

ITEM RES 2015-6043

**VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE**  
**Report for the Village Council Meeting**  
**1/20/2015**

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>
A Resolution Placing an Advisory Referendum Question Regarding Police Facilities on the Ballot	Enza Petrarca Village Attorney

**SYNOPSIS**

A Resolution Placing an Advisory Referendum Question Regarding Police Facilities on the Ballot.

At the request of Commissioner Hosé, a discussion regarding the addition of two referendum questions that would appear on the ballot for the April 7 General Election related to Village facilities has been placed on the New Business agenda.

**STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT**

The goals for 2011-2018 identified *Exceptional Municipal Services, Top Quality Infrastructure* and *Steward of Financial & Environmental Sustainability*.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

N/A

**RECOMMENDATION****UPDATE & RECOMMENDATION**

This item was discussed at the January 13, 2015 Village Council Meeting. The Village Council directed staff to place two advisory referenda questions on the January 20, 2015 Active Agenda. The last day to adopt the resolution placing advisory referenda questions on the ballot is January 20, 2015.

Pursuant to the Council Policy on Council Agendas, the agenda item shall be a discussion item only to allow for the Council as an elected body to direct whether staff and legal counsel should prepare the appropriate form of action for consideration at the January 20 Village Council meeting, which is the deadline for the Village Council to approve referendum questions for the April 7 election.

Staff recommends action at the discretion of the Council.

**BACKGROUND**

Commissioner Hosé recently submitted the following New Business item request

*The advisory referendum petitions filed this week by Village residents has drawn significant interest. I have not supported placing this item on the ballot for many reasons, one of which is starkly demonstrated by the petitions: the proposed question fails to encompass the complexity of the facilities issues facing the Village or convey potential solutions. In short, the proposed question is so vague as to provide little to no actual guidance to the Council.*

*Therefore, I request that the Council consider the following two additional questions to be placed on the April ballot:*

- 1. Should the Village spend millions of tax dollars to perform routine maintenance on an already obsolete and undersized police station?*
- 2. Should the Village construct a new, combined police/fire/fleet service facility on Ogden Ave. to replace the current obsolete police station, increase the size and vitality of Downtown, and reduce the footprint of government?*

*I believe these questions more completely reflect the challenges Downers Grove faces and the potential solutions. Results on these questions will provide helpful context to the answer voters provide to the petition question.*

## **ATTACHMENT**

Resolution

**RESOLUTION NO.****A RESOLUTION INITIATING THE SUBMISSION OF A  
PUBLIC QUESTION TO SOLICIT INPUT REGARDING  
THE FUTURE OF THE VILLAGE'S POLICE DEPARTMENT FACILITY**

**WHEREAS**, the Village Council is considering constructing a new combined Police Station, Fleet Services Facility and a Fire Station ("Police Department Facility"); and

**WHEREAS**, the Village Council recognizes the long-term investment of the construction of a new Police Facility or maintenance of the existing Police Station; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village Council desires to solicit input from the residents of Downers Grove regarding this issue; and

**WHEREAS**, the answer to this question will help guide and provide direction to the Village Council as it considers future actions concerning the Police Department Facility;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Village Council of the Village of Downers Grove, County of DuPage, State of Illinois, as follows:

**SECTION ONE: Incorporation of Recitals.** The foregoing recitals are by this reference incorporated into and made a part of the resolution as if fully set forth.

**SECTION TWO: Public Question on the Village's Police Department Facility.** A public question shall be submitted to the voters of The Village of Downers Grove, County of DuPage, State of Illinois, at the April 7, 2015 consolidated election (or at the next available election permitted by the general election law) as follows:

Should the Village spend millions of tax dollars to perform routine maintenance on an already obsolete and undersized police station?	YES _____	NO _____
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**SECTION THREE: Publication and Filing.** The Clerk is hereby directed to file this authorizing resolution or other related matters with the appropriate election officials in accordance with applicable law.

**SECTION FOUR: Effective Date.** This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval, and publication in the manner provided by law.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor

Passed:

Published:

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Village Clerk