All Minnesotans deserve to be safe no matter what you look like or where you live. House DFLers are partnering with local mayors, police chiefs, and prosecutors to address a rise in crime. Democrats are putting forth plans that provide the funding, tools, and collaboration needed to keep people safe, while our Republican colleagues have decided to pursue political slogans instead of proven solutions.

House DFLers know that rising crime is on the minds of Minnesotans. That’s why our initial public safety proposal of 2022 would dedicate $100 million in ongoing investments for public safety innovation.

**Innovation in Community Safety Grants ($40 million)**

Democrats are proposing significant investments in violence prevention. More funding for community nonprofits that attack the root of the problem will prevent crime from happening in the first place.

**Local Community Policing Grants ($22 million)**

We all know crime is less likely to occur in the immediate vicinity of law enforcement. Local Community Policing Grants will enable more police officers to build relationships with neighbors in areas with disproportionately elevated levels of crime. The funding will also support partnerships with community groups for crisis response and expand co-responder teams.

**Crime Investigation Grants ($22 million)**

All victims deserve a legal system that delivers justice in an expeditious manner. Funding from Crime Investigation Grants can be used to hire and retain investigatory personnel and train them to analyze violent crime, specifically regarding the use of intelligence information of criminal networks, including gangs and geographic areas. Eligible uses for the grant funding also include the purchase of evidence processing technology and equipment, and resources to victims and their families.
DELIVERING PROVEN PUBLIC SAFETY SOLUTIONS

**Opiate Epidemic Response Grants ($10 million)**

During the pandemic, deaths as a result of opioid overdoses have tragically increased. A $10 million investment to fund prevention and education strategies will help save lives.

**Body Camera Grants ($2.5 million)**

Body-worn camera technology can be tremendously helpful in aiding investigations, but too many agencies lack the resources to purchase the recording devices and other required equipment. Matching grant funding will help local law enforcement agencies purchase body cameras and data systems, with guardrails in place to prohibit altering, erasing, or destroying any recording, as well as transparency requirements.

**POST Board Investigator Investment ($450,000)**

Rebuilding community trust with law enforcement is a critical part of reducing crime. Minnesotans value and appreciate our law enforcement professionals who respect our constitutional and human rights. When officers commit bad acts, they must be held accountable. This funding would enable the POST Board to hire four investigators to perform compliance reviews and investigate alleged code-of-conduct investigations among peace officers.

**POST Board Alternative Licensure ($50,000)**

House DFLers strongly support the highest level of excellence within law enforcement and a complement of officers reflective of the communities they are sworn to serve. A new task force will help develop strategies to increase recruitment of new peace officers, increase the diversity and professional background of licensed peace officers, promote education and training in the community policing model, and maintain high standards of education and training required for licensure.