

Washington County, Minnesota

Board of Commissioners - Actions

Actions at the Tuesday, August 25, 2009 Board Meeting

This page is a brief view of the actions taken by the Washington County Board of Commissioners. For further information, please telephone 651-430-6001.

Washington County's mission is to provide quality public services in a cost-effective manner through innovation, leadership, and the cooperation of dedicated people.

County board supports request for funding for St. Croix River crossing

The Washington County Board of Commissioners approved a letter of support Aug. 25 for the Minnesota Department of Transportation's application for federal funding for a new St. Croix River crossing.

The project was selected by the state department as a candidate for the grant application. The Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Discretionary grants will provide \$1.5 billion nationally, and will be distributed through a competitive grant application process.

The St. Croix River Crossing Project is scheduled for construction in 2013, between Oak Park Heights and the Town of St. Joseph, Wis., at an estimated cost of \$614 million. The state Department of Transportation will request \$300 million through the TIGER grants, the maximum single grant amount allowed under the program.

The commissioners approved a letter of support for the grant application, to be sent to the U.S. Department of Transportation.

County Board reviews future plans for housing programs

The Washington County Board of Commissioners reviewed management plans for programs and funds that will be used to help families in need of housing.

The county receives and manages money from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to aid in preventing homelessness and finding stable housing for families.

The county board reviewed a plan for 2010 through 2014 that will assess housing needs in the county, including the nature and extent of homelessness; do a market analysis, which will review the supply and demand of housing in the county, including the housing available for those with special needs and an inventory of public housing units; and create a strategic plan that will establish priorities for those seeking housing and identify obstacles to meeting underserved needs.

Programs that will have a high priority in coming years will provide services for persons with mental illness; persons with chemical dependency issues; persons with physical disabilities; and persons who reside in public housing.
