

Nov 5, 2024

2025 Legislative Platform Review

Presentation to the Legislative Committee of the Whole



Agenda

- **Introduction**

Commissioner Rena Moran

- **Purpose**
- **Considerations on 2025 Session**
- **Platform Timeline**
- **Development Process**
- **Overall Themes**
- **Bonding Requests**
- **Next Steps**

Jennifer O'Rourke
Director of Government Relations

Purpose

- Review work to date
- Recommend approval of 2025 state and federal legislative platforms

Things to consider going into 2025 session:

- Temporary surplus with looming “structural imbalance”
- No bonding bill completed last year... Unfinished business.
- Potential musical chairs – Governor, Lt. Governor, President of Senate.
- Current one-vote margin for DFL in Senate in question – Sen. Morrison’s seat up for grabs in November; Sen. Champion may leave for the Executive Branch.
- One-party control in 2025 likely hinges on the Senate.



***Please remember to invite GR staff to legislator meetings to help build relationships and remind legislators that GR staff are your eyes and ears during session!*

NOTICE
FOR REASONS OF SAFETY
DO NOT PUT COATS, HATS, OR
OTHER ITEMS OF ANY KIND ON THIS

Ramsey County Platform Timeline

Meet with Legislative Team	Aug 8
Strategic Management Team presentation; meetings with individual service teams, department leaders, and SMEs	Aug – present
Meet with external partners	Ongoing
Departments provide platform proposals	Sept 6 – 11
Present updates to Executive Team	Sept 18, Oct 2
Present update at Board workshop	Oct 15
Update to Strategic Management Team	Oct 24
Legislative Committee of the Whole recommends approval	Nov 5
County Board provides final approval	Nov 19
Delegation meeting #1	Dec 2
Delegation meeting #2	Early Jan
2025 session begins	Jan 14

Platform Development Process

- Collected over 30 platform item proposals from departments.
- Met with department directors and SMEs, external partners, and allies.
- Met with individual commissioners and held board workshop.
- Revised and edited draft platforms.
- Worked with Executive Team to identify themes and priority issues.

Review of October 15 Board Workshop

- Reviewed themes and priority issues.
- Discussed new platform items.
- Took feedback on identifying allies and lead commissioners.
- Established bonding priorities using standard criteria.
- Discussed the need to coordinate with partners and others on downtown development issues.
- Discussed county program aid and the need for other, more equitable state formulas and funding allocations.
 - Will engage with workgroup led by Association of Minnesota Counties.

Review of Overall Themes

- Operational excellence.
 - Focus on strengthening existing programs and functions.
 - Ensure new opportunities align with countywide Strategic Priorities.
- Ensure funding & support for critical community basic needs and wellbeing.
- Full funding for any new and current mandates.
- Funding for Ramsey County bonding projects.



2025 Session Bonding Requests

Criteria	2025 Priorities
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aligned with strategic priorities, racial equity impact and opportunity.• Have previous momentum.• Have readiness and vision.• Have legislative buy-in and support; community input.• Can leverage federal Infrastructure Bill funding.• Can use similar process for 2026 MMB bonding requests and congressionally directed spending.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Rice Creek Commons Infrastructure: \$25 million2. The Park at RiversEdge: \$20 million3. Aldrich Arena & Community Event Center: \$6.4 million

Next Steps

- This committee's approval of the state and federal legislative platforms represents a recommendation that the County Board provide final approval on November 19.
- Delegation meeting on Monday, December 2, 11:00am.
- Second delegation meeting in early January.
- 2025 session begins January 14.

