



Hello AFSCME Local 306 Dakota County.

Right now, Dakota County is making important budget decisions that will directly affect the services our communities depend on and the workers who provide them.

This is about protecting essential public services!

Every day, county employees serve veterans, seniors, children, people with disabilities, families, and residents across Dakota County. These services cannot simply disappear when funding is reduced.

At the same time, state and federal governments continue to require counties to provide more services and meet higher standards without providing the funding to pay for them. Those unfunded and underfunded mandates leave counties with difficult choices: reduce services or find local funding to continue meeting community needs.

Support Scenario #2

As you talk with neighbors, friends, family members and elected officials, remember these three talking points:

- **Protect Essential Services.** Veterans, seniors, children, families, and people with disabilities depend on county services every day. Supporting Scenario #2 (25% levy) helps ensure these essential services remain available when people need them.
- **Protect Our Workforce.** County workers keep Dakota County running. When positions are eliminated, the work doesn't disappear. It is shifted to fewer employees, creating delays, larger workloads, and reduced services for residents.
- **Protect Our Communities Future.** State and federal governments continue shifting costs to counties. Supporting Scenario #2 is an investment in safe, healthy, and thriving communities. Strong public services make Dakota County a better place to live, work, and raise a family.

Watch for our postcard!

Over the coming days, you'll receive a postcard as part of our member action campaign. [Click here for a preview of the postcard.](#) We are asking every member to personalize it with a few sentences about why Dakota County services matter to our communities and [mail it to your County Commissioner.](#)

Write a brief note from your own experience. Your voice is what makes the postcard meaningful.

Not sure what to write? Here are a few ideas:

- Why your work matters to the community.
- Why county services are important to your family or neighbors.
- How staffing shortages affect the people you serve.
- Why you're asking your commissioner to support the 25% levy.

Keep your message personal and respectful. There is no "perfect" message. A few heartfelt sentences about why your work matters can make a lasting impression.



Show your solidarity!

Before you drop your postcard in the mail, snap a quick photo and share it with us. We'd love to see members across Dakota County taking action together. Send your photo to: **Council 5 Communications** at (612) 499-0572.



Before you mail it, take a minute to:

- Add your County Commissioner's **name** on the address line.
- Write their **district number** on the line below.
- Add **your name and address** below the AFSCME logo, so they know they're hearing from a constituent.
- Affix a **postage stamp** on the postcard and **drop it in the mail.**

Thanks for taking action!

Together, we can protect the services our communities rely on and support the workers who provide them every day.

Strong Communities Need Strong County Services. Support Scenario #2.

In solidarity,

AFSCME Local 306 Executive Board

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