

Dane County 2013-2015 Legislative Agenda Priorities

(The Legislative Agenda section and item number within that section are indicated)

General Principles: Funding

Support maximizing state funding for county programs.

Human Services

4) Homeless Services: Provide additional state funding for services to assist individuals, unaccompanied youth and families who are homeless.

Local Government Services

30) Comprehensive School Funding Reform: Support changes in the school aid formula to align revenues with educational costs. Distribute resources in accordance with the diverse needs of students and districts to ensure every student receives a quality education. Support moving school funding away from reliance on property taxes.

Human Services

8) Medicaid Expansion: Support implementation of the Medicaid expansion under the federal Affordable Care Act (ACA). Allow Wisconsin to use the Medicaid option to close the gap in BadgerCare for childless adults. If WI closes the gap, full federal funding will be available for three years 2014-2016, followed by gradual reductions to 90% by 2020. ACA creates other innovative benefits and programs that states and counties will help to implement, including a new mandatory coverage group for young adults who leave foster care up to the age of 26 years old.

Local Government Services

33) Voter Registration Changes and Voter Identification Requirement: Oppose legislation which changes same day voter registration, alters times for absentee ballot voting and requires photo identification to vote.

Transportation, Land Use and the Environment

3) Regional Transit Authority (RTA): Maintain statutory language to allow creation of a Regional Transit Authority or Regional Transit Authorities covering at a minimum the federally-designated Metropolitan Planning Area, and support statutory language to allow up to a half-cent sales tax which would go to citizens for a binding referendum, be contingent on receiving federal transit funds and RTA governance/operating structure would be determined after consultation with community partners participating in the RTA. Support that sales tax funds are used for commuter rail, bus transit, emergency/disabled transportation, local road and county highway projects.

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