



**STEELE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORK SESSION AGENDA**

Administration Center – 630 Florence Avenue – Owatonna, MN 55060

*Steele County's Mission – Driven to deliver quality services for Steele County
in a respectful and fiscally responsible way (draft)*

**Wednesday, March 17 at 3:00 PM
County Boardroom, Steele County Administration Center**

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Agenda Additions
3. Preliminary Detention Center Population Analysis & Forecast
 - a. Alan Richardson, Patrick Jablonski – Justice Planners
4. FFCRA E-Sick Leave Extension
5. Minnesota's Stay Safe Plan Update
6. Strategic Plan Update
7. Old Highway Shop Properties
8. Master Planning/Space Study
9. American Rescue Plan Act
10. Other Business



JUSTICE PLANNERS

Detention Center Population Analysis & Forecast

Steele County

Owatonna
Minnesota



March 17, 2021

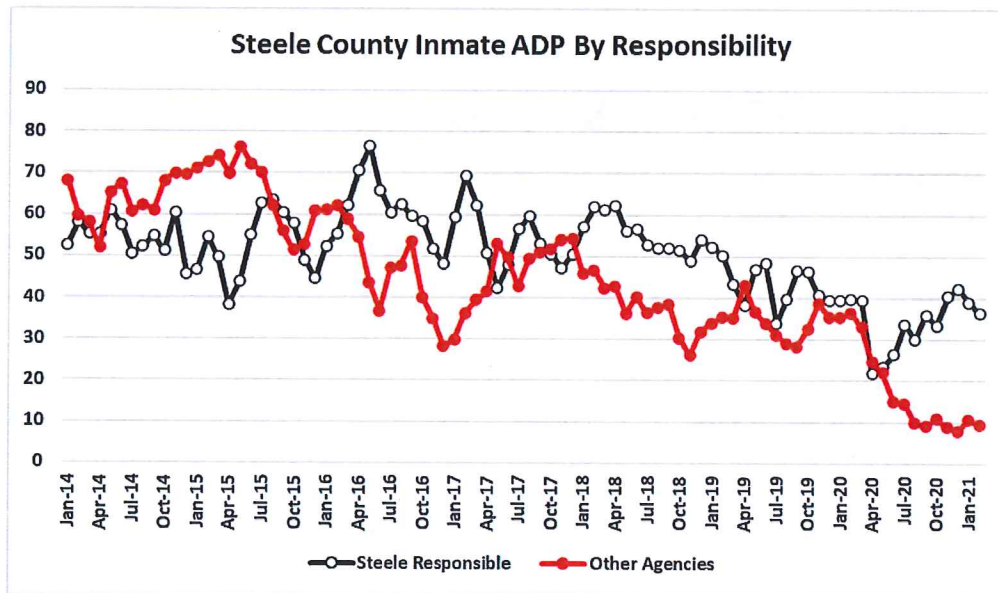
Introduction

- This presentation details the Steele County Jail's population and provides a forecast of future population levels
- Used a series of line-by-line data extracts to reconstruct population trends
- 2 main data sources were employed:
 - Steele jail population extracts
 - Minnesota Judicial Branch case processing data
- Overall approach is to build a statistical model which takes known trends to predict future Steele County Jail population

Outline

- Introduction
- Steele County Jail Population Trends & Factors
 - Average Daily Population
 - Bookings
 - Average Length of Stay
 - Criminal Court Case Processing
- Corrections Population Forecasts
- Conclusions

Steele County Detention Center ADP

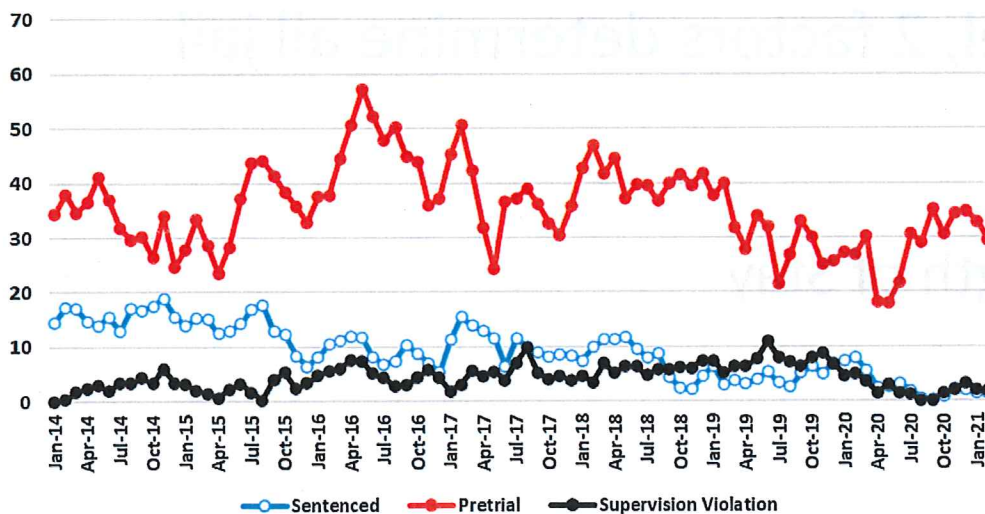


- The non-Steele County ADP decreased 46% between 2014 and 2019

Year	ADP	Change
2014	63.5	
2015	65.8	3.56%
2016	47.3	-28.1%
2017	46.1	-2.6%
2018	37.9	-17.8%
2019	34.4	-9.2%
2020	18.3	-46.9%

Steele County Detention Center ADP

Steele County Responsible Inmate ADP By Judicial Status



- Between 2014 and 2019:
 - Sentenced Pop ↓ 71%
 - Pretrial ↓ 8%
 - Supervision Violation ↑ 163%
- Comparing August 2019 – February 2020 vs. August 2020 – February 2021, the pretrial population has increased 16%

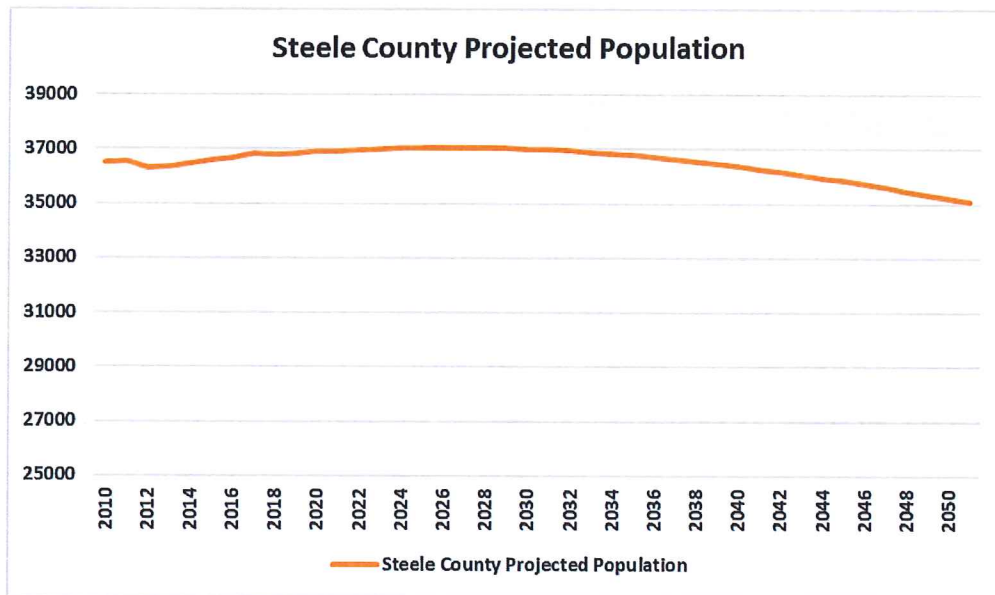
Steele County Detention Center Population Factors

- At a basic level, 2 factors determine all jail populations:
 - Bookings
 - Average Length of Stay

Outline

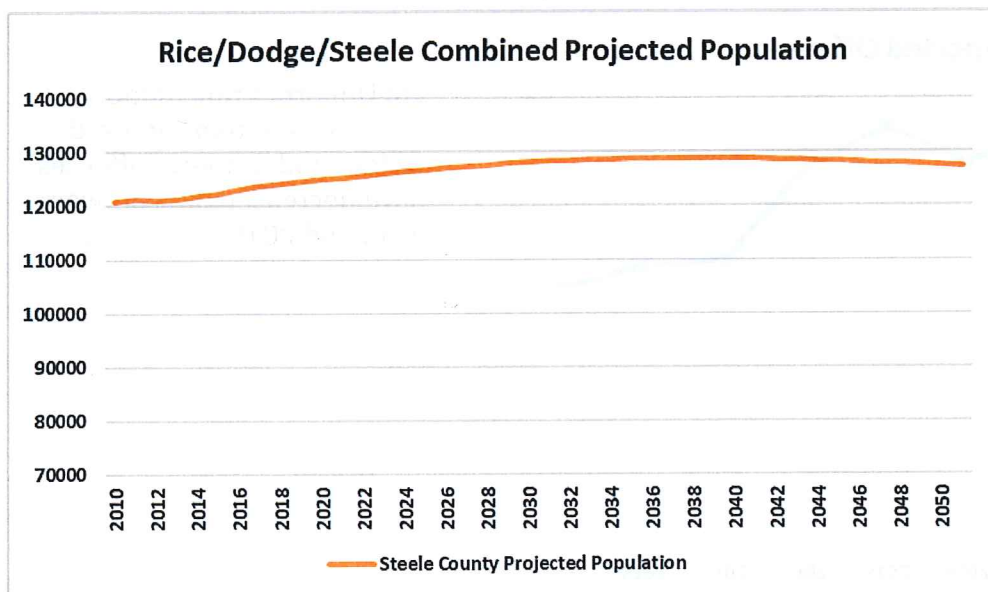
- Introduction
- **Steele County Jail Population Trends & Factors**
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Steele County Population Analysis



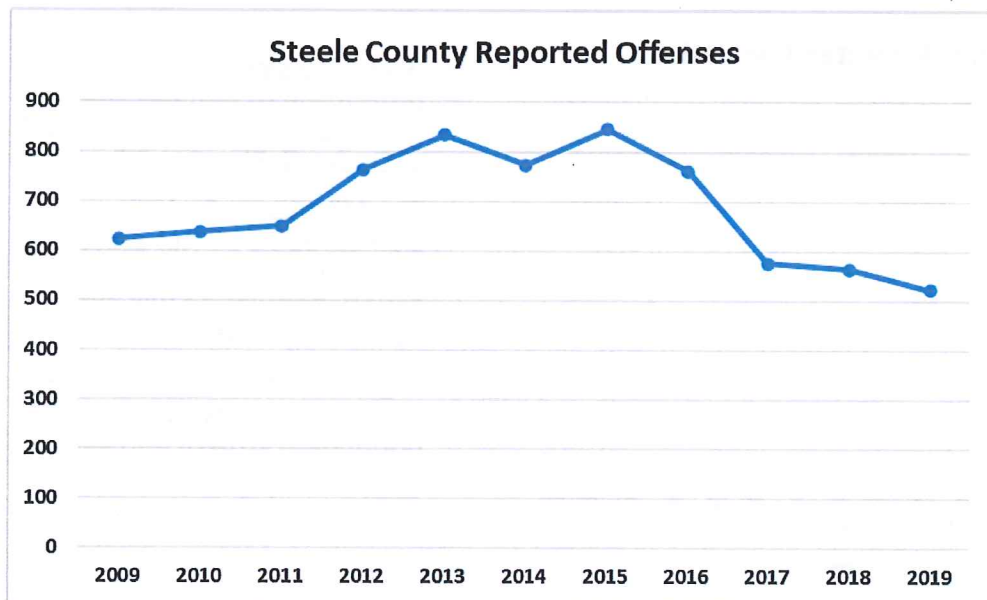
- The Minnesota State Demographic center projects that Steele County's population will contract by 3.3% by 2046
- In general, there tends to be a relationship between population growth and jail admissions

Steele County Population Analysis



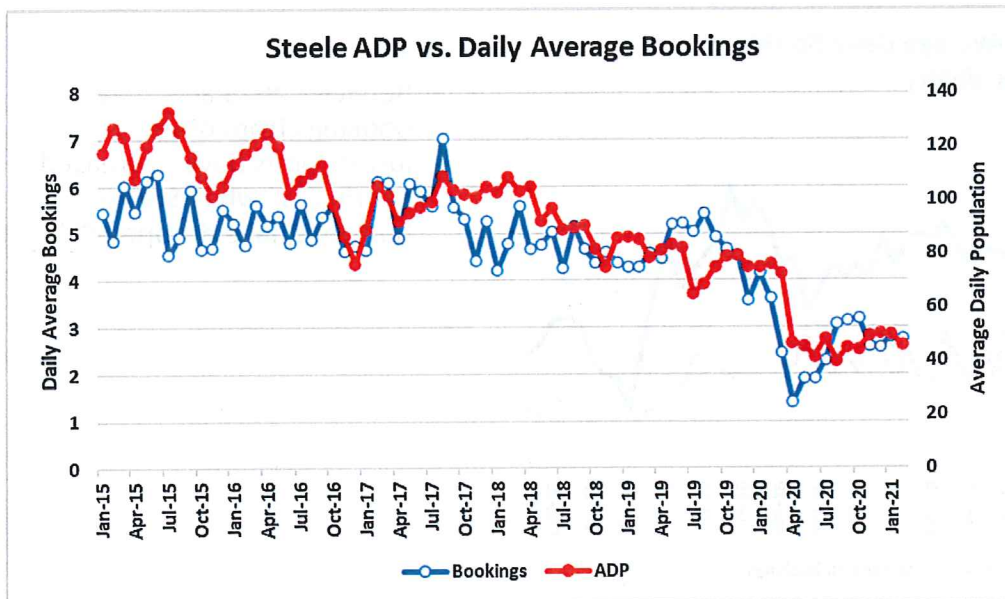
- Given the significant proportion of inmates from other counties, we also looked at Dodge & Rice Counties
- The Minnesota State Demographic center projects that the combined three-county population will expand by 2.2% by 2046
- In general, there tends to be a relationship between population growth and jail admissions

Steele County Offenses



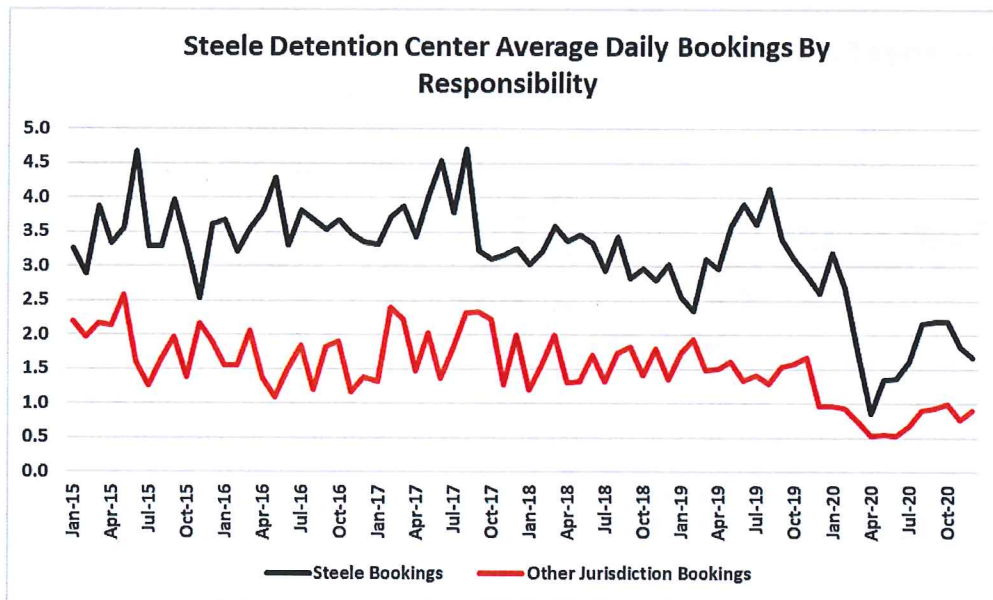
- FBI Uniform Crime Report data indicate that reported violent and property offenses have decreased 38% between 2015 and 2019

Steele County Detention Center Bookings



- There is a fairly strong relationship between the bookings and ADP trends

Steele County Detention Center Bookings

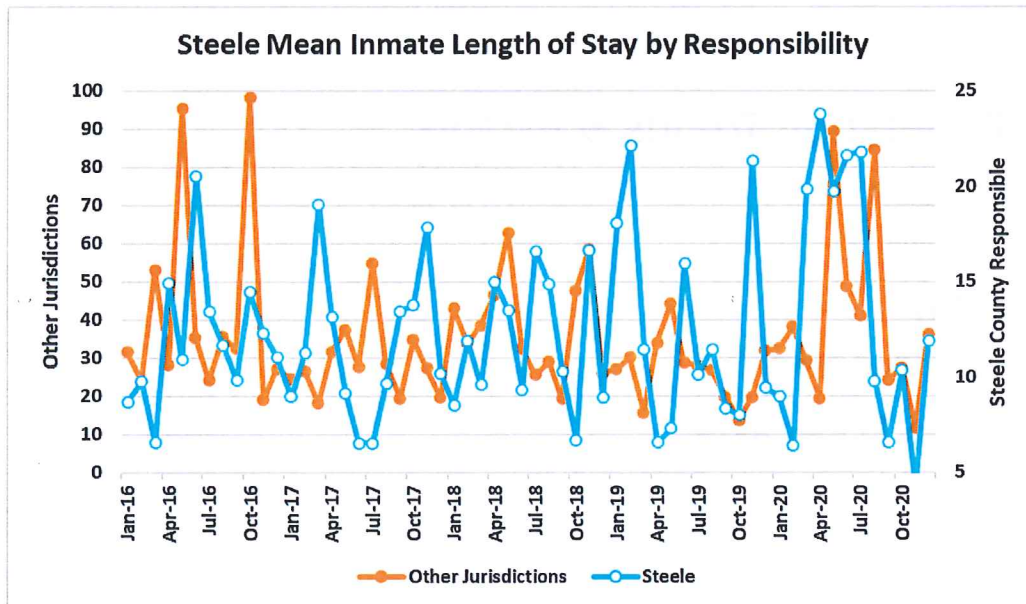


- Between 2015 and 2019, bookings from other jurisdictions have decreased nearly 22% while Steele bookings have dropped 8%

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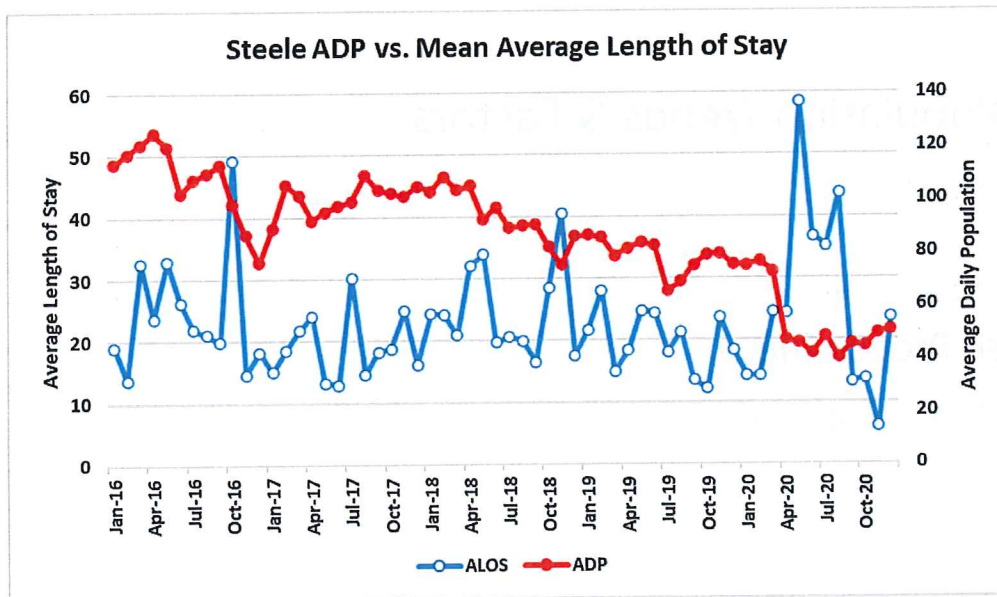
Steele Detention Center Average Length of Stay



- Note the use of two scales
- Non-Steele inmate length of stay has decreased 37% between 2016 and 2019
- Steele-responsible length of stay is stable

Year	Steele	Other Jurisdictions
2016	12.2	43.0
2017	11.5	29.3
2018	11.9	38.5
2019	12.2	27.0
2020	12.6	40.1

Steele Detention Center Average Length of Stay

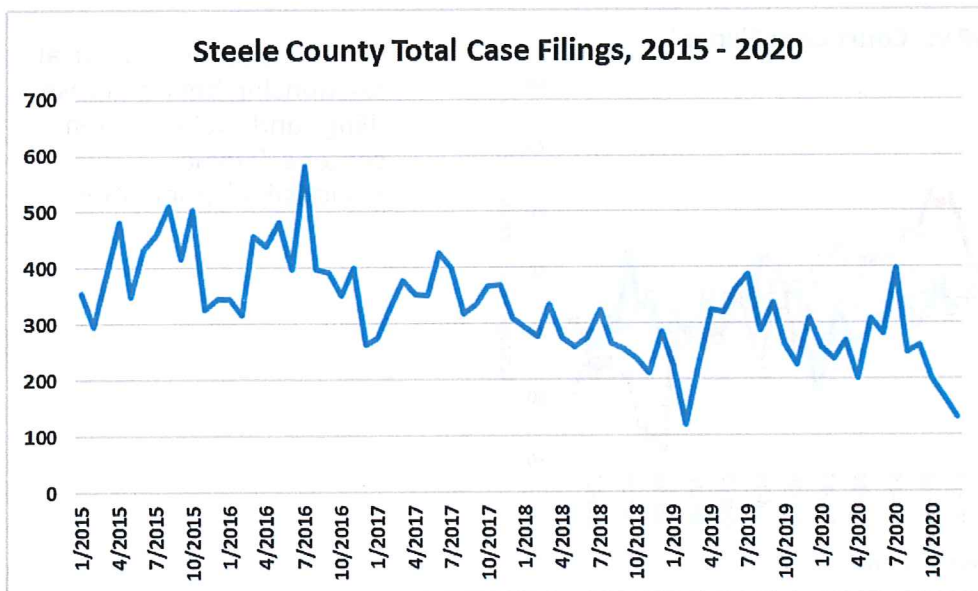


- ADP = Average Daily Population
- ALOS = Average Length of Stay
- The jail population trend has a statistically significant relationship with ALOS, but it is relatively weak (next slide)
- Bookings are a better predictor of the jail's population

Outline

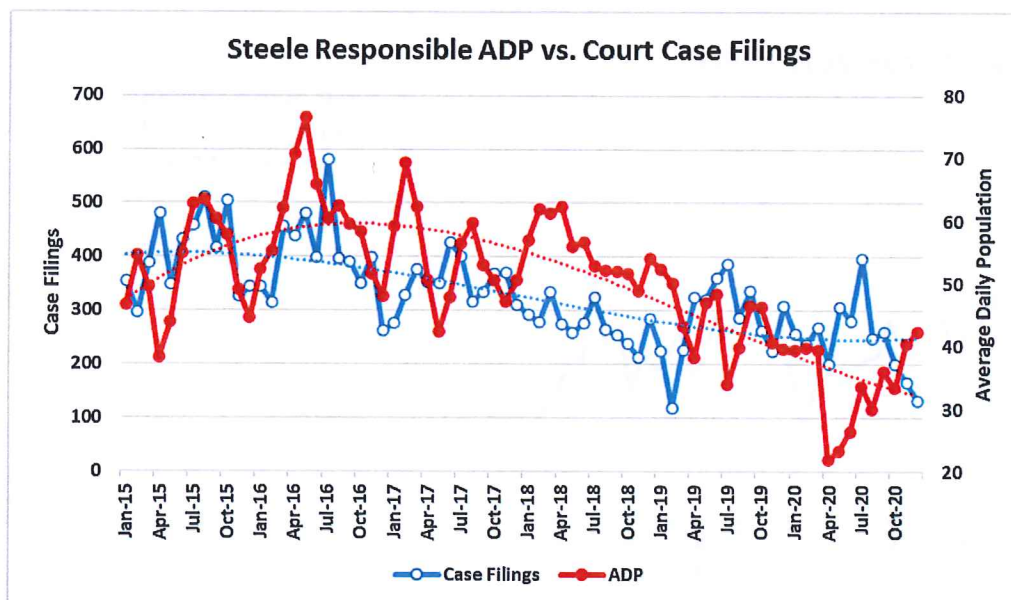
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Steele Detention Center & Criminal Case Filings



- Case filings in Steele County decreased 30% between 2015 and 2019
- Both felony and misdemeanor filings have decreased

Steele Detention Center & Criminal Case Filings



- There is a strong statistical relationship between case filings and the detention center's "Steele-responsible" population

Steele County Detention Center ADP Evaluation

- Steele Detention Center ADP fell 33% between 2015 & 2019
- During that time:
 - Reported offenses decreased 38%
 - Bookings down 13%
 - ALOS down 21%
 - Court filings down 30%
 - Case processing time down 28%
 - County population increased 0.7%

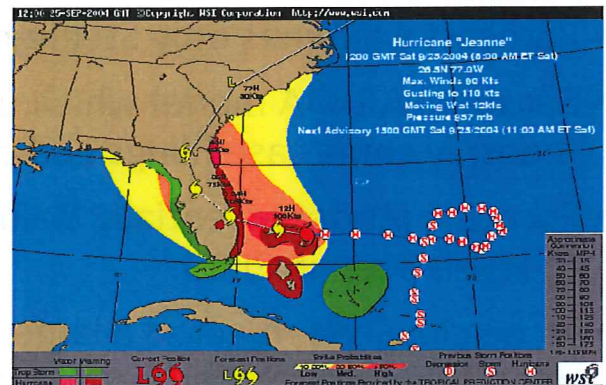
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Steele County Detention Center Forecasts

Jail Population Forecasting

- All forecasts are built with the assumption that there are no changes or alterations to laws, practices, public policy, etc. when the forecast was produced
- As with weather forecasting, unforeseen events may impact accuracy

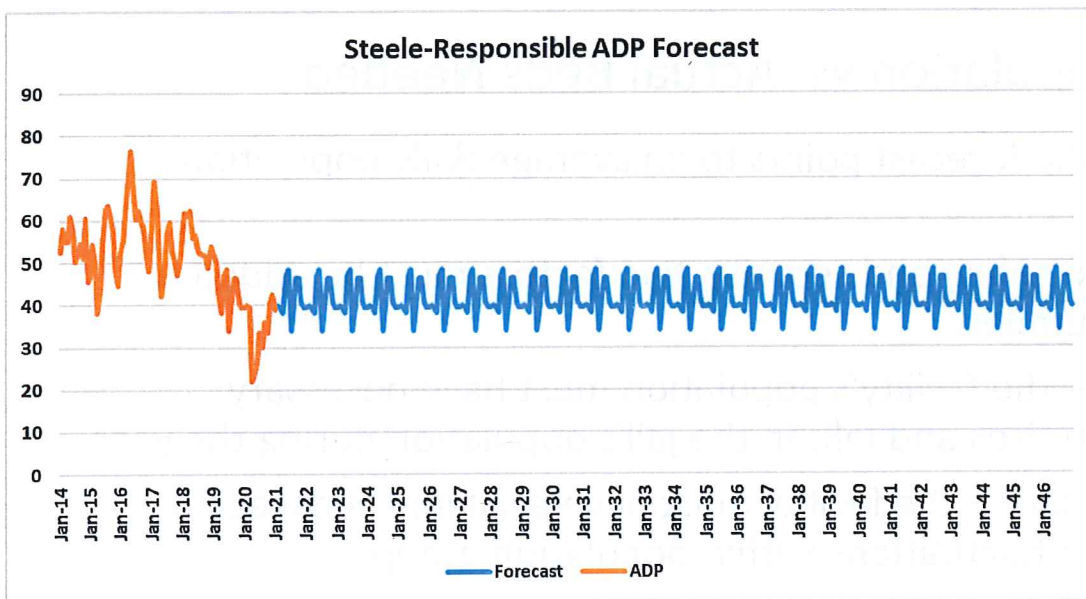


Scenario #1: Steele County-Only Forecasts

Forecast Scenario #1: Steele-Responsible ADP

- Forecast examines only Steele-responsible population.
- Seasonal ARIMA model which used jail bookings, average length of stay, monthly court case filings and case processing time as predictors.
- Forecast model essentially claims that the population will stabilize close to levels seen in 2019.
- To be clear, we rejected a large number of models that took the population drastically lower, given the prior history of the population and predictor trends.

Scenario #1: Steele County-Only Forecasted ADP



- Forecast is flat, despite seasonal peaks and valleys
- There is no indication in any of the data available that the population will increase, absent some significant change

Scenario #1: Steele County-Only Forecasted Bed Need

Average Daily Population vs. Actual Beds Needed

- Keep in mind that the forecast points to an average daily population over time
- In order to maintain safety and security, two factors must be added to the ADP forecast number:
 1. A Peaking Factor – the facility's population must have necessary capacity to absorb rises and falls in the jail's population during the year
 2. A Classification Factor – the facility must have available bedspace in order to withstand fluctuations within population groups

Scenario #1: Steele County-Only Forecasted Bed Need

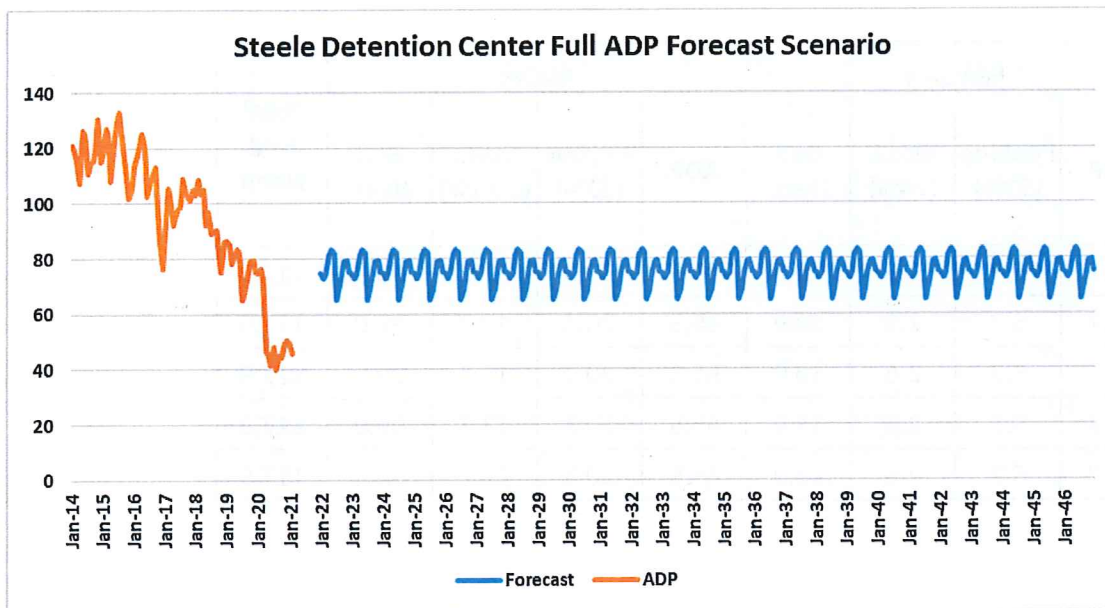
Year	Females				Males				Total Bed Need
	ADP	Peaking (32.1%)	Class. (29.4%)	Bed Need	ADP	Peaking (32.4%)	Class. (25.4%)	Bed Need	
2025	6.1	2.0	1.8	9.9	35.5	11.5	9.0	56.0	65.9
2030	6.1	2.0	1.8	9.9	35.5	11.5	9.0	56.0	65.9
2035	6.1	2.0	1.8	9.9	35.5	11.5	9.0	56.0	65.9
2040	6.1	2.0	1.8	9.9	35.5	11.5	9.0	56.0	65.9
2045	6.1	2.0	1.8	9.9	35.5	11.5	9.0	56.0	65.9

Scenario #2: All Inmate Forecasts

Forecast Scenario 2: Current ADP

- Forecast examines the full population *including rental bedspace*
- Seasonal ARIMA model which used jail bookings, average length of stay, and regional county population as predictors.
- Forecast model also essentially claims that the population will stabilize close to levels seen in 2019.
- To be clear, we rejected a large number of models that took the population drastically lower, given the prior history of the population and predictor trends.

Scenario #2: All Inmate Forecasted ADP



- Forecast begins in January 2022 due to uncertainty regarding how other counties are responding to pandemic
- Forecast is flat, despite seasonal peaks and valleys
- There is no indication in any of the data available that the population will increase, absent some significant change

Scenario #2: All Inmate Forecasted Bed Need

Year	Females				Males				Total Bed Need
	ADP	Peaking (53%)	Class. (24%)	Bed Need	ADP	Peaking (31%)	Class. (20.1%)	Bed Need	
2025	10.7	5.7	2.6	18.9	65.5	20.3	13.2	99.0	117.9
2030	10.7	5.7	2.6	18.9	65.5	20.3	13.2	99.0	117.9
2035	10.7	5.7	2.6	18.9	65.5	20.3	13.2	99.0	117.9
2040	10.7	5.7	2.6	18.9	65.5	20.3	13.2	99.0	117.9
2045	10.7	5.7	2.6	18.9	65.5	20.3	13.2	99.0	117.9

Steele Detention Center Forecasts – Bed Need

Conclusions

- Our overall forecast guidance is largely flat, avoiding further decreases that have already occurred
- Our forecast efforts were heavily impacted by all of the predictor trends indicating sustained decreases prior to the forecast windows
- We therefore rejected many forecast models that wanted to take the population of the facility to zero
- Our confidence in the Steele-responsible forecast is higher than the full ADP scenario for the simple reason that the statistical models do not know (or care) about potential future agreements with other jurisdictions



Steele County Agenda Item

Subject: Extension of Families First Coronavirus Response Act Emergency Sick Leave

Department: Human Resources

Committee Meeting Date: March 17, 2021

Board Meeting Date: March 23, 2021

Consent Agenda: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Resolution: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Policy Committee Recommendation:

Recommendation:

Extend the FFCRA Emergency Sick Leave Provision Through June 30, 2021.

Background (*Including Budget Impact*):

The Federal government enacted the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, effective from April 2 through December 31, 2020. The FFCRA required the county to provide 80 hours of paid Emergency Sick Leave in order to address employee absences due to COVID-19 illness, quarantine orders, care for household members with COVID-19 or to care for children under 18 when their school and/or childcare provider is closed due to COVID-19 related issues.

The FFCRA expired on December 31, 2020 but the Steele County Board of Commissioners authorized the extension of the E-Sick leave portion of the FFCRA in December 2020, effective through March 31, 2021 in order to support a healthy and available workforce and provide assurances to employees who were affected by COVID-19. This extension also provided additional time for the vaccination to become available to staff.

The vaccination roll-out and availability of vaccine to staff has taken longer than anticipated and there also continues to be Steele County staff and their household members getting infected with COVID-19 to date. Therefore, we're recommending another extension of E-Sick leave through June 30, 2021 or until the health emergency is deemed ended by the County Administrator/Board, whichever is sooner.

Each eligible employee's existing E-Sick entitlement would be extended and they would not be issued a new 80-hour entitlement. This would simply allow for the extended carryover of the original 80-hour entitlement from 2020.

Attachments:

Minnesota's Stay Safe Plan

Taking the next steps

After a long, painful year, the sun is brighter than ever and the end of COVID-19 is in sight. Vaccine progress is having an impact, and now 90 percent of school districts are offering some in-person learning, 94 percent of long-term care facilities are open for visitors, and more Minnesotans are back at work as customers return to businesses.

Recognizing the progress we have made on vaccines and controlling the spread of COVID, we can take a cautious step to support personal well-being and the business economy by loosening some restrictions.

This chart outlines Minnesota's updated plan to slow the spread of COVID-19 and save lives while supporting our small businesses.

Even after getting the COVID-19 vaccine, you should continue to take steps to protect yourself and others from COVID-19 as recommended.

Always follow these safety practices



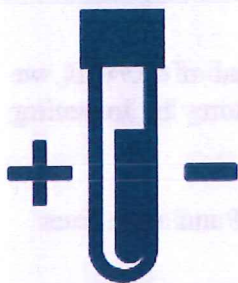
Facial coverings are required according to Executive Order 20-81.



Always stay six feet away from others.



Telework if you can.



Get tested.

Last updated 3/12/2021 9:00 a.m.

SETTING

GUIDANCE OVERVIEW

Social Settings

Beginning March 15, 2021 at 12 p.m.

Indoor social gatherings are limited to 15 people, outdoor gatherings to 50 people max.

Social distancing between households must be maintained.

Fully vaccinated people may be able to gather without masks and social distancing in specific settings. For more information, visit [About COVID-19 Vaccine](#).

Critical Businesses

Open (must have COVID-19 preparedness plan)

Beginning April 15, the requirement to work from home shifts to a strong recommendation. Employers are also strongly encouraged to implement reasonable accommodations for at-risk employees, or employees with one or more members of their household who have underlying medical conditions and are not yet eligible for vaccination.

Non-critical Businesses (non- customer facing)

Open (must have COVID-19 preparedness plan)

Beginning April 15, the requirement to work from home shifts to a strong recommendation. Employers are also strongly encouraged to implement reasonable accommodations for at-risk employees, or employees with one or more members of their household who have

SETTING

GUIDANCE OVERVIEW

underlying medical conditions and are not yet eligible for vaccination.

Retail

Open (must have COVID-19 preparedness plan)

Restaurants and Bars

Beginning March 15, 2021 at 12 p.m.

Indoor dining: 75% capacity, 250 people max.

Outdoor dining: 75% capacity, 250 people max.

Parties of no more than six people must remain six feet from other parties; bar seating is open to parties of four; establishments must close for on-site dining between 11 p.m. and 4 a.m. All patrons must be seated.

Beginning April 1, restaurants and bars with sufficient normal occupant capacity may exceed 250 people per applicable percentage limits and guidance.

Personal services (salons, tattoos, barbershops)

Beginning March 15, 2021 at 12 p.m.

Open at 100% capacity, but 6 feet of distance must be maintained between parties.

Gyms, personal fitness and yoga studios, martial arts

Beginning March 15, 2021 at 12 p.m.

Gym capacity is capped at 50%, maximum capacity remains at 250.

Machines and people should maintain 6 feet of distance.

Indoor classes are limited to 25 people, assuming distancing can be observed. Outdoor classes are limited to 50 people.

Masks required.

Beginning April 1, gyms, personal fitness and yoga studios, or martial arts spaces with sufficient normal occupant capacity may exceed 250 people per applicable percentage limits and guidance.

Use the Venue Occupancy Calculator to calculate reduced capacity of your facility/venue after April 1.

Indoor events and entertainment

Beginning March 15, 2021 at 12 p.m.

Open at 50% capacity, no more than 250 people.

On **April 1, 2021**, venues with occupant capacity greater than 500 may increase patron count as follows:

SETTING

GUIDANCE OVERVIEW

- For seated indoor venues: the venue may operate with an additional 15% of the occupant capacity above 500, with a maximum capacity not to exceed 3,000 for the entire venue (seated venues must have assigned seating, and patrons must remain seated).
- For non-seated indoor venues: the venue may operate with an additional 10% of the capacity above 500, with a maximum capacity not to exceed 1,500 for the entire venue.
- Use the [Venue Occupancy Calculator](#) to calculate reduced capacity of your facility/venue after April 1.

Masks required. No food service between 11 p.m. and 4 a.m.

Outdoor events and entertainment

Beginning March 15, 2021 at 12 p.m.

Open at 50% capacity, no more than 250 people.

On **April 1, 2021**, venues with occupant capacity greater than 500 may increase patron count as follows:

- For seated outdoor venues: the venue may operate with an additional 25% of the occupant capacity above 500, with a maximum capacity not to exceed 10,000 for the entire venue (seated venues must have assigned seating, and patrons must remain seated).
- For non-seated outdoor venues: the venue may operate with an additional 15% of the capacity above 500, with a maximum capacity not to exceed 10,000 for the entire venue.
- Use the [Venue Occupancy Calculator](#) to calculate reduced capacity of your facility/venue after April 1.

Social distancing is required.

No food or beverage service or consumption between 11 p.m. and 4 a.m.

Masks required.

School Buildings

All public and private schools will follow the [Safe Learning Plan](#).

SETTING

GUIDANCE OVERVIEW

Child Care

Open per [CDC guidance](#)

Youth Programming

Open per [MDH guidance](#) and [CDC guidance](#)

Organized Sports (Adult and Youth)

Practices and games open with limited spectators according to appropriate venue capacity restrictions. [See Guidance for Entertainment Venues.](#)

Tournaments are allowed but discouraged. Out of state play is discouraged. Masks are required for all, at both practices and games.

[See COVID-19 Sports Practice Guidance for Youth and Adults.](#)

Outdoor Recreation Activities and Facilities

Beginning March 15, 2021 at 12 p.m.

Open per DNR's [Outdoor Recreation Guidelines](#)

Up to 50 people may engage in outdoor activities together, with at least 6 feet of separation between households.

Guided and instructional activities may now include more than one guide or instructor.

Places of Worship, religious services, weddings, and funerals

Beginning March 15, 2021 at 12 p.m.

Open at 100% capacity. Masks required.

6 feet of social distance must be maintained between households.

No food or drink except when essential to perform a ritual or service (e.g., Communion), and singing is permitted as long as congregants remain masked.

Reception spaces for celebrations or private parties

Beginning March 15, 2021 at 12 p.m.

These events are now only subject to the entertainment venue capacity limits for the setting where they are held.

See [entertainment guidance](#) for details.

Table size is limited to 6 and guests must be seated while eating and drinking.

These events may not occur between 11 p.m. and 4 a.m.

Beginning April 1, reception spaces for celebrations or private parties with sufficient normal occupant capacity may exceed 250 people per applicable percentage limits and guidance for the venue. See [Guidance for Entertainment and Meeting Venues.](#)

SETTING

GUIDANCE OVERVIEW

Campgrounds and charter boats

Open with guidance.
Three households may gather outdoors, 15 people max.

Pools and swim parks

Beginning March 15, 2021 at 12 p.m.

Open at 50% capacity, max 250 people, and 6 feet of social distancing is required.

Beginning April 1, pools and swim parks with sufficient normal occupant capacity may exceed 250 people per applicable percentage limits and guidance for the venue, as seen in the

Use the [Venue Occupancy Calculator](#) to calculate reduced capacity of your facility/venue after April 1.

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Mission Statement (revised 3/5/20)

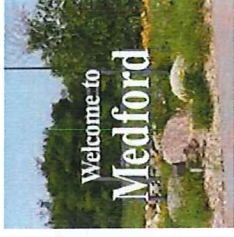
Driven to deliver quality services in a respectful and fiscally responsible way.

Core Values (revised 3/5/20)

1. **Teamwork** - *We serve the public best with collaboration, coordination and community partnerships.*
2. **Positivity/Forward-Thinking** – *We do our work with an open-minded and constructive approach.*
3. **Respect** – *We are eager to serve, friendly, helpful, and kind.*
4. **Accountability** – *We are fiscally and professionally transparent and responsible.*
5. **Integrity** – *We are ethical, honest, and reliable.*

Vision Statement (revised 3/5/2020)

First in Service. First in Value. The County of choice...today and tomorrow.



STEELE COUNTY

2021-2025 Strategic Plan

DRAFT

STEELE COUNTY

2021-2025 Strategic Plan

Steele County Board of Commissioners

James Brady (District 1)
John Glynn (District 2)
Rick Gnemi (District 3)
Jim Abbe (District 4)
Greg Krueger (District 5)



County Leadership Team

Rick Kvien, Recorder
Bill Effertz, Assessor
Dan McIntosh, Attorney
Dave Purscell, Information Technology
Jacob Rysavy, Building & Grounds
Lon Thiele, Sheriff

Laura Ihrke, Auditor
Cathy Piepho, Treasurer/Finance
Greg Ilkka, Engineer
Steve Schroht, 4-Seasons/P & R
Julie Johnson, Human Resources
Rene Gilormini, Veteran's Services
Dale Oolman, Planning & Zoning
Amy Caron, Public Health
Tim Schammel, Community Corrections
Scott Golberg, Administration
Mike Johnson, Emergency Management

Steele County

2021-2025 Strategic Plan

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INTRODUCTION



STRATEGIC PLANNING

Steele County's Board of Commissioners worked with the County Leadership Team of department heads to develop this five-year Strategic Plan. The Strategic Planning process identified a mission statement, core values, and four primary goal areas. The plan defines who we want to be as an organization and what we need to do to address the important issues facing us. The plan will serve as a guide to address the most important issues that we have identified over the next five years. We will work together to achieve these goals.

Mission Statement: Driven to Deliver Quality Services in a Respectful and Fiscally Responsible Way

Core Values:

1. Teamwork - We serve the public best with collaboration, coordination and community partnerships.
2. Positivity/Forward Thinking – We do our work in an open-minded and constructive approach.
3. Respect – We are eager to serve, friendly, helpful, and kind.
4. Accountability –We are fiscally and professionally transparent and responsible.
5. Integrity – We are ethical, honest, and reliable.

Primary Goal Areas:

1. Collaboration & Partnerships
2. Technology
3. Workplace/Workforce
4. Support our Changing Demographic

Steele County

Primary Goal Area | COLLABORATION & PARTNERSHIPS

2021-2025 Key Goals	2021-2025 Actions
Coordinate resources with other entities to deliver cost-effective service Key Goal Coordinators: Scott Golberg, Amy Caron, Kristi Blum Department Heads	• Explore opportunities to coordinate resources with other local government entities, counties, and other agencies • Pursue, track, and report developed coordinated resource efforts in the areas of cost savings and increased level of service

Steele County

2021-2025 Strategic Plan

Primary Goal Area | TECHNOLOGY

2021-2025 Key Goals	2021-2025 Actions
Research new technologies to leverage workforce needs and increase efficiency Key Goal Coordinators: Dave Purscell, Nick Flatgard, Gina McGuire	• Review and prioritize technology initiatives for all Departments • Review and assess technology resources (human capital and funding) • Develop and implement a new technologies decision process
Identify and mitigate threats to infrastructure and systems Key Goal Coordinators: Dave Purscell, Nick Flatgard, Gina McGuire	• Identify and address physical threats i.e.: Power Outages • Identify and address security threats
Improve service delivery to the public Key Goal Coordinators: Dave Purscell, Nick Flatgard, Gina McGuire, Scott Golberg	• Increase utilization of current products through structured internal training for improved efficiency and communication • Enhance website and systems to meet ADA compliance • Improve communication and awareness with the public about available services

Steele County

2021-2025 Strategic Plan

Primary Goal Area | WORKPLACE/WORKFORCE

2021-2025 Key Goals	2021-2025 Actions
Attract and Retain Employees Key Goal Coordinators: Julie Johnson, Tim Schammel, Sasha Henning, Erin Edel	• Establish and utilize metrics to increase retention rate • Update telecommuting policy and explore flex-work schedules, business hours, and benefit modifications • Update personnel policies for review and adoption • Identify opportunities to build a culture of appreciation and teamwork • Research and develop (Leaders at all Levels) program • Establish and implement Stay Interviews
Departmental Collaborations Key Goal Coordinators: Scott Golberg, Department Heads	• Identify new process improvement and sharing strategies for review and adoption
Services and Organizational Structure Key Goal Coordinator: Scott Golberg, Department Heads	• Research outsourcing opportunities for service delivery • Review organizational chart and recommend changes to create efficiencies and accountability

Primary Goal Area | WORKPLACE/WORKFORCE

2021-2025 Key Goals	2021-2025 Actions
Succession planning and implementation Key Goal Coordinators: Julie Johnson, Tim Schammel, Sasha Henning, Erin Edel, Department Heads	- Identify, develop and implement knowledge transfer opportunities through cross-training, “deep-benching”, and other strategies - Utilize performance reviews to identify growth and development opportunities
Performance management tools and systems Key Goal Coordinators: Julie Johnson, Tim Schammel, Sasha Henning, Erin Edel, HR Department	Assess and improve the 2020 performance management tools, as needed
Innovation and Best Practices Key Goal Coordinators: Julie Johnson, Tim Schammel, Sasha Henning, Erin Edel, Department Heads	- Assess and continue the 2020 pandemic response practices and protocols that improve service delivery - Review current information about best practices - Report status of new practices - Promote and support the departmental use of innovation and best practices

Key Focus Area | **SUPPORT OUR CHANGING DEMOGRAPHIC**

2021-2025 Key Goals	2021-2025 Actions
Support the County's changing demographics Key Goal Coordinators: Heather Fast, Katie Barden and Rick G. Kvien	• Create an action plan to address the changing demographics • Implement the changing demographics action plan

Steele County

2021-2025 Strategic Plan

Key Focus Area | SUPPORT OUR CHANGING DEMOGRAPHIC

2021-2025 Key Goals	2021-2025 Actions
Educate the youth about County Government Key Goal Coordinators: Heather Fast, Katie Barden and Rick G. Kvien	• Develop a strategy to incorporate middle/high school age students in active learning of government activities and positions • Implement youth field trips/tours of Steele County Buildings & Facilities • Coordinate with surrounding colleges to utilize interns • Review options for Bring Your Child to Work Day program
Explore the needs for the current workforce (all ages) Key Goal Coordinators: Heather Fast, Katie Barden and Rick G. Kvien	• Implement a small scale rideshare program for County Employees to enhance the ability for employees to work at Steele County

Steele County

2021-2025 Strategic Plan

Legislative Analysis for Counties: American Rescue Plan Act of 2021

Updated for Final Passage



INTRODUCTION

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the *American Rescue Plan Act of 2021* (H.R. 1319) into law. The \$1.9 trillion package, based on President Biden's *American Rescue Plan*, is intended to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, including the public health and economic impacts.

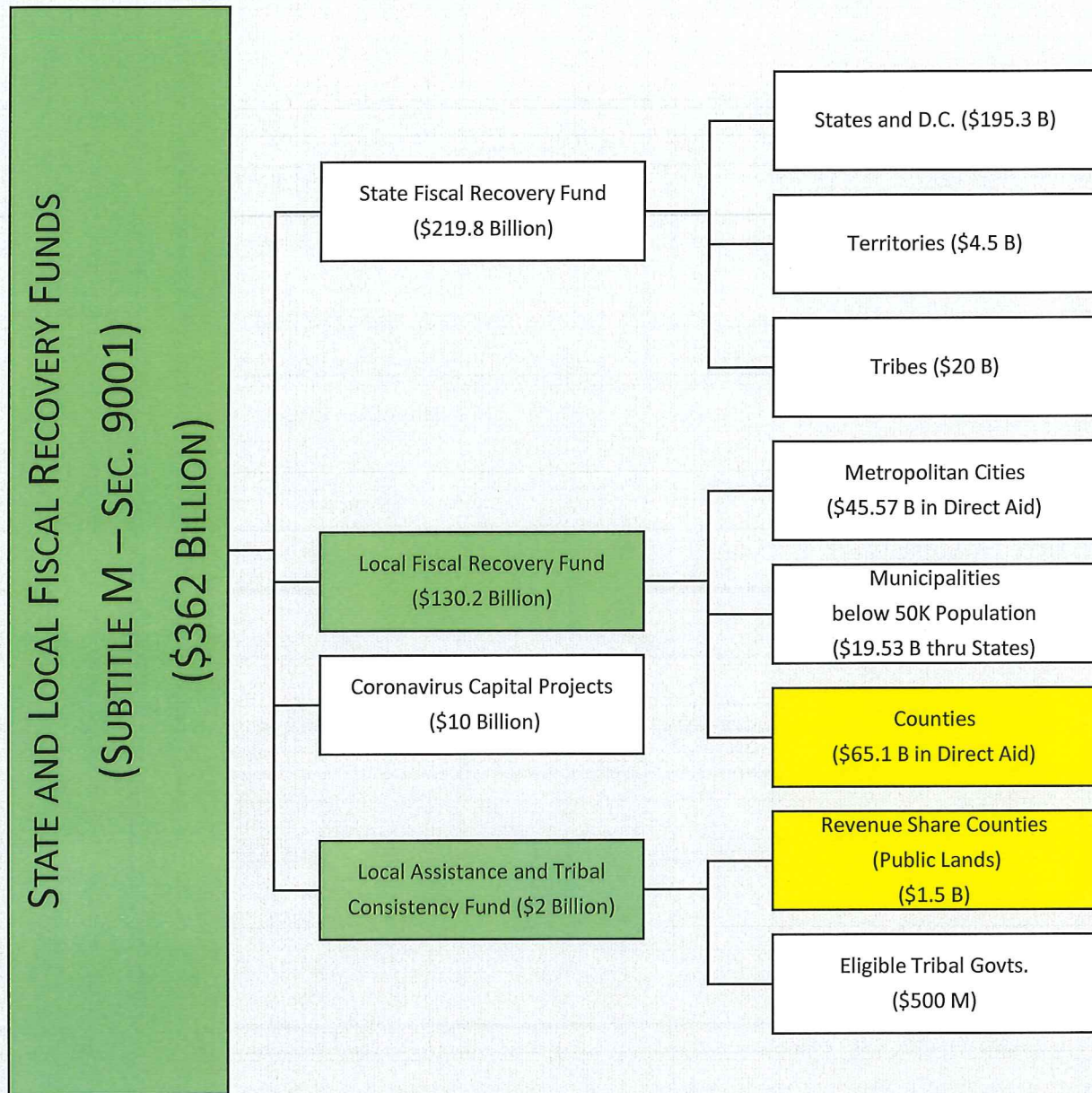
As part of the **\$362 billion in federal fiscal recovery aid for state and local governments, \$65.1 billion is provided in direct aid to counties and an additional \$1.5 billion for public land counties.** The *American Rescue Plan Act* also allocates hundreds of billions of dollars for public health and vaccines, assistance for vulnerable populations, education and housing stabilization, economic recovery assistance and direct assistance for families and individuals.

This analysis highlights **key provisions for county governments.**

The screenshot displays the NACo website's COVID-19 Recovery Clearinghouse section. At the top, a navigation bar includes links for WHAT WE DO, TOPICS, ADVOCACY, RESOURCES, EVENTS & EDUCATION, NEWS, and COUNTY EXPLORER. The main banner features a woman wearing a face mask and holding a sign that says "WE'RE OPEN". Below the banner, three topic cards are visible:

- State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds**: Find your county's estimated allocation, NACo's legislative analysis and more. [LEARN MORE](#)
- Investing CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funds**: Find examples and best practices, as well as U.S. Treasury guidance and FAQs. [LEARN MORE](#)
- COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution**: Explore key considerations for counties in COVID-19 vaccine distribution plans. [LEARN MORE](#)

DIRECT ASSISTANCE FOR STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS



CORONAVIRUS STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUND

Provides approximately \$362 billion to help states, territories, counties, cities, and tribal governments cover increased expenditures, replenish lost revenue and mitigate economic harm from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Visit the [NACo COVID-19 Recovery Clearinghouse](#) for timely resources, including county allocation estimations, updates on Treasury guidance, examples of county programs using federal coronavirus relief funds and other timely news.

Distribution Formula: A total of \$362 billion is allocated as follows:

- **States and District of Columbia: \$195.3 billion**
 - \$25.5 billion equally divided.
 - \$169 billion allocated based on the states' share of unemployed workers over a three-month period from Oct.-Dec. 2020.
 - \$1.25 billion in additional aid for the District of Columbia.
- **Local governments: \$130.2 billion divided evenly between non-county municipalities and counties**
 - **\$65.1 billion in direct federal aid to all counties** based on the county share of the U.S. population (including parishes in Louisiana, boroughs in Alaska and consolidated city-county entities). Counties that are Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) recipients (urban entitlement counties) will receive the larger of the population-based share or the share under a modified CDBG allocation formula. Treasury shall allocate the first tranche of payments within 60 days of enactment.
 - **\$65.1 billion to cities and other non-county municipalities.**
 - *With populations of at least 50,000:* \$45.57 billion in direct federal aid using a modified CDBG formula.
 - *With populations below 50,000:* \$19.53 billion based on each jurisdiction's percentage of the state's population, not exceeding 75 percent of its most recent budget as of January 27, 2020. Aid is distributed through the states.
- **U.S. Territories: \$4.5 billion**
- **Tribal governments: \$20 billion**

[Click here
to view
your
county's
estimated
funding
allocation.](#)

Allowable Uses for Recovery Funds:

- **Respond to or mitigate the public health emergency with respect to the COVID-19 emergency or its negative economic impacts**, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality. *These examples are intended to clarify congressional intent that these activities are eligible. However, state and local activities are NOT limited only to these activities.*
- **Provide government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue** (i.e. online, property or income tax) due to the public health emergency.
- **Make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.**
- State and local governments can transfer the funds to a private nonprofit organization, a public benefit corporation involved in the transportation of passengers or cargo **or a special-purpose unit of State or local government.**
- **Respond to workers performing essential work** during the COVID-19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers of the county that are performing such essential work, or by providing grants to eligible employers that have eligible workers who perform essential work.
 - **“Premium pay”** means an additional amount up to \$13 per hour that is paid to an eligible worker for work during the COVID-19 pandemic. The law imposes a cap of \$25,000 for any single eligible worker.

Guardrails for Recovery Funds:

- **States are not allowed to use the funds to either directly or indirectly offset a reduction in the net tax revenue** that results from a change in law, regulation or administrative interpretation during the covered period that reduces any tax. If a state violates this provision, it will be required to repay the amount of the applicable reduction to net tax revenue.
- **No funds shall be deposited into any pension fund.**
- Any local government, including counties, that **fail to comply with the federal law and related guidelines shall be required to repay the federal Treasury.**

Program Administration:

- Funds will be distributed by the U.S. Department of Treasury.
- **The deadline to spend funds is December 31, 2024.**
- The U.S. Treasury is required to **pay the first tranche to counties not later than 60-days after enactment**, and second payment no earlier than 12 months after the first payment.
- The law provides an additional \$77 million for the Government Accountability Office and \$40 million for the Pandemic Response and Accountability Committee **for oversight and to promote transparency and accountability.**

Reporting Requirements for State and Local Governments:

- **States are required to report how funds are used and how their tax revenue was modified** during the time that funds were spent during the covered period (covered period begins on March 3, 2021 and ends on the last day of the fiscal year a state or local government has expended or returned all funds to the U.S. Treasury).
- **Local governments, including counties, are required to provide “periodic reports”** providing a detailed accounting of the use of funds.
- If a state, county or municipality **does not comply with any provision of this bill, they are required to repay the U.S. Treasury** an equal amount to the funds used in violation.

CORONAVIRUS CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND (SEC. 604)

- **Provides \$10 billion for states, territories, and tribal governments to carry out critical capital projects**, specifically related to enabling work, education, and health monitoring, including remote options, in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency. *This funding includes broadband infrastructure.*
- **Each state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico will receive a minimum allocation of \$100 million**, plus another \$100 million is divided among other U.S. territories and another \$100 million is designated for tribal governments and Native Hawaiian use.
- **Of the remaining funds, states receive an additional allocation** based on population (50 percent), number of individuals living in rural areas as a percentage of the U.S. rural population (25 percent), and proportion of the state’s population of households living in poverty.