

# DuPage Review

DUPAGE COUNTY: A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE, WORK AND RAISE A FAMILY

**Robert J. Schillerstrom**  
Chairman

**District 1**

Paul Fichtner  
Rita Gonzalez  
Donald Puchalski

**District 2**

Patrick O'Shea  
Jeff Redick  
Brien Sheahan

**District 3**

John Curran  
Kyle Gilgis  
Michael McMahon

**District 4**

Grant Eckhoff  
JR McBride  
Debra Olson

**District 5**

James Healy  
Tony Michelassi  
John Zediker

**District 6**

Dirk Enger  
Linda Kurzawa  
Jim Zay

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**DuPage County**

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## REPORT OFFERS RECOMMENDATIONS TO EXPAND TRANSPARENCY IN COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Increasing the public's participation in the budget process, providing easier access to filing an ethics complaint, posting County Board meetings online and reviewing the County's Procurement Ordinance to expand the use of competitive bidding were all recommendations put forth by the DuPage County Ad-Hoc Committee on Government Transparency and Accessibility, which issued their preliminary report on March 10<sup>th</sup>.

In creating the Committee this past January, DuPage County Board Chairman Robert J. Schillerstrom asked members to look at what new technologies and practices are available to make DuPage County government more transparent, as well as keeping the County a leader in openness and accessibility.

"This report reaffirms our leadership and commitment to open government in the State of Illinois, and provides a blue print for both short-term and longer-term actions we can take to increase and enhance transparency," said Schillerstrom. "I want to thank Jeff Redick and the members of the Committee for their hard work on this important issue."

Over the past month, the Committee heard testimony from County Departments and Elected Officials on ways the County could become even more transparent than it already has become.

The Committee also heard testimony on best practices from groups like the Illinois Policy Institute, Americans for Prosperity, the Civic Federation, the Sam Adams Alliance and Illinoisans for Growth.

Jeff Redick (District 2), Chairman of the Ad-Hoc Committee, says that in order to maintain the public's trust in government, the County needs to increase public participation in all aspects of County government, especially the budget process.

"The work we do each year crafting and enacting a budget has a direct impact on the lives of DuPage residents, and it is imperative we have their input during this process," said Redick. "Therefore, our Committee recommends that the County hold a series of district budget meetings to gather public input during the budget process. We also recommend that the public be provided with a comprehensive, easy-to-understand, budget which details how their tax dollars are being spent."



Jeff Redick (District 2)

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## JOHN ZEDIKER SWORN IN AS NEW DISTRICT 5 COUNTY BOARD MEMBER

John P. Zediker of Naperville has been sworn in as the new District 5 County Board Member. Zediker will fill the term left vacant by Michael Connelly, who was sworn in as State Representative in January.

In selecting John Zediker to fill this position, DuPage County Board Chairman Robert J. Schillerstrom says he was drawn to John's extensive business experience, as well as his work in engineering and planning.

"John's strong business experience, his work in transportation planning, and his dedication to ensuring our county remains healthy and strong made him an easy selection for the County Board," said Schillerstrom.



DuPage County Clerk Gary King swears in John Zediker as the newest member of the DuPage County Board.

John Zediker is currently the President and Chief Executive Officer of Moser Enterprises, Inc. Prior to that he worked as the Director of Transportation, Engineering and Development for the City of Naperville, where he managed budgets in excess of \$45 million and a staff of over 100 while also initiating comprehensive development and transportation projects.

John Zediker has a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Saint Francis

in Joliet, as well as a Masters of Science in Economic Geography from Northern Illinois University. John and his wife live in Naperville with their three children.

## COUNTY ANNOUNCES 2009 SCHOLARSHIP GRANT PROGRAM

DuPage County is pleased to announce that the Department of Community Services has received a Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) to fund scholarships for disadvantaged students. The grant was secured from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. Scholarships can be used for formal education or occupational training. Special consideration will be given to students interested in high technology fields or other occupations.

Applicants are required to provide proof of DuPage County residency, supply gross household income for the past 90 days and provide information on members living in the household. Income for the household must be at or below 125% of the federal poverty level. Applications are currently being accepted and must include a 500 word essay or personal statement, official school transcripts, two letters of recommendation, a Financial Aid Audit and proof of enrollment in an Illinois accredited institution.

Support documents and applications must be received by **May 15, 2009 by 4:30 p.m.** Applications are available at the Jack Knuepfer Administration building, Department of Community Services, 421 N. County Farm Road in Wheaton. They can also be found on the County's website, [www.dupageco.org](http://www.dupageco.org). For more information, please call 630-407-6500.

## IN THE NEWS

### BOARD APPROVES ORDINANCE BANNING ALCOHOL AT ADULT ENTERTAINMENT FACILITIES IN UNINCORPORATED DU PAGE COUNTY

The consumption of alcoholic beverages at adult business establishments in unincorporated DuPage County will no longer be allowed under a new ordinance approved by the DuPage County Board.



Jim Zay (District 6)

DuPage County Board Member Jim Zay (District 6), who spearheaded this initiative, notes that the new ordinance would ensure public safety while not prohibiting an individual's right to visit an adult establishment.

Specifically, the new ordinance curtails the previous practice of establishments allowing patrons to bring in their own alcoholic beverages.

Zay, who chaired a special subcommittee last summer to review this important matter, notes the secondary effects of consuming alcoholic beverages at adult businesses can have a negative impact on the community and he is pleased this proposed ordinance received the support of the Judicial and Public Safety Committee.

"We are not denying anyone's right to visit an adult establishment in unincorporated DuPage County," said Zay. "However, it is our responsibility as elected officials to ensure the public is safe from

the secondary effects that may result from alcohol being served and consumed in these types of establishments. The safety of our residents is our primary concern."

Under the new ordinance, it will now be "unlawful for any person to consume or be in possession of any open alcoholic beverage while on the premises of any adult entertainment facility."

### O'SHEA APPOINTED CHAIRMAN OF EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEM BOARD

DuPage County Board Member Patrick O'Shea (District 2) has been appointed as Chairman of the DuPage County Emergency Telephone System Board (ETSB).

"Pat's experience and dedication to public safety make him an ideal chairman for the ETSB," said Schillerstrom. "Throughout his tenure on the County Board, Pat has worked hard on the important issues facing our families and I look forward to working with him as he takes on this new assignment."

O'Shea, who has served as Chairman of both the DuPage County Finance and Judicial and Public Safety Committees, has been a tireless advocate for public safety throughout his tenure with the County Board.

The ETSB was created in 1989 with the primary purpose of alerting the residents of DuPage County to any threat to public safety, and to avoid telephone network congestion or system failure.

**TRANSPARENCY REPORT** *continued from front page*

The Committee also recommends that the Finance Department post a budget calendar online, which should include dates for individual committee meetings, budget reviews, the Chairman's budget presentation, public meetings and hearings, deliberations by the Board, and voting.

Another important topic discussed by the Committee was the County's Ethics Ordinance. The Committee heard testimony from both the County's Human Resources Department and the County's Ethics Officer on what the current practices are regarding the filing of an ethics complaint. In their report the Committee recommends that more information be posted online regarding how to file a complaint, that a process be created for an individual to follow their complaint through the system; a detailed explanation on what whistle-blower protections are available to individuals filing a complaint and a full listing of who serves on the DuPage County Ethics Commission.

"The recommendations made in this report demonstrate our commitment to open government, and that implementing these suggestions will maintain the public's trust in their County government," said Redick.

The Committee report further recommends:

-- The County examine the feasibility of investing in a new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system, which would: provide the public with a searchable database for contracts, expenditures and budget; provide a contract life cycle (inception in committee through close-out), automatically create financial statements meeting modern audit methodologies; improve report creation and compliance; and streamline budget submission and development process.

-- County-wide Elected Officials consider adoption of the DuPage County Ethics Ordinance and submit to jurisdiction of the DuPage County Ethics Commission, which would promote uniform and comprehensive ethical standards throughout County government. Currently, many elected officials have

implemented an ethics policy that governs their operation. This would bring all offices under the same policy.

-- A full review of the County Procurement Ordinance be made with the intent of instituting changes to limit campaign contributions by vendors doing business with DuPage County in order to avoid any appearance of impropriety and maintain objectivity in the procurement process. Campaign contribution limits should also be extended to include professional groups representing County contractors and organizations representing County employees and/or performing work on behalf of vendors on County projects.

-- The County Board examine the feasibility of airing County Board meetings online, which will provide residents with easy access to meetings, which can be view at anytime, and allow the County to archive meetings so they are always available for public viewing.

To view the report, please visit [www.dupageco.org](http://www.dupageco.org).

## COUNTY CALENDAR

### Upcoming Meetings

#### **County Board**

Tuesday, March 24  
10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, April 14  
10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, April 28  
10:00 a.m.