



SCALE

Scott County Association For Leadership And Efficiency

On Friday, Feb. 10, Prior Lake Mayor and current chair of the Scott County Association for Leadership and Efficiency **Michael Myser** welcomed a crowd to the annual SCALE legislative meeting in Prior Lake. Attended by **Senator Claire Robling, Representative Michael Beard, Representative Mark Buesgens, and Representative Kelby Woodard**, Chair Myser convened the meeting with the members' thanks for the legislators' attendance as well as their help and leadership with several SCALE initiatives in past sessions.

After brief introductions, Scott County Public Affairs Coordinator **Lisa Kohner** – joined by Scott County **Commissioner Jon Ulrich**, Savage **Mayor Janet Williams**, Shakopee Community Development Director **Michael Leek**, County Highway Program Manager **Lisa Freese**, and Chair Myser, among others – presented the *2012 SCALE Legislative Priorities* while taking comments and observations from the legislators. Among some of the more significant issues in the SCALE platform:

- Support for the restructuring of the current regional governance body, the Metropolitan Council.
- Support for bond funding sufficient to address the existing and anticipated Minnesota River crossing needs.
- Support for the elimination of all legislative restrictions on the Dan Patch commuter corridor.
- Support for a MnDOT-led study on the feasibility and implementation of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) or other transit improvements along the 494 corridor.
- Support for a number of statutory modifications to acknowledge the concerns and needs of a growing exurban area.
- Support for Dakota County's bonding request for the purpose of constructing a Southern Minnesota Regional Morgue Facility.

Following the presentation of the *2012 SCALE Legislative Priorities*, Chair Myser asked the legislators in attendance for their suggestions on how the organization could improve its legislative priority process and help the delegation succeed in their goals. Sen. Claire Robling – echoed by Representatives Beard and Buesgens – was quick to note that SCALE is frequently mentioned as a model of cooperation and efficiency, and that the legislators appreciate the fact that they can directly communicate with locally elected and appointed officials in one location on a regular basis. "You're doing a great job," Representative Buesgens added.

Concluding the meeting, Chair Myser stated that "... we just want to emphasize our thanks to you, our legislators, for your consistent attendance as well as attention to our concerns. And we also thank you for celebrating SCALE as a model of intergovernmental cooperation among your peers and colleagues."

"The mission of SCALE is to forge new and innovative ways in which government entities can collaborate to provide superior services while making the most of limited resources."

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