

# Dakota County 2022 Rural Public Safety Protection Program



VI-2022

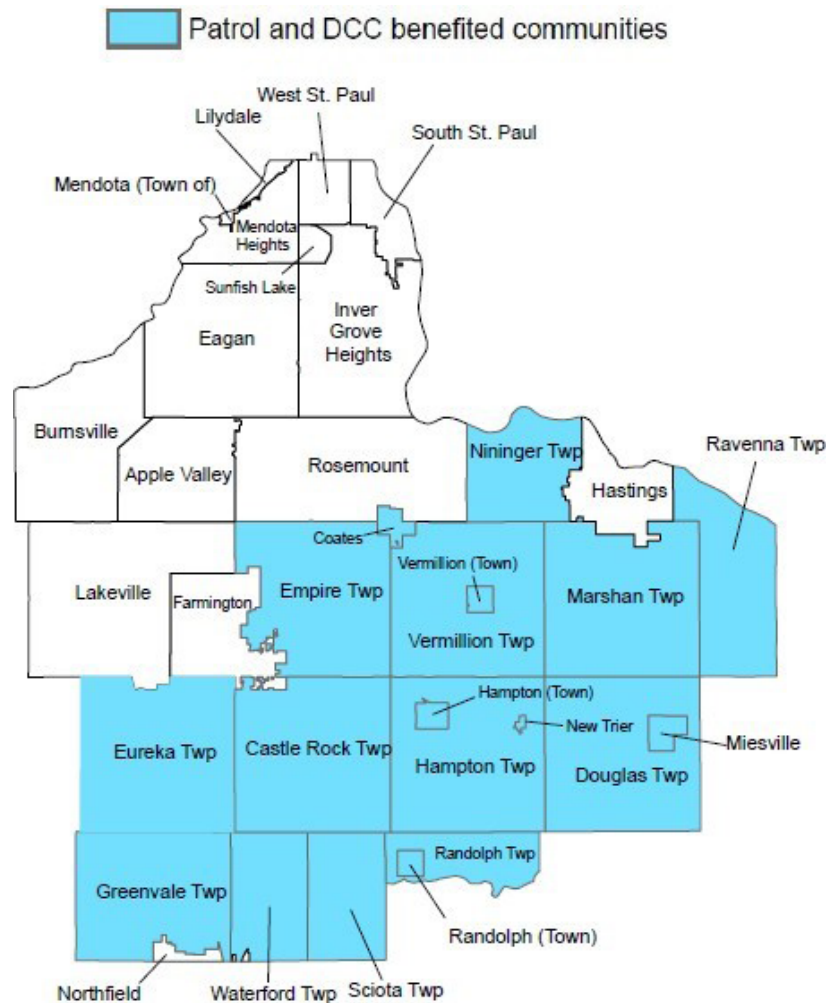
Dakota County seeks to join 81 other Minnesota counties with existing legislative authority to operate a subordinate service district that provides for public safety and other needs in rural areas. State law already allows for the creation of a subordinate service district in non-metro counties. Metro counties may do so as well, but must seek separate legislative approval, like Anoka County did in 2017. Approval by the Legislature will provide Dakota County the ability to levy only upon specific benefiting municipalities or boundaries (contiguous or noncontiguous) to finance a public safety service directly to those areas. These services may include county sheriff patrol and the Dakota Communications Center (911).

## The issue

Dakota County is required by state law to levy across all municipalities for services that only benefit specific cities and townships. The remaining cities and townships have similar services that are provided and levied locally. These areas are effectively double-taxed for the service.

## The solutions

- Allow Dakota County to join 81 other counties across Minnesota to create subordinate services districts by resolution.
- Amend state law to remove the county exclusion and the boundary requirement.



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