



# Pane County Youth Governance Program Committee Functions

## **Standing Committees**

# **Environment, Agriculture, and Natural Resources**

- Oversees:
  - University of Wisconsin-Extension Dane County
  - Land and Water Resources Department, including: Parks Division, Lake management and Lakes and Watershed
  - Lakes and Watershed Commission (for budget review purposes)
- Policy Oversight for:
  - o Parks Commission
  - o Food Council
- Advises county board on all matters regarding agriculture and conservation of natural and environmental resources

### **Health and Human Needs**

- Oversees:
  - o Department of Human Services
  - Dane County Youth Commission
  - Veterans Service Office
- Policy oversight for:
  - o Dane County Housing Authority
  - o Specialized Transportation Commission
- Programs HHN oversees make up over half of the county's total operation budget, including:
  - o Self-directed services for individuals with Developmental Disabilities
  - o Alcohol and other Drug Abuse
  - o Mental Health care
  - o Badger Prairie Health Care Center
  - o Economic Assistance
  - Aging
  - o Housing and Homeless

### **Personnel and Finance**

- Oversees:
  - Department of Administration
- Policy oversight for:
  - County Treasurer
  - Dane County Library Board
  - o Equal Opportunity Commission
  - o Civil Service Commission
- Acts as the principal policy arm of the county board during formulation of the county budget
- Considers all financial matters, including capital project, borrowing, fund transfers, contracts, and land acquisitions

## **Public Protection and Judiciary**

- Oversees:
  - Corporation Counsel





- Family Court Commissioner
- Family Court Counseling Service
- o Public Safety Communications Center
- Juvenile Court Program
- o Emergency Management Department
- Policy Oversight for:
  - o Commission on Sensitive Crimes
  - o Dane County Local Emergency Planning Committee
  - Office of the Sheriff
  - District Attorney
  - Clerk of Courts
  - Dane County Court System
- Settles all claims against the county not exceeding \$10,000

# **Public Works and Transportation**

- Oversees:
  - o Department of Public Works, Highway, and Transportation
  - Dane County Parking Ramp
  - Alliant Energy Center
- Policy Oversight for:
  - o Airport
  - Solid Waste and Recycling Commission
  - 700
- Concerns itself with all matters pertaining to:
  - Parking and transportation policies
  - Sustainable practices
  - o Building maintenance and repair
  - o Space and real estate needs
  - Landfill operation

Periodic meetings at county facilities such as Henry Vilas Zoo, Airport, Highway Garage.

# **Zoning and Land Regulation**

- Oversees:
  - Planning and Development Department (includes survey, zoning, tax description and plat review functions)
- Policy Oversight:
  - Register of Deeds
  - Dane County Board of Adjustment
- Approves/denies zoning requests from citizens
- Reviews proposed amendments to the comprehensive plan





# **Advisory Committees**

### Food Council (https://foodcouncil.countyofdane.com/)

- Explore issues and develop recommendations to create an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable local food system for the Dane County region.
- Develop strategies to increase the amount of locally produced food the County and other local governments purchase.
- Develop strategies to assist and empower local food producers in concert with other local entities such as the UW
   Center for Integrated Agriculture, Dane County UW Extension and others.
- Work with and assist local municipalities to implement projects which promote local food, agriculture and economic development.
- Promote the use of local foods to improve the health and nutrition of its local residents.
- Develop long-term strategies and find opportunities to educate and inform a wide range of citizens about the Council's activities and seek citizen advice, comments and suggestions for building a better local food system.

## Park Commission (https://parks-lwrd.countyofdane.com/ContactUs/Park-Commission)

- Oversees:
  - o Three program areas of the Parks Division in the Land & Water Resources Department, including:
    - Operations and maintenance
    - Planning and development
    - Land acquisition
- The commission may lay out, improve, maintain and govern all county parks and parkways. It may accept gifts of
  land and money, to be used for park purposes, in the name of the county. It may acquire by all means, including
  eminent domain, property it deems suitable for park purposes and land so acquired may not be disposed of
  without the consent of the park commission. The commission shall exercise its powers as provided in section 27.05
  of the Wisconsin Statutes.
- Greenspace duties.
  - The commission shall have the duty and responsibility to review and approve plans which identify and define greenways, open space and corridors designed to protect environmentally sensitive areas and natural resources, consider the visual and functional separation of municipalities and satisfy community outdoor recreation needs such as parks, playgrounds and trails.
  - The commission shall also develop and evaluate proposals for the implementation of a green space preservation plan.
  - In the course of carrying out the duties of this section, the commission may appoint a citizen advisory committee; consult with representatives of the Dane County Towns Association and mayors and village presidents of Dane County; hold public hearings on proposals and recommendations for the preservation of greenways, open spaces and corridors; report to the county board with proposals and recommendations; and have authority to request staff support and assistance from the planning and development department and the parks department as necessary from time to time.

### **UW-Extension Committee**

- Oversees and advises Dane County Extension programming, which includes nutrition education, agriculture, horticulture, financial education, food systems, community development, natural resources, and youth programming.
- For more info about Dane County UW-Extension: https://dane.uwex.edu/

## **Library Board**

- As a department of Dane County Government, the Dane County Library Service is governed by the Dane County Library Board, whose members are appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by the County Board of Supervisors.
- For more info: <a href="https://www.dcls.info/governance">https://www.dcls.info/governance</a>