

DRAFT

2006 Public Safety Legislative Agenda

Keeping residents and visitors safe is a top priority for the City of Minneapolis.

Priority issues for Minneapolis:

- Funding for the entire public safety system, including such critical functions as police, fire, prosecutors, public defense, communication systems, probation and the courts. Providing public safety, a core responsibility of local government, is threatened by insufficient funding.
- ~~Ensuring a statewide coordinated plan for addressing gang activity through funding of the State Gang Strike Force and expanded representation~~
- ~~Funding for the development and implementation of criminal justice information systems such as CrimNet and MNCIS that will allow local law enforcement agencies to share criminal justice information with jurisdictions statewide~~

Minneapolis Supports:

- ~~Amending the trespass statute to increase the length of time that a person trespassing on the property can be barred from the property~~
- Changing the criminal code to address chronic offenders of indecent exposure ~~and interference with privacy laws~~
- Adding the following to the list of qualified domestic abuse offenses: murder in the first, second and third degree, manslaughter in the first and second degree, interfering with an emergency phone call, false imprisonment, kidnapping, violation of a no contact order and domestic assault by strangulation
- Streamlining statutes in order to more effectively prosecute prostitution-related offenses
- Legislation making it a crime to drive under the influence of any drug that makes a person an unsafe driver, including THC.
- Amending the rifles and shotguns in public places statute to apply to the outdoor areas, such as the front and back yards, of the private lands owned by persons other than the possessors of the weapons
- Increasing penalties for chronic offenders by including theft; receiving stolen property; trespass; disorderly conduct; crimes involving transit; violations of local ordinances prohibiting unlawful aggressive solicitation; consuming alcoholic beverages in public; and loitering or lurking with intent to commit a crime as enhancable offenses
- ~~Increasing the 911 surcharge to provide adequate funding to all public safety answering points in Minnesota~~
- Expanding the vulnerable adult statutes to prescribe felony level punishment for neglect
- Amending domestic assault provisions of the criminal code to require courts to furnish criminal history information to prosecutors without charge
- Amend the “qualified domestic violence related offense” definition to “qualified prior offense” to allow for broader application for non-domestic (stranger) assaults.
- Enhancing the penalty for assaults on Animal Control Officers to assault in the fourth degree
- ~~Amending the “Ted Foss” law to require a full lane buffer between non-emergency vehicles and emergency vehicles~~

- Allowing for a gross misdemeanor careless driving offense if driving conduct results in a fatality and increasing penalties for all other driving offenses resulting in fatalities
- Allowing for a misdemeanor offense for restricting access to a telephone for the purpose of emergency calls in a place of business.
- Increasing the probation period for criminal vehicular homicide and injury.
- ~~Making possession of any amount of marijuana with intent to sell a misdemeanor~~
- Creating a statewide coordinated plan for dealing with released sex offenders that addresses the overall concentration of offenders located within the City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County. To ensure this equitable distribution of sex offenders, the State must fund additional housing options and placement of half-way houses and should require the county of commitment to bear financial responsibility for released offenders
- Expanding the 2005 meth legislation to create a fund for the fee associated with recording meth properties.

Minneapolis Opposes:

- ~~Legislation that re-enacts the Minnesota Personal Protection Act~~
- ~~Reducing sentences for drug offenders and changing criminal thresholds for selling and possessing controlled substances~~