governments from enacting their own nonmetallic mining regulations and
 508 oversight of air/water quality, highway damage, noise and use contracts.
 509 48) Update Wisconsin 2030 State Rail Plan: Support funding and planning for intercity rail
 510 serving Dane County and Madison and urge WIDOT to work with Minnesota DOT on
 511 Milwaukee-Twin Cities High Speed Rail Study.
 512 49) Water Management: Support local governmental efforts to improve water management
 513 through water conservation, a balanced water budget and enhanced groundwater recharge.
 514 50) High Capacity Wells: Oppose limiting, relaxing or thwarting the regulation of high
 515 capacity wells.
 516 51) Foreign Interests In Farmland: Oppose legislation that removes limits on foreign
 517 ownership of Wisconsin agricultural land.

518
 519
 520 **Local Government Services**

- 521
 522 ~~1) Shared Revenue: Support additional funding for the County Mandate Relief Fund;~~
 523 ~~allow counties to be credited for 100% (now 85%) of local purpose revenues. Oppose~~
 524 ~~elimination of Small Municipalities Shared Revenue program. Support a county~~
 525 ~~expenditure restraint program; and oppose the imposition of cost controls on counties.~~
 526 | 21) Fees/Licenses: State-set fees collected by counties should fairly cover administrative
 527 costs.
 528 | 32) Libraries: Enforce compliance with WI Stats. 43.24(6) which require state funding for
 529 public library systems at 13% of local library expenditures.
 530 | 43) Elections: Support state funding for costs of state elections.
 531 | 54) Legislative Mandates: Oppose any state or federal legislation or rules/regulations
 532 promulgated by federal or state agencies that would require counties to provide a service or
 533 administer any program without adequate and on-going funding; support creation of a Joint
 534 Survey Committee on Local Mandates. Support legislation to allow waivers from state
 535 mandates.
 536 | 65) Association Memberships: Amend WI Stats. 59.07(27) to require a simple majority vote
 537 of the county board of supervisors to purchase membership in an association of county boards.
 538 | 76) Utility Deregulation: Oppose any deregulation that leads to higher consumer rates. Any
 539 attempts to restructure the delivery of electricity should address: reliability of electrical service,
 540 equitable benefits to large and small rate payers, the social and environmental impacts of
 541 restructuring and the ability of counties to aggregate to purchase electricity.
 542 | 87) Election Reporting Requirements: State election law requires state candidates to report
 543 all contributions larger than \$500 made within 15 days of an election to be reported within 24
 544 hours of receipt. Amend the statute to apply to county non-partisan elections and lower the
 545 threshold for these elections to \$100. Also require that these reports be delivered or faxed
 546 directly (instead of just postmarked) to the county clerk within the 24 hour time period.
 547 State election law requires that campaign finance reports include the name, address, and place
 548 of employment of any individual whose cumulative annual contributions total more than \$100.
 549 Amend the statutes to set a lower threshold than \$100 for local elections.
 550 | 98) Elections Board: Support legislation that would provide for county authority to create
 551 and administer an elections board modeled after statutory language authorizing county ethics
 552 boards.
 553 | 109) Electronic Filing: Support legislation that allows counties the option to require electronic
 554 filing for county campaigns.
 555 | 110) Room Tax: Amend the room tax statutes to include counties.

- 556 | **4211)** Alliant Energy Center District: Provide enabling legislation or a grandfather clause within
557 | the Wisconsin Center District and Bradley Center agreement to extend the same authority to the
558 | Alliant Energy Center.
- 559 | **4312)** County Board Elections: Change the state statutes requiring County Board members to
560 | be sworn in on the third Tuesday to allow the seating of temporary Board members until a
561 | recount is completed.
- 562 | **4413)** Preferential Voting: Support giving local governments the opportunity to adopt
563 | preferential voting for nonpartisan elections and guaranteeing trustworthy electronic voting
564 | systems.
- 565 | **4514)** TABOR/Property Tax Freeze: Urge state to pay for required programs to reduce
566 | property tax growth, not pass more constitutional amendments.
- 567 | **4615)** Offshore Contracting: Oppose the practice of contracting state of Wisconsin government
568 | functions or services to overseas companies/operations.
- 569 | **4716)** Local Government Control: Oppose any legislation that limits or deletes local
570 | government control including opposition to levy limits and support for county home rule
571 | authority.
- 572 | **4817)** Reverse Marriage Ban: Support a constitutional amendment to delete the marriage ban
573 | amendment adopted in the Fall '06 General Election.
- 574 | **4918)** Domestic Partnership Benefits: Continue to allow local governments to provide domestic
575 | partner benefits.
- 576 | **2019)** State Contracts: Require the State to award contracts to vendors that extend spousal
577 | benefits to include employees in domestic partner relationships.
- 578 | **2420)** Local Runoff Voting: Support allowing local governments the option of instituting instant
579 | runoff voting.
- 580 | **2221)** Manufactured Housing: Support legislation to amend state statutes to require adequate
581 | notice to residents when mobile home parks are closing, require storm cellars/secure areas in
582 | manufactured housing communities, encourage WHEDA to provide funding/financing for the
583 | purchase of housing on leased land, remove any barriers to long term leases, allow the
584 | purchase of communities by residents and the development of co-operative housing for
585 | manufactured housing communities.
- 586 | **2322)** Grant Program Continuity: Require that when the state awards contracts or otherwise
587 | funds a project, the state should require sustainability as one criterion in the decision-making or
588 | contract selection process.
- 589 | **2423)** Buy Local: Provide and maintain state funding to create incentives for businesses and
590 | all levels of government to buy local produce and products.
- 591 | **2524)** Arts Funding: Support increased funding for the arts across Wisconsin.
- 592 | **2625)** Restore Impact Fee Authority: Restore counties to the governmental entities that are
593 | authorized to levy impact fees.
- 594 | **2726)** Affordable Housing Trust Fund: Support enabling legislation to allow Dane County to
595 | create an Affordable Housing Trust Fund.
- 596 | **2827)** Dangerous Animals and Vicious Dog Ordinance: Amend state law to allow counties to
597 | enact stricter ordinances to regulate dangerous animals and vicious dogs having countywide
598 | applicability.
- 599 | **2928)** Comprehensive School Funding Reform: Support changes in the school aid formula to
600 | align revenues with educational costs. Distribute resources in accordance with the diverse
601 | needs of students and districts to ensure every student receives a quality education. Support
602 | moving school funding away from reliance on property taxes.
- 603 | **3029)** Support Wisconsin Workers' Rights to Organize and Collectively Bargain: Dane County
604 | is committed to a fair and respectful bargaining process and in bargaining in good faith with our
605 | employees, even if state statutes no longer require collective bargaining between Dane County
606 | and its employees. Oppose attacks on workers' rights.

607 | **3130) Population Change:** Dane is nearing the 500,000 population mark. Support legislation
608 | to address issues within the state statutes that pertain to counties with a population of 500,000
609 | or more (Milwaukee County) by changing the population figure to 750,000 or more throughout
610 | the state statutes. There are 160 provisions in state law that apply to counties that size. One of
611 | the most problematic provisions, the state takeover of Dane County child welfare services,
612 | would cost county taxpayers \$58.8 million.

613 | **3231) In-State Tuition for Immigrants:** Support restoring the law for in-state tuition for state
614 | residents who graduated from a Wisconsin High School, but lack proper immigration
615 | documentation.

616 | **3332) Flood Insurance Threat:** Oppose any proposal to suspend state floodplain rules that
617 | nullify federal flood insurance and jeopardize federal disaster assistance for Wisconsin flood
618 | victims.

619 | **3433) UW Cooperative Extension's Relationship with Dane County Extension Department and**
620 | **Wisconsin Idea Partnership:** Support Wisconsin Idea Partnership to address funding reductions
621 | to UW System through the budget bill and the impacts that the Badger Partnership will create
622 | for UW Extension and its partnerships with county extension agencies, including the Dane
623 | County Extension Department.

624 | **3534) Changes to Wisconsin Redistricting Statutes:** Oppose changes to the redistricting
625 | process that allow the Wisconsin Legislature to develop a map of Congressional, Senatorial and
626 | Assembly districts prior to local government input regarding ward boundaries.

627 | **3635) Collective Bargaining Rights:** Support workers having the right to seek safe working
628 | conditions, benefits and fair pay through collective bargaining and oppose legislation that
629 | weakens it.

630 | **3736) Online Retailers Sales Tax:** Support legislation requiring online retailers with Wisconsin
631 | ties to collect and remit WI State and local sales tax.

632 | **38) ~~Palermo's Worker Union: Support the Palermo Workers Union, endorse the~~**
633 | **~~consumer boycott campaign and urge UW Madison to support the boycott.~~**

634 | **3937) Reduce Holding Period for Unclaimed Animals from 7 to 3 Days:** Change state law to
635 | reduce the unclaimed animal holding period from 7 to 3 days. This would shorten the
636 | County/Humane Society holding contract and allow the Dane County Humane Society to place
637 | an animal up for adoption much sooner.

638 | **4038) Fair and Equitable Taxation:** Support fair and equitable taxation without harming county
639 | revenue.

640 | **4139) Public Funding for Elections:** Support public funding/financing for local/state elections.

641 | **4240) School Choice Expansion:** Oppose any legislation/action to expand the voucher
642 | program or a similar facsimile in the Madison Metropolitan School District or in any Dane County
643 | school system.

644 | **4341) Oppose Milwaukee State-Imposed County Board Reform Restructuring:** Oppose
645 | legislation ~~which that~~ impedes ~~the Milwaukee a~~ County Board from governing, budgeting and
646 | hiring staff, ~~through referendum and state law without county input.~~

647 | **4442) Tenants' Rights:** Oppose legislation that prohibits local governments from
648 | enacting/enforcing ordinances that regulate landlord/tenant relations which enhance fairness in
649 | landlord/tenant relations, foster responsible property ownership and protect the safety & stability
650 | of neighborhoods

651 | **4543) Collective Bargaining:** Support legislation allowing local government the option to
652 | engage in collective bargaining with public sector employees.

653 | **4644) UW Hospital & Clinics (UWHC):** Support restoring the rights of workers at UWHC.

654 | **4745) Student Debt:** Support legislation to lower student debt by any means possible including
655 | refinancing loans, implementing tax breaks for those paying back the loans, reducing interest
656 | rates and ensuring tuition is affordable.

657 | ~~4846) Nonpartisan Redistricting: Enacted a referendum for Spring 2014 Election ballot,~~
658 | ~~“Should the Wisconsin Constitution be amended Support legislation to require a~~
659 | ~~nonpartisan system for redistricting legislative and congressional districts in the state.~~
660 | ~~Dane County voters approved by 82.1% yes votes and 17.9% no votes.~~

661 | ~~4947) Wisconsin Arts Agency: The state shall fully fund and create a free-standing~~
662 | ~~Wisconsin Arts Agency to enhance the lives of youth, older adults and all Wisconsin~~
663 | ~~citizens by funding art projects in Communities, Schools, Colleges and Public~~
664 | ~~Works/Building construction across the state.~~

665
666

667 | **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Dane County Board of Supervisors
668 | goes on record in support of these recommendations of the Executive Committee; and

669 |
670 | **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Dane County Legislative Lobbyist be directed to
671 | pursue enactment of these legislative positions; and

672 |
673 | **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that copies of this resolution is sent to the Governor, the
674 | Leadership of both Houses of the Legislature, Legislators representing Dane County, and the
675 | Wisconsin Counties Association.

676
677
678
679
680
681
682
683
684
685
686
687
688
689
690
691
692
693
694

695 | This substitute resolution reflects amendments made to 2014 Res. 355 by all County Board
696 | standing committees. The amendments are marked within the text of the document.

697