



DU PAGE COUNTY

Legislative Committee

Final Summary

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

Tuesday, December 12, 2023

11:30 AM

Room 3500B

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Chair Dawn DeSart at 11:47 AM.

2. ROLL CALL

Additional Board Members present: Member Yoo, Member Evans, and Member Deacon Garcia.

Staff Present: Sheryl Markay (Chief Policy & Program Officer), Jason Blumenthal (Policy & Program Manager), Nick Kottmeyer (Chief Administrative Officer), Evan Shields (Public Information Officer), Conor McCarthy (State's Attorney's Office), Chris Snyder (Director of Transportation), William Eidson (Incoming Director of Transportation), Mary Keating (Director of Community Services).

Guest: Greg Bedalov

Guest via Zoom: Lobbyist Marc Poulos

PRESENT	Chaplin, Childress, DeSart, Eckhoff, Galassi, and Zay
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3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.A. [24-0091](#)

Legislative Minutes - Regular Meeting - Tuesday, September 26, 2023

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Dawn DeSart
SECONDER:	Liz Chaplin

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment received.

5. CHAIR'S REMARKS - CHAIR DESART

Chair DeSart thanked Sheryl Markay for the fantastic work she does for the Legislative Committee, commenting she couldn't do it without Ms. Markay. Chair DeSart also thanked Conor McCarthy and the Board Members on the team for being on the Legislative Committee.

6. LEGISLATIVE PROGRAMS

Amendment to the 2024 State Legislative Program to include language regarding mental health root causes, food insecurity solutions, and Karina's bill.

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Dawn DeSart
SECONDER:	Liz Chaplin

6.A. [LEG-R-0001-24](#)

Resolution to Adopt the County's 2024 State Legislative Program

Sheryl Markay went over the 2024 State Legislative Program explaining the topics included in the program. Ms. Markay advised that she will be reviewing and monitoring the bills that are brought forth in the next session that align with the priorities outlined in the 2024 State Legislative Program and will task our lobbyists with supporting those bills in Springfield.

Marc Poulos gave further explanation of legislation on the public transit system and placed importance around the governance structure. There was discussion regarding EV vehicles and retooling fees collected by the state. Mr. Poulos informed the committee of options that can be used to replace the motor fuel tax that would otherwise be collected from electric vehicle users. Mr. Poulos stated he has been appointed, by Governor Pritzker, to the Blue Ribbon Commission on Transportation Infrastructure Funding and Policy. The commission aims to seek out alternative funding mechanisms for projects and operations. The commission is also tasked with researching current and future workforce needs, safety improvements, racial equity, and how to expand multi-modal transportation networks.

Member Yeena Yoo proposed an amendment to the 2024 State Legislative Program to include specific wording within the topic of "Keeping our Communities Safe" to state "Earlier this summer, Karina Gonzalez and her 15 year old daughter Daniela, were shot to death by Gonzalez's husband Jose Alvarez, 12 days after she submitted an order of protection.

Karina's Bill would clarify the Domestic Violence Act to provide law enforcement clear directives on removing firearms from a home when an individual is granted an order of protection. This legislation is critically important as domestic violence is on the rise both in Chicago and across our state. Last year, there were 56 domestic violence homicides across Illinois, up from 40 in 2021 and 37 in 2020. Added to the rise in domestic violence is the proliferation of firearms across our state. In the US, intimate partner homicide represents 40-50% of the murders of all women.

Right now, the order of protection process is failing too many domestic violence survivors, especially when firearms are involved. DuPage County supports passage of this legislation to protect victims of domestic violence."

Member Liz Chaplin asked for food insecurity to be added to the 2024 State Legislative Program.

Member Grant Eckhoff would like to insert wording into the "Develop a Statewide Mental Health System" portion of the 2024 State Legislative Program that supports examining the root causes of mental illness.

RESULT:	APPROVED AS AMENDED
MOVER:	Dawn DeSart
SECONDER:	Michael Childress

7. OLD BUSINESS

Sheryl Markay announced that a Legislative Breakfast is being planned for late January. Ms. Markay also announced that ISAcO is hosting a drive down to Springfield on April 10, 2024.

8. NEW BUSINESS

No new business was discussed.

9. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.