

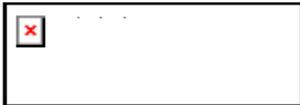
**Blakely, Heidi**

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**From:** noreply@formstack.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 31, 2026 12:32 PM  
**To:** Web Master; County Board Public Comment  
**Subject:** PublicComment

**Categories:** Green Category

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**Formstack Submission For: PublicComment**  
Submitted at 01/31/26 12:31 PM

**Meeting Date:** 01/31/26

**Meeting:** DuPage County Board

**Name:** Robert Ziomek

**Organization:**

**Address:**



**Daytime Phone:**



**Subject:** property taxes

**Comment:** my taxes are close to 10,000 of that 7,000 + to schools. am not opposed to helping the schools but I haven't had kids in schools for many, many years. Am a senior citizen and getting to hard to keep living here with such high taxes.

Mr. Robert Ziomek

**Blakely, Heidi**

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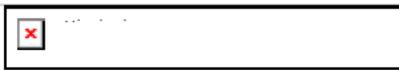
**From:** noreply@formstack.com  
**Sent:** Monday, January 26, 2026 1:20 PM  
**To:** Web Master; County Board Public Comment  
**Subject:** PublicComment

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**Formstack Submission For: PublicComment**  
Submitted at 01/26/26 1:20 PM

<b>Meeting Date:</b>	01/27/26
<b>Meeting:</b>	DuPage County Board
<b>Name:</b>	Bill Graham
<b>Organization:</b>	Valley View
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>Daytime Phone:</b>	
<b>Subject:</b>	Video
<b>Comment:</b>	



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## Blakely, Heidi

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**From:** Glenn Nelson  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 4, 2026 9:21 AM  
**To:** Cronin Cahill, Cindy; DuPage County Chair  
**Subject:** ELMHURST missing video-gambling revenues (improperly being kept by the State of Illinois?)  
**Attachments:** Elmhurst missing video-gambling revenues.pdf  
  
**Categories:** Yellow category

**[Caution: This email originated outside Dupagecounty.gov. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.]**

Ms. Deborah Conroy & Ms. Cindy Cronin Cahill,

See the attached PDF document for a list of ELMHURST and other IL municipalities where the State of Illinois is improperly keeping the the municipalities' share of video gambling revenues.

As you know, I and others are providing public comment about our opposition to video-gambling in our DuPage County residential neighborhoods (specifically in gas stations, restaurants, convenience stores, and grocery stores), but we do not oppose video-gambling in Moose Lodges, Elks Lodges, American Legion Posts, or VFW posts. As you know, those lodges and posts are permitted BY STATE LAW.

That said, I am sharing this email with you, because I learned of this information in my research, and am doing what is right by sharing it with you both since this is where you both live and the district Cindy represents.

I am unaware of any special accommodations that suggest that the State of Illinois is somehow allowed to keep the municipalities share of revenues.

Glenn Nelson

## DuPage County VIDEO-GAMBLING sites where the STATE OF IL is wrongfully taking ELMHURST'S 5% SHARE of GAMBLING REVENUE

This is happening because the Illinois Gaming Board does not have the municipality properly set up in their database.

Report Date: 02/04/2026 08:16 AM

YEAR	Establishment	License Number	Municipality	VGT Count	Amount Played	Amount Won	Net Wager	Funds In	Funds Out	Net Terminal Income	GAMBLER LOSS %	NTI Tax	32.5% Establishment Share	32.5% Machine Provider Share	35% State Share (SHOULD BE 30%)	0% Municipality Share	Municipality Share (SHOULD BE the 5% below)
2025	ELKS LODGE #1531 - ELMHURST	220802027	N/A	5	\$253,370	\$235,396	\$17,974	\$83,143	\$65,170	\$17,974	21.6%	\$6,291	\$5,841	\$5,841	\$6,291	\$0	\$899
2024	ELKS LODGE #1531 - ELMHURST	220802027	N/A	5	\$212,748	\$195,649	\$17,099	\$78,744	\$61,645	\$17,099	21.7%	\$5,901	\$5,599	\$5,599	\$5,901	\$0	\$843
2023	ELKS LODGE #1531 - ELMHURST	220802027	N/A	5	\$215,849	\$199,669	\$16,180	\$90,922	\$74,742	\$16,180	17.8%	\$5,501	\$5,339	\$5,339	\$5,501	\$0	\$786
2022	ELKS LODGE #1531 - ELMHURST	220802027	N/A	5	\$5,927	\$4,623	\$1,304	\$2,575	\$1,271	\$1,304	50.6%	\$443	\$430	\$430	\$443	\$0	\$63
2025	T.H.B. Post #187 American Legion - ELMHURST	230901483	N/A	6	\$1,829,342	\$1,640,710	\$188,632	\$711,253	\$522,621	\$188,632	26.5%	\$66,022	\$61,305	\$61,305	\$66,022	\$0	\$9,432
2024	T.H.B. Post #187 American Legion - ELMHURST	230901483	N/A	6	\$2,830,785	\$2,552,337	\$278,448	\$1,185,972	\$907,524	\$278,448	23.5%	\$96,124	\$91,162	\$91,162	\$96,124	\$0	\$13,732
2023	T.H.B. Post #187 American Legion - ELMHURST	230901483	N/A	6	\$503,702	\$464,068	\$39,633	\$202,158	\$162,525	\$39,633	19.6%	\$13,475	\$13,079	\$13,079	\$13,475	\$0	\$1,925
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>38</b>	<b>\$5,851,722</b>	<b>\$5,292,452</b>	<b>\$559,270</b>	<b>\$2,354,768</b>	<b>\$1,795,497</b>	<b>\$559,270</b>	<b>23.8%</b>	<b>\$193,757</b>	<b>\$182,757</b>	<b>\$182,757</b>	<b>\$193,757</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$27,680</b>

## OTHER IL County VIDEO-GAMBLING sites where the STATE OF IL is wrongfully taking those counties' 5% SHARE of GAMBLING REVENUE

This is happening because the Illinois Gaming Board does not have the municipality properly set up in their database.

Report Date: 02/04/2026 08:16 AM

YEAR	Establishment	License Number	Municipality	VGT Count	Amount Played	Amount Won	Net Wager	Funds In	Funds Out	Net Terminal Income	GAMBLER LOSS %	NTI Tax	32.5% Establishment Share	32.5% Machine Provider Share	35% State Share (SHOULD BE 30%)	0% Municipality Share	Municipality Share (SHOULD BE the 5% below)
2025	DES PLAINES LODGE NO. 1526, BENEV. AND PROTECT. ORDER OF ELKS	240802238	N/A	6	\$329,176	\$287,836	\$41,340	\$129,256	\$87,916	\$41,340	32.0%	\$14,469	\$13,436	\$13,436	\$14,469	\$0	\$2,067
2025	EVANSTON POST NO. 42, AMERICAN LEGION	250900238	N/A	4	\$51,220	\$45,179	\$6,041	\$22,794	\$16,753	\$6,041	26.5%	\$2,114	\$1,963	\$1,963	\$2,114	\$0	\$302
2025	FRANKFORT MEMORIAL POST #1493, VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS	220902002	N/A	6	\$2,791,124	\$2,530,610	\$260,514	\$995,070	\$734,556	\$260,514	26.2%	\$91,180	\$84,667	\$84,667	\$91,180	\$0	\$13,026
2024	FRANKFORT MEMORIAL POST #1493, VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS	220902002	N/A	6	\$2,394,371	\$2,188,098	\$206,273	\$789,589	\$583,316	\$206,273	26.1%	\$71,261	\$67,506	\$67,506	\$71,261	\$0	\$10,180
2023	FRANKFORT MEMORIAL POST #1493, VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS	220902002	N/A	6	\$1,458,774	\$1,328,050	\$130,724	\$494,426	\$363,638	\$130,788	26.5%	\$44,468	\$43,160	\$43,160	\$44,468	\$0	\$6,353
2025	Gurnee American Legion Post #771, Inc.	220903942	N/A	6	\$3,464,715	\$3,131,876	\$332,838	\$1,292,952	\$960,113	\$332,838	25.7%	\$116,494	\$108,172	\$108,172	\$116,494	\$0	\$16,642
2024	Gurnee American Legion Post #771, Inc.	220903942	N/A	6	\$2,397,444	\$2,159,449	\$237,996	\$915,653	\$677,657	\$237,996	26.0%	\$82,181	\$77,907	\$77,907	\$82,181	\$0	\$11,740
2023	Gurnee American Legion Post #771, Inc.	220903942	N/A	6	\$2,892,625	\$2,629,791	\$262,835	\$1,077,573	\$814,738	\$262,835	24.4%	\$89,364	\$86,735	\$86,735	\$89,364	\$0	\$12,766
2025	Merle Guild Post #208, American Legion (ARLINGTON HEIGHTS)	240902750	N/A	6	\$1,385,327	\$1,273,851	\$111,477	\$515,642	\$404,165	\$111,477	21.6%	\$39,017	\$36,230	\$36,230	\$39,017	\$0	\$5,574
2025	PLAINFIELD LODGE NO. 2491, LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE	220802130	N/A	6	\$1,346,396	\$1,235,241	\$111,155	\$461,269	\$350,114	\$111,155	24.1%	\$38,904	\$36,125	\$36,125	\$38,904	\$0	\$5,558
2024	PLAINFIELD LODGE NO. 2491, LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE	220802130	N/A	6	\$1,037,520	\$949,279	\$88,242	\$338,925	\$250,683	\$88,242	26.0%	\$30,346	\$28,948	\$28,948	\$30,346	\$0	\$4,335
2023	PLAINFIELD LODGE NO. 2491, LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE	220802130	N/A	6	\$955,873	\$865,593	\$90,280	\$329,030	\$238,750	\$90,280	27.4%	\$30,695	\$29,792	\$29,792	\$30,695	\$0	\$4,385
2022	PLAINFIELD LODGE NO. 2491, LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE	220802130	N/A	6	\$26,332	\$25,761	\$571	\$6,274	\$5,703	\$571	9.1%	\$194	\$188	\$188	\$194	\$0	\$28
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>76</b>	<b>\$20,530,898</b>	<b>\$18,650,613</b>	<b>\$1,880,286</b>	<b>\$7,368,453</b>	<b>\$5,488,104</b>	<b>\$1,880,349</b>	<b>25.5%</b>	<b>\$650,689</b>	<b>\$614,830</b>	<b>\$614,830</b>	<b>\$650,689</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$92,956</b>

## Blakely, Heidi

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**From:** Donna Limper  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 3, 2026 5:30 AM  
**To:** Cronin Cahill, Cindy; Childress, Michael; Tornatore, Sam; DuPage County Chair  
**Subject:** Strongly Oppose Expansion of Video Gambling

**Categories:** Yellow category

**[Caution: This email originated outside Dupagecounty.gov. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.]**

Hello,

After reviewing [ProPublica's series on video gambling](#), I urge you to oppose any expansion of video gambling. "Illinois lawmakers legalized video gambling to raise revenue, but revenues from these sources have fallen behind projections, the state has struggled to regulate the industry, and video gambling companies have reaped hundreds of millions of dollars in profits. Meanwhile, problem gambling is a big issue across the state." Most disturbing, the analysis found that the number of machines increases as the community's average income decreases. Harms include:

- **Addiction and Compulsive Behavior** - The immersive nature of these games, combined with their availability, can lead players to gamble more than they intended, neglecting responsibilities, and experiencing withdrawal symptoms when not playing.
- **Financial Consequences** - Players may deposit more money than they can afford to lose, leading to debt, financial instability, or even bankruptcy.
- **Mental Health Issues** - Excessive gambling has been linked to various mental health issues, including anxiety, depression, and stress. The pressure to win can create an emotional rollercoaster, leading to feelings of despair when losses occur.
- **Social Isolation** - Many video gamblers may experience social isolation as they spend more time gaming, leading to strained relationships with family and friends.
- **Impact on Vulnerable Populations** - The design of these games, often using bright graphics and engaging sound effects, can attract and captivate vulnerable individuals, particularly youth and persons with existing mental health issues.

I do not consider the financial benefits to be worth the social costs and the negative impact on the general welfare and character of neighborhoods.

Thank you for considering my views.

Warmly,

Donna Limper

## Blakely, Heidi

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**From:** Glenn Nelson  
**Sent:** Friday, January 30, 2026 9:44 AM  
**To:** DuPage County Chair; Cronin Cahill, Cindy; Childress, Michael; Covert, Sadia; DeSart, Dawn; Eckhoff, Grant; Evans, Lucy; Galassi, Kari; DeaconGarcia, Paula; Haider, Saba; Honig, Andrew; Krajewski, Brian; LaPlante, Lynn; Martinez, Melissa; Ozog, Mary; Schwarze, Greg; Tornatore, Sam; Yoo, Yeena; Zay, James  
**Cc:** Hoss, Paul; Greg Smaistrila; WILLIAM GRAHAM  
**Subject:** 1-30-2026 Letter to DuPage County Board Members subsequent to 1-27-2026 Board Meeting (VIDEO-GAMBLING)  
**Attachments:** Public Response to VIDEO-GAMBLING (subsequent to 1-27-2026 COUNTY BOARD MEETING).pdf; DUPAGE COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS (VOTE SUMMARY UPDATED 1-27-2026 - Video Gaming).pdf  
**Categories:** Yellow category

[Caution: This email originated outside Dupagecounty.gov. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.]

DuPage County Board Members,

Much public comment from our neighborhoods has been provided objecting to video-gambling IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS.

We have yet to hear ANY board member comment on how they believe video-gambling is edifying to the community or promoting of the general welfare of the constituents they represent.

**Please take the time to read the ATTACHED PDF letter (which supplemental to the below email).**

It corrects some board member misstatements, provides some additional concerning context about video gaming, and respectfully challenges some of the viewpoints a few board members were sharing on 1-27-2026.

I would like to request that board members respond to the above question either via email or in the next 2-10-2026 board meeting. After all, the above question speaks to the crux of the video-gambling issue.

The information in the ATTACHED PDF document will also be shared more broadly with the leadership of the municipalities that currently OPPOSE video-gambling (shown in the attachment) to thank them for their support on this issue and so they will have additional information to continue in their opposition to video-gambling.

If someone could please get this email to Sam Tornatore and Jim Zay, that would be appreciated. For some reason prior email public comment always bounces back from their two email accounts.

Sincerely,  
Glenn Nelson  
Glen Ellyn Woods Subdivision

cc: Paul Hoss - Planning and Zoning Administration Coordinator  
cc: Greg Smaistrle - Glen Ellyn Woods Subdivision HOA President  
cc: Bill Graham - Valley View Subdivision HOA President  
BCC: Others

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** Glenn Nelson

**To:** chair@dupagecounty.gov <chair@dupagecounty.gov>; Cindy.CroninCahill@dupagecounty.gov <cindy.cronincahill@dupagecounty.gov>; Michael.Childress@dupagecounty.gov <michael.childress@dupagecounty.gov>; sadia.covert@dupagecounty.gov <sadia.covert@dupagecounty.gov>; dawn.desart@dupagecounty.gov <dawn.desart@dupagecounty.gov>; grant.eckhoff@dupagecounty.gov <grant.eckhoff@dupagecounty.gov>; Lucy.Evans@dupagecounty.gov <lucy.evans@dupagecounty.gov>; kari.galassi@dupagecounty.gov <kari.galassi@dupagecounty.gov>; paula.deacongarcia@dupagecounty.gov <paula.deacongarcia@dupagecounty.gov>; saba.haider@dupagecounty.gov <saba.haider@dupagecounty.gov>; andrew.honig@dupagecounty.gov <andrew.honig@dupagecounty.gov>; brian.krajewski@dupagecounty.gov <brian.krajewski@dupagecounty.gov>; lynn.laplante@dupagecounty.gov <lynn.laplante@dupagecounty.gov>; melissa.martinez@dupagecounty.gov <melissa.martinez@dupagecounty.gov>; mary.ozog@dupagecounty.gov <mary.ozog@dupagecounty.gov>; greg.schwarze@dupagecounty.gov <greg.schwarze@dupagecounty.gov>; sam.tornatore@dupagecounty.gov <sam.tornatore@dupagecounty.gov>; Yeena.Yoo@dupagecounty.gov <yeena.yoo@dupagecounty.gov>; james.zay@dupagecounty.gov <james.zay@dupagecounty.gov>

**Cc:** Greg Smaistrle >; WILLIAM GRAHAM

**Sent:** Friday, January 23, 2026 at 04:47:56 PM CST

**Subject:** Letter to DuPage County Board Members for 1-27-2026 Board Meeting

DuPage County Board Members,  
**2026 DuPage County Board meeting**

SUBMITTED DATE: **1-16-2026** for **1-27-**

ATTACHED: Copy of this letter, and a Record

of all Board Member votes on this matter.

I am writing on behalf of the Glen Ellyn Woods and Valley View subdivisions to provide follow-up input and public comment to that which was presented at the 1/13/2026 DuPage County Board meeting regarding VIDEO-GAMBLING in DuPage County, and to provide follow-up input and public comment to what was subsequently published in the 1/20/2026 Development Committee meeting minutes.

Per the 1/20/2026 Development Committee meeting minutes, I have become aware that the attorney for SMM Management (Angelo's) and Lucky 7 Bistro is requesting the DuPage County Board hold a REVOTE on Tuesday, 1/27/2026. It is my understanding from the 1/20/2026 Development Committee minutes, that the only way a revote would be permitted is if **a Board Member from the prevailing side** makes a motion to reconsider SMM Management's ordinance variance request (**Note: The prevailing side DENIED video-gambling at SMM Management-Angelo's by a vote of 13/5**). Such request for REVOTE can be done prior to the meeting, where the item is added to the agenda or the County Board Member can also make a motion during the meeting. A simple majority of the quorum is what is required to overturn this vote.

In the 1/20/2026 meeting minutes, the attorney for SMM Management attempted to suggest that prior public comment was not opposed to video gambling at SMM Management or Lucky 7 Bistro. In actuality, all of the people who provided public

comment are opposed to video-gambling throughout all of DuPage County in convenience stores, grocery stores, gas stations, restaurants, etc.

The attorney for SMM Management (Angelo's) claims "*without the continuance of this (video-gambling) income stream, SMM will have to cease operations.*" What SMM's attorney fails to also mention is that SMM took what was previously a completely viable grocery store for a very long time, and they converted it over time into purely a casino (effectively eliminating their grocery business). SMM's attorney says "*My client is honestly nothing more than a victim in this (situation).*" In reality, SMM's situation is the result of a business decision that has led to SMM's current situation, as opposed to being solely the result of "*internal issues within the County.*"

Based on the above, we, the citizens of the Glen Ellyn Woods subdivision and the Valley View subdivision, ask that DuPage County Board Members DO NOT MOVE TO RECONSIDER the decision of the 1/27/2026 DuPage County Board Meeting. We will be in attendance at the 1/27/2026 DuPage County Board meeting.

### **FURTHER COMMENTARY DRAFTED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE**

### **1/13/2026 DUPAGE COUNTY BOARD MEETING:**

Have you heard of Go-fund-me? For those who haven't, it is a place where people often ask for voluntary contributions to provide support for a health or hardship need that someone can't afford themselves. What these business establishments seeking video gambling ordinance variances are in essence doing, is admitting that their primary business is not sustainable on its own merit, so they are asking vulnerable members of the public for money to fund the businesses' ongoing existence.

Just the other day, I saw 9 kids walk into an establishment that has video gambling. Them seeing "video-gambling here" and "Slots Here" signs and gambling machines is normalizing our young people to these addictive behaviors. Even though there is a 21 year age limit on video gambling, our younger adults come to observe that video gambling as if it is "normal every-day adult behavior."

Gambling is addictive because of the dopamine rush when one wins, but gamblers fail to realize that they shoveled in more money to get that dopamine rush (resulting in a total net loss). The video gambling monthly report website clearly shows that video gambling results in a 9-10% loss for players, regardless of establishment. This is a fact, verifiable on the Illinois gaming board's own website.

Look at vaping and how kids flocked to such addictive behavior because kids and young adults do not have the pre-frontal cortex development (which takes until age 25 to fully develop) to comprehend the dangers, but the business owners who sell vaping products and paraphernalia know that the kids are their primary potential market.

We as community residents are wanting to look out for and protect our youth, while video-gambling establishments are not.

Naperville banned video gambling. Wheaton and Glen Ellyn sent public comment letters to also oppose video gambling variances. Why is video gambling being allowed to proliferate on the unincorporated residential fringes as if it does not still impact our youth. Based on these facts, if the DuPage County Zoning Board of Appeals, the Development Committee, and the DuPage County Board vote to allow video-gambling in our neighborhood, it is as if they are all supporting a belief that *"Nice people in neighborhoods like ours that oppose video gambling (i.e. Naperville, Glen Ellyn proper, Wheaton proper), don't want video gambling due to its detrimental impact on youth and the welfare and character of the community, but we are fine with the detrimental impact being permitted in unincorporated areas away from us."* Ask yourself, why is unincorporated Glen Ellyn and other areas being singled out as a desired target for video gambling?

Another point to consider: Take drinking for instance. Children and young adults can't drink until they are 21. Our young adults come to see drinking as a normal, every-day, fun and exciting behavior for adults. Now consider when our young adults go to college and experience fraternity and sorority parties with binge drinking. When the floodgates of independence are opened to young adults, away from adult supervision, children often die of alcohol poisoning from a destructive habit they saw that was normalized in society. Our community is against breeding future addicts due to the normalization of addictive behaviors (like video-gambling; just call it what it is ... "gambling") that are well known to be destructive to people in many cases.

We believe the DuPage County board should vote based on their communities' desires rather than the selfish desires of 10 business owners who seek to negatively impact our communities solely for their gain. After all, this is why we have local Zoning and County governmental entities in place.

Why do kids with parents who smoke so often end up smoking? They see it as normal adult behavior, as opposed to a destructive habit. It was normalized to those kids while they were growing up. I have seen this in my own family. It is like a gateway drug/habit. Nobody in my family smokes because nobody in my lineage were smokers, but everyone in my cousin's family smokes because the older adults in their family were smokers.

We need to advocate for our children who don't see the context in which things can become a problem. Young adults don't know that starting to play video poker for 40 minutes after school can lead to a detrimental impact on their life. But just ask any parent how much their child plays and is addicted to gaming on their computer or phone, and I think you understand my point. Children can't discern when enough is enough or when they lose control of their own behaviors. Check your own children's screen-time and you will understand this point.

Do you even realize that even these hearings are calling this topic "video-gaming". Video gaming is what kids do on their computers and phones. They are called video games. Can't you see how now calling slot machines "video-gaming" is tagging onto a behavior that children already do. The machines in restaurants, grocery stores, convenience stores, gas stations, gaming cafes, and other locations are actually just

“Casino Gambling”!!! “Video-Gaming” is a euphemism that downplays what is really happening, and it is wrongfully enticing and normalizing the behavior to our children.

The video-gambling votes of the longest serving members of the DuPage County Board appear to be in favor of gambling in gas stations, grocery stores, restaurants, and convenience stores. I would ask those Board members if they would pick up their grandchild (if they have a grandchild) and take them with them to a gas station, grocery store, restaurant, or gambling parlor and allow them to sit and watch while you play and get entertainment from playing. Would you do that for me? If you are not willing to do so, that tells an important message about vices. I suspect you would not want to do this, just like you would not want to take or drive by strip-clubs with your children in the car.

One restaurant a block from my house makes about \$14k per month from gambling. The restaurant owner said he makes far more from gambling than from his restaurant. One might think that the \$14k/month is from 500 gamblers (equaling \$28 losses per gambler), but I bet it is more likely that 70% of those losses come from 50 gamblers (equaling \$196 losses per each of those 50 regular gamblers, and \$9 losses for the non-regular gamblers). Those 50 gamblers are the adult addicted gamblers impacted, in addition to young adults being impacted when they reach 21 and want to “try it out.”

I spoke to a video gambling equipment provider’s attorney who happened to be in attendance at the 1-13-2026 DuPage County Board meeting, and he indicated, after hearing our public comments, that he understands and sees our concerns. He also lives in Naperville which has a prohibition on all video gambling.

There are two long term DuPage County Board members whose voting history on the video gambling topic demonstrate their clear support for video gambling; contrary to their own constituent’s desires. As such, it is not clear why they are so supportive of video gambling in DuPage County, but they seem to vote for approval of video gambling ordinances as a rule. All one needs to do is watch the videos of their commentary at ordinance variance meetings where votes are taken, and a clear bias is evident (though maybe not to them). I have even observed one Board member say totally supportive comments at the Development Committee vote (i.e. approving of video-gambling), only to then try to question variance decisions when at the DuPage County Board meeting. It is as if they are tailoring their commentary to their respective audience of different peers for reasons that I think many could conclude on their own.

One long serving member of the DuPage County Board has represented a particular village for many years. They are still engaged in decisions for that village (in other roles) to this day. That village has a long history of opposition to video gambling, similar to Naperville. Such village’s voters recently rejected a referendum in November 2024, by a 2-to-1 margin that would have permitted video gambling in limited restaurants. An ordinance passed earlier for that village only allows specific fraternal/veterans organizations (like VFWs, Moose Lodges) and recreational facilities (like a bowling alley) to operate terminals, with licensing effective January 1, 2025,

though the downtown area still remains restricted. A maximum of only 10 licenses are available in the entire village at those few specific establishment types; most of which children do not frequent (i.e. therefore video gambling is still not permitted in restaurants, gas stations, convenience stores, grocery stores). Said village also has a prohibition against all video gambling cafes.

So the question raised earlier in this letter makes one have to wonder why a sitting County Board member does not want video gambling in young adult sensitive locations in the village in which they live, but they vote for total support of video gambling in such sensitive locations in communities adjacent to where they live? Apparently, this board member believes video gambling is not good for their village (for whatever reason), but they vote their conflicting belief that video gambling is free to be installed anywhere else but their village. I apologize for the directness of this information, but it makes a point upon which I believe other DuPage County Board members should reflect and consider.

The board should ask each board member **WHY** they are voting for or against an ordinance variance. Our community has provided dozens of written public comment reasons to deny video-gambling variances, so Board members approving should provide their counter-reasons if they vote to approve, speaking only to the general welfare of our community.

Sincerely,

Glenn Nelson

Glen Ellyn Woods Subdivision

Cc: Greg Smaistrla (Glen Ellyn Woods HOA President)

Cc: William "Bill" Graham (Valley View HOA President)

DUPAGE COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS (SUMMARY).xlsx

										VOTES: APPROVE OR DENY VIDEO GAMING ORDINANCE VARIANCE (for each of the below sites)								
										ZONING: DENY (6/0)	ZONING: DENY (6/0)	ZONING: DENY (6/0)	ZONING: DENY (6/0)	ZONING: APPROVE (6/0)	ZONING: APPROVE (6/0)	ZONING: APPROVE (6/0)	ZONING: Didn't vote.	
										Development: DENY (4/1)	Development: DENY (3/2)	Development: DENY (3/2)	Dev: Didn't vote.	Development: APPROVE (4/2)	Development: APPROVE (4/2)	Development: APPROVE (4/2)	Dev: Didn't vote.	
										County: Didn't Vote.	County: Didn't Vote.	County: Didn't Vote.	County: Didn't Vote.	County: DENY (5/13)	County REVOTE???	County: DENY (7/11)	County REVOTE???	County: Didn't Vote.
PK	PHOTO	NAME	DISTRICT	BEGAN SERVING	TERM EXPIRES	PARTY	RESIDENCE	CHILDREN		7-Eleven (Park Blvd)	7-Eleven (Lloyd Ave)	7-Eleven (Maple)	Penny's Place	SMM Management (Angelo's) (Maple)	SMM Management (Angelo's) (Maple)	Lucky 7 Bistro	Lucky 7 Bistro	MOBIL - Butterfield
1		Deborah Conroy - Chair	CHAIR	2022-12-01	12/7/2026	DEM	Elmhurst	4		Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!	Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!	Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!		DOESN'T VOTE	DOESN'T VOTE <i>Conroy Mentioned: "There are state laws we need to abide by unless we want to get sued. Something to consider." Not a good message to send.</i>	DOESN'T VOTE		
2		Cindy Cronin Cahill	District 1	2022-12-01	12/4/2028	REP	Elmhurst	5		Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!	Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!	Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!		DENY	COULDN'T HEAR VOTE	DENY		
3		Michael Childress	District 1	2022-12-01	12/7/2026	DEM	Bloomingtondale	unknown		Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!	Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!	Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!		DENY	1st Requester to Reconsider YES to REVOTE	DENY		
4		Sadiah Covert	District 5	2018-12-01	12/7/2026	DEM	Naperville	Yes, # unknown		ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	Withdrawn from a DEV COMMITTEE vote by Establishment, after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD Still gaming!!	DENY	NO to REVOTE	DENY		Withdrawn from a ZONING BOARD vote by Establishment before a vote (which was leaning to DENY) Still gaming!!
5		Dawn DeSart	District 5	2018-12-01	12/7/2026	DEM	Naperville	2		Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!	Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!	Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!		DENY	2nd Requester to Reconsider. YES to REVOTE Said SHE asked Tomatore to add to Agenda. Said Daycare started in 2019 after Video Gaming.	DENY	2nd Requester to Reconsider. YES to REVOTE	
6		Grant Eckhoff	District 4	2002-12-01	12/7/2026	REP	Wheaton	unknown		Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!	Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!	Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!		DENY	NO to REVOTE	APPROVE		
7		Lucy Chang Evans	District 3	2022-12-01	12/4/2028	DEM	Naperville	3		Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!	Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!	Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!		DENY	YES to REVOTE Plans to APPROVE	DENY	1st Requester to Reconsider YES to REVOTE Plans to APPROVE	
8		Kari Galassi	District 3	2022-12-01	12/7/2026	REP	Hinsdale	3		Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!	Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!	Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!		DENY	YES to REVOTE	DENY		
9		Paula Deacon Garcia	District 2	2020-12-01	12/7/2026	DEM	Liste	2		Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!	Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!	Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!		DENY	YES to REVOTE	DENY		
10		Saba Haider	District 5	2024-12-01	12/4/2028	DEM	Dupage County; city unknown	2		Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!	Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!	Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!		DENY	YES to REVOTE	DENY		
11		Andrew Honig	District 2	2024-12-01	12/4/2028	DEM	Lombard	0		Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!	Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!	Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!		DENY	YES to REVOTE	DENY		
12		Brian Krajewski	District 3	2010-12-01	12/7/2026	REP	Downers Grove	unknown		APPROVE	APPROVE	APPROVE	Withdrawn from a DEV COMMITTEE vote by Establishment, after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD Still gaming!!	APPROVE	YES to REVOTE	APPROVE		Withdrawn from a ZONING BOARD vote by Establishment before a vote (which was leaning to DENY) Still gaming!!
13		Lynn LaPlante	District 4	2020-12-01	12/4/2028	DEM	Glen Ellyn	4		Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!	Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!	Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!		DENY	COULDN'T HEAR VOTE	DENY		
14		Melissa Martinez	District 6	2025-08-01	12/7/2026	REP	Dupage County; city unknown	1		DENY	DENY	DENY	Withdrawn from a DEV COMMITTEE vote by Establishment, after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD Still gaming!!	DENY	ABSENT	DENY		Withdrawn from a ZONING BOARD vote by Establishment before a vote (which was leaning to DENY) Still gaming!!
15		Mary FitzGerald Ozog	District 4	2018-12-01	12/7/2026	DEM	Dupage County; city unknown	4		DENY	DENY	DENY	Withdrawn from a DEV COMMITTEE vote by Establishment, after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD Still gaming!!	DENY	NO to REVOTE. Ozog confirmed with States Attorney that only information from prior Zoning and Dev meetings may be considered in revoke, NOT NEW INFO.	APPROVE		Withdrawn from a ZONING BOARD vote by Establishment before a vote (which was leaning to DENY) Still gaming!!
16		Greg Schwarze	District 6	2020-12-01	12/4/2028	DEM	Carol Stream	4		Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!	Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!	Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!		APPROVE	YES to REVOTE	APPROVE		

PK	PHOTO	NAME	DISTRICT	BEGAN SERVING	TERM EXPIRES	PARTY	RESIDENCE	CHILDREN	7-Eleven (Park Blvd)	7-Eleven (Lloyd Ave)	7-Eleven (Maple)	Penny's Place	SMM Management (Angelo's) (Maple)	SMM Management (Angelo's) (Maple)	Lucky 7 Bistro	Lucky 7 Bistro	MOBIL - Butterfield		
17		Sam Tornatore	District 1	2012-12-01	12/7/2026	REP	Bloomington	1	DENY	APPROVE	APPROVE	Withdrawn from a DEV COMMITTEE vote by Establishment, after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD Still gaming!!!	APPROVE	YES to REVOTE	APPROVE		Withdrawn from a ZONING BOARD vote by Establishment before a vote (which was leaning to DENY) Still gaming!!!		
18		Yeena Yoo	District 2	2022-12-01	12/7/2026	DEM	Elmhurst	2	DENY	DENY	DENY	Withdrawn from a DEV COMMITTEE vote by Establishment, after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD Still gaming!!!	APPROVE	YES to REVOTE	APPROVE		Withdrawn from a ZONING BOARD vote by Establishment before a vote (which was leaning to DENY) Still gaming!!!		
19		James Zay	District 6	1999-11-01	12/7/2026	REP	Dupage County; city unknown	2	Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!!	Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!!	Withdrawn from a COUNTY BOARD vote by Establishment after DENIED AT ZONING BOARD & DEV COMMITTEE Still gaming!!!		APPROVE	YES to REVOTE	APPROVE				
												13 DENY, 5 APPROVE		3 decline a REVOTE, 12 agree to a REVOTE, 3 Absent or couldn't hear.		11 DENY, 7 APPROVE			
OUTCOME: No decision.									OUTCOME: No decision.			OUTCOME: No decision.		OUTCOME: DENY		OUTCOME: REVOTE on 2/10/2026		OUTCOME: DENY	
<p style="text-align: center; color: red;">All sites that were denied ordinance variances <u>withdrew their variance requests</u> after earlier votes so they can try a different approach to seek approval, seemingly attempting to subvert and undermine the authority of the Zoning Board, Development Committee, and the DuPage County Board.</p>																			

This letter is intended to:

- 1.) correct some incorrect statements made by county board members at the 1-27-2026 board meeting.
- 2.) challenge some positions that county board members took at the 1-27-2026 board meeting.

**BRIAN KRAJEWSKI:**

**(39 second speech from 2:48:37 to 2:49:16 at the 1-27-2026 County Board meeting)**

**TRANSCRIPT (Brian Krajewski):** *"I think I heard one gentleman say Lombard twice today, but Lombard's had video gaming for 5 or 6 years. They got 61 machines and 11 establishments, and they actually had a citizen referendum. It actually passed in Lombard. I know we have a Lombard trustee up there nodding his head, but they actually supported it at the Lombard residence, um, and you know, and it is **10% (Net Terminal Income aka Gambler Losses)**, the gentleman said there was a **10% or 25% (Gambler Losses)**, but Lombard took in last year, 2025, all the machines, **\$42 million**. \$38 million was paid out in winnings. So **\$4 million** was **10% (Gambler Losses)**, just slightly under **10%**. I mean that data is out there, you can see which towns have it."*

**PUBLIC COMMENT RESPONSE:**

Respectfully, this shows how little even long serving county board members know about Video-Gaming in DuPage County (or Illinois), when they speak to data they do not fully understand.

**LET ME EXPLAIN MR. KRAJEWSKI'S MIS-STATEMENTS, AND ALSO HOW HIS VIDEO-GAMBLING VOTING RECORD FOR DUPAGE COUNTY CONFLICTS WITH HIS OWN VILLAGE'S VIEWS ABOUT VIDEO-GAMBLING:**

ATTACHED is a PDF document containing the EXACT DATA from the Illinois Gaming Board's website that Mr. Krajewski was referencing (**See EXHIBIT A**):

- 1.) Mr. Krajewski improperly calculates "Gambler Losses" as 10% because he uses the wrong calculation. He uses "2025 **NET TERMINAL INCOME** DIVIDED BY 2025 **AMOUNT PLAYED**" =  $(\$3,942,554 / \$42,303,322) = 9.32\%$  "**GAMBLER LOSSES**".
- 2.) THE CORRECT CALCULATION IS "2025 **NET TERMINAL INCOME** DIVIDED BY 2025 **FUNDS IN**" =  $(\$3,942,554 / \$15,538,030) = 25.37\%$  "**GAMBLER LOSSES**".
- 3.) Krajewski said above "Lombard TOOK IN LAST YEAR, 2025, from all the machines, \$42,000,000. \$38 million was paid out in winnings. So **\$4 million**."

- a. LOMBARD actually only received **\$200,000** (i.e. 5%) of that \$4,000,000 for all of 2025. See the attached spreadsheet to see who receives all the rest of the “GAMBLER LOSSES.” (SEE EXHIBIT A)
  - b. The amount of tax revenue received by any municipality, or the threat of a lawsuit, should not be a deciding factor that makes a board member vote against their communities’ wishes, their conscience, or disregard what is clearly not in the best interest of the people they represent and the communities’ character. Even if a municipality was making millions of dollars from a business with no redeeming value, board members should vote on behalf of their constituents who are educated and informed about each specific issue.
- 4.) In Mr. Krajewski’s example, Lombard (and other villages/cities and County board members that support video-gambling) are apparently choosing to ignore the many negative video-gambling impacts that have been conveyed, all for reasons only known to them. **I would ask any Board member who supports video gambling to tell THEIR constituents exactly how they think video-gambling is edifying to the community or promoting the general welfare of the constituents in the communities they represent.** I personally would not want to be charged with such a task.
- 5.) It should be noted that Mr. Krajewski’s own village of Downers Grove only allows video-gambling in Moose Lodges, VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars) locations, or Knights of Columbus locations; all places not frequented by our children. Downers Grove then also squashed a 2024 referendum that would have allowed video-gambling in many other types of locations like restaurants and stores. This shows how most constituents do not have any issue with video-gaming in Moose Lodges, VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars) locations, or Knights of Columbus locations, but those same constituents do have an issue with video-gaming being in gas stations, convenience stores, grocery stores, and restaurants where they are so easily visible and later easily accessible to our children and young adults. It is also worth noting that the board members who moved to reconsider the SMM Management and Lucky 7 Bistro variance denial live in municipalities that prohibit video-gambling (Naperville, Hinsdale, Downers Grove).
- 6.) 10 of 18 county board members live in municipalities that prohibit or stringently limit video-gambling, but they are voting for video-gambling to proliferate in municipalities that do not impact THEIR OWN RESIDENTIAL communities. Only a few of the 10 board members above voted in accordance to their constituent’s desires/concerns.

**Deborah Conroy (Chair), Cindy Cronin Cahill** and **Yeena Yoo** live in **Elmhurst** ... which prohibits video-gambling. Cahill initially voted to DENY the variances in

question in other municipalities. Yeena Yoo voted to approve video-gambling in municipalities (not near HER family) contrary to public concerns, and maybe because she is only focused on the trivial money from video-gambling as she runs for Treasurer in March 2026 and not on the general welfare of DuPage county constituents.

**Dawn DeSart** and **Lucy Change Evans** live in **Naperville** ... which prohibits video-gambling. DeSart and Evans initially voted to DENY the variances in question, but now they appear prepared to flip their votes in other municipalities (not near their families) contrary to public and research backed concerns.

**Kari Galassi** lives in **Hinsdale** ... which prohibits video-gambling. Galassi initially voted to DENY the variances in question, but now appear prepared to flip her votes in other municipalities (not near her family) contrary to public and research backed concerns.

**Paula Deacon Garcia** lives in **Lisle** ... which prohibits video-gambling. Garcia initially voted to DENY the variances in question, but now she appears prepared to flip her votes in other municipalities (not near her family) contrary to public and research backed concerns.

**Brian Krajewski** lives in **Downers Grove** ... which greatly restricts video-gambling and continues to vote for gambling in municipalities that do not impact the Downers Grove where he lives.

**Michael Childress**, **Saba Haider**, and **Andrew Honig**, each moved to allow a revote on SMM Management and Lucky 7 Bistro, but they have not provided explanations of how they think video-gambling is good for DuPage County communities.

**Sam Tornatore**, and **Jim Zay** have each seemingly voted for video-gambling as a rule, but they have not provided explanations of how they think video-gambling is good for DuPage County communities.

In the attached table of 2025 DuPage County Video-Gambling (**EXHIBIT B**), why do you suppose that video gambling is prohibited or stringently restricted in the municipalities that have a higher percentage of college graduates? After all, they are the ones who generally have more disposable money. That said, video-gambling is only being instituted in municipalities with lower graduation rates and generally lower incomes. That is shocking. If you ask me, right and wrong should not be defined differently based upon the neighborhood in which someone lives. To me this is socio-economic discrimination and abuse against certain populations at its core. College graduate data for each municipality in the attached table was taken directly from the DuPage County website.

## DAWN DESART:

(144 second speech from 2:56:57 to 2:58:21 of the 1-27-2026 County Board meeting)

**TRANSCRIPT (Dawn DeSart):** *“Member Covert passionately talked about gambling. I agree with her on every single issue. I totally agree with you, Sadia. I am against gambling. I am shocked at my Chinese restaurant, you go in now and pick up a to-go order, and they have video gambling there now. Gambling is all over. And I hate it. I went to Vegas a couple of times for conferences and I didn’t gamble at all, because it just sickens me. I hate gambling. But, as a public servant, I was elected by gamblers, non-gamblers, and people who want to open gambling facilities. I mean, I can’t let my own bias reflect my votes. And, um, you know, I have to be guided by Paul (Hoss) and zoning and all of that, and not let my own biases dictate how I vote on any issue.”*

## PUBLIC COMMENT RESPONSE:

Respectfully, it is my understanding that county board members should generally be voting based on their knowledge of the vast majority of constituent’s wishes/desires and not much else. Nobody is suggesting that board members should vote THEIR feelings or biases. That said, the County Board is also clearly not supposed to merely rubber-stamp and go along with however the Zoning Board of Appeals or Development Committee voted. If that were the case, then there would never be a need for ANY zoning board or development committee ordinance variance requests to ever come before the county board, and they should be stripped from any future agenda. Sam Tornatore’s development committee updates could be removed from the agenda altogether. I believe that the reason why issues like video-gambling ARE BROUGHT before the county board after zoning board and development committee votes, is because the county board members have broader information about their constituent’s desires and concerns related to topics like this (at least they should have if they are connected with their communities). That said, if a board member is unaware of their constituent’s views/desires about a specific topic at the time of a vote, then their only options are to either,

- 1.) vote their conscience, or
- 2.) vote how they think their constituents would want them to vote, or
- 3.) better yet maybe vote based on the numerous research studies about the perils of video-gambling and their negative effects on people and communities.

As the county board continues to open the floodgates of video gaming, it will become ever-increasingly difficult to reign things back in or put a band-aid on video-gambling when negatives consequences related to gambling addiction inevitably occur, when alcohol use in these facilities causes accidents (note: alcohol availability and a pour-license is a DuPage county requirement for video gaming), and when mental health issues continue to rise as demonstrated by the constant ever-increasing video-gambling \$ losses by players, all with barely any financial benefit to the county or municipalities.

## **SAM TORNATORE:**

**(63 second speech from 2:58:21 to 2:59:24 of the 1-27-2026 County Board meeting)**

**TRANSCRIPT (Sam Tornatore):** *“First, regarding the zoning issue, I think it’s important for everybody to understand that the motion to reconsider today was a business that existed, and that had a gaming license prior to us changing the rules. It would be like driving on the tollway at 60 miles an hour when the speed limit was 65, and then instantly having the legislature change the speed limit to 50, and giving a ticket to the person who was driving. You can’t do that. And that’s what the motion to reconsider, essentially, will allow us to discuss in the future at development committees and otherwise. So, I think it’s important that we understand that these were ongoing concerns and there are others as well that we’re going to have to deal with somewhere down the road.”*

## **PUBLIC COMMENT RESPONSE:**

Respectfully, based on Mr. Tornatore’s above comment, I am not sure if Mr. Tornatore read my public comment email that was sent to all board members. Here is an excerpt from my prior emailed public comment (and the full letter is also attached).

**PUBLIC COMMENT EXCERPT:** The attorney for SMM Management (Angelo’s) claims *“without the continuance of this (video-gambling) income stream, SMM will have to cease operations.”* What SMM’s attorney fails to also mention is that SMM took what was previously a completely viable grocery store for a very long time, and they converted it over time into purely a liquor store and casino (effectively eliminating their grocery business). SMM’s attorney says *“My client is honestly nothing more than a victim in this (situation).”* In reality, SMM’s situation is the result of **a business decision** that has lead to SMM’s current situation, as opposed to being solely the result of *“internal issues within the County.”*

I had worked in corporate America for almost 3 decades helping business owners run profitable businesses, and I have worked with asset development managers who help business owners open new businesses or alter existing businesses. When a business drastically changes the scope of their business, they are basically making a change from one type of business to another type of business, and the new business needs to be evaluated by the zoning board, development committee and county board according to new requirements and “fit for the character of the community.” When a business is sold, there are often new county image, signage, and zoning requirements that the county subsequently **REQUIRES** the new business to meet and accommodate. This is why “grandfathering” is often not permitted in ordinance variance discussions as stated by Paul Hoss in a prior board meeting. Let me provide an example. If I had a business that was a bar & lounge and I was approved for a liquor license by the county, and I made significant improvements to my business to meet image or

signage requirements of the county, and then I ran a viable bar & lounge for 5 years, ..... would it then be acceptable and grandfathered if I wanted to convert my bar and lounge into a gentlemen's club, adult entertainment, strip-club business. Of course this would not be acceptable. The same should apply in the case of SMM Management (Angelo's Grocery Food & Deli). Angelo's Food & Deli's newest owners made a business decision since installing gaming, to change their business model and essentially remove the grocery items, deli, and produce from their grocery store and convert their business to just a liquor store and gaming facility. Ironically though, their outdoor signage still markets the business as "Angelo's Food and Deli." This is why I mentioned the following case law in public comment at the 1-27-2026 county board meeting:

***"General IL Rule: No Inherent Vested Right to Continued Zoning Classification***

*Illinois courts generally hold that a property owner does not have a vested right simply because a use was lawful before a zoning change: the zoning classification itself is not "property" protected against amendment.*

*Pioneer Trust & Savings Bank v. County of Cook, 71 Ill.2d 510 (1978) - The Supreme Court of Illinois has held a landowner generally does not have a right to continuation of zoning classification after an amendment. This means a business can be subject to new zoning/ordinance provisions unless an exception applies."*

There are plenty of other examples that support how a county or municipality can and do occasionally make amendments to existing zoning ordinances, and the property owner is then subject to those new zoning ordinances. Think of even the most extreme example, when a municipality declares eminent domain and upends someone's life and forcibly removes a property owner from their home and their ownership rights, while paying them less than they deserve. This recently happened to a relative of mine in rural Illinois.

Below is some additional information that I believe every county board member (and every DuPage County resident) should be aware of when coming to conclusions or making decisions about the video-gambling issue that is clearly distressing to many county residents based on the failure of referendums that sought to promote video gambling.

**The Illinois Gaming Board's 2024 Annual Report (available online) states the following:**

PAGE 3: "2024 was yet another year of **historic growth and productivity** for both the Illinois Gaming Board and Illinois Gaming."

PUBLIC COMMENT RESPONSE: I would suggest that "creating gambling addicts" is not the success that this quote is intending to highlight/celebrate. Places like Rosati's pizza now have video gaming so people don't get bored while waiting for their pick-up order.

Why don't we also put video gambling in doctor's office waiting rooms or at the DMV? When is it enough. In my humble opinion, the fact that every municipality or unincorporated county area don't each have a firm limit or cap on the number of video-gambling licenses clearly stated in their ordinances is a gross oversight by the DuPage County Board. Who will carry the torch to change that?

PAGE 3: "Gaming in Illinois has evolved into a multi-billion dollar industry **making Illinois a leader among gaming jurisdictions.**"

PUBLIC COMMENT RESPONSE: I would suggest that "creating gambling addicts" is not the success that this quote is intending to highlight/celebrate.

PAGE 3: "Illinois' legal video gaming industry continues to grow. **In fact, the Illinois' regulated video gaming route system is the largest distributed network of its kind in the world.**"

PUBLIC COMMENT RESPONSE: I would suggest that "creating gambling addicts" is not the success that this quote is intending to highlight/celebrate. Would someone take pride in saying something like "Illinois is #1 in the world for our largest distributed network of marijuana dispensaries."

PAGE 5: "VIDEO GAMING: In July 2009, Public Act 96-34 became law, creating the Illinois Video Gaming Act. Since 2009, video gaming has rapidly expanded across Illinois. The first Video Gaming Terminals (VGTs) went live for patron play on September 10, 2012. At the end of 2024, there were more than **48,706 VGTs operating in 8,662 licensed establishments across Illinois. Illinois' distributed network of VGTs is the largest of its kind in the world.**"

PUBLIC COMMENT RESPONSE: 8,662 licensed establishments equals 666 newly licensed establishments per year. PAGE 3 of the IGB annual report: "In 2024, the Illinois Gaming Board licensed 790 new video gaming establishments." This means installation of video gaming in Illinois is still gaining steam and not letting up.

PAGE 13: PUBLIC COMMENT RESPONSE: This page of the 2024 IGB ANNUAL REPORT provides an example of how new legislation is able to be passed to change/increase the amount of tax revenues received from gambling activities. By no means am I advocating for video-gambling, but to me it is unconscionable that municipalities receive a mere 5% of video-gambling profits/revenues (aka "GAMBLER LOSSES") when Illinois State receives 30% or "GAMBLER LOSSES," all while the municipalities are responsible to bear the future burdens and deal with future repercussions of video gambling. The other 65% is split 50/50 between the establishment and the gambling equipment provider. As you see, trivial financial benefit to a municipality at the expense of the character of the communities. **(See EXHIBIT B)**

PAGE 49: This page of the 2024 IGB ANNUAL REPORT shows how the Illinois Gaming Board calls "GAMBLER LOSSES" by a less objectionable name of "NET WAGERING ACTIVITY" or "NET TERMINAL INCOME." The IGB website shows how GAMBLER LOSSES equal 25+% of

money played. This is preying on the most vulnerable among our community (elderly, down-and-out, and normalizing such behaviors for our children).

PAGE 20: This page shows a map of the locations of the 16 casinos in Illinois. 8 of them are in the immediate Chicago metropolitan area. **This would seem to suggest video-gambling in our residential neighborhoods is not even remotely necessary. (See EXHIBIT E)**

I would welcome feedback from any board member who is open to having a dialogue about this topic to understand the many reasons for community objection to video-gambling in our neighborhoods. Three minutes of public comment at meetings is hardly enough time to adequately convey community concerns about this topic, or for board members to understand such concerns.

Sincerely,

Glenn Nelson

The below is what DuPage County is being permitted to become if the last line of defense (the DuPage County Board) does not stringently adhere to ordinances and impose other restrictions.

1/28/2026 Newspaper:  
ROSATI'S Video-Gaming

1/28/2026 Newspaper:  
More Advertisements

Rt 64 & Bloomindale Rd. (Glen Ellyn)  
**"The Shame of Glen Ellyn IL"**



**EXHIBIT A**

**BRIAN KRAJEWSKI'S 10% "GAMBLER LOSS CALCULATION" IS INCORRECT. HE CALCULATED "2025 NET TERMINAL INCOME DIVIDED BY 2025 AMOUNT PLAYED" = (\$3,942,554 / \$42,303,322) = 9.32% "GAMBLER LOSSES". THE CORRECT CALCULATION IS "NET TERMINAL INCOME DIVIDED BY FUNDS IN" = (\$3,942,554 / \$15,538,030) = 25.37% "GAMBLER LOSSES".**

Municipality	YEAR	Establishment	Amount Played	Amount Won	Net Wager	Funds In	Funds Out	Net Terminal Income (aka "GAMBLER LOSSES")	35% NTI Tax	GAMBLER LOSS %
Lombard	2024	EIGHTEEN WEST LLC	\$3,923,463	\$3,540,820	\$382,643	\$1,477,056	\$1,094,413	\$382,644	\$131,889	25.91%
Lombard	2024	FITZ'S FIVE LEAF CLOVER, INC.	\$8,029,887	\$7,303,789	\$726,099	\$2,859,939	\$2,133,840	\$726,099	\$250,657	25.39%
Lombard	2024	FPS LLC	\$1,662,756	\$1,531,436	\$131,320	\$549,944	\$418,624	\$131,320	\$45,319	23.88%
Lombard	2024	LOMBARD LODGE 2350 LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE	\$1,826,307	\$1,645,522	\$180,785	\$585,646	\$404,861	\$180,785	\$62,402	30.87%
Lombard	2024	MITCHELL & DANIELS, LTD.	\$5,649,380	\$5,142,213	\$507,167	\$1,960,629	\$1,453,462	\$507,167	\$175,069	25.87%
Lombard	2024	NVRBTR Corp.	\$2,938,968	\$2,684,145	\$254,823	\$1,198,351	\$943,528	\$254,823	\$87,759	21.26%
Lombard	2024	SADCO ONE, INC.	\$8,954,896	\$8,124,288	\$830,607	\$2,908,559	\$2,077,952	\$830,607	\$286,797	28.56%
Lombard	2024	SDBL, LLC	\$579	\$260	\$319	\$360	\$41	\$319	\$108	88.50%
Lombard	2024	SHANNONS ON PARK INC	\$2,070,760	\$1,860,169	\$210,591	\$804,365	\$593,774	\$210,591	\$72,598	26.18%
Lombard	2024	SNA Restaurant Group Inc.	\$2,237,818	\$2,018,016	\$219,803	\$773,432	\$553,629	\$219,803	\$75,869	28.42%
Lombard	2024	The Glass Court Club, Inc.	\$80,640	\$72,087	\$8,553	\$27,346	\$18,793	\$8,553	\$2,958	31.28%
Lombard	2024	YTEG Lombard, Inc.	\$7,337,465	\$6,737,328	\$600,136	\$2,670,314	\$2,070,178	\$600,136	\$206,387	22.47%
Lombard	2024 Total		\$44,712,919	\$40,660,073	\$4,052,845	\$15,815,941	\$11,763,096	\$4,052,845	\$1,397,812	25.63%
Lombard	2025	EIGHTEEN WEST LLC	\$3,932,430	\$3,538,091	\$394,339	\$1,505,844	\$1,111,505	\$394,339	\$138,019	26.19%
Lombard	2025	FITZ'S FIVE LEAF CLOVER, INC.	\$9,059,240	\$8,250,899	\$808,341	\$3,402,247	\$2,593,907	\$808,341	\$282,919	23.76%
Lombard	2025	FPS LLC	\$1,457,034	\$1,324,361	\$132,673	\$499,766	\$367,093	\$132,673	\$46,436	26.55%
Lombard	2025	LOMBARD LODGE 2350 LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE	\$1,178,644	\$1,086,699	\$91,945	\$381,910	\$289,965	\$91,945	\$32,181	24.07%
Lombard	2025	MITCHELL & DANIELS, LTD.	\$5,824,093	\$5,258,430	\$565,662	\$2,092,520	\$1,526,857	\$565,662	\$197,982	27.03%
Lombard	2025	NVRBTR Corp.	\$3,193,773	\$2,909,682	\$284,091	\$1,255,856	\$971,765	\$284,091	\$99,432	22.62%
Lombard	2025	SADCO ONE, INC.	\$7,714,830	\$6,929,028	\$785,802	\$2,709,383	\$1,923,581	\$785,802	\$275,031	29.00%
Lombard	2025	SHANNONS ON PARK INC	\$2,002,268	\$1,816,564	\$185,704	\$745,357	\$559,653	\$185,704	\$64,997	24.91%
Lombard	2025	SNA Restaurant Group Inc.	\$2,028,527	\$1,842,562	\$185,964	\$712,229	\$526,264	\$185,965	\$65,088	26.11%
Lombard	2025	The Glass Court Club, Inc.	\$45,916	\$40,607	\$5,309	\$14,868	\$9,559	\$5,309	\$1,858	35.71%
Lombard	2025	YTEG Lombard, Inc.	\$5,866,568	\$5,363,844	\$502,724	\$2,218,050	\$1,715,326	\$502,724	\$175,954	22.67%
Lombard	2025 Total		\$42,303,322	\$38,360,768	\$3,942,554	\$15,538,030	\$11,595,475	\$3,942,554	\$1,379,897	25.37%
Lombard	Grand Total		\$87,016,241	\$79,020,842	\$7,995,399	\$31,353,971	\$23,358,571	\$7,995,400	\$2,777,709	25.50%

100% of NTI (aka "GAMBLER LOSSES")					
32.5% Establishment NTI Share	32.5% Machine Provider NTI Share	30.0% IL State NTI Share	5.0% Municipality NTI Share		
\$125,377	\$125,377	\$112,494	\$19,395		
\$237,721	\$237,721	\$213,796	\$36,861		
\$43,001	\$43,001	\$38,654	\$6,664		
\$59,192	\$59,192	\$53,225	\$9,177		
\$166,049	\$166,049	\$149,323	\$25,745		
\$83,532	\$83,532	\$74,853	\$12,906		
\$271,905	\$271,905	\$244,621	\$42,176		
\$105	\$105	\$92	\$16		
\$68,996	\$68,996	\$61,922	\$10,676		
\$71,967	\$71,967	\$64,711	\$11,157		
\$2,798	\$2,798	\$2,523	\$435		
\$196,874	\$196,874	\$176,036	\$30,351		
<b>\$1,327,517</b>	<b>\$1,327,517</b>	<b>\$1,192,252</b>	<b>\$205,561</b>		
\$128,160	\$128,160	\$117,981	\$20,037		
\$262,711	\$262,711	\$241,898	\$41,021		
\$43,119	\$43,119	\$39,698	\$6,738		
\$29,882	\$29,882	\$27,483	\$4,698		
\$183,840	\$183,840	\$169,248	\$28,734		
\$92,329	\$92,329	\$85,044	\$14,389		
\$255,385	\$255,385	\$235,121	\$39,910		
\$60,354	\$60,354	\$55,589	\$9,408		
\$60,438	\$60,438	\$55,624	\$9,464		
\$1,725	\$1,725	\$1,585	\$273		
\$163,385	\$163,385	\$150,426	\$25,528		
<b>\$1,281,329</b>	<b>\$1,281,329</b>	<b>\$1,179,697</b>	<b>\$200,200</b>		
\$2,608,845	\$2,608,845	\$2,371,948	\$405,761		
	<b>\$7,995,400</b>				



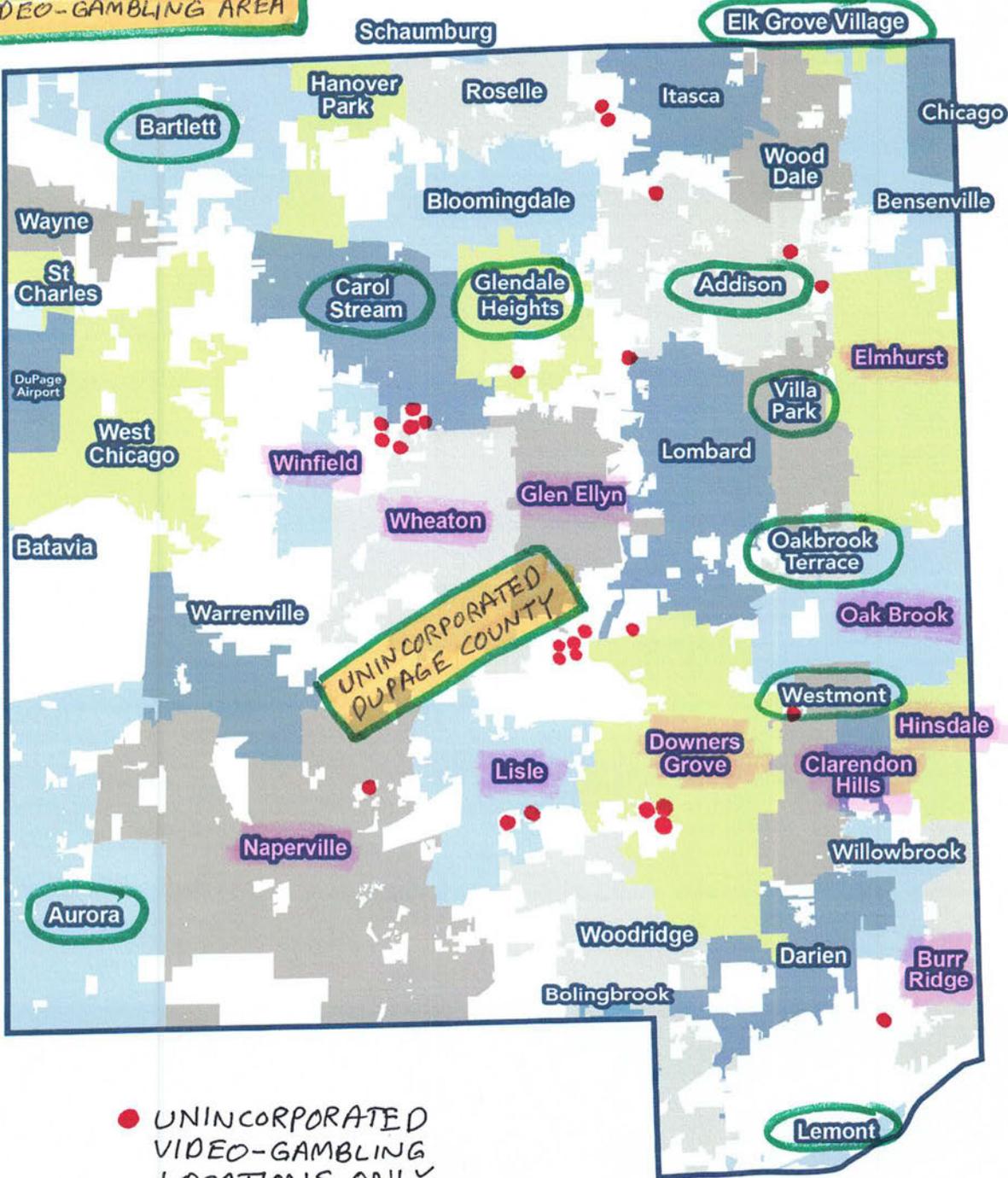
# DUPAGE COUNTY 2026

39 MUNICIPALITIES (20 OF WHICH LIE WHOLLY WITHIN THE COUNTY)

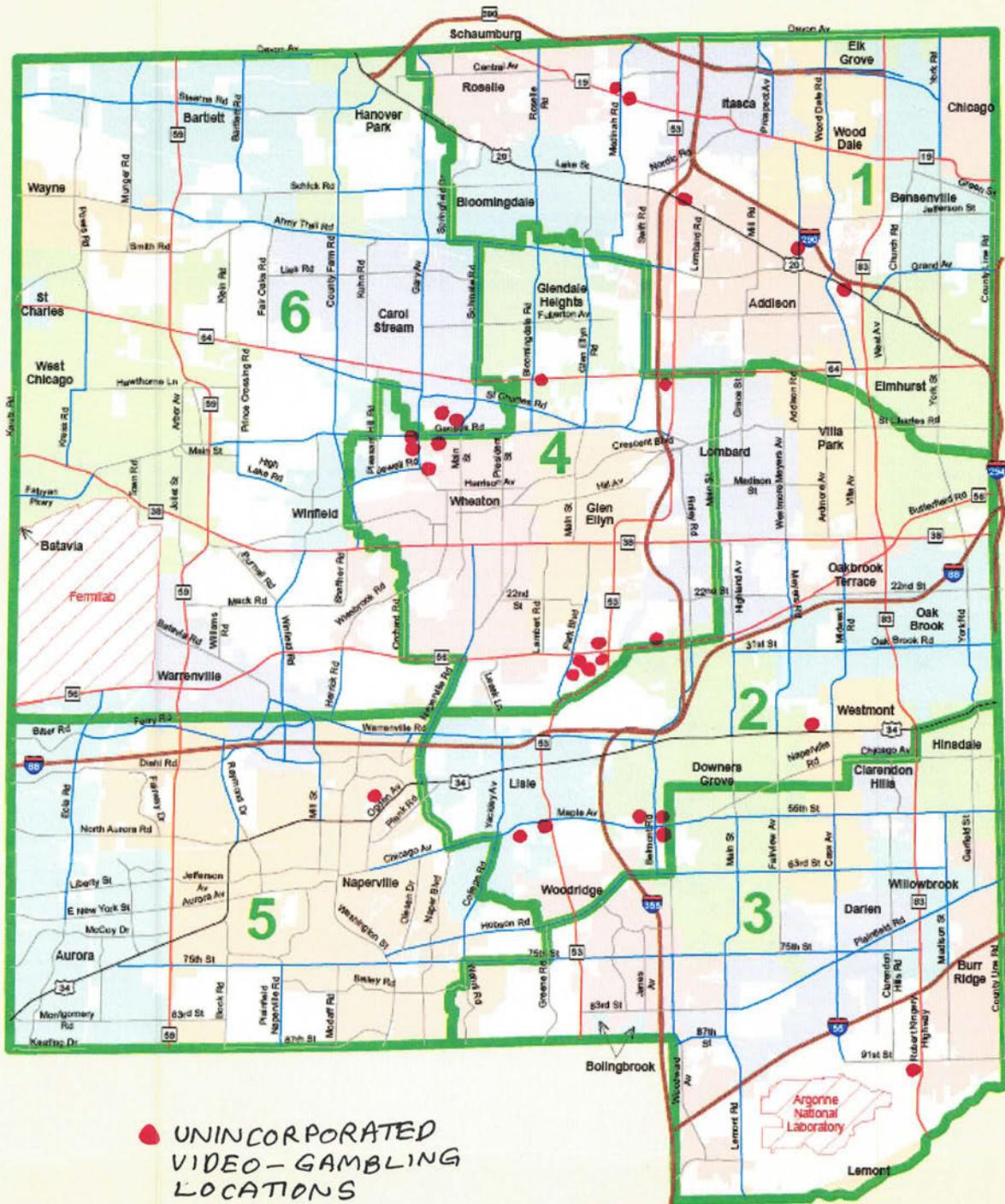
937,142 RESIDENTS  
336 SQUARE MILES

UNINCORPORATED  
DUPAGE COUNTY  
IS HIGHEST GROSSING  
VIDEO-GAMBLING AREA

MUNICIPALITIES  
WITH ~ NO GAMING



● UNINCORPORATED  
VIDEO-GAMBLING  
LOCATIONS ONLY  
(The hundreds of municipality locations are not shown here.)



● UNINCORPORATED  
VIDEO-GAMBLING  
LOCATIONS

Deborah Conroy - DuPage County Board Chair

DuPage County Board Members

District 1  
Michael Childers  
Cathy Chouinard  
Ben Trueman

District 2  
Lay Chang Sines  
Karl Holman  
Alan J. Kopyanski

District 3  
Sally Coyne  
Dawn DeLoach  
Patty Griffin

District 4  
Kirkland Clapp  
Paula Towner-Gardie  
Suzanne Van

District 5  
Gust Schluff  
Mary Fitzgerald-Ding  
Lyne LaForte

District 6  
Sally Coyne  
Gang Robinson  
Justin T. Zay Jr.

DuPage County Elected Officials

Clifford Adams, Clerk of the Circuit Court  
Robert Bello, Deputy Attorney  
Kathleen Caron, Recorder  
Chris Healy, Treasurer  
Richard A. Jennings, Director  
John Kaczmarek, County Clerk  
James Mackinick, Sheriff  
Theodore J. Blumrich, Register/Deputy of Records  
B.B. White, Auditor



Map Prepared by:



**DuPage County IT Department  
GIS Division**  
403 N. County Park Rd., Wheaton, IL 60187  
Voice: (630) 497-3000  
Mobile: (630) 497-3000  
Website: <https://www.dupagecounty.gov/GIS/>  
Date of Production: 1/17/2023  
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## Candidates running for DUPAGE COUNTY BOARD in March 2026 Elections

If you don't want video-gambling terminals showing up in more gas stations, restaurants, convenience stores, and grocery stores, see below how current incumbent Board Members have voted on this issue.

	DISTRICT 1	Incumbent?	Party	TERM
VOTE FOR 1	Michael L. Childress --- Supports ongoing VIDEO GAMBLING proliferation in DuPage neighborhoods	YES	DEM	4 year
VOTE FOR 1	Nicholas R. Panicola, Jr.	NO	DEM	2 year
	Melissa Villanueva	NO	DEM	
	Maria Sinkule	NO	DEM	
VOTE FOR 1	Eric Poptonski	NO	REP	4 year
	Onkar Singh Sangha	NO	REP	
VOTE FOR 1	Paula Pezza	NO	REP	2 year

	DISTRICT 2	Incumbent?	Party	TERM
VOTE FOR 1	Christopher Espinoza	NO	DEM	4 year
	Guido Nardini	NO	DEM	
VOTE FOR 1	Manoor Ahmad	NO	DEM	2 year
	Mary Rada Walters	NO	DEM	
VOTE FOR 1	Robert "Rusty" Stevens	NO	REP	4 year
VOTE FOR 1	Theresa McClear	NO	REP	2 year

	DISTRICT 3	Incumbent?	Party	TERM
VOTE FOR 1	Marcus King	NO	DEM	4 year
VOTE FOR 1	Ericka Polanco-Webb	NO	DEM	2 year
VOTE FOR 1	Kari Galassi --- Supports ongoing VIDEO GAMBLING proliferation in DuPage neighborhoods	YES	REP	4 year
VOTE FOR 1	Brian Krajewski --- Supports ongoing VIDEO GAMBLING proliferation in DuPage neighborhoods	YES	REP	2 year

	DISTRICT 4	Incumbent?	Party	TERM
VOTE FOR 1	Syed V. Hussain	NO	DEM	4 year
	Paula McGowan	NO	DEM	
VOTE FOR 1	Mary Fitzgerald Ozog --- Opposes ongoing VIDEO GAMBLING proliferation in DuPage neighborhoods	YES	DEM	2 year
VOTE FOR 1	Grant Eckhoff --- Supports ongoing VIDEO GAMBLING proliferation in DuPage neighborhoods	YES	REP	4 year
VOTE FOR 1	Isobel Michaud	NO	REP	2 year

	DISTRICT 5	Incumbent?	Party	TERM
VOTE FOR 1	Sadia Covert --- Opposes ongoing VIDEO GAMBLING proliferation in DuPage neighborhoods	YES	DEM	4 year
	Marylee Leu	NO	DEM	
	Ian Holzhauer	NO	DEM	
VOTE FOR 1	Dawn DeSart --- Supports ongoing VIDEO GAMBLING proliferation in DuPage neighborhoods	YES	DEM	2 year
VOTE FOR 1	Chris Jacks	NO	REP	4 year
VOTE FOR 1	Daniel Alejandro Lomeli	NO	REP	2 year

	DISTRICT 6	Incumbent?	Party	TERM
VOTE FOR 1	Jesse Gutierrez	NO	DEM	4 year
VOTE FOR 1	Lauren "Laurie" Nowak	NO	DEM	2 year
	Melissa Martinez --- Opposes ongoing VIDEO GAMBLING proliferation in DuPage neighborhoods	YES	DEM	
VOTE FOR 1	James F. "Jim" Zay --- Supports ongoing VIDEO GAMBLING proliferation in DuPage neighborhoods	YES	REP	4 year
VOTE FOR 1	Kathleen Zander	NO	REP	2 year

# ILLINOIS CASINOS 2024



## EXHIBIT E

1. Argosy Casino Alton  
Opened September 11, 1991

2. Bally's Chicago (Temporary Facility)  
Opened September 9, 2023 **CHICAGO**

3. Bally's Quad Cities Casino & Hotel (Rock Island)  
Opened March 11, 1992

4. DraftKings at Casino Queen (East St. Louis)  
Opened June 23, 1993

5. Golden Nugget Danville  
Opened May 27, 2023

6. Grand Victoria Casino (Elgin)  
Opened October 6, 1994

7. Hard Rock Casino Rockford  
Opened November 8, 2021

8. Harrah's Joliet Casino & Hotel  
Opened May 4, 1993

9. Harrah's Metropolis Casino  
Opened February 23, 1993

10. Hollywood Casino Aurora  
Opened June 17, 1993

11. Hollywood Casino Joliet  
Opened June 17, 1992

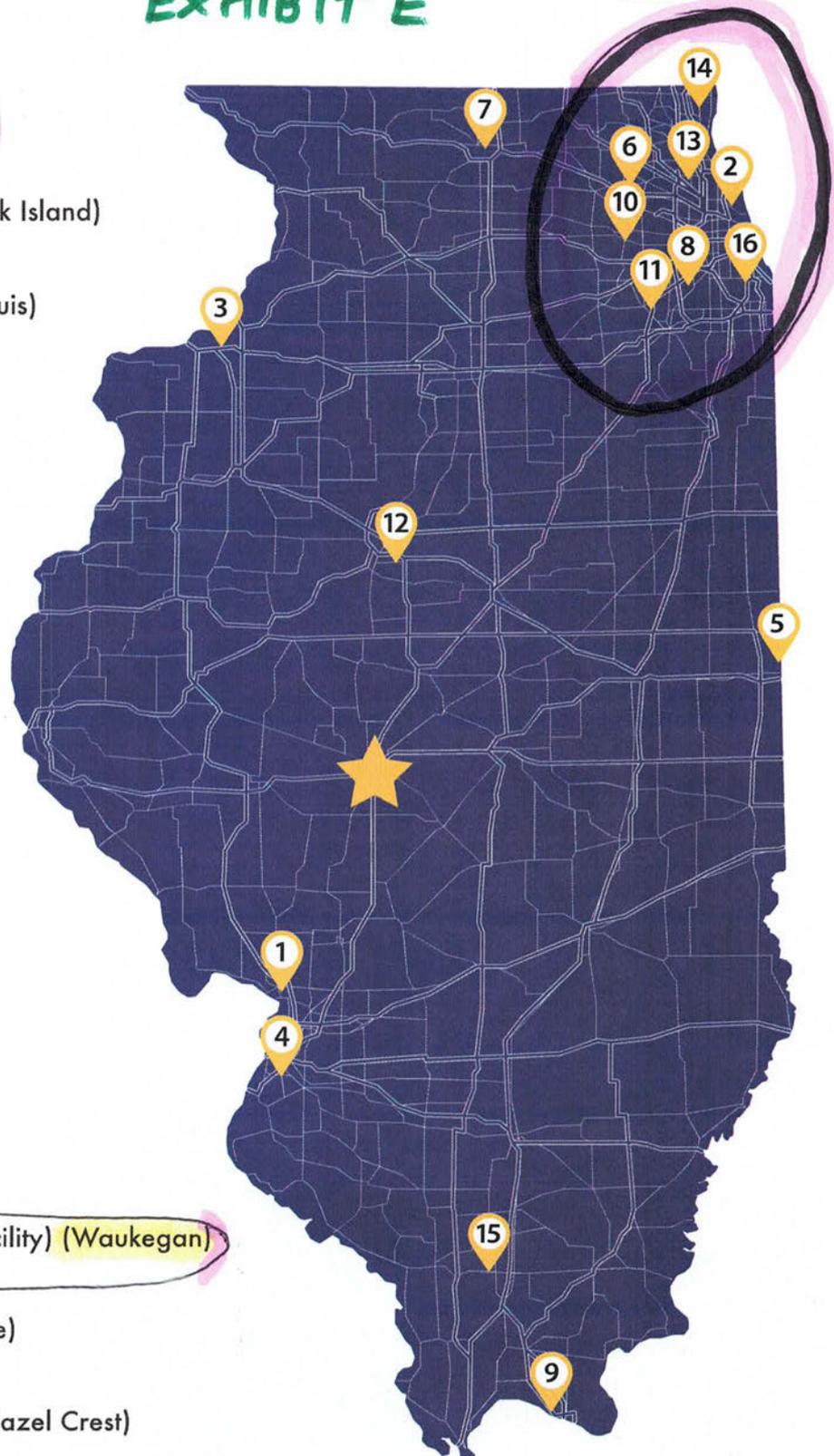
12. Par-A-Dice Hotel Casino (East Peoria)  
Opened November 20, 1991

13. Rivers Casino Des Plaines  
Opened July 18, 2011

14. American Place Casino (Temporary Facility) (Waukegan)  
Opened February 17, 2023

15. Walker's Bluff Casino Resort (Carterville)  
Opened August 25, 2023

16. Wind Creek Chicago Southland (East Hazel Crest)  
Opened November 11, 2024



**28 UNINCORPORATED DuPage County locations (of 345 total DuPage County locations)**

January 2025 - December 2025

Report Date: 01/24/2026 10:48 AM

PK	Municipality	Unincorp. Town	Establishment	dba Name	License Number	License Date	VGT Count	Amount Played	Amount Won	Net Wager	Funds In	Funds Out	Net Terminal Income (aka GAMBLER LOSSES)	GAMBLER LOSS %	Establishment Share	Machine Vendor Share	IL State Share	Municipality (County) Share
1	DuPage	WESTMONT	ANKOLA INCORPORATED	Westmont Liquors	230703329	2025-09-11	6	\$316,629	\$283,216	\$35,413	\$130,086	\$94,673	\$35,413	-27.2%	\$11,509	\$11,509	\$10,622	\$1,772
2	DuPage	Lisle	BASECAMP PUB, LLC	BASECAMP PUB & EATERY	200702822	2021-03-10	6	\$2,883,498	\$2,601,458	\$282,040	\$1,111,120	\$929,080	\$282,040	-25.4%	\$91,663	\$91,663	\$84,414	\$14,301
3	DuPage	Glen Ellyn	Blackhawk Restaurant Group LLC Series GlenEllyn	Penny's Place (GAMING ONLY)	200702831	2022-04-28	6	\$17,021,024	\$15,623,644	\$1,397,379	\$6,591,219	\$5,133,840	\$1,397,379	-21.4%	\$454,148	\$454,148	\$418,096	\$70,987
4	DuPage	GLEN ELLYN	BUTTERFIELD MARKET AND CAR WASH, INC.	Mobile Gas Station	200700675	2020-12-17	6	\$20,009,828	\$18,182,115	\$1,827,714	\$6,888,630	\$5,000,894	\$1,827,714	-26.6%	\$694,014	\$694,014	\$546,922	\$92,786
5	DuPage	WILLOWBROOK	CATIE'S PLACE, LLC Series Willowbrook	CATIE'S PLACE	210702642	2022-01-27	6	\$4,688,644	\$4,141,285	\$447,359	\$1,428,480	\$1,428,480	\$447,359	-23.8%	\$145,392	\$145,392	\$136,955	\$22,681
6	DuPage	Glen Ellyn	Dishar Corporation	7-Eleven (Park Blvd - GLEN ELLYN)	220702025	2023-02-09	6	\$4,529,122	\$4,108,583	\$420,539	\$1,692,953	\$1,202,443	\$420,539	-25.9%	\$136,675	\$136,675	\$125,861	\$21,329
7	DuPage	Wheaton	Gary Wheaton Group LLC	Rosie O' Reilly's	190703997	2020-12-17	6	\$6,307,031	\$5,677,277	\$629,754	\$2,364,996	\$1,735,242	\$629,754	-26.6%	\$204,670	\$204,670	\$188,454	\$31,960
8	DuPage	Medinah	Gaynor's, Incorporated	4 Points Whiskey Saloon & Grill	190703927	2020-07-30	6	\$3,067,021	\$2,772,857	\$294,164	\$1,051,219	\$757,063	\$294,164	-28.1%	\$95,601	\$95,601	\$88,043	\$14,912
9	DuPage	Medinah	JCR Gaming LLC	Players Corner Gaming Cafe	200700755	2024-02-08	6	\$4,455,576	\$4,035,618	\$419,957	\$1,469,599	\$1,049,641	\$419,957	-28.6%	\$136,486	\$136,486	\$125,694	\$21,291
10	DuPage	Wheaton	LACEY'S PLACE WHEATON LLC	LACEY'S PLACE	230702992	2024-04-25	6	\$4,568,434	\$4,365,444	\$468,682	\$1,532,954	\$1,068,024	\$468,682	-30.3%	\$151,070	\$151,070	\$139,095	\$23,595
11	DuPage	Glen Ellyn	M & W Thai Restaurant, Inc.	M & W Thai Restaurant	190703916	2020-07-30	6	\$4,834,125	\$4,395,404	\$468,682	\$1,692,608	\$1,223,926	\$468,682	-27.7%	\$152,321	\$152,321	\$140,203	\$23,838
12	DuPage	Downers Grove	Maple BP Inc.	Maple BP	210703613	2022-09-15	4	\$7,187,460	\$6,509,919	\$677,541	\$2,713,053	\$2,035,512	\$677,541	-25.0%	\$220,201	\$220,201	\$202,746	\$34,393
13	DuPage	Downers Grove	MEGMIL, INC.	Angelo's Foods (GAMING ONLY)	200702318	2021-04-21	6	\$4,236,467	\$3,829,334	\$409,133	\$1,655,755	\$1,246,623	\$409,133	-24.7%	\$132,968	\$132,968	\$122,427	\$26,770
14	DuPage	GLEN ELLYN	NIRO LLC	Route 53 Cafe (GAMING ONLY)	240702080	2025-03-13	6	\$2,867,428	\$2,578,579	\$288,848	\$1,124,448	\$835,600	\$288,848	-25.7%	\$93,675	\$93,675	\$86,498	\$14,611
15	DuPage	Lombard	OM 858, Inc.	7-Eleven (Lloyd Ave - DOWNERS)	210700697	2022-01-27	6	\$6,095,080	\$5,530,957	\$564,102	\$2,255,111	\$1,691,018	\$564,102	-25.0%	\$163,330	\$163,330	\$168,785	\$28,649
16	DuPage	Addison	Puzzled Minds Entertainment, LLC	7-Eleven (Maple - LOMBARD)	200700803	2020-11-17	6	\$6,855,479	\$6,171,730	\$683,750	\$2,651,883	\$1,968,133	\$683,750	-25.8%	\$222,219	\$222,219	\$204,623	\$34,680
17	DuPage	Lombard	Puzzled Minds Entertainment, LLC	7-Eleven (Maple - LOMBARD)	200700803	2020-11-17	6	\$6,855,479	\$6,171,730	\$683,750	\$2,651,883	\$1,968,133	\$683,750	-25.8%	\$222,219	\$222,219	\$204,623	\$34,680
18	DuPage	Itasca	Ristorante DeMarco, Inc.	Ristorante DeMarco's	190703855	2020-07-30	6	\$4,558,125	\$4,117,716	\$440,409	\$1,707,232	\$1,266,823	\$440,409	-25.8%	\$143,133	\$143,133	\$131,847	\$22,297
19	DuPage	Downers Grove	SMT FOODS, INC.	7-Eleven (Maple - LOMBARD)	210704074	2020-07-30	6	\$4,558,125	\$4,117,716	\$440,409	\$1,707,232	\$1,266,823	\$440,409	-25.8%	\$143,133	\$143,133	\$131,847	\$22,297
20	DuPage	Lombard	Speedway LLC	Speedway #7382	201002612	2021-09-09	9	\$3,506,894	\$3,183,199	\$323,695	\$1,153,446	\$829,751	\$323,695	-28.1%	\$105,201	\$105,201	\$96,857	\$16,436
21	DuPage	Lisle	SQUIRREL CAGE TAVERN, INC.	THE SQUIRREL CAGE TAVERN	190700666	2020-07-30	6	\$4,543,986	\$4,099,937	\$444,049	\$1,405,397	\$961,348	\$444,049	-31.6%	\$144,316	\$144,316	\$132,860	\$22,558
22	DuPage	Wheaton	Tiger Zinda Hai Inc	Sully's Place	210700077	2020-06-11	6	\$5,535,750	\$5,085,653	\$450,097	\$2,104,216	\$1,654,120	\$450,097	-21.4%	\$146,281	\$146,281	\$134,685	\$22,849
23	DuPage	Addison	Twins Naperville, LLC	Pathway Pantry Plus	240701447	2024-09-12	6	\$11,770,230	\$10,549,927	\$1,220,303	\$4,107,388	\$2,887,085	\$1,220,303	-29.7%	\$396,599	\$396,599	\$365,191	\$61,915
24	DuPage	Naperville	UNCLE PAULIE'S, INC. (Strip Club)	Betsy's Naperville	240902115	2025-07-31	4	\$96,425	\$86,166	\$8,259	\$27,330	\$19,071	\$8,259	-30.2%	\$27,330	\$27,330	\$24,477	\$4,113
25	DuPage	GLEN ELLYN	WHEATON ILLINOIS LODGE NO 2258 B. P. O. ELKS	Uncle Paulie's "The Shame of Glen Ellyn"	240902115	2025-07-31	4	\$96,425	\$86,166	\$8,259	\$27,330	\$19,071	\$8,259	-30.2%	\$27,330	\$27,330	\$24,477	\$4,113
26	DuPage	Wheaton	WHEATON ILLINOIS LODGE NO 2258 B. P. O. ELKS	WHEATON ILLINOIS LODGE NO 2258 B. P. O. ELKS	200703020	2021-04-21	6	\$708,903	\$646,530	\$62,373	\$236,684	\$174,311	\$62,373	-26.4%	\$20,271	\$20,271	\$18,659	\$3,172
27	DuPage	WHEATON	WHEATON VFW POST #2164 INC	WHEATON VFW POST #2164	210702748	2023-02-09	6	\$1,742,514	\$1,580,564	\$161,950	\$657,377	\$495,428	\$161,950	-24.6%	\$52,633	\$52,633	\$48,456	\$8,227
28	DuPage	CAROL STREAM	V41'S, INC.	BROWN'S CHICKEN & PASTA	210702748	2023-02-09	6	\$178,089,564	\$161,640,735	\$16,448,829	\$64,320,729	\$47,871,416	\$16,448,829	-25.6%	\$5,346,022	\$5,346,022	\$4,922,397	\$834,871
29	DuPage		SUBTOTAL															\$16,449,313

**Of the \$16,449,313 "GAMBLER LOSSES" generated at Unincorporated DuPage County video-gambling locations in all of 2025, DuPage County only received \$834,871.**

It is shameful what residents and children in our communities and neighborhoods are being exposed to for the sole purpose of \$834,871/year, .... when there is no edifying or positive value to DuPage County residents or the character of our community to counter-balance the harm that many vulnerable residents and children will face in the future (based on many research studies).

EXHIBIT F



## Blakely, Heidi

---

**From:** William Smith <william.smith@elmhurst.edu>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 4, 2026 8:44 AM  
**To:** }County Board - Transportation Committee; }County Board - Judicial and Public Safety Committee;  
DuPage County Chair  
**Subject:** Greg Schwarze's traffic signal proposal  
**Categories:** Yellow category

**[Caution: This email originated outside Dupagecounty.gov. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.]**

Hello,

My name is William Smith and I am an avid biker who happens to live right in front of the Prairie Path in Villa Park. This is such a blessing for me as I love that trail and I love to bike. The Great Western trail is only two blocks behind me so I have access to both trails. I ride both trails very often, however I don't nearly ride the Great Western Trail nearly as much as I would like and one of those reasons are the crossings mentioned below. The Bloomindale crossing on the Great Western is very dangerous, and also the one at County Line Rd. The Great Western Trail has made some great improvements over the years and the biggest one I can think of is the overpass over the tracks in Lombard, what a blessing that was. I encourage all on this e-mail to think about the safety of the Great Western Trail and I support Greg's traffic signal proposal.

The Great Western Trail and the Illinois Prairie Path through DuPage County is a remarkable system that can take you from suburb to suburb with long stretches of peaceful forest in between each one. Unfortunately, there also are busy roads which create hazardous challenges to cyclists and pedestrians. It's one reason we have said in our periodic bike trail listings that you should be careful, especially with children, on these trails.

The Friends of the Great Western Trail are calling for a solution to the dangerous trail crossings at County Farm Road in Winfield.

Currently, while there is a stop sign at the end of the **Great Western Trail at County Farm Road in Winfield**; there are no gates or barricades to properly caution cyclists and pedestrians before they enter the four-lane roadway. Even when following safety protocols, crossing is life-threatening; motorists frequently fail to yield, often turning "right on red" into the path of those crossing, and vehicle speeds often exceed the posted limits. Similar safety concerns exist at the **Great Western Trail crossing at Bloomingdale Road , and the Illinois Prairie Path crossing at County Farm Road**. Despite overhanging signs and a crosswalk, there is no requirement for motorists to stop, nor is there a flashing beacon to encourage caution.

DuPage County Board member Greg Schwarze has proposed installing a pedestrian/bike crossing beacon south of the trail at **Timber Creek Drive/Hawthorne Lane**. We believe this proposal would significantly improve safety.

While we understand the need to maintain traffic flow on County Farm Road, the history of injuries at these intersections due to speed and distracted driving necessitates action. The Great Western Trail and Illinois Prairie

Path are essential for both recreation and commuting. Installing crossing beacons will protect trail users and encourage motorists to adhere to posted speed limits.

**William (Bill) H. Smith II '04, MBA '20**

**Director of Enrollment Operations and Graduate Admission**

Office of Admission – Graduate Programs

Elmhurst University, Daniels Hall

190 S. Prospect Avenue, Elmhurst, IL 60126

**Direct:** (630) 617-3384 | **Fax:** (630) 617-6471

**Email:** [William.Smith@elmhurst.edu](mailto:William.Smith@elmhurst.edu)

## Blakely, Heidi

---

**From:** Laura Reigle  
**Sent:** Friday, February 6, 2026 9:41 AM  
**To:** Evans, Lucy; DuPage County Chair; Cronin Cahill, Cindy; Childress, Michael; Covert, Sadia; DeSart, Dawn; Eckhoff, Grant; Galassi, Kari; DeaconGarcia, Paula; Haider, Saba; Honig, Andrew; Krajewski, Brian; LaPlante, Lynn; Martinez, Melissa; Ozog, Mary; Schwarze, Greg; Yoo, Yeena; Tornatore, Sam; Zay, James  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** February 10,2026 Vote on Video Gaming Variance in DuPage County

**[Caution: This email originated outside Dupagecounty.gov. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.]**

Dear DuPage County Board Members,

I am writing ahead of your February 10, 2026 meeting regarding the proposed approval of a video gaming ordinance variance in Downers Grove and the broader implications this vote carries for the future of video gaming in DuPage County.

Although the Board initially voted to deny this variance, it now appears the County may reverse course. This decision is not an isolated matter; rather, it reflects the continued expansion of hundreds of video-gaming establishments already operating across DuPage County, particularly within unincorporated and more economically vulnerable areas.

This message is not anti-gambling or anti-video gaming. Instead, it raises an important policy question: should video gaming continue expanding into everyday neighborhood locations such as gas stations, restaurants, grocery stores, and convenience stores—places regularly frequented by families and children—or should it remain limited to casinos and private membership organizations such as VFWs, Knights of Columbus, and Moose lodges, as originally contemplated in the Illinois Gaming Act?

Research has documented the addictive nature of video gambling and its negative effects on individuals, families, and community stability. Illinois Gaming Board data indicates that players lose approximately 25% of the money spent on video gaming, representing a significant and often regressive financial burden.

It is also noteworthy that:

- Ten DuPage County municipalities currently prohibit or severely restrict video gaming.
- These same municipalities have some of the highest college graduation rates in the county, according to DuPage County data.
- Ten of the eighteen County Board members reside in these municipalities, while policy decisions may permit further expansion of video gaming primarily in less-educated and more economically vulnerable communities.

These facts raise serious concerns about fairness, consistency, and the long-term welfare of unincorporated areas.

Allowing video gambling to proliferate in neighborhood retail settings normalizes addictive behavior, exposes children to it as routine, and fundamentally alters the character of residential communities. Research on problem gambling's impact on families and brain function further underscores these risks.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to vote NO on approving this variance and to oppose further expansion of video gaming in unincorporated DuPage County. Please prioritize community health, equity, and neighborhood integrity over short-term revenue considerations.

<https://www.apa.org/monitor/2023/07/how-gambling-affects-the-brain>



Gambling and Divorce | What Concerned Couples  
Need to Know  
[kindbridge.com](http://kindbridge.com)

Thank you for your time, service, and thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,  
Laura Reigle  
Dupage County Resident

**Blakely, Heidi**

---

**From:** noreply@formstack.com  
**Sent:** Monday, February 9, 2026 9:11 AM  
**To:** Web Master; County Board Public Comment  
**Subject:** PublicComment

[Caution: This email originated outside Dupagecounty.gov. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.]



**Formstack Submission For: PublicComment**

Submitted at 02/09/26 9:11 AM

<b>Meeting Date:</b>	02/10/26
<b>Meeting:</b>	DuPage County Board
<b>Name:</b>	Glenn Nelson
<b>Organization:</b>	Glen Ellyn Woods Subdivision
<b>Address:</b>	[Redacted]
<b>Daytime Phone:</b>	[Redacted]
<b>Subject:</b>	2-3-2026 Development Committee meeting minutes about "legal non-confirming use" decision.
<b>Comment:</b>	At the 2-3-2026 Development Committee meeting minutes meeting Sam Tornatore (chronic approver or video gaming), manipulated and guided many other board members to the following decision (minutes summary shown below).  OLD BUSINESS

Chair Tornatore spoke about the last County Board Meeting where a motion was made to reconsider SMM Management Inc, video gaming zoning petition. There was a vote scheduled for the next County Board Meeting, however the Assistant State Attorney's office along with staff has determined that SMM and other entities are essentially legal non-conforming uses. They are allowed to do business in the County under our code. The County Board will no longer need to address SMM or the other 18 businesses that fall under this category. He also addressed the motion to reconsider the Lucky 7 petition, on the agenda at the next County Board meeting. This business is not operating yet and is within 1,000 feet of another gaming establishment.

Member Martinez brought up the issue of distance for future video gaming zoning relief petitions. There currently needs to be at least 1,000 feet (property line to property line) from protected uses. This was an issue for several of the previous video gaming petitions. Previous petitioners argued they are located more than 1,000 feet door to door from a protected use. She inquired if a change should be made to requirement. Chair Tornatore verified with Paul Hoss that a text amendment would be needed to change the distance requirement.

Nick Kottmeyer verified that all of the legal non-conforming businesses will be notified by the County of their new status. Mr. Kottmeyer clarified why the County has "grandfathered" these businesses. When video gaming became legal, businesses followed the state law. Once the County started to regulate it, the requirements changed and these existing businesses did not all meet those requirements.

All Members agreed that staff should prepare a text amendment to make changes to the distance requirement for new video gaming establishments.

ONCE AGAIN, CORRECTION IS REQUIRED TO CORRECT THE Development Committee's, the State's Attorney's, and the County Board's above STATEMENTS.

1.) The 7-Eleven across the street from SMM Management (Angelo's) at Maple & Belmont is within the OLD 100 ft ordinance (property line to property line) that justifies DENIAL of a video-gaming ordinance variance.

2.) The BP gas station across the street from SMM Management (Angelo's) at Maple & Belmont is within the OLD 100 ft ordinance (property line to property line) that justifies DENIAL of a video-gaming ordinance variance.

3.) Penny's Place (gaming cafe) at Butterfield Rd and Park Blvd is next door and in the same strip mall to M&W Thai Cafe which had video -gambling prior to Penny's Place. This is within 100 ft and therefore justifies DENIAL of a video-

gambling ordinance variance.

4.) The 7-Eleven at Butterfield Rd and Park Blvd is on Greg same corner as M&W Thai Cafe which had video -gambling prior to 7-Eleven and Penny's Place. This is within 100 ft (property line to property line) and therefore justifies DENIAL of a video-gambling ordinance variance.

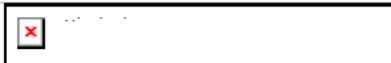
5.) There are other of the 18 locations that also did not meet the OLD 100 ft distance requirements.

If the county is not going to abide by their own ordinances, then the county should be prepared for civil lawsuits if any IMPROPERLY APPROVED video-gambling establishment's gambling customer activities lead to a drunk driving injury/death, or if robbery/theft crime related to video gambling leads to death/injury or property damage, or if video gambling activities lead to suicide at such locations.

Sorry to be so direct, but IMPROPERLY APPROVED ORDINANCE VARIANCES that the county and their committees improperly grant could have consequences such as these. This is demonstrated in the many reports and studies shared with the county in public comment.

Regards,  
Glenn Nelson

[Redacted signature]



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Intellistack, 50 South Steele Street, Suite 500, Denver, CO 80209

**Blakely, Heidi**

---

**From:** noreply@formstack.com  
**Sent:** Friday, February 6, 2026 3:38 PM  
**To:** Web Master; County Board Public Comment  
**Subject:** PublicComment

[Caution: This email originated outside Dupagecounty.gov. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.]



**Formstack Submission For: PublicComment**

Submitted at 02/06/26 3:38 PM

**Meeting Date:** 02/10/26

**Meeting:** DuPage County Board

**Name:** Glenn Nelson

**Organization:** Glen Ellyn Woods Subdivision

**Address:**



**Daytime Phone:**



**Subject:** Video gaming at (SMM Management /Angelo's) Maple & Belmont

**Comment:**

A board member emailed me on 2/6/2026 explaining their logic for how THEY plan to vote on 2/10/2026 regarding an SMM Management ordinance variance request.

While looking at video-gambling locations “on a case-by-case basis” (as the board member said), I presume that means that they and the rest of the

DuPage County Board WILL ALL BE VOTING to remove the existing video-gambling at the BP gas station and 7-Eleven that are directly across the street (at the same intersection of Maple and Belmont) if voting to allow Angelo's Liquor store to keep video-gambling.

This would be the EXPECTED OUTCOME if as the Board member said, "I have a duty to follow county procedures for zoning variances," since both the BP and 7-Eleven are within within the ORIGINAL ordinance guideline for not having two video-gambling establishments within 100 ft of another video-gambling establishment (property line to property line as stated by Paul Hoss).

FYI .... Aurora has a 1/2 mile (2640 foot) guideline.

If the board does not abide by and follow your perfectly stated "duty to follow county procedures for zoning variances," then the DuPage County Board could be found liable for any injuries/deaths that might be tied to video-gambling at the one two sites in the future (if allowed by the County to retain video-gambling). From drunk driving, robberies, suicide, etc.

This is the very PRECEDENT that I suggested the DuPage County Board wouldn't want to set after I had heard Deborah Conroy say, and now you seemingly support that the DuPage County Board makes decisions based on whether or not the County will be sued. Horrible precedent in my opinion, especially when so many attorneys sit on the board.

NOTE: A lawsuit coming from an injury/death tied to JUST ONE video-gambling DuPage County establishment that violates ordinance (like the BP and 7-eleven; and many others) would likely wipe out a decade of DuPage County tax revenues from all sites in the county.

To quote Deborah Conroy: "We (the County) don't want to get sued. Something to consider."

I apologize for the directness of this email, but complete transparency is important, especially when it seems like the board dismisses public concern.

I made a Nextdoor post this week and 24 reactions were ALL heart emojis supportive of the belief that video-gambling in gas stations, restaurants, grocery stores, and convenience stores is detrimental to DuPage County. The somewhat low response rate is likely because people often don't like putting their opinions out there, but those that did .... Do not like the continued spread of video gambling in these types of establishments for all the reasons I have raised previously. Post also had 62 comments and ~7000 views.

See the linked Chicago SunTimes article from January 20, 2026:

<https://chicago.suntimes.com/the-watchdogs/2026/01/20/video-gambling-establishments-spike-burglaries-illinois-gaming-board-chicago-suburbs>

Here it is copied below in case you can't access the above link:

---

Video gambling establishments see alarming spike in burglaries, \$2.7 million stolen in 2025

At least 473 burglaries were reported in Illinois last year at businesses offering video gambling — compared to 358 in 2024, when \$1.9 million was stolen. Many incidents involve crews of masked bandits smashing through front doors and windows, wielding sledgehammers and other tools. In the first two weeks of January, there were 40 cases.

By Robert Herguth Jan 20, 2026, 5:30am CST

Nearly a century ago, serial robber Willie Sutton reportedly explained why he was sticking up banks by saying wryly: “Because that’s where the money is.”

These days, crooks in the Chicago area seem to be centering on a new source of cash: establishments offering video gambling. The Illinois Gaming Board recently confirmed what many in the industry already knew: 2025 saw an explosion of crime, with more than \$2.7 million stolen during 473 burglaries at those types of businesses last year.

Nearly half of those burglaries — 219 — occurred between Oct. 1 and Dec. 31.

There have been at least 40 since Jan. 1.

“There’s never been this volume and this audacity,” said a businessman who operates multiple video gambling sites that have collectively experienced eight burglaries since October.

In 2024, there were 358 such burglaries statewide and \$1.9 million taken, according to the gaming board, the state government agency tasked with regulating legal gambling statewide, including roughly 9,000 sites with video gambling.

In 2023, there were 336 burglaries, plus 316 in 2022 and 306 in 2021 — with almost \$4.7 million taken in those three years combined.

Some suburban gambling businesses have been hit more than once in recent months, and it appears multiple burglary crews are operating in the area, often rolling up to targeted sites in stolen cars when parlors are closed and smashing through windows and doors, triggering alarm systems but aiming to get in and out before police arrive.

On occasion, the thieves have gotten more creative, figuring out how to electronically bypass alarms, according to industry sources.

ATMs inside have been hauled away, and “redemption” kiosks that let winners cash out have been cracked open along with the electronic devices offering the games themselves.

Beyond the money taken, there’s also been costly damage to equipment — pry bars and sledgehammers are sometimes used to aggressively breach machines — and a rush by parlors to add security measures such as drop-down metal shields over entry points to contend with the growing menace.

At times burglaries have turned perilous. Some offenders have been armed, and their actions have led to police chases that often have been called off because of the danger of fleeing vehicles driving recklessly on local streets, according to interviews.

In one incident in October at a Midlothian gambling parlor closed for the night, several burglars busted through the front glass. Unable to dislodge an ATM machine inside, they drove a stolen Jeep into the storefront to jar it loose. The machine was then hoisted into the vehicle, which sped off and later was abandoned in another south suburb, Dolton.

It’s unclear whether the burglary crews are part of something organized — street gangs or operating under the auspices of the mob.

#### Illinois video gambling goes live in 2012

Legislation legalizing video gambling in Illinois was approved in 2009, and the first machines went live to the public in 2012. Before then, numerous bars and restaurants had devices, but they were supposed to be for “amusement” purposes — payouts to winners weren’t allowed.

Many establishments paid out anyway, and the Chicago mob was sometimes involved in distributing the machines and splitting the revenues.

Just last year, three reputed mob figures — including the Bridgeport man once portrayed by federal authorities as the Outfit’s video poker kingpin — were arrested for allegedly burglarizing a sprawling home in Kane County owned by a restaurateur whose establishments have video gambling machines. The homeowner, however, dismissed any connection to gambling.

That case is still pending in court.

Separately, within the last few days a car pulled up outside a gambling parlor in southwest suburban Bedford Park called Lilly’s Slots around 4 a.m., and several people wearing hoods and dark clothing started pounding the glass front door with a sledgehammer and hammer until it smashed, according to footage.

Within seconds, the thieves climbed through and centered their efforts on pummeling gambling devices until they splintered. When a squad car arrived with lights flashing, the offenders scrambled out the door, hopped into the waiting car and sped away.

In north suburban Niles this month, thieves broke into, or attempted to break into, three establishments in quick succession early one morning, says Niles Deputy Police Chief Thomas Fragassi.

That followed a car theft and a dozen vehicle break-ins in town that may have been related.

As police showed up at the last of the three locales — TW Bistro at Oakton Street and Milwaukee Avenue — the thieves sped away. In Bensenville on Jan. 8, two thieves busted into Bella's Bistro in the near west suburb when the business was closed, and can be seen on video using what looks like a crowbar to crack into a machine.

That break-in followed two others in Prospect Heights by apparently the same people, officials say.

Wood Dale police spotted a vehicle matching the get-away car and tried to stop it, leading to a chase. Elmhurst police picked it up on Interstate 290, and Oak Brook police were able to put down a "tire deflation" device across the lanes that punctured a wheel. When the fleeing vehicle stopped, the men inside took off on foot and tried to carjack another driver.

In Chicago suburbs, 'a growing problem'

Two suspects were later arrested, and \$10,000 in cash was recovered, along with betting slips from "various gambling establishments," police say.

Bensenville Police Chief Bradley Swanson described these types of crimes as "a growing problem" regionally.

"It's fair to say they're definitely on the rise," Swanson said.

Chicago Ridge Police Chief Jim Jarolimek echoed that, saying "it's a big issue" in the suburbs.

"They wear gloves, they all have masks, they're in and out in minutes," said Jarolimek, whose community has seen several burglaries over the last year or so, with crooks making off with about \$60,000 in one of them. "They're getting organized and they're getting smart... I feel bad for the businesses, a lot of them are little cafes."

In September, the Illinois attorney general’s office announced the arrest of three men allegedly part of a “video gaming theft ring” that had been responsible for 16 burglaries in Cook, DuPage, Lake and Will counties that reaped more than \$500,000.

In August 2024, the agency announced the arrest of five men accused of 22 video gambling thefts totaling more than \$100,000.

While the gaming board isn’t always notified about crime at Illinois casinos — which the Sun-Times examined last year, finding armed robberies and other disturbing incidents at some of those gambling complexes — video gambling license holders “are required to notify the IGB of any criminal incident that affects the gaming operation,” according to a written statement from the agency.

The gaming board is the “regulatory authority for video gaming” but “is not the primary law enforcement agency responsible for responding to burglaries and other non-gaming incidents at video gaming establishments,” according to the agency, which nonetheless works with police and prosecutors “to pursue and prosecute video gaming terminal burglaries at video gaming establishments statewide.”

“The IGB is committed to bringing these offenders to justice.”

A former gaming board agent familiar with the current crime trends said the agency, which ultimately reports to Gov. JB Pritzker, could do more to help, but “I don’t know if they have enough agents.”

A gaming board spokeswoman says such criticism is “misplaced” because the agency is “not a first responder” and “does not have the mandate or jurisdiction to provide security services” to video gambling businesses. Pritzker wasn’t governor when video gambling took off, but he’s since presided over other gambling expansion, including a proliferation of sports betting and new casinos.

Would video gambling in Chicago bring more crime?

Referring to the prospect of the city of Chicago now allowing video gambling — not every municipality allows video gambling, and there’s a new push to permit it in the city — the ex-agent observed: “With Chicago coming on board, it’s ridiculous... just imagine what the city will be like” in terms of crime if that happens.

Asked about the possibility of increased crime should video gambling expand into Chicago, a spokesman for Mayor Brandon Johnson said:

“In addition to fiscal concerns, the mayor has considerable public safety

concerns about the potential impact of legalizing VGTs [video gaming terminals] citywide.”

“The mayor believes that Council should take a more thoughtful approach to the legalization of VGTs to mitigate against potential public safety concerns and financial risks associated with the current legislation.”

Burglaries weren’t the only crimes at video gambling establishments. There were seven robberies in 2025, according to the gaming board.

Michael Dwyer, deputy chief of investigations for the Cook County sheriff’s police, says his agency has handled a dozen burglaries over the last six to eight months, and “there is a collective effort” to share information “across multiple jurisdictions” to halt the upward spiral in incidents.

“There was a time banks were held up pretty regularly,” Dwyer said. “Then, adjustments were made” by authorities and the businesses themselves to better deter and arrest culprits.

“I’d anticipate the same thing here.”

---

Sincerely,  
Glenn Nelson

P.S. I have added my response above to public comment for the 2-10-2026 board meeting so all other board members are aware of this PRECEDENT context as well.



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## Blakely, Heidi

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**From:** noreply@formstack.com  
**Sent:** Friday, February 6, 2026 5:13 PM  
**To:** Web Master; County Board Public Comment  
**Subject:** PublicComment

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### Formstack Submission For: **PublicComment**

Submitted at 02/06/26 5:12 PM

**Meeting Date:** 02/10/26

**Meeting:** DuPage County Board

**Name:** Y gentile

**Organization:** Public

**Address:**



**Daytime  
Phone:**



**Subject:** Treatment of Employees

**Comment:**

Members of the DuPage County Board and all public attendees,  
My name is Gerald J. Gentile. I am writing to place into the record my  
experience as a former DuPage County employee during the COVID-19  
pandemic.  
I served as a Weatherization Assessor from March 2004 until my forced  
separation from employment in June 2020, following more than sixteen years  
of service in good standing. In May 2019, I suffered a pulmonary embolism and

returned to work in July 2019 without incident. When COVID-19 emerged in March 2020, my department was permitted to work remotely. However, in June 2020, despite my physician's recommendation that I avoid field work due to my prior pulmonary condition, I was denied a reasonable accommodation to perform office-based duties. My immediate supervisor confirmed that sufficient internal work was available, and as a senior assessor I was capable of performing it. I was ultimately given an ultimatum by the Director of Community Services: return to unrestricted field work or follow my doctor's medical advice. I chose to follow my physician's guidance and was forced to resign from a position I valued deeply. While this matter was later resolved through legal settlement, I believe it is important for the County Board to be aware of how a medically vulnerable employee was treated during the COVID-19 crisis. My intent in sharing this information is not personal retaliation, but accountability and prevention, so that future employees facing serious medical conditions are treated with fairness, dignity, and compassion. Thank you for your time and consideration and perhaps the fraud who commands a huge salary is sent on a needed retirement herself. Respectfully  
Gerald J. Gentile



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Intellistack, 50 South Steele Street, Suite 500, Denver, CO 80209

## Blakely, Heidi

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**From:** noreply@formstack.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 7, 2026 7:04 AM  
**To:** Web Master; County Board Public Comment  
**Subject:** PublicComment

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### Formstack Submission For: **PublicComment**

Submitted at 02/07/26 7:03 AM

**Meeting Date:** 02/10/26

**Meeting:** DuPage County Board

**Name:** Glenn Nelson

**Organization:** Glen Ellyn Woods Subdivision

**Address:**



**Daytime Phone:**



**Subject:** Video gaming at (SMM Management /Angelo's) Maple & Belmont

**Comment:**

A board member emailed me on 2/6/2026 explaining their logic for how THEY plan to vote on 2/10/2026 regarding an SMM Management ordinance variance request.

While looking at video-gambling locations "on a case-by-case basis" (as the board member said), I presume that means that they and the rest of the

DuPage County Board WILL ALL BE VOTING to remove the existing video-gambling at the BP gas station and 7-Eleven that are directly across the street (at the same intersection of Maple and Belmont) if voting to allow Angelo's Liquor store to keep video-gambling.

This would be the EXPECTED OUTCOME if as the Board member said, "I have a duty to follow county procedures for zoning variances," since both the BP and 7-Eleven are within within the ORIGINAL ordinance guideline for not having two video-gambling establishments within 100 ft of another video-gambling establishment (property line to property line as stated by Paul Hoss).

FYI .... Aurora has a 1/2 mile (2640 foot) guideline.

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To quote Deborah Conroy: "We (the County) don't want to get sued. Something to consider."

I apologize for the directness of this email, but complete transparency is important, especially when it seems like the board dismisses public concern.

I made a Nextdoor post this week and 24 reactions were ALL heart emojis supportive of the belief that video-gambling in gas stations, restaurants, grocery stores, and convenience stores is detrimental to DuPage County. The somewhat low response rate is likely because people often don't like putting their opinions out there, but those that did .... Do not like the continued spread of video gambling in these types of establishments for all the reasons I have raised previously. Post also had 62 comments and ~7000 views.

See the linked Chicago SunTimes article from January 20, 2026:

<https://chicago.suntimes.com/the-watchdogs/2026/01/20/video-gambling-establishments-spike-burglaries-illinois-gaming-board-chicago-suburbs>

Here it is copied below in case you can't access the above link:

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Video gambling establishments see alarming spike in burglaries, \$2.7 million stolen in 2025

At least 473 burglaries were reported in Illinois last year at businesses offering video gambling — compared to 358 in 2024, when \$1.9 million was stolen. Many incidents involve crews of masked bandits smashing through front doors and windows, wielding sledgehammers and other tools. In the first two weeks of January, there were 40 cases.

By Robert Herguth Jan 20, 2026, 5:30am CST

Nearly a century ago, serial robber Willie Sutton reportedly explained why he was sticking up banks by saying wryly: “Because that’s where the money is.”

These days, crooks in the Chicago area seem to be centering on a new source of cash: establishments offering video gambling. The Illinois Gaming Board recently confirmed what many in the industry already knew: 2025 saw an explosion of crime, with more than \$2.7 million stolen during 473 burglaries at those types of businesses last year.

Nearly half of those burglaries — 219 — occurred between Oct. 1 and Dec. 31.

There have been at least 40 since Jan. 1.

“There’s never been this volume and this audacity,” said a businessman who operates multiple video gambling sites that have collectively experienced eight burglaries since October.

In 2024, there were 358 such burglaries statewide and \$1.9 million taken, according to the gaming board, the state government agency tasked with regulating legal gambling statewide, including roughly 9,000 sites with video gambling.

In 2023, there were 336 burglaries, plus 316 in 2022 and 306 in 2021 — with almost \$4.7 million taken in those three years combined.

Some suburban gambling businesses have been hit more than once in recent months, and it appears multiple burglary crews are operating in the area, often rolling up to targeted sites in stolen cars when parlors are closed and smashing through windows and doors, triggering alarm systems but aiming to get in and out before police arrive.

On occasion, the thieves have gotten more creative, figuring out how to electronically bypass alarms, according to industry sources.

ATMs inside have been hauled away, and “redemption” kiosks that let winners cash out have been cracked open along with the electronic devices offering the games themselves.

Beyond the money taken, there’s also been costly damage to equipment — pry bars and sledgehammers are sometimes used to aggressively breach machines — and a rush by parlors to add security measures such as drop-down metal shields over entry points to contend with the growing menace.

At times burglaries have turned perilous. Some offenders have been armed, and their actions have led to police chases that often have been called off because of the danger of fleeing vehicles driving recklessly on local streets, according to interviews.

In one incident in October at a Midlothian gambling parlor closed for the night, several burglars busted through the front glass. Unable to dislodge an ATM machine inside, they drove a stolen Jeep into the storefront to jar it loose. The machine was then hoisted into the vehicle, which sped off and later was abandoned in another south suburb, Dolton.

It’s unclear whether the burglary crews are part of something organized — street gangs or operating under the auspices of the mob.

#### Illinois video gambling goes live in 2012

Legislation legalizing video gambling in Illinois was approved in 2009, and the first machines went live to the public in 2012. Before then, numerous bars and restaurants had devices, but they were supposed to be for “amusement” purposes — payouts to winners weren’t allowed.

Many establishments paid out anyway, and the Chicago mob was sometimes involved in distributing the machines and splitting the revenues.

Just last year, three reputed mob figures — including the Bridgeport man once portrayed by federal authorities as the Outfit’s video poker kingpin — were arrested for allegedly burglarizing a sprawling home in Kane County owned by a restaurateur whose establishments have video gambling machines. The homeowner, however, dismissed any connection to gambling.

That case is still pending in court.

Separately, within the last few days a car pulled up outside a gambling parlor in southwest suburban Bedford Park called Lilly’s Slots around 4 a.m., and several people wearing hoods and dark clothing started pounding the glass front door with a sledgehammer and hammer until it smashed, according to footage.

Within seconds, the thieves climbed through and centered their efforts on pummeling gambling devices until they splintered. When a squad car arrived with lights flashing, the offenders scrambled out the door, hopped into the waiting car and sped away.

In north suburban Niles this month, thieves broke into, or attempted to break into, three establishments in quick succession early one morning, says Niles Deputy Police Chief Thomas Fragassi.

That followed a car theft and a dozen vehicle break-ins in town that may have been related.

As police showed up at the last of the three locales — TW Bistro at Oakton Street and Milwaukee Avenue — the thieves sped away. In Bensenville on Jan. 8, two thieves busted into Bella's Bistro in the near west suburb when the business was closed, and can be seen on video using what looks like a crowbar to crack into a machine.

That break-in followed two others in Prospect Heights by apparently the same people, officials say.

Wood Dale police spotted a vehicle matching the get-away car and tried to stop it, leading to a chase. Elmhurst police picked it up on Interstate 290, and Oak Brook police were able to put down a "tire deflation" device across the lanes that punctured a wheel. When the fleeing vehicle stopped, the men inside took off on foot and tried to carjack another driver.

In Chicago suburbs, 'a growing problem'

Two suspects were later arrested, and \$10,000 in cash was recovered, along with betting slips from "various gambling establishments," police say.

Bensenville Police Chief Bradley Swanson described these types of crimes as "a growing problem" regionally.

"It's fair to say they're definitely on the rise," Swanson said.

Chicago Ridge Police Chief Jim Jarolimek echoed that, saying "it's a big issue" in the suburbs.

"They wear gloves, they all have masks, they're in and out in minutes," said Jarolimek, whose community has seen several burglaries over the last year or so, with crooks making off with about \$60,000 in one of them. "They're getting organized and they're getting smart... I feel bad for the businesses, a lot of them are little cafes."

In September, the Illinois attorney general’s office announced the arrest of three men allegedly part of a “video gaming theft ring” that had been responsible for 16 burglaries in Cook, DuPage, Lake and Will counties that reaped more than \$500,000.

In August 2024, the agency announced the arrest of five men accused of 22 video gambling thefts totaling more than \$100,000.

While the gaming board isn’t always notified about crime at Illinois casinos — which the Sun-Times examined last year, finding armed robberies and other disturbing incidents at some of those gambling complexes — video gambling license holders “are required to notify the IGB of any criminal incident that affects the gaming operation,” according to a written statement from the agency.

The gaming board is the “regulatory authority for video gaming” but “is not the primary law enforcement agency responsible for responding to burglaries and other non-gaming incidents at video gaming establishments,” according to the agency, which nonetheless works with police and prosecutors “to pursue and prosecute video gaming terminal burglaries at video gaming establishments statewide.”

“The IGB is committed to bringing these offenders to justice.”

A former gaming board agent familiar with the current crime trends said the agency, which ultimately reports to Gov. JB Pritzker, could do more to help, but “I don’t know if they have enough agents.”

A gaming board spokeswoman says such criticism is “misplaced” because the agency is “not a first responder” and “does not have the mandate or jurisdiction to provide security services” to video gambling businesses. Pritzker wasn’t governor when video gambling took off, but he’s since presided over other gambling expansion, including a proliferation of sports betting and new casinos.

Would video gambling in Chicago bring more crime?

Referring to the prospect of the city of Chicago now allowing video gambling — not every municipality allows video gambling, and there’s a new push to permit it in the city — the ex-agent observed: “With Chicago coming on board, it’s ridiculous... just imagine what the city will be like” in terms of crime if that happens.

Asked about the possibility of increased crime should video gambling expand into Chicago, a spokesman for Mayor Brandon Johnson said:

“In addition to fiscal concerns, the mayor has considerable public safety

concerns about the potential impact of legalizing VGTs [video gaming terminals] citywide.”

“The mayor believes that Council should take a more thoughtful approach to the legalization of VGTs to mitigate against potential public safety concerns and financial risks associated with the current legislation.”

Burglaries weren’t the only crimes at video gambling establishments. There were seven robberies in 2025, according to the gaming board.

Michael Dwyer, deputy chief of investigations for the Cook County sheriff’s police, says his agency has handled a dozen burglaries over the last six to eight months, and “there is a collective effort” to share information “across multiple jurisdictions” to halt the upward spiral in incidents.

“There was a time banks were held up pretty regularly,” Dwyer said. “Then, adjustments were made” by authorities and the businesses themselves to better deter and arrest culprits.

“I’d anticipate the same thing here.”

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Sincerely,  
Glenn Nelson

P.S. I have added my response above to public comment for the 2-10-2026 board meeting so all other board members are aware of this PRECEDENT context as well.



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**Blakely, Heidi**

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**From:** noreply@formstack.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 8, 2026 5:11 PM  
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**Subject:** PublicComment

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**Formstack Submission For: PublicComment**  
Submitted at 02/08/26 5:10 PM

<b>Meeting Date:</b>	02/10/26
<b>Meeting:</b>	DuPage County Board
<b>Name:</b>	Glenn Nelson
<b>Organization:</b>	Glen Ellyn Woods Subdivision resident and DuPage County resident
<b>Address:</b>	[Redacted]
<b>Daytime Phone:</b>	[Redacted]
<b>Subject:</b>	Objection to certain video-gambling in DuPage County (in gas stations, restaurants, conv. stores, and grocery stores)
<b>Comment:</b>	DuPage County Board, DATE: 1/29/2026 This letter is intended to: 1.) correct some incorrect statements made by county board members at the 1-27-2026 board meeting. 2.) challenge some positions that county board members took at the 1-27-

2026 board meeting.

**BRIAN KRAJEWSKI:**

(39 second speech from 2:48:37 to 2:49:16 at the 1-27-2026 County Board meeting)

TRANSCRIPT (Brian Krajewski): "I think I heard one gentleman say Lombard twice today, but Lombard's had video gaming for 5 or 6 years. They got 61 machines and 11 establishments, and they actually had a citizen referendum. It actually passed in Lombard. I know we have a Lombard trustee up there nodding his head, but they actually supported it at the Lombard residence, um, and you know, and it is 10% (Net Terminal Income aka Gambler Losses), the gentleman said there was a 10% or 25% (Gambler Losses), but Lombard took in last year, 2025, all the machines, \$42 million. \$38 million was paid out in winnings. So \$4 million was 10% (Gambler Losses), just slightly under 10%. I mean that data is out there, you can see which towns have it."

**PUBLIC COMMENT RESPONSE:**

Respectfully, this shows how little even long serving county board members know about Video-Gaming in DuPage County (or Illinois), when they speak to data they do not fully understand.

**LET ME EXPLAIN MR. KRAJEWSKI'S MIS-STATEMENTS, AND ALSO HOW HIS VIDEO-GAMBLING VOTING RECORD FOR DUPAGE COUNTY CONFLICTS WITH HIS OWN VILLAGE'S VIEWS ABOUT VIDEO-GAMBLING:**

ATTACHED is a PDF document containing the EXACT DATA from the Illinois Gaming Board's website that Mr. Krajewski was referencing (See EXHIBIT A):

1.) Mr. Krajewski improperly calculates "Gambler Losses" as 10% because he uses the wrong calculation. He uses "2025 NET TERMINAL INCOME DIVIDED BY 2025 AMOUNT PLAYED" =  $(\$3,942,554 / \$42,303,322) = 9.32\%$  "GAMBLER LOSSES".

2.) THE CORRECT CALCULATION IS "2025 NET TERMINAL INCOME DIVIDED BY 2025 FUNDS IN" =  $(\$3,942,554 / \$15,538,030) = 25.37\%$  "GAMBLER LOSSES".

3.) Krajewski said above "Lombard TOOK IN LAST YEAR, 2025, from all the machines, \$42,000,000. \$38 million was paid out in winnings. So \$4 million."

a. LOMBARD actually only received \$200,000 (i.e. 5%) of that \$4,000,000 for all of 2025. See the attached spreadsheet to see who receives all the rest of the "GAMBLER LOSSES." (SEE EXHIBIT A)

b. The amount of tax revenue received by any municipality, or the threat of a lawsuit, should not be a deciding factor that makes a board member vote

against their communities' wishes, their conscience, or disregard what is clearly not in the best interest of the people they represent and the communities' character. Even if a municipality was making millions of dollars from a business with no redeeming value, board members should vote on behalf of their constituents who are educated and informed about each specific issue.

4.) In Mr. Krajewski's example, Lombard (and other villages/cities and County board members that support video-gambling) are apparently choosing to ignore the many negative video-gambling impacts that have been conveyed, all for reasons only known to them. I would ask any Board member who supports video gambling to tell THEIR constituents exactly how they think video-gambling is edifying to the community or promoting the general welfare of the constituents in the communities they represent. I personally would not want to be charged with such a task.

5.) It should be noted that Mr. Krajewski's own village of Downers Grove only allows video-gambling in Moose Lodges, VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars) locations, or Knights of Columbus locations; all places not frequented by our children. Downers Grove then also squashed a 2024 referendum that would have allowed video-gambling in many other types of locations like restaurants and stores. This shows how most constituents do not have any issue with video-gaming in Moose Lodges, VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars) locations, or Knights of Columbus locations, but those same constituents do have an issue with video-gaming being in gas stations, convenience stores, grocery stores, and restaurants where they are so easily visible and later easily accessible to our children and young adults. It is also worth noting that the board members who moved to reconsider the SMM Management and Lucky 7 Bistro variance denial live in municipalities that prohibit video-gambling (Naperville, Hinsdale, Downers Grove).

6.) 10 of 18 county board members live in municipalities that prohibit or stringently limit video-gambling, but they are voting for video-gambling to proliferate in municipalities that do not impact THEIR OWN RESIDENTIAL communities. Only a few of the 10 board members above voted in accordance to their constituent's desires/concerns.

Deborah Conroy (Chair), Cindy Cronin Cahill and Yeena Yoo live in Elmhurst ... which prohibits video-gambling. Cahill initially voted to DENY the variances in question in other municipalities. Yeena Yoo voted to approve video-gambling in municipalities (not near HER family) contrary to public concerns, and maybe because she is only focused on the trivial money from video-gambling as she runs for Treasurer in March 2026 and not on the general welfare of DuPage county constituents.

Dawn DeSart and Lucy Change Evans live in Naperville ... which prohibits video-gambling. DeSart and Evans initially voted to DENY the variances in

question, but now they appear prepared to flip their votes in other municipalities (not near their families) contrary to public and research backed concerns.

Kari Galassi lives in Hinsdale ... which prohibits video-gambling. Galassi initially voted to DENY the variances in question, but now appear prepared to flip her votes in other municipalities (not near her family) contrary to public and research backed concerns.

Paula Deacon Garcia lives in Lisle ... which prohibits video-gambling. Garcia initially voted to DENY the variances in question, but now she appears prepared to flip her votes in other municipalities (not near her family) contrary to public and research backed concerns.

Brian Krajewski lives in Downers Grove ... which greatly restricts video-gambling and continues to vote for gambling in municipalities that do not impact the Downers Grove where he lives.

Michael Childress, Saba Haider, and Andrew Honig, each moved to allow a revote on SMM Management and Lucky 7 Bistro, but they have not provided explanations of how they think video-gambling is good for DuPage County communities.

Sam Tornatore, and Jim Zay have each seemingly voted for video-gambling as a rule, but they have not provided explanations of how they think video-gambling is good for DuPage County communities.

In the attached table of 2025 DuPage County Video-Gambling (EXHIBIT B), why do you suppose that video gambling is prohibited or stringently restricted in the municipalities that have a higher percentage of college graduates? After all, they are the ones who generally have more disposable money. That said, video-gambling is only being instituted in municipalities with lower graduation rates and generally lower incomes. That is shocking. If you ask me, right and wrong should not be defined differently based upon the neighborhood in which someone lives. To me this is socio-economic discrimination and abuse against certain populations at its core. College graduate data for each municipality in the attached table was taken directly from the DuPage County website.

**DAWN DESART:**

(144 second speech from 2:56:57 to 2:58:21 of the 1-27-2026 County Board meeting)

**TRANSCRIPT (Dawn DeSart):** “Member Covert passionately talked about gambling. I agree with her on every single issue. I totally agree with you, Sadia. I am against gambling. I am shocked at my Chinese restaurant, you go in now

and pick up a to-go order, and they have video gambling there now. Gambling is all over. And I hate it. I went to Vegas a couple of times for conferences and I didn't gamble at all, because it just sickens me. I hate gambling. But, as a public servant, I was elected by gamblers, non-gamblers, and people who want to open gambling facilities. I mean, I can't let my own bias reflect my votes. And, um, you know, I have to be guided by Paul (Hoss) and zoning and all of that, and not let my own biases dictate how I vote on any issue."

**PUBLIC COMMENT RESPONSE:**

Respectfully, it is my understanding that county board members should generally be voting based on their knowledge of the vast majority of constituent's wishes/desires and not much else. Nobody is suggesting that board members should vote THEIR feelings or biases. That said, the County Board is also clearly not supposed to merely rubber-stamp and go along with however the Zoning Board of Appeals or Development Committee voted. If that were the case, then there would never be a need for ANY zoning board or development committee ordinance variance requests to ever come before the county board, and they should be stripped from any future agenda. Sam Tornatore's development committee updates could be removed from the agenda altogether. I believe that the reason why issues like video-gambling ARE BROUGHT before the county board after zoning board and development committee votes, is because the county board members have broader information about their constituent's desires and concerns related to topics like this (at least they should have if they are connected with their communities). That said, if a board member is unaware of their constituent's views/desires about a specific topic at the time of a vote, then their only options are to either,

- 1.) vote their conscience, or
- 2.) vote how they think their constituents would want them to vote, or
- 3.) better yet maybe vote based on the numerous research studies about the perils of video-gambling and their negative effects on people and communities.

As the county board continues to open the floodgates of video gaming, it will become ever- increasingly difficult to reign things back in or put a band-aid on video-gambling when negatives consequences related to gambling addiction inevitably occur, when alcohol use in these facilities causes accidents (note: alcohol availability and a pour-license is a DuPage county requirement for video gaming), and when mental health issues continue to rise as demonstrated by the constant ever-increasing video-gambling \$ losses by players, all with barely any financial benefit to the county or municipalities.

**SAM TORNATORE:**

(63 second speech from 2:58:21 to 2:59:24 of the 1-27-2026 County Board

meeting)

TRANSCRIPT (Sam Tornatore): “First, regarding the zoning issue, I think it’s important for everybody to understand that the motion to reconsider today was a business that existed, and that had a gaming license prior to us changing the rules. It would be like driving on the tollway at 60 miles an hour when the speed limit was 65, and then instantly having the legislature change the speed limit to 50, and giving a ticket to the person who was driving. You can’t do that. And that’s what the motion to reconsider, essentially, will allow us to discuss in the future at development committees and otherwise. So, I think it’s important that we understand that these were ongoing concerns and there are others as well that we’re going to have to deal with somewhere down the road.”

**PUBLIC COMMENT RESPONSE:**

Respectfully, based on Mr. Tornatore’s above comment, I am not sure if Mr. Tornatore read my public comment email that was sent to all board members. Here is an excerpt from my prior emailed public comment (and the full letter is also attached).

**PUBLIC COMMENT EXCERPT:** The attorney for SMM Management (Angelo’s) claims “without the continuance of this (video-gambling) income stream, SMM will have to cease operations.” What SMM’s attorney fails to also mention is that SMM took what was previously a completely viable grocery store for a very long time, and they converted it over time into purely a liquor store and casino (effectively eliminating their grocery business). SMM’s attorney says “My client is honestly nothing more than a victim in this (situation).” In reality, SMM’s situation is the result of a business decision that has lead to SMM’s current situation, as opposed to being solely the result of “internal issues within the County.”

I had worked in corporate America for almost 3 decades helping business owners run profitable businesses, and I have worked with asset development managers who help business owners open new businesses or alter existing businesses. When a business drastically changes the scope of their business, they are basically making a change from one type of business to another type of business, and the new business needs to be evaluated by the zoning board, development committee and county board according to new requirements and “fit for the character of the community.” When a business is sold, there are often new county image, signage, and zoning requirements that the county subsequently **REQUIRES** the new business to meet and accommodate. This is why “grandfathering” is often not permitted in ordinance variance discussions as stated by Paul Hoss in a prior board meeting. Let me provide an example. If I had a business that was a bar & lounge and I was approved for a liquor license by the county, and I made significant improvements to my business to meet

image or signage requirements of the county, and then I ran a viable bar & lounge for 5 years, ..... would it then be acceptable and grandfathered if I wanted to convert my bar and lounge into a gentlemen's club, adult entertainment, strip-club business. Of course this would not be acceptable. The same should apply in the case of SMM Management (Angelo's Grocery Food & Deli). Angelo's Food & Deli's newest owners made a business decision since installing gaming, to change their business model and essentially remove the grocery items, deli, and produce from their grocery store and convert their business to just a liquor store and gaming facility. Ironically though, their outdoor signage still markets the business as "Angelo's Food and Deli." This is why I mentioned the following case law in public comment at the 1-27-2026 county board meeting:

"General IL Rule: No Inherent Vested Right to Continued Zoning Classification Illinois courts generally hold that a property owner does not have a vested right simply because a use was lawful before a zoning change: the zoning classification itself is not "property" protected against amendment. Pioneer Trust & Savings Bank v. County of Cook, 71 Ill.2d 510 (1978) - The Supreme Court of Illinois has held a landowner generally does not have a right to continuation of zoning classification after an amendment. This means a business can be subject to new zoning/ordinance provisions unless an exception applies."

There are plenty of other examples that support how a county or municipality can and do occasionally make amendments to existing zoning ordinances, and the property owner is then subject to those new zoning ordinances. Think of even the most extreme example, when a municipality declares eminent domain and upends someone's life and forcibly removes a property owner from their home and their ownership rights, while paying them less than they deserve. This recently happened to a relative of mine in rural Illinois.

Below is some additional information that I believe every county board member (and every DuPage County resident) should be aware of when coming to conclusions or making decisions about the video-gambling issue that is clearly distressing to many county residents based on the failure of referendums that sought to promote video gambling.

The Illinois Gaming Board's 2024 Annual Report (available online) states the following:

PAGE 3: "2024 was yet another year of historic growth and productivity for both the Illinois Gaming Board and Illinois Gaming."

PUBLIC COMMENT RESPONSE: I would suggest that "creating gambling addicts" is not the success that this quote is intending to highlight/celebrate. Places like Rosati's pizza now have video gaming so people don't get bored while waiting for their pick-up order. Why don't we also put video gambling in doctor's office waiting rooms or at the DMV? When is it enough. In my humble

opinion, the fact that every municipality or unincorporated county area don't each have a firm limit or cap on the number of video-gambling licenses clearly stated in their ordinances is a gross oversight by the DuPage County Board. Who will carry the torch to change that?

PAGE 3: "Gaming in Illinois has evolved into a multi-billion dollar industry making Illinois a leader among gaming jurisdictions."

PUBLIC COMMENT RESPONSE: I would suggest that "creating gambling addicts" is not the success that this quote is intending to highlight/celebrate.

PAGE 3: "Illinois' legal video gaming industry continues to grow. In fact, the Illinois' regulated video gaming route system is the largest distributed network of its kind in the world."

PUBLIC COMMENT RESPONSE: I would suggest that "creating gambling addicts" is not the success that this quote is intending to highlight/celebrate. Would someone take pride in saying something like "Illinois is #1 in the world for our largest distributed network of marijuana dispensaries."

PAGE 5: "VIDEO GAMING: In July 2009, Public Act 96-34 became law, creating the Illinois Video Gaming Act. Since 2009, video gaming has rapidly expanded across Illinois. The first Video Gaming Terminals (VGTs) went live for patron play on September 10, 2012. At the end of 2024, there were more than 48,706 VGTs operating in 8,662 licensed establishments across Illinois. Illinois' distributed network of VGTs is the largest of its kind in the world."

PUBLIC COMMENT RESPONSE: 8,662 licensed establishments equals 666 newly licensed establishments per year.

PAGE 3 of the IGB annual report: "In 2024, the Illinois Gaming Board licensed 790 new video gaming establishments." This means installation of video gaming in Illinois is still gaining steam and not letting up.

PAGE 13: PUBLIC COMMENT RESPONSE: This page of the 2024 IGB ANNUAL REPORT provides an example of how new legislation is able to be passed to change/increase the amount of tax revenues received from gambling activities. By no means am I advocating for video-gambling, but to me it is unconscionable that municipalities receive a mere 5% of video-gambling profits/revenues (aka "GAMBLER LOSSES") when Illinois State receives 30% or "GAMBLER LOSSES," all while the municipalities are responsible to bear the future burdens and deal with future repercussions of video gambling. The other 65% is split 50/50 between the establishment and the gambling equipment provider. As you see, trivial financial benefit to a municipality at the expense of the character of the communities. (See EXHIBIT B)

PAGE 49: This page of the 2024 IGB ANNUAL REPORT shows how the Illinois Gaming Board calls "GAMBLER LOSSES" by a less objectionable name of "NET WAGERING ACTIVITY" or "NET TERMINAL INCOME." The IGB website

shows how GAMBLER LOSSES equal 25+% of money played. This is preying on the most vulnerable among our community (elderly, down-and-out, and normalizing such behaviors for our children).

PAGE 20: This page shows a map of the locations of the 16 casinos in Illinois. 8 of them are in the immediate Chicago metropolitan area. This would seem to suggest video-gambling in our residential neighborhoods is not even remotely necessary. (See EXHIBIT E)

I would welcome feedback from any board member who is open to having a dialogue about this topic to understand the many reasons for community objection to video-gambling in our neighborhoods. Three minutes of public comment at meetings is hardly enough time to adequately convey community concerns about this topic, or for board members to understand such concerns.

Sincerely,  
Glenn Nelson

[Redacted signature]



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**Blakely, Heidi**

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**From:** noreply@formstack.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 8, 2026 5:58 PM  
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**Subject:** PublicComment

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**Formstack Submission For: PublicComment**  
Submitted at 02/08/26 5:58 PM

**Meeting Date:** 02/08/26

**Meeting:** DuPage County Board

**Name:** Greg Smaistrla

**Organization:** Glen Ellyn Woods Civic Association

**Address:**



**Daytime Phone:**



**Subject:** Video gaming

**Comment:**

Good day  
I want to let the entire board know how I feel in regards to Video gambling in our unincorporated Dupage county. Asking for a variance because the locations of such gambling terminals are against YOUR ordinance. I do believe they need to prove that by adding video gaming to such establishments, are an improvement to the neighborhoods. I do not believe they do. I believe this type of business only brings trouble. From addictions, robberies or just people

being over served since they are not considered bars or restaurants.  
10 of 18 board members live in towns that do not allow video gaming. All 3 district 3 members are included with no gaming, but are considering voting for it. Has anyone talked to the neighbors from those locations to see how they feel? We are not against casinos, just against the free for all video gaming licenses being issued in our areas. I know none of the board members would buy a house with 3 to 4 video gaming locations within walking distance. That is what and why you should vote this down.

Thanks

Greg Smaistrla

Glen Ellyn Woods Civic Association President



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**Blakely, Heidi**

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**Formstack Submission For: PublicComment**

Submitted at 02/08/26 7:24 PM

<b>Meeting Date:</b>	02/10/26
<b>Meeting:</b>	DuPage County Board
<b>Name:</b>	Glenn Nelson
<b>Organization:</b>	Glen Ellyn Woods Subdivision
<b>Address:</b>	[Redacted]
<b>Daytime Phone:</b>	[Redacted]
<b>Subject:</b>	2-3-2026 Development Committee meeting minutes about "legal non-confirming use" decision.
<b>Comment:</b>	At the 2-3-2026 Development Committee meeting minutes meeting Sam Tornatore (chronic approver or video gaming), manipulated and guided many other board members to the following decision (minutes summary shown below).  OLD BUSINESS

Chair Tornatore spoke about the last County Board Meeting where a motion was made to reconsider SMM Management Inc, video gaming zoning petition. There was a vote scheduled for the next County Board Meeting, however the Assistant State Attorney's office along with staff has determined that SMM and other entities are essentially legal non-conforming uses. They are allowed to do business in the County under our code. The County Board will no longer need to address SMM or the other 18 businesses that fall under this category. He also addressed the motion to reconsider the Lucky 7 petition, on the agenda at the next County Board meeting. This business is not operating yet and is within 1,000 feet of another gaming establishment.

Member Martinez brought up the issue of distance for future video gaming zoning relief petitions. There currently needs to be at least 1,000 feet (property line to property line) from protected uses. This was an issue for several of the previous video gaming petitions. Previous petitioners argued they are located more than 1,000 feet door to door from a protected use. She inquired if a change should be made to requirement. Chair Tornatore verified with Paul Hoss that a text amendment would be needed to change the distance requirement.

Nick Kottmeyer verified that all of the legal non-conforming businesses will be notified by the County of their new status. Mr. Kottmeyer clarified why the County has "grandfathered" these businesses. When video gaming became legal, businesses followed the state law. Once the County started to regulate it, the requirements changed and these existing businesses did not all meet those requirements.

All Members agreed that staff should prepare a text amendment to make changes to the distance requirement for new video gaming establishments.

ONCE AGAIN, CORRECTION IS REQUIRED TO CORRECT THE Development Committee's, the State's Attorney's, and the County Board's above STATEMENTS.

1.) The 7-Eleven across the street from SMM Management (Angelo's) at Maple & Belmont is within the OLD 100 ft ordinance (property line to property line) that justifies DENIAL of a video-gaming ordinance variance.

2.) The BP gas station across the street from SMM Management (Angelo's) at Maple & Belmont is within the OLD 100 ft ordinance (property line to property line) that justifies DENIAL of a video-gaming ordinance variance.

3.) Penny's Place (gaming cafe) at Butterfield Rd and Park Blvd is next door and in the same strip mall to M&W Thai Cafe which had video -gambling prior to Penny's Place. This is within 100 ft and therefore justifies DENIAL of a video-

gambling ordinance variance.

4.) The 7-Eleven at Butterfield Rd and Park Blvd is on Greg same corner as M&W Thai Cafe which had video -gambling prior to 7-Eleven and Penny's Place. This is within 100 ft (property line to property line) and therefore justifies DENIAL of a video-gambling ordinance variance.

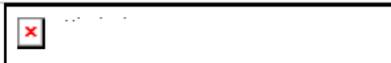
5.) There are other of the 18 locations that also did not meet the OLD 100 ft distance requirements.

If the county is not going to abide by their own ordinances, then the county should be prepared for civil lawsuits if any IMPROPERLY APPROVED video-gambling establishment's gambling customer activities lead to a drunk driving injury/death, or if robbery/theft crime related to video gambling leads to death/injury or property damage, or if video gambling activities lead to suicide at such locations.

Sorry to be so direct, but IMPROPERLY APPROVED ORDINANCE VARIANCES that the county and their committees improperly grant could have consequences such as these. This is demonstrated in the many reports and studies shared with the county in public comment.

Regards,  
Glenn Nelson

[Redacted signature]



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Intellistack, 50 South Steele Street, Suite 500, Denver, CO 80209

## Blakely, Heidi

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**From:** greg smaistrla  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 8, 2026 3:15 PM  
**To:** Glenn Nelson  
**Cc:** DuPage County Chair; Cronin Cahill, Cindy; Childress, Michael; Covert, Sadia; DeSart, Dawn; Eckhoff, Grant; Evans, Lucy; Galassi, Kari; DeaconGarcia, Paula; Haider, Saba; Honig, Andrew; Krajewski, Brian; LaPlante, Lynn; Martinez, Melissa; Ozog, Mary; Schwarze, Greg; Tornatore, Sam; Yoo, Yeena; Zay, James; Hoss, Paul; WILLIAM GRAHAM  
**Subject:** Re: 1-30-2026 Letter to DuPage County Board Members subsequent to 1-27-2026 Board Meeting (VIDEO-GAMBLING)

[Caution: This email originated outside Dupagecounty.gov. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.]

Good day

I want to let the entire board know how I feel in regards to Video gambling in our unincorporated Dupage county. Asking for a variance because the locations of such gambling terminals are against YOUR ordinance. I do believe they need to prove that by adding video gaming to such establishments, are an improvement to the neighborhoods. I do not believe they do. I believe this type of business only brings trouble. From addictions, robberies or just people being over served since they are not considered bars or restaurants.

10 of 18 board members live in towns that do not allow video gaming. All 3 district 3 members are included with no gaming, but are considering voting for it. Has anyone talked to the neighbors from those locations to see how they feel? We are not against casinos, just against the free for all video gaming licenses being issued in our areas. I know none of the board members would buy a house with 3 to 4 video gaming locations within walking distance. That is what and why you should vote this down.

Thanks

Greg Smaistrla

Glen Ellyn Woods Civic Association President

On Jan 30, 2026, at 9:43 AM, Glenn Nelson <glenn.nelson333@yahoo.com> wrote:

DuPage County Board Members,

Much public comment from our neighborhoods has been provided objecting to video-gambling IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS.

We have yet to hear ANY board member comment on how they believe video-gambling is edifying to the community or promoting of the general welfare of the constituents they represent.

**Please take the time to read the ATTACHED PDF letter (which supplemental to the below email).**

It corrects some board member misstatements, provides some additional concerning context about video gaming, and respectfully challenges some of the viewpoints a few board members were sharing on 1-27-2026.

I would like to request that board members respond to the above question either via email or in the next 2-10-2026 board meeting. After all, the above question speaks to the crux of the video-gambling issue.

The information in the ATTACHED PDF document will also be shared more broadly with the leadership of the municipalities that currently OPPOSE video-gambling (shown in the attachment) to thank them for their support on this issue and so they will have additional information to continue in their opposition to video-gambling.

If someone could please get this email to Sam Tornatore and Jim Zay, that would be appreciated. For some reason prior email public comment always bounces back from their two email accounts.

Sincerely,  
Glenn Nelson  
Glen Ellyn Woods Subdivision

cc: Paul Hoss - Planning and Zoning Administration Coordinator  
cc: Greg Smaistrle - Glen Ellyn Woods Subdivision HOA President  
cc: Bill Graham - Valley View Subdivision HOA President  
BCC: Others

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** Glenn Nelson <

**To:** chair@dupagecounty.gov <chair@dupagecounty.gov>; Cindy.CroninCahill@dupagecounty.gov <cindy.cronincahill@dupagecounty.gov>; Michael.Childress@dupagecounty.gov <michael.childress@dupagecounty.gov>; sadia.cover@dupagecounty.gov <sadia.cover@dupagecounty.gov>; dawn.desart@dupagecounty.gov <dawn.desart@dupagecounty.gov>; grant.eckhoff@dupagecounty.gov <grant.eckhoff@dupagecounty.gov>; Lucy.Evans@dupagecounty.gov <lucy.evans@dupagecounty.gov>; kari.galassi@dupagecounty.gov <kari.galassi@dupagecounty.gov>; paula.deacongarcia@dupagecounty.gov <paula.deacongarcia@dupagecounty.gov>; saba.haider@dupagecounty.gov <saba.haider@dupagecounty.gov>; andrew.honig@dupagecounty.gov <andrew.honig@dupagecounty.gov>; brian.krajewski@dupagecounty.gov <brian.krajewski@dupagecounty.gov>; lynn.laplante@dupagecounty.gov <lynn.laplante@dupagecounty.gov>; melissa.martinez@dupagecounty.gov <melissa.martinez@dupagecounty.gov>; mary.ozog@dupagecounty.gov <mary.ozog@dupagecounty.gov>; greg.schwarze@dupagecounty.gov <greg.schwarze@dupagecounty.gov>; sam.tornatore@dupagecounty.gov <sam.tornatore@dupagecounty.gov>; Yeena.Yoo@dupagecounty.gov <yeena.yoo@dupagecounty.gov>; james.zay@dupagecounty.gov <james.zay@dupagecounty.gov>

**Cc:** Greg Smaistrle ; WILLIAM GRAHAM

**Sent:** Friday, January 23, 2026 at 04:47:56 PM CST

**Subject:** Letter to DuPage County Board Members for 1-27-2026 Board Meeting

DuPage County Board Members, SUBMITTED DATE: **1-16-2026**  
for **1-27-2026** DuPage County Board meeting

ATTACHED: Copy of this letter, and a Record of all Board Member votes on this matter.

I am writing on behalf of the Glen Ellyn Woods and Valley View subdivisions to provide follow-up input and public comment to that which was presented at the 1/13/2026 DuPage County Board meeting regarding VIDEO-GAMBLING in DuPage County, and to provide follow-up input and public comment to what was subsequently published in the 1/20/2026 Development Committee meeting minutes.

Per the 1/20/2026 Development Committee meeting minutes, I have become aware that the attorney for SMM Management (Angelo's) and Lucky 7 Bistro is requesting the DuPage County Board hold a REVOTE on Tuesday, 1/27/2026. It is my understanding from the 1/20/2026 Development Committee minutes, that the only way a revote would be permitted is if **a Board Member from the prevailing side** makes a motion to reconsider SMM Management's ordinance variance request (**Note: The prevailing side DENIED video-gambling at SMM Management-Angelo's by a vote of 13/5**). Such request for REVOTE can be done prior to the meeting, where the item is added to the agenda or the County Board Member can also make a motion during the meeting. A simple majority of the quorum is what is required to overturn this vote.

In the 1/20/2026 meeting minutes, the attorney for SMM Management attempted to suggest that prior public comment was not opposed to video gambling at SMM Management or Lucky 7 Bistro. In actuality, all of the people who provided public comment are opposed to video-gambling throughout all of DuPage County in convenience stores, grocery stores, gas stations, restaurants, etc.

The attorney for SMM Management (Angelo's) claims "*without the continuance of this (video-gambling) income stream, SMM will have to cease operations.*" What SMM's attorney fails to also mention is that SMM took what was previously a completely viable grocery store for a very long time, and they converted it over time into purely a casino (effectively eliminating their grocery business). SMM's attorney says "*My client is honestly nothing more than a victim in this (situation).*" In reality, SMM's situation is the result of a business decision that has led to SMM's current situation, as opposed to being solely the result of "*internal issues within the County.*"

Based on the above, we, the citizens of the Glen Ellyn Woods subdivision and the Valley View subdivision, ask that DuPage County Board Members DO NOT MOVE TO RECONSIDER the decision of the 1/27/2026 DuPage County Board Meeting. We will be in attendance at the 1/27/2026 DuPage County Board meeting.

**FURTHER COMMENTARY DRAFTED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE**

## **1/13/2026 DUPAGE COUNTY BOARD MEETING:**

Have you heard of Go-fund-me? For those who haven't, it is a place where people often ask for voluntary contributions to provide support for a health or hardship need that someone can't afford themselves. What these business establishments seeking video gambling ordinance variances are in essence doing, is admitting that their primary business is not sustainable on its own merit, so they are asking vulnerable members of the public for money to fund the businesses' ongoing existence.

Just the other day, I saw 9 kids walk into an establishment that has video gambling. Them seeing "video-gambling here" and "Slots Here" signs and gambling machines is normalizing our young people to these addictive behaviors. Even though there is a 21 year age limit on video gambling, our younger adults come to observe that video gambling as if it is "normal every-day adult behavior."

Gambling is addictive because of the dopamine rush when one wins, but gamblers fail to realize that they shoveled in more money to get that dopamine rush (resulting in a total net loss). The video gambling monthly report website clearly shows that video gambling results in a 9-10% loss for players, regardless of establishment. This is a fact, verifiable on the Illinois gaming board's own website.

Look at vaping and how kids flocked to such addictive behavior because kids and young adults do not have the pre-frontal cortex development (which takes until age 25 to fully develop) to comprehend the dangers, but the business owners who sell vaping products and paraphernalia know that the kids are their primary potential market.

We as community residents are wanting to look out for and protect our youth, while video-gambling establishments are not.

Naperville banned video gambling. Wheaton and Glen Ellyn sent public comment letters to also oppose video gambling variances. Why is video gambling being allowed to proliferate on the unincorporated residential fringes as if it does not still impact our youth. Based on these facts, if the DuPage County Zoning Board of Appeals, the Development Committee, and the DuPage County Board vote to allow video-gambling in our neighborhood, it is as if they are all supporting a belief that *"Nice people in neighborhoods like ours that oppose video gambling (i.e. Naperville, Glen Ellyn proper, Wheaton proper), don't want video gambling due to its detrimental impact on youth and the welfare and character of the community, but we are fine with the detrimental impact being permitted in unincorporated areas away from us."* Ask yourself, why is unincorporated Glen Ellyn and other areas being singled out as a desired target for video gambling?

Another point to consider: Take drinking for instance. Children and young adults can't drink until they are 21. Our young adults come to see drinking as a normal, every-day, fun and exciting behavior for adults. Now consider when our young adults go to college and experience fraternity and sorority parties with binge drinking. When the floodgates of independence are opened to young adults, away from adult supervision, children often die of alcohol poisoning from a destructive habit they saw that was normalized in society. Our community is against breeding future addicts due to the normalization of addictive behaviors (like video-gambling; just call it what it is ... "gambling") that are well known to be destructive to people in many cases.

We believe the DuPage County board should vote based on their communities' desires rather than the selfish desires of 10 business owners who seek to negatively impact our communities solely for their gain. After all, this is why we have local Zoning and County governmental entities in place.

Why do kids with parents who smoke so often end up smoking? They see it as normal adult behavior, as opposed to a destructive habit. It was normalized to those kids while they were growing up. I have seen this in my own family. It is like a gateway drug/habit. Nobody in my family smokes because nobody in my lineage were smokers, but everyone in my cousin's family smokes because the older adults in their family were smokers.

We need to advocate for our children who don't see the context in which things can become a problem. Young adults don't know that starting to play video poker for 40 minutes after school can lead to a detrimental impact on their life. But just ask any parent how much their child plays and is addicted to gaming on their computer or phone, and I think you understand my point. Children can't discern when enough is enough or when they lose control of their own behaviors. Check your own children's screen-time and you will understand this point.

Do you even realize that even these hearings are calling this topic "video-gaming". Video gaming is what kids do on their computers and phones. They are called video games. Can't you see how now calling slot machines "video-gaming" is tagging onto a behavior that children already do. The machines in restaurants, grocery stores, convenience stores, gas stations, gaming cafes, and other locations are actually just "Casino Gambling"!!! "Video-Gaming" is a euphemism that downplays what is really happening, and it is wrongfully enticing and normalizing the behavior to our children.

The video-gambling votes of the longest serving members of the DuPage County Board appear to be in favor of gambling in gas stations, grocery stores, restaurants, and convenience stores. I would ask those Board members if they would pick up their grandchild (if they have a

grandchild) and take them with them to a gas station, grocery store, restaurant, or gambling parlor and allow them to sit and watch while you play and get entertainment from playing. Would you do that for me? If you are not willing to do so, that tells an important message about vices. I suspect you would not want to do this, just like you would not want to take or drive by strip-clubs with your children in the car.

One restaurant a block from my house makes about \$14k per month from gambling. The restaurant owner said he makes far more from gambling than from his restaurant. One might think that the \$14k/month is from 500 gamblers (equaling \$28 losses per gambler), but I bet it is more likely that 70% of those losses come from 50 gamblers (equaling \$196 losses per each of those 50 regular gamblers, and \$9 losses for the non-regular gamblers). Those 50 gamblers are the adult addicted gamblers impacted, in addition to young adults being impacted when they reach 21 and want to "try it out."

I spoke to a video gambling equipment provider's attorney who happened to be in attendance at the 1-13-2026 DuPage County Board meeting, and he indicated, after hearing our public comments, that he understands and sees our concerns. He also lives in Naperville which has a prohibition on all video gambling.

There are two long term DuPage County Board members whose voting history on the video gambling topic demonstrate their clear support for video gambling; contrary to their own constituent's desires. As such, it is not clear why they are so supportive of video gambling in DuPage County, but they seem to vote for approval of video gambling ordinances as a rule. All one needs to do is watch the videos of their commentary at ordinance variance meetings where votes are taken, and a clear bias is evident (though maybe not to them). I have even observed one Board member say totally supportive comments at the Development Committee vote (i.e. approving of video-gambling), only to then try to question variance decisions when at the DuPage County Board meeting. It is as if they are tailoring their commentary to their respective audience of different peers for reasons that I think many could conclude on their own.

One long serving member of the DuPage County Board has represented a particular village for many years. They are still engaged in decisions for that village (in other roles) to this day. That village has a long history of opposition to video gambling, similar to Naperville. Such village's voters recently rejected a referendum in November 2024, by a 2-to-1 margin that would have permitted video gambling in limited restaurants. An ordinance passed earlier for that village only allows specific fraternal/veterans organizations (like VFWs, Moose Lodges) and recreational facilities (like a bowling alley) to operate terminals, with licensing effective January 1, 2025, though the downtown area still remains restricted. A

maximum of only 10 licenses are available in the entire village at those few specific establishment types; most of which children do not frequent (i.e. therefore video gambling is still not permitted in restaurants, gas stations, convenience stores, grocery stores). Said village also has a prohibition against all video gambling cafes.

So the question raised earlier in this letter makes one have to wonder why a sitting County Board member does not want video gambling in young adult sensitive locations in the village in which they live, but they vote for total support of video gambling in such sensitive locations in communities adjacent to where they live? Apparently, this board member believes video gambling is not good for their village (for whatever reason), but they vote their conflicting belief that video gambling is free to be installed anywhere else but their village. I apologize for the directness of this information, but it makes a point upon which I believe other DuPage County Board members should reflect and consider.

The board should ask each board member **WHY** they are voting for or against an ordinance variance. Our community has provided dozens of written public comment reasons to deny video-gambling variances, so Board members approving should provide their counter-reasons if they vote to approve, speaking only to the general welfare of our community.

Sincerely,

Glenn Nelson

Glen Ellyn Woods Subdivision

Cc: Greg Smaistrila (Glen Ellyn Woods HOA President)

Cc: William "Bill" Graham (Valley View HOA President)

<Public Response to VIDEO-GAMBLING (subsequent to 1-27-2026 COUNTY BOARD MEETING).pdf>

<DUPAGE COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS (VOTE SUMMARY UPDATED 1-27-2026 - Video Gaming).pdf>