



Board of Commissioners

Agenda

15 West Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55102
651-266-9200

March 10, 2026 - 9 a.m.

Council Chambers - Courthouse Room 300

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

1. **Agenda of March 10, 2026 is Presented for Approval** [2026-089](#)

Sponsors: County Manager's Office

Approve the agenda of March 10, 2026.

2. **Minutes from February 17, 2026 are Presented for Approval** [2026-090](#)

Sponsors: County Manager's Office

Approve the February 17, 2026 Minutes.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

3. **Purchase of Services Agreement with Recycling & Energy for Employee Benefits Services** [2026-080](#)

Sponsors: Human Resources

1. Approve the service agreement with the Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Board for human resources benefits services for a term of January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2027 with a not-to-exceed amount of \$10,000 per year.
2. Authorize the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the agreement.

4. **Fiscal Agent Agreement with Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy** [2026-079](#)

Sponsors: Public Health

1. Approve the fiscal agent agreement with Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Board for a term of January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2030, in a not-to-exceed amount of \$30,000 per year.
2. Authorize the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the agreement.

5. **Grant Agreement with the Housing and Redevelopment Authority of the City of Saint Paul for Familiar Families Pilot Program** [2026-098](#)

Sponsors: Housing Stability

1. Accept a grant award and approve a grant agreement with the Housing and Redevelopment Authority of the City of Saint Paul for the period of March 10, 2026 through February 28, 2027 in the amount of \$500,000.
2. Authorize the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the grant agreement.
3. Authorize the County Manager to execute amendments to the grant agreement in accordance with the county’s policies and procedures, including changes to grant award amounts and grant extensions.
4. Authorize the County Manager to enter into agreements and execute amendments to agreements in accordance with the county’s procurement policies and procedures, provided the amounts are within the limits of the grant funding.
5. Authorize the County Manager to submit future grant applications and acceptance of external funding, including Department of Human Services - Office of Economic Opportunity, State of Minnesota legislative appropriations, philanthropic contributions, and other eligible sources to support program operations and sustainability, in a form approved by the County Attorney’s Office.
6. Rescind Resolution B2025-236 - Grant Agreement with the City of Saint Paul for Familiar Families Pilot Program.

INFORMATION

6. **Updates on Ramsey County’s Response to Operation Metro Surge** [2026-105](#)

Sponsors: County Manager's Office

None - for discussion only.

PRESENTATION

7. **Presentation: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Recertifications** [2026-084](#)

Sponsors: Financial Assistance Services

None. For information and discussion only.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

COUNTY CONNECTIONS

OUTSIDE BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

BOARD CHAIR UPDATE

ADJOURNMENT

Following County Board Meeting:

Board Workshop: Preparations for the Elections in 2026

Courthouse Room 220, Large Conference Room

Public access via Zoom:

Webinar ID: 923 9869 6921 | Passcode: 518162 | Phone: 651-372-8299

10:30 a.m.

Board Workshop: Fiscal Health Analysis Findings
Courthouse Room 220, Large Conference Room

Public access via Zoom:

Webinar ID: 923 9869 6921 | Passcode: 518162 | Phone: 651-372-8299

1:30 p.m.

Advance Notice:

March 17, 2026 County board meeting – Council Chambers

March 24, 2026 No county board meeting - AMC Leadership Summit (Nisswa, MN)

March 31, 2026 No County board meeting – 5th Tuesday

April 07, 2026 County board meeting – Council Chambers



Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

15 West Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55102
651-266-9200

Item Number: 2026-089

Meeting Date: 3/10/2026

Sponsor: County Manager's Office

Title

Agenda of March 10, 2026 is Presented for Approval

Recommendation

Approve the agenda of March 10, 2026.



Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

15 West Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55102
651-266-9200

Item Number: 2026-090

Meeting Date: 3/10/2026

Sponsor: County Manager's Office

Title

Minutes from February 17, 2026 are Presented for Approval

Recommendation

Approve the February 17, 2026 Minutes.

Attachments

1. February 17, 2026 Minutes



Board of Commissioners

Minutes

15 West Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55102
651-266-9200

February 17, 2026 - 9 a.m.

Council Chambers - Courthouse Room 300

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: Jebens-Singh, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, and Chair Ortega. Commissioner McGuire was late and arrived at 9:01 a.m. Commissioner Xiong was late and arrived at 9:03 a.m. Also present were Ling Becker, County Manager, and Stacey D'Andrea, Assistant County Attorney, Ramsey County Attorney's Office.

ROLL CALL

Present: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Ortega, and Xiong

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Presented by Commissioner Jebens-Singh.

1. Agenda of February 17, 2026 is Presented for Approval [2026-069](#)

Sponsors: County Manager's Office

Approve the agenda of February 17, 2026.

Motion by Moran, seconded by McMurtrey. Motion passed.

Aye: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, and Ortega

Absent: Xiong

2. Minutes from February 10, 2026 are Presented for Approval [2026-070](#)

Sponsors: County Manager's Office

Approve the February 10, 2026 Minutes.

Motion by Miller, seconded by McMurtrey. Motion passed.

Aye: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, and Ortega

Absent: Xiong

PROCLAMATION

3. Proclamation: Black History Month [2026-074](#)

Sponsors: Human Resources

Presented by Commissioner McMurtrey and Commissioner Moran. Discussion can be found on archived video.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

4. State Aid Variance Request for Little Canada Road Improvements [2026-056](#)
-

Sponsors: Public Works

1. Request a variance from the Minnesota Department of Transportation Aid Operations Rules Chapter 8820.9936 (Minimum Design Standards, Urban; New or Reconstruction Projects) to allow a reduced design speed in lieu of the required 30 miles per hour minimum.
2. Indemnify, save, and hold harmless the State of Minnesota and its agents and employees of and from claims, demands, actions, or causes of action arising out of or by reason of the reduced design speed for the Little Canada Road Improvements Project in accordance with Minnesota Rules 8820.9936 and further agrees to defend at their sole cost and expense any action or proceeding commenced for the purpose of asserting any claim arising as a result of the granting of this variance.

Motion by Jebens-Singh, seconded by Xiong. Motion passed.

Aye: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Ortega, and Xiong

Resolution: [B2026-030](#)

7. Amendment to the Single Source Agreement with 4Mativ Technologies, Inc. [2025-488](#)
for Foster Care Student Transportation Management Services

Sponsors: Social Services

1. Approve an amendment to the single source agreement with 4MATIV Technologies, Inc. to add additional transportation management, vendor coordination, routing, and technology services and to extend the term of the agreement for the period of July 01, 2023, through August 31, 2026, in the not to exceed amount of \$1,746,000.
2. Authorize the Chair and the Chief Clerk to execute the amendment.
3. Authorize the County Manager to execute amendments to the agreement in accordance with the county's procurement policies and procedures, provided the amounts are within the limits of available funding.

Motion by Jebens-Singh, seconded by Xiong. Motion passed.

Aye: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Ortega, and Xiong

Resolution: [B2026-031](#)

5. Transfer Local Affordable Housing Aid Funds from Community and Economic Development to Housing Stability. [2026-059](#)

Sponsors: Housing Stability

1. Authorize the County Manager to transfer \$4,000,000 from the Community and Economic Development department's Local Affordable Housing Aid fund to the Housing Stability operating budget.
2. Authorize the County Manager to adjust LAHA project budgets that have been established in the Community and Economic Development and Housing Stability departments to reflect the transfer noted above.
3. Authorize the County Manager to move funding within the LAHA project in the Housing Stability department from the 2026 budget year to the 2025 budget year to align with the year the LAHA funding was received.
4. Authorize the County Manager to enter into agreements and execute amendments to agreements in accordance with the county's procurement policies and procedures, provided the amounts are within the limits of the grant funding.

Presented by Jaime Wilkins, Director, Housing Stability and Laurie Pierce, Co-Deputy Director, Housing Stability. Discussion can be found on archived video.

Motion by Xiong, seconded by Miller. Motion passed.

Aye: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Ortega, and Xiong
Resolution: [B2026-032](#)

6. Grant Acceptance and Agreement to Comply with the Terms of the Agreement with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development and the city of Saint Paul for the Emergency Solutions Grant [2026-060](#)

Sponsors: Housing Stability

1. Approve the amendment to the joint powers agreement with the city of Saint Paul for the Emergency Solutions Grant administration.
2. Accept a grant award and approve the county's agreement to the terms of a grant agreement between the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development and the city of Saint Paul for the Emergency Solutions Grant upon execution, through September 23, 2027, in the amount of \$594,589.
3. Authorize the County Manager to enter into agreements and execute amendments to agreements in accordance with the county's procurement policies and procedures, provided the amounts are within the limits of the grant funding.

Presented by Jaime Wilkins, Director, Housing Stability and Laurie Pierce, Co-Deputy Director, Housing Stability. Discussion can be found on archived video.

Motion by McMurtrey, seconded by Miller. Motion passed.

Aye: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Ortega, and Xiong
Resolution: [B2026-033](#)

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Presented by Commissioner McGuire. Discussion can be found on archived video.

COUNTY CONNECTIONS

Presented by County Manager, Ling Becker. Discussion can be found on archived video.

OUTSIDE BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Discussion can be found on archived video.

BOARD CHAIR UPDATE

Presented by Chair Ortega. Discussion can be found on archived video.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Ortega declared the meeting adjourned at 10:41 a.m.

CLOSED MEETING

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes § 13D.05, subd. 3(c)(3) (to develop or consider offers or counter offers for the purchase or sale of real property), the Ramsey County Board met in a closed meeting, which was not open to the public.

In Re: 160 East Kellogg Blvd. The property that is the subject of this meeting is located in the city of Saint Paul on 160 East Kellogg Boulevard.

The Closed Meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Ortega, Jebens-Singh, McGuire, Moran, McMurtrey, and Xiong.

Commissioner Miller joined the board meeting remotely pursuant Minnesota Statutes 13D.02, Subdivision 2.

Also present were Ling Becker, County Manager; Alex Kotze, Deputy County Manager, County Operations Service Team; Kari Collins, Deputy County Manager, Economic Growth and Community Investment Service Team; Jean Krueger, Director, Property Management; Chris Gliedman, CBRE Group; Scott Schwahn, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office; Cheryl Judge, Manager, Property Management; Deanna Pesik, Chief Compliance and Ethics Officer, Compliance and Ethics Office; Jason Patten, Risk Manager, Compliance and Ethics Office; Jason Yang, Chief Clerk, County Manager's Office.

Motion to approve the following recommendations by Commissioner McMurtrey; seconded by: Xiong. Unanimously approved. Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Board of Ramsey County Commissioners authorized the Ramsey County staff to proceed as discussed in this closed meeting (Resolution B2026-034).

- 1. Pursue negotiations with the selected contractor.**
- 2. Execute the letter of intent.**
- 3. Negotiate a purchase and sale agreement with the selected contractor.**
- 4. If unsuccessful pursue letter of intent and purchase and sale agreement with the other contractor, or with a new interested party if the offer is at or above \$3,500,000 and with a closing in 18 months or less from execution of purchase of sale agreement.**
- 5. Return to the county board for approval and execution of the purchase and sale agreement.**

The closed meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Item Number: 2026-080

Meeting Date: 3/10/2026

Sponsor: Human Resources

Title

Purchase of Services Agreement with Recycling & Energy for Employee Benefits Services

Recommendation

1. Approve the service agreement with the Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Board for human resources benefits services for a term of January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2027 with a not-to-exceed amount of \$10,000 per year.
2. Authorize the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the agreement.

Background and Rationale

Since 2015, Ramsey/Washington Recycling and Energy Board (R&E) has had access to Ramsey County non-union employee insurance benefits, which continue to be provided through Ramsey County, in alignment with county non-represented employee plans. As of January 1, 2026 R&E employs 44 non-union staff.

The board approved the current purchase of services agreement on October 20, 2020, for the term of January 1, 2020, through December 31, 2025, at an amount not to exceed \$5,000 annually. Ramsey County Human Resources continues to fully procure and administer these insurance benefits on behalf of R&E, and the proposed increase in the annual fee from \$5,000 to \$10,000 more appropriately aligns with the level of Ramsey County resources necessary to continue this service. By participating in Ramsey County's employee benefits pool, R&E can maintain a more stable and cost-effective insurance coverage for non-union employees than it would likely secure independently.

County Goals (Check those advanced by Action)

Well-being Prosperity Opportunity Accountability

Racial Equity Impact

The continuation of a strong, comprehensive benefits package that is affordable for employees of R&E assists in their ability to attract and retain its workforce.

Community Participation Level and Impact

The community is informed of this action through county board documentation that is published on the county's website.

Inform Consult Involve Collaborate Empower

Fiscal Impact

The proposed increase in the annual fee to \$10,000 more accurately reflects the Ramsey County resources required to administer and support this service. The additional revenue is not accounted for and will be incorporated into the 2026-2027 Human Resources budget.

Last Previous Action

On October 20, 2020, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approved the purchase of services

agreement with Recycling and Energy for Human Resources Services with a term through December 31, 2025 (Resolution B2020-199).

On January 12, 2016, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approved the purchase of services agreement between Ramsey County and R&E with a term through December 31, 2020 (Resolution B2016-012).

On September 22, 2015, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approved the amended and restated joint powers agreement governing the Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Board (Resolution B2015-296).

Attachments

1. Purchase of Services Agreement



**Purchase of Services Agreement
Between Ramsey County and
Ramsey/Washington Recycling and Energy
for Employee Benefits Services**

This is a Purchase of Services Agreement ("Agreement") between Ramsey County, a political subdivision of the State of Minnesota, on behalf of its Human Resources Department, 121 7th Place East, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101, ("County"), and Ramsey/Washington Recycling and Energy, 100 Red Rock Road, Newport, MN 55055 ("R&E"), a Joint Powers Board created pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 471.59.

1. Term

The term of this Agreement shall be from January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2027. The Agreement may be renewed if agreed to in writing by both parties. Either party may cancel without cause upon giving at least 6 months written notice thereof to the other party. Further notice may be needed, connect to vendor contract term. By mutual written agreement, the parties may alter, modify or waive provisions of this Agreement.

2. Scope of Services

The County agrees that it will provide the following services:

2.1. Employee Benefits

County will provide R&E employees access to the same Employee Benefits offered to active County employees including Wellness programming and Employee Assistance unless a vendor contracted by the County will not allow R&E participation. The County shall make reasonable efforts to negotiate and maintain vendor arrangements that permit the participation of R&E employees in such benefit programs. Notwithstanding the provisions of Sections 1.0 and 11, R&E may immediately terminate this Agreement if, in its sole discretion, it determines that a vendor's refusal to allow R&E participation in a plan or program materially negates the purpose of this Agreement.

3. Administrative Fees. Compensation. Resources

3.1. Annual Fee.

R&E shall pay an annual fee of \$10,000 to the County for maintaining and procuring benefit contracts every 3-5 years including benefit consultant fees, maintaining an HRIS system for Benefits administration, implementing enrollment feeds with contracted vendors, administration of wellness programs and vendor relationships, resolution of issues, printing enrollment materials, conducting open enrollment sessions, and for the risk of including R&E claims in the County's underwriting pool.

If the County transitions to being self-insured for any employee benefit plan, there may be an additional requirement that R&E purchase a separate stop loss policy for any R&E claims that exceed the County's self-insured retention level. The County will communicate with R&E at least one year in advance of any anticipated consideration of a transition to self-insured health and wellness benefits.

SUBJECT: *HR Purchase of Services Agreement*

4. General Contract/Agreement Terms and Conditions

4.1. Payment for Services.

R&E shall make payment within thirty-five (35) calendar days after the date of receipt of an invoice for the Annual Fee from the County.

4.2. Independent Contractor

The County is and shall remain an independent contractor throughout the term of this Agreement and nothing herein is intended to create, or shall be construed as creating, the relationship of partners between the parties or as constituting the County as an employee of R&E.

4.3. Data Practices

All data collected, created, received, maintained or disseminated for any purpose in the course of the County's performance under this Agreement is subject to the provisions of the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minn. Stat. Ch. 13, any other applicable state statutes, any state rules adopted to implement the Act and statutes, as well as federal statutes and regulations on data privacy.

4.4. Indemnification

R&E shall indemnify, hold harmless and defend the County, its officials, agents, and employees against any and all liability, losses, costs, damages, expenses, claims or actions, including reasonable attorney's fees, which the County, its officials, agents, or employees may hereafter sustain, incur or be required to pay, arising out of or by reason of any act or omission of R&E and their officials, agents or employees, in the execution, performance, or failure to adequately perform the obligations of R&E pursuant to this Agreement.

4.5. Indemnification

R&E shall indemnify, hold harmless and defend the County, its officials, agents, and employees against any and all liability, losses, costs, damages, expenses, claims or actions, including reasonable attorney's fees, which the County, its officials, agents, or employees may hereafter sustain, incur or be required to pay, arising out of or by reason of any act or omission of R&E and their officials, agents or employees, in the execution, performance, or failure to adequately perform the obligations of R&E pursuant to this Agreement.

SUBJECT: *HR Purchase of Services Agreement*

The County shall indemnify, hold harmless and defend R&E , its officials, agents, and employees against any and all liability, losses, costs, damages, expenses, claims or actions, including reasonable attorney's fees, which R&E, its officials, agents, or employees may hereafter sustain, incur or be required to pay, arising out of or by reason of any act or omission of County and their officials, agents or employees, in the execution, performance, or failure to adequately perform the obligations of the County pursuant to this Agreement.

4.6. Records Retention

Until the expiration of six years after the furnishing of services pursuant to this Agreement, R&E and the County shall retain a copy of the Agreement, and the books, documents, records, and accounting procedures and practices relating to this Agreement.

4.7. Notices

All notices under this Agreement, and any amendments to this Agreement, shall be in writing and shall be deemed given when delivered by certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, when delivered via personal service or when received if sent by overnight courier. All notices shall be directed to the parties at the respective addresses set forth below. If the name and/or address of the representatives changes, notice of such change shall be given to the other party in accordance with the provisions of this section.

County:
Kristen Schultz
Interim Chief Human Resources Officer
Ramsey County Human Resources Department
121 7th Place East
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101

R&E Board:
Kelli Hall
Administration Director
Ramsey/Washington Recycling and Energy
100 Red Rock Road
Newport, MN 55055

SUBJECT: *HR Purchase of Services Agreement*

4.8. Non-Assignability

The parties to this Agreement shall have no right to assign any interest in this Agreement and shall not transfer any interest in this Agreement by subcontract or assignment without the prior written consent of all other parties to the Agreement.

4.9. Force Majeure

No party shall be liable for any loss or damage incurred by any other party as a result of events outside the control of such party ("Force Majeure Events") including, but not limited to: war, storms, flooding, fires, strikes, legal acts of public authorities, or acts of government in time of war or national emergency.

4.10. Termination

Either party may terminate this Agreement without cause upon giving at least six months written notice thereof to the other party. By mutual written agreement, the parties may alter, modify or waive provisions of this Agreement.

4.11. Interpretation of Agreement: Venue

The Agreement shall be interpreted and construed according to the laws of the State of Minnesota. All litigation regarding this Agreement shall be under venue in the District Court, Second Judicial District, State of Minnesota.

4.12. Severability

The provisions of this Agreement are severable. If any part of this Agreement is rendered void, invalid or unenforceable, such rendering shall not affect the validity and enforceability of the remainder of this Agreement.

4.13. Alteration

Any alteration, variation, modification, or waiver of the provisions of this Agreement shall be valid only after it has been reduced to writing and signed by all parties.

4.14. Limitation of Liability

The County is not responsible for providing services outside of the scope of the Agreement. The County is not liable for management decisions made by State, R&E , or any other organization, and is also not responsible for cash shortfalls, such as bills not paid or charges for payments made with insufficient funds, due to funding shortfalls of State, R&E, or any other organization.

SUBJECT: *HR Purchase of Services Agreement*

4.15. Entire Agreement

This written Agreement, including all attachments, represents the entire and integrated agreement between the parties hereto and supersedes all prior negotiations, representations or contracts, either written or oral. No subsequent agreement between the County and Ramsey/Washington Recycling and Energy to waive or alter any of the provisions of this Agreement shall be valid unless made in the form of a written Amendment to this Agreement signed by authorized representatives of the parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties have executed this Agreement as of the dates below.

RAMSEY COUNTY

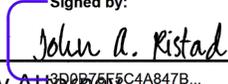
RAMSEY/WASHINGTON RECYCLING & ENERGY:

By: _____
Raphael Ortega, Chair
Ramsey County Board of Commissioners
Date: _____

DocuSigned by:
By:  _____
Trista L. Martinson, Executive Director
Date: 2/26/2026

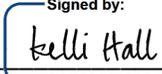
By: _____
Jason Yang, Chief Clerk
Date: _____

Approved as to Form:
By: Elisabeth Brady
Elisabeth Brady (Mar 4, 2026 11:29:27 CST)
Elisabeth Brady, Assistant County Attorney
Date: 3/4/26

Approved as to Form:
Signed by:
By:  _____
County Attorney
Date: 2/26/2026

Approval Recommended:
By: Alexandra Kotze
Alexandra Kotze (Mar 3, 2026 11:14:33 CST)
Alexandra Kotze, Deputy County Manager
Date: 3/3/26

By: Patience Ferguson
Patience Ferguson (Mar 3, 2026 11:05:44 CST)
Patience Ferguson, Chief Human Resources Officer
Date: 3/3/26

Reviewed by:  _____
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Item Number: 2026-079

Meeting Date: 3/10/2026

Sponsor: Public Health

Title

Fiscal Agent Agreement with Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy

Recommendation

1. Approve the fiscal agent agreement with Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Board for a term of January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2030, in a not-to-exceed amount of \$30,000 per year.
2. Authorize the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the agreement.

Background and Rationale

The joint powers agreement (Part VI.C.) provides that the Ramsey County Finance Department shall act as the fiscal agent on behalf of the Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Board, performing functions subject to the terms of a fiscal agent agreement between the Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Board (R&E) and Ramsey County. A fiscal agent agreement was first approved in October 2015 and expired on December 31, 2025. A new and revised fiscal agent agreement has been developed with a term of January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2030.

The fiscal agent agreement is consistent with Ramsey County's fiscal agent policies, the joint powers agreement, and the bylaws of the R&E Board. Both Washington County and Ramsey County's Finance Departments have reviewed and approved of the fiscal agent agreement.

At its meeting on November 20, 2025, the R&E Board approved the revised fiscal agent agreement Ramsey County, with a term of January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2030.

County Goals (Check those advanced by Action)

Well-being Prosperity Opportunity Accountability

Racial Equity Impact

There is no known racial equity impact from the fiscal agent agreement.

Community Participation Level and Impact

While there was no community engagement/participation specific to this agreement, R&E routinely engages communities in its work.

Inform Consult Involve Collaborate Empower

Fiscal Impact

The fiscal agent agreement provides for an annual administrative fee paid by the R&E Board to the Ramsey County Finance Department for staffing and other services. The amount of the administrative fee is \$30,000 per year, which is included in the joint activities budget approved by R&E.

Last Previous Action

On October 20, 2020, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approved the Fiscal Agreement with

Recycling and Energy (Resolution B2020-200).

Attachments

1. Ramsey County Fiscal Agreement Renewal with Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy



Fiscal Agent Agreement Renewal

Renewal of the Fiscal Agent Agreement

This is a renewal of the Fiscal Agent Agreement ("Agreement") between Ramsey County, a political subdivision of the State of Minnesota, on behalf of its Public Health Department, 90 West Plato Blvd, Suite 200, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55107, and its Finance Department, 121 7th Place East, Suite 4000, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101 ("County"), and Ramsey/Washington Recycling and Energy, 100 Red Rock Road, Newport, Minnesota 55055 ("R&E"), a Joint Powers Board created pursuant to Minn. Stat. §471.59.

The parties agree to renew the Agreement as follows:

1. Term

The Fiscal Agent Agreement, originally entered into on October 23, 2020, for a term through December 31, 2025, is renewed through December 31, 2030. This Fiscal Agent Agreement may be further renewed upon such terms are agreeable to the parties. All renewals must be reduced to writing.

2. Other Modifications

Because of a restructuring of R&E management, references to the Joint Leadership Team are changed to the Executive Director. All notices to R&E shall be directed to the Executive Director at the address listed in the preamble above. Notices to Ramsey County shall be directed to Alexandra Kotze, 121 7th Place East, Mail Stop 5100, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101.

Except as addressed herein, the terms of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties have executed this Agreement as of the dates below.

Ramsey County

RAMSEY/WASHINGTON RECYCLING & ENERGY:

By: _____
Raphael Ortega, Chair
Ramsey County Board of Commissioners

DocuSigned by:
By: _____
Trista L. Martinson, Executive Director

Date: _____

Date: 1/5/2026

By: _____
Jason Yang, Chief Clerk

Date: _____

Approved as to Form:

Approved as to Form:

Signed by:
By: _____
Lindsey Millard, Assistant County Attorney

Signed by:
By: _____
John A. Ristad, County Attorney

Date: 1/5/2026

Date: 1/5/2026

Approval Recommended:

Signed by:
By: _____
Alexandra Kotze, Deputy County Manager

Date: 1/6/2026

Signed by:
By: _____
Amy Caron, Director of Public Health

Date: 1/5/2026

DocuSigned by:
Reviewed by: Matt Phillips
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SUBJECT: *Fiscal Agent Agreement*

FISCAL AGENT AGREEMENT

This is a Fiscal Agent Agreement (“Agreement”) between Ramsey County, a political subdivision of the State of Minnesota, on behalf of its Public Health Department, 90 West Plato Blvd, Suite 200, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55107, and its Finance Department, 121 7th Place East, Suite 4000, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101 (“County”), and Ramsey/Washington Recycling and Energy, 2785 White Bear Avenue North, Suite 350, Maplewood MN 55109 (“R&E”), a Joint Powers Board created pursuant to Minn. Stat. §471.59.

1.0 Term

The term of this agreement shall be from the date of approval by Ramsey County through December 31, 2025. This Agreement may be renewed upon such terms are agreeable to the parties. All renewals must be reduced to writing.

2.0 Scope of Service

R&E has developed resources to independently manage its finances. At certain times it will be necessary to seek the assistance of the County. The County agrees that, at those times and upon the request of R&E, it will provide the following services in a manner complying with generally accepted accounting principles and, except as noted, in accordance with Ramsey County Finance Department policies.

2.1 Disbursement

R&E shall prepare disbursements for goods and services rendered for R&E. All disbursements will be based on contracts entered into the County financial system by R&E or delegations by R&E to the Joint Leadership Team (JLT). All disbursements will be made using the County financial system.

2.2 Accounts Receivable

R&E shall prepare and issue invoices for the sale of goods and services by R&E. All invoices will be generated using the County financial system.

2.3 Cash/Receivables Management

The County shall manage cash and accounts receivable for the Board in accordance with County policies and procedures, including a depository account (s) for R&E revenue. Depository accounts shall be created at the County’s primary bank. Interest on any depository account shall accrue for all of R&E’s funds. Collection of past due accounts receivable is outside of the scope of this agreement.

SUBJECT: *Fiscal Agent Agreement*

2.4 Contracts

R&E shall maintain its own contract process, consistent with its Bylaws. All R&E contracts will be processed outside of the usual County contract management system. A fully executed contract, recommended by the assigned Assistant County Attorney and signed by the Chair, Secretary/Treasurer, or other R&E designee, will be deemed sufficient and no further review by the County will be necessary.

2.5 Asset Management

Until such time that R&E has determined to develop its own asset management system, the County shall maintain an inventory of assets and associated schedules of depreciation for all R&E capital assets, which shall be defined as machinery and equipment with a cost of \$15,000 or more and more than two years of useful life, and facility and infrastructure improvements with a cost of \$100,000 or more. This asset inventory shall be updated as necessary. Assets will be managed using the County financial system, or another system identified by R&E.

2.7 Segregation of the activities of the R&E-owned Facility ("Facility") at Newport

The activities of the Facility will be accounted for as an Enterprise Fund within the Ramsey County financial system. All other R&E activities will be accounted for as a General Fund. The County shall create cost centers and accounts as necessary to adequately record the activities of R&E.

2.9 Reporting

All books and records shall be prepared and maintained in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Records of expenditures, receipts, and balances shall be available at any time to R&E or its designees.

2.10 Audit Requirements

The activities of the R&E will receive an annual audit by R&E's independent auditor.

3.0 Segregation of Duties

The County and R&E have adequate segregation of duties as stipulated by the Government Accounting Standards Board.

4.0 Administrative Fees

For its services under this agreement, the County shall receive an annual administrative fee of \$30,000 for staffing and other services provided by the County to R&E. The annual administrative fee compensates the County for staff

SUBJECT: *Fiscal Agent Agreement*

time and expenses for the Finance Department's member of the JLT, who shall be performing activities pursuant to this Agreement, as well as reimbursement for staff time in the Finance Department.

5.0 General Contract/Agreement Terms and Conditions

5.1 Payment for Services

5.1.1 No payment will be made until the invoice has been approved by R&E.

5.1.2 Payment shall be based on a negotiated payment schedule

5.1.3 Payment shall be made within thirty-five (35) calendar days after the date of receipt of a detailed invoice and verification of the charges.

5.1.4 Payment of interest and disputes regarding payment shall be governed by the provisions of Minnesota Statutes §471.425.

5.2 Independent Contractor

The County is and shall remain an independent contractor throughout the term of this Agreement and nothing herein is intended to create, or shall be construed as creating, the relationship of partners between the parties or as constituting the County as an employee of any other party.

6.0 Data Practices

All data collected, created, received, maintained or disseminated for any purpose in the course of the County's performance under this Agreement is subject to the provisions of the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minn. Stat. Ch. 13, any other applicable state statutes, any state rules adopted to implement the Act and statutes, as well as federal statutes and regulations on data privacy.

7.0 Indemnification

R&E shall indemnify, hold harmless and defend the County, its officials, agents, and employees against any and all liability, losses, costs, damages, expenses, claims or actions, including reasonable attorney's fees, which the County, its officials, agents, or employees may hereafter sustain, incur or be required to pay, arising out of or by reason of any act or omission of R&E and their officials, agents or employees, in the execution, performance, or failure to adequately perform the obligations of the R&E pursuant to this Agreement.

The County shall indemnify, hold harmless and defend R&E, its officials, agents, and employees against any and all liability, losses, costs, damages, expenses, claims or actions, including reasonable attorney's fees, which R&E, its officials, agents, or employees may hereafter sustain, incur or be required to pay, arising out of or by reason of any act or omission of County and their officials, agents or employees, in the execution, performance, or failure to adequately perform the obligations of the County pursuant to this Agreement.

SUBJECT: *Fiscal Agent Agreement*

8.0 Records Retention

Until the expiration of six years after the furnishing of services pursuant to this Agreement, the R&E and the County shall retain a copy of the Agreement, and the books, documents, records, and accounting procedures and practices relating to this Agreement.

9.0 Notices

All notices under this Agreement, and any amendments to this Agreement, shall be in writing and shall be deemed given when delivered by certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, when delivered via personal service or when received if sent by overnight courier. All notices shall be directed to the parties at the respective addresses set forth below. If the name and/or address of the representatives changes, notice of such change shall be given to the other party in accordance with the provisions of this section.

County: Alexandra Kotze,
121 7th Place East
Suite 4000
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101

R&E: Zack Hansen,
2785 White Bear Avenue
Suite 350
Maplewood, MN 55109

10.0 Non-Assignability

The parties to this Agreement shall have no right to assign any interest in this Agreement and shall not transfer any interest in this Agreement by subcontract or assignment without the prior written consent of all other parties to the Agreement.

11.0 Force Majeure

No party shall be liable for any loss or damage incurred by any other party as a result of events outside the control of such party ("Force Majeure Events") including, but not limited to: war, storms, flooding, fires, strikes, legal acts of public authorities, or acts of government in time of war or national emergency.

12.0 Termination

Either party may terminate this Agreement without cause upon giving at least six months written notice thereof to the other party

13.0 Interpretation of Agreement; Dispute Resolution and Escalation Procedures; Venue

SUBJECT: *Fiscal Agent Agreement*

The Agreement shall be interpreted and construed according to the laws of the State of Minnesota. All litigation regarding this Agreement shall be venued in the District Court, Second Judicial District, State of Minnesota.

14.0 Dispute Resolution

In the event of a dispute, the Ramsey County Chief Financial Officer, the Washington County Finance Director and the R&E joint leadership team (JLT) will meet to attempt to resolve the matter. If the parties fail to come to a mutual agreement to resolve the dispute, the Finance Directors and R&E JLT will each prepare a written summary of the dispute as well as written suggestions for resolving the matter. The written summaries will be submitted to the Ramsey County Manager and the Washington County Administrator, who will resolve the dispute by providing written direction on the matter.

15.0 Severability

The provisions of this Agreement are severable. If any part of this Agreement is rendered void, invalid or unenforceable, such rendering shall not affect the validity and enforceability of the remainder of this Agreement.

16.0 Alteration

Any alteration, variation, modification, or waiver of the provisions of this Agreement shall be valid only after it has been reduced to writing and signed by all parties.

17.0 Limitation of Liability

The County is not responsible for providing services outside of the scope of the Agreement. The County is not liable for management decisions made by State, Hennepin County, or any other organization, and is also not responsible for cash shortfalls, such as bills not paid or charges for payments made with insufficient funds, due to funding shortfalls of State, Hennepin County, or any other organization.

18.0 Entire Agreement

The written Agreement, including all attachments, represent the entire and integrated agreement between the parties hereto and supersede all prior negotiations, representations or contracts, either written or oral. No subsequent agreement between the County and Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy to waive or alter any of the provisions of this Agreement shall be valid unless made in the form of a written Amendment to this Agreement signed by authorized representatives of the parties.

SUBJECT: Fiscal Agent Agreement

In Witness Whereof, this Agreement is duly executed as of the last date written below.

RAMSEY COUNTY

Toni Carter
Toni Carter, Board Chair

Date: 10/23/20

Guthrie, Janet Digitally signed by Guthrie, Janet
Date: 2020.10.20 16:51:18 -05'00'
Janet Guthrie, Chief Clerk
Date: 10/20/2020

Approved as to form:
John Ristad Digitally signed by John Ristad
DN: cn=John Ristad, o=Ramsey County Attorney's Office,
ou=Assistant County Attorney,
email=john_ristad@co.ramsey.mn.us, c=US
Date: 2020.09.29 16:26:21 -05'00'
Assistant County Attorney
Date: 9/29/2020

Approval Recommended:
Kotze, Alexandra Digitally signed by Kotze,
Alexandra
Date: 2020.10.05 21:34:34 -05'00'
Alexandra Kotze, Chief Financial Officer
Date: 10/5/2020

Kathleen Hedin Digitally signed by Kathleen Hedin
Date: 2020.09.29 12:02:29 -05'00'
Kathy Hedin, Director of Public Health
Date: 9/29/20

RAMSEY/WASHINGTON RECYCLING AND ENERGY BOARD

Fran Miron
Fran Miron, R&E Chair

Date: 9/24/2020

By: *A. Toni Carter*
R&E Secretary/Treasurer
Date: 9/24/2020

Approved as to form:
DocuSigned by: *John Ristad* DocuSigned by: *Zack Hansen*
Assistant County Attorney Assistant County Attorney
Date: 9/16/2020 9/16/2020

Approval Recommended:
Zack Hansen
DocuSigned By: Zack Hansen
Zack Hansen, Joint Leadership Team
Date: 9/16/2020

DocuSigned by: *Nicole Stewart*
Nicole Stewart, Joint Leadership Team
Date: 9/16/2020

DocuSigned by: *Mark Thompson*
Mark Thompson, Joint Leadership Team
Date: 9/17/2020

Item Number: 2026-098

Meeting Date: 3/10/2026

Sponsor: Housing Stability

Title

Grant Agreement with the Housing and Redevelopment Authority of the City of Saint Paul for Familiar Families Pilot Program

Recommendation

1. Accept a grant award and approve a grant agreement with the Housing and Redevelopment Authority of the City of Saint Paul for the period of March 10, 2026 through February 28, 2027 in the amount of \$500,000.
2. Authorize the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the grant agreement.
3. Authorize the County Manager to execute amendments to the grant agreement in accordance with the county's policies and procedures, including changes to grant award amounts and grant extensions.
4. Authorize the County Manager to enter into agreements and execute amendments to agreements in accordance with the county's procurement policies and procedures, provided the amounts are within the limits of the grant funding.
5. Authorize the County Manager to submit future grant applications and acceptance of external funding, including Department of Human Services - Office of Economic Opportunity, State of Minnesota legislative appropriations, philanthropic contributions, and other eligible sources to support program operations and sustainability, in a form approved by the County Attorney's Office.
6. Rescind Resolution B2025-236 - Grant Agreement with the City of Saint Paul for Familiar Families Pilot Program.

Background and Rationale

The Heading Home Ramsey Family Shelter Workgroup (Workshop) identified a small but highly vulnerable group of families who experience persistent, chronic homelessness and have repeatedly struggled to stay in traditional shelter environments due to complex behavioral, trauma-related, and multi-system needs.

These families often cycle between unsheltered homelessness, emergency response systems, schools, hospitals, and criminal legal involvement without stabilizing. Their needs generate high public sector costs and significant safety concerns.

To address this gap, the Workgroup designed the Innovative Familiar Families Pilot Program, which would support up to five families at a time, approximately 20 individuals, the majority of whom are children. With an estimated average shelter stay of four months, the program is expected to serve at least 60 individuals per year during the initial pilot.

Families eligible for this pilot will meet one or both criteria with priority being placed on families meeting both criteria:

1. Four years or more of homelessness per McKinney-Vento (non-sequential), and
2. Restricted or banned from at least one traditional family shelter or county-funded hotel program

County Goals (Check those advanced by Action)

Well-being Prosperity Opportunity Accountability**Racial Equity Impact**

Families experiencing long-term homelessness in Ramsey County are disproportionately Black, Indigenous, and families of color, and children within these households experience significantly higher rates of housing instability, school disruption, trauma exposure, and adverse health outcomes. Traditional shelter models have not consistently met the needs of families with multiple and complex barriers, resulting in repeated exits, prolonged homelessness, and further racialized disparities in outcomes.

By offering stabilized sheltering options, educational continuity for children, and robust wrap-around supports before and after housing placement, this pilot advances Ramsey County's commitment to embedding racial equity in service delivery. The program prioritizes healing, dignity, and culturally responsive care, and is expected to reduce shelter re-entries, increase exits to stable housing, and decrease racial disparities in the homelessness response system.

Community Participation Level and Impact

Extensive community and stakeholder engagement has informed the development of the Familiar Families Pilot Program. The Heading Home Ramsey Family Shelter Workgroup, which includes representatives from community-based organizations, culturally specific service providers, education partners, youth-serving agencies, and individuals with lived experience of homelessness, identified the need for an alternative, trauma-responsive shelter model for families who have not been well served in traditional settings.

The program design reflects direct feedback from families with lived experience, shelter providers, and frontline staff who have consistently highlighted the gaps in accessibility, safety, and support within the existing shelter system. Stakeholders emphasized the need for culturally specific engagement, educational stability for children, and sustained wrap-around services that extend beyond emergency shelter placement.

 Inform Consult Involve Collaborate Empower**Fiscal Impact**

The Familiar Families Pilot Program will be administered by the Ramsey County Housing Stability Department. The Saint Paul Housing and Redevelopment Authority will provide \$500,000 in financial support for the initial implementation of this pilot. These funds will be used to secure shelter space and provide trauma-informed, wrap-around services for participating families.

Last Previous Action

None.

Attachments

1. Ramsey County and Saint Paul Housing Redevelopment Authority Grant Agreement



**Ramsey County and Housing and
Redevelopment Authority of the City of
Saint Paul Familiar Families Grant
Agreement**

This Grant Agreement is between is Ramsey County ("County"), a political subdivision of the State of Minnesota, and the Housing and Redevelopment Authority of the City of Saint Paul, Minnesota, a public body corporate and politic organized and existing under the laws of the State of Minnesota ("HRA"). The County and HRA each a "Party" and collectively the "Parties."

Background

- A. The County and HRA are empowered to enter into this grant agreement.
- B. The County agrees to perform all services described in this grant agreement to the satisfaction of the HRA.

Terms and Conditions

1. County Duties

The County will undertake the following activities in implementing the Familiar Families pilot program:

1.1 Overview

County will implement the Familiar Families pilot program designed to support up to 5 families at a time who have not been successful in traditional shelters because of multiple, complex, and persistent needs. This pilot program would provide shelter and trauma-informed wrap-around services.

1.2 Eligibility of participants

Families that meet both of the following criteria would be prioritized for this pilot, and families meeting just one of the eligibility factors will be prioritized in the second group:

- a. Families with a history of 4+ years experiencing homelessness (McKinney-Vento definition); homelessness does not have to be sequential, and
- b. Families that have been restricted/banned from at least one existing family shelter or a County-funded hotel program.

1.3 Services Goals and Expectations

- a. 5 families, approximately 20 individuals, the majority of whom are children;

- b. 20 individuals x est. average shelter stay of 4 months, approximately 60+ individuals/year in initial pilot; and,
- c. Shelter would be provided to these families via a motel space or other space. Shelter provider(s) must be equipped to address behaviors and circumstances that are problematic in traditional shelters, including verbal violence.

1.4 Services

- c. County will establish robust wrap-around services to support family stabilization, which includes but is not limited to culturally specific resources, educational stability, peer support from those with lived experience, and mental and chemical health resources for children and parents.
- d. Wrap-around services should be provided for 1 year after stable housing is attained, including continuation if the family obtains Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) to ensure a seamless transition from the shelter service provider to the PSH provide.
- e. County will contract for pilot program services, adhere to the County's procurement policies and procedures, and ensure all required legal standards are included in resulting agreements.

1.5 Reporting

The HRA and County will establish a reporting framework and cadence throughout the term of this Agreement.

2. Term

- a. Effective date:
March 10, 2026, or the date the HRA obtains all required signatures, no work can begin, and no payments will be made to the County until this grant agreement is fully executed.
- b. Expiration date:
March 9, 2027, or until all obligations have been satisfactorily fulfilled, whichever occurs first. The HRA may continue the term of this Agreement as funding and authority exist.

3. Consideration and Terms of Payment

- a. Funding is provided through the HRA.
- b. The total obligation of the HRA for all compensation to County shall not exceed five hundred thousand Dollars (\$500,000).
- c. The County will submit invoices to the HRA in a consistent format and no more frequently than once per month.

4. Authorized Representative

The HRA's Authorized Representative is Jules Atangana, jules.atangana@ci.stpaul.mn.us, who has the responsibility to monitor the County's performance and the authority to accept the services provided under this grant agreement. If the services are satisfactory, the HRA's Authorized Representative will certify acceptance on each invoice submitted for payment.

The County's Authorized Representative is Jaime Wilkins, jaime.wilkins@co.ramsey.mn.us, Director, Ramsey County Housing Stability Department.

Should the Authorized Representative change at any time during this Agreement, the Parties must promptly notify the other Party in writing.

5. Data Practices

The Parties must comply with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes Chapter 13 or any other applicable state statutes, any state rules adopted to implement the MGDPA and related statutes, as well as federal statutes and regulations, as they apply to all data created, collected, received, stored, used, maintained, or disseminated under this Agreement.

6. Compliance with Applicable Law

The Parties agree to comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations or ordinances.

7. Audit

The County's books, records, documents, and accounting procedures and practices relevant to this Agreement are subject to examination by the State and/or the State Auditor or Legislative Auditor, as appropriate, for a minimum of six years from the end of this Agreement.

8. Indemnification

Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 471.59, Subd.1a.(a) each Party agrees that it will be responsible for its own acts and omissions and the acts and omissions of its employees, elected officials, and agents as they relate to this Agreement and for any liability resulting therefrom, to the

extent authorized by law, and will not be responsible for the acts and omissions of the other Party or their employees, elected officials, and agents, or for any liability resulting therefrom.

Nothing in this Agreement constitutes a waiver by either Party of any limitation of liability under Minnesota Statutes Chapter 466, or any other statutory or common law immunities, limits, or exceptions on liability. In accordance with Minnesota Statutes section 471.59, for purposes of determining total liability for damages, the Parties shall be considered a single governmental unit with respect to the pilot program and the total liability for the Parties shall not exceed the limits on governmental liability for a single governmental unit as specified in section Minnesota Statutes section 466.04, subdivision 1.

9. Insurance

The County is self-insured under the provisions of Minnesota Statutes Chapter 466. Such coverage includes tort liability with limits of liability as defined by this chapter. The coverage afforded under this self-funded program extends to County employees for activities arising out of the course and scope of their employment as defined under Section 466.07.

The self-funded program includes the liability of an officer or an employee or agent for tort arising out of an alleged act or omission occurring in the performance of duty, subject to the statutory limits of \$500,000 per claimant/\$1,500,000 for any number of claims arising out of a single occurrence for the liability of the County for any claim within the scope of sections 466.01 to 466.15.

Furthermore, the State of Minnesota designates the County as a qualified self-insurer for workers' compensation and motor vehicle liability. The County self-insures for workers' compensation as required by law. Nothing in this section shall constitute a waiver by the County of any of its statutory or common law immunities, limits, or exceptions on liability.

10. Termination

Either party may terminate this Agreement without cause upon giving at least thirty (30) calendar days written notice to the other Jurisdiction.

11. Assignment

Neither Party may assign or transfer any rights or obligations under this Agreement without the prior consent of the other Party and a fully executed Assignment Agreement, approved by the same parties who executed and approved this Agreement, including authorized representatives.

12. Amendments

Any amendment to this Agreement must be written and will not be effective until it has been executed and approved by the same parties who executed and approved the original agreement, including authorized representatives.

13. Waiver

If either Party fails to enforce any provision of this Agreement, that failure does not waive the provision or other Party's right to enforce it.

14. Severability

If any provision of this Agreement is held unenforceable, then such provision will be modified to reflect the parties' intention. All remaining provisions of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

15. Force Majeure

Neither Party shall be liable for any loss or damage incurred by the other party as a result of events outside the control of the party including but not limited to: war, storms, flooding, fire, strikes, legal acts of public authorities, or acts of government in time of war or national emergency.

16. Conflict of Interest

The Parties shall comply with all conflict of interest laws, ordinances, and regulations now in effect or hereafter to be enacted during the term of this Agreement.

17. Publicity

The Parties shall mutually agree regarding any publicity regarding the Familiar Families Pilot Program.

18. Governing Law, Jurisdiction and Venue

Minnesota law, without regard to its choice-of-law provisions, governs this grant agreement. Venue for all legal proceedings out of this grant agreement, or its breach, must be in the appropriate state or federal court with competent jurisdiction in Ramsey County, Minnesota.

19. Entire Agreement

This Agreement contains all negotiations and agreements between the HRA and County. No other understanding regarding this Agreement, whether written or oral, may be used to bind either party.

HRA:

Housing and Redevelopment Authority of the City of Saint Paul, Minnesota

By: 
By: [Cheniqua Johnson \(Feb 27, 2026 12:31:24 CST\)](#)
Its: Chairperson

By: Melanie McMahon
By: [Melanie McMahon \(Mar 2, 2026 10:48:17 CST\)](#)
Its: Executive Director

By: Laura Logsdon
Its: Interim Director, Office of Financial Services

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: John Kennedy
Assistant City Attorney

RAMSEY COUNTY

Date: _____

By: _____
Rafael Ortega
Its: Board Chair

Date: _____

By: _____
Jason Yang
Its: Chief Clerk – County Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM

By: /s/ Stacey D'Andrea
Assistant Ramsey County Attorney

Ramsey County and Saint Paul HRA Familiar Families Grant Agreement 2.26.2026_final

Final Audit Report

2026-03-03

Created:	2026-02-27
By:	Jennifer Peredia (jennifer.peredia@ci.stpaul.mn.us)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAf-snfdYCRQXvjkJD4XyteS4gDVD7ZmuR

"Ramsey County and Saint Paul HRA Familiar Families Grant Agreement 2.26.2026_final" History

-  Document created by Jennifer Peredia (jennifer.peredia@ci.stpaul.mn.us)
2026-02-27 - 6:08:35 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to cheniqua.johnson@ci.stpaul.mn.us for signature
2026-02-27 - 6:10:03 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by cheniqua.johnson@ci.stpaul.mn.us
2026-02-27 - 6:30:55 PM GMT
-  Signer cheniqua.johnson@ci.stpaul.mn.us entered name at signing as Cheniqua Johnson
2026-02-27 - 6:31:22 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Cheniqua Johnson (cheniqua.johnson@ci.stpaul.mn.us)
Signature Date: 2026-02-27 - 6:31:24 PM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Document emailed to Melanie McMahon (Melanie.McMahon@ci.stpaul.mn.us) for signature
2026-02-27 - 6:31:26 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Melanie McMahon (Melanie.McMahon@ci.stpaul.mn.us)
2026-03-02 - 4:48:01 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Melanie McMahon (Melanie.McMahon@ci.stpaul.mn.us)
Signature Date: 2026-03-02 - 4:48:17 PM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Document emailed to Laura Logsdon (Laura.Logsdon@ci.stpaul.mn.us) for signature
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2026-03-03 - 3:03:28 AM GMT

 Document e-signed by Laura Logsdon (Laura.Logsdon@ci.stpaul.mn.us)

Signature Date: 2026-03-03 - 3:04:55 AM GMT - Time Source: server

 Document emailed to John Kennedy (John.Kennedy@ci.stpaul.mn.us) for signature

2026-03-03 - 3:04:57 AM GMT

 Email viewed by John Kennedy (John.Kennedy@ci.stpaul.mn.us)

2026-03-03 - 5:10:25 PM GMT

 Document e-signed by John Kennedy (John.Kennedy@ci.stpaul.mn.us)

Signature Date: 2026-03-03 - 5:11:02 PM GMT - Time Source: server

 Agreement completed.

2026-03-03 - 5:11:02 PM GMT

Item Number: 2026-105

Meeting Date: 3/10/2026

Sponsor: County Manager's Office

Title

Updates on Ramsey County's Response to Operation Metro Surge

Recommendation

None - for discussion only.

Background and Rationale

The Federal Government launched Operation Metro Surge (Surge) in Minnesota in December 2025, deploying an unprecedented number of immigration enforcement agents to the state - an estimated 3,000 agents from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Patrol (CBP), which outnumbers the combined total officers working for Twin Cities metro law enforcement agencies

In a unanimous vote on February 3, 2026, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners condemned the aggressive tactics used by federal immigration enforcement agents and mourned the loss of life, physical injury and community trauma resulting from the Surge. Commissioners also called for an independent investigation of the "preventable and brutal" killings of Renee Nicole Good and Alex Pretti.

The board resolution from February 3, 2026, also directed the County Manager to establish a structured and coordinated response to the Surge and take specific steps to address the operational and community impacts of the surge. The County Manager mobilized a Surge Response Core Team to coordinate response efforts, ensure appropriate resourcing, and facilitate effective decision-making. The Surge Response Core Team has implemented the directives from the board, including the initiatives and efforts described below.

Planning for and mitigating long term mental health and economic impacts to the community.

In mid-February, the Federal Administration announced that the Surge would be ending and that thousands of agents would be withdrawn from Minnesota. It is not clear how many federal agents remain in Minnesota, but the Surge will have impacts for the Ramsey County community that will remain long after the Surge has officially ended.

Mental health:

Recent assessments of the Surge describe it as a "protection crisis" because its effects go beyond physical safety and deeply impact mental health. The Surge has caused heightened anxiety due to fear or raids, detention, and family disruption. Many children in immigrant and refugee families are withdrawing from school and social activities, increasing their risk of depression and anxiety. In addition, the fear of being targeted by immigration enforcement is preventing residents from seeking care.

To help address this crisis, the county will provide \$75,000 in one-time funds to the Ramsey County Children's Mental Health Collaborative (RCCMHC) to strengthen access to mental health and basic needs supports during a time of increased referrals, prolonged service waitlists, and heightened community stress. Funding will support proactive outreach, cross-system collaboration, and timely resource navigation to community services as well as psychoeducation, skill building, resilience coaching to ensure families are not left without

support while awaiting services. This prioritizes equitable access, stabilization, and reduced risk of crisis for youth and caregivers while supporting system recovery following a period of surge-related strain.

Economic hardships and Temporary Property Tax Relief:

The Surge created disruptions to work and decreased revenue for local businesses, resulting in financial strain. To address this strain, the county is implementing a temporary two-month property tax payment extension for first half 2026 property tax payments. Eligible property owners can pay property taxes up to two months past the typical deadline without paying late payment penalties. This temporary extension is designed to support homeowners and small businesses experiencing short-term disruptions, preventing penalties that would exacerbate financial strain, while maintaining fairness and fiscal responsibility.

Under Minnesota law, counties are authorized to address certain tax adjustments and abatements. Specifically, **Minnesota Statute 279.01, subdivision 2** authorizes counties to abate penalties for late payment of property taxes, which may have the effect of temporarily deferring property tax due dates. The County Board has previously delegated the authority to waive or adjust current year penalties to the County Treasurer. No further delegation is needed to implement this proposal.

The two-month extension applies to the following property types:

1. Homestead Properties
 - Non-escrowed homestead properties
2. Small Businesses
 - Non-escrowed small businesses
 - Annual property tax obligation of \$50,000 or less
3. Residential Non-Homestead Properties
 - One- to three-unit properties
 - Annual property tax obligation of \$20,000 or less

To ensure proper documentation and compliance with statutory requirements, the county will create and implement a Property Tax Extension Application Form to administer this temporary relief program.

- The form will be available online and in paper format.
- Applications must be submitted no later than July 15, 2026.
- Approved applicants may remit property tax payments up to two months after the standard due date.
- No late penalties will accrue during the approved extension period.

If payment is not made by the extended deadline, statutory penalties will apply retroactively as required by law.

This action constitutes a temporary, case-specific administrative extension supported by the county's abatement authority and does not permanently alter statutory property tax due dates.

The county has launched a new webpage to help local businesses access relief resources as a result of the Surge. The page includes links to business relief grant programs and will be regularly updated with additional support services from city partners and business assistance organizations.

Other efforts to address the immediate and on-going impacts of Operation Metro Surge

The county posted signage to deter unauthorized use and access to county property. Signage posted at parks and recreations sites clearly states that the parking lot and/or grounds are intended for employees and parks visitors: staging, storage, operations base, or other activities are not permitted without a permit. Within county-owned and leased sites, "employee only" signage has been posted to designate non-public areas that federal agents cannot enter without a valid judicial warrant.

Ramsey County Attorney John Choi worked with county Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) to develop guidance for residents who are witnesses to or victims of criminal conduct by federal law enforcement agents. Residents are instructed to contact their LEA to file a report. The county has disseminated this guidance

internally and to the public through internal training, intranet postings, social media, links on the county's public website, and an episode of Nyob Zoo Ramsey County (a cultural media program for the Hmong community).

The county established clear protocols for interacting with immigration enforcement agents at county owned or leased sites, which bar agents from accessing non-public spaces without a valid judicial warrant or exigent circumstances. A new training was created and launched to help employees understand how to navigate an encounter with immigration enforcement officials while working in the field. Training sessions were attended by a total of 425 employees. The county updated and expanded immigration-related resources available to employees through the county's intranet, and the Attorney's Office created a new public webpage with [Guidance for Residents on Federal Immigration Enforcement <https://www.ramseycountymn.gov/your-government/leadership/county-attorneys-office/news-updates/guidance-residents-federal-immigration-enforcement>](https://www.ramseycountymn.gov/your-government/leadership/county-attorneys-office/news-updates/guidance-residents-federal-immigration-enforcement).

To support employees - many of whom experienced heightened stress, anxiety, and other challenges during the surge - the county promoted and expanded mental health and wellbeing resources available through the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) and the Human Resources (HR) Department. HR hosted sessions about stress management, psychological safety, and emotion regulation, and provided additional support and resources through the county's intranet. A mobile app for the county EAP was launched, enhancing access to resources. In addition, new or updated guidance was issued to help employees and leadership address issues related to workforce issues, including the following:

- Staff participation in Surge-related events
- Requests to work remotely during the Surge
- Contacting emergency contacts in the event that an employee is detained

Programs across the county found new ways to make services accessible during the Surge, including virtual options for residents, when allowed by applicable laws and regulations. Departments provided updates about services available virtually through regular operational reports, and this information was used to create a [new public website <https://www.ramseycountymn.gov/your-government/open-government/ramsey-county-response-federal-actions/connect-services>](https://www.ramseycountymn.gov/your-government/open-government/ramsey-county-response-federal-actions/connect-services) helping residents connect with services and resources that may be helpful during the Surge. The county has advertised this new website through social media and through a new postcard, translated into multiple languages, that is being distributed through county programs, local food shelves, the city of Saint Paul (libraries and parks), and Saint Paul Public Schools. These efforts help connect residents to food resources and eviction prevention programs and services.

The county has coordinated closely with government partners and implemented cohesive communications strategies for the county workforce, legislators, and partners. Departments submitted information related to the Surge through regular operational updates. Information from those reports and other sources has been used to provide accurate, up-to-date communications for partners:

- The county submitted a declaration about the impacts of the Surge for Ramsey County for the lawsuit filed by the State Attorney General's Office, the City of Minneapolis, and the City of Saint Paul.
- The County Manager provided key updates during meetings of the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners.
- The County Manager sent a memo to the county's congressional delegation on February 24th about the impacts of the Surge.
- The Government & Community Relations division sent a Federal Response Update with related information to Ramsey County state legislative delegation on February 25th.
- The Communications and Public Relations department worked with leaders across the county to respond to media requests with accurate, informative statements.
- A template with messaging for partners about the Surge was developed and provided to departments to communicate with partner organizations.
- An episode of [Nyob Zoo Ramsey County <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vGD-pW5SFoo>](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vGD-pW5SFoo) where

the County Manager and County Attorney explained the county’s response to the Surge.

The county has provided updates and key information to employees through regular intranet posts, such as County Manager Columns, and communications to leadership.

County Goals (Check those advanced by Action)

- Well-being
- Prosperity
- Opportunity
- Accountability

Racial Equity Impact

Ramsey County is the most diverse urban county in the state. According to US Census data, 15.7% of the county’s population is foreign born, compared to 8.6% of the population of Minnesota as a whole, and 23.2% of the county’s population live in a home where a language other than English is spoken. The county also has a relatively high percentage of Asian, Black, and Hispanic resident when compared to the state population. The Surge has involved immigration enforcement actions in Minnesota that, according to media reports and first-hand resident accounts, have disproportionately targeted Somali, Latino, Asian, and other non-white residents. The impacts of the Surge are experienced most acutely by these communities, and the county’s efforts are critical for addressing and mitigating those harms.

Community Participation Level and Impact

The county’s response has been informed through careful assessment of community needs and impacts associated with the Surge. Program areas across the county have worked closely with partner organizations and residents to understand emerging needs and disruptions due to the Surge. These have been reported regularly to the County Manager’s Office through operational reports and communications, as described above. The county’s response to the Surge is deeply informed by this assessment of community needs.

- Inform
- Consult
- Involve
- Collaborate
- Empower

Fiscal Impact

\$75,000 in funding from the Residents First Strategic Priority will be used to bolster mental health support through the Ramsey County Children’s Mental Health Collaborative. There are sufficient funds for this investment. The two-month property tax deadline extension is not anticipated to have an impact on cash flow or a significant impact on budgeted revenues, but it may reduce fee revenue slightly.

Last Previous Action

On February 3, 2026, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approved the Resolution Condemning Operation Metro Surge and Supporting the Federal Response Action Team (Resolution B2026-024).

Attachments

1. None.



Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

15 West Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55102
651-266-9200

Item Number: 2026-084

Meeting Date: 3/10/2026

Sponsor: Financial Assistance Services

Title

Presentation: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Recertifications

Recommendation

None. For information and discussion only.

Background and Rationale

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recertifications are essential to ensuring eligible residents maintain uninterrupted access to food assistance while meeting state and federal compliance requirements. Recent federal changes, including those under H.R. 1, increase administrative expectations and heighten the importance of accurate and timely case processing. This presentation provides an overview of the SNAP recertification process, the scale of work managed by Financial Assistance Services staff, and the operational implications for staffing, timeliness, and accuracy.

Attachments

1. Presentation



SNAP Recertifications

Presented by Financial Assistance Services

3/10/2026

SNAP Recertification Presentation Agenda

- **Introduction to All Hands on Deck: Access & Accuracy.**

Karen Francois, Deputy County Manager

- **SNAP program overview and recertification process.**

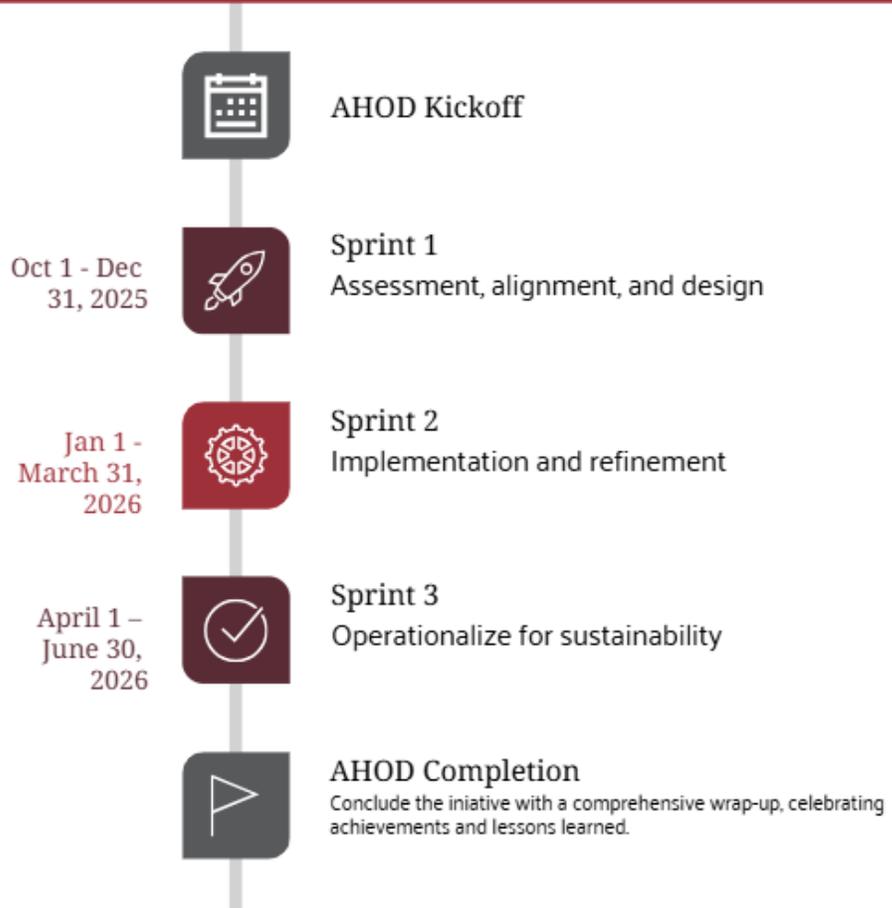
Ali Ali, Director Financial Assistance Services Department

- **Ramsey County SNAP statistics and program volume.**

Jason Hedin, Deputy Director Financial Assistance Services Department

- **Q&A**

All Hands on Deck Access & Accuracy



AHOD Current Critical Issue: Accuracy & Timeliness in public benefit determinations

- Focus on getting food, health care, and cash assistance right and on time.
- Delays or inaccuracies can negatively impact residents who rely on these benefits and may have downstream financial implications.

Ensuring residents receive *the right benefits, at the right time, every time.*

All Hands on Deck Workshop April 28, 2026

SNAP Recertifications

Federal

**Funding & program
framework**



State

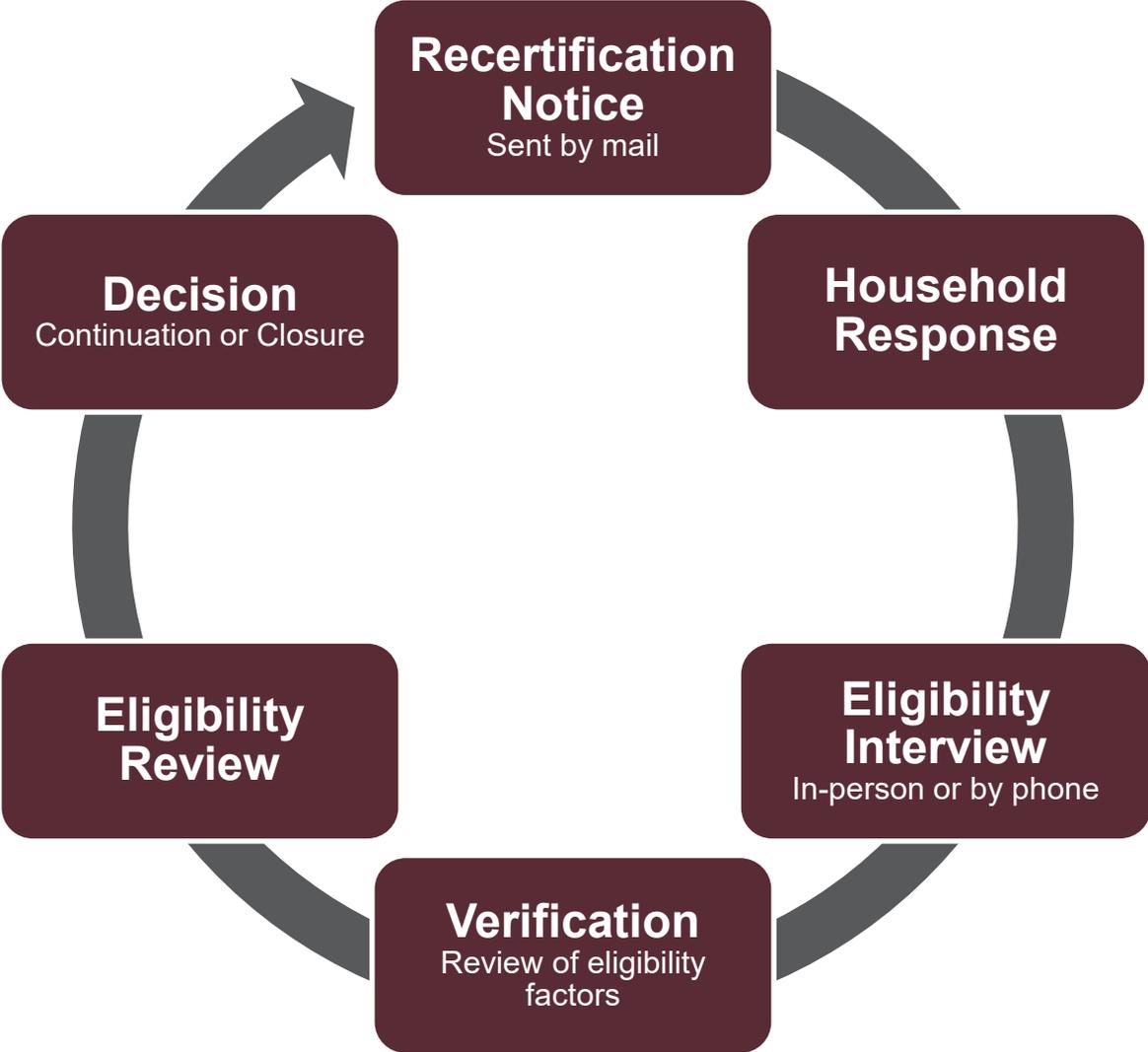
**Policy & system
oversight**



County

**Eligibility
determination &
recertification**



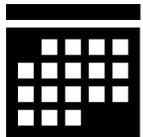




33,800
Active SNAP cases
(As of Feb 2026)



60,053
Individuals supported
(As of Feb 2026)



**Monthly pace \approx 2,800
recertifications per month**

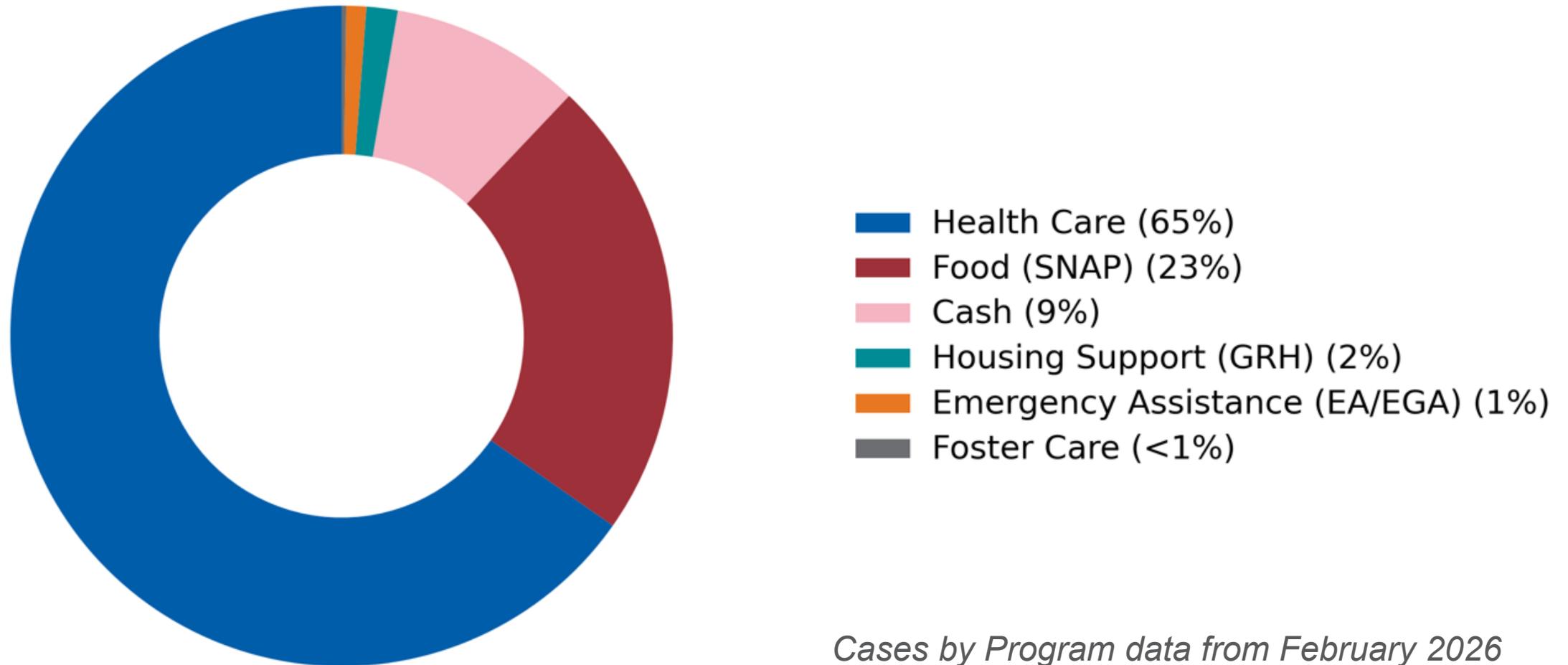


**Time for recertification \approx
1 ½ to 2 hours per case**



**Monthly effort \approx
4,200–5,600 staff hours**

Cases by Program



Cases by Program data from February 2026

Q & A



Addendum

H.R.1 bill Known Impacts

Policy Changes

- Expanded SNAP work requirements for adults ages **18–64**
- Reduced exemptions for veterans, people experiencing homelessness, and youth leaving foster care
- Restrictions on certain non-citizen eligibility categories
- Limits on how utility assistance and household expenses can be considered in benefit calculations

Financial & Administrative Changes

- Federal reimbursement for SNAP administration reduced from 50% to 25% beginning October 1, 2026
- States must cover 75% of program administration costs
- New state cost-sharing for SNAP benefits tied to Payment Error Rate (PER) beginning October 1, 2027

Program & Benefit Impacts

- Elimination of SNAP-Ed funding beginning October 1, 2025
- Limits on future updates to the Thrifty Food Plan, reducing long-term benefit growth
- Approximately 440,000 Minnesotans currently rely on SNAP each month

Operational Considerations for Counties

- Increased verification and eligibility determination requirements
- Higher financial exposure tied to program error rates
- Increased administrative workload for counties administering SNAP