



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

May 1, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Senate Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representative  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Minority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader McCarthy, Leader McConnell, and Leader Schumer:

Together with the undersigned mayors and county officials in the 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of Illinois, we urge you to provide desperately needed funding for local governments, regardless of population size, in the next emergency coronavirus package.

Federal spending programs have long disadvantaged high-population states like Illinois. Those biases result from the structure of the Senate, but were magnified in the recent CARES Act; Citizens in states with populations above 3.5 million received, on average just \$390 per capita, while citizens of less populous states received as much as \$2100 per person – over five times larger. Many of us representing constituents at all levels in states with populations over 3.5 million are finding this discrepancy very hard to justify. Our local governments should *at least* receive proportionately the same level of relief. Moreover, by ensuring we have the resources to move quickly and stop future outbreaks, we will make all parts of the country safer.

We are also concerned about our ability to continue providing critical services to our community without targeted stabilization funding. Our counties and towns have been asked to rapidly activate and expand emergency services, transition to telework to ensure continuity, pay overtime and hazard compensation to first responders, pay for personal protective equipment, and incur many other unexpected costs in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. As local leaders we are on the front lines of this crisis, providing food and shelter, taking care of seniors and other vulnerable populations, operating emergency response centers, and other essential municipal and county functions.

Not only have municipalities and counties incurred greater expenses, but the social distancing required to contain the spread and the need to comply with Illinois' stay-at-home order has also contributed, and will continue to contribute, to a precipitous decline in municipal revenue streams, including but not limited to sales taxes, property taxes, court fees, parking fees, energy tax receipts, UCC fees, and hotel occupancy fees. Our local leaders do not want to be forced to



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

slash essential services, such as police and fire departments, nor can we raise taxes on already overburdened residents. We cannot rely on our state government, which is facing similar revenue shortfalls and increased expenses, to pass along adequate federal relief funds to municipal and county governments. For instance, DuPage County, which is in the heart of our district, is expected to lose between \$500,000 to \$1.5M in revenue each week. Only the federal government has the capacity to help states and local governments of all sizes on an equitable basis.

At a time when we are all in this together, it is important that emergency aid flow equally to all citizens no matter where they live. An equal per capita distribution of funds is the only way to ensure that all states and territories have an equal fighting chance at rebuilding after this pandemic. As leaders of the "People's House", where citizens are equally represented no matter what state they live in, we urge you to insist on a truly fair, equal per-capita distribution of funds to all states, territories, and districts. We further urge you that this correction be retroactive, and that the fundamental principle of equal per-capita distribution of relief be applied to all programs in this and future coronavirus response packages.

Attached for your consideration are some individual testimonies from Mayors and County Board Chairs from Illinois' 6th Congressional District, detailing the unique burdens that managing a responsible COVID-19 response has placed on their budgets. We thank you for your attention, and as you begin work on the fourth COVID-19 stimulus and recovery package, we urge you to ensure an equitable and equal per-capita distribution of funds to states so that all Americans can benefit equally no matter where they live.

Sincerely,

Sean Casten  
Member of Congress  
6th Congressional District of Illinois

Sandy Hart  
Lake County Board Chair

Jack D. Franks  
McHenry County Board Chair

John Schmitt  
Village President, Algonquin

Aaron Shepley  
Mayor, Crystal Lake

Karen Darch  
Village President, Barrington

Joseph A. Marchese  
Mayor, Darien



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

Dale Sands  
Village President, Deer Park

Bob Barnett  
Mayor, Downers Grove

Lael Miller  
Village President, East Dundee

David Kaptain  
Mayor, Elgin

Robert Nunamaker  
Village President, Fox River Grove

Diane McGinley  
Village President, Glen Ellyn

Dominick DiMaggio  
Mayor, Hawthorn Woods

Rodney Craig  
Village President, Hanover Park

Thomas Cauley  
Village President, Hinsdale

William McLeod  
Mayor, Hoffman Estates

John A. "Jack" Tatoes  
Mayor, Inverness

Nandia Black  
Village President, Kildeer

Kevin Richardson  
Village President, Lake Barrington

Russ Ruzanski  
Village President, Lake in the Hills

Thomas Poynton  
Mayor, Lake Zurich

Phil Stephan  
Village President, Lakewood

Keith Giagnorio  
Village President, Lombard

Bill Jacob  
Village President, Long Grove

Gopal Lalmalani  
Village President, Oak Brook

Paul Esposito  
Acting Mayor, Oakbrook Terrace

Jim Schwantz  
Mayor, Palatine

Shannon Yeaton  
Village President, Port Barrington

Stephen Pickett  
Village President, Sleepy Hollow

Steve Ward  
Village President, South Elgin

Raymond Rogina  
Mayor, St. Charles

David Parro  
Village President, Tower Lakes

David Brummel  
Mayor, Warrenville

Eileen Phipps  
Village President, Wayne



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

Ruben Pineda  
Mayor, West Chicago

Christopher Nelson  
Village President, West Dundee

Ron Gunter  
Mayor, Westmont

Philip Suess  
Mayor, Wheaton

Frank Trilla  
Mayor, Willowbrook

Erik Spande  
Mayor, Winfield



County Board Office  
18 North County Street - 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Waukegan, Illinois 60085-4351  
Phone (847) 377-2300  
CountyBoard@lakecountyil.gov  
[www.lakecountyil.gov](http://www.lakecountyil.gov)

April 29, 2020

To our Honorable Senators & Representatives in Congress,

Thank you for your continued work to ensure that the communities you represent are receiving all possible aid in the recovery from this unprecedented emergency. Lake County is on the front line responding to the pandemic and the immediate needs of our communities while working with our local governments, districts, non-profits, and hospitals. While our primary focus has been in response efforts to stop the spread of the virus, we are reviewing our recovery options while continuing to offer essential services throughout Lake County.

**While Lake County maintains a AAA bond rating and properly manages our budget and reserves each year, it will not be possible to offset lost revenue without personnel cuts and reductions to the critical services that we provide to our residents.** A recently published NACo study estimated county budget losses across the U.S. at \$144 Billion through fiscal year 2021.

In order to ensure our recovery without loss of essential government services, Lake County has a need for flexible funding with options to offset lost revenue. We are estimating a 34% annual loss in sales tax revenue alone, along with similar losses in income tax and other economically sensitive revenues. We have also lost out on normal operating charges for services with our closure to the public.

**We respectfully request that the stimulus package currently being discussed (CARES Act 2.0) allows for flexibility in direct fund use and allows for the offsetting of lost revenues.**

Thank you for your consideration of our request that will have an immediate impact on Lake County's recovery from the emergency and allow us to maintain continuity in services and staffing as we work towards a post-pandemic operation.

Please contact Matt Meyers, Assistant County Administrator, directly at 847-849-9891 for any questions related to the above.

Sincerely,

Sandy Hart  
Lake County Board Chair

John Wasik  
Legislative Committee Chair

Gary Gibson  
County Administrator

Matthew Meyers  
Assistant County Administrator



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
ROBERT T. BARNETT

April 29, 2020

The Honorable Sean Casten  
US House of Representatives  
6th Congressional District of Illinois

Dear Representative Casten,

The Village of Downers Grove is experiencing an extreme loss of revenue due to the negative economic impacts of the pandemic and requests that the Federal Government provide funding directly to the Village. Downers Grove would use federal funding to pay for the cost of providing essential services including police, fire, emergency medical services and drinking water.

Our financial planning suggests that Village revenues may well decline by over 40% resulting in a financial shortfall in excess of \$20 million in 2020.

The Village of Downers Grove depends on a broad mix of revenue sources. Total revenue for 2020 is budgeted to be just under \$50 million. Over half of these revenues are greatly influenced by economic activity including \$27 million coming from Sales Taxes, Food & Beverage Taxes, Hotel Taxes, Income Taxes and Building Permit Fees. The current economic downturn is expected to substantially reduce these revenues. These declines are evident in the March and April actual receipts. In addition, the most recent water bill revenues dropped by nearly 25%.

Nearly 85% of our total budget is used to operate the Police, Fire and Public Works Departments. These departments provide the essential services all residents depend on including public safety, emergency storm response, safe water supply and snow and ice control.

While we have historically held 4 to 5 months of operating reserves, with the pandemic's effect on economic activity and employment, these reserves are not sufficient to cover the projected revenue loss.

The Village of Downers Grove is committed to continuing to provide essential services. We respectfully request that the Federal Government provide funding directly to the Village of Downers Grove to cover this revenue decline and help pay for the cost of providing essential services.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "RTB".

Robert T. Barnett  
Mayor

801 Burlington Avenue  
Downers Grove, Illinois 60515  
E-mail: rtbarnett@downers.us



2 Lagoon Drive • Hawthorn Woods, Illinois 60047 • 847.438.5500

April 29, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker, United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader, United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader, United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Minority Leader, United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader McCarthy, Leader McConnell, and Leader Schumer:

As Mayor of the Village of Hawthorn Woods in Illinois, along with U.S. Representative Sean Casten of the 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of Illinois, I strongly support efforts to include the crucial funding necessary, regardless of population size, for all municipalities in any emergency coronavirus package currently being negotiated.

For most communities, the peak of the pandemic has yet to be reached. Municipal governments are responding daily to the crisis with our battalion of essential employees, such as police officers and public works crew members. We are enacting difficult and fiscally challenging emergency measures to slow the coronavirus epidemic and spending beyond our budgetary capabilities to protect our front-line employees and our residents, not to mention an unprecedented loss in revenue. We are in desperate need of relief.

The Village of Hawthorn Woods and I thank you for your tireless efforts in the navigation of the coronavirus pandemic. We urge you to consider an equitable and equal per-capita distribution of funds to each of the states as you formulate the next COVID-19 stimulus and recovery package. With your financial assistance to municipal government, we are fully confident our community and our country will emerge stronger than ever.

Sincerely,

Dominick DiMaggio, Mayor  
Village of Hawthorn Woods



RAYMOND P. ROGINA *Mayor*  
MARK KOENEN, P.E. *City Administrator*

April 29, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Senate Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Senate Minority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Stimulus Funding for Local Governments

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader McCarthy, Leader McConnell, and Leader Schumer:

On behalf of the City of St Charles, thank you for your tireless efforts to support Illinois local governments and the extraordinary measures that local leaders are enacting to protect households and residents from the ill effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The City of St Charles respectfully requests your support for dedicated and flexible funding for all local governments to assist in mitigating the severe and prolonged financial impacts from the COVID -19 emergency. The City of St Charles and our municipal partners throughout Illinois are fighting this pandemic and providing life-saving, and essential governmental services at an enhanced level despite the significant loss of revenues currently being experienced.

The continued shutdown of non-essential economic activity will have a significant impact on the City. We currently estimate the economic impact to be in the magnitude of \$3 million to nearly \$10 million for the City. These amounts represent a range of 6% to 20% of the City's budget.

As a result of the anticipated economic impact, we have already identified approximately \$2.5 million in capital projects that must be deferred and many may be eliminated as a result of the pandemic. Replacement funding for City squad cars and fire apparatus will be delayed this year and pending replacement vehicle purchases will also be delayed for year as a result of the revenue loss. In addition, local business incentive programs sponsored by the



City will be eliminated. These incentive programs provide necessary matching funds to small business owners to improve their facilities and businesses. Additional City services and purchases will also be impacted. Additional budget cuts will likely be necessary as the true impacts of the pandemic become known. City department directors are in the processing of identifying the next round of budget cuts.

You can assist us in mitigating the negative economic impacts from COVID-19 by supporting:

- Immediate action on a stimulus package that includes funding allocated directly to state and local governments, regardless of population
- Funds to replace municipal revenues lost as a result of the economic shutdown related to COVID-19

Units of local government of all size are expending tremendous amounts of resources while suffering historic losses of revenue related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The true extent of the damages and impacts will not be known for some time as many locales have not yet seen the peak of the pandemic. All local governments, regardless of population, urgently need direct federal funding to help us continue the fight against COVID-19 and to help us protect our residents through the summer. I thank you in advance for your support.

Respectfully,



Raymond P. Rogina  
Mayor

*Heritage. Community. Service. Opportunity.*