

1 SUB 1 AS AMENDED to 2018 RES-474
2 2019-2021 DANE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE AGENDA
3

4 **General Principle**
5

6 The state shall foster equitable and inclusive opportunities for all state
7 residents by supporting and funding proactive, evidence-based programs
8 and policies that advance the elimination of racial and socio-economic
9 disparities and recognize the unique role counties play in administering state
10 programs by:

- 11
- 12 1. Fairly sharing responsibility with the counties in determining the scope, design,
13 and cost of statewide programs;
 - 14 2. Providing adequate and predictable shares of funding for state services
15 delivered by the counties;
 - 16 3. Helping counties reduce the need to rely on property taxes; and
 - 17 4. Enhancing the ability of counties to more effectively manage county
18 government.

19

20 In furthering these principles Dane County will assess policies via an analysis
21 that asks:

- 22 Who benefits?
23 Who is burdened?
24 Who does not have a voice at the table?
25 How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?

26
27 **Surface and Ground Water Quality**

- 28 • **Water Quality:** Maintain level of DNR funds for water quality planning and
29 watershed projects. Support increased DNR financial assistance as an incentive
30 to reduce non-point source pollution. Seek a fair share of state funding for inland
31 waterways and lakes. Target state funds to where there is a high likelihood of
32 project success, where recipient units of government have a proven track record
33 of meeting state and local water resource goals. Support legislation to provide
34 additional funding and staffing for local water quality protection, improvement and
35 unfunded mandates.
- 36 • **Soil Erosion:** Support full implementation and funding of the state's water quality
37 and established runoff pollution performance standards for agriculture, non-
38 agriculture, and transportation facilities standards.
- 39 • **Stormwater Utility:** Amend the WI Stats. to allow counties to create and manage
40 stormwater utility. Support Local Control of Erosion and Storm Water
41 Management Standards. Oppose standardizing regulation of construction site
42 erosion, storm water management and prohibiting local governments from
43 enacting local ordinances that are stricter than statewide standards.
- 44 • **Comprehensive Approach to Control Lake Levels:** Request the DNR to adopt
45 a comprehensive approach to managing the levels of the lakes through
46 collaboration with affected parties, including dam operators, municipalities and
47 regulatory agencies toward improving natural hydrologic conditions and habitat.
48 To address recent flooding, support efforts to manage the Yahara Chain of
49 Lakes, improve the volume of water leaving the Yahara River system, reduce
50 stormwater runoff volumes through increased stormwater infiltration and better
51 management of stormwater on impervious surfaces.
- 52 • **Keep Asian Carp Out of Wisconsin Waterways:** Call on the WI Department of
53 Natural Resources and the federal government to increase their efforts to stop

- 54 the destructive advance of the Asian carp through Wisconsin.
55 • **Mining Reform:** Monitor mining reform legislation, support provisions that
56 restore local government role and suspend floodplain rules that would nullify
57 flood insurance and federal disaster assistance.
58 • **Water Management:** Support local governmental efforts to improve water
59 management through water conservation, a balanced water budget and
60 enhanced groundwater recharge.
61 • **High-Capacity Wells:** Support science-based regulation of high-capacity wells
62 that considers the individual and cumulative effects of high-capacity irrigation
63 wells on nearby waterbodies.
64 • **Public Trust Doctrine:** Oppose legislation that erodes the Public Trust Doctrine
65 and DNR’s ability to regulate navigable waters and wetlands.

66
67 **Natural Resources Conservation**

- 68 • **Stewardship Fund:** Support ongoing appropriations for the state Stewardship
69 Fund that are strong and annually adjusted for inflation. Eliminate Stewardship
70 Fund requirements for hunting and trapping.
71 • **State Urban Forestry Grants:** Allow towns, counties, and non-profits to access
72 both the federal and state funds in the Urban Forestry Grant Program.
73 • **Payments in Lieu of Taxes:** Authorize counties to make payments in lieu of
74 taxes to other local units of government when the county takes land off the tax
75 rolls for conservation purposes.
76 • **DNR Staffing:** Support DNR staff levels that benefit Dane County water
77 programs, including regulatory programs, lake/fishery, runoff specialists,
78 conservation wardens, land conservation and parks programs.

79
80 **Sustainable Agricultural Practices**

- 81 • **State Commercial Building Code:** Support the exemption from the state
82 Commercial Building Code of farm buildings used for agricultural purposes or
83 horseboarding/stabling facilities.
84 • **Funding for Soil & Water Resource Management Program:** Support
85 increased county conservation staff funding for implementation of the county’s
86 land and water resource management plan. Increase available cost share
87 funding to support agricultural producers with implementation of conservation
88 practices to grow the state’s agricultural economy as well as protect soil and
89 water resources.
90 • **Foreign Interests in Farmland:** Oppose legislation that removes limits on
91 foreign ownership of Wisconsin agricultural land.
92 • **Non-Therapeutic Use of Antibiotics in Livestock:** Support statewide ban on
93 non-therapeutic use of antibiotics in livestock production/agriculture.

94
95 **Climate Change: Mitigation, Adaptation & Resilience**

- 96 • **Renewable Energy Production:** Support legislation and statewide funding in
97 the form of grants and incentives to encourage the increased use and viability
98 of waste-to-energy and renewable energy sources such as wind, solar, and
99 biomass.
100 • **Green Jobs Economic Development:** Support statewide funding in the
101 form of grants or incentives, for counties to develop, create and attract green
102 job opportunities with green companies or industries.
103 • **Renewable Energy:** Support legislation that encourages waste-to-energy
104 and renewable energy sources as viable energy sources for utilities and
105 consumers.

- 106 • **Clean Energy Choice:** Support legislation to increase
- 107 affordability/sustainability of renewable energy in Wisconsin.
- 108 • **Divestment from Fossil Fuels:** Support zero investments in fossil fuel
- 109 companies for all local governments and state institutions.
- 110 • **Balanced & Fair Partnership Between Digesters, Gas Recovery**
- 111 **Programs & Utility Companies:** Create a statewide reimbursement
- 112 competitive grant program to enhance and fund bioenergy projects.
- 113 • **Climate Change:** Support legislative efforts to address climate change.
- 114 Enhance county authority and funding for county-level action planning,
- 115 mitigation, adaptation, and resilience around the impacts of climate change,
- 116 including climate change influenced by human activity.
- 117 • **Energy Efficiency:** Work to defend the statewide Focus on Energy Program and
- 118 actively support efforts to increase the funding and customer access to that
- 119 program. Support efforts to return local control to local units of government for
- 120 energy related decision making such as establishing commercial building codes.
- 121 Restore school districts' energy efficiency exemption to the revenue limit.
- 122 • **Reduce Fine Particle Pollution:** Target fine particle pollution non-attainment
- 123 areas by providing increased funding and new incentives for fine particle
- 124 emission reduction programs, including programs that reduce emissions from
- 125 transportation sources and point sources through the increased use of
- 126 alternative fuels, renewable energy sources, and energy efficiency
- 127 improvements.
- 128 • **Diesel Idling Regulations:** Support statewide implementation of diesel idling
- 129 regulations for trucks, buses, and other diesel engines.
- 130 • **Power Plants:** Support efforts to clean up dirty power plants.

131
132 **Environmental Health**

- 133 • **Mercury Rules:** Support changes to the mercury rules to achieve a 90%
- 134 reduction per DNR rule.
- 135 • **Perflourinated Compounds:** Support adopting a state-directed threshold
- 136 standard of PFAS, PFOA and PFOS and the state exploring and identifying
- 137 contamination and remediation options, including the associated costs and
- 138 benefits.
- 139 • **Lead Pollution:** Support statewide/Utility User funding to help local
- 140 governments mitigate lead contamination in drinking water. Support building
- 141 statewide awareness and educational efforts related to the use of lead shot and
- 142 tackle for hunting and fishing.

143
144 **Access to High Quality Health Care**

- 145 • **Dental Access:** Support policies and/or legislation that would ensure access
- 146 to dental care for all residents including those on Medical Assistance.
- 147 • **Medicaid Expansion:** Support implementation of the Medicaid expansion
- 148 under the federal Affordable Care Act (ACA). Accept available federal funds
- 149 for BadgerCare to ensure that thousands of Wisconsin citizens have access to
- 150 quality and affordable health coverage.
- 151 • **Key Funding Streams:** Support Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases
- 152 in key funding areas from the state including Youth Aids, Basic Community
- 153 Aids, Children and Families Allocation, Aging and Disability Resource Centers,
- 154 Income Maintenance, Children's Community Options Program, and Children's
- 155 Long Term Support Program.

156
157 **Economic Assistance**

- 158 • **Income Maintenance Programs:** Support funding levels and legislation that

- 159 provide sufficient resources to administer non-cash benefit programs such as
 160 Food Stamps, Medical Assistance, Child Care and issue benefits to all eligible
 161 people. Oppose changes to the eligibility/enrollment process and services
 162 funded under Medicaid and Income Maintenance.
 163 • **W-2 Funding:** Support funding to pay all W-2 cash benefits and administrative
 164 expenses.
 165 • **Childcare:** Support sufficient funding for childcare. Expand eligibility to include
 166 childcare support for low-income individuals pursuing higher education leading
 167 to employment.
 168 • **Property Tax Exemptions Low Income Housing:** Clarify 70.11 Wis. Stats.
 169 to define “maintenance” as “repair and maintenance of property, capital
 170 replacements, insurance premiums, project management, debt retirement,
 171 project-related reserves, general administrative expenses, resident services,
 172 utilities, financing costs, preservation expenses and similar project-related
 173 expenses.”
 174 • **Centralization of Economic Support Programs:** Oppose initiatives to
 175 remove income maintenance administration from counties and create a
 176 centralized income maintenance unit.
 177 • **Medicaid Funding:** Support enabling counties to accept/administer
 178 Medicaid funding at the county level.
 179 • **Drug Testing:** Oppose legislation that would enact drug testing as a
 180 requirement for public benefits. Also oppose drug testing of youth in our
 181 public schools.

182
 183 **Services for Older Adults, the Developmentally/Physically Disabled and Mentally Ill**

- 184 • **Birth to Three:** Support additional financial support from the state for this
 185 program. Support a modification of State Statutes to require health insurers to
 186 make third party payments to defray the cost of Birth to Three care for families
 187 that have private health insurance policies.
 188 • **Community Support Program (CSP):** Continue program. Have additional
 189 state funding to help reduce county costs and serve those who can benefit from
 190 the program.
 191 • **RSVP Services:** Support increased funding for the RSVP Program
 192 • **Seniorcare and BadgerCare:** Maintain Seniorcare and BadgerCare
 193 continuing programs.
 194 • **Handicap Access:** Support “visit ability” legislation to allow handicap access
 195 devices in new homes or eliminate barriers in older homes.
 196 • **Long Term Care Reform:** Plans developed by the state in the area of long
 197 term care need to protect quality and availability of services to consumers and
 198 maintain control by the county of programs or relieve the county of financial aid
 199 and/or legal obligations for the programs and participants if the county is not
 200 involved with these programs in the future. The required county contribution
 201 towards LTC should be equitably negotiated. Support ongoing funding of
 202 ADRCs. Amend Chapter 55 to delineate state and county responsibilities.
 203 • **Employment Services for Older Adults:** Extend the use of state and county
 204 funds to encourage the business community and technical colleges to create
 205 and support retraining and placement of older adults entering/re-entering
 206 employment, especially those lacking English proficiency.
 207 • **Family Caregivers:** Provide financial support and tax credits to family
 208 caregivers.
 209 • **Dementia Patient Rights:** Oppose involuntary psychotropic drug
 210 administration in Chapters 51 and 55.
 211 • **Comprehensive Community Services (CCS):** Support continued full funding
 212 of the state match.
 213 • **InvestaCare (Long Term Care Investment Fund):** Support legislation to

- 214 establish a long term care investment savings program for individuals 18 years
 215 and older to meet future long term care needs through financial contributions.
- 216 • **Family Care/IRIS:** Oppose changes that weaken the Family Care, IRIS, and
 217 Partnership programs or privatize Aging & Disability Resource Centers
 218 (ADRCs).
 - 219 • **Mental Health and Drug Addiction Treatment:** Urge the state of Wisconsin
 220 to require increased insurance coverage and MA reimbursement rates in
 221 addition to adequate and sustainable statewide funding for mental health
 222 services and drug addiction treatment programs.
 - 223 • **Winnebago Mental Health Transfers:** Urge DHS to rescind its requirement
 224 to transfer detained mental health patients to Winnebago Mental Health
 225 Institute instead of Mendota.
 - 226 • **Non-Emergency Medical Transportation:** Currently Medical Transportation
 227 Management Inc. (MTM) is contracted by the state of Wisconsin to provide
 228 rides for Medicaid eligible individuals to gain access to medical appointments.
 229 Contract provisions are skewed to reward MTM for denying rides instead of
 230 providing rides. Ongoing complaints about the quality of service suggest little
 231 accountability or oversight creating greater problems for the “transportation
 232 disadvantaged.” Support entities or other actions that will hold MTM
 233 accountable, improve oversight of the program, ensure quality, consistent
 234 services, resolve complaints and provide incentives for giving, rather than
 235 denying, rides.
 - 236 • **Prevention Funding:** Support initiatives that provide additional funds for
 237 primary prevention and enforcement programs related to elder abuse and
 238 neglect.
 - 239 • **IMD Exclusion:** Support the state in its efforts to change the “IMD Exclusion”
 240 that ultimately requires counties to fund institutional stays for patients covered
 241 by Medicaid.
 - 242 • **Funding of Programs and Services:** Oppose decreases and support
 243 increases of quality programs and services affecting older adults in proportion
 244 to the population growth. Oppose funding allocation and distribution methods
 245 that disadvantage Dane County.
 - 246 • **Educational and Licensure Requirements:** Oppose the reduction of
 247 educational and licensure requirements for health care professionals.

248
 249 **Services for Children, Youth, and Families**

- 250 • **Career Development for Youth:** Support funding to provide educational, work
 251 skill development, transportation and mentoring services for youth or young
 252 adults who are at risk of dropping out, have dropped out of high school or who
 253 are unemployed post high school and lack the knowledge and skills necessary
 254 to secure and maintain gainful employment.
- 255 • **Early Childhood Initiative:** Support legislation to continue funding for the Early
 256 Childhood Initiative programs.
- 257 • **Apprenticeship/Internships:** Provide incentives for the business community
 258 and technical college system to create and support apprenticeship/internship
 259 opportunities to young adults. Expedite entry and graduation from the
 260 programs to meet increasing demands to fill vacancies created by an aging
 261 workforce.
- 262 • **Prevention Funding:** Support initiatives that provide additional funds for
 263 primary prevention programs including delinquency and child abuse/neglect.
- 264 • **Relative Caregivers:** Support legislation/policies that provide additional State
 265 support to relatives who take care of non-custodial children.
- 266 • **Kinship Care:** Support funding to meet needs of all that are eligible.
- 267 • **Wisconsin Medicaid Cost Reporting (WIMCR):** Eliminate WIMCR program
 268 or fully reimburse counties for the revenues they would have received under the
 269 Community Services Deficit Reduction Benefit (CSDRB) and Community

- 270 impacted by the creation of WIMCR.
271
272 • **Family Child Care:** Support legislation to extend the state rules governing
273 foster care background checks to family day care providers.
274 • **At-Risk Youth Report to School Board:** Develop a program for newly
275 released at-risk students to interact with/give progress reports to school boards.
276 • **Law Enforcement Role in Child Abuse & Neglect:** Oppose legislation that
277 usurps the authority of county Child Protective Services (CPS) by reporting all
278 child abuse and neglect cases to law enforcement in lieu of CPS, increases
279 penalties and changes the neglect definition to target low income and
280 marginalized communities.
281 • **Child Support:** Request the Legislature designate additional state monies to
282 the Wisconsin County Child Support Program to maintain the current high level
of service.

283
284 **Youth Justice**

- 285 • **Youth Justice:** Support continued funding for early intervention and intensive
286 treatment programs. Support continued improvements to the youth justice and
287 juvenile corrections systems and ensure Dane County is able to successfully
288 operate a secured residential care center for children and youth.
289 • **Youth Aids:** Support legislation to increase state funding for out-of-home care
290 costs for youth offenders now paid for by Dane County. Limit increases in state
291 rates for out of 270 home placements for youth (including corrections, child
292 caring institutions and residential care facilities) to no more than the increase
293 in Youth Aids.
294 • **17 Year Olds:** Remove 17 year olds from the adult correctional system and
295 return them to Juvenile Courts and Juvenile Corrections.
296 • **Countywide Youth Collaboration:** Create two pilot programs funded at
297 \$100,000 to foster countywide collaborative actions with School Districts, Law
298 Enforcement Task Forces (drug, gang....). County Human Services, Sheriff,
299 District Attorney, Community Youth Service Organizations and target services
300 for all students.
301 • **Youth Programs:** Support continuation and expansions of programs focusing
302 on prevention of delinquency, alcohol and other drug use, child abuse and
303 neglect and domestic violence. Support increased funding and support for
304 youth after school programs, especially at the middle school level.
305 • **Youth Courts:** Support and fund Youth Courts in Wisconsin High Schools.
306 • **Group Homes:** Support efforts to reassess the maximum daily rate that group
307 homes receive.

308
309 **Public Health Services**

- 310 • **Response to Local Public Health Emergencies:** Support legislation that
311 recognizes the critical role of local Public Health Departments in responding to
312 public health emergencies and provides adequate funding to respond to all
313 threats to public health.
314 • **Public Health Prevention:** Support initiatives that maintain effective public
315 health prevention services, health promotion efforts, health and racial equity,
316 and conditions that lead to optimal health outcomes.
317 • **Medical Marijuana:** Support legislation allowing residents with debilitating
318 medical conditions to acquire and possess marijuana for medical purposes if
319 supported by their physician.
320 • **Women's Health Care:** Repeal all state laws that prohibit women from having
321 access to safe and legal abortions, that don't protect women's health and don't
322 ensure a woman's dignity, equality and autonomy.
323 • **Support Wisconsin Well Woman Program:** The Wisconsin Well Women

324 Program pays for preventive health screening services (Mammograms, Pap
325 Smears.....) for women with little or no health insurance coverage. Support
326 maintaining the program and oppose any cuts or elimination.
327 • **Dangerous Animals and Vicious Dog Ordinance:** Amend state law to allow
328 counties to enact stricter ordinances to regulate dangerous animals and vicious
329 dogs having countywide applicability.
330 • **Reduce Holding Period for Unclaimed Animals from 7 to 3 Days:** Change
331 state law to reduce the unclaimed animal holding period from 7 to 3 days. This
332 would shorten the County/Humane Society holding contract and allow the
333 Dane County Humane Society to place an animal up for adoption much sooner.

334
335 **Housing**

- 336 • **Homeless Services:** Provide additional State funding for services to assist
337 individuals, unaccompanied youth and families who are homeless.
- 338 • **Manufactured Housing:** Support legislation to amend state statutes to require
339 adequate notice to residents when mobile home parks are closing, require
340 storm cellars/secure areas in manufactured housing communities, encourage
341 WHEDA to provide funding/financing for the purchase of housing on leased
342 land, remove any barriers to long term leases, allow the purchase of
343 communities by residents and the development of co-operative housing for
344 manufactured housing communities.
- 345 • **Restrictions on Local Fair Housing Ordinances:** Oppose legislation that
346 impinges on the rights of tenants by allowing landlords to discriminate based
347 on a tenant's income, occupation, rental history, credit information,
348 arrest/conviction history and Social Security number.
- 349 • **Landlord Regulation:** Repeal 2011 WI Act 108, which prohibits local
350 government ordinances that place limits or requirements on landlords (Fair
351 Housing Ordinance). Repeal 2011 WI Act 143, which prohibits a local
352 government from imposing a moratorium on eviction actions and
353 amends/creates new provisions that benefit landlords including but not limited
354 to allowing: landlord discretion in disposing/storing of medical/personal items;
355 landlords to withhold a tenant's security deposit or portion of for damages,
356 unpaid rent/utility bills; and severability of rental agreements. Repeal 2011-
357 2012 budget bill provision which deletes landlord foreclosure notice. Repeal
358 2013 WI Act 76 (Prohibit Local Landlord Ordinances).
- 359 • **Affordable Housing Trust Fund:** Support enabling legislation to allow Dane
360 County to create an Affordable Housing Trust Fund.
- 361 • **Tenants' Rights:** Oppose legislation that prohibits local governments
362 from enacting/enforcing ordinances that regulate landlord/tenant relations
363 which enhance fairness in landlord/tenant relations, foster responsible
364 property ownership and protect the safety & stability of neighborhoods.

365
366 **Veterans Services**

- 367 • **Armed Forces:** Support the Dane County soldiers who are presently serving.
368 Support protecting families and jobs rather than utilizing precious resources
369 and funds to wage a war.
- 370 • **VFW Halls:** Support a property tax exemption for chartered veterans'
371 organizations.
- 372 • **Property Tax Credit:** Drop the disability rating from 100% to 30% or greater.
- 373 • **Trust Fund:** Support an increase from state GPR to help stabilize the Trust
374 Fund so veterans will no longer pay for their own benefits and programs. The
375 Trust Fund is financed through veteran programs such as personal and home
376 loans.
- 377 • **Wisconsin GI Bill:** Fully fund the Wisconsin GI Bill without any limitations on

- 378 eligibility.
- 379 • **State Funding for the Veterans Trust Fund:** Support increased funding in
- 380 the state budget bill to insure solvency of the Veterans Trust Fund including
- 381 but not limited to, the exploration of permanent state funding for the WI Dept.
- 382 of Veteran Affairs and the veteran programs/benefits that the Department
- 383 oversees.
- 384 • **Ending Veteran Homelessness:** Support ending veteran homelessness by
- 385 maximizing state and federal resources and streamlining local housing
- 386 processes.
- 387 • **Mass Transit for Disabled Veterans:** Support fully funding bus passes and
- 388 other mass transit costs for all service-connected disabled veterans in all
- 389 Wisconsin locations and transit programs.
- 390 • **County Veterans Offices:** Oppose legislation that cuts/restructures CVSO
- 391 funding, reduces veteran services or weakens the offices by regionalization
- 392 • **Veterans Administration:** Support and recognize the significance of the
- 393 William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans Administration Hospital and area
- 394 clinics in the lives of veterans and in the Dane County community and
- 395 opposes the privatization of services that the Veterans Administration
- 396 provides to millions of veterans nationally and thousands of Dane County
- 397 residents jeopardizing their care.

398

399 **County Personnel, Finance, and Governance**

- 400 • **State Mandates:** Oppose any legislation or rule that requires counties to provide
- 401 a service or administer a program without adequate and ongoing funding.
- 402 Support creation of a Joint Survey Committee on Local Mandates. Support
- 403 legislation to allow waivers from state mandates. Support requiring the state to
- 404 perform a biennial review of all mandated programs to determine continued need
- 405 for the programs and annually review all mandated programs funded at 50% or
- 406 less.
- 407 • **Fees/Licenses:** Support state-set fees collected by counties to fairly cover
- 408 administrative costs.
- 409 • **Libraries:** Enforce compliance with WI Stats. 43.24(6) which require state
- 410 funding for public library systems at 13% of local library expenditures.
- 411 • **Association Memberships:** Support requiring a simple majority vote of the
- 412 county board of supervisors to purchase membership in an association of county
- 413 boards.
- 414 • **Room Tax:** Amend the room tax statutes to include counties.
- 415 • **Alliant Energy Center:** Support state funding for capital projects on the Alliant
- 416 Energy Center campus and support authorizing the creation of a taxing authority,
- 417 known as the Alliant Energy Center District, to be used to repay bonds for the
- 418 construction, maintenance, and operations of campus facilities.
- 419 • **Property Tax Freeze:** Oppose any efforts to limit or prohibit local governments
- 420 from increasing their expenditures or revenues.
- 421 • **Buy Local:** Provide and maintain state funding to create incentives for
- 422 businesses and all levels of government to buy local produce and products.
- 423 Oppose the practice of contracting State of Wisconsin government functions or
- 424 services to out-of-state companies/operations.
- 425 • **Reverse Marriage Ban:** Support a constitutional amendment to delete the
- 426 marriage ban amendment adopted in the Fall 2006 General Election.
- 427 • **Domestic Partnership Benefits:** Support restoring local governments' ability to
- 428 provide domestic partner benefits.
- 429 • **State Contracts:** Require the state to award contracts to vendors that extend
- 430 spousal benefits to include employees in domestic partner relationships.
- 431 • **Grant Program Continuity:** Require that when the state awards contracts or
- 432 otherwise funds a project, the state should require sustainability as one criterion

- 433 in the decision making or contract selection process.
- 434 • **Restore Impact Fee Authority:** Restore counties to the governmental entities
- 435 that are authorized to levy impact fees.
- 436 • **Fair and Equitable Taxation:** Support fair and equitable taxation without
- 437 harming county revenue.
- 438 • **Local Government Control:** Oppose any legislation that limits or deletes local
- 439 government control including opposition to levy limits and support for county
- 440 home rule authority.
- 441 • **Highway Workers Safety:** Earmark a portion of every state
- 442 construction/maintenance contract to fund increased local law enforcement in
- 443 construction/maintenance zones. Support innovative approaches to improve
- 444 work zone safety.
- 445 • **Prevailing Wage:** Restore the prevailing wage requirement for public works and
- 446 other projects. The prevailing wage guarantees fair bids, quality work and
- 447 middle-class wages for skilled workers in Dane County.
- 448 • **Fair Motorboat Gas Tax Allocation:** Support legislation to fairly allocate
- 449 motorboat fuel tax through a more equitable distribution formula.
- 450 • **Comprehensive School Funding Reform:** Support changes in the school aid
- 451 formula to align revenues with educational costs. Distribute resources in
- 452 accordance with the diverse needs of students and districts to ensure every
- 453 student receives a quality education. Support moving school funding away from
- 454 reliance on property taxes.
- 455 • **Changes to Wisconsin Redistricting Statutes:** Oppose changes to the
- 456 redistricting process that allow the Wisconsin Legislature to develop a map of
- 457 Congressional, Senatorial and Assembly districts prior to local government input
- 458 regarding ward boundaries.
- 459 • **Oppose State-Imposed County Board Restructuring:** Oppose legislation that
- 460 impedes a County Board from governing, budgeting and hiring staff.
- 461 • **Collective Bargaining:** Support legislation allowing local government the option
- 462 to engage in collective bargaining with public sector employees. Dane County is
- 463 committed to a fair and respectful bargaining process and to bargaining in good
- 464 faith with our employees, even if state statutes no longer require collective
- 465 bargaining between Dane County and its employees. Oppose attacks on
- 466 workers' rights.
- 467 • **Balance of Power:** Oppose efforts to alter the authority and/or responsibilities
- 468 among county boards, county executives or administrators, and constitutional
- 469 officers and upset the balance of power in county government across Wisconsin.
- 470 • **Dark Store Loophole:** Oppose the Dark Store Loophole by clarifying that leases
- 471 are appropriately factored into the valuation of leased properties and that when
- 472 using the comparable sale method of valuation, assessors shall consider as
- 473 comparable only those sales within the same market segment exhibiting a similar
- 474 highest and best use rather than similarly sized but vacant properties in
- 475 abandoned locations.
- 476 • **Nonpartisan Redistricting:** Dane County Board of Supervisors supports the
- 477 creation of an independent non-partisan process for the preparation of legislative
- 478 and congressional district lines.
- 479 • **Project Labor Agreements:** Support the restoration of local governments' ability
- 480 to enter into Project Labor Agreements.

481 **Public Safety and Emergency Management**

- 482 • **EMA Services:** Support legislation that encourages financial support of
- 483 volunteers in emergency medical services and that addresses liability issues and
- 484 professional standards. Support state reimbursement for radio frequency and
- 485 upgrade requirements.
- 486 • **Communications Surcharge for 911 Systems:** Support legislation to redirect
- 487 some of the Police and Fire Protection Fee surcharge to 911 Centers.

- 488 • **First Responder Training:** Require training for first responders on appropriate
489 procedures for identifying, assisting, and interacting with older adults as well as
490 other adults who may have complications from abuse, dementia, mental health
491 or other disorders.
- 492 • **Open Records Law:** Support updating the open records law to cover all county
493 costs for new and emerging labor-intensive records requests and associated
494 costs including redaction.
- 495 • **Criminal Background Check:** Support additional funds to the Department of
496 Justice to enable conducting of uniform criminal background checks of to-be-
497 hired direct care workers by public non-profit agencies.
- 498 • **Multi-line Telephone System (MLTS) Calls to 911:** Support legislation
499 requiring owners/operators of these systems to deliver Wisconsin 9-1-1 Centers
500 precise location information instead of merely the “headquarters office” location
501 and call-back numbers now delivered when callers from their system dial 9-1-1
502 seeking aid.
- 503 • **Support Gun Control:** Ban habitual criminals from obtaining concealed carry
504 permits, make the purchase of a firearm for somebody who is prohibited from
505 possessing a firearm a felony, make the possession of a concealed firearm by
506 those prohibited under Wisconsin law a felony, and require that private gun sales
507 be subject to criminal background checks performed by a federally licensed gun
508 dealer.
- 509 • **Concealed Carry Weapons:** Modify the concealed carry law to prohibit
510 concealed weapons from being carried onto the grounds, parking lots or areas
511 associated with convention, entertainment, and sporting facilities, venues where
512 the public assembles for tradeshow, demonstrations, conventions, consumer
513 shows, entertainment, sporting or educational events, including zoos, convention
514 centers, arenas, horse arenas, hockey arenas, concert and sporting venues for
515 public assembly events, including when those facilities are used for private
516 events, institutions of higher learning, public schools, child care facilities,
517 community centers, health care facilities, and public mass transportation.
518 Support setting concealed carry license fees at an amount sufficient to fund all
519 County Sheriffs’ costs associated with administering the law.

520

521

Criminal Justice and Corrections

- 522 • **State Audit Probation & Parole Program:** Support reforming the probation
523 and parole program to streamline the revocation process in order to reduce
524 days in jail.
- 525 • **Prisoner Re-entry:** Adequately fund prisoner community re-entry programs to
526 increase success and effectiveness.
- 527 • **Close Public Defender Eligibility Gap:** Support changing Public Defender
528 eligibility level to the same level as eligibility for appointed counsel to eliminate
529 the gap that currently requires the court to appoint counsel at county expense.
530 Increase state funding to cover counties’ costs for court-appointed attorneys.
531 Increase public defender pay to at least \$70 per hour.
- 532 • **Minority Outreach:** Support state-sponsored outreach to communities about
533 available support services.
- 534 • **County Jail:** Support full state funding for probation and parole holds, more
535 funding for incarceration alternatives, and support Justice Impact Statements.
- 536 • **Treatment Alternatives and Diversion:** Support enhancements to public
537 safety and reduce unnecessary corrections related expenditures by (a)
538 Increasing funding for the treatment Alternatives and Diversion (TAD) Grant

539 Program by \$15 million annually; (b) Changing the TAD statute so that people
540 who were once convicted of a violent crime can be eligible if the new crime is
541 non-violent in nature; (c) Changing the statute so that people with a mental
542 health issue (and not a co-occurring addiction issue) can be eligible; and (d)
543 Focusing the growth in TAD in these three main areas: (1) Expansion of OWI
544 Courts, SSTOP, and other programs that address drunk driving; (2) Expansion
545 of drug treatment programs that can help deal with the growing heroin problem
546 as well as the lingering issues with methamphetamine, crack, , and other drugs;
547 and (3) Expansion of funding for treatment alternatives that are targeted to the
548 communities that have the state’s highest incarceration rates.

- 549 • **Court Interpreters:** Support appointing court interpreters to all cases
550 regardless of indigency and support an increase in state funding for
551 reimbursement to counties for interpreter services.
- 552 • **Wisconsin Community Justice Reinvestment Act:** Support creation of
553 WCJRA to provide sentencing judges with more effective treatment options
554 while reducing the prison population and sharing the savings with counties to
555 fund local criminal justice/treatment programs.
- 556 • **Racial Disparity Subcommittee:** Support creation of a state Criminal Justice
557 Coordinating Council subcommittee on racial disparities within the criminal
558 justice system.
- 559 • **State Court System:** Increase state funding of the circuit court system,
560 including court security.
- 561 • **Victim-Witness Program:** Support full state funding of program costs.
- 562 • **Clerk of Court Fees:** Pursue statutory changes to increase the county share
563 of fines/forfeitures.
- 564 • **License Fee:** Support \$12 for driver’s license suspension if the fee is payable
565 by the defendant.
- 566 • **Domestic Violence:** Support state funding for domestic violence prevention,
567 intervention, and prosecution, including funding for three ADA positions
568 dedicated to domestic violence and shelter services.
- 569 • **Fee Increase for Jury Trial:** Support legislation to increase the fee for a jury
570 trial from \$6 to \$15. The funding is needed to offset increases in juror
571 compensation.
- 572 • **Prisoner Hospitalization:** Oppose any legislation that would reverse/overturn
573 the WI Supreme Court ruling on the Meriter case. Update the statutory
574 language regarding prisoner hospitalization.
- 575 • **District Attorney Funding:** Support increased state funding for more Deputy
576 District Attorney and Assistance District Attorney positions to meet growing
577 caseloads.
- 578 • **Mental Health Screenings:** Support and fund mental health screening and
579 treatment for jailed inmates in county juvenile detention, shelter homes, and
580 county jails.
- 581 • **Legalize Marijuana:** Support legislation legalizing marijuana. Dane County
582 voters approved by 76% “yes” votes and 24% “no” votes.
- 583 • **Interstate Traffic Tickets:** Amend State Statutes allowing Wisconsin to join
584 the Interstate Compact on Traffic Forfeitures to facilitate collection of out-of-
585 state traffic violators and capture a needed revenue source for the state and
586 county.
- 587 • **Boating Laws:** Authorize the state to license, regulate, and require
588 education/training for operation of motorized watercraft. Support legislation
589 making fines and associated penalties for drunken boating commensurate with

590 those for drunken driving.

- 591 • **Bail and Conditions of Pretrial Release:** Support legislation that reforms bail
592 and conditions of pretrial release, respects the constitutional rights of the
593 accused, enhances public safety, and incorporates evidence-based strategies.

594 **Immigrants and Refugees**

- 595 • **Sanctuary Cities/Counties:** Oppose legislation that requires county
596 workers/law enforcement to review immigration status any time an individual
597 comes in contact with government workers. Oppose banning specified
598 immigrants from living in communities. Urge Wisconsin to seek grants for
599 Syrian refugee resettlement.
- 600 • **Drivers' Licenses:** Support legislation that allows undocumented
601 immigrants to obtain drivers' licenses.
- 602 • **In-State Tuition for Immigrants:** Support restoring the law for in-state tuition for
603 state residents who graduated from a Wisconsin High School, but lack proper
604 immigration documentation.

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606 **Bicycle and Recreational Trails**

- 607 • **Transportation Aids:** Support the use of transportation aids for the construction
608 and maintenance of bicycle trails with significant commuter traffic.
- 609 • **Bike Trail Task Force:** Support the creation and development of a statewide
610 Bike Trail Task Force.
- 611 • **Commuter Transportation:** Support integrating bicycle transportation into
612 future commuter transportation systems.
- 613 • **Trail System Development:** Request DNR assistance in the development of
614 regional trail systems.
- 615 • **Eminent Domain:** Repeal Wis. Stat. 32.015, which prohibits local governments
616 from using eminent domain for constructing bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure.
- 617 • **Regional Trail System:** Request DNR assistance in development of regional
618 trail systems.

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620 **Mass Transit**

- 621 • **Regional Transit Authority:** Support legislation allowing local governments to
622 create Regional Transit Authorities (RTA) to provide regional transit services
623 across local government boundaries that is flexible enough to adapt to local
624 needs and has these basic parameters: A representative RTA could be formed
625 by one or more municipal governing bodies passing resolutions in support. A
626 referendum would need to be adopted by a majority of voters in each municipality
627 forming, or seeking to join the RTA. The amount of the sales tax would need to
628 be authorized in the referendum, but could not exceed 0.5%. The governing
629 board would be composed of elected officials, representative of the communities
630 within the RTA area.
- 631 • **Update Wisconsin 2030 State Rail Plan:** Support state and federal funding for
632 a high speed passenger rail line connecting Madison with the Twin Cities,
633 Milwaukee, and Chicago.
- 634 • **Airport Authority:** Oppose legislation that takes airport governance away from
635 county government and gives it to a private/public airport authority.

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Local Road Funding and Projects

- **Local Transportation:** Support a greater share of state and federal transportation funding going toward local transportation needs and services. Funding should be increased for General Transportation Aids, State Highway Maintenance, the County Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS) and Specialized Transportation for older adults and persons with disabilities. Require “farmland mitigation” for highway improvement projects. Funding formulas that discriminate against urban counties should be revised and the local match (now 50%) for CHIPS should be decreased.
- **North Mendota Parkway:** Oppose the construction of four lanes on Main Street (HWY 19) in Waunakee. Support an update of the 2003 North Mendota Parkway traffic study, and request WIDOT to consider how the proposed North Mendota Parkway, Hwy 19, CTH K, CTH M and Hwy 13 relate to each other and Hwy 12. Support an implementation review of the “North E-Way”. Support state and federal funding for the North Mendota Parkway. Oppose and expansion to four lanes on main Street (State Highway 19) in downtown Waunakee.
- **Verona Road Project:** Support mitigation measures to lessen the impact of the Verona Road construction project on surrounding neighborhoods and local businesses. Those measures include noise barriers, monitoring air quality, preservation of commercial areas, minimizing impacts on established neighborhoods, storm water management (steer away from Dunn’s Marsh), and develop bike lanes, pedestrian/bicycle bridges and sidewalks on frontage and neighborhood roads.
- **Highway Funding:** Require WIDOT to provide more funding up front through operational reimbursement and incentivizing improvements.

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Waste and Renewables

- **Recycling:** Support long-term state funding for state’s recycling program. Support continued state efforts to expand markets for recycled materials. Support allowing local governments or other entities to receive more than one state grant for innovative demonstration projects.
- **Landfill Siting:** Allow municipalities to replace existing public landfills without a new DNR needs determination. Support modifying landfill negotiation-mediation process to include counties as an appropriate governing body for the approval of negotiated agreements. Support prohibiting the construction of landfills until the negotiation-mediation process is complete.
- **Clean Sweep:** Support increased state/federal funding for household and Ag Clean Sweep.
- **Oppose State Increases in Landfill/Solid Waste Fees and Program Reductions:** Oppose state increases to the landfill recycling tipping fee and environmental repair fee. Oppose the elimination or reduction of recycling and solid waste programs.

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Land Use, Land Records, and Land Regulation

- **Flood Insurance Threat:** Oppose any proposal to suspend state floodplain rules that nullify federal flood insurance and jeopardize federal disaster assistance for Wisconsin flood victims.
- **Wisconsin Land Information Program:** Support the continuation of the Wisconsin Land Information Program and grants.
- **Comprehensive Planning:** Oppose legislation that undermines the comprehensive planning statutes.
- **Transmission Lines:** Request the State supports an independent study of the need for additional high voltage transmission lines through Dane County.

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691 Oppose the construction and operation of the proposed Cardinal-Hickory
692 Creek transmission line pending the receipt of a comprehensive cost-benefit
693 analysis of non-transmission alternatives.
694 • **Takings Legislation:** Oppose legislation that would require county
695 government to compensate real property owners for restricted use or loss of
696 property value as a result of law or regulations.
697 • **Transmission Line Construction:** Support requiring power lines to be
698 constructed underground to protect Dane County economic and
699 environmental resources while enhancing resiliency and reliability during
700 extreme weather events.
701 • **Support Local Control of Nonmetallic Mining:** Oppose any state legislation
702 that preempts local governments from enacting their own nonmetallic mining
703 regulations and oversight of air/water quality, highway damage, noise and use
704 contracts.
705 • **Effigy Mounds & Burial Sites:** Oppose legislation that allows the
706 disturbance or destruction of Native American effigy mounds and old
707 burial sites.
708 • **Utility Deregulation:** Oppose any deregulation that leads to higher consumer
709 rates. Any attempts to restructure the delivery of electricity should address:
710 reliability of electrical service, equitable benefits to large and small rate payers,
711 the social and environmental impacts of restructuring, and the ability of
712 counties to aggregate to purchase electricity.
713 • **Holding Tanks as Systems of Last Resort:** Support changes in statutes and
714 administrative rules that oppose using holding tanks except as a last resort for
715 new and replacement septic systems. Modify rules and statutes to ensure
716 funding from the Wisconsin Fund is for the least costly systems, excluding
717 holding tanks, unless a holding tank is the system of last resort.
718 • **Land Use and Natural Resource Protection:** Oppose any proposals that
719 weaken Dane County's ability to responsibly manage the use of land within its
720 jurisdiction, including but not limited to tools like comprehensive planning,
721 zoning, land division/subdivision regulations, and shoreland, floodplain, and
722 wetland regulation.
723 • **Restore and Enhance Land Use Authority:** Support efforts to restore and
724 expand Dane County's land use authority including but not limited to
725 comprehensive planning, land division, zoning, and shoreland, wetland, and
726 floodplain regulations to promote countywide planning.

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728 **Elections**

- 729 • **Voter Registration Changes and Voter Identification Requirement:**
730 Oppose legislation that changes same day voter registration, reduces
731 times for absentee ballot voting and/or requires photo identification to
732 vote.
- 733 • **Public Funding for Elections:** Support public financing for local and state
734 elections.

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736 **Community, Workforce and Economic Development**

- 737 • **Wisconsin's Fair Employment Act:** Oppose permitting an employer to
738 refuse to employ, bar or terminate from employment an individual who has
739 been convicted of a felony and who has not been pardoned for that felony,
740 and pre-empting local government from adopting ordinances concerning
741 employment discrimination based on arrest or conviction records that prohibit
742 activity allowed under the state Fair Employment Act.
- 743 • **Minimum Wage:** Support increasing the minimum wage to a living wage.
- 744 • **UW Extension:** Support adequate staffing and funding levels to sustain

- 745 Dane County Extension's high-quality educational programs for farmers,
746 businesses, communities, families and young people.
- 747 • **Collective Bargaining and Workers Rights:** Support all workers having the
748 right to seek safe working conditions, benefits and fair pay through collective
749 bargaining and oppose
 - 750 • **Student Debt:** Support legislation to lower student debt by any means possible
751 including refinancing loans, implementing tax breaks for those paying back the
752 loans, reducing interest rates and ensuring tuition is affordable.
 - 753 • **School Choice Expansion:** Oppose the voucher program or a similar
754 facsimile in the Madison Metropolitan School District or in any Dane County
755 school system.
 - 756 • **Rural Broadband Coverage:** Support increasing financial support to expand
757 broadband services to underserved rural areas.

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Arts

- **Arts Funding:** Support increased funding for the arts across Wisconsin, especially for art projects in communities, schools, colleges, and public facilities.