

2023 Legislative Priorities Summary

The Washington County Board collaborates with the State to advance local, regional, and state goals that benefit the safety and wellbeing of the public.

The County Board has determined the following items are the top county priorities in the 2023 legislative session.



Trunk Highway 36 and CSAH 17 (Lake Elmo Avenue) Intersection Improvement Project

REQUEST: \$20 million in state funds to match existing federal and local funds for the multimodal Trunk Highway (TH) 36 and County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 17 (Lake Elmo Avenue) Intersection Improvement Project.

Community Corrections Funding

REQUEST: A new community supervision funding formula that results in a more transparent, needs-based, and equitable model.

Licensing Service Fees

REQUEST: Legislation to ensure the fees retained by deputy registrars for completing license transactions are sufficient to fund associated costs.

CSAH 5 (Stonebridge Trail) and Brown's Creek State Trail Connection Project

REQUEST: \$3 million in state funds to construct a trailhead and trail connection(s) from County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 5 to the Brown's Creek State Trail.

State Funding for Metropolitan Council Regional Parks System

REQUEST: A state match of \$50 million dedicated to the Metropolitan Council's regional park system for state fiscal year 2023-2024.

Parks Operations and Maintenance

REQUEST: The state abide by its commitment to reimburse 40% of the metropolitan regional parks system's operations and maintenance costs.

Fund State Mandated Services

REQUEST: Full funding of state mandated services to protect against the shift of state costs to the county property taxpayers.

Trunk Highway 36 and Trunk Highway 120 Grade Separated Interchange

REQUEST: \$50 million in state funds for the multimodal Trunk Highway (TH) 36 and TH 120 (Century Avenue) Grade Separation Project.

While these have been identified as the county's top priorities this year, our needs extend beyond this list and the county is proud to work with our partners at the Association of Minnesota Counties, Minnesota Inter-County Association, and Partnership on Waste to Energy in support of their legislative platforms to address our shared goals and interests.