

Dane Co. Exec Parisi: Statement on Governor Evers' budget proposal

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Tonight, Governor Tony Evers introduced his first biennial budget to the state of Wisconsin. In response to the proposal, Dane County Executive Joe Parisi released the following statement:

“Governor Tony Evers’ 2019-2021 budget reflects Wisconsin values and prioritizes many initiatives that Dane County supports and has worked hard to implement since I first took office in 2011.

“From committing to increase K-12 funding and improve the quality of our water to emphasizing the need to repair our aging roads and support Wisconsin’s struggling agricultural industry, it is clear to see that the Governor’s budget serves the people of Wisconsin and works to address our state’s needs. Criminal justice reform is one of many issues in this budget that Dane County shares an interest in addressing, and I am happy to see that Governor Evers wants to raise the age that offenders are considered adults for most crimes. I am also excited to see a focus on preserving our state’s natural resources so Wisconsin’s outdoors can be enjoyed for generations to come.

“Governor Evers’ proposal acknowledges the needs of local governments and provides us with solutions to help us grow and move forward. Dane County is currently the fastest growing county in Wisconsin. With a net in-migration of more than 20,000 since 2010, no other county comes close. As recently as 2016, we accounted for almost 80 percent of the state’s population growth and over half of its private sector job growth. According to a 2018 survey, nearly 40 percent of

participating Dane County business leaders said their business performed better than they expected in 2018 and nearly 75 percent are anticipating an even better outcome in 2019. Governor Evers' budget proposal makes me excited for what lies ahead—not only for our region, but for Wisconsin as a whole.”