



rRemarks Data for May 19, 2026 Village Council Meeting

Agenda Section & Item: Comments of a General Nature

Commenter: Nicole Engler

Comment: I would like to thank Mayor Barnett for intending to proclaim Pride Month once again in June, despite surely some angry backlash from some fringe residents and outside organizations. Being a welcoming and inclusive community is what makes Downers Grove strong and has contributed to its positive growth in recent years. Showing support for the LGBTQ members of our community demonstrates its commitment to inclusivity, equality and focus on the mental health of its residents. Thank you for continuing this tradition and for your leadership in these challenging situations.

Agenda Section & Item: Active - RES 2026-11247 A. Resolution: In Support of Municipal Housing Authority and in Opposition to the Illinois BUILD Proposal

Commenter: David Rose

Comment: Sanctimonious NIMBYism?

VC's proposed resolution strikes me as a marvelous example of the well-to-do invoking "home rule" as a euphemism for keeping out those whom residents deem the undesirables.

Claims of DG's purported effort to address the housing shortage fails to indicate what contribution that effort will make toward IL's shortage. The latter of course is something VC and residents care little about.

In spite of IL having the rep of being a blue state, like most places around the country its efforts at addressing housing and other such matters of inadequacy and inequality leave much to be desired.

TIFF has failed miserably to help disadvantaged communities. Has any muni in IL NOT invoked TIFF?

The inequity and inequality of K12 school funding in IL persists, in spite of the so-called evidence-based reform legislation IL passed years ago now. Its objective was to give more state money to school districts not supported by property-rich towns' property taxes. Places like DG like the inequity; they believe it helps boost prop values and thereby prop taxes.

Which in turn helps keep out the undesirables.

VC can hardly claim it isn't willing to change the character of neighborhoods when it suits it — as VC and DG58 did in the Longfellow fiasco.

Does VC consider the full impact of its population and economic growth on the way of living in DG not being sustainable? Not that I can see.

Most notably, DG's recent growth would have been impossible were the city of Chicago not selling water (cheaply) to all the towns who (like DG) have tapped out their ground water.

Related issue: Chicago and IL flout the principle that towns outside the watershed of a Great Lake who want to draw water from the lake need to return the water to the lake. In IL, of course we ignore that principle and do what we damn well please, which means we send the water down to the Gulf of Mexico.

I would also remind that the DG signing on to Greenest Region Compact is example of a) universal failure to understand the nature of the problem of ecological sustainability and b) hesitation if not refusal by towns like DG to coordinate with others in the compact to address the basic reality that the American way of living is not ecologically sustainable.

That is, separate from the issue of a housing shortage in IL, the way of living in DG is already NOT ecologically sustainable at its present population and way of living.

Q: which is the bigger contributor to an unsustainable way of living in places like DG— more people or more rich people?

Agenda Section & Item: Comments of a General Nature

Commenter: David Rose

Comment: Comment on the DG library's special exhibit

The library's website description of its special exhibit "Americans and the Holocaust" states that the exhibit "hopes to challenge people to not only ask 'what would I have done?' but also, 'what will I do?' "

Sadly, as recent events demonstrate quite clearly, Americans have not only failed to prevent genocide, they have been party to it, notably supporting Israel's' genocide of Palestinians.

And to make matters worse, US authorities at various levels have tried to stifle words and deeds by those who protest the genocide.

Or do present-day Americans believe such behavior is reprehensible if and only if it's directed at Jews?

Related question: does US expansion across North America qualify as a genocide of the First Nations peoples living here when the Europeans arrived and spread?

Likewise, weren't the Nazis following examples of laws and behavior modeled by the US in its treatment of its non-white populations?

Notions which persist to this day in the US.

Agenda Section & Item: Comments of a General Nature

Commenter: Shannon Carey

Comment: I am a resident of Downers Grove and support the Mayor's proclamation establishing June 2026 as Pride Month in Downers Grove. I am a married, gay woman who appreciates the inclusivity of the city and the vast majority of the residents who also support gay people as allies in the fight for equal treatment in all aspects of life. The small vocal minority of homophobic haters do not speak for the wonderful and loving majority of our amazing town. Thank you for your support-my wife and I are proud to live in Downers Grove!