

Board Workshop: 2022 State and Federal Legislative Platform Development

Government Relations October 12, 2021



Agenda

1. Introductions Commissioner MatasCastillo

2. Workshop Overview Jennifer O'Rourke

3. State Legislative Outlook Elizabeth Emerson

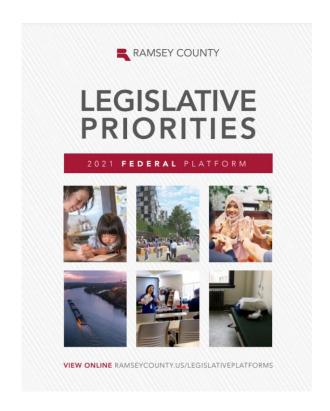
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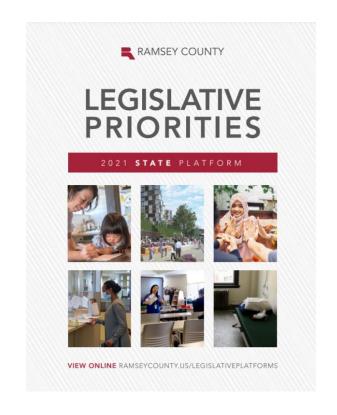
4. Federal Outlook Mike Erlandson
Aurora Strategic Advisors

5. Discussion and Next Steps Jennifer O'Rourke



2021 Platforms





Ramseycounty.us/LegislativePlatforms



Purpose of Workshop

- Share development process and next steps.
- Analysis of the 2022 legislative climate.
- Review proposed state and federal legislative platform items.
- Discussion and take input for items to refine, add, remove or reprioritize.



Timeline for Developing 2022 Platforms

- Ongoing: Meet weekly with Chairs of Legislative Committee; community engagement in various forms.
- **June Oct.:** June special session; meetings with legislators and other partners; monitor Front Line Workers Pay working group and other legislative hearings.
- Aug./Sept.: Executive Team, Service Teams 2022 platforms for budget concerns, new ideas, deletions and changes for 2022 platforms.
 Meeting with delegation members in person and virtual one-on-one settings.
- Mid-Sept.: AMC Policy Conference; committee priorities.
- Oct. 12: Board Workshop 2022 State and Federal Legislative Platform Development.
- Oct./Nov.: Analyze and update priorities and positions Executive Team,
 Commissioners, senior staff and community.
- Nov. 16: State and federal platforms presented at Legislative Committee of the Whole.
- **Dec. 14 or 21:** Platforms considered for approval by Board of Commissioners.
- Jan. 2022: Official Delegation meeting with Commissioners and State Legislators.
- Jan. 31, 2022: First day of the 2022 State Legislative Session.



Expanded Engagement Efforts

2020/2021

- Hosted legislative delegation meeting with commissioners and legislators to officially present platforms in early January.
- Two town halls on Legislative Involvement 101 December 7 & 9th for community and staff.
- Added new virtual weekly staff meeting check in. Continued written weekly updates during session for commissioners, subject-matterexpert staff.
- Increased Commissioner engagement and testimony at the legislature.

2021/2022

- Platform discussion with Citizen Advisory Council.
- Meeting in one-on-one settings with legislators to discuss 2022 priorities.
- Additional town halls on legislative involvement.



2021 State Platform Priorities

- Funding Ramsey County's COVID public health emergency response, economic recovery and waivers.
- Investing in housing stability—affordability and homelessness.
- Addressing racial disparities in out-of-home displacements.
- Funding transportation funding, including new revenues for transit, roads and bridges.
- Improving mental and behavioral health systems and supports.



2021 State Platform Wins

- New Homelessness Aid for counties, starting in 2023 \$3 million annually.
- Technical bonding bill changes to Hmong American Partnership Training Center.
- Second Train to Chicago \$10 million.
- Defended against potential transit cost shift to Ramsey and Hennepin counties.
- Enhanced Medicaid asthma services for children and their families.
- Counties held harmless for DHS overpayment of Medicaid funds for chemical health services.
- Continued health and human services COVID-19 waivers that demonstrate administrative efficiency and improve outcomes and service delivery.
- Successful reprioritization of the Basic Sliding Fee Waitlist to serve more families.
- Defended against the elimination of the Market Bucks program.



Remaining 2021 Bonding Priorities

RiversEdge
 Rush Line Bus Rapid Transit
 Riverview Corridor
 \$40 million
 \$2.5 million
 \$2.5 million

Support Item

Gibbs Farm \$7.1 million

2022 Bonding Priorities Submitted to MMB

The Park at RiversEdge \$26 million

2. Rice Street Revitalization \$5 million

3. Bruce Vento Trail Extension \$3.5 million



2022 Suggested State Priorities

- Family and Community Stabilization
 - Investing in housing stability—affordability and homelessness.
 - Addressing racial disparities in out-of-home displacements.
- Systems Transformation
 - Improving mental and behavioral health systems and support.
 - Justice system reform.
- Economic Competitiveness and Inclusion
 - Funding transportation, including new revenues for transit, roads and bridges.
 - Workforce.
 - Climate change.
- Bonding Requests



State Legislative Outlook

- Factors affecting the 2022 legislative session
 - Session logistics virtual, hybrid or in-person.
 - New caucus leadership
 - Redistricting
 - State economic outlook
 - Federal funding
 - November elections



State Legislative Outlook

- What's on the table?
 - Unfinished business
 - Bonding
 - Political base issues
 - Ongoing agency policy work



Federal Outlook 2022

- The 2nd Session of the 117th Congress priorities and major legislative efforts will not likely be determined until the conclusion of the 2021 session.
- The annual Appropriations Bills will create new opportunities for a new round of Congressionally Directed Spending (earmarks).
- The 2nd Session of every Congress is also largely influenced by the Election Calendar and politics.



2021 Federal Platform Priorities

- Fund Ramsey County's COVID response and recovery needs.
- Improving mental and behavioral health systems and supports.
- Investing in housing stability—affordability and homelessness.
- Support Ramsey County transportation and infrastructure needs.



Next Steps: Platform Development & Rollout

- Continue meeting with commissioners and staff to review updated positions.
- Nov. 16: Legislative Committee of the Whole.
- **Dec. 14 or 21:** Final approval of platforms by the Board.
- Jan. 2022: Official Ramsey County State Legislative Delegation meeting.
- Jan. 31: State Session starts.
- First day of next congress.



Questions?

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