



2021 State and Federal Legislative Agenda Presentation to Homeless Plan Advisory Committee

January 21, 2020

Government Relations - County Administrative Office

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The Plan for today

- Who is Washington County Government Relations?
- Our Cyclical Workflow
- State Legislative Priorities
- Federal Legislative Priorities
- How we can work together
- Questions and discussion



Washington County's Government Relations Team

- **Government Relations Managers**
 - Erin Doyle, Land Use & Transportation, Economic Development, Fairgrounds, CWS
 - Jagjit Nagra, Public Safety, General Government
 - Paige Spence, HHS, Housing, Community Development
- **Federal Lobbyists, Van Scoyoc & Associates**
 - Steve Palmer
 - David Haines



Cyclical Nature of GR's Work

State Cycle

- Regular sessions, odd-numbered years, January to June
- Short sessions, even-numbered years, February

Federal Cycle

- 117th Congress convened January 3 2021 and will end on January 3 2023



2021 State Legislative Priorities

- Identify and secure funding and constituent relief for all COVID-19 related programs and services.
- Support flexible policies and funding mechanisms to improve health and human services outcomes for our communities.
- Support investments in regional transportation infrastructure projects.
- Prioritize investments in workforce development including programs focused on workforce diversity.
- Restore funding to, and cost recovery for, County programs and services with a focus on Community Corrections, the County Law Library and Juvenile Conciliation Services.
- Secure funding that supports our houseless populations, renters, and homeowners.



HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS

Support our homeless, renters, and homeowners

The Housing Authority of Washington County envisions our community members having a safe and stable place to call home.

Ensure housing stability for renters and homeowners.



Increase available capital for homeless shelter construction.



Provide services and supports to our community members experiencing houselessness.



Relevant Federal Priorities

- ✓ Identify and secure funding and constituent relief for all COVID-19 related programs and services.
- ✓ Support federal legislation and policies that advance the health, vibrancy and resiliency of local communities through evidence-based preventative services and efforts, and by increasing access to care, services, and housing.
- ✓ Support new federal financing tools for local government to support, build and preserve affordable housing and legislation that provides for the creation of a long-term funding source dedicated to affordable housing.
- ✓ Seek investment in all forms of infrastructure needed to support the economic viability and livability of Washington County.
- ✓ Support funding for public safety and emergency preparations needed to insure the County's prompt response to disasters.
- ✓ Support fair and just outcomes for all to achieve their full potential.



How to collaborate?

- Write to your legislators!
- Testify in committee hearings!
- Review successes and outstanding needs after session, inform 2022 government relations goals



Questions?

