

Scott County

2018-2019 Residents Report



Accurate 911 Addresses
Mean Quicker Response Times

Birth to Five Program
Focuses On Kids In Need

Transportation Sales Tax
Moves Projects Forward



Lezlie Vermillion
Scott County Administrator

“As always, our goal is to have all of our residents feel we do an excellent job of communicating with them.” Lezlie Vermillion

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Help our citizens’ rating reach 100 percent for excellent or good communication



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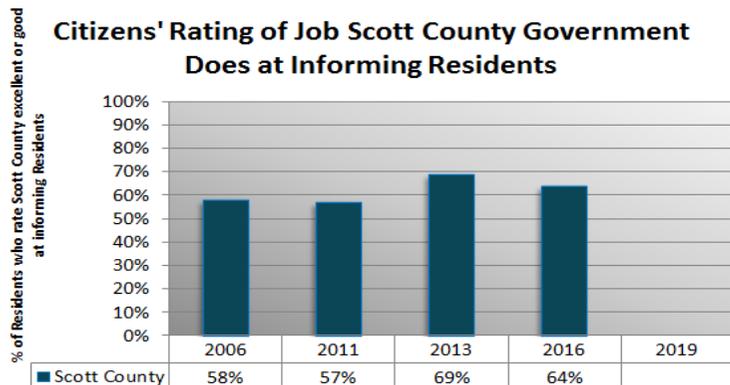
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Planning For The Future

Over the past three years, the County has focused on providing a “Safe, Healthy, and Livable Community” through six community objectives:

1. **Mental Health:** Residents will have access to an array of services to meet the needs of our community
2. **Caring for our Most Vulnerable:** Protecting, supporting, and meeting their needs
3. **Community Design:** Advancing livability through the 2040 Comprehensive Plan
4. **21st Century Workforce:** Fostering a strong local economy through a variety of employment options and educational opportunities
5. **Early Childhood Development:** All children have the opportunity for a healthy and successful life
6. **Responsible Government:** Providing accountable, innovative, and efficient programs and services

In reviewing our 2017-19 Strategic Plan, many of the tactics developed with our partners and the public to address these objectives have been, or are nearly completed. For example, work on the Mental Health objective has resulted in the implementation of Treatment Court, the restructuring of crisis services, and planning for an Intensive Residential Treatment Center that will be constructed in 2019. You will see how other objectives are being met and measured as you read the articles and review the graphs in this report. Delivering What Matters is about providing good information, making decisions based on data, and being transparent in what we do as an organization.



As we look forward to updating our Strategic Plan in 2019, we will be conducting our tri-year Residents Survey. The survey will be sent to over 500 residents in each Commissioner District. We do this survey with four other counties for comparison and cost saving measures. If you receive a survey, please take the time to complete it. If you don't receive a mailed survey, an online option will be available.

Communication needs to be a two-way street; we are reporting here on some of our recent initiatives, and we want to hear from you to ensure we are Delivering What Matters. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out and ask.

Lezlie Vermillion
County Administrator

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ResQCPR System™ To The Rescue



Scott County Deputies (*Left to Right*) Mike Turek and Matt Larson used the ResQPUMP to save a local gun club member.

Sheriff's Office Implements Latest in CPR Technology

In the few minutes it takes to read this article, a victim of sudden cardiac arrest will begin to lose oxygen to the brain. Unless immediate, quality cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) compressions are administered, brain activity quickly shuts down, and the victim dies. It is a race against time, not only to get the heart started again, but to make sure there is continuous blood flow to all parts of the body.

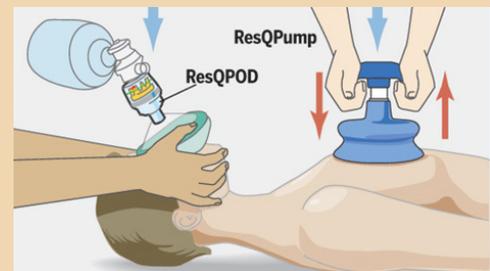
In some circumstances, an automated external defibrillator (AED) can shock the heart back into its rhythm, but it is essential that bystanders and trained first responders administer CPR. The combination of chest compressions and blowing air into the victim's mouth forces blood through the body in an attempt to keep vital organs functioning. However, CPR does have its complications. Even highly trained professionals administering CPR can have human error. Compressions can be too slow or too fast, too deep or too shallow, or there can be too much ventilation. These

ResQPOD™ stops unnecessary air from entering the body

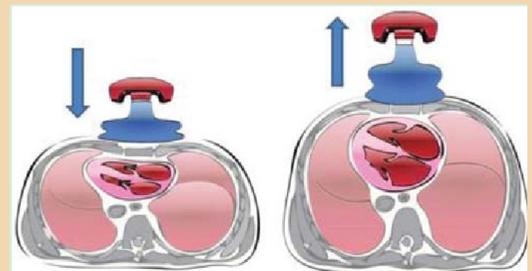
ResQPUMP™ regulates the compression rate, and chest wall recoil



The device fully inflates the chest and ensures proper blood circulation



ResQCPR System™ doubles the blood flow rate from 30 percent in conventional CPR to 60 percent



inefficiencies can influence the likelihood of survival.

A new CPR system is now available to combat these inadequacies: the ResQCPR System™. The two - part device combines suction and decreased ventilation to fully inflate the chest and ensure proper blood circulation during a sudden cardiac arrest.

The ResQPUMP™, the suction cup portion of the device, contains a metronome beep to help users obtain the appropriate compression rate. The device is designed

to recoil the chest wall slightly above the normal level to help boost circulation.

The ResQPOD™, the mouthpiece, stops unnecessary air from entering the body. Serving as a buffer between the patient’s mask and the air bag, the mouthpiece lights up when a patient needs air, preventing over-ventilation.

While conventional CPR increases blood flow by 30 percent, the ResQCPR System™ doubles the blood flow rate to 60 percent. The ResQCPR System™ is the only CPR device approved by the FDA to improve the likelihood of survival in adults who have experienced non-traumatic sudden cardiac arrest and has been shown to improve survival rates by nearly 50%. It is the same device that Hennepin County Medical Center (HCMC) uses in its emergency rooms.

In the past year, the Sheriff’s Office has received 20 ResQCPR Systems™ through contributions from private donors. “Private donations such as these have become indispensable, allowing the Sheriff’s Office to acquire ever-more sophisticated tools needed to respond to incidents and emergency situations more effectively,” said Sheriff Luke Hennen. “The devices are now available in all our patrol vehicles, as well as in the Government Center.”

The ResQCPR System™ has already been used successfully in three different incidents in Scott County involving cardiac arrest. In all three instances,

the victims had return of heartbeat, blood circulation, and breathing prior to being transported to a hospital.

In one such instance, the use of the ResQCPR System™ and the collaboration among bystanders, 911 dispatch, responding law enforcement, and Emergency Medical Services (ambulance and fire department) was critical when a member of a local gun club suddenly collapsed.

Quick thinking bystanders called 911 and, with the help of dispatchers, began conventional CPR. Three bystanders rotated between giving chest compressions and rescue breaths. The individual had gone into full cardiac arrest and did not have a pulse when deputies arrived. They continued chest compressions with the ResQPUMP™ and shocked the victim with an AED. They provided further care on the airway with the ResQPOD™, and another AED shock was administered. The Prior Lake Fire Department and paramedics arrived and continued care of the victim. The victim had a pulse and was starting to breathe on his own prior to being transported to the hospital.

This collaboration of care, in addition to using the latest in resuscitation technology, was essential to the victim’s survival, and it is because of these immediate life-saving actions that he survived.

“Having the appropriate equipment is critical when responding to life-threatening situations,” said Sheriff

Hennen. “Community-based funding from private donors who support our mission through volunteerism, cash donations, and in-kind services and products allow the Sheriff’s Office access to innovative technology and services that further our ability to serve Scott County’s public safety and community needs, while minimizing the burden on taxpayers,” he added.

To learn more about our community partnerships and initiatives, please contact Sgt. Ken Dvorak: kdvorak@co.scott.mn.us or 952-496-8722.



In 2017, Prior Lake Firefighter Tyler Fink (**Left**) and Prior Lake Police Officers Matt Nardo (**Right**) and Scott Johnson (not pictured) used the ResQPUMP to save Steven Mohs (**Middle**) when he collapsed while riding his bicycle in Credit River Township.

“Prepared when responding to emergencies.”



Help Is On The Way



Accurate Address Information Means Quicker 911 Response Rates

Imagine driving down a gravel road in rural Scott County late one night when a deer jumps in front of your car. You swerve to avoid the full impact of toppling the deer but in doing so drive off the road and hit a fence pole. You suffer minor injuries but your passenger is in need of serious medical attention. You have no idea where you are exactly, but you see an address on a mailbox across the road. You call 911 and report your location. Help is on the way. Later, you learn that getting that address to 911 dispatch was critical to ensuring a rapid response for emergency services.

Incidents like this – which happen all too often around the County – demonstrate the importance of accurate address information.

“Because emergency dispatch pulls directly from our GIS database it is important we have accurate data so the police, fire and medical teams can have a fast response to an address,” said Jason Allen, the County’s addressing coordinator. “If we don’t have accurate data, response time could be increased and someone’s life could be in danger.”



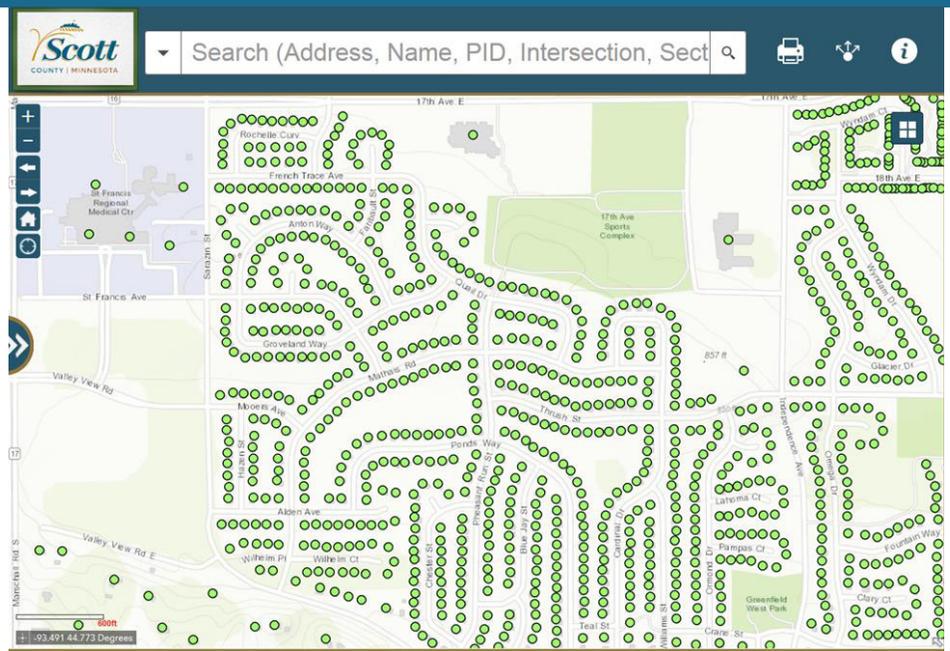
“The County’s initiative to provide safe communities makes addressing very important to me” - Jason Allen

Currently, there are about 53,000 addresses (or address points) in Scott County. The ability for local staff to verify an accurate list of all site addresses in places like Elko New Market or Belle Plaine – farm, home, or business – was greatly improved a few years ago with the development of a new countywide address database. This on-line database is the authoritative, one-stop location for city, tribal, and township address

information in the County. The database can be accessed and updated by local addressing staff at any time, from any place, using a web application.

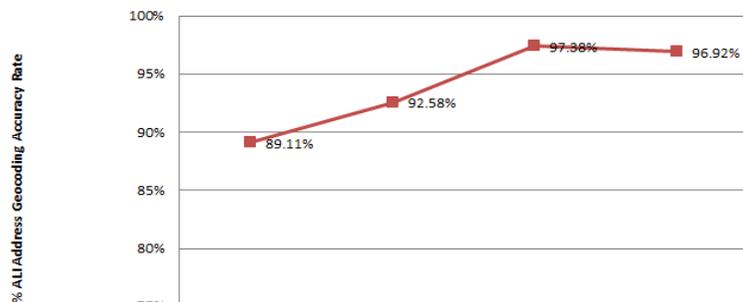
The creation of this database took a couple of years for County, city, and tribal staff to move, create, or verify site address information for every property and building in the County. In the old system, staff could only assign one address per parcel (which was a problem for apartments and strip malls with several addresses on a parcel). The new system can store multiple addresses for one property.

Neighboring Dakota and Carver counties also use the same web application to enter and store address information. The payoff for this collaborative effort to build a single site address database is starting to materialize. Given the rapid pace of development and number of new lots platted across the County in recent years, it has become more efficient for local staff to assign address information on the web application, which is integrated and shared with other software systems in real time.



Screen shot of some of the 53,000 address points in the County's GIS database

Accuracy of County Locational Data for E911 Dispatch



Over the past three years, the accuracy of dispatching emergency personnel to an address has improved as each jurisdiction works from a single, shared database.

“There are real benefits of having all addressing data in one database that can be used by any local jurisdiction,” said Allen. “We can ensure consistency in naming standards and conventions, and make sure addresses are assigned, updated or changed in a timelier manner.” - Jason Allen

The Metropolitan Emergency Services Board (MESB) was formed by metro counties 30 years ago to manage the 911 system at the regional level. The MESB ensures 911 calls get delivered to the correct dispatch center with accurate caller information. When 911 calls are made by land line telephones, the Automatic Location Identification (ALI) compares the phone's address with the 911 center's displayed address. When a 911 call is received at an incorrect dispatch center or the caller location is in error, it is reported as an ALI error. The industry standard is to have accurate location information for 99.5 percent of 911 calls. But even that small number of errors can be critical, especially in situations where someone can't speak due to a medical condition, is being threatened or is in fear of being heard on the phone. County GIS and Addressing staff worked diligently to reduce the number of ALI errors. Collectively, by correcting address irregularities and street range information in the GIS database, staff reduced the number of errors from 10 percent down to three percent. They continue to strive toward zero percent.

“Quick response to emergency situations provides safe communities.”



Overcoming Addiction & Looking To The Future

Health and Human Services is Improving Safety for Our Youngest, Most Vulnerable Children with the “Birth to Five” (B25) Program

In 2016, Scott County Health & Human Services leaders became concerned about a growing number of infants and young children who were experiencing abuse or neglect by parents who were actively using alcohol or drugs. That year, approximately one-third of all families referred for ongoing child protection services involved children ages birth to five whose parents were struggling with substance abuse. In 2017, that percentage increased to almost 50 percent of all new cases opened for services. Of equal concern was the growing number of the children who required permanent placements, often with relatives, when parents were unable to address their addictions within the timelines allowed under the law.

Statewide, the data trends were similar. In a news release in December 2017, the Minnesota Department of Human Services identified that parental substance abuse was, for the first time, the most frequently cited primary reason for referrals to child protection. The Minnesota Human Services Commissioner Emily Piper



The B25 Multidisciplinary Team, led by Child Protection and Public Health, is dedicated to helping parents be sober so families can be together safely.

stated that “substance abuse has reached a crisis in Minnesota” and “to protect and safely care for children, we must act quickly to help parents work through their struggles and overcome their addiction.”

In these families, most parents were very young themselves, and many had been using drugs since they were adolescents. Children had been prenatally exposed, or had experienced inconsistent or unsafe parenting. Often, relatives were angry, worried, and struggling to balance caring for the needs of the parents and the children.

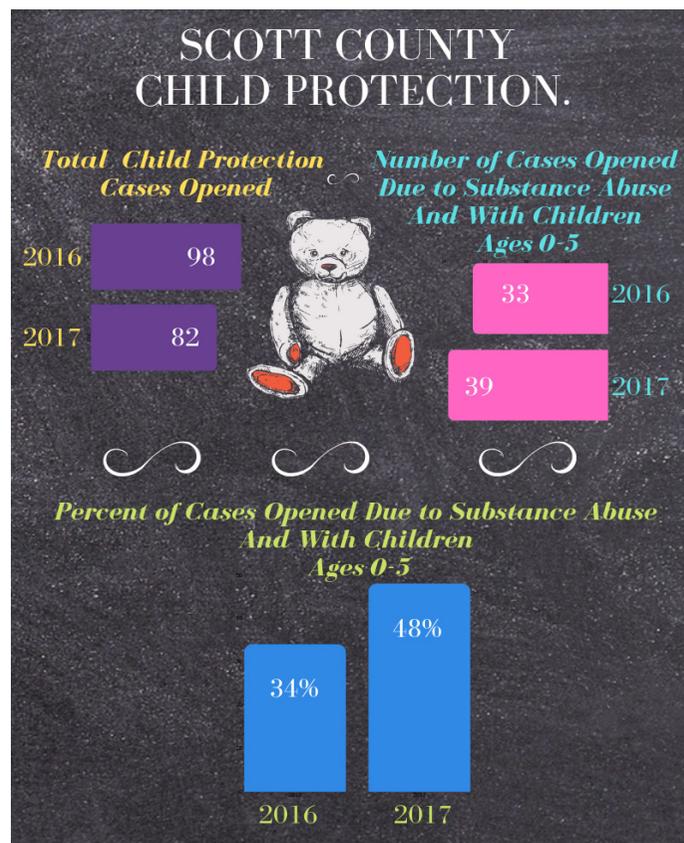
Scott County Health & Human Services responded in two ways. In 2017, four experienced child protection workers were reassigned to work exclusively with these families. The program, called the “B25 (Birth to Five) Program” consists of specialized caseloads with the premise of several advantages:

*“Bringing the old me back”
A personal story from “Katie”*

“Katie” was a young mother whose daughter was placed in foster care because Katie was using heroin and was not able to safely care for her baby. Katie was also pregnant, and her second child was born while she was in treatment.

Today, Katie is in recovery and has worked with a B25 social worker for 18 months. Katie said she is most proud of how she “completed six months of treatment, got housing, set goals, and kept fulfilling them.” She used her resources to do this and she said Child Protective Services (CPS) was one of those resources. When asked what was most helpful to her and her children, Katie said, “In the beginning, I hated CPS for taking my kids and being a hassle in my life. I thought I was fine.” She said, “You guys helped me see what I couldn’t see.” She said this was done through building a positive relationship with her social worker and said, “she became my support person.” She added, “She also helped me build up my relationship with my family. By telling me to build a network of healthy support,” Katie said she was able to repair broken relationships. Katie and her family would say that CPS “changed me and brought the old me back.”

What difference did all of this make for her children? Katie said she is no longer focused on the past issues and “now I can focus on the future and can build a stable life.” She said her children now have a “strong mom who is there for them and not lost in my own self.”



- Caseworkers had more time to spend with families, often multiple times per week. They were able to provide more direct, hands-on help to parents who were trying to enter treatment. Families also said that workers were more available and accessible to them before and after treatment.
- Caseworkers became familiar with chemical dependency treatment centers and staff. They could help anticipate and remove any barriers to treatment, including gaps or delays in arranging visits with their children.
- Caseworkers who were immersed in work with young children became more attuned to child developmental needs or delays commonly associated with prenatal drug exposure, leading to more timely referrals and expedited services.
- Caseworkers worked intensely with extended family members, helping them understand and recognize signs of relapse and empowering them to care for younger generations. Relatives became involved in caring for children, planning for their eventual return to parents, but also planning for a safe future even if children needed to be cared for by someone else permanently.

Then, in 2018, the agency convened a multi-disciplinary team that included County and community partners. Original participants included health care providers, law enforcement officers; prevention and early intervention programs; representatives from the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community, domestic violence prevention advocates, Community Corrections representatives, Mental Health Center staff, the Scott County Attorney's Office, Public Health, and Health & Human Services representatives.

Best hopes for a community response includes:

- *Community services to keep children safe, their parents sober, and families together safely*
- *Professionals who are knowledgeable about trauma, child development, addiction and recovery*
- *Structures to support communication, safety planning, and coordinated treatment planning*

The team identified three starting points for work that would move Scott County toward reaching that best hope:

1. Improve communication and coordination among professionals working with the same families so treatment plans made sense and gave parents the best chances at being successful.
2. Strengthen prevention and early intervention services, including increasing public awareness of the dangers of prenatal exposure and knowledge of access points for treatment.
3. Enhance existing child safety interventions, including the development of new protocols for safely discharging babies born positive for drugs and alcohol.

The work of this team is just getting underway, but it is encouraging to see broad community involvement in a shared vision and joint work to increase safety for our youngest and most vulnerable children and their families.



"Children are protected and their basic needs are met."

...And The Survey Says

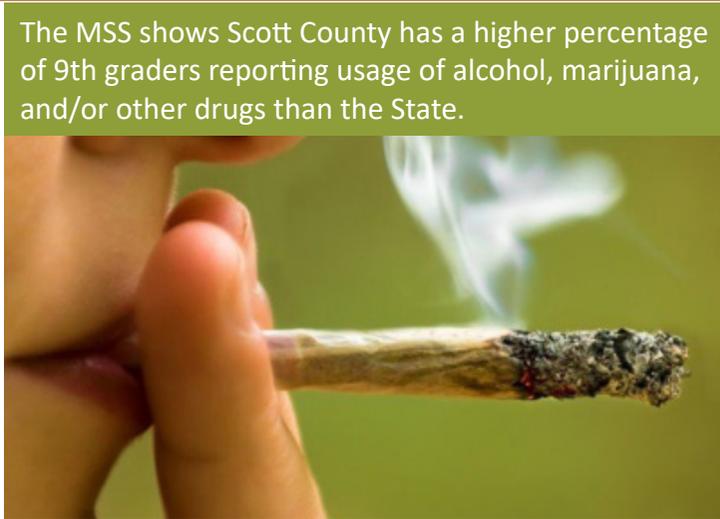
Between July and September 2018, Scott County Public Health conducted a survey asking residents for the top issues affecting the health of our community. Over 1,100 residents completed the survey at various community locations, such as the Government Center, the Workforce Development Center, laundromats, ethnic grocery stores, the County Fair, community festivals, and Project Community Connect. Survey results show alcohol and drug abuse by youth was selected the most often (466 responses out of 1,125). An additional 317 survey respondents cited alcohol and drug use by adults as a top health issue. Alcohol, tobacco and drug use and abuse is the number one concern in the County, with 1,150 mentions in total.

Top Health Issues in Scott County



Community Health Priorities

Community Health Boards are required to conduct a community health assessment every five years, and develop a community health improvement plan with input from the public. The assessment is essential to improving and promoting the health of the community. The goal is to describe the health of the community using existing data sources, and understand factors that are challenges to good health. A variety of sources- from the Minnesota Department of Health, the Centers for Disease Control, the Minnesota Student Survey (MSS), and the Census to name a few - are used for the more formal review of published health data. Additionally, for the first time, Scott County Public Health conducted a ten-year analysis of leading causes of death.



The MSS shows Scott County has a higher percentage of 9th graders reporting usage of alcohol, marijuana, and/or other drugs than the State.

So how are we really doing in Scott County?

Between 2014 and 2017, EMS calls for overdoses for Scott County residents increased by 66 percent from 204 to 339. Between 2014 and 2016, Scott County had a drug overdose mortality rate of 6 percent (26 deaths) while the rate for Minnesota was 11 percent (1,770 deaths). In 2016, the percentage of adults reporting binge or heavy drinking in Scott County was 21 percent, just 2 percentage points lower than the rate for Minnesota (23 percent), which was among the poor performers nationwide. Between 2012 and 2016, the rate of driving deaths attributed to alcohol impairment was 29 percent in Scott County, and 30 percent for Minnesota, which was also among the poor performers nationwide. According to the MSS, Scott County had a higher percentage of 9th graders reporting usage of alcohol, marijuana, and/or other drugs than the state. Additionally, 11th graders who report using chewing tobacco in Scott County is more than double the state average. The number of 11th grade girls who reported any tobacco use doubled between 2013 and 2016, and is higher than the state for e-cigarette use.

Why does this matter?

Most of the adverse health consequences of substance abuse result in diseases and premature deaths. About 28 percent of all deaths annually can be traced to the use of tobacco, alcohol, or illicit drugs. Of these deaths, tobacco is directly responsible for the largest share. Alcohol and illicit drugs also lead to death directly, but are more likely to contribute to a fatal accident or homicide. Death from substance abuse is more likely to occur as an adult from substance use that began in adolescence.

Next steps

The community health assessment helps ensure that local resources are directed toward where they can make the greatest and most timely impact. It also provides the opportunity for community leaders, organizations, and residents to discuss priority issues for creating good health. After reviewing all the data, the next step is to identify strategic community health issues, where the community resources exist, and where works needs to be done. A

community health improvement plan is developed collaboratively with multiple community partners. It defines a vision for the community's health, and identifies goals and actions steps needed to address specific health issues.

Contact Scott County Public Health at 952-496-8555 for more information.

"Access to healthy choices" reduce preventable deaths

Top 10 causes of death in Scott County 2007-2016

1. Cancer*
2. Heart Disease*
3. Stroke*
4. Respiratory diseases*
5. Accidents*
6. Diabetes
7. Alzheimer's
8. Hypertension
9. Suicide*
10. Liver disease and cirrhosis *

*Can be influenced by alcohol, tobacco, and drug use

No Place Like Home



Scott County Helps Seniors Stay At Home

Sandra Bennett is grateful to be living in her own townhome in Savage. With limited mobility due to health problems, she believes she would be living in assisted living or a nursing home without services coordinated through Scott County.

“I’m so impressed with the way Scott County is administrated and works so well,” said a thankful Bennett, who was at first hesitant to accept services that assist her with daily living and health care. “I didn’t want to take resources from someone else, but I had worked in the community for a long time and I realized it was time to accept services to be able to stay in my home.”

Mary Yaeger of Prior Lake felt the same way. She said you have to get over your pride to accept services, “but they are critical to keeping me in my apartment.”

Both women began receiving health care and in-home assistance after health setbacks. Yaeger had surgery on her back last June, and following a two-month stay at St. Gertrude’s Health and Rehabilitation Center in Shakopee, she was able to come home because of services coordinated by a nurse. While recovering, she received occupational and physical therapy, a home health aide to assist

Top: Sandra Bennett with Scott County Case Manager Mikayla Meyer, RN, reviewing services needed to stay living in her home.

Bottom: Mary Yaeger recovered from back surgery at home with Alternative Care services.

Support Options For Seniors

Call Home and
Community Care
Intake for help
952-496-8556

MnCHOICE Assessments

Social workers
and nurses find resources
that help people stay in
their homes.

Alternative Care (AC) Program

Funding for
home care for people
over 65 with modest
income and assets.

Elderly Waiver (EW) Program

Assistance for
people over 65, who
qualify for MA and have
been assessed as needing
nursing home level
care.

with showers, and a weekly housekeeper. She was also able to access safety equipment for the bathroom, as well as a walker and cane.

“I think the Alternative Care program is wonderful,” said Yaeger. “I’m so glad the County and State have something to help us out. Of course, they want to keep us at home because it’s less expensive than housing us in another facility.”

Bennett has also had numerous spine surgeries which limit her mobility, plus she has struggled with lupus. Eight years ago, she saw an article about Scott County’s Chore program, which matches County volunteers with people who need services. She had a minor plumbing issue and decided to seek help. The volunteer not only fixed her plumbing issue, but also told her about all the other services Scott County has available to assist people with disabilities. After an assessment by a public health nurse, she was enrolled in the alternative care program, “and it is a wonderful service,” said Bennett, who is homebound in a wheelchair and really enjoys visits from County staffer Mikayla Meyer, a registered nurse. Meyer serves as her case manager, and as Bennett said, “she hit the ground running to organize everything for me.”

Bennett receives skilled nursing services, a bath aide, housekeeping services, and additional services following hospitalizations. Meyer also assists her with filling out insurance reimbursement forms, or will coordinate assistance. Meyer explained that Bennett is a recipient of the Alternative Care program, but some of the services are income-based and she doesn’t qualify for all of them.

Meyer also assists in connecting Bennett and other clients to additional services, such as those that provide food and transportation. For example, because she is unable to cook, Bennet has frozen meals delivered that can be heated in the microwave. She uses Metro Mobility when she needs to get places, and she has learned to use Alexa’s adaptive

technology for turning on lights and adjusting her thermostat. “You learn to adapt,” said Bennett.

Yaeger said she used to manage senior housing and she now lives in senior housing herself. “I tell people about these services because they are so helpful and necessary for staying at home,” she said. “The services are available, but people have to access them.”



Scott County Protects Our Vulnerable Adults

Are you concerned about a vulnerable adult?

The Scott County Adult Protective Services Unit investigates reports of physical, emotional, sexual, and financial

abuse to vulnerable adults living in Scott County community settings. After an investigation, the unit collaborates with several partners, such as Public Health, Law Enforcement, and home care agencies to provide protective services and community support to the vulnerable adult.

Some examples of maltreatment include:

- The use of restraints, involuntary seclusion, or punishment.
- A caregivers failure to provide necessary food, shelter, clothing, healthcare or supervision for an adult who cannot meet their own needs.
- Taking or withholding money or property of a vulnerable adult.

If you suspect maltreatment of a vulnerable adult contact the 24 hour a day/7 day a week MN Adult Reporting Center at 1-844-880-1574.

More information at: Home and Community Care Intake www.scottcountymn.gov/925/Program-and-Services-Options-for-Seniors or call 952 496-8556.

“Elderly can live at home with whatever support they need.”

Readmobile

• • **Scott County Library** • •

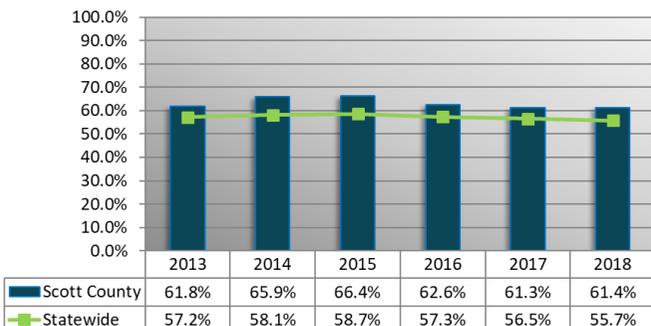


Readmobile Reaches Out to Early Learners and Parents

At 32 feet long and brightly painted, the Scott County Readmobile is difficult to miss when it is coming down the road or sitting in a parking lot hosting visits. Its interior is filled with shelves of children’s books and activities as well as staff trained to teach reading, science, math, and other skills.

Scott County has a free public library loaded with resources in each of its cities, but the Readmobile doesn’t wait for patrons to come to it -- it goes to them, providing an intimate setting to connect with children, parents, and caregivers. “The kids who visit the Readmobile really love it,” said Ally Addison, a Scott County librarian who specializes in early learning and outreach. Addison wears multiple hats in her work with the Readmobile, driving it through snow and slush, sitting inside on the floor in a reading circle with preschoolers, helping older youth with book selection and homework, and visiting with parents and caregivers about reading to their children.

% of 3rd Grade Students Achieving Reading Standards



With one-third of Scott County children not reading at grade level, the Readmobile is just one tactic of a community plan to prepare children for success in school.



Ally Addison and Moises Delatorre getting ready to hit the road.

Ally helps a Readmobile visitor pick out a book.



A young boy and his mom decide which books to check out.



Library aide Luna Zauhar helps visitors assemble a skeleton puzzle.

Last summer, Addison received regular assistance from Luna Zauhar, a library aide fluent in Spanish who headed off to college in the fall. After her departure, Moises Delatorre, a bilingual teacher and community volunteer from Shakopee, was hired to work half-time with learning and outreach. He also works with Scott County's Statewide Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP) to promote healthy living.



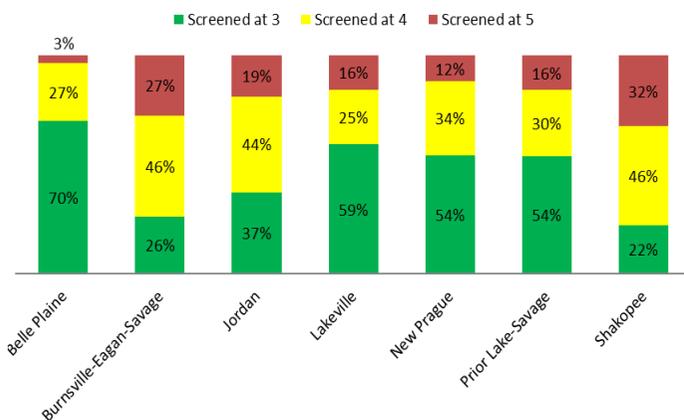
From the Readmobile's inaugural trip in March through August, library staff logged 1,704 visitors during 88 outings. Stops included events in Elko New Market, Jordan, and New Prague, as well as regular stops at the CAP Agency and mobile home communities.

Jacob Grussing, Scott County Library Director, was the person who actively pursued funding for the Readmobile. His efforts were successful, with the County receiving a \$50,000 grant from the Shakopee Mdwakanton Sioux Community and \$135,000 from the Diane J. Sachs Trust. Sachs, a Wisconsin woman who died in 2015, had a sister-in-law, Maggie Morgan, who served as the first library director in Scott County.

Early learning is a high priority for Scott County staff, especially at the libraries where they have an early childhood curriculum that focuses on "Read, Write, Learn, Talk, Sing, and Play." And that's what they do in the Readmobile, using 12 rotating weekly themes that were developed with assistance from County staff in public health, child care licensing, and children's services.

With the funding secured, the vehicle was designed and ordered. Once it arrived in Scott County in November 2017, the vehicle was stocked with library books, educational toys, information about resources available through the County, healthy snacks provided by SHIP, and some giveaway Usborne books donated by the Siders Foundation. Grussing adds, "Third-grade reading proficiency is one indication of how we've done as a community of parents, caregivers, neighbors, and service providers at trying to give children that opportunity. Whether it's on the Readmobile or in a library at an early literacy class, the library is focused on how to support families in achieving that goal."

2017 Early Childhood Screening Rates by Age



"Excellent schools and educational opportunities."

Scott County Regional Parks

Have Something For Everyone



Spring Lake Regional Park



Cleary Lake Regional Park



Murphy-Hanrehan Park Reserve



Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park

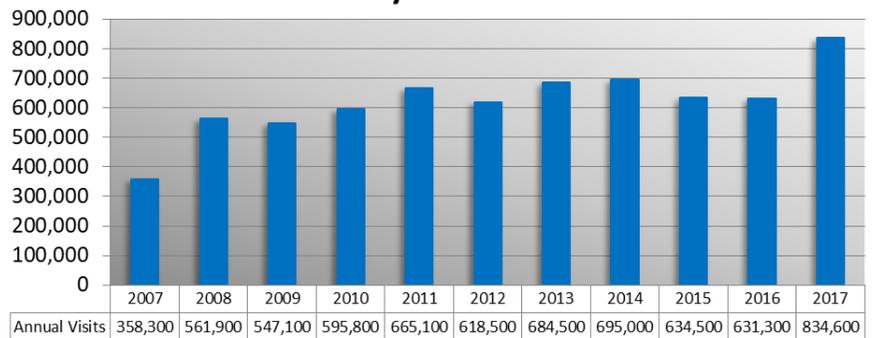
Scott County is home to Cleary Lake, Spring Lake, and Cedar Lake Farm regional parks, as well as Murphy-Hanrehan Park Reserve, The Landing, and Scott West Regional Trail. Under a joint powers agreement, Scott County and Three Rivers Park District combine resources to collectively operate all regional parks and trails in the County. With all these parks, it is easy to find something for everyone, including your four-legged friends!

Happy people -- and really happy dogs -- is what you find at dog parks.

No matter the time of year, dog parks are among the most popular features at Cleary Lake, Spring Lake Regional Parks, and Murphy-Hanrehan Park Reserve.

“We can never be out (in the dog park) long enough for them,” said Gretchen Allickson as she pointed at the dogs she brought to the park to run and frolic with each other and other dogs. The Prior Lake resident said they try to come weekly, and usually spend an hour and a half walking through the 28-acre fenced dog park at Cleary Lake Regional Park.

Annual Visits to Regional Park and Trail System in Scott County 2007 - 2017



Source: Metropolitan Council Annual Use Estimates of the Metropolitan Regional Park System



in partnership with



Gretchen Allickson and friends



“This is by far my favorite dog park in the Metro area,” said Allickson. “It’s such a nice size, it’s well maintained, the water is separate so the dogs get wet only if you let them into that area, and all the

people and dogs here are friendly.” She said even when she lived in Bloomington she would still drive to the rural Prior Lake park to walk her dogs.

Mike Elling, who lives near the Scott County border, brings his two labs to Cleary Lake Park almost daily, often with his wife or daughters. “It’s a good walk for us and the dogs,” said Elling, who enjoys the outdoors. He has a younger dog that is full of energy and an older one that is slower but still enjoys poking around outside.

“It’s really nice for them to be off leash,” he said, adding that there is “a whole community out at the dog park” so both the dog owners and dogs can socialize.

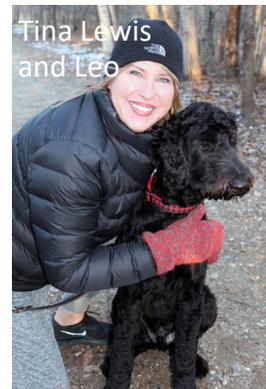
The dog park at Spring Lake Regional Park still seems to be somewhat of a secret in the County, says Patty Freeman, General Manager of Scott County Regional Parks and Trails. “I would encourage people to come out and visit the different dog parks because they each offer a different experience and setting,” she said.

The Spring Lake dog park opened in 2013 and has a

separate small dog area. The Murphy-Hanrehan dog park in Savage opened in 2015. “Both sites are really beautiful and I hope more people can discover them,” said Freeman. The parks are operated under a joint powers agreement between Scott County and Three Rivers Park District and are open daily from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Dogs in the unleashed area must be under control at all times. A dog is considered under control if it will come when called. Some owners of less disciplined dogs keep them on a leash. Dogs on a six-foot non-retractable leash are allowed on all paved park trails without a permit unless otherwise posted. Use of the regular trails in the parks is free. Owners using the off-leash dog parks must pay a \$6.50 daily fee, or purchase a \$45 seasonal permit.

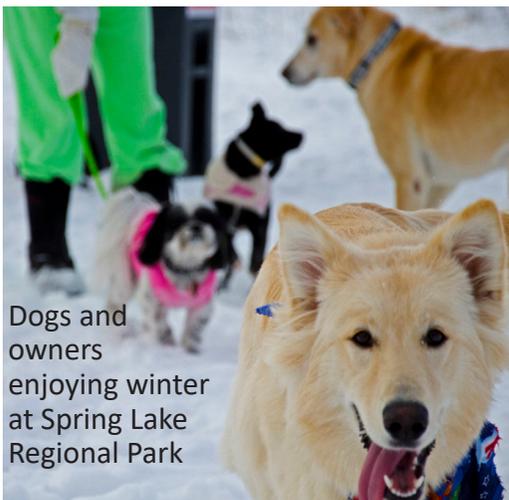
Dog owners must clean up after their dogs, and there are disposable plastic bags and trash cans available to assist them with this task. Dogs using the parks must also have current rabies vaccinations.



Tina Lewis and Leo

Tina Lewis, a Lakeville resident who visits the Cleary Lake dog park almost daily with her golden doodle, Leo, said the dog park is good for both her and her dog. “It’s so beautiful out here,” she said as she waited for a friend who was going to walk with her. “We really appreciate this place.”

Jesse Johnson of Prior Lake agrees. He said the open space around his subdivision has disappeared because of development, “so this is a great option to let our dog run,” he commented as he and his daughter, Peyton, headed down a trail behind their dog.



Dogs and owners enjoying winter at Spring Lake Regional Park

Dog Parks

Open 5:00 am to 10:00 pm

- Cleary Lake Regional Park: 28 acres
- Murphy Hanrehan Park Reserve: 3 acres
- Spring Lake Regional Park: 9 acres for large dogs; 1 acre for small/frail dogs

Dog Park Permits

- Daily permit \$6.50; can be purchased on-site or online
- Seasonal permit \$45 plus tax; can be purchased online or at Cleary Lake Visitor Center
- Dogs on a six-foot non-retractable leash are allowed on all paved trails in the Regional Parks and do not need a dog park permit



Hitting The Trails

Cross country skiing provides an opportunity to exercise while enjoying nature.

Eric Spieler does not mind getting up on dark, cold winter mornings to go outdoors. In fact, he relishes it. An avid cross country skier, the Prior Lake man loves to head to the lighted 2.8 mile ski trail at Cleary Lake Regional Park where he can get a good morning workout and enjoy the peacefulness and beauty of nature.



Eric Spieler (at right) recruited friend Scott Heiserman to join him for a cross country ski outing at Cleary Lake Park.

“It’s unbelievable how beautiful those trails are in the mornings and evenings,” said Spieler, who is employed at Seagate in Shakopee. “I see a lot of wildlife, including deer, opossums, squirrels, and birds. One time I even had a skunk ahead of me on the trail.” Fortunately, he avoided upsetting it.

Spieler started cross country skiing in 1986 and joined the Burnsville High School team. Now he really appreciates the trails in the Three Rivers Park Districts’ regional parks. “They are nice and wide, and usually well maintained,” he commented. He hopes for snow, and if it doesn’t come from the sky he heads over to Hyland Park in Bloomington to enjoy the man made snow trails.

An outdoor enthusiast and member of the Scott County Parks Advisory Commission, Spieler uses the park trails year round. He roller skis on the trail loops before the cold arrives to get ready for the snow season. He also runs the trails, or hops on his fat tire bike in both summer or winter for additional conditioning. He enjoys the amenities at Cleary Lake Park so much that he moved next to it.

He also tries to engage others in the activities he loves. His sons enjoy skiing, too, although he said at this point in their lives they prefer downhill skiing. If they aren’t around, he often recruits friends and neighbors, giving ski trail reports on his homeowner association’s Facebook page. He also often reports ski conditions for Cleary Lake Park on the website SkinnySki.com, which he referred to as the Bible of websites for cross country skiers. “It provides conditions and information on all the trails in the area,” he said, adding that he’ll also report the conditions at Murphy Hanrehan Park Reserve if he gets out there to ski. Three Rivers Parks District also reports conditions of trails at its parks at ThreeRiversParks.org

Besides the lighted trail, Cleary Lake Park offers ski rental equipment, one-day or seasonal passes, and a place to warm up , although the activity of skiing keeps most people warm. It is a fairly demanding sport because skiers use ski poles as a means of propulsion, giving the upper body more of a workout than running or cycling. It is estimated that a 150 pound

“Good system of trails, parks, and open spaces.”

person will burn 400-500 calories per hour while skiing at 2.5 miles per hour.

For more information call 763-694-7777 or visit:

<https://www.threeriversparks.org/activity/cross-country-skiing>

HITTING THE ROAD!



County's Transportation Sales Tax Moves Projects Forward

People like to know what they are paying for, and since 2015, people purchasing taxable goods and services in Scott County have been paying an additional half percent sales tax for County transportation projects.

So where is the approximately \$8.25 million collected annually going?

"We have a lot of projects underway, including some really big ones that probably would not have happened now without this revenue," said Lisa Freese, Scott County Transportation Services Director.

By the time the tax is set to expire, it will have provided approximately an additional \$60 million dollars to support the County Board's goals of safety, mobility, and economic development in Scott County.

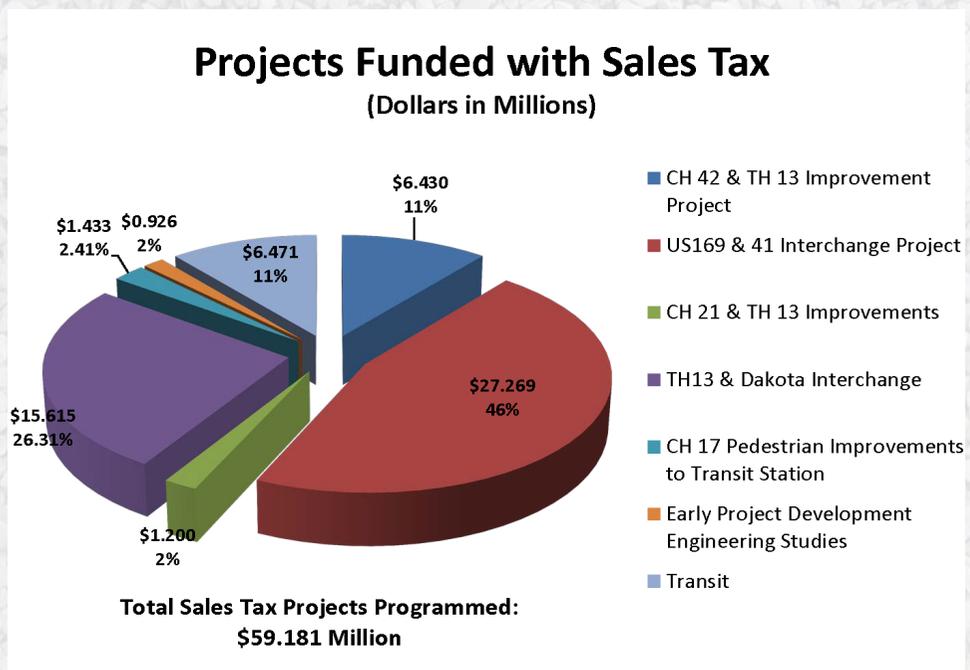
The largest projects benefiting from the County's transportation sales tax are:

- Intersection of Trunk Highway (TH) 13 and County Road (CR) 42
- Along TH 169 where it intersects with TH 41/CR 78, south to CR 14
- TH 13 and Dakota Project

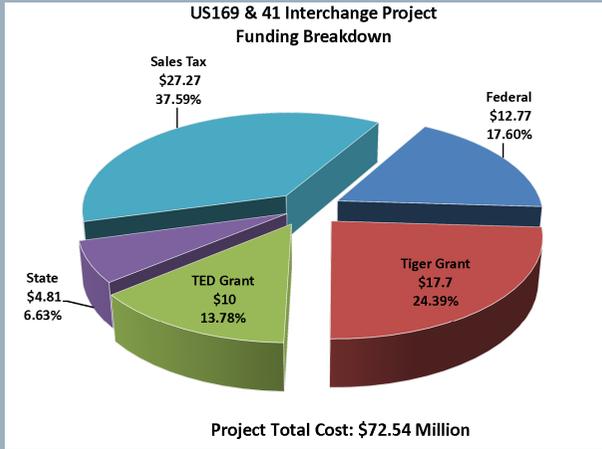
"When we know we have resources to commit, we can go after state and federal funds for big projects because we'll have a source to pay for the local share," said Freese. "If we had to take money from our regular road budget, we either couldn't undertake these big projects or we'd have to reduce or delay regular maintenance and safety projects. This money really helps us leverage more funds."

Transit projects are also receiving a boost from the sales tax revenue. About one million dollars per year is being used to enhance services.

With the transportation sales tax approved only through 2022, Freese said nearly all of the sales tax is already committed to move some regionally significant and local projects forward. "It's been a significant boost for our transportation system. We're getting a lot done," she said.



Why is the US169/TH41/CH78 Project Important? US 169 is a major interregional corridor serving Scott County and southwestern Minnesota. It provides access to MSP airport and daily commuting for work. This intersection is just one of two remaining signalized intersections on US 169 in Scott County.



Second busiest intersection in Scott County, with over 40,000 vehicles daily. TH 41 has over 18,000 daily trips.

There are on average 21 crashes per year. Without an interchange, it is estimated this number could increase by 40 percent in 2040.

The average delay at the signal is 48 seconds. The interchange will reduce the delay by 15 seconds, shaving almost 7 hours per year off a daily commute from Belle Plaine to Shakopee.



Why is the CH42/TH13 Project Important? CH 42 is a Principal Arterial Roadway connecting northern Scott County and Dakota County. CH 42 is also a significantly important east-west highway traveling 25 miles across the south metro and seven cities. TH 13 provides a connection to freeway roadways that connect Scott County north of the Minnesota River.



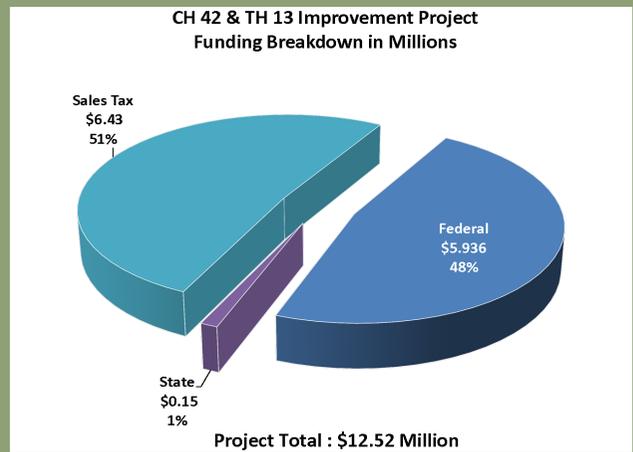
Over 25,000 vehicles travel CH 42 each day for both local and longer distance travels. TH13 sees about 20,000 vehicles per day.



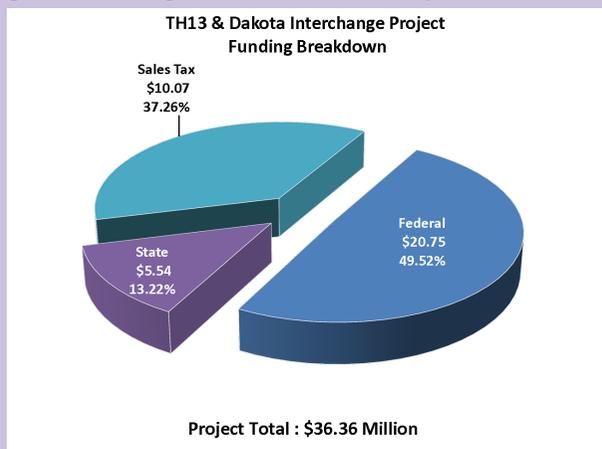
Projected to reduce the number of crashes each year by 11.



Dual turn lanes will decrease congestion at peak times.



Why is the TH13 and Dakota Project Important? TH 13 is part of a major intermodal corridor connecting US 169, I 35W, and US 212 to the Ports of Savage. Annually 2 million ton of material (grain, aggregate, salt, fertilizer) are shipped through the Ports of Savage to the rest of the world. 90 percent of the grain arriving to the Port is transported via truck.



Each day nearly 50,000 vehicles travel TH 13 for work and recreation. This number is expected to go up to 60,000 vehicles in 2040. Currently, 11 percent of those vehicles are trucks traveling to local ports or industries.



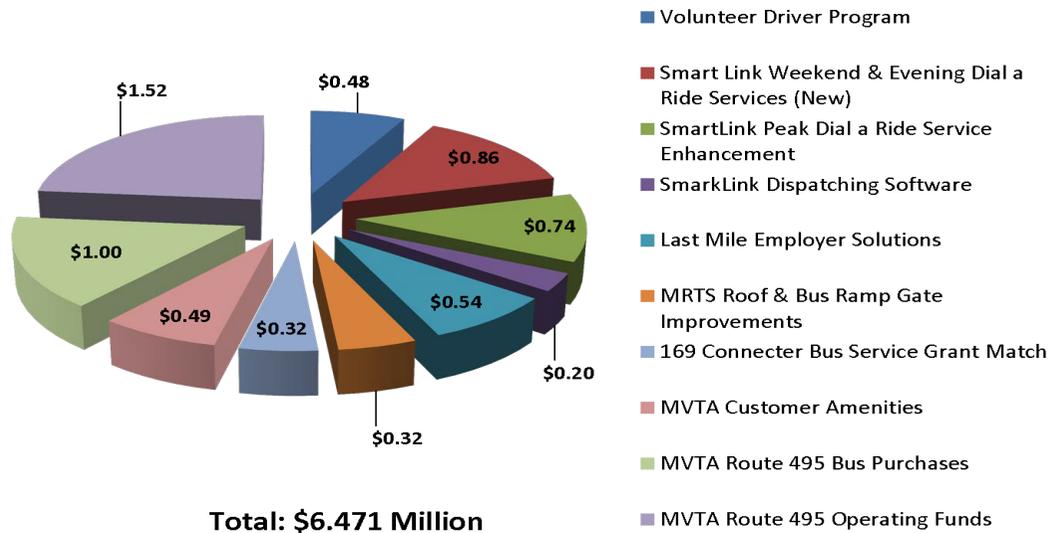
Reduce the intersection crash risk by 57 percent. Reduces the number of crashes by over 4.5 per year.



TH 13 is the second highest highway for truck delay in the metro with over 109 hours a day in truck delay. The frontage road will eliminate the congestion.

In addition to the intersection projects, \$6.471 million of the County transportation sales tax money has been used or is programmed for several transit projects.

Transit Projects Programed with Sales Tax 2017-2022 (Dollars In Millions)



Expanded transit services provide mobility to non-drivers

The use of funds from the Scott County transportation sales tax to expand SmartLink transit services to weekends and evenings is making a difference for people like Betty Hill, who no longer has a car or drives.

Betty used to take the Dial-a-Ride service to get her groceries, but after being injured in a bad fall and moving to New Perspectives Senior Living facility in Prior Lake, her need for groceries diminished, but her desire to get to church every Sunday remained.

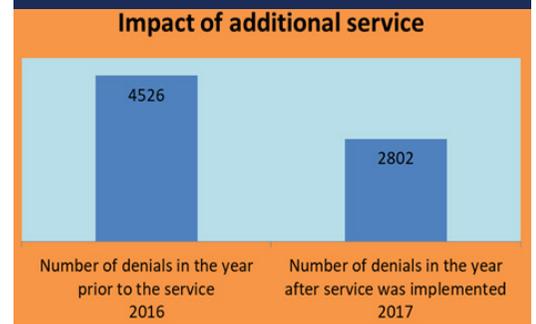
“As the daughter of a minister, I was brought up to go to church every Sunday, and so the bus helps me get there and allows me to get out a little bit,” said Betty, as SmartLink driver David Allen prepares to give her a ride to 8 a.m. Sunday service, often followed by a trip to Perkins for breakfast.

Betty said she calls well ahead to set up her rides. “If you do that, you can get there when you want,” she said. County residents do need a reservation to use the Dial-a-Ride system. To set up a reservation, call 952-496-8341, Monday through Friday, from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and a customer service agent will see what is available and if it works for you. Ride requests are taken up to 7 days in advance. The earlier you call, the better the chance of availability.

Besides spending a portion of the County’s transportation sales tax to expand weekend and evening Dial-a-Ride services, funds were also approved to enhance the volunteer driver program. The volunteer driver program helps fill the gaps if service cannot be provided through Dial-a-Ride. The expansion of the two services reduced trip denials by approximately 1,725 in the last year.



SmartLink Services
 Weekdays 6 a.m. - 9 p.m.
 Weekends 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
 Cost ranges from \$3.50 to \$4.50 per trip, depending on time and distance.
 Surcharges may apply for longer trips.

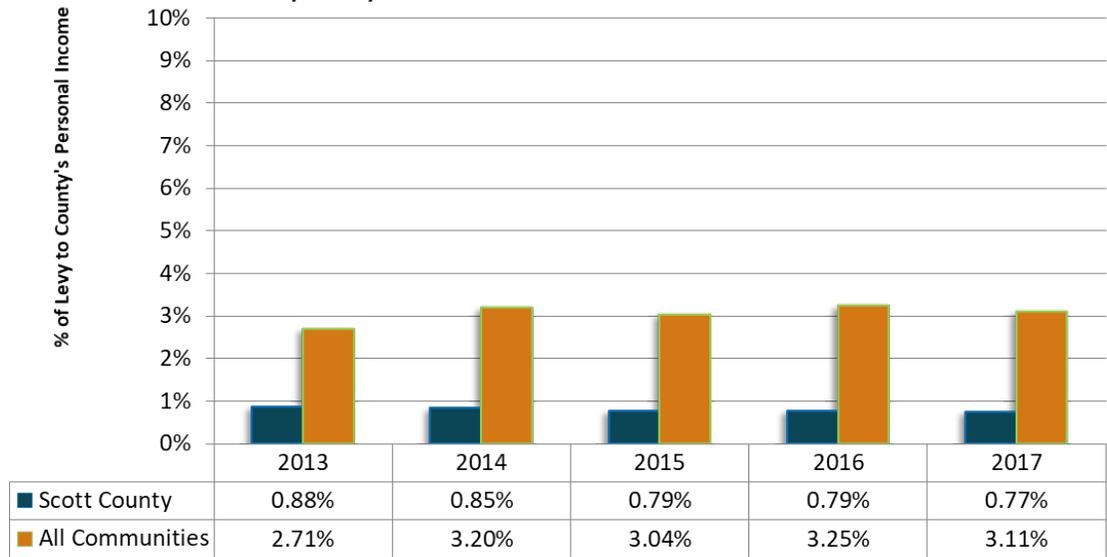


“Reliable roads, trails, sidewalks and transit options are available to all residents.”

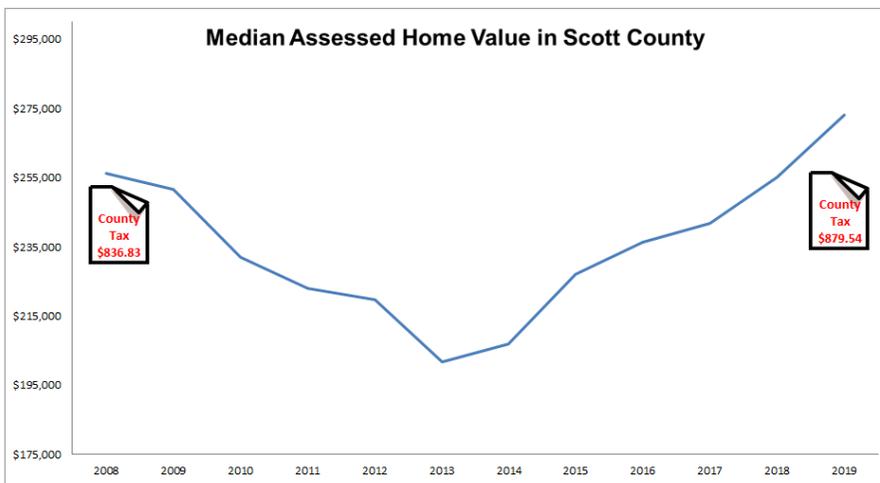
The Cost Of Government

The charts below offer a glimpse into the general stability of funding County government over time. While personal incomes and home values in Scott County have increased since the Great Recession period of 2008-2011, the actual cost of providing County government services – and the taxes levied against assessed property values to pay for those services – has remained relatively flat over time.

County Levy as a Percent of Total Personal Income



How much does local government cost? Answering this question for County residents can come in many ways, but one way is this chart showing how much of an average resident’s total personal income is spent, over time, on County government compared to all other types of government (cities, schools, county, state, special taxing districts). The blue bar shows the percentage of county residents income, on average, that goes to property taxes that fund Scott County government services. The orange bar shows the percentage of county residents income, on average, paid for all property taxes. The percentage of income paid in property taxes to fund Scott County’s operations has declined by 12.5 percent since 2013, from 0.88 percent to 0.77 percent, and has gone down or stayed flat each of the past five years.



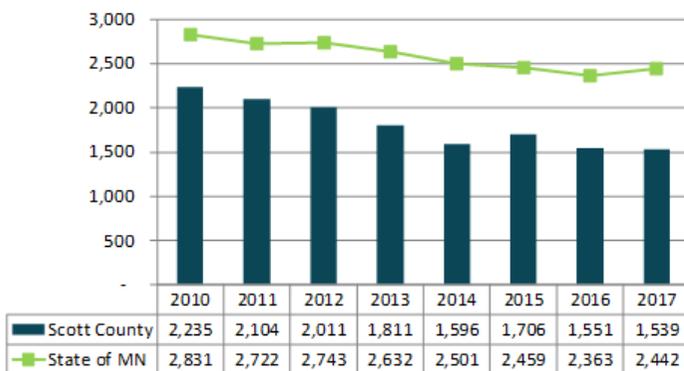
Housing and taxes. Many County residents who attended their local property tax meetings in December expressed concern about their increasing tax amounts from the last few years. One reason why residents saw an increase is due to the rising value of homes here in Scott County, particularly coming out of the Great Recession. The graphic shows the median home value in Scott County for taxes payable in the years 2008 through 2019. This is the first year that the assessed median value is above the

previous payable 2008 peak of \$256,100. In a tight housing market, homeowners are starting to see the value of their home investments rise, but as shown in the graphic, the actual amount of the County’s portion of property taxes payable for a median value home has only increased \$42.71 over the past eleven years.

Preventing Criminal Behavior.

Scott County may influence the crime rate in a number of ways. Addressing poverty and employment opportunities are prevention efforts. Educating the public on ways to increase personal safety and safeguard their property as well as implementing programs to prevent chemical use or intervene in a mental health crisis can reduce the impact of criminal behavior. Response to criminal behavior through law enforcement and appropriate treatment and rehabilitation through probation supervision reduce the incidents of offenders continuing criminal behavior.

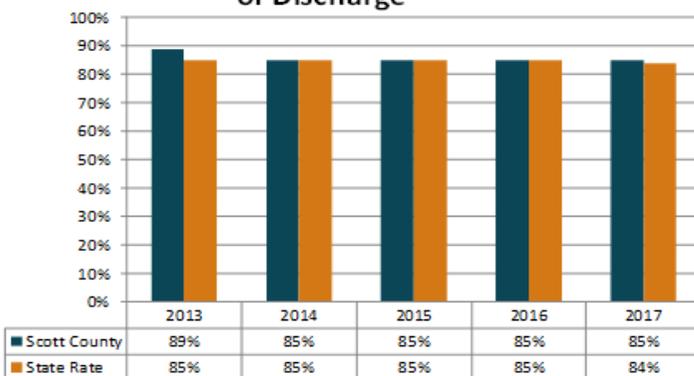
Serious crime rate per 100,000 residents



Source: Minnesota Department of Public Safety, U.S. Census Bureau

Community Corrections ensures public safety by reducing recidivism (re-offense) of offenders placed on supervision to the department. Community corrections continues to implement programs and strategies which research has shown to be effective in reducing offender recidivism. Research shows a three year period free of new felony convictions is an indicator of long term success.

Percent of Adult Felony Offenders Remaining Free of New Felony Convictions Within 3 Years of Discharge



Source: MN Data Definition Team Statewide Probation and Supervised Release Outcomes

SCOTT COUNTY JAIL



Quick Facts

In 2017...

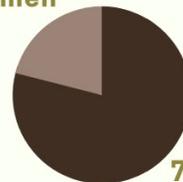
149 = average daily # of inmates housed

204 = highest # of inmates (May)

472 = average monthly bookings

539 = total bookings (highest ever)

21%
Women



79%
Men



Average # of days an inmate spent in jail in 2017

AVERAGE MONDAY JAIL SCHEDULE

8 AM - Wakeup/Headcount
 8AM-4PM - Court
 9AM - Breakfast
 10:15 AM - Special Programs
 10:30 AM - Bail Hearings
 10:30 AM - Nurse Visits
 1:30 PM - Lunch
 1:30 PM Special Programs
 4:30-7:00 PM - Visiting
 7:30 PM - Dinner
 8:00 PM - Programs
 9:15 PM - Lights out / Headcount

TOP 3 COMMISSARY ITEMS

[Unofficial Housing Unit Survey]

1. Ramen Noodles
2. Coffee
3. Meat Sticks



The Jail is located in the Law Enforcement Center in downtown Shakopee.



264 = maximum capacity

120-160 = average daily number of inmates

STAFF



44 Corrections Officers

- 1 Captain
- 1 Lieutenant
- 6 Sergeants
- 3 Civilian Support Staff



- 2 Registered Nurses
- Several Contract Paramedics
- 1 Medical Doctor



Approved low security risk inmates can help prepare meals and wash laundry alongside our contracted vendor employees. Some of those inmates who assist in the kitchen or laundry can earn some time off their sentences.

"Accountable, innovative and efficient government."

Scott County

Elected Officials



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 (612) 616-1086



Tom Wolf
 Commissioner
 District 2
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Michael Beard
 Commissioner
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 mbeard@co.scott.mn.us
 (952) 583-7090



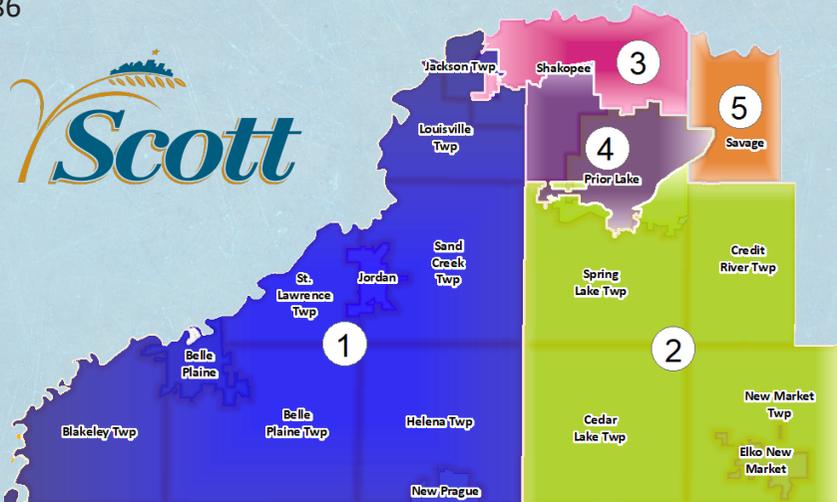
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