

# 2018 Proposed SCALE Legislative Platform

Prior Lake City Hall  
*February 9, 2018*

# Government Without Borders

Working Together to Strengthen Each Other

The mission of the Scott County Association for Leadership and Efficiency (SCALE) is to forge new and innovative ways in which government entities can collaborate to provide superior services while making the most of limited resources.



# SCALE

## Top Legislative Priority Areas



- The 2018 session is expected to focus on a capital investment (bonding) bill and policy issues. Therefore, SCALE recommends the following priorities:

# SCALE

Working together for improved capital investments.



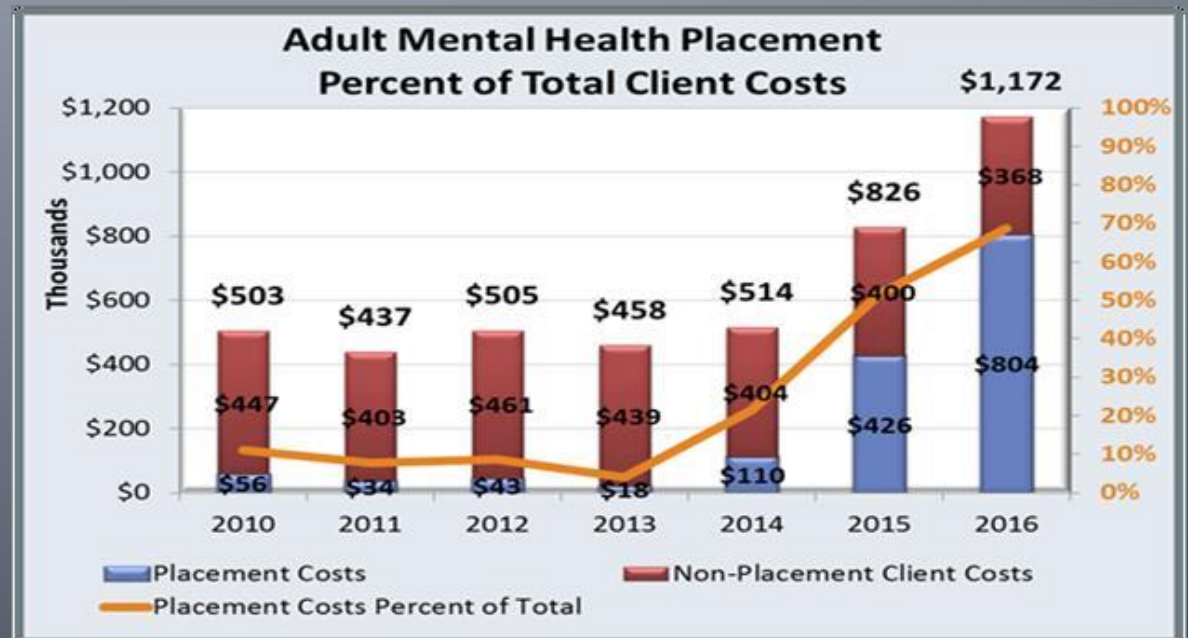
- SCALE supports the \$27 million state bonding request from Scott, Dakota, and Hennepin counties for a new Medical Examiner's Facility.
- \$2.68 million was approved in the bonding bill for design of the facility in 2017.

# SCALE

## Mental Health Facilities

- SCALE supports bonding for infrastructure to serve the mentally ill, including an increase in the number of mental health crisis beds.

- An intensive Residential Treatment Services (IRTS) facility proposed in Scott County will be seeking a State grant for \$1.4 million.



# SCALE

Working together for improved capital investments



- SCALE supports adequate funding for local flood mitigation needs.
- The backlog of projects requesting funds is significant and Jordan and Prior Lake/Spring Lake Watershed District will soon have projects in need of funding.

# SCALE

A better transportation system.



- SCALE supports additional funding for the suburb-to-suburb bus transit program.
- Suburban Transit is requesting \$3.5 million for new buses. Of that amount, approximately \$3 million would be used to replace buses used by MVTA for the suburb –to-suburb transit program.

# SCALE

Improving transportation policies.



- SCALE supports the elimination of all legislative restrictions on the Dan Patch commuter corridor to allow the review of transportation opportunities in the corridor.
- The current policy strikes Scott County officials as undemocratic since it restricts the opportunity for State and MnDOT officials to even discuss the corridor.



# SCALE

## Improving housing policies



SCALE supports changing the square footage requirements for “workforce housing” units so they do not have to be larger than units in demand in the marketplace.

The SCALE 50 by 30 Housing Working Group has recommended this change. The requirements are currently in Rules, but legislation could override the rule.

# SCALE

Improving transportation policies.



- SCALE supports changing the condemnation process to require property owners, in cases where negotiations have failed to reach agreement and the property owner has hired an appraiser, to disclose their appraisal prior to the deadline for the governmental agency to make its final written offer. (Alternatively, the owner's appraisal should be submitted at least 30 days before a condemnation commissioner's hearing.)

# SCALE

Better governance.



- SCALE supports changing the Metropolitan Council governance model so its members are elected officials in conformance with recommendations from the alliance of local governments.

# 2017 SCALE priorities needing legislative attention

Review of SCALE legislative priorities from 2017

# SCALE

## Working together for improved infrastructure



- SCALE supports additional general obligation bonding dollars for local roads and bridges, including the County and Municipal Turnback Accounts.

SCALE supports addressing deficiencies in the state's transportation infrastructure. SCALE supports additional funding for road projects that impact economic development (Corridors for Commerce, TED funds).

SCALE supports adequate funding for the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) to buy wetland replacement credits for the local road wetland replacement program.

# SCALE

A better Minnesota.



- SCALE supports the bonding request for Metro Parks.
- SCALE supports the request from Shakopee for \$400,000 in general fund bonds for design and construction of a multimodal outdoor recreation trail bridge on the Minnesota Valley Trail in Shakopee.

# SCALE

A better Minnesota.



- SCALE supports additional funding for costs associated with foster care and out-of-home placement, including the extra costs for local law enforcement and County Attorneys related to child abuse cases.



# SCALE

A better Minnesota.



- SCALE supports additional efforts to ensure students are able to read by third grade.
- SCALE supports early childhood education scholarships targeted for at-risk children, as well as funding for parent education and home visitation programs for at-risk families.



# SCALE

A better Minnesota.



- SCALE requests the state to address the inadequacies in the MN Eligibility Technology System (METS).

# SCALE

A better Minnesota.



- SCALE seeks to retain the current Legacy funding formulas for parks and trails.

# SCALE