



DUPAGECOUNTY

2018 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM



Daniel J. Cronin, Chairman, DuPage County Board
Sam Tornatore, Chairman, Legislative Committee



DUPAGE COUNTY

421 N. County Farm Road
Wheaton, IL 60187
(630) 407-6500 • www.dupageco.org

GOVERNMENT PROFILE

DUPAGE COUNTY BOARD



DuPage County Board

Daniel J. Cronin **R**

Chairman
DuPage County Board

(630) 407-6060 • www.dupageco.org/cobrd



Jack T. Knuepfer Administration Building

District 1



Paul Fichtner **R**

Elmhurst



Donald E. Puchalski **R**

Addison



Sam Tornatore **R**

Roselle

District 2



Elizabeth Chaplin **D**

Downers Grove



Peter "Pete" DiCianni **R**

Elmhurst



Sean Noonan **R**

Elmhurst

District 3



Greg Hart **R**

Burr Ridge



Gary Grasso **R**

Burr Ridge



Brian Krajewski **R**

Downers Grove

District 4



Grant Eckhoff **R**

Wheaton



Tim Elliott **R**

Glen Ellyn



Amy Grant **R**

Wheaton

District 5



Janice Anderson **R**

Naperville



James Healy **R**

Naperville



Tonia Khouri **R**

Aurora

District 6



Robert Larsen **R**

Wheaton



Kevin Wiley **R**

West Chicago



James F. Zay **R**

Carol Stream



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COUNTY FACTS

DuPage County, Illinois

Incorporated January 1, 1838

Cities located entirely or partly in DuPage:

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

Villages located entirely or partly in DuPage:

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

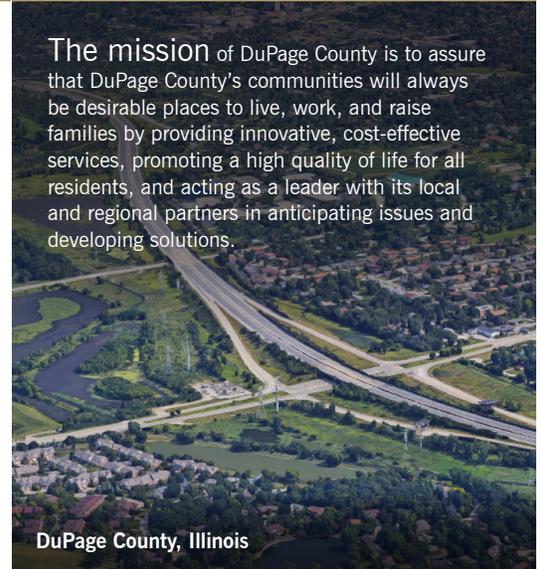
Unincorporated communities

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

Townships:

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

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



DuPage County, Illinois

Demographic Information

- Population¹
- Total Population: 929,368
- Incorporated Population: 815,775
- Unincorporated Population: 113,593



Race, Ethnicity, Gender²

- Caucasian: 67.4%
- African American: 5.2%
- American Indian/Alaska Native: 0.4%
- Asian: 11.8%
- Hispanic or Latino: 14.3%
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander: 0.1%
- Other: 0.8%
- Male: 49.0%
- Female: 51.0%



Education Attainment³

- High School Graduate: 19.2%
- Bachelor's Degree: 28.5%
- Graduate or Professional Degree: 18.2%
- Percent High School degree or higher: 92.4%
- Percent Bachelor's degree or higher: 47.3%



Colleges and Universities

- College of DuPage
- Wheaton College
- Benedictine University
- Elmhurst College
- North Central College
- Midwestern University
- National University of Health Sciences
- Northern Baptist Theological Seminary



Area Information⁴

- Persons per Square Miles: 2,767.8
- Undeveloped Land: 4.2% or 9,013 acres
- Open Space: 20.8% or 44,941 acres
- Total Area⁵: 336.36 sq. miles
- Total Incorporated Area: 245.26 sq. miles
- Total Unincorporated Area: 91.11 sq. miles
- District 1: 53.95 sq. miles
- District 2: 51.01 sq. miles
- District 3: 52.96 sq. miles
- District 4: 39.25 sq. miles
- District 5: 49.41 sq. miles
- District 6: 89.78 sq. miles



Financial Information⁶

- County Revenue: \$439.5 million
- Sales Tax Revenue: \$102.4 million
- Property Tax Revenue⁷: \$48.8 million
- Local Gas Tax Revenue: \$19.3 million
- Income Tax Revenue: \$7.7 million
- Fee Offices/Elected Officials: \$32.3 million
- Funds on Hand: \$48.2 million
- Other⁸: \$179.6 million



Economic Information⁹

- Unemployment Rate: 4.0%
- Number of Jobs: 716,903
- Office Space Vacancy Rate: 16.0%
- Industrial Space Vacancy Rate: 5.0%
- Chicago Fed. Reserve Midwest Manufacturing Index: 97.4%
- Bond rating: AAA / AA+¹⁰
- Sales Tax Receipts: -3.9%
- Housing Units: 359,103¹¹
- Median Household Income: \$81,521¹²



¹ 2016 U.S. Census Estimates
² 2016 U.S. Census Estimates.
³ 2016 U.S. Census Estimates
⁴ 2009 ELU Report

⁵ DuPage County GIS Department, 2010 U.S. Census
⁶ DuPage County's FY2018 Approved Budget
⁷ 2017 County revenue minus Health Department tax levy
⁸ Among which includes Convalescent Center's patient care, water and sewer service charges, highway motor fuel taxes, IMRF/social security indirect cost reimbursement, subsidy transfers, interfund transfers, and much more.

⁹ Choose DuPage
¹⁰ Maintains AAA bond rating with Standard & Poor's and Moody's and a AA+ bond rating with Fitch.
¹¹ 2016 U.S. Census Estimates
¹² 2016 U.S. Census Estimates



DUPAGE COUNTY



2018 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Overview

DuPage County is the second largest county in Illinois with 929,368 residents. The County is comprised of 9 townships, portions of 39 municipalities, and 336 square miles. DuPage is a major employment center for Northeastern Illinois, home to over 716,900 jobs, 19 institutions of higher learning, 7 hospitals, 2 national laboratories, 300 miles of bikeways, and 23,000 acres of forest preserve property. Over 20% of the County is open space.

County residents elect the County Board Chairman at-large plus nine other Countywide Elected Officials; Auditor, County Clerk, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Coroner, Recorder, Regional Superintendent of Schools, Sheriff, State's Attorney, and Treasurer. The County Board includes 18 members who are elected from six districts (three members from each district).

Core county government services include the provision of: public safety and the operation of the county jail; administration of the 18th judicial circuit, the second largest in the state; the maintenance and construction of the county highway and trails system; public health and mental health care services; flood control and prevention; job training and support services; water and sewer; building/zoning/permitting for unincorporated areas; the operation of the county nursing home; community and senior services; emergency management/preparedness; and animal control.

County leaders continue to seek opportunities to reduce the size, scope, and cost of county government in order to minimize the tax burden on residents. In addition to dissolving four county appointed agencies and freezing the county's property tax levy for the past ten years, the county continues to reduce its annual operating costs and full-time budgeted head count. DuPage maintains an AAA bond rating from two of the major credit rating agencies and county government accounts for less than 3% of an average homeowner's annual property tax bill.



2018 Federal Legislative Priorities

- **Reinvest in Local Infrastructure/Capital Improvements:** in the U.S., counties invest more than \$122 billion annually to build infrastructure and maintain public works facilities. Counties in partnership with the federal government require the standard 80/20 federal funding split if we are to construct the projects necessary to rebuild our nation's crumbling infrastructure.
- **Sustain Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding:** CDBG is one of the few federal programs that returns a small portion of dollars sent to Washington, D.C. back to support local non-profit agencies to meet the needs of our elderly, individuals with disabilities, families in crisis, low-income and homeless populations.
- **Public Health & Safety:** provide funding to help states and counties continue to fight the devastating impact of heroin and opioid addiction in our communities.
- **Environmental Health & Water Quality:** Congress and federal agencies need to adopt appropriate regulations to protect our citizens from dangerous chemicals and to ensure a clean water supply for our residents.
- **Provide Noise Relief for Communities Surrounding O'Hare:** direct the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to work with the City of Chicago and neighboring communities to develop a more robust and permanent rotation program under the Fly Quiet Program.
- **Promote Local Economic Development:** obtain approval from the U.S. Department of Energy for a 320-foot easement that would stimulate job growth at the 500-acre DuPage Business Center located in West Chicago.
- **Protect Municipal Bonds:** oppose efforts to remove this primary financing method for state and local governments to help rebuild our nation's infrastructure.



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2018 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Priority Issues

2018 DuPage County Infrastructure/Capital Improvement Plan

According to the federal government, our nation's infrastructure has fallen behind due to years of inaction, for example: one out of every five miles of U.S. highway pavement is in poor condition; one-third of America's bridges are 50 years or older; Americans spent an estimated 6.9 billion hours delayed in traffic; and there are an estimated 240,000 water main breaks every year in the U.S. Counties play a critical role in our nation's infrastructure, owning 45% of all public roads, 39% of the nation's bridges and investing tens of billions of dollars annually on sewage treatment, water quality, and flood control services.

Counties need (a majority of) federal funding to construct critical infrastructure projects that would alleviate flooding, reduce traffic congestion, improve water quality, and repair our aging highway systems and bridges. Counties lack the resources to complete large-scale capital improvement projects and a strong federal-state-local partnership is critical to provide the necessary investment our communities need. In addition to providing a majority of the funding, a federal infrastructure program should also include a suburban set aside (similar to the rural program) and streamline the federal approval process of federally funded projects which on average requires seven years to complete.

DuPage County is responsible for a large portion of the county's Infrastructure including: the provision of water and sewer services to approximately 200,000 county residents; the operation and maintenance of countywide flood control facilities including sixteen reservoirs/dams and pumping stations; the operation of a number of facilities on the county's main Wheaton Campus including the county jail, courthouse, health department, animal shelter, and county nursing home; and the maintenance of 220 miles of highways and 92 miles of multi-use trails.

DuPage County's 2018 Capital Improvement Plan includes a comprehensive list of (44) Flood Control, Transportation, Wastewater/Water, and other critical county infrastructure projects that once completed, would significantly reduce flooding for homeowners and businesses, relieve traffic congestion, improve water quality, and enhance public safety for the county's 929,368 residents.

A detailed list of all projects (that may be searched by Congressional District) can be accessed by visiting: www.dupagecapitalplan.com.



Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

DuPage County receives approximately \$3.5 million in CDBG funding each year and in turn grants it out to municipalities and non-profit agencies. Now in its 44th year, **CDBG remains one of the few programs that returns tax dollars sent to Washington, D.C. back to local communities and is arguably one of the federal government's most successful domestic programs.** Funds benefit low to moderate income persons and neighborhoods by providing: needed infrastructure improvements; public facilities for persons with disabilities and other special needs populations; and public services such as case management and housing services.

Projects anticipated for 2018 include: \$1.15 million to improve water mains, roads, street lighting, and a park in four communities and to operate four neighborhood resource centers; \$1.9 million to renovate living and learning environments for ten entities providing housing and services for persons with disabilities, seniors, veterans, and other special populations; \$108,000 to assist low-income homeowners in keeping their homes safe, code compliant, and energy efficient; and \$455,000 to pay for case management and services through 11 agencies that assist homeless persons (including youth, families, veterans, and victims of domestic violence).

DuPage County opposes the proposed elimination of this vital program.

Public Health & Safety

Heroin/Opioid Epidemic

Drug overdose deaths continue to rise in the United States despite widespread efforts to combat the devastating impact of the heroin/opioid epidemic. Every day, 91 Americans die from an opioid overdose and in 2017, there were a total of 95 heroin/opioid related deaths in DuPage County alone (175 lives were also saved through the administration of Narcan).

Through its HOPE (Heroin Opioid Prevention & Education) Task Force, an interagency interdisciplinary workgroup of county and community leaders and healthcare professionals, DuPage County has developed a five-point framework to address this public health crisis: reduce access to drugs through education and an expansion of the RxBox and other drug take back programs; reduce opioid use and misuse through the promotion of safe prescribing messages and training; increase overdose response by making naloxone more accessible and increased awareness of Good Samaritan laws ; integrate mental health and substance abuse



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treatment and recovery programs to increase the availability of treatment options; and enhance substance abuse prevention and education efforts.

DuPage County urges Congress to support legislation that authorizes funding to assist states and local governments to continue to fight the presence of heroin and opioids in our communities and to stem the practice of inappropriate prescribing of addictive medications (including H.R. 993, the Opioid Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act).

Missing Americans Alert Program Act of 2017

H.R. 4221 amends the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act to reauthorize the Missing Alzheimer's Disease Patient Alert Program through FY 2022 and to promote initiatives that will reduce the risk of injury and death relating to the wandering characteristics of some children with autism. In DuPage County alone, an estimated 12 to 20 individuals go missing each year, some who may have a form of dementia and others a developmental disability. In addition to the emotional trauma of families and the injuries that may occur (sometimes fatal), a significant amount of time and resources are spent locating these missing persons.

H.R. 4221 establishes a \$2 million competitive grant program under the Attorney General's Office to support proactive programs to prevent wandering and locate missing individuals with dementia, such as Alzheimer's Disease, or developmental disabilities, such as autism, who due to their condition, wander from safe environments and to also develop tracking technology programs to locate these missing individuals. DuPage County supports this legislation as a first step towards protecting these vulnerable populations.

Environmental Health & Water Quality

Ban of TCE

In 2001, 800 homeowners in unincorporated Lisle Township (and some businesses located in the Ellsworth Industrial Park) received letters from the EPA stating their well water/groundwater was contaminated with trichloroethylene (TCE), a recognized carcinogen by the EPA. For over two and a half years, these residents could not drink, cook, or bathe with their only source of water. If they wanted to shower, they were instructed to shower with a window open or have an exhaust fan running to avoid inhaling the chemicals. In summary, their homes became worthless and the health of their families put at risk.

In December of 2016, the U.S. EPA published a proposed rule to ban certain uses of TCE under the Toxic Substances Control Act based on health risks from its use in commercial and consumer aerosol degreasing and as a spot cleaner in dry cleaning. According to the EPA, the



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use of TCE in this manner “presents an unreasonable risk to human health” and the EPA identified several alternatives to its use. In December of 2017, the U.S. EPA signaled its intent to indefinitely delay the implementation of several rules to regulate toxic chemicals. DuPage County urges the U.S. EPA to reconsider its delay in the implementation of this rule to protect the health and safety of our residents.

Waters of the United States (WOTUS) Rule

In 2014, the U.S. EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers undertook an effort to rewrite this rule to better define those waters (lakes, rivers, streams, creeks, etc..) and their conveyances that fall under federal (versus state) permitting authority. The intent of the rule was to bring consistency and predictability under the Clean Water Act by clarifying jurisdictional authority. Although the WOTUS rule was finalized in 2015, court challenges prevented its implementation and recently the U.S. EPA Administrator signed an order to further delay implementation until 2020.

Locally, the Chicago area Corps of Engineers, as a matter of practice, has utilized a definition similar to the 2015 WOTUS rule however it would provide an administrative benefit by speeding up the processing of applications (thus reducing costs) if a rule was officially finalized. DuPage County urges all parties to work together to develop an acceptable definition that will protect our vulnerable waterways and drinking water supplies.

Water Resources Development Act (WRDA)

The Water Resources Development Act is a biennial piece of legislation that is scheduled to expire later this year. WRDA is the primary vehicle for authorizing water projects that are studied by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The Corps funds a variety of projects that improve the country’s aging drinking water and wastewater infrastructure in addition to projects that address drought and restore vital ecosystems. DuPage County supports the reauthorization of WRDA and is also seeking a specific designation under Section 219 of the Act that would qualify the county for several designated grant opportunities.

Noise Relief for Communities Surrounding O’Hare Airport

Due to the new runway configuration at O’Hare International Airport, the number of noise complaints from homeowners residing in communities neighboring O’Hare, including the Villages of Bensenville and Itasca and the City of Wood Dale, has risen sharply over the past



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year. The O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission reports that noise related complaints averaged almost 270,000 per month in 2017. Well over one half of the complaints received originated from villages west of the airport.

Over the last two years, stakeholder groups, the Suburban O'Hare Commission (SOC) and the Fair Allocation in Runways (FAiR), have worked closely with the Chicago Department of Aviation to improve the noise impact to communities. Communities have focused largely on the Fly Quiet period from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. where runway rotation programs are especially effective at reducing impacts to one or two communities on consecutive nights.

Two runway rotation phases have been approved by the FAA for Fly Quiet at O'Hare. O'Hare is entering the final phase of its runway construction period which is slated for completion in 2021. With many runways under construction or being decommissioned, it is extremely important that the FAA approve the proposed third rotation program. The City of Chicago has submitted the rotation to the FAA for review and it is anticipated that approval will be expedited.

DuPage County requests that Congress direct the FAA to work with the City of Chicago and neighboring communities to deliver a permanent rotation program under the Fly Quiet program and to work collaboratively with all parties to help improve the quality of life for those residing around O'Hare.

Approval of DOE Easement for the DuPage Business Center

The DuPage Airport Authority (DAA) is seeking approval of a 320-foot easement on the far outer edge of the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory property in order to construct a rail spur to connect the DuPage Business Center to the existing Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) rail line.

Acquisition of this easement from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is critical to the future success of the 500-acre business park located in West Chicago and owned by the DAA. Fermilab, a 6,800-acre facility and valued asset to our community, is bordered to the east by another rail line and would not be adversely impacted by the approval of this small easement to an existing rail line. DuPage County supports the attainment of this rail easement that will stimulate development at the DuPage Business Center, resulting in the creation of hundreds of jobs benefitting our regional economy.

Tax Exempt Municipal Bonds



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For decades, municipal bonds have been a critical source of capital for states and units of local government to finance, at a reasonable cost, vital public projects such as highway construction, water and sewer upgrades, bridge repairs, school construction, and other public works projects that spur job growth and economic development. In 2015, more than \$400 billion in municipal bonds were issued.

Taxpayers also benefit when public purpose projects are financed at a lower cost. In early 2016, DuPage County issued \$36.5 million in General Obligation Refunding Bonds (Courthouse Project). The county saved an additional \$3.6 million by those bonds being tax-exempt, as opposed to taxable. As the bonds were funded by property taxes, the savings were passed directly to taxpayers.

DuPage County opposes any attempts, as part of the clean-up of the tax reform package, to repeal the current tax exemption for municipal bonds that helps local economies create jobs and address the critical infrastructure needs of our communities.