



rRemarks Data for October 14, 2025 Village Council Meeting

Agenda Section & Item: First Reading - RES 2025-10953 A. Resolution: Authorizing Execution of a Solid Waste Contract

Commenter: Mark Dziedzic

Comment: I am a 30+yr resident of Downers Grove.

First, I am not clear what the age for "senior discount" applies 55+ or ? Can you please clarify. Did I miss something online that it is not defined?

Second, I am ok with the amnesty day going away - we have used it, but tended to be out of town when it was happening. Also, I believe Republic has done a good job for the village over the last contract and prefer them over the other two if you must know. We even wave to our current friendly driver every week - very friendly and efficient.

However, unless I am reading it wrong, there is no option to continue the current sticker program (pay as you go) with Republic or the others which is the option I was most in favor of, please correct me if I am wrong. All proposals provide options for carts only and secondary carts as well E-waste and organics waste, but the long and short of it appears to be an increase in monthly costs per household. I would need to rent on a monthly basis two carts minimum when I do not have to do that today.

With stickers if I use a maximum of two a week the cost is approximately: \$437/annually per household (2-33gal trash cans today). On average we use \$300/year for stickers as we do not always have two full cans. I already own my carts or bins for recycling and organics waste as well as my 33-gal trash cans. Sunk costs. No need to rent.

If I now need to rent two carts min. per month (smallest size ; 35gal) that is \$510 per year.-base price using Republic. Rough math, but an increase to each of the households noted (39% still using stickers per the information provided by your staff). So Residents still using stickers may see an increase of \$210 per year. With the current state of inflation that seems like households using stickers are going to pay more for this new contract. I prefer an option where I can use stickers (pay as I go) and also recycle

plus dispose of my organic waste when needed. I mulch otherwise - so grass clippings are at a minimum. Plus if I want to rent a cart, I can do so.

Therefore, I am still in favor of an option that maintains the existing sticker program with a cart rental option. I am not sure why staff felt only option 4 was all inclusive if 39% of household still use stickers. I find it odd the specifications went out, but the sticker option appears to be missing. Please consider requoting and adding a sticker option. It is an economical means for resident who are willing to still use stickers and pay as they go.

Agenda Section & Item: First Reading - RES 2025-10953 A. Resolution: Authorizing Execution of a Solid Waste Contract

Commenter: Rick Hurckes

Comment: I wanted to provide comment for work you are doing towards the solid waste contract. I follow the council meetings via youtube so I am familiar with some of the discussion you are having on this topic. Overall, I am very pleased with the proposal that is on the agenda for this week's meeting. The reason I am in favor of it, in particular, is the push towards free yard waste container, specifically because it will encourage residents to lessen their waste by encouraging composting. I know for my family of 4, I think we could downgrade from our current medium size tote to the smallest version. So it's a win-win -- more environmentally friendly and save money with the smaller tote.

I do understand you will hear from residents who want to keep their stickers but I think they are the exception as the majority of residents utilize totes.

Agenda Section & Item: First Reading - RES 2025-10953 A. Resolution: Authorizing Execution of a Solid Waste Contract

Commenter: Donna Andrzejewski

Comment: Hello. I want to share my thoughts and concerns about refuse services in Downers Grove (DG).

I have lived in DG since 2004. Being someone who has always been ecologically minded, I have been actively trying to reduce the amount of waste my household generates. I compost. I recycle. I shop local. If I put out a green trash bag of garbage a month, that's a lot. My property has a lot of plants, trees and shrubs. I do put out yard waste, on average 2 bags a week throughout the season. The average was higher in years past but I have reduced the number of yard bags by composting more.

I keep my garbage in the garage in a small size trash can. I have 2 nesting recycling bins that I can store under a tool rack. I do not have the physical space in my garage to

store multiple refuse cans, especially the larger sizes. I store the trash in the garage because of past experience with critters trying to get into the can when it was stored outside.

Overall, I am content with the service we currently have. It meets my needs and budget.

For me, smaller bins are critical. The 35 gallon size availability is a must. I would prefer to keep using the recycling bins since finding room to store a second tote would be difficult. I would appreciate continued use of yard waste bags. The amount of yard waste I generate varies greatly week to week. Bags also take up less space to store than a tote.

I appreciate all recycling events throughout DuPage County and have visited many of them. I don't have an opinion one way or another about the curbside pickup. If there is data that shows curbside pickup encourages people to dispose of waste properly than I would be all for it.

The one problem with totes in general is that I have found there can be trash scatter when the tote is dumped into the truck, especially on windy days. I have found trash stuck in the sewer grate at the end of my driveway. Since I have a lot of plants, blowing trash seems to land on my property because it has places where it can be caught.

The sticker program keeps my refuse disposal costs down. Switching to a tote system, for me is both not practical nor cost effective.

Thank you.
Donna Andrzejewski

Agenda Section & Item: Comments of a General Nature

Commenter: David Rose

Comment: Comment on VC approval of meeting minutes

Kudos to VC (sarcasm)

for approving minutes of the 17 Sep VC meeting, which included the following statement on page 2, summarizing remarks by CC:

He [Mayor Barnett] said in an attempt to move forward, everyone needs to stand together, and as people, we should allow others to have their own voice. He asked all to listen and demonstrate humility. He said the Village of Downers Grove denotes violence and discrimination against any person.

Village “denotes violence and discrimination against any person”? Good to know.

Which suggests, as Comm D intimated about VC members not reading e-remarks, VC members may not be all that diligent in reading minutes either.

Agenda Section & Item: Manager's Report - MOT 2025-10924 A. Motion: Accept the 2025-2027 Long Range Plan

Commenter: David Rose

Comment: Comment on Comp Plan claim of financial stability going forward

Plan asserts (p 21, p 23 of 38 of materials):

Both the police and the fire pension funds are on track to be fully funded by 2040.

On the basis of what sound data does VC make this claim?

VC provides no information on how it arrived at this conclusion.

VC provides no scenarios, other than an historically detached one that presumes the future will be one of smooth financial growth.

Notably, VC has never admitted that the financial ‘success’ it has achieved in recent years is attributable mainly to the largesse of money injected at the federal level into the US economy, most of which has gone into the FIRE (finance, insurance, real estate) sector, to the disproportionate benefit of the top 10% of the nation’s population. In other words, to the disproportionate benefit of places like DG.

The Plan’s states on that same page:

It should be noted that for every dollar shortfall of the assumed investment return, the recommended pension contributions would increase by approximately 1.7 cents on the dollar. This is because the recommended pension contribution is calculated by smoothing the asset value over 5 years and targets 100% funding over the next 16 years.

I suspect this statement is largely meaningless to most people. That is, I would argue it is NOT as informative as it needs to be.

And yet the plan wins an APA Daniel Burnham Award?! OMG.

Like the web-site's brief description of the Police Department as "award-winning". In that case, no mention of purpose and functions. Just "award winning."

What residents would likely find useful as part of the Comp Plan projections is an elaboration of not only pension fund obligations but also of all VC's taxes and fees on residential property owners/households in each of DG's broad social classes.

In other words, more of the type of info VC seems to prefer NOT to divulge.

Agenda Section & Item: First Reading - RES 2025-10953 A. Resolution: Authorizing Execution of a Solid Waste Contract

Commenter: David Rose

Comment: Comment on new garbage collection contract

The proposed contract with Republic under consideration is a major misrepresentation of VC claiming the contract addresses VC's goal of environmental stewardship.

VC's discussion of contract proposals and this proposed contract affirms to me VC's and DG residents' lack of understanding of ecological sustainability (ECOS) and VC's usual willingness to prostrate itself to private businesses.

Sadly, adding to staff a person with purported subject matter expertise has done little to overcome this deficiency.

VC's focus on the relative amount of waste going to landfills versus recycling ignores completely the fundamental issue, namely the need to reduce DG's resource consumption to a sustainable rate.

As is disgustingly typical, VC's policy decisions take place largely absent relevant data.

In this case, most of the discussion focused on payment method — sticker as “pay to throw”, and the differing rates for the various container sizes.

While data about the percentage of households using stickers was included in the provided materials, neither Republic nor VC provided data on the rate at which households using stickers actually throw out garbage.

That omission seems all too ‘convenient’ (for political purposes in the discussion), in that the assumption of a ‘low’ rate of 2-4 stickers per month then becomes the estimated total used to compare the cost of relying solely on carts in a future contract.

Are sticker users, especially senior residents, using that many stickers per month? Prove it.

The Thompson family e-remark to the 07 Oct VC meeting indicated they are a household of FOUR who put out a 35 gallon container twice a month!!! Under the new contract, their cost more than doubles.

Resident Sandra Reinert said in public comment on 07 Oct she goes 6 weeks between tosses, so she's using 2 stickers about every 3 months. Under the new contract, her rate goes from under \$9 to \$51 for 3 months!!!

See the problem here, VC? Do you care? Or are you going to do a ram job on the residents who are genuinely low waste producers?

What good is a ‘discount’ if the end result is still a much higher cost?

VC, don't guess; collect the damn data!!!

Also missing: data for the number of households who are cart users who use each of the different sizes.

Q: Are they putting out full carts every week?

If VC sincerely wants to motivate households to reduce waste, why isn't VC charging staff to develop an approach in which price increases MUCH more the more waste a household produces?

Will difference in price incentivize waste reduction? Not at the rate differences this contract proposes.

And lest the point be missed: NONE of the program options VC discussed encourage EVERY DG household to reduce their volume of resource consumption.

Indeed, doesn't offering more bulk item pickup potentially worsen not lessen the problem?

Has VC looked at other communities to determine what approach they've used to both lower resource consumption and reduce waste going to landfills?

Some VC members said safety was another reason for moving away from stickers. Since the refuse worker is on curb side of the street when dealing with a sticker on a container, what exactly is the 'safety' issue?

Candidate vendors made claims of safety concerns but offered no actual data, either for DG or any local muni they serve.

Absent data, vendor concern for safety feels a canard.

Show me data to disprove that shifting to all carts at the price rates proposed is not simply for the convenience and the financial predicability of the company.

In that regard, getting rid of the sticker option may mean the first year of the contract amounts to a substantial boost in the company's income.

Example:

6k households (40% of DG's 15,000 households who are sticker users) x \$19/mo (rough average for calc purposes between 17 and 21.25) x 12 mo = \$1.368 million (accurate estimate here depends on proportion of sticker users who are seniors)

versus

$6k \times 4.5 \times 12 = \$324,000$ (if sticker once per month),

= \$648,000 (if twice per month),

= \$162,000 (if once every two months), and so on.

And VC wants residents to be grateful/impressed the company will kick in a whole \$5k toward sustainability if it's chosen. What a laugh.

(Looks like we have another typical hide-the-real-story approach/motive by VC.)

So to repeat: VC, what's the data on number of stickers purchased (as a proxy for stickers used)?

I've observed more than once to VC that its biz model relies on resource consumption. that is, it relies on econ and population growth.

Naturally then, VC avoids exploring an objective of reducing total resource consumption in DG because that objective conflicts with VC's objective of pursuing more and richer residents living in more and bigger domiciles — namely VC's first among all its primary goals, increasing DG's property tax base.

For conscience laundering reasons (for both itself and residents), VC strives to make some magical distinction between 'waste' going into 'landfill' and that which is 'recycled', hoping "somehow" to increase the proportion of the latter relative to the former. As if that were enough. When in fact it's another abomination yielded by VC's inadequate definition of sustainability.

If the total amount going to landfills is rising, it matters little if the percentage is shifting toward 'recycling' of nonrenewable resources. And remember: Nonrenewable materials cannot be recycled forever; eventually they wind up in a landfill ... if we're lucky. At worst, as is the case with plastic, it winds up EVERYWHERE, including in our brains!

So what is the historical data for the volume of waste collected during the years Republic has collected it? And where has Republic put that waste?

'Landfill' of course is a euphemism for locations economically poorer than the places where the richer people generating the waste live.

At its extreme, recycling results in shipping items to poor countries' landfills and garbage mountains, in effect constituting another component of political economic imperialism.

Thus, the obvious way to reduce resource consumption by the rich: require them to dispose of their waste on their land!

The other surefire way for everyone to reduce resource consumption: have fewer children! Another topic VC doesn't dare consider.

VC has yet to acknowledge DG's way of living is NOT ecologically sustainable!

Thus, VC casting its waste disposal contract a landfill v recycling matter ignores the larger fundamental issue: The way of living in DG, as is true throughout the US, relies completely on consumption of energy and of non-recyclable materials, almost all of which come from outside its muni boundaries. That's true for even basics like food.

Thus, I found it tragically absurd the ECC and VC voiced concern over energy used by the waste collection trucks, in light of the minuscule proportion such consumption constitutes relative to the total energy consumed (directly and indirectly) by DG's way of living. Residents and VC are completely oblivious to that number, of course; and VC's big Sustainability Plan avoids touching that subject like the plague.

This proposed contract may seem innovative relative to DG, but given DG's and VC's cultural preference to stay 10 to 20 or more years behind the curve, the contract as proposed does virtually nothing to address the core ecologic problem and likely penalizes financially the DG residents who are least wasteful in their trash disposal practices.

Not until residents and VC have a proper understanding of ECOS and target reducing consumption of both renewable and non-renewable resources by changing DG's way of living will VC's discussion of a waste collection contract be other than a nugatory exercise vis-a-vis the purported goal of being a good steward.

For those wanting to believe that discussion is not all that urgent, I encourage you to check out the podcast by Nate Hagens entitled “Peak Oil, Ponzi Pyramids, and Planetary Boundaries”. You can find a link to it at either resilience dot org or Hagens’ website thegreatsimplication dot com.

Both those websites are great resources for anyone genuinely interested being good stewards. Perhaps someday members of VC will be in that group.

Agenda Section & Item: Comments of a General Nature

Commenter: David Rose

Comment: Comment on Charlie Kirk support at VC's Sep meeting

Conservative social influencer Charlie Kirk was killed just days before VC's last meeting in Sep.

MAGA Trump Party supporters came out in force to support the idea that VC should honor Kirk's death with a moment of silence.

Their political theater during public comment reminded residents that conservative Christians think Christianity is the only legit religion and theirs is the only legit version of Christianity.

MAGA comments at the VC meeting reflected the sentiment among many US conservatives (and many others to the left of MAGA) that US democratic capitalism is God's chosen political economic system. That understanding conveniently (from their perspective) forecloses all possibility of critical analysis of capitalism's shortcomings and a socio-political need for its transcendence.

The rush to deify Kirk was part of a nationwide Trump Party campaign to further stoke the right's outrage/grievance politics while trying to negate sinking public support for Trump Party's socially destructive policies.

WHO KILLED KIRK AND WHY?

John Helmer among others points out Kirk was used by the Trump Party to gain supporters, especially among young white men. H rejects K's supporters' claim K promoted dialogue, noting for example K used an old debater's trick of challenging

others to “prove me wrong” rather than striving to demo the legitimacy/superiority of his position “beyond reasonable doubt.”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=weLXbfpw9LI>

Helmer and other analysts on the left argue K was in fact a key practitioner of the far right’s grievance politics. Which is to say: those who believe K promoted dialogue understand the scope of acceptable dialogue to extend no farther than within the right itself. Helmer’s (and my) understanding of legit dialogue extends much further.

Coincidentally, during MAGA’s period of mourning Kirk, John Fugelsang released his book “Separation of Church and Hate”. It counters religious conservatives’ understandings of the Christian position on topics such as homosexuality, abortion, treatment of immigrants and the poor, etc. Topics around which white Christian nationalists have rallied in their quest for political power in the US.

The Trump Party is using its control of the reins of federal government to define “free speech” as that of which it approves. Support for Israel is a key topic within that effort.

Much as white Christians in the Old South were encouraged to accept slavery as part of God’s plan, white evangelical Christians today are encouraged to see Israel’s treatment of Palestinians in like fashion.

Max Blumenthal’s investigation, discussed on the podcast Judging Freedom

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GceyZzZzYlc>

suggests K’s success was due in no small part to the financial support he received from conservative billionaires — especially those promoting Zionism — for his contribution to maintaining support for American imperialism and Israel’s role in it.

The Trump Party/Zionist/MAGA line is that K was killed by the “radical left” because of his support for the Trump Party and Israel.

By contrast, however, B was among the first to report of K’s growing discomfort with his support for Israel.

According to B’s reporting, Kirk faced significant financial and social pressure from Zionist supporters NOT to withdraw his full-throated support for Israel’s genocidal

campaign and NOT to allow for somewhat-wider debate on the matter as part of his college speaking tour events.

<https://thegrayzone.com/2025/09/15/bill-ackman-israel-intervention-charlie-kirk/>

That meeting took place shortly before K was killed.

K resisted the pressure and turned down the money. Notably, K's friend and colleague Candace Owens subsequently revealed K had sent her text messageS about the consequences of his stance just days before he was killed.

<https://www.rt.com/news/626105-leaked-charlie-kirk-messages-authenticity/>

<https://sonar21.com/just-a-coincidence-charlie-kirk-vowed-to-leave-the-pro-israel-cause-48-hours-before-he-was-killed/>

[Might certain intelligence agencies have collected that message as part of their 24 by 7 surveillance of electronic communication of you and me?]

The FBI's ham-fisted handling of the assassination investigation, along with Netanyahu's "protesting too much" regarding K's love for Israel and Israel's non-involvement in K's death, reinforced initial skepticism about the official line.

<https://www.rt.com/news/625179-americans-question-more-about-kirk/>

Larry Johnson relayed analysis contradicting the official account of the assassination's perpetrator, location, and weapon. Most notable in that regard: the ballistics effect of the purported murder weapon and bullet does not match video evidence of what happened to Kirk.

<https://sonar21.com/chris-martenson-decimates-the-various-conspiracy-theories-about-charlie-kirks-murder/>

<https://sonar21.com/was-trumps-meeting-with-the-us-military-brass-today-a-cover-for-action-and-a-charlie-kirk-update/>

So what's really going on here?

THE WAR FOR HEARTS AND MINDS, AMONG OTHER THINGS

Since the Hamas Oct 07 attack, the relationship between Israel and the US — and between their respective leaders — has been the focus of significant discussion in the alternative media. The central questions: Do the two nations' interests diverge or converge? Who is leading whom?

Israel is clearly able to act with impunity, including in violation of international law, thanks to backstopping by the US (money, weapons, Big Tech infrastructure, votes in the UN, etc.).

The degree and uniqueness of US support argues Israel is totally dependent/does not exist without US backing. What other nation for example has a 501c(3) 'charity' — Friends of the IDF — devoted to collecting money for its defense forces? What other nation has killed Americans with no consequences (e.g., USS Liberty)?

As Joe Biden once acknowledged, if Israel didn't exist (as a vehicle for US action in the Middle East), we would have to invent it. Which is precisely what the British did ... decades ago. The three nations (US, Britain, Israel) have been entwined ever since.

Evangelical Christians want to believe the core connecting the three is religious, but most analysts assess the bond to be material — control of the Middle East's energy resources.

As we are witnessing, the imprimatur of religion gives true believers consent to engage in all kinds of moral depravity, on the grounds (they believe) they are God's instrument. "The Bible says we can/should destroy our enemies. Prove me wrong."

Many speculate DJT himself is fearful of being targeted by Zionists if he doesn't toe that line. Think JFK and Israel's Yitzhak Rabin.

US and Israel's record of assassinations, including Israel's recent attempts (with obvious US complicity) in Iran and Qatar, casts doubt about both nations' leaders' capacity to negotiate in good faith and undercuts their claims of moral leadership in the world ... among those (both domestic and foreign) who are NOT true believers.

However, recognizing the eschatological notions underpinning both nations' leaders' actions, world leaders (and anyone else paying attention) likely fear both Israel and the US are quite prepared to use their nuke weapons to hold onto power should either

Israeli or US leaders perceive their personal political fates becoming existentially dire. A fate such leaders would undoubtedly proclaim identical to that of the nation. And of God's plan.

The Trump Party's 'flood the zone' approach to policy making and implementation, sowing so much mayhem and chaos in so many places and ways both foreign and domestic, may be understood as a socio-political version of nuclear warfare. Opposition to its policies grows but unifying that opposition in timely fashion to become an effective counterforce is not an easy task.

Thus far, gun-toting, Bible-toting MAGA applauds Trump Party's government over-reach because it over-reaches in directions of which MAGA approves. DJT's rambling speeches to the UN and to his assembled military courtiers at Quantico are evidence of both US imperial decline and of MAGA's notion of what constitutes revitalization — "Male America Great Again" means "Winning not woke".

Which is to say: MAGA's attachment to DJT is cultic. Remember: he bragged he could shoot someone in the middle of NYC and his supporters would not abandon him. Which voting in 2016 seemed to prove ... when MAGA disregarded DJT's 'grab them by the private parts' boast and voted for him anyway. And did so again in 2024, in spite of his multiple felony and civil lawsuit convictions.

So why is the Trump Party so worried about releasing the Epstein files?

If MAGA is ok with DJT's broken-record lies and fantasies, histrionic soundbites, and rambling orations, his narcissism and egomania, and his total lack of knowledge about matters both foreign and domestic (and religious), why should the Epstein files be a problem?

Or has the Trump Party done focus groups and discovered MAGA in fact has a threshold of tolerable DJT depravity, which the Epstein files reveal DJT crossed during his days (years) of palling with Jeffrey? "Boys will be boys".

Shades of Bush43's Republicans covering up most of the worst of US military conduct in Iraq: the Trump Party will go so far (e.g., DJT's birthday card for Epstein's 50th birthday) but no farther. [What intelligence community folks call a "limited hangout." As in "limit political damage by divulging/admitting (hanging out to dry) as little damaging info as possible."]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Limited_hangout

Is public — especially MAGA — support for Israel in the US completely and irreversibly destroyed were the Epstein files also to expose, as many speculate, Zionists have been engaging in widespread political blackmail to enforce allegiance?

Was Charlie Kirk a canary of disillusionment in the coal mine of MAGA true believers?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pMZ202d8Auc>

With Kirk assassinated, Israeli leaders reportedly quickly turned to finding new young influencers to finance.

The takeover of US mainstream media and social media by Zionist oligarchs should also be understood as part of what Netanyahu calls the newest front in Israel's multi front war — the psychological war on US citizens.

The psychological war on Americans has in fact been going on for decades, and not just on behalf of Israel. It's been at root a war to defend capitalism and American imperialism as 'TINA' — 'there is no alternative' — justifying depravity as unavoidable, regrettable but necessary, part of God's plan therefore not only excusable but repeatable, a technique in the toolbox. Part of "the natural order of things."

CC URGES MORE DIALOGUE

CC responded to MAGA's performance at the Sep meeting by invoking deTocqueville to encourage a need for association and dialogue among DG residents.

In light of CC's conduct during the Longfellow fiasco and his and VC's ongoing refusal to engage regarding their inadequate understanding of ecological sustainability (ECOS), I found CC's statement hypocritical and lacking in credibility and relevance at this juncture in history.

For years now I have observed to VCs that our nation has a core political problem: With the US populace divided between people holding diametrically opposing — zero-sum v non-zero-sum — worldviews, they are manifestly incapable of reaching compromise —in the true meaning of the word as offering mutual equitable concessions — during

our time of imperial decline, rising indebtedness and inequality, and falling (real) economic growth.

Or as I describe it, at a time when some people are becoming aware the American way of living is not ecologically sustainable (ECOS) but few people are willing to do much/enough about it.

Because VC members refuse to acknowledge this reality, they continue to use an inadequate definition of sustainability and thus continue to support policies unable to deal with this reality.

The Trump Party's approach? Aggravate the divisions. Deport the immigrants, raise the tariffs, shrink the government, kill the messenger (of sound data collection, analysis, and dissemination of results), label and treat opponents (real or imagined) as enemies and/or terrorists to be harassed, threatened, imprisoned, and if need be killed. And say everything has never been better and that worrying about climate change and the like is a big green scam, a hoax.

Kirk's position? Last time I checked, the TPUSA website said nothing on the subject of climate change and the like. But strong support for the Trump Party and a belief in the greater importance of life in the hereafter suggests Bible-toting MAGA is not all that concerned about either ECOS ... or the quicker path to self-destruction, nuclear annihilation.

So I'll ask again the key questions I've asked VC before, inserting one new one:

Is ECOS compatible ...

with capitalism?

with democracy?

with relentless pursuit of econ growth?

(the new one) with white Christian nationalism?

If not, then what?

Not addressing these questions, as VC has been wont to do, does not make them go away.

The MAGA folks didn't stick around for the rest of the VC meeting, so they weren't there to show their disapproval when CC asserted that DG police are well-trained to deal with immigrants living and/or working in DG. And claimed said immigrants should see the police as their friend and protector.

Given the Trump Party's now-obvious efforts to sow discord and chaos inside the US in the far right's quest for unbounded power (DJT's "war against Democrats" and anyone who criticizes DJT or who the Trump Party deems to be advocating "anti-Americanism, anti-capitalism, anti-Christianity"), I found CC's announcement and the accompanying message on VC's website both odd and feeble. What was supposed to sound reassuring rang hollow to me given the Trump Party's aggressive tactics, including here in the Chicago area.

I was pleased to see the middle school social studies teacher speak out during the 07 Oct meeting's Public Comment, calling VC's attention to the harm the Trump Party is doing to our society and culture because of the effect it is having on children.

Where does the rest of DG stand?

What will it take to get DG residents marching in the streets to oppose the Trump Party's divisive and constitutionally abusive policies and practices?

What will it take ...

when the culture of DG is to remain 10 to 20 years behind on any matter evincing potential political controversy?

when the culture of VC has been to avoid involving itself in such matters on grounds they are beyond its scope of managerial responsibility?

when VC's current rules of operation explicitly discourage VC members from speaking out at VC meetings?

and when DG's political leaders are inclined to cooperate with other municipalities only if cooperation yields an acceptable degree of reduced operational costs?

Are VC's social worker and the Human Service Commission equipped to help deal with such matters?

Are DG's schools?

Are DG's religious leaders and organizations likely to be of any help? How? Thoughts and prayers? And then what?

Are any organizations in DG prepared to lead the resistance?

Or do residents and VC think life in DG can and will go on as usual, untouched by the mayhem and chaos Trumpers are fomenting? ("Thank god for that invisible wall of high property prices that protects us.")

If so, my guess is: we have another think coming.

Agenda Section & Item: Comments of a General Nature

Commenter: Selma Moberg

Comment: My comments are in regards to the removal of garbage stickers. I am a widow and already struggle with the cost of living in Downers Grove.

Removing our option of stickers would be a huge financial setback for not only myself but many seniors and others who have lived here for a very long time. I do not generate enough garbage to warrant paying a monthly fee.

My garbage man is incredibly kind and courteous. I would ask the VC please do not make us rent cans so that we would incur more cost in our lives and what seemingly all of you think is what's best for this village!

Agenda Section & Item: First Reading - RES 2025-10953 A. Resolution: Authorizing Execution of a Solid Waste Contract

Commenter: Mary N

Comment: I could not find the price for garbage stickers. I do not want a can. I have a 1 car garbage and do not have room for 2 cans. I am also single and do not collect enough garbage for a can on a weekly basis. I am lucky to have a Jewel bag of garbage on a weekly basis. I do a lot of recycling.

Agenda Section & Item: First Reading - RES 2025-10953 A. Resolution: Authorizing Execution of a Solid Waste Contract

Commenter: David Ungari

Comment: The "Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Services Contract" document states:

"If residents opt not to select a cart for organics/yard waste, they can dispose of yard waste in biodegradable yard waste bags or by properly bundling brush with no stickers required."

Question. It does not say how many biodegradable yard waste bags I can put out for pick up each week. My interpretation is there is no limit. Thus, can I can put out any number of biodegradable yard waste bags each week?

Agenda Section & Item: First Reading - RES 2025-10953 A. Resolution: Authorizing Execution of a Solid Waste Contract

Commenter: R. Frank

Comment: Maybe I missed it in the numerous documents. What about the free collection of live Xmas trees 2 weeks post Xmas as has been the practice for many years?

Agenda Section & Item: First Reading - RES 2025-10953 A. Resolution: Authorizing Execution of a Solid Waste Contract

Commenter: Chris Albert

Comment: I respect that a company is looking out for their shareholders interest and the sticker program is a cost element they would like to avoid.

From an environmental standpoint the sticker program encourages conservation and makes people think each time they dispose of items. Also forcing people to purchase a cart punished those who produce less trash.

Our actions here do have an impact and it is more than just money.

Agenda Section & Item: First Reading - RES 2025-10953 A. Resolution: Authorizing Execution of a Solid Waste Contract

Commenter: Martha

Comment: It's just my husband and I. We put out a garbage can maybe once every 3 weeks. It would be a large price hike if I had to buy a can and pay for it weekly. I do not want to do this.

Agenda Section & Item: Comments of a General Nature

Commenter: Susan S

Comment: I am very against changing the the garbage to a sticker system. I currently have a Recycle roll away. I use stickers when I have enough garbage to fill a regular can. I am single and do not generate enough garbage to utilize a flat rate can. with a monthly or bimonthly rate. Additionally, I am a Senior and cannot afford my garbage to increase along with all other Village Bills. The yard waste stickers DO NOT need to increase yearly. How would we discard larger items (ie mattresses) that we currently use a sticker. What about Yard Waste that we sticker?

I am against a charge for a rollaway to replace my sticker cans for the occasional use. I want to keep my Recycle rollaway at No charge.

The unincorporated homes on my block have Groot and they DO NOT pay for yard waste and they can throw away unlimited amounts of garbage WITHOUT stickers in their roll aways.

Agenda Section & Item: First Reading - RES 2025-10953 A. Resolution: Authorizing Execution of a Solid Waste Contract

Commenter: Liliann Stein

Comment: Keep Stickers. We put out 2-3 cans per month, so do not want to go to a monthly fee.

Agenda Section & Item: Comments of a General Nature

Commenter: Susan S

Comment: Regarding the New subdivision at Cumnor and 39th Street -- MI Homes

Removing Hundreds of healthy and mature trees was not Ecologically Conscientious. There are wetlands on this property that are not protected. The removal of all those trees also changed the established neighborhood. Any conscientious developer and town council knows that trees are to be saved at all cost when designing a new property. All Environmentalists would support and encourage saving trees for wetland and animal conservation.

I did not get a notice when the original hearing was held because I live a few feet past the invite boundary. Nonetheless, the decision to keep the neighborhood and property Ecologically secure.

I am aware that the property was originally dictated by the County and turned over to DG on Sept 18. This decision to cut down hundreds of trees is appalling and made in poor judgement.

I welcome a call to discuss this 319 594 6427 Susan