



## Priorities

---

### Housing

Leverage limited resources more efficiently and advance stable housing for individuals and families.

### Mental health

Support systems redesign to meet the needs of adults and children with mental illness, including expanded supportive housing options and services required for stabilizing individuals in the community.

### Disparity reduction

Expand resources and strengthen partnerships to reverse persistent racial and economic disparities that drive poverty, poor health, involvement in the criminal justice system, transportation access, and low achievement.

### Criminal justice reform

Promote adequate funding and incentives to address needs of an increasing and diverse offender population within the criminal justice system.

### Child protection

Promote child well-being and achieve positive outcomes for county-involved youth by standardizing practice models, investing upstream in early interventions, and stabilizing the child protection system.

# Platform

---

## Bonding

Highway 252 freeway conversion between Hwy 610 and I-694 — \$50 million

## Criminal justice and public safety

Preserve and protect public safety through state-county partnerships that address funding challenges and support reform.

### Increase funding

- Increase Community Corrections Act (CCA) funding to ensure adequate state funding for supervision of offenders in the community.
- Support increased state funding for Emergency Communications Network upgrades.

### Remove barriers

- Support the unique needs of female and juvenile offenders in the community by strengthening collaboration with and funding for trauma informed and culturally specific community-based programming in support of corrections systems.
- Support statutory changes to remove barriers in housing and employment for the survivors of human trafficking and for ex-offenders.
- Support the restoration of voting rights to persons on probation or parole for a felony conviction.
- Expand expungement statute to support individuals with housing or employment barriers and who have demonstrated a commitment to rehabilitation and community enhancement.

### Improve outcomes

- Support a regional cost-effective solution that delivers better outcomes, lowers recidivism for a strategic response to the needs of youth in correctional Out-of-Home placement.
- Support legislation reforming use of reasonable force by police officers so that greater police accountability is achieved; support and/or increase the ability of local jurisdictions to remove police officers who violate law enforcement best practices and/or community standards.

## Data practices

Improve the delivery and coordination of supportive services through the use of data-driven strategies.

- Support legislation that provides local governments flexibility over retention of electronic official records and correspondence.
- Improve county response to data breaches by aligning state mandates for local governments with those for the private sector.

# Environment and energy

Protect the environment and conserve resources through responsible management of waste and natural resources and promotion of environmental stewardship.

## Climate sustainability

- Support legislation and policies to further county goals of mitigating the impacts of climate change, protecting and enhancing natural environments, and promoting sustainability in county operations.

## Natural resources

- Ensure that Hennepin County receives a fair share of revenues from the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment.
- Support legislation to allow Hennepin County to sell carbon credits produced from urban forestry protections and plantings.

## Community forestry

- Support legislation and state funding to local jurisdictions within quarantine areas for planning and response to the loss of trees due to invasive pests and pathogens, such as emerald ash borer.

## Waste management

- Support increased state funding for SCORE, expanding organics composting initiatives, and promoting market development for recycled materials.
- Amend electronic waste (e-waste) statutes to require manufacturers share transportation and recycling program costs.
- Support the Partnership on Waste and Energy 2020 Legislative Platform.

# General government

Partner with the State of Minnesota to improve government services delivery, reduce mandates on local government, re-prioritize government spending and promote effective management of county programs by allowing local control.

## Elections

- Support improved efficiency of election administration through the use of e-poll books with electronic signature and improvements to in-person absentee voting.
- Modernize election statutes by amending outdated voter accessibility technology statutes and repealing 383B elections provisions that are inconsistent with other state statutes.
- Support legislation to align in-person absentee voting with in-person early voting. Expand absentee voter outreach opportunities.

## Operations and administration

- Modernize outdated sale/lease statutes to more effectively reach potential customers and reduce the county's administrative burdens.
- Authorize Hennepin County to utilize Construction Manager-at-Risk (CMAR) for complex building and construction projects.
- Modernize Hennepin County Human Resources statutes to align them with current rules and practices and to minimize duplication of efforts.
- Amend state statute to allow local governments to publish official documents electronically rather than in print.
- Clarify marriage license application statute language, as well as increase motor vehicle registration and other service filing fees, drivers' license filing fees, and marriage certificate copying fees to make Deputy Registrar's offices more self-sufficient.

# Hennepin Healthcare System

Ensure access to the full continuum of health care services for all by supporting policies that increase the financial stability of Hennepin Healthcare System, reduce health disparities, and support the capacity of the healthcare workforce.

Increase the financial stability of Hennepin Healthcare System.

- Advance efforts to maximize Medicaid reimbursement and supplemental funding sources in support of financing the mission of Hennepin Healthcare System, as the state's largest Medicaid provider system, including the promotion of new payment mechanisms, in both fee for service and managed care, that recognize the higher cost of care associated with serving a disproportionate number of Medicaid patients who have greater social and medical complexities.
- Promote efforts to protect the state's Medicaid and MinnesotaCare programs when proposed changes would reduce access to coverage for Hennepin Healthcare System patients and increase uncompensated care costs.
- Promote efforts to strengthen value-based-payment arrangements in Medicaid between providers and the state, including new state investments in short-term stabilization payments for safety-net provider systems intending to expand these arrangements with the state.

Improve population health and health equity through innovation and reform.

- Promote efforts to address the state's opioid crisis, including increasing access to medication assisted therapy and alternative pain management therapies.
- Advance the development and funding of new innovative health care delivery models aimed at addressing social determinants of health, including, but not limited to, medical respite care for people experiencing homelessness, expanding the definition of the state plan benefit for care coordination under Medicaid in Minnesota, and changes to dental coverage in Medicaid.
- Advance efforts to expand Project ECHO in Minnesota through the Medicaid program with Hennepin Healthcare System as one of the state's central specialty care hubs for providing real-time learning for front-line providers on conditions like addiction, Hepatitis C, and mental health disorders.
- Support new state investments to reduce health disparities, including, but not limited to, legislation that invests in programs that expand trauma-informed approaches to care and/or address the cultural and racial gaps in women's access to prenatal care.

Support the capacity of the health care workforce to ensure the delivery of exceptional care.

- Promote efforts to improve access to care that also support the policies and/or investments needed to address any existing workforce and provider shortages in Minnesota, especially in the behavioral health care system.
- Support efforts to maintain or increase current state investment in medical education and health care workforce development funding for Hennepin Healthcare System.
- Promote policies that support increasing staff capacity in the health care workforce through telehealth opportunities.

# Health and human services

Ensure that mental health, chemical health and public health systems work to improve outcomes for all residents, especially the most vulnerable. Support preventative models of care and early intervention service to avoid over-reliance on crisis response, and to reduce disparities.

## Administrative and technical improvements

- Simplify and streamline Health and Human Services Program requirements and improve technological systems, including METS, MAXIS/MEC<sup>2</sup>, SSIS, PRISM, and MnCHOICES.
- Support reforms to safety-net programs that streamline and align eligibility determination with other income support programs, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and child care assistance.
- Oppose cost shifting to local governments for clients released from state human services facilities and state operated services (e.g. Anoka Metro Regional Treatment Facility, Minnesota Security Hospital in St. Peter and Community Behavioral Health Hospitals). Support adequate state funding for county services when such clients are placed by the state in community-based settings.
- Strengthen data sharing between state and local public health agencies to support HIV/AIDS response.

## Invest in well-being of our children

- Support legislation that enables data sharing programs (e.g., Data Backpack) between schools and welfare agencies to promote children's educational success, assist with transitions, and connect children to appropriate services and interventions.
- Promote child well-being and achieve positive outcomes for county-involved youth by standardizing practice models, investing upstream in early interventions, and stabilizing the child protection system.
- Substantially invest in, reform, and eliminate fraud in early childhood development programs, including basic sliding fee child care, foster care child care, early learning scholarships, Head Start and evidence-based targeted home visiting as a means to reduce disparities and invest early in child outcomes.

## Invest in health through mental health and chemical health improvements

- Support systems redesign to meet the needs of individuals with mental illness or developmental disabilities, including expanded supportive housing options and services required for stabilizing individuals in the community. Expand access to waiver-funded services to meet condition-related needs.
- Support efforts to integrate mental health, housing, chemical health and criminal justice interventions to ensure better outcomes for residents, and to reduce recidivism.
- Support legislation that promotes and sustains efforts to develop a comprehensive and integrated model of health and human services delivery (similar to Hennepin Health) to outcomes for residents.

# Housing

Leverage limited resources more efficiently and advance stable housing for individuals and families and reduce disparities.

- Support the creation of a renewable capital investment fund and other alternative financing mechanisms for development of necessary community housing options for vulnerable individuals.
- Support increased state investment in regional approaches to prevention, capacity, and case management to address unsheltered homelessness.
- Increase access to affordable long-term housing for low and moderate income residents.
- Support legislation and administrative reforms that provide a continuum of services and housing, including 24-hour supervised care options for persons with acute and chronic care needs.

# Taxes

Protect state funding for mandated services and assure flexibility to serve our residents without undue reliance on property taxes.

- Protect essential County Program Aid (CPA) that supports county-mandated services and reduces reliance on property tax.
- Ensure veterans remain eligible for the veterans property tax exclusion regardless of when they purchase their primary residence.

# Transportation

Strengthen the long-term value of neighborhoods and communities through strategic public investments in infrastructure that improve mobility and safety, connect people to jobs, and reduce disparities.

- Support legislation that ensures the Bottineau Light Rail Transit line meets the requirements to secure a Full Funding Grant Agreement from the Federal Transit Administration. This includes, but is not limited to, right-of-way acquisition, insurance, liability, and funding.
- Support a comprehensive transportation package that provides new revenue for roads, bridges and transit.
- Support elimination of the prohibition on state funding for long-term capital maintenance for the Southwest Light Rail Transit (SWLRT) project.
- Support the Metropolitan Council's implementation of Arterial Bus Rapid Transit (ABRT) along various routes in Hennepin County to provide shorter transit times, increased ridership and expand mobility for communities along the proposed lines.
- Modify the special distribution of leased vehicle sales tax in the metro area to fairly include Hennepin and Ramsey counties.
- Oppose any increase in weight or size limits for commercial trucks and other motor vehicles.

# Workforce development

Meet the future workforce needs of Hennepin County and other employers and address persistent disparities by connecting well-trained and qualified individuals to high demand jobs in our region.

- Strengthen state support for expansion and flexibility of state programs to provide enhanced training and employment opportunities to better address persistent employment disparities.
- Seek funding to increase training and employment services to clients in correctional programs such as Productive Day, Sentencing to Service (STS), STS Homes, probation, and electronic home monitoring.
- Support reforms to the SNAP's Employment and Training Program that streamline program administration and restructure participation sanctions, while enhancing program integrity as a means to increase work participation rates.

# Emergency response and recovery

Support legislation providing state and federal aid to communities, small businesses, non-profits, and local governments to compensate for emergency protective measures undertaken and to rebuild properties and infrastructure damaged during the civil unrest following the death of George Floyd.

# Non-profit requests

Support the following non-profit organizations by serving as the fiscal agent for state bonding proceeds.

- Avivo — \$10 million
- Children's Theatre Company — \$4 million
- Catholic Charities—\$10 million

# Hennepin County



## Board of Commissioners

A-2400 Government Center, Minneapolis, MN 55487-0240

hennepin.us

Mike Opat  
District 1, Vice Chair,  
IGR Co-Chair  
612-348-7881  
mike.opat@hennepin.us

Marion Greene  
District 3, Chair  
612-348-7883  
marion.greene@hennepin.us

Debbie Goettel  
District 5  
612-348-7885  
debbie.goettel@hennepin.us

Jeff Johnson  
District 7  
612-348-7887  
jeff.r.johnson@hennepin.us

Irene Fernando  
District 2  
612-348-7882  
irene.fernando@hennepin.us

Angela Conley  
District 4  
612-348-7884  
angela.conley@hennepin.us

Jan Callison  
District 6, IGR Co-Chair  
612-348-7886  
jan.callison@hennepin.us

---

## County Administration

A-2303 Government Center, Minneapolis, MN 55487-0233

David J. Hough  
County Administrator  
612-348-7574  
county.admin@hennepin.us

---

## Intergovernmental Relations

A-2305 Government Center, Minneapolis, MN 55487-0235

Kareem Murphy  
Director  
Office: 612-596-9711  
Cell: 612-559-5279  
kareem.murphy@hennepin.us

Kaade Wallace  
Public Policy Manager  
Office: 612-348-7173  
Cell: 612-559-0447  
kaade.wallace@hennepin.us

Brennan Furness  
Public Policy Manager  
Office: 612-348-5120  
Cell: 612-235-0938  
brennan.furness@hennepin.us

Kirk Pederson  
Public Policy Manager  
Office: 612-348-3269  
Cell: 612-432-0447  
kirk.pederson@hennepin.us

Wanda Cannon  
Legislative  
Coordinator  
Office: 612-348-3233  
Cell: 612-559-6510  
wanda.cannon@hennepin.us

---

## Hennepin Healthcare System

701 Park Avenue, S6.107, Minneapolis, MN 55415

Susie Emmert  
Senior Director, Advocacy and Public Policy  
Office: 612-873-2140  
Cell: 651-278-5422  
susie.emmert@hcmcd.org