

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,
13 design, 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
30 incentive to reduce non-point source pollution. Seek a fair share of state
31 funding for inland waterways and lakes. Target state funds to where there is a
32 high likelihood of project success, where recipient units of government have a
33 proven track record of meeting state and local water resource goals. Support
34 legislation to provide additional funding and staffing for local water quality
35 protection, improvement and unfunded mandates.
- 36 • **Soil Erosion:** Support full implementation and funding of the state's water
37 quality and established runoff pollution performance standards for agriculture,
38 non-agriculture, and transportation facilities standards.
- 39 • **Stormwater Utility:** Amend the WI Stats. to allow counties to create and
40 manage 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
45 adopt 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
53 of Natural Resources and the federal government to increase their efforts to

- 54 stop 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
65 Doctrine 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
74 of taxes to other local units of government when the county takes land off the
75 tax 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 horse boarding/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
102 green 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 • **Investment 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
118 and 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
121 codes. Restore school districts' energy efficiency exemption to the revenue
122 limit.
- 123 • **Reduce Fine Particle Pollution:** Target fine particle pollution non-attainment
124 areas by providing increased funding and new incentives for fine particle
125 emission reduction programs, including programs that reduce emissions from
126 transportation sources and point sources through the increased use of
127 alternative fuels, renewable energy sources, and energy efficiency
128 improvements.
- 129 • **Diesel Idling Regulations:** Support statewide implementation of diesel idling
130 regulations for trucks, buses, and other diesel engines.
- 131 • **Power Plants:** Support efforts to clean up dirty power plants.

132
133 **Environmental Health**

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

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

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

157
158 **Economic Assistance**

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

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

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

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

251

252 **Services for Children, Youth, and Families**

- 253 • **Career Development for Youth:** Support funding to provide educational,
- 254 work skill development, transportation and mentoring services for youth or
- 255 young adults who are at risk of dropping out, have dropped out of high
- 256 school or who are unemployed post high school and lack the knowledge and
- 257 skills necessary to secure and maintain gainful employment.
- 258 • **Early Childhood Initiative:** Support legislation to continue funding for the Early
- 259 Childhood Initiative programs.
- 260 • **Apprenticeship/Internships:** Provide incentives for the business community
- 261 and technical college system to create and support apprenticeship/internship
- 262 opportunities to young adults. Expedite entry and graduation from the
- 263 programs to meet increasing demands to fill vacancies created by an aging
- 264 workforce.
- 265 • **Prevention Funding:** Support initiatives that provide additional funds for
- 266 primary prevention programs including delinquency and child abuse/neglect.
- 267 • **Relative Caregivers:** Support legislation/policies that provide additional State
- 268 support to relatives who take care of non-custodial children.

- 269 • **Kinship Care:** Support funding to meet needs of all that are eligible.
- 270 • **Wisconsin Medicaid Cost Reporting (WIMCR):** Eliminate WIMCR program
- 271 or fully reimburse counties for the revenues they would have received under
- 272 the Community Services Deficit Reduction Benefit (CSDRB) and Community
- 273 impacted by the creation of WIMCR.
- 274 • **Family Child Care:** Support legislation to extend the state rules governing
- 275 foster care background checks to family day care providers.
- 276 • **At-Risk Youth Report to School Board:** Develop a program for newly
- 277 released at-risk students to interact with/give progress reports to school
- 278 boards.
- 279 • **Law Enforcement Role in Child Abuse & Neglect:** Oppose legislation that
- 280 usurps the authority of county Child Protective Services (CPS) by reporting all
- 281 child abuse and neglect cases to law enforcement in lieu of CPS, increases
- 282 penalties and changes the neglect definition to target low income and
- 283 marginalized communities.
- 284 • **Child Support:** Request the Legislature designate additional state monies to
- 285 the Wisconsin County Child Support Program to maintain the current high
- 286 level of service.

287
288 **Youth Justice**

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

312
313 **Public Health Services**

- 314 • **Response to Local Public Health Emergencies:** Support legislation that
- 315 recognizes the critical role of local Public Health Departments in responding
- 316 to public health emergencies and provides adequate funding to respond to all
- 317 threats to public health.
- 318 • **Public Health Prevention:** Support initiatives that maintain effective public
- 319 health prevention services, health promotion efforts, health and racial equity,
- 320 and conditions that lead to optimal health outcomes.
- 321 • **Medical Marijuana:** Support legislation allowing residents with debilitating
- 322 medical conditions to acquire and possess marijuana for medical purposes if

- 323 supported by their physician.
- 324 • **Women’s Health Care:** Repeal all state laws that prohibit women from
- 325 having access to safe and legal abortions, that don’t protect women’s health
- 326 and don’t ensure a woman’s dignity, equality and autonomy.
- 327 • **Support Wisconsin Well Woman Program:** The Wisconsin Well Women
- 328 Program pays for preventive health screening services (Mammograms, Pap
- 329 Smears.....) for women with little or no health insurance coverage. Support
- 330 maintaining the program and oppose any cuts or elimination.
- 331 • **Dangerous Animals and Vicious Dog Ordinance:** Amend state law to allow
- 332 counties to enact stricter ordinances to regulate dangerous animals and
- 333 vicious dogs having countywide applicability.
- 334 • **Reduce Holding Period for Unclaimed Animals from 7 to 3 Days:** Change
- 335 state law to reduce the unclaimed animal holding period from 7 to 3 days.
- 336 This would shorten the County/Humane Society holding contract and allow
- 337 the Dane County Humane Society to place an animal up for adoption much
- 338 sooner.

339

340 **Housing**

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

371

372 **Veterans Services**

- 373 • **Armed Forces:** Support the Dane County soldiers who are presently
- 374 serving. Support protecting families and jobs rather than utilizing precious
- 375 resources and funds to wage a war.
- 376 • **VFW Halls:** Support a property tax exemption for chartered veterans’

- 377 organizations.
- 378 • **Property Tax Credit:** Drop the disability rating from 100% to 30% or greater.
- 379 • **Trust Fund:** Support an increase from state GPR to help stabilize the Trust
- 380 Fund so veterans will no longer pay for their own benefits and programs.
- 381 The Trust Fund is financed through veteran programs such as personal and
- 382 home loans.
- 383 • **Wisconsin GI Bill:** Fully fund the Wisconsin GI Bill without any limitations
- 384 on eligibility.
- 385 • **State Funding for the Veterans Trust Fund:** Support increased funding in
- 386 the state budget bill to insure solvency of the Veterans Trust Fund including
- 387 but not limited to, the exploration of permanent state funding for the WI
- 388 Dept. of Veteran Affairs and the veteran programs/benefits that the
- 389 Department oversees.
- 390 • **Ending Veteran Homelessness:** Support ending veteran homelessness by
- 391 maximizing state and federal resources and streamlining local housing
- 392 processes.
- 393 • **Mass Transit for Disabled Veterans:** Support fully funding bus passes and
- 394 other mass transit costs for all service-connected disabled veterans in all
- 395 Wisconsin locations and transit programs.
- 396 • **County Veterans Offices:** Oppose legislation that cuts/restructures CVSO
- 397 funding, reduces veteran services or weakens the offices by regionalization
- 398 • **Veterans Administration:** Support and recognize the significance of the
- 399 William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans Administration Hospital and area
- 400 clinics in the lives of veterans and in the Dane County community and
- 401 opposes the privatization of services that the Veterans Administration
- 402 provides to millions of veterans nationally and thousands of Dane County
- 403 residents jeopardizing their care.

404

405 **County Personnel, Finance, and Governance**

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

- 432 marriage ban amendment adopted in the Fall 2006 General Election.
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- **Domestic Partnership Benefits:** Support restoring local governments' ability to provide domestic partner benefits.
 - **State Contracts:** Require the state to award contracts to vendors that extend spousal benefits to include employees in domestic partner relationships.
 - **Grant Program Continuity:** Require that when the state awards contracts or otherwise funds a project, the state should require sustainability as one criterion in the decision making or contract selection process.
 - **Restore Impact Fee Authority:** Restore counties to the governmental entities that are authorized to levy impact fees.
 - **Fair and Equitable Taxation:** Support fair and equitable taxation without harming county revenue.
 - **Local Government Control:** Oppose any legislation that limits or deletes local government control including opposition to levy limits and support for county home rule authority.
 - **Highway Workers Safety:** Earmark a portion of every state construction/maintenance contract to fund increased local law enforcement in construction/maintenance zones. Support innovative approaches to improve work zone safety.
 - **Prevailing Wage:** Restore the prevailing wage requirement for public works and other projects. The prevailing wage guarantees fair bids, quality work and middle-class wages for skilled workers in Dane County.
 - **Fair Motorboat Gas Tax Allocation:** Support legislation to fairly allocate motorboat fuel tax through a more equitable distribution formula.
 - **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.
 - **Changes to Wisconsin Redistricting Statutes:** Oppose changes to the redistricting process that allow the Wisconsin Legislature to develop a map of Congressional, Senatorial and Assembly districts prior to local government input regarding ward boundaries.
 - **Oppose State-Imposed County Board Restructuring:** Oppose legislation that impedes a County Board from governing, budgeting and hiring staff.
 - **Collective Bargaining:** Support legislation allowing local government the option to engage in collective bargaining with public sector employees. Dane County is committed to a fair and respectful bargaining process and to bargaining in good faith with our employees, even if state statutes no longer require collective bargaining between Dane County and its employees. Oppose attacks on workers' rights.
 - **Balance of Power:** Oppose efforts to alter the authority and/or responsibilities among county boards, county executives or administrators, and constitutional officers and upset the balance of power in county government across Wisconsin.
 - **Dark Store Loophole:** Oppose the Dark Store Loophole by clarifying that leases are appropriately factored into the valuation of leased properties and that when using the comparable sale method of valuation, assessors shall consider as comparable only those sales within the same market segment exhibiting a similar highest and best use rather than similarly sized but vacant properties in abandoned locations.
 - **Nonpartisan Redistricting:** Dane County Board of Supervisors supports the creation of an independent non-partisan process for the preparation of legislative and congressional district lines.
 - **Project Labor Agreements:** Support the restoration of local governments' ability to enter into Project Labor Agreements.

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Public Safety and Emergency Management

- **EMA Services:** Support legislation that encourages financial support of volunteers in emergency medical services and that addresses liability issues and professional standards. Support state reimbursement for radio frequency and upgrade requirements.
- **Communications Surcharge for 911 Systems:** Support legislation to redirect some of the Police and Fire Protection Fee surcharge to 911 Centers.
- **First Responder Training:** Require training for first responders on appropriate procedures for identifying, assisting, and interacting with older adults as well as other adults who may have complications from abuse, dementia, mental health or other disorders.
- **Open Records Law:** Support updating the open records law to cover all county costs for new and emerging labor-intensive records requests and associated costs including redaction.
- **Criminal Background Check:** Support additional funds to the Department of Justice to enable conducting of uniform criminal background checks of to-be-hired direct care workers by public non-profit agencies.
- **Multi-line Telephone System (MLTS) Calls to 911:** Support legislation requiring owners/operators of these systems to deliver Wisconsin 9-1-1 Centers precise location information instead of merely the “headquarters office” location and call-back numbers now delivered when callers from their system dial 9-1-1 seeking aid.
- **Support Gun Control:** Ban habitual criminals from obtaining concealed carry permits, make the purchase of a firearm for somebody who is prohibited from possessing a firearm a felony, make the possession of a concealed firearm by those prohibited under Wisconsin law a felony, and require that private gun sales be subject to criminal background checks performed by a federally licensed gun dealer.
- **Concealed Carry Weapons:** Modify the concealed carry law to prohibit concealed weapons from being carried onto the grounds, parking lots or areas associated with convention, entertainment, and sporting facilities, venues where the public assembles for tradeshow, demonstrations, conventions, consumer shows, entertainment, sporting or educational events, including zoos, convention centers, arenas, horse arenas, hockey arenas, concert and sporting venues for public assembly events, including when those facilities are used for private events, institutions of higher learning, public schools, child care facilities, community centers, health care facilities, and public mass transportation. Support setting concealed carry license fees at an amount sufficient to fund all County Sheriffs’ costs associated with administering the law.

Criminal Justice and Corrections

- **State Audit Probation & Parole Program:** Support reforming the probation and parole program to streamline the revocation process in order to reduce days in jail.
- **Prisoner Re-entry:** Adequately fund prisoner community re-entry programs to increase success and effectiveness.
- **Close Public Defender Eligibility Gap:** Support changing Public Defender eligibility level to the same level as eligibility for appointed counsel to eliminate the gap that currently requires the court to appoint counsel at county expense. Increase state funding to cover counties’ costs for court-

- 539 appointed attorneys. Increase public defender pay to at least \$70 per hour.
- 540 • **Minority Outreach:** Support state-sponsored outreach to communities about
- 541 available support services.
- 542 • **County Jail:** Support full state funding for probation and parole holds, more
- 543 funding for incarceration alternatives, and support Justice Impact Statements.
- 544 • **Treatment Alternatives and Diversion:** Support enhancements to public
- 545 safety and reduce unnecessary corrections related expenditures by (a)
- 546 Increasing funding for the treatment Alternatives and Diversion (TAD) Grant
- 547 Program by \$15 million annually; (b) Changing the TAD statute so that people
- 548 who were once convicted of a violent crime can be eligible if the new crime is
- 549 non-violent in nature; (c) Changing the statute so that people with a mental
- 550 health issue (and not a co-occurring addiction issue) can be eligible; and (d)
- 551 Focusing the growth in TAD in these three main areas: (1) Expansion of OWI
- 552 Courts, SSTOP, and other programs that address drunk driving; (2)
- 553 Expansion of drug treatment programs that can help deal with the growing
- 554 heroin problem as well as the lingering issues with methamphetamine, crack,
- 555 , and other drugs; and (3) Expansion of funding for treatment alternatives that
- 556 are targeted to the communities that have the state's highest incarceration
- 557 rates.
- 558 • **Court Interpreters:** Support appointing court interpreters to all cases
- 559 regardless of indigency and support an increase in state funding for
- 560 reimbursement to counties for interpreter services.
- 561 • **Wisconsin Community Justice Reinvestment Act:** Support creation of
- 562 WCJRA to provide sentencing judges with more effective treatment options
- 563 while reducing the prison population and sharing the savings with counties to
- 564 fund local criminal justice/treatment programs.
- 565 • **Racial Disparity Subcommittee:** Support creation of a state Criminal Justice
- 566 Coordinating Council subcommittee on racial disparities within the criminal
- 567 justice system.
- 568 • **State Court System:** Increase state funding of the circuit court system,
- 569 including court security.
- 570 • **Victim-Witness Program:** Support full state funding of program costs.
- 571 • **Clerk of Court Fees:** Pursue statutory changes to increase the county share
- 572 of fines/forfeitures.
- 573 • **License Fee:** Support \$12 for driver's license suspension if the fee is payable
- 574 by the defendant.
- 575 • **Domestic Violence:** Support state funding for domestic violence prevention,
- 576 intervention, and prosecution, including funding for three ADA positions
- 577 dedicated to domestic violence and shelter services.
- 578 • **Fee Increase for Jury Trial:** Support legislation to increase the fee for a jury
- 579 trial from \$6 to \$15. The funding is needed to offset increases in juror
- 580 compensation.
- 581 • **Prisoner Hospitalization:** Oppose any legislation that would
- 582 reverse/overturn the WI Supreme Court ruling on the Meriter case. Update
- 583 the statutory language regarding prisoner hospitalization.
- 584 • **District Attorney Funding:** Support increased state funding for more Deputy
- 585 District Attorney and Assistance District Attorney positions to meet growing
- 586 caseloads.
- 587 • **Mental Health Screenings:** Support and fund mental health screening and
- 588 treatment for jailed inmates in county juvenile detention, shelter homes, and
- 589 county jails.

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- **Legalize Marijuana:** Support legislation legalizing marijuana. Dane County voters approved by 76% “yes” votes and 24% “no” votes.
 - **Interstate Traffic Tickets:** Amend State Statutes allowing Wisconsin to join the Interstate Compact on Traffic Forfeitures to facilitate collection of out-of-state traffic violators and capture a needed revenue source for the state and county.
 - **Boating Laws:** Authorize the state to license, regulate, and require education/training for operation of motorized watercraft. Support legislation making fines and associated penalties for drunken boating commensurate with those for drunken driving.
 - **Bail and Conditions of Pretrial Release:** Support legislation that reforms bail and conditions of pretrial release, respects the constitutional rights of the accused, enhances public safety, and incorporates evidence-based strategies.

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Immigrants and Refugees

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

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Bicycle and Recreational Trails

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

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Mass Transit

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- **Regional Transit Authority:** Support legislation allowing local governments to create Regional Transit Authorities (RTA) to provide regional transit services across local government boundaries that is flexible enough to adapt to local needs and has these basic parameters: A representative RTA could be formed by one or more municipal governing bodies passing resolutions in support. A referendum would need to be adopted by a majority of voters in each

- 638 municipality forming, or seeking to join the RTA. The amount of the sales tax
639 would need to be authorized in the referendum, but could not exceed 0.5%.
640 The governing board would be composed of elected officials, representative of
641 the communities within the RTA area.
- 642 • **Update Wisconsin 2030 State Rail Plan:** Support state and federal funding
643 for a high speed passenger rail line connecting Madison with the Twin Cities,
644 Milwaukee, and Chicago.
 - 645 • **Airport Authority:** Oppose legislation that takes airport governance away from
646 county government and gives it to a private/public airport authority.

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648 **Local Road Funding and Projects**

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

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675 **Waste and Renewables**

- 676 • **Recycling:** Support long-term state funding for state’s recycling
677 program.
678 Support continued state efforts to expand markets for recycled
679 materials.
680 Support allowing local governments or other entities to receive more
681 than one state grant for innovative demonstration projects.
- 682 • **Landfill Siting:** Allow municipalities to replace existing public landfills
683 without a new DNR needs determination. Support modifying landfill
684 negotiation-mediation process to include counties as an appropriate
685 governing body for the approval of negotiated agreements. Support
686 prohibiting the construction of landfills until the negotiation-mediation
687 process is complete.
- 688 • **Clean Sweep:** Support increased state/federal funding for household
689 and Ag Clean Sweep.
- 690 • **Oppose State Increases in Landfill/Solid Waste Fees and Program**

691 **Reductions:** Oppose state increases to the landfill recycling tipping fee and
692 environmental repair fee. Oppose the elimination or reduction of recycling
693 and solid waste programs.

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695 **Land Use, Land Records, and Land Regulation**

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

741
742 **Elections**

- 743 • **Voter Registration Changes and Voter Identification Requirement:**
744 Oppose legislation that changes same day voter registration, reduces

- 745 times for absentee ballot voting and/or requires photo identification to
746 vote.
747 • **Public Funding for Elections:** Support public financing for local and state
748 elections.

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750 **Community, Workforce and Economic Development**

- 751 • **Wisconsin's Fair Employment Act:** Oppose permitting an employer to
752 refuse to employ, bar or terminate from employment an individual who has
753 been convicted of a felony and who has not been pardoned for that felony,
754 and pre-empting local government from adopting ordinances concerning
755 employment discrimination based on arrest or conviction records that
756 prohibit activity allowed under the state Fair Employment Act.
757 • **Minimum Wage:** Support increasing the minimum wage to a living wage.
758 • **UW Extension:** Support adequate staffing and funding levels to sustain
759 Dane County Extension's high-quality educational programs for farmers,
760 businesses, communities, families and young people.
761 • **Collective Bargaining and Workers Rights:** Support all workers having the
762 right to seek safe working conditions, benefits and fair pay through collective
763 bargaining and oppose
764 • **Student Debt:** Support legislation to lower student debt by any means
765 possible including refinancing loans, implementing tax breaks for those paying
766 back the loans, reducing interest rates and ensuring tuition is affordable.
767 • **School Choice Expansion:** Oppose the voucher program or a similar
768 facsimile in the Madison Metropolitan School District or in any Dane County
769 school system.
770 • **Rural Broadband Coverage:** Support increasing financial support to
771 expand broadband services to underserved rural areas.

772
773 **Arts**

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