

Legislative Action Program

DMMC Legislative Priorities for 2021



DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference 2021

SERVING RESIDENTS AND COMMUNITIES OF DUPAGE COUNTY

Representing more than one million residents by advocating for sound public policy initiatives, the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference (DMMC) strives to promote sound local government, foster intergovernmental cooperation, and find innovative solutions to make local government work more effectively for DuPage County residents. DMMC's legislative priorities for **2021** include:

Restore Local Government Distributive Fund Revenue

to fund police, fire and other essential municipal services.

Preserve Local Authority and Revenue

to allow municipalities to serve the distinct needs of their residents and businesses.

Invest in Illinois' Infrastructure

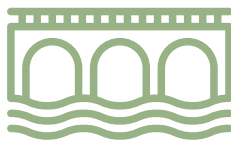
to maintain local roads, bridges and water facilities, improve safety and generate economic growth.

Protect Public Safety Retirement and Taxpayers

by decreasing unfunded liabilities and stabilizing retirement systems.

Reform Workers' Compensation

to ensure that injured workers receive quality care while enabling businesses to remain competitive.



RESTORE LOCAL GOVERNMENT DISTRIBUTIVE FUND (LGDF) REVENUE

Illinois' LGDF accounts for up to 20 percent of a municipality's operating budget and provides critical revenue to local governments for important services such as police and fire protection, garbage pick-up, road maintenance, and snow removal. Municipalities need the State to honor the agreement that shared 10% of total income tax collections with municipalities on a per capita basis. Failure to disperse local money back to municipalities forces local governments to find new revenue sources or eliminate services.

PRESERVE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Municipal officials, held accountable by the residents who elect them, are best equipped to make local decisions for the people they represent. Legislation and mandates that preempt local government authority obstruct the ability to meet resident needs and solve community concerns. Decisions involving franchising, zoning, permitting and licensing, code enforcement, business regulations and right of ways are fundamental responsibilities of local government.

- Remove the distinction between home-rule and non-home rule communities to eliminate barriers and give all municipalities the same authority to make local decisions.
- Allow municipalities to use administrative adjudication for suspended/revoked drivers licenses and minor traffic violations to provide significant cost savings to taxpayers by expediting proceedings, reducing expenses and providing improved service to victims and witnesses.
- Allow all municipalities to spend hotel/motel tax revenue without restriction.
- Allow hotel/motel tax to apply to stays of 30 days or longer. Municipalities should receive tax revenue from those stays, eliminating the need for additional revenue sources.
- Secure funding to replace lead service lines in the public right of way to prevent the need for raising fees and taxes.
- Support state and county legislation banning the sourcing of dogs, cats and rabbits from puppy/kitten/rabbit mills.
- Establish standards for body camera records retention.
- Reinstate local authority for the siting of wireless telecommunications facilities, including small cell antennas, to provide municipalities necessary control over the utilization of public property and assets by private businesses.

INVEST IN ILLINOIS' INFRASTRUCTURE

Improve Illinois' infrastructure system to bolster the state's economy, create jobs and attract new businesses. Well maintained infrastructure allows for safe travel, prompt freight delivery, clean water, and an efficient public transportation system. Continued identification of needs with matching resources allows municipalities and the state to work together to maintain and improve infrastructure.

PROTECT PUBLIC SAFETY RETIREMENT AND TAXPAYERS

DMMC advocates for reforms aimed at preserving public safety pensions of local police officers and firefighters while reducing the burden on municipalities and taxpayers. Fund consolidation legislation passed in 2019 is intended to increase efficiencies and reduce some costs, but additional steps are needed to truly reform downstate pension systems. The reduction of unfunded liabilities and annual costs will make pension systems sustainable and reduce threats to core services and increased taxes. Authorize the consolidated downstate public safety pension fund boards to implement additional cost saving measures.

REFORM WORKERS' COMPENSATION

Workers' Compensation reforms will create economic opportunity and jobs, making Illinois more competitive with surrounding states. Adopting common-sense reforms will lead to more reasonable settlements without harming employees who have legitimate claims and ensure they receive fair compensation and quality treatment. Meaningful workers' compensation reforms will save significant costs while encouraging employers to hire new workers and expand.

- Establishing standards to ensure an injury or illness is directly linked to the work or the workplace will lead to more equitable workers' compensation settlements for the community and employee.
- Create a definition of "catastrophic injury" to establish a clear and reasonable injury standard for application of the Public Safety Employee Benefits Act (PSEBA) allowing municipalities to contain related costs.

