



**Robert J. Nunamaker**  
President, Village of Fox River Grove  
Executive Board Chairman

**Rahm Emanuel**  
Mayor, City of Chicago  
Executive Board 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair

**Joseph Mancino**  
Mayor, Village of Hawthorn Woods  
Executive Board 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair

**John A. Ostenburg**  
Mayor, Village of Park Forest  
Executive Board Secretary

May 17, 2017

Dear Illinois State Lawmakers,

As the leaders of 275 cities, towns and villages in the greater Chicago region, we recognize the enormity of our state's budget crisis and respect the difficult decisions you must consider to put Illinois back on the road to fiscal health. While we support efforts to reach a bipartisan consensus to pass a budget and end the current impasse, we wholeheartedly reject any attempt to do so by reducing the local share of the Local Government Distributive Fund (LGDF) or other sources of local government revenue.

Balancing the state budget on the backs of local governments is not really balancing the budget at all, it is simply shifting yet another burden to local taxpayers. Reducing the local share of LGDF or other sources of local government revenue would result in far fewer resources available to provide public safety, economic development, transportation and housing for residents.

It is in our respective municipalities where we must continue to find new revenue sources to meet the rising costs of state mandates. Thus, it is **important** that any new budget provide meaningful relief from current state mandates.

The state budget impasse has increased costs to local governments and municipalities due to delayed and deferred payments, and delayed local projects caused by the increased cost of bond issuances. Further, the budget crisis has put limitations on our ability to compete in the global economy and increased uncertainty for local governments as we do our own budgeting and capital planning for transportation, housing and other critical infrastructure.

Raiding local government revenue sources would be irresponsible, ineffective, and short-sighted.

Very respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert J. Nunamaker".

Robert J. Nunamaker  
Executive Board Chairman  
President, Village of Fox River Grove

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rahm Emanuel".

Rahm Emanuel  
Executive Board First Vice Chairman  
Mayor, City of Chicago

City of Chicago · DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference · Lake County Municipal League · McHenry County Council of Governments  
Metro West Council of Governments · Northwest Municipal Conference · South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association  
Southwest Conference of Mayors · West Central Municipal Conference · Will County Governmental League

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**Additional Signatories:**

**Representing the Du Page Mayors and Managers Conference**

David Brummel  
Mayor, City of Warrenville  
President, Du Page Mayors and Managers Conference

Martin T. Tully  
Caucus Executive Board Member  
Mayor, Village of Downers Grove

**Representing the Lake County Municipal League**

Joseph Mancino  
Executive Board Second Vice Chairman  
Mayor, Village of Hawthorn Woods  
President, Lake County Municipal League

**Representing the Metro West Council of Governments**

Jeffery D. Schielke  
Caucus Executive Board Member  
Mayor, City of Batavia

Steve Ward  
President, Village of South Elgin  
President, Metro West Council of Governments

**Representing the Northwest Municipal Conference**

Karen Y. Darch  
Caucus Executive Board Member  
President, Village of Barrington

Sandra E. Frum  
Executive Board Member  
President, Village of  
Northbrook

Harriet Rosenthal  
Mayor, Village of Deerfield  
President-Elect, Northwest  
Municipal Conference

**Representing the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association**

John A. Ostenburg  
Executive Board Secretary  
Mayor, Village of Park Forest  
President, South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association

Paul S. Braun  
Caucus Executive Board Member  
Mayor, Village of Flossmoor

**Representing the Southwest Conference of Mayors**

Gerald R. Bennett  
Caucus Executive Board Member  
Mayor, City of Palos Hills  
President, Southwest Conference of Mayors

**Representing the Will County Governmental League**

Jim Holland  
Immediate Past Caucus Board Chairman  
Mayor, Village of Frankfort

Teresa Kernc  
Caucus Executive Board Member  
Mayor, Village of Diamond  
President, Will County Governmental League

**Representing the McHenry County Council of Governments**

Richard E. Mack  
President, Village of Ringwood  
President, McHenry County Council of  
Governments