



# DU PAGE COUNTY

## Legislative Committee

### Final Summary

421 N. COUNTY FARM ROAD  
WHEATON, IL 60187  
www.dupagecounty.gov

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Tuesday, December 10, 2024

11:30 AM

Room 3500A

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#### 11:30 AM or Immediately following County Board

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

11:30 AM meeting was called to order by Chair DeSart at 1:54 PM.

#### 2. ROLL CALL

Staff in attendance: Jeremy Custer (Senior Advisor), Conor McCarthy (Assistant State's Attorney) and Treasurer Gwen Henry.

<b>PRESENT</b>	Childress, DeSart, Galassi, and Garcia
<b>EXCUSED</b>	Eckhoff, Honig, and Zay
<b>ABSENT</b>	Ozog, and Schwarze

#### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

##### 3.A. [24-3293](#)

Legislative Minutes - Regular Meeting - Tuesday, October 8, 2024

<b>RESULT:</b>	ACCEPTED
<b>MOVER:</b>	Dawn DeSart
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Paula Garcia

#### 4. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were offered.

#### 5. CHAIR'S REMARKS - CHAIR DESART

Chair Dawn DeSart shared that the Legislative Breakfast would be on January 17th at 9am at Arrowhead Golf Club.

#### 6. PRESENTATION

##### 6.A. Presentation from the Treasurer's Office

Chair DeSart introduced and welcomed Treasurer Gwen Henry to discuss the unique situation she has encountered regarding property tax and determine if there is something the Legislative Committee can do by working with the General Assembly to remedy the situation.

Treasurer Henry presented a situation where the tax payer was incorrectly assessed in 2022 and this incorrect assessment was not identified until 2023. It was determined that the tax payer overpaid by \$3,346.32. Because tax year 2022 was closed, the Treasurer is unable to refund the

money. She is asking for the Legislative Committee to work with the General Assembly to include language that will allow DuPage to go back three years in correcting overpayment errors.

If there is a error in the assessment, the current law allows the county to go back three years if the county is over three million in population. DuPage does not meet the criteria. Treasurer Henry pointed out that other laws have included DuPage by adding the wording "if contiguous with a county with over three million in population." One example of this is the increase given for residential or senior exemptions on property tax this last year.

Treasurer Henry's second request was to use this same wording to lower the penalties/interest for late payment of property taxes.

Jeremy Custer agreed to work with the Treasurer's staff to discover what can be done.

**7. LEGISLATIVE PROGRAMS**

**7.A. [LEG-R-0005-24](#)**

Resolution to Adopt the County's 2025 State Legislative Program

Member Galassi would like to add to the "Keeping Our Communities Safe" section of the 2025 State Legislative Program to be stronger on pre-trial detainment. There was discussion surrounding the Safety Act and how it affects pre-trial detainment.

Jeremy Custer went over the 2025 State Legislative Program.

Member Galassi stated that she was voting affirmatively as long as amendments can be added to the "Keeping Our Communities Safe" section before or during County Board. Member Galassi had to leave after the vote.

Member Childress stated he would like to discuss the pros and cons of Home Rule. The committee agreed they would be interested in the same. The members voiced interest in the full Board being versed on the subject.

<b>RESULT:</b>	APPROVED AT COMMITTEE
<b>MOVER:</b>	Dawn DeSart
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Paula Garcia

**8. OLD BUSINESS**

No old business was discussed.

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

No new business was discussed.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:25 PM.



# Minutes

421 N. COUNTY FARM  
ROAD  
WHEATON, IL 60187  
[www.dupagecounty.gov](http://www.dupagecounty.gov)

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**File #:** 24-3293

**Agenda Date:** 12/10/2024

**Agenda #:** 3.A.

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# DU PAGE COUNTY

## Legislative Committee

### Final Summary

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Tuesday, October 8, 2024

11:30 AM

Room 3500A

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**\*\*11:30 AM or Immediately Following County Board\*\***

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to Order by Chair DeSart at 12:18 PM.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Additional Board Members: Yeena Yoo and Sheila Rutledge  
Staff Member in attendance: Jason Blumenthal (Assistant Director of Operations). Conor McCarthy (Assistant State's Attorney)

Guest Speaker: John (Chip) Humes (Lobbyist)

<b>PRESENT</b>	Chaplin, Childress, DeSart, Eckhoff, Galassi, and Zay
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**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

<b>PRESENT</b>	Chaplin, Childress, DeSart, Eckhoff, Galassi, and Zay
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3.A. [24-2316](#)

Legislative Minutes - Regular Meeting - Tuesday, August 13, 2024

<b>RESULT:</b>	APPROVED
<b>MOVER:</b>	Dawn DeSart
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Jim Zay

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No Public Comment

**5. CHAIR'S REMARKS - CHAIR DESART**

Chair DeSart introduced Chip and spoke of his accomplishments.

**6. DISCUSSION**

6.A. Veto Session Preview – DuPage County Lobbyists

Chip from Marquart & Humes discussed what is happening in Springfield.

Currently the full focus in on the Election.

Veto Session will be: November 12th through 14th and November 19th through 21st. At this time, there are no actions.

Big ticket items outstanding: RTA Funding, Supplemental State budget, CPS Board, Stadium funding for Chicago sports teams.

A few Board members asked questions that Chip responded to.

**7. OLD BUSINESS**

No Old business.

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

No New business.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



## Legislative Resolution

421 N. COUNTY FARM  
ROAD  
WHEATON, IL 60187  
www.dupagecounty.gov

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**File #:** LEG-R-0005-24

**Agenda Date:** 12/10/2024

**Agenda #:** 7.A.

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### RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE COUNTY'S 2025 STATE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, members of the Legislative Committee have communicated with County elected officials and staff regarding the needs of County residents; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Committee has developed a legislative program consisting of a list of priorities for DuPage County to propose and support during the 2025 spring session of the Illinois General Assembly (herein referred to as "2025 State Legislative Program" and attached as Exhibit A which is incorporated by reference); and

WHEREAS, it is important for the County's 2025 State Legislative Program to be communicated to the public and to our elected officials; and

WHEREAS, County Board Rules provide that a legislative program and duties related thereto receive the advice and consent of a majority vote of the County Board;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED per the recommendation of the Legislative Committee, that the DuPage County Board does hereby advise and consent to the adoption of the attached 2025 State Legislative Program for DuPage County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that staff and the County's lobbyists are directed to work together with the County's legislative delegation to advance the 2025 State Legislative Program in Springfield.

Enacted and approved this 14<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2025 at Wheaton, Illinois.

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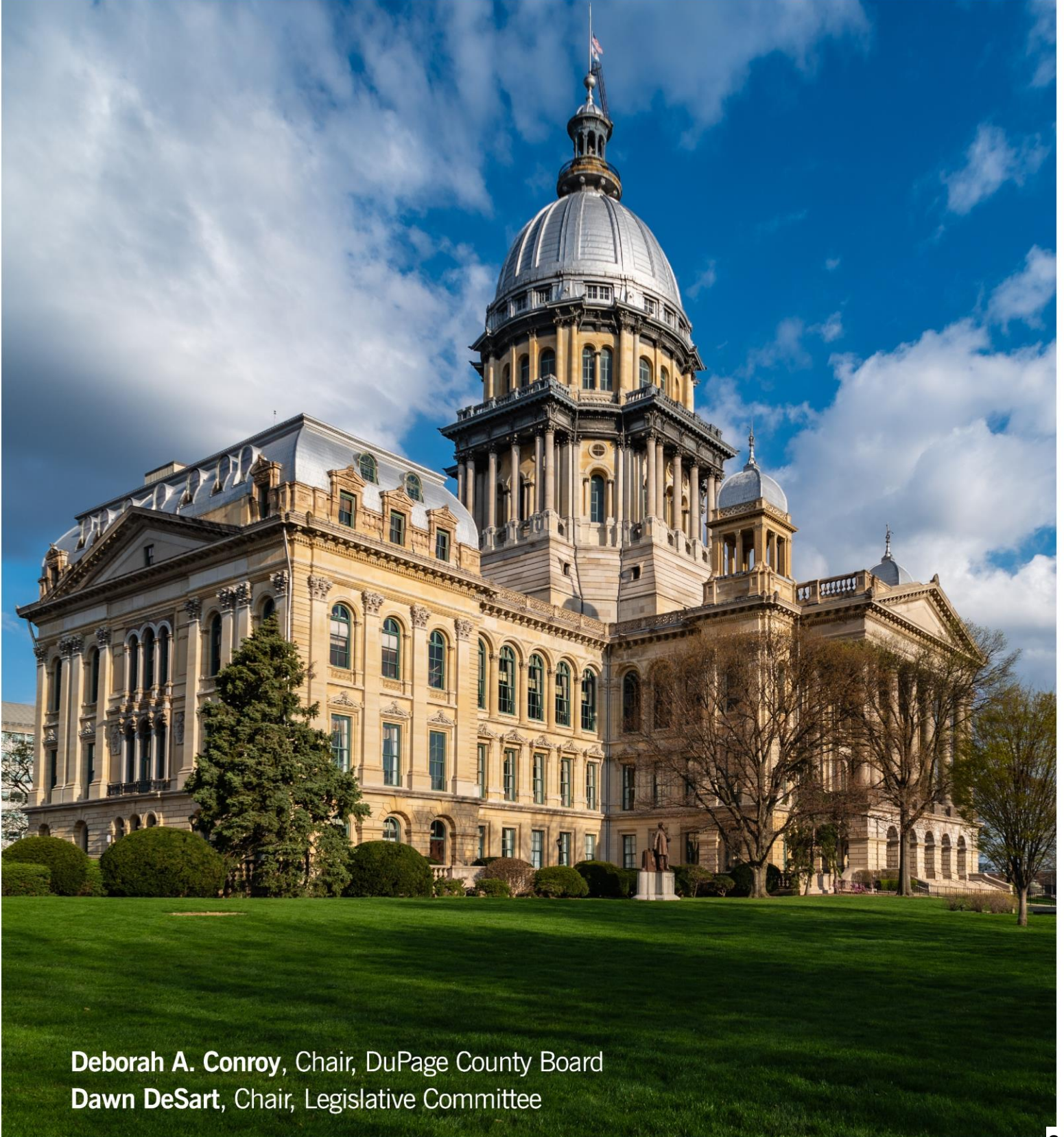
DEBORAH A. CONROY, CHAIR  
DU PAGE COUNTY BOARD

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
JEAN KACZMAREK, COUNTY CLERK



# DUPAGE COUNTY

## 2025 STATE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM



**Deborah A. Conroy**, Chair, DuPage County Board  
**Dawn DeSart**, Chair, Legislative Committee





## GOVERNMENT PROFILE

## COUNTY FACTS

### DuPage County, Illinois

Incorporated January 1, 1838

#### Cities located entirely or partly in DuPage:

Aurora, Batavia, Chicago, Darien, Elmhurst, Naperville, Oakbrook Terrace, St. Charles, Warrenville, West Chicago, Wheaton and Wood Dale

#### Villages located entirely or partly in DuPage:

Addison, Bartlett, Bensenville, Bloomingdale, Bolingbrook, Burr Ridge, Carol Stream, Clarendon Hills, Downers Grove, Elk Grove Village, Glendale Heights, Glen Ellyn, Hanover Park, Hinsdale, Itasca, Lemont, Lisle, Lombard, Oak Brook, Roselle, Schaumburg, Villa Park, Wayne, Westmont, Willowbrook, Winfield and Woodridge

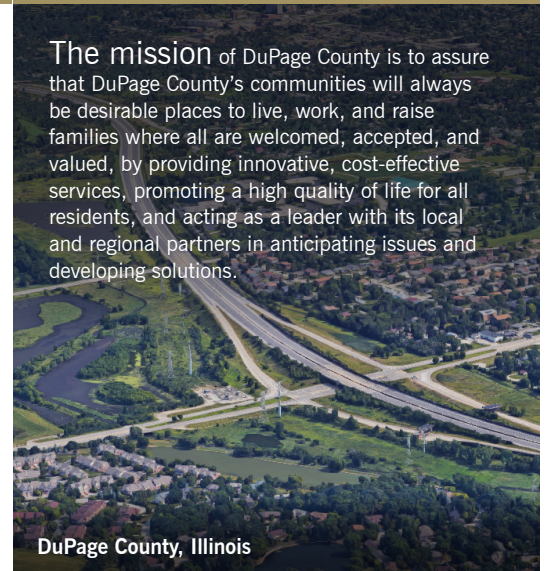
#### Unincorporated communities:

Cloverdale, Eola, Flowerfield, Keeneyville, Lakewood, Medinah, Palisades, Swift, and York Center

#### Townships:

Addison, Bloomingdale, Downers Grove, Lisle, Milton, Naperville, Wayne, Winfield and York

The mission of DuPage County is to assure that DuPage County's communities will always be desirable places to live, work, and raise families where all are welcomed, accepted, and valued, by providing innovative, cost-effective services, promoting a high quality of life for all residents, and acting as a leader with its local and regional partners in anticipating issues and developing solutions.



DuPage County, Illinois

### Demographic Information<sup>1</sup>

- Population
- Total Population: ..... 928,814
- Incorporated Population: ..... 832,363
- Unincorporated Population: ..... 96,451



### Race, Ethnicity, Gender<sup>2</sup>

- Caucasian: ..... 65.0%
- African American: ..... 5.4%
- American Indian/Alaska Native: ..... 0.4%
- Asian: ..... 13.2%
- Hispanic or Latino: ..... 15.0%
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander: ..... 0.01%
- Other: ..... 3.53%
- Male: ..... 49.5%
- Female: ..... 50.5%



### Education Attainment<sup>3</sup>

- High School Graduate: ..... 93.3%
- Bachelor's Degree: ..... 50.3%
- Graduate or Professional Degree: ..... 19.6%



### Colleges and Universities<sup>4</sup>

- Devry University
- College of DuPage
- Wheaton College
- Benedictine University
- Elmhurst University
- North Central College
- Midwestern University
- National University of Health Sciences
- Lewis University



### Area Information<sup>5</sup>

- Persons per Square Miles: ..... 2,773.4
- Open Space: ..... 20% or 443,060 acres
- Total Area: ..... 336.36 sq. miles
- Total Incorporated Area: ..... 247.58 sq. miles
- Total Unincorporated Area: ..... 88.78 sq. miles
- District 1: ..... 54.81 sq. miles
- District 2: ..... 49.99 sq. miles
- District 3: ..... 53.08 sq. miles
- District 4: ..... 38.64 sq. miles
- District 5: ..... 49.63 sq. miles
- District 6: ..... 90.22 sq. miles



### Financial Information<sup>6</sup>

- County Revenue: ..... \$523.0 million
- Sales Tax Revenue: ..... \$138.0 million
- Property Tax Revenue<sup>7</sup>: ..... \$48.2 million
- Local Gas Tax Revenue: ..... \$38.8 million
- Income Tax Revenue: ..... \$16.4 million
- Funds on Hand: ..... \$107.5 million



### Economic Information<sup>8</sup>

- Unemployment Rate: ..... 4.2%
- Number of Jobs: ..... 654,386
- Office Space Vacancy Rate: ..... 15.8%
- Industrial Space Vacancy Rate: ..... 3.2%
- Bond rating: ..... AAA<sup>9</sup>
- Housing Units: ..... 344,314<sup>10</sup>
- Median Household Income: ..... \$94,930<sup>11</sup>



<sup>1</sup> ESRI/American Community Survey 2023

<sup>2</sup> ESRI/American Community Survey 2023

<sup>3</sup> 2020 U.S. Census

<sup>4</sup> There are 18 colleges and universities in DuPage County

<sup>5</sup> DuPage GIS Map Book (2022)

<sup>6</sup> DuPage County FY2025 Proposed Budget

<sup>7</sup> 2024 County revenue minus Health Department tax levy

<sup>8</sup> Choose DuPage 2024 statistics

<sup>9</sup> Maintains AAA bond rating with all three rating agencies: Standard & Poor's, Moody's and Fitch

<sup>10</sup> 2020 U.S. Census

<sup>11</sup> 2020 U.S. Census



## GOVERNMENT PROFILE

## DUPAGE COUNTY BOARD



### DuPage County Board

**Deborah A. Conroy** **D**

Chair, DuPage County Board  
(630) 407-6060 • [www.dupagecounty.gov/cobrd](http://www.dupagecounty.gov/cobrd)



Jack T. Knuepfer Administration Building

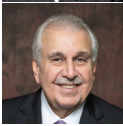
### District 1



**Cindy Cronin Cahill** **R**  
Elmhurst



**Michael Childress** **D**  
Bloomington



**Sam Tornatore** **R**  
Roselle

### District 2



**Paula Deacon Garcia** **D**  
Lisle



**Andrew Honig** **D**  
Lombard



**Yeena Yoo** **D**  
Elmhurst

### District 3



**Lucy Chang Evans** **D**  
Naperville

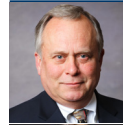


**Kari Galassi** **R**  
Hinsdale



**Brian Krajewski** **R**  
Downers Grove

### District 4



**Grant Eckhoff** **R**  
Wheaton

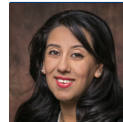


**Lynn LaPlante** **D**  
Glen Ellyn

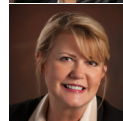


**Mary FitzGerald Ozog** **D**  
Glen Ellyn

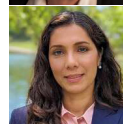
### District 5



**Sadia Covert** **D**  
Naperville



**Dawn DeSart** **D**  
Aurora

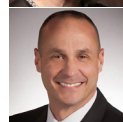


**Saba Haider** **D**  
Aurora

### District 6



**Sheila Rutledge** **D**  
West Chicago



**Greg Schwarze** **D**  
Carol Stream



**James F. Zay** **R**  
Carol Stream



# DUPAGE COUNTY



## 2025 STATE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

### Overview

DuPage County is the second-largest county in Illinois with more than 925,000 residents. The County is comprised of 9 townships, portions of 39 municipalities, and 336 square miles. DuPage is a major employment center for northeastern Illinois, home to 630,000 jobs, 90,000 businesses, 7 hospitals, 2 national laboratories (Argonne National Laboratory and Fermi National Accelerator), 18 institutions of higher education, 300 miles of bikeways, and 23,000 acres of forest preserve property. More than 20% of the county is open space.

County residents elect the County Board Chair at-large plus nine other Countywide Elected Officials, including the Auditor, County Clerk, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Coroner, Recorder, Regional Superintendent of Schools, Sheriff, State's Attorney, and Treasurer. The County Board includes eighteen members who are elected from six County Board Districts (three members per district).

Core county government services include the provision of: public safety/Sheriff's Office and the operation of the County Jail; administration of the 18th Judicial Circuit, the second-largest court system in the state (and all related agencies - judiciary, State's Attorney, Circuit Court Clerk, Public Defender, Jury Commission, Probation); construction and maintenance of the County highway and trails system; delivery of public health, environmental health, mental health care, and substance use prevention; assistance with food, emergency shelter, utilities, and transportation services to residents in need; programs for seniors including adult protective services; flood control and stormwater management; job training and job search support; water and sewer services; building and permitting; zoning enforcement; administration of Countywide elections; operation of the County nursing home; emergency management and emergency preparedness; and operation of the County animal shelter. County leaders continue to seek opportunities to share the delivery of public services to minimize the tax burden on residents.

DuPage County continues to receive a AAA Bond Rating from all three major credit rating agencies, a designation shared by just 2% of counties nationwide. County government also accounts for 2% of the average property tax bill.



# DUPAGE COUNTY



## 2025 STATE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

### 2025 State Legislative Priorities

1. **Develop a Statewide Mental Health Care System**

Expand access to mental health care and substance abuse disorder services, with a focus on youth. Ensure adequate reimbursement through Medicaid and private health insurance, provide incentives to encourage more individuals to enter the behavioral health workforce, and fund innovative programs at the local level.

2. **Economic Stability for All of DuPage**

DuPage County boasts a robust economy and is an excellent place to raise a family, start a business, and enjoy cultural landmarks. However, we are not immune to broader economic challenges. Issues such as affordable housing for our diverse workforce, food insecurity affecting 1 in 10 DuPage families, and homelessness still persist. We support legislative efforts to address these challenges and enhance economic stability for our residents.

3. **Reimagine Our Public Transit System**

Modernize our public transit delivery system to expand and provide equitable access to transit services across the collar counties. These improvements aim to meet the needs of employers, job seekers, and aging and disabled populations while supporting a governance structure that strengthens the RTA and expands suburban representation.

4. **Protect Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) Dollars**

The state's push for accelerated electrification of vehicles is negatively impacting a key funding source for maintaining and constructing county highways. As local and state MFT revenues diminish due to vehicle and fleet electrification, state leaders must consider a replacement revenue source.

5. **Property Tax Modernization**

DuPage County is a responsible steward of taxpayer dollars, particularly regarding property taxes. We advocate for modernizing property tax administration rules to ensure efficiency and effectiveness in the use of taxpayer money.

6. **Allocate a Fair Share of Income Tax Revenues**

Provide counties and municipalities with their fair share of income tax proceeds through the Local Government Distributive Fund (LGDF) to support the delivery of critical local government services to residents.

7. **Keeping Our Communities Safe**

Protect our residents, especially children, from injury and death through a public education and awareness campaign on gun safety. Enact safe gun storage provisions and protect victims of domestic violence by requiring law enforcement officers to promptly remove firearms from individuals subject to orders of protection.



# DUPAGE COUNTY



## 2025 STATE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

### 8. **Protecting Our Environment**

Support legislation that reduces the environmental impact of residents and businesses by promoting waste reduction and diverting materials from landfills.

### 9. **Equity for Our Special Needs Population**

DuPage County has a longstanding commitment to caring for residents with special needs. We aim to continue this legacy by supporting policies that promote equity and dignity for the special needs community.

### 10. **Caring for Our Animal Population**

Advocate for animal welfare by opposing attempts to repeal the current ban on puppy mills, closing the Illinois Department of Agriculture's "dog dealer" licensure loophole, and enacting additional measures to protect animals from inhumane treatment.