



THE DUPAGE REVIEW

WHEATON, IL

- The DuPage County Board passed a resolution during Tuesday's Count Board meeting officially requesting the Illinois General Assembly to pass legislation during the 2006 veto session that would give counties the ability to impose a cigarette sales tax if approved by their county boards. The resolution cited significant demographic changes in DuPage County that are forcing new budgetary pressures and demands for services, including the number of new immigrant citizens and a growing senior citizen population. The Legislation requested is House Amendment Two to Senate Bill 716. If passed, the legislation would allow County Boards to vote on whether or not they wish to impose a cigarette tax.
- The DuPage County Board approved an intergovernmental agreement on Tuesday authorizing the Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA) to sell bonds on the County's behalf and to then dedicate \$11.25 million in bond proceeds to DuPage County first time homebuyers. Although the County requested a \$15 million dollar bond cap allocation for 2006, \$11.25 million is the amount actually allocated to DuPage. The funds will be used toward reduced-rate fixed mortgages for first time, qualified, homebuyers. Last December, the County Board authorized application for \$15 million in bond cap to be used for homebuyer assistance for income-qualified first time buyers. Last year's resolution also stated that the County may enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA) for this purpose.
- DuPage County Human Services is looking for donors to adopt low-income families for the holidays. Income eligible families complete holiday wish lists, which are then matched with appropriate donors from the community. If you or your organization would like to adopt a needy family, please call Leslie Grevoy or Antonia Harlan at 407-6500, Monday-Friday between 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
- DuPage County Board Chairman Robert Schillerstrom presented "*Western O'Hare Corridor Economic Development Study- An Opportunity Analysis*"; an overview of the opportunities offered by the expansion of Chicago's O'Hare International Airport during a recent meeting of the City Club of Chicago. The year-long economic development study brought together many of the region's stakeholders, including IDOT, the Tollway, RTA, Metra, Pace, CTA and the City of Chicago with 15 DuPage municipalities, to conduct a planning assessment related to the O'Hare Modernization Program (OMP) and Western Access. The study focused on the economic impacts of the OMP and its proposed transportation components. The process emphasized a regional approach to reviewing development opportunities offered by the significant infrastructure projects affiliated with the OMP. The result is an unprecedented regional vision for growth and prosperity. The study addressed roadway, transit and land-use issues and concluded that Western Access was the cornerstone for future economic opportunities.

DUPAGE COUNTY BOARD

Robert J. Schillerstrom
Chairman

District 1

Yolanda Campuzano
Paul Fichtner
Donald Puchalski

District 2

Patrick O'Shea
Brien Sheahan
Irene Stone

District 3

Thomas Bennington, Jr.
Kyle Gilgis
Michael McMahan

District 4

Grant Eckhoff
Debra Olson
Jerry McBride

District 5

James Healy
Robert Heap
Robert Schroeder

District 6

Linda Kurzawa
Pamela Rion
James Zay, Jr.

www.dupageco.org