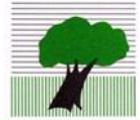




# DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference



## 2014 Legislative Action Program

**DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference**

1220 Oak Brook Road

Oak Brook, IL 60523

Phone: 630-571-0480 Fax: 630-571-0484

[www.dmmc-cog.org](http://www.dmmc-cog.org)



Pictured Above: Senator Tom Cullerton with DMMC and Itasca President Jeffery J. Pruyn, Lisle Village Clerk Tim Seeden and Villa Park President Deborah Bullwinkle

## INTRODUCTION

Municipalities and their residents are affected by an astonishingly broad array of legislative issues. At the start of each legislative session, the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference focuses legislative efforts by selecting key priority issues with the most significant and immediate impacts across the region and even the state. We put forth these issues here.

It is the Conference's desire to foster a collaborative partnership between local government and the state, while working with legislators to serve our common constituents as we address these priority legislative issues and more. The Conference seeks to uphold and advocate principles of effective local government and to otherwise lessen the burdens of government.

The DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference is an association of municipalities representing over 1,000,000 people. A council of 34 municipal governments, the Conference was founded in 1962. Our membership is comprised of both elected and appointed officials. The Conference is a not-for-profit organization supported by membership dues and grants, dedicated to addressing municipal public policy issues.



Pictured Above: Naperville Mayor George Pradel and Senator Jim Oberweis

**Legislative Priorities** are those specific, immediate issues that the Conference pursues either through initiating legislation or through strong advocacy in cooperation with partner organizations. Legislative Priorities are our primary legislative focus as we commence the second year of the 98<sup>th</sup> General Assembly.



Pictured Above: Burr Ridge Mayor Mickey Straub, Representative Jeanne Ives, House Republican Leader Jim Durkin and Hanover Park President Rodney Craig

## REVENUE AND TAXATION

### **Reform Municipal Public Safety Pensions**

The pension system must be made sustainable not only to ensure affordability for municipalities and taxpayers, but also to protect obligations to employees. If municipalities lack sufficient funds, then pension systems will collapse and retirees will lose their benefits entirely. In 2010, police and fire pensions became a two-tier system that ensured some relief for municipalities. That relief, however, will mostly occur in future decades, when today's newest employees begin to reach retirement age.

The following reforms must apply to current public safety employees for all future benefit accruals:

- Pause all cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) for ten years, then establish an annual COLA of the lesser of 3% or  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the Consumer Price Index (CPI), non-compounding;
- Increase employee contributions by 1% of salary per year for five years;
- Return the retirement age to 55 years, with a minimum of ten years of service;
- Return to an accrual formula whereby maximum benefit is attained at 35 years of service;
- Reform the calculation of pensionable salary and base the annuity on the average of the best eight years of the employee's final ten years of service. Additionally, do not include the value of accrued time off in the calculation of pensionable salary.

The following additional reforms must be made to the administration of pensions:

- Amend the compliance and penalty provisions in Public Act 96-1495 which threaten to take Local Government Distributive Fund (LGDF) revenue and other state-collected funds if municipalities fail to contribute annually to public safety pension funds in an amount sufficient to reach a 90% funded level by the 2040 fixed amortization deadline;
- Enact a 30-year rolling amortization period for pension funding;
- Allow police and fire pension boards to invest funds in the IMRF;
- Allow police and fire pension boards to merge funds;
- Remove pension levies from the tax cap;
- Return to a public safety pension board structure with majority representation by the taxpayer;
- Amend the Sheriff's Law Enforcement Personnel (SLEP) plan, which permits police chiefs to enroll in and transfer police time with previous municipal employers to SLEP, to no longer require the new employer to cover the cost of the unfunded liability created by past service with another employer;
- Oppose any new pension sweeteners.



Pictured Above: Representative Emily McAsey and Roselle Mayor Gayle Smolinski

## **Require Direct Deposit of LGDF Funds**

The Comptroller should be required to transfer funds to the LGDF and distribute those funds to municipalities as soon as they are received and certified. Furthermore, the state should refrain from diverting this, or any other municipal revenue, for its own programs.



Pictured Above: Bloomingdale President Franco Coladipietro, Carol Stream Manager Joseph Breinig, Representative Mike Fortner, and Carol Stream Mayor Frank Saverino

## **Remove the Sunset Date on the Wireless Emergency Telephone Safety Act**

At the advent of cell phone usage, an access fee of 73 cents per month was implemented to fund technological improvements which allow cell phones to contact 9-1-1. This statutory provision expires on July 1, 2014. The decline in landlines necessitates that the funding for 9-1-1 systems continue to be derived from the more proliferative use of wireless phones.

## **Implement Streamlined Sales Tax**

Implement federal streamlined sales tax rules that preserve intra-state sourcing rules and require the state to treat the resulting funds as pass-through revenue to local governments.

### **Limit the Prevailing Wage Act**

Protect small businesses and reduce local project costs for taxpayers by amending the Prevailing Wage Act to exempt projects below a minimum cost threshold of \$250,000 and annually adjust the threshold by the CPI.

### **Exempt Staffing Requirements from Collective Bargaining**

Due to statutory arbitration requirements and state-mandated pensions, the only variable municipalities can use to manage budgets is the number of staff. Legislation should be approved to explicitly exclude employee staffing levels from municipal collective bargaining.

### **Define “Confidential Employees” Under the Illinois Labor Relations Act**

Legislation is necessary to change the definition of “confidential employees” to include certain employees working directly for upper level management and having access to sensitive bargaining information in order to ensure that these employees are not considered “public employees” entitled to membership within a bargaining unit.



Pictured Above: Former Willowbrook Mayor Robert Napoli, Senator Kirk Dillard, Former Woodridge Mayor William Murphy, Senate Republican Leader Christine Radogno, and Oak Brook Mayor Gopal Lalmalani

### **Limit Commercial Freedom of Information Act Requests**

Municipalities often receive Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests that are not properly indicated as commercial, despite the fact that this is a violation of the Act. These requests, which are often submitted by out-of-state private companies, pose a significant financial burden on municipalities. The Act should include more effective penalty provisions for violations by commercial interests.

### **Remove Barriers to Non-Home Rule Authority**

The distinction between home rule and non-home rule communities should be removed to recognize the ability of all municipalities to govern themselves, regardless of population.

- **Amend the Hotel-Motel Tax**

Allow non-home rule municipalities greater flexibility in how they may spend Hotel-Motel Tax revenues.

- **Allow Crime Free Housing Regulations**

Municipalities with home rule authority are permitted to license landlords and require periodic inspections of dwellings. Legislation should allow non-home rule communities to use this program as well.

### **Amend Rules Regarding Publication of Reports and Notices**

Mandated reporting, printing, and notice requirements should be amended to permit municipalities to satisfy compliance by posting reports and publications online and providing paper copies on request. Double publication of two-county Truth in Taxation Notices, which wastes limited public resources, should be eliminated. In addition, Public Act 97-0146 should be amended to extend authority to municipalities to publish notice of the availability of a Treasurer's Report, rather than the entire Report.

## WESTERN ACCESS TO O'HARE

### **Support Western Access**

As the Elgin-O'Hare Expressway expansion project is finalized, the state must consider the project's impact on local residents and businesses. The Legislature should pass a resolution that supports the project and ensures the new access route provides a true entrance into the airport from the west.



**Pictured Above: Naperville Councilwoman Judith Brodhead, Downers Grove Mayor Martin Tully, Senator Michael Connelly and Senate President Pro Tempore Don Harmon**



## Conference Membership

Village of Addison  
City of Aurora  
Village of Bartlett  
Village of Bensenville  
Village of Bloomingdale  
Village of Bolingbrook  
Village of Burr Ridge  
Village of Carol Stream  
Village of Clarendon Hills  
Village of Downers Grove  
City of Elmhurst  
Village of Glen Ellyn  
Village of Glendale Heights  
Village of Hanover Park  
Village of Hinsdale  
Village of Itasca  
Village of Lisle  
Village of Lombard  
City of Naperville  
Village of Oak Brook  
City of Oakbrook Terrace  
Village of Roselle  
Village of Schaumburg  
City of St. Charles  
Village of Villa Park  
City of Warrenville  
Village of Wayne  
City of West Chicago  
Village of Westmont  
City of Wheaton  
Village of Willowbrook  
Village of Winfield  
City of Wood Dale  
Village of Woodridge

## Conference Officers

**President, Jeffery J. Pruyn**

President, Village of Itasca

**Vice President, Martin Tully**

Mayor, Village of Downers Grove

**Secretary/Treasurer, Evan Teich**

Administrator, Village of Itasca

**Executive Director, Mark A. Baloga**

## Legislative Committee

**Director, Nunzio Pulice** Mayor, City of Wood Dale

**Deputy Director, Joseph Breinig** Manager, Village of Carol Stream

**Bob Barnett** Commissioner, Village of Downers Grove

**Joseph Broda** Mayor, Village of Lisle

**Judith Brodhead** Councilwoman, City of Naperville

**Deborah Bullwinkel** President, Village of Villa Park

**Rodney Craig** President, Village of Hanover Park

**Lorenz "Larry" Hartwig** Assistant to the Mayor, Village of Addison

**Rich Keehner, Jr.** Manager, Village of Villa Park

**Jack Knight** Management Analyst, Village of Woodridge

**Sylvia Layne** Trustee, Village of Addison

**Jennifer McMahon** Assistant Administrator, City of Warrenville

**David Niemeyer** Manager, Village of Oak Brook

**Enza Petrarca** Village Attorney, Village of Downers Grove

**Jeffery J. Pruyn** President, Village of Itasca

**Todd Scalzo** Councilman, City of Wheaton

**Tim Seeden** Village Clerk, Village of Lisle

**Frank Soto** President, Village of Bensenville

**Grant Wehrli** Councilman, City of Naperville

Click here to see the [DMMC Legislative Position Statements](#), legislative proposals, initiated by a variety of groups on a vast array of topics, which significantly impact municipalities and their residents and guide our legislative efforts through the course of the year.



**DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference**

An association of municipalities representing over 1,000,000 people