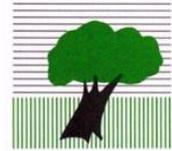


# DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference



## Legislative Position Statements

**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)

## ***Legislative Position Statements***

*Every year the Conference responds to many legislative proposals, initiated by a variety of groups on a vast array of topics, which significantly impact municipalities and their residents. The following Legislative Position Statements outline Conference positions on several of these issues and guide our legislative efforts through the course of the year.*

### ***Protect Municipal Revenues***

Municipalities should have the flexibility to fund the programs and services they consider necessary. Funds owed to municipalities should not be diverted and state mandates should be balanced against other municipal spending priorities to prevent overburdening local budgets and taxpayers.

- **Permit Municipalities to Collect Hotel-Motel Taxes for Permanent Residents**  
The Illinois Hotel Operators' Occupation Tax Act specifically exempts permanent residents and limits municipal hotel and motel tax revenue for people staying 30 days or longer. The Act should be amended to remove the exemption or change the definition of "permanent resident."
- **Reject Unfunded State Mandates**  
Legislation often requires communities to divert local expenditures from municipal services and use them to fund state-imposed programs. The state should not impose mandates that increase financial obligations on local governments without providing adequate funds to reimburse municipalities for these new mandates.
- **Make Owners Responsible for Protecting Foreclosed Property**  
The burden to maintain foreclosed property should rest not on the municipality and taxpayers, but on the bank or other owner of record.
- **Preferences for Illinois Contractors**  
Allow municipalities to select out-of-state contractors, rather than in-state contractors, if the bid differential is greater than 10%.

### ***Eliminate Barriers to Local Management of Labor and Personnel***

Support must be given to local authority to manage labor and personnel and to implement the most efficient and effective means of delivering services. Legislative barriers that make it difficult to consolidate and coordinate services—including public works, code enforcement, police, and fire—should be eliminated. The resulting efficiency would permit municipalities to provide higher levels of services, save money, and reduce the burden on taxpayers.

- **Amend the Illinois Labor Relations Act to Create a Level Playing Field for Labor Arbitration**  
Arbitrators should be required to take into consideration both the interest and welfare of the public and the financial ability of the unit of government to meet costs with current revenue streams. Additionally, local fire unions should be required to pay for their share of arbitration costs, as police unions are currently required. The Act should also be amended to establish additional standards that prevent minor issues and unreasonable positions from being taken to arbitration.

- **Provide Municipal Control of the Foreign Fire Insurance Tax Revenue**  
Elected municipal officials, not fire department members, should receive, budget, and spend revenues from the Foreign Fire Insurance Tax.
- **Prohibit Municipal Employees from Serving on the Governing Board**  
No municipal employee should be eligible to serve on the governing board for that municipality.
- **Regulate Charitable Solicitations on Behalf of Police or Fire Unions**  
Develop effective enforcement against fraud and misrepresentation by solicitors.
- **Amend Public Safety Pension Board Training Legislation**  
Amend Public Acts 96-0429 and 94-0354 to permit pension board trustees and police chiefs and deputy chiefs to satisfy training requirements using online courses and webinars, and to allow certification of local community colleges to provide the training. Additionally, provide exemptions for professionals with relevant credentials and remove the requirement for annual reviews, making training a one-time event.

### *Preserve and Respect Local Authority*

The freedom to make decisions at the local level is the best way that municipalities can fully serve their unique constituencies. Policies should not undermine or preempt local authority and responsibility to protect the health, safety, and welfare of local residents.

- **Permit Access to Sales Tax Information**  
Grant all municipalities access on a quarterly basis to the Illinois Department of Revenue sales tax information by individual retailer for enforcement and budgeting purposes.
- **Preserve Local Risk Management Pools**  
Support the preservation of local authority to enter into and manage cooperative risk pools.
- **Amend the Open Meetings Act**  
Clarify all rules under the Act regarding the use of developing technology during meetings.
- **Protect Sign Regulation and Limit Billboard Removal Compensation**  
Legislation is necessary to allow municipalities to use amortization as a form of “just compensation” when zoning changes cause a billboard to be a nonconforming use.
- **Expand Allowable Annexation Boundaries**  
Expand municipalities’ rights with respect to involuntary annexations by adding railroad and utility rights-of-way as allowable boundaries.
- **Limit Land Disconnection**  
Prohibit the disconnection of land from a municipality without approval from the city council or village board.

- **Permit Special Service Areas for Stormwater Facilities**  
Reform Public Act 97-0533 to prohibit the refusal of special service areas and permit municipalities to ensure maintenance of drainage facilities that are the responsibility of homeowner associations.
- **Allow Municipalities to Determine the Form of Security Posted by Developers**  
Municipalities, rather than developers, should be able to decide whether developers will need a bond or a letter of credit for public improvements.
- **Amend the Sales Tax**  
Allow non-home rule municipalities greater flexibility to expend sales tax revenue on areas other than infrastructure.
- **Allow Greater Flexibility with Other Taxes and Restrictions**  
Allow non-home rule municipalities to employ policies such as state and local funding alternatives, regulation of pawn shops, and economic development incentives. Also, permit non-home rule municipalities to assess and expend – for any government purpose – tax revenue from car rentals, gasoline, and natural gas utilities.

### *Transportation*

- **Support Effective Transit Governance and Decision-Making**  
Support a regional approach to transit governance and decision-making that promotes multi-modal options, provides reliable and accessible bus and rail service, responds to current and future economic markets, and ensures an equitable allocation of federal, state, and regional transportation resources to DuPage communities.
- **Permit Municipal Control Over IDOT Projects**  
Municipalities should be allowed to obtain partial or full waiver from IDOT review for certain projects, and to hire their own consultants to conduct state reviews to avoid delays. In addition, guidelines should be established to allow municipalities to administer their own Motor Fuel Tax funds without the delay of state approval.

Click here to see the [DMMC Legislative Priorities](#), which are those specific, immediate issues that the Conference pursues either through initiating legislation or through strong advocacy in cooperation with partner organizations.



## 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  
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Village of Winfield  
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