



# DANE COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS, HIGHWAY & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Date: November 8, 2024  
Submitted by: Michael Engelberger, Committee Chair  
Subject: Discussion Item - Program Evaluation to Reduce Privatization of Skilled Trades, Maintenance and Labor Service Contracts for Dane County

## 1) TOPIC OF THE PROGRAM EVALUATION

Program Evaluation to Reduce Privatization of Skilled Trades, Maintenance and Labor Service Contracts for Dane County:

Dane County has many service labor contracts performed by the private sector. Examples of these privatized services are contracting of Plumbing, HVAC and Electrical maintenance as well as general maintenance on some or all facilities owned by Dane County. Other examples include private contractors providing lawn cutting and lawn maintenance as well as cleaning services hired to clean some or all facilities owned by Dane County.

## 2) SCOPE OF THE PROGRAM EVALUATION

The evaluation would look at providing services with county employees performing skilled and labor services at all facilities of the county.

## 3) ANTICIPATED IMPACTS

The sole purpose of this evaluation is to determine which current contracted services can be reduced and/or completely replaced by current and future county employees. We will focus on skilled and manual labor positions. This evaluation is not intended to address outsourced human services type contracts or food or retail type service contracts and the like.

Currently there is a mix of privatized and in house services being performed in our facilities by county employees and private contractors. In many cases services are performed individually by department and in some cases but more rarely services may be shared between departments. In many cases services are coordinated by department and other cases facilities management coordinates multiple facilities. Is there a better way to streamline coordination and management of employees to perform more services at multiple locations in lieu of performing work just at individual departments?

## 4) DESIRED TIMELINE/ BUDGET TIMING

Determine as soon as possible which privatized services could be replaced by county employees. If determined to be beneficial for the county the timeline could include phasing in over two or three budget cycles to fully implement.