



**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
DECEMBER 17, 2024**

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CONVENES

The Washington County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. in the Washington County Government Center, County Board Room.

Present: Commissioner Fran Miron, District 1
Commissioner Stan Karwoski, District 2
Commissioner Gary Kriesel, District 3
Commissioner Karla Bigham, District 4
Commissioner Michelle Clasen, District 5

Also Present: Kevin Corbid, County Administrator
John Ristad, Assistant County Attorney Division Chief
Stephanie Kammerud, Administrative Assistant

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Board Chair Karwoski asked for comments from the public.

Dr. Aurelio Curbelo, Lake Elmo, made comments regarding the efforts of county employees, specifically in the Community Services Department, and asked that commissioners embrace changes that are needed.

Robin C. Morton, Woodbury, requested a meeting with her county commissioner, and would like to know how the county is addressing understaffing in the Community Services Department.

Jane Krentz, May Township, followed up on prior concerns expressed regarding aquatic invasive species (AIS) in Square Lake. Ms. Krentz asks that AIS funding be included in the upcoming legislative agenda, and for support to increase requirements for lakes service provider training and enforcement.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Commissioner Clasen moved, seconded by Commissioner Kriesel, to adopt the Consent Calendar as follows:

1. Approval of the November 26, 2024, and December 3, 2024, County Board meeting minutes.

2. Appoint Eric Linner to a first term on the Historic Courthouse Advisory Committee as a District 1 Representative starting January 1, 2025, and expiring December 31, 2027.
3. Approval of **Resolution No. 2024-143** as follows:

**RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING JOHN WALLER TO THE
RICE CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes 103D.311 requires the county board to appoint a member to fill a vacancy in the office of watershed district manager; and

WHEREAS, a person appointed a watershed district manager must be a voting resident of the watershed district who is not a public officer of the county, state or federal government, expect that a soil and water conservation supervisor may be appointed a watershed district manager; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes 103D.311 also provides the process that must be followed in making appointments of watershed district managers, including the requirement to ensure the appointees to the watershed district are able to fairly represent the various hydrological areas within the watershed district; and

WHEREAS, a term is expiring for the position of watershed district manager and the county has undertaken all the necessary steps to make an appointment; and

WHEREAS, the county has provided the notice required to the townships and municipalities that are within the watershed; and

WHEREAS, the county has provided the required published notice; and

WHEREAS, the county has reviewed the applications submitted for the manager position and the list of nominees provided by the townships and municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the county has determined that the aggregate list of nominees submitted by the townships and municipalities is valid; and

WHEREAS, the county has reviewed residency of the manager being reappointed as well as the residency of the current managers, considered the experience of the individual being reappointed to determine if he is able to represent the concerns of the entire watershed district, and reviewed any

other material available to determine the ability of the managers to fairly represent all hydrological areas of the watershed district; and

WHEREAS, the county has determined that by making the following reappointment it finds that the managers of the watershed district, including the reappointed member, fairly represent the various hydrologic areas within the watershed district to the greatest extent possible; and

WHEREAS, the individual being reappointed manager was included on the list of nominees as presented by the townships and municipalities under Minnesota Statutes 103D.311, subdivision 3.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Washington County Board of Commissioners hereby reappoints John Waller to a seventh term on the Rice Creek Watershed District, to begin on January 19, 2025 and end on January 18, 2028.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Washington County Board of Commissioners directs that a record of all appointments made be filed with the county auditor of each county affected by the watershed district, the secretary of the board of managers, and the Board of Water and Soil Resources.

4. Appoint Karissa Goers to a partial term on the Personnel Board of Appeals starting December 18, 2024, and expiring December 31, 2026.
5. Approve Amendment No. 1 to Contract No. 15606 with the Washington County Community Development Agency to increase the total amount of funding to \$12,280,589 and assign ownership of the project property to Washington County.
6. Approve Contract No. 17061 with Nexus Family Healing for emergency youth shelter services, in an amount not to exceed \$815,000 for the period of January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2026.
7. Approve Agreement No. 17041 between Washington County and the City of Stillwater Police Department for approximately \$275,000 for the period of January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2026.
8. Approve Agreement No. 17040 between Washington County and the City of Woodbury Public Safety Department for approximately \$687,000 for the period of July 1, 2024, through December 31, 2026.
9. Approve Amendment No. 1 for Contract No. 16032 with RADIAS Health.
10. Approve Amendment No. 1 for Contract No. 15641 with RADIAS Health.

11. Approve Contract No. 16997 with Ooma Inc. for \$148,997.64 for the period of 36 months from December 17, 2024, to December 16, 2027.
12. Approve amendment to Contract No. 6152 with SirsiDynix for \$93,757.01 to extend services through December 31, 2025.
13. Approval of the plat of Whispering Pines Farm located in Stillwater Township.
14. Approve Agreement No. 16998 with the University of Minnesota Extension Service for 4-H programs and staffing.
15. Approve the Local Public Health Grant and the Foundational Public Health Responsibilities Grant Agreement No. 17005 with the Minnesota Department of Health for \$849,248 of year one funding, for the period of January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2029.
16. Approve Contract No. 17052 with Metropolitan Mechanical Contractors for \$415,580 for mechanical services throughout Washington County.
17. Approval of **Resolution No. 2024-144** as follows:

**RESOLUTION TO ACQUIRE RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR
ROAD RECONSTRUCTION ON COUNTY HIGHWAY 19 AT THE
INTERSECTION OF 80TH STREET IN THE CITY OF
COTTAGE GROVE**

WHEREAS, the intersection improvement of County Highway 19 and 80th Street is programmed in Washington County's Capital Improvement Plan under RB-2667; and

WHEREAS, the acquisition of right-of-way and associated easements is necessary to make said road improvements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Washington County proceed to purchase the permanent right-of-way, permanent road easements, permanent drainage & utility easements, and temporary easements necessary to improve County Highway 19 at the intersection of 80th Street in the City of Cottage Grove as shown on the attached map, located in Washington County, Minnesota.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the officers of said County, including the County Engineer, the County Administrator, and the County Attorney, shall proceed and are hereby authorized to proceed to acquire, by negotiations and direct purchase, and if necessary, the exercise of eminent

domain; right-of-way to establish said permanent right-of-way, permanent easements, and temporary construction easements. Such officers are specifically authorized to take such actions and execute such instruments and plants if any be necessary, to acquire said right-of-way and associated easements.

18. Approval of **Resolution No. 2024-145** as follows:

**RESOLUTION TO ACQUIRE RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR
ROAD RECONSTRUCTION ON COUNTY HIGHWAY 5
FROM PINE TREE TRAIL TO OWENS STREET
IN THE CITY OF STILLWATER**

WHEREAS, the improvement of County Highway 5 is programmed in Washington County's Capital Improvement Plan under RB-2695; and

WHEREAS, the acquisition of right-of-way and associated easements is necessary to make said road improvements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Washington County proceed to purchase the permanent right-of-way, permanent road easements, permanent drainage & utility easements, and temporary easements necessary to improve County Highway 5 from Pine Tree Trail to Owens Street in the City of Stillwater as shown on the attached map, located in Washington County, Minnesota.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the officers of said County, including the County Engineer, the County Administrator, and the County Attorney, shall proceed and are hereby authorized to proceed to acquire, by negotiations and direct purchase, and if necessary, the exercise of eminent domain; right-of-way to establish said permanent right-of-way, permanent easements, and temporary construction easements. Such officers are specifically authorized to take such actions and execute such instruments and plants if any be necessary, to acquire said right-of-way and associated easements.

19. Approve Contract No. 17049 for \$390,446 with Collins Electrical Construction Co. for electrical services throughout Washington County.

20. Approval of **Resolution No. 2024-146** as follows:

**MINNESOTA SNOWMOBILE TRAILS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
STAR TRAIL ASSOCIATION**

WHEREAS, Washington County entered into a county/club agreement with the Star Trail Association on July 31, 1991, whereby the county agreed to sponsor the snowmobile club by acting as a pass-through agency for any grant-in-aid funding received from the State on behalf of the Star Trail Association's trails; and

WHEREAS, the Star Trail Association has developed a snowmobile trail system in Washington County and provides for the maintenance and grooming of those trails; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Snowmobile Trails Assistance Program provides funding for maintenance and grooming through capital improvement grants for snowmobile trails; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources requires a board resolution to be passed each year in order to participate in the program; and

WHEREAS, Washington County staff assistance is needed to help administer the grant, working between the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the Star Trail Association.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Minnesota Snowmobile Trails Assistance Program application and the grant agreement be executed through the signatures of the County Board Chair and the County Administrator without further action of the County Board, conditioned upon the compliance with all specified requirements and approval as to form by the Washington County Attorney's office.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any grant-in-aid funding for the described trails be directed to Washington County for disbursement to the Star Trail Association.

21. Approve FY 2025 Snowmobile Grant-in-Aid Program Agreement with the State of Minnesota.
22. Approval of **Resolution No. 2024-147** as follows:

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SUBMITTAL OF APPLICATION
TO THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FOR FUNDING UNDER THE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS
INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, in the 2023 sessions, the Minnesota Legislature apportioned \$8.5 million to the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Infrastructure Funds

Program for fiscal year 2025 as established in Minnesota Statute 174.40; and

WHEREAS, the funds are intended to supplement or replace aid for infrastructure projects under the federal Safe Routes to Schools Program; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Transportation is responsible for the administration of the state Safe Routes to Schools Program and makes the funds available to communities through a competitive process; and

WHEREAS, this solicitation provides \$8.5 million in state funding for the development and implementation of infrastructure projects which will enable students to walk and bicycle to and from schools; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bayport is a non-state aid city; and

WHEREAS, non-state aid cities must have a state aid city or county as the lead agency or sponsor; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bayport, as a non-state aid entity, has requested sponsorship of this project by Washington County; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bayport is proposing to submit an application to the Minnesota Department of Transportation as part of the Safe Routes to Schools Infrastructure 2024 solicitation for the following project:

1. Construction of a sidewalk from the intersection of County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 14 and 8th Street North to an existing trail in Barkers Alps Park located 800 feet to the west in the City of Bayport.

WHEREAS, the aforementioned sidewalk will create a safe connection between the school, the existing trails in Barkers Alps Park, and the existing sidewalks in the city; and

WHEREAS, Washington County supports the use of county right-of-way for the sidewalk; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bayport understands that it will be responsible for all costs not covered by Safe Routes to School Infrastructure grant including but not limited to preliminary and final engineering, right-of-way acquisition, construction administration and inspection, utility construction, as well as costs above the Safe Routes to School grant award.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Washington County Board of Commissioners agrees to act as the Minnesota Department of Transportation sponsor for the project should the City of Bayport be awarded Safe Routes to School Infrastructure grant funds, and that such sponsorship shall include acting as the fiscal agent on behalf of the City of Bayport and facilitating the flow of funds between the Minnesota Department of Transportation and the City of Bayport.

23. Approval of **Resolution No. 2024-148** as follows:

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SUBMITTAL OF APPLICATION
TO THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FOR FUNDING UNDER THE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS
INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, in the 2023 sessions, the Minnesota Legislature apportioned \$8.5 million to the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Infrastructure Funds Program for fiscal year 2025 as established in Minnesota Statute 174.40; and

WHEREAS, the funds are intended to supplement or replace aid for infrastructure projects under the federal Safe Routes to Schools Program; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Transportation is responsible for the administration of the state Safe Routes to Schools Program and makes the funds available to communities through a competitive process; and

WHEREAS, this solicitation provides \$8.5 million in state funding for the development and implementation of infrastructure projects which improve access and safety on prioritized routes to and at schools; and

WHEREAS, Washington County is proposing to submit an application, in partnership with Mahtomedi Public Schools, to the Minnesota Department of Transportation Safe Routes to Schools Infrastructure Grant program for the following project:

1. Construction of a trail on the south side of County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 12/75th St N from Inwood Way N to the signalized intersection at the Mahtomedi Middle and High School driveway in the City of Grant; and
2. Construction of a trail from the signalized intersection at CSAH 12/75th St N at the Mahtomedi Middle and High School driveway to the school buildings in the City of Grant.

WHEREAS, the aforementioned project will improve access and safety to the Mahtomedi Elementary, Middle, and High Schools, and supports the Mahtomedi Public School's 2023 Safe Routes to School Plan; and

WHEREAS, Washington County will be responsible for design and implementation of the proposed trail on the south side of CSAH 12 including but not limited to preliminary and final engineering, right-of-way acquisition, construction administration and inspection, utility construction, as well as costs above the Safe Routes to School award; and

WHEREAS, Mahtomedi Public Schools will be responsible for design and implementation of the proposed trail connection to the school buildings north of CSAH 12 including but not limited to preliminary and final engineering, right-of-way acquisition, construction administration and inspection, utility construction, as well as costs above the Safe Routes to School award; and

WHEREAS, funds awarded through the Safe Routes to Schools Program will be divided between Washington County and Mahtomedi Public Schools based upon estimated project costs as outlined in the grant application with Washington County acting as fiscal agent.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Washington County Board of Commissioners authorizes submittal of the application listed above for \$705,500 of 2024 Safe Routes to Schools Infrastructure Program funds.

24. Approve Joint Powers Agreement No. 16920 with the City of St. Mary's Point for the purpose of providing a Mass Community Notification System, known as CodeRED.
25. Approve Joint Powers Agreement No. 16925 with the City of White Bear Lake for the purpose of providing a Mass Community Notification System, known as CodeRED.
26. Approve Contract No. 17035 with IdentiSys Inc. in the amount not to exceed \$10,000 for the period of December 18, 2024, to December 17, 2025, with the option to renew for up to four additional years.
27. Approval of **Resolution No. 2024-149** as follows:

DONATION FOR SHOP WITH A COP EVENT

WHEREAS, Washington County gratefully accepts donations, gifts, and bequests from public and private sources to enhance the programs and services it provides; and

WHEREAS, any gift, donation, or bequest becomes the property of Washington County; and

WHEREAS, the Washington County Board is authorized to approve donations, gifts, and bequests.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve and accept a donation of \$1,500 from the Hugo Yellow Ribbon Network to support the Shop with a Cop community engagement event.

The motion was adopted 5-0 with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Miron, Kriesel, Bigham, Clasen, and Karwoski. Nays, none.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

Resolution to Adopt Washington County Cannabis Ordinance #219

Caleb Johnson, Senior Community/Environmental Health Program Manager, presented a resolution to adopt Washington County's Cannabis Ordinance #219.

Mr. Johnson reported that this ordinance is necessary due to Minnesota Statute 342, which requires that retailers must obtain registration from the city/town as part of the state licensing process. It also authorizes cities and towns to delegate the registration duties to the county. The registration authority has the responsibility to conduct compliance checks. Mr. Johnson reviewed Minnesota Statutes 145A, which empowers the board to adopt this ordinance.

Mr. Johnson reported that there have been three workshops to discuss and refine the ordinance, and there are 12 sections within the ordinance: 1) Findings of Fact and Purpose; Scope; 2) Definitions and Interpretations; 3) Registration; 4) Fees; 5) Basis for Denial of Registration; 6) Prohibited Sales and Other Restrictions; 7) Responsibility; 8) Compliance Checks and Inspections; 9) Enforcement and Penalties; 10) Exceptions and Defenses; 11) Severability; 12) Effective Date.

Public health and cannabis statutes allow for some ordinance requirements to apply across the entire county. Sections 3, 4, and 5 cover the county registration system for communities delegated to the county by city/town. Section 6 covers sales standards countywide, including in cities/towns who retain registration duties. Sections 8 and 9 address inspections, compliance check protocols, and penalties for ordinance violations.

Mr. Johnson reported that the Cannabis Ordinance has been shared with cities and townships, and public feedback could be received in writing, by phone, in-person, and an online form through the county's website. Mr. Johnson reported that a public hearing was held on December 3, 2024, and no comments were received at or following the hearing.

Commissioner Bigham moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2024-150** as follows:

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING WASHINGTON COUNTY
CANNABIS ORDINANCE #219**

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. §342 regulates the sale of cannabis and hemp products in Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. §342.22, Subd. 1. requires retailers of cannabis and hemp to obtain a registration from the city or town in which they are located and grants cities and towns discretion to delegate registration duties to counties; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. §342.22, Subd. 4. requires local units of government that issue registrations for cannabis and hemp retailers to conduct compliance checks to verify retailer compliance with product sales age requirements and other local regulations; and

WHEREAS, the municipalities of Afton, Landfall, Marine on St. Croix, May Township, and West Lakeland Township have delegated cannabis and hemp retailer registration and compliance check duties to Washington County; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. §145A.05 allows the community health board for Washington County to adopt ordinances regulating certain trades for the protection of public health; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. §342.13 allows local units of government to adopt reasonable restrictions on the manner of cannabis sales; and

WHEREAS, certain methods of sales restriction can be effective at reducing youth access to cannabis and hemp products and unsafe use of those products; and

WHEREAS, on August 13, October 15, and November 12, 2024, the Department of Public Health and Environment met in workshops with the Washington County Board of Commissioners, to develop a draft of the Washington County Cannabis Ordinance #219; and

WHEREAS, on November 12, 2024, the Washington County Board of Commissioners set the date of December 3, 2024, for a public hearing to receive public comment about the draft ordinance; and

WHEREAS, on November 20, 2024, a required notice was published about the public hearing and possible adoption of the Washington County Cannabis Ordinance #219; and

WHEREAS, on December 3, 2024, the Washington County Board of Commissioners conducted a public hearing pursuant to Minn. Stat. §375.51 to consider adoption of the Washington County Cannabis Ordinance #219.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the Washington County Cannabis Ordinance #219, to take effect upon the passage of this resolution and its publication according to law.

Commissioner Kriesel seconded the motion, and it was adopted 5-0 with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Miron, Kriesel, Bigham, Clasen, and Karwoski. Nays, none.

Approval of the 2025 Washington County Budget

County Administrator Kevin Corbid presented five resolutions to adopt the 2025 budget and levy. Mr. Corbid summarized the budget process, which began in March with the review and adoption of principles for staff to use in creating a recommended budget. Department staff worked within each division or unit to develop a budget proposal, gathering input from their teams, reviewing both expenditure and revenue history and projections, and determining the service delivery needs at a functional level.

By June, the departments developed their proposals and met with the Office of Administration. These efforts resulted in the County Administrator's recommended budget that was presented to the board in July. Following that action, the departments each presented their portion of the recommended budget to the board in workshops during August and September. These workshops were open to the public and recordings were available online.

In September, the County Board adopted a proposed 2025 budget and levy. In November, proposed property tax notices were mailed to property owners in the county. On November 26, 2024, the County Board held the required public budget meeting.

Mr. Corbid continued that the proposed county property tax levy in 2025 is a 5.9% increase from 2024. The levy increase proposed for the Community Development Agency is a 6.8% increase, and the proposed levy for the Regional Rail Authority is a 0% levy increase. If adopted today, a 5.9% county property tax levy would lead to a 7.9% increase in the tax rate, due to the increase in the homestead exemption exclusion and a slight decrease in residential property value. A median valued home in the county, that is experiencing a median decrease in valuation, would see a \$23 increase in the county tax under this budget.

Mr. Corbid reported that this budget continues to protect the county's financial health, while funding core service functions, mandated services, and strategic priorities. It focuses on the delivery of high-quality services to a growing community with the board's ongoing investment in its employees, public safety, and infrastructure, including the major service expansions coming in 2025, with the opening of the North Environmental Center, the Emergency Housing Services Building, the Gold Line, and the Central Service and License Center.



Resolution Certifying the Adopted Property Tax Levy Payable 2025 for Washington County

Commissioner Miron moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2024-151** as follows:

**RESOLUTION CERTIFYING ADOPTED PROPERTY TAX LEVY FOR
WASHINGTON COUNTY PAYABLE 2025**

The Washington County Board of Commissioners does hereby certify to the
Washington County Auditor-Treasurer the following
adopted tax levy for payable 2025:

Washington County \$140,479,200

Commissioner Kriesel seconded the motion, and it was adopted 5-0 with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Miron, Kriesel, Bigham, Clasen, and Karwoski. Nays, none.

Resolution Certifying the Adopted Property Tax Levy Payable 2025 for the Washington County Regional Rail Authority

Commissioner Clasen moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2024-152** as follows:

**RESOLUTION CERTIFYING ADOPTED PROPERTY TAX LEVY FOR
THE WASHINGTON COUNTY REGIONAL RAIL AUTHORITY
PAYABLE 2025**

The Washington County Board of Commissioners does hereby certify to the
Washington County Auditor-Treasurer the following
adopted tax levy for payable 2025:

Regional Rail Authority \$660,000

Commissioner Bigham seconded the motion, and it was adopted 5-0 with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Miron, Kriesel, Bigham, Clasen, and Karwoski. Nays, none.

Resolution Adopting the Washington County 2025 Budget

Commissioner Miron moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2024-153** as follows:

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE WASHINGTON COUNTY ADOPTED BUDGET FOR PAYABLE 2025						
OPERATING FUNDS	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE OTHER THAN LEVY	FUND BALANCE Contrib/(Use)	GROSS LEVY	STATE AID (CPA)	CERTIFIED LEVY
General	\$169,209,700	\$84,104,600	\$978,500	\$84,126,600	\$14,420,600	\$69,706,000
Community Services	\$64,654,200	\$39,133,900	\$0	\$25,520,300	\$0	\$25,520,300
Library	\$10,555,000	\$617,000	\$0	\$9,938,000	\$0	\$9,938,000
Parks	\$4,854,400	\$2,653,600	\$107,400	\$2,093,400	\$0	\$2,093,400
Public Works	\$29,068,800	\$18,873,800	\$0	\$10,195,000	\$0	\$10,195,000
Subtotal:	\$278,342,100	\$145,382,900	\$1,085,900	\$131,873,300	\$14,420,600	\$117,452,700
CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDS						
Capital Parks Projects	\$2,765,400	\$2,765,400	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Capital Projects - Other	\$12,736,900	\$6,202,500	\$300,100	\$6,234,300	\$0	\$6,234,300
Capital Repairs	\$1,730,100	\$80,100	\$1,650,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Capital Road & Bridge	\$47,720,000	\$44,720,000	\$3,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal:	\$64,952,400	\$53,768,000	\$4,950,100	\$6,234,300	\$0	\$6,234,300
DEBT SERVICE FUNDS						
Debt Service - General	\$16,230,300	\$0	\$649,200	\$15,581,100	\$0	\$15,581,100
Debt Service - Referendum	\$1,211,100	\$0	\$0	\$1,211,100	\$0	\$1,211,100
Subtotal:	\$17,441,400	\$0	\$649,200	\$16,792,200	\$0	\$16,792,200
Total Adopted Budget:	\$360,735,900	\$199,150,900	\$6,685,200	\$154,899,800	\$14,420,600	\$140,479,200
Total Washington County Adopted 2025 Levy:				\$154,899,800	\$14,420,600	\$140,479,200

Commissioner Kriesel seconded the motion, and it was adopted 5-0 with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Miron, Kriesel, Bigham, Clasen, and Karwoski. Nays, none.



Resolution Adopting the Washington County Regional Rail Authority 2025 Budget

Commissioner Bigham moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2024-154** as follows:

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE WASHINGTON COUNTY REGIONAL RAIL AUTHORITY ADOPTED BUDGET FOR PAYABLE 2025						
SPECIAL REVENUE FUND	EXPENDITURES	OPERATING TRANSFERS AND REVENUE OTHER THAN LEVY	FUND BALANCE Contrib/(Use)	GROSS LEVY	STATE AID (CPA)	CERTIFIED LEVY
Regional Rail Authority	\$891,800	\$231,800	\$0	\$660,000	\$0	\$660,000
Total Adopted Budget:	<u>\$891,800</u>	<u>\$231,800</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$660,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$660,000</u>
Total Washington County Regional Rail Adopted 2025 Levy:				<u>\$660,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$660,000</u>

Commissioner Clasen seconded the motion, and it was adopted 5-0 with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Miron, Kriesel, Bigham, Clasen, and Karwoski. Nays, none.

Resolution Consenting to the Adopted Property Tax Levy for the Washington County Community Development Agency Payable 2025

Commissioner Miron moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2024-155** as follows:

**RESOLUTION CONSENTING TO THE ADOPTED PROPERTY TAX
LEVY FOR THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY PAYABLE 2025**

Pursuant to Minnesota Statute section 469.033 subdivision 6, the Washington County Board of Commissioners hereby consents to the special tax levy of the Washington County Community Development Agency in an amount not to exceed:

Washington County Community Development Agency \$6,578,185

Commissioner Karwoski seconded the motion, and it was adopted 5-0 with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Miron, Kriesel, Bigham, Clasen, and Karwoski. Nays, none.

PUBLIC WORKS

Resolution to Adopt the 2025-2029 Capital Improvement Plan

Public Works Deputy Director Frank Ticknor presented the 2025-2029 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The CIP covers a five-year period and contains capital projects for the years 2025 through 2029. The projects in the CIP for 2025 are part of the 2025 adopted budget. It is a multi-year planning and budgeting tool that assists the county in prioritizing current and future needs. By state statute, any project that will be funded by bond proceeds is required to be included in the Capital Improvement Plan. Also included are projects primarily budgeted in the county's Capital Funds, Regional Rail fund, and Gold Line fund. The CIP includes major projects for buildings, roads, bridges, land, and transit projects. The CIP process includes a community comment period, public hearing, and formal adoption.

Mr. Ticknor noted that only projects with identified funding are included in the CIP. The CIP is external facing and other agencies, such as cities, use it for capital planning work. Therefore, this avoids a false expectation that a project may move forward without funding.

Mr. Ticknor presented a chart of the five-year cost of the CIP, which is slightly less than \$400 million. In 2027, the CIP outlines a bond issue of general obligation bonds of \$30 million.

Mr. Ticknor reported on CIP expenditures by categories. Parks & Land is 4% of total CIP expenditures, or \$17 million. This category includes capital investment or major maintenance activity in county parks and trails. Public Facilities is 15% of total CIP expenditures, or \$61 million. This category includes the construction, expansion, or major remodels of county buildings. It is noteworthy that the potential 2027 general obligation bond sale is included in the Public Facilities category. Road & Bridge is the largest share of projects at 81% of total costs, or \$321 million. This category includes road and bridge construction projects, standalone trail projects, the pavement preservation program, traffic signal program, as well as transit projects, such as the Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit project.

Mr. Ticknor reported on funding sources for CIP projects. The largest portion of funding comes from Intergovernmental Revenues at 51%, which includes various state funding sources, such as highway state aid, federal grants, and local contributions. The county Transportation Sales Tax also represents a major funding source over the next five years. Also included are a variety of smaller funding sources such as the county Wheelage Tax, Transmission Line Tax, Capital Repair Fund, Transportation Advancement Account, and Bond postings.

Mr. Ticknor reported that the CIP is developed with financial considerations, policy documents, city and township engagement, and technical review. On October 1, 2024, a detailed overview of the draft 2025-2029 CIP was released to cities, townships, watershed districts, and school districts. The CIP contains more than 90 projects or programs, representing more than \$399 million in planned investment in county infrastructure, and using a wide range of funding sources, both county and non-county funds. The CIP proposes to make investments in the county's parks and

lands, public facilities, trails, highways, bridges, and transit. Mr. Ticknor noted that sustainability is also built into the CIP.

Mr. Ticknor reported that the process to develop the five-year capital plan is open and transparent. The county began soliciting input and comments from local agencies in April and May, and released the draft 2025-2029 CIP for public comment in October. The county provided multiple ways for people to comment. Staff directly solicited comments from cities, townships, watershed districts and school districts, and provided a web portal where the plan could be downloaded and reviewed, with an option to submit comments online. A public hearing was held on November 19, 2024.

Mr. Ticknor reported that comments were received from the cities of Afton, Cottage Grove, Hugo, Lake Elmo, Marine on St. Croix, Oakdale, St. Mary's Point, Scandia, Stillwater, Woodbury, and Brown's Creek Watershed District. Response letters have been drafted and are published in today's board agenda packet.

Commissioner Clasen moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2024-156** as follows:

ADOPTION OF THE 2025-2029 WASHINGTON COUNTY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

WHEREAS, the Washington County Board of Commissioners has formulated the 2025-2029 Washington County Capital Improvement Plan, which covers a five-year period from the date of its adoption and sets forth the estimated schedule, timing, and details of the specific capital improvements by year, the estimated cost; the need for the particular improvement; and the sources of revenue to pay for the improvements; and

WHEREAS, the Washington County Board of Commissioners released the draft version of the proposed 2025-2029 Washington County Capital Improvement Plan to the communities of Washington County on October 1, 2024, for the purpose of receiving written comments; and

WHEREAS, the Washington County Board of Commissioners, after public notice, conducted a public hearing on November 19, 2024, for the purpose of receiving public comments on the proposed 2025-2029 Washington County Capital Improvement Plan; and

WHEREAS, in passing the aforesaid Plan, the County Board of Commissioners has considered the following for each project to be funded with Capital Improvement Bonds:

- 1) The condition of the County's existing infrastructure, including the projected need for repair or replacement;
- 2) the likely demand for the improvement;

- 3) the estimated cost of the improvement;
- 4) the available public resources;
- 5) the level of overlapping debt in the County;
- 6) the relative benefits and costs of alternative uses of the funds;
- 7) operating costs of the proposed improvements; and
- 8) alternatives for providing services more efficiently through shared facilities with other counties or local government units.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners adopts the 2025-2029 Washington County Capital Improvement Plan, which is attached hereto.

Commissioner Bigham seconded the motion, and it was adopted 5-0 with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Miron, Kriesel, Bigham, Clasen, and Karwoski. Nays, none.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioners reported on meetings and other events they attended. Please see archived livestreaming of the board meeting for full commissioner reports on the county's website washingtoncountymn.gov under "County Board of Commissioners."

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

No board correspondence was received.

RECOGNITION OF COMMISSIONER GARY KRIESEL, DISTRICT 3

Commissioner Kriesel has served as District 3 Commissioner for 20 years and is retiring from his duties as a commissioner of Washington County. Commissioner Karwoski read a letter to Commissioner Kriesel from his brother, Nile Kriesel. Fellow county commissioners, State Senators Karin Housley and Judy Seeberger, and Stillwater City Council Members Mike Polehna and Larry Odebrecht spoke at the board meeting, recognizing Commissioner Kriesel's accomplishments and service to the county and the Lower St. Croix Valley. Sen. Housley presented a senate resolution, and the County Board presented a plaque commending Commissioner Kriesel on his service to Washington County and District 3. Commissioner Kriesel thanked his family, fellow commissioners, county staff, and community partners.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Kriesel moved to adjourn. Commissioner Miron seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously.

The County Board meeting adjourned at 11:22 a.m.



Attest:

Kevin Corbid

Kevin Corbid
County Administrator

Stan Karwoski

Stan Karwoski
County Board Chair