

Commissioner activity District 1



2021 Summary

PUBLIC SAFETY - FUNDING INITIATIVES

- **Gun violence prevention:** advocated for \$5 million from the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund for gun violence prevention.
- **Auto-Theft Prevention efforts:** advocated for \$568,610 from the Minnesota Department of Commerce towards auto theft investigators and auto theft prevention efforts in the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office.
- **Victim resources:** advocated for \$250,000 towards 4 full time positions added to the Hennepin County Attorney's Office budget for legal services specialists to provide assistance and services to victims of crime.
- **Public defenders:** advocated for \$990,533 towards increased staffing to address COVID related case backlogs at the Hennepin County Public Defenders Office.

\$100,000
for youth
entrepreneurship
contact, RFP
released 2022



Rendering of the North METRO Range expansion.

PUBLIC SAFETY - EXPANDED SERVICES

- **Embedded Social Work program:** expanded the program to include a shared social worker for the cities of New Hope, Crystal, and Robbinsdale.

- **North METRO Range Public Safety Training Facility:** advocated for \$8.2 million towards the expansion of the North Metro Range Public Safety Training Facility, which serves 20 different law enforcement agencies. The additional facilities will be geared towards de-escalation training.
- **911 Mental Health Co-Responder program:** visited Denver to learn about their 911 first responder program and see how it can be used to inform the county's 911 Mental Health Co-Responder program. The goal is to lessen the number of 911 calls for non-emergency purposes, such as lift-assist requests from group homes.

ANTI-HATE INITIATIVE

My office authored a BAR that allocated \$1 million to establish an Anti-Hate Initiative (AHI). This was led by a diverse coalition of community voices committed to ending hate. AHI aims at supporting local community organizations to effectively respond and prevent hate crimes and incidents, while developing and expanding our tracking and reporting systems. **In 2022, a team will come together to collect data and analyze the scope of hate incidents in the county.** This team will then make recommendations to mitigate, reduce and prevent incidents.

\$1 MILLION
in funding

VACCINE CLINICS

My office supported community vaccination clinics, where Hennepin County re-distributed vaccines and staff to local community organizations so they could conduct their own vaccine clinics. Through these partnerships, the county has given **over 62,000 vaccines in the community**. As pediatric vaccines became available, our office has coordinated with local schools to host vaccine clinics. Between November 15-30 the county hosted 10 clinics in schools, giving 1,769 vaccines. Our office worked to secure resources for clinics, in particular those geared towards under-vaccinated communities.



Vaccine clinic with Ebenezer Community Church and The Liberian Nurses Association. 157 people got vaccinated. We also supported the Lao Assistance Center clinic, where 540 people got vaccinated.



Driveway talk with Dan Soler (Hennepin County's Blue Line project team).

BLUE LINE - DRIVEWAY TALKS

- Organized 16 driveway talks in partnership with the METRO Blue Line Extension project team. The 12 in Robbinsdale and the one in Crystal were co-organized with residents and local elected officials, where we brought visualizations of the proposed route directly to residents for their feedback.

- Organized a dual language (Spanish/English) talk at St. Alphonsus Catholic Church in Brooklyn Center, with CLUES providing translation. We also organized 2 virtual talks produced by CCX Media, one of which was dual language (Spanish/English).
- Organized 2 virtual talks produced by CCX Media, one of which was also in Spanish and English.



BLUE LINE - ANTI-DISPLACEMENT WORK GROUP

Pushed for the Anti-Displacement Work Group in partnership with Commissioner Fernando. This type of forward thinking work is a first for our region, and I believe it will set a new standard for how the government can work with communities throughout the entirety of large-scale infrastructure projects. The goal of this group is to mitigate displacement within the METRO Blue Line Extension Corridor by:



Members announced late-January

- Making recommendations that can turn into policies
- Promoting equitable, community-centered investments that benefit current residents



ANEROBIC DIGESTOR

Advocated for the county's \$21 million state bonding request to expand the Brooklyn Park Transfer Station and add an anaerobic digester (AD) facility.

Estimated completion date 2025

- The county is exploring how the site could benefit the community through Hennepin County's Eco Center.
- This facility will help the county make progress towards the goals laid out in our Climate Action Plan, and will provide critically needed regional capacity for organics recycling.

District 1 Staff

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