



rRemarks Data for August 18, 2026 Village Council Meeting

Agenda Section & Item: Active - ORD 2026-11284 D. Ordinance: Rezoning Certain Property Located at 1205 and 1219 Ogden Avenue (Dutch Bros Resubdivision)

Commenter: Mary Ann Badke

Comment: Ref Dutch Brothers Coffee being built at Saratoga & Ogden. VOTE NO. While I understand & applaud bringing in businesses for the tax revenue, I think it's irresponsible for a drive-thru coffee business at this location. Have you driven or walked through the intersection? On northbound Saratoga it's very tight & you want to encourage more cars? Especially on school days & when the township is busy. Add in that between Belmont & Fairview there are already at least 6-7 places to get coffee & other specialty drinks. That includes 3 within 1000 feet on the same side of the street. And don't forget the 2 in downtown DG. Dutch Brothers is bound to take customers from the existing businesses.

Agenda Section & Item: Active - ORD 2026-11283 C. Ordinance: Amending the Zoning Ordinance of the Village of Downers Grove, Illinois to Designate the Property at 1205 and 1219 Ogden Avenue as Planned Unit Development #76 (Dutch Bros Resubdivision)

Commenter: Susan Hayse

Comment: I'm not a resident of incorporated DG but I'm a local and I use the intersection of Saratoga and Ogden frequently to ride my bicycle to medical appointments at the hospital or lead the Downers Grove Bicycle Club across Ogden safely as we ride the trails in the north part of the county.

This is already a very busy intersection with the high school, the Jewel, various other fast food and drink businesses. I've seen what Dutch Bros. traffic is like. It's often blocking traffic on the road that leads into the drive-through lanes in other communities I've visited.

If this ordinance is passed, PLEASE consider another traffic light at another safe crossing location on Ogden. It's very difficult to walk or ride across at the major intersections and we rely solely on the Saratoga/Ogden light to provide a safe, lower-traffic crossing point.

Agenda Section & Item: Active - RES 2026-11285 B. Resolution: Approving a Plat of Subdivision for 1205 and 1219 Ogden Avenue (Dutch Bros Resubdivision)

Commenter: Martin Sterr

Comment: I would encourage you all to vote NO on the Dutch Brothers proposals. It is simply bad planning. There are numerous other locations on Ogden Avenue that would be suitable for the proposed use, adjacent to the Jr High and High School is not one of them.

Agenda Section & Item: Comments of a General Nature

Commenter: David Taylor

Comment: Please consider removal of the recently built brick wall (and DG signage) located on the northbound (eastern) side of Woodward Avenue approximately 200 feet south of Oxnard Drive. Somebody is going to get killed there, and I am not even joking. The brick wall obstructs visibility between northbound vehicles and vehicles attempting to enter Woodward Avenue from the eastern side of Oxnard Drive. Even worse, this intersection is a natural egress route for some students at Downers Grove South High School. High school students with driver licenses are new and inexperienced drivers. Woodward Avenue is a straight wide road that often has drivers exceeding the posted speed limit (whether intentional or not). A major 2 car collision occurred at the intersection and caused one of the cars to flip over. The accident occurred Sunday, August 2nd at approximately 7:00AM. EMS and police responded to the collision and extrication of the victims from the wreckage took almost an hour. Let's avoid deadly vehicle smash up by promptly removing the visibility obstructing newly built brick wall.

Agenda Section & Item: Active - RES 2026-11285 B. Resolution: Approving a Plat of Subdivision for 1205 and 1219 Ogden Avenue (Dutch Bros Resubdivision)

Commenter: Karen Klickman

Comment: I'm writing to express concerns about the location of the proposed Dutch Bros coffee drive-through. It would be great to have them in the village, but this is not a good choice of location. It will add too much traffic to Saratoga, which is already crowded during the morning rush.

Saratoga south of Grant is very narrow—it's barely wide enough for three lanes. I've lived on Saratoga, just north of Chicago, for 30 years, and I've seen my share of accidents and near-misses at that intersection. It's been much better since the left-turn signals were added, but it's still a very crowded intersection.

If Dutch Bros is approved, there will be a large number of cars turning left from westbound Ogden onto southbound Saratoga, and slowing down to turn right into Dutch Bros soon after. The southbound lane on Saratoga is narrow, and that left turn requires paying close attention. Adding the Dutch Bros traffic to the current Herrick and DG North traffic is asking for trouble—at best there will be backups, at worst more accidents.

There will also be many cars leaving Dutch Bros turning left onto Saratoga to get into the left-turn lane to go west on Ogden. That left-turn lane only holds four cars (maybe five if they're all compacts), and it's likely that it will be constantly full at busy times. It will be hard to turn left out of Dutch Bros, and it will be massively inconvenient for cars leaving after dropping off students.

I travel through that intersection fairly often, sometimes in a car, sometimes on a bicycle, and sometimes on foot. It's already crowded enough in the morning that I try to avoid it before 9am on school days—when I do have to go through it I prepare myself to be very careful and patient. If Dutch Bros opens it's going to be nearly unmanageable. At the planning commission meeting Dutch Bros spent a lot of time talking about their grand opening, and some time talking about the right-turn lanes onto and off of Ogden, but very little time on the long-term effects on Saratoga. I ask the council to vote against these resolutions in the interest of keeping the street safe and functional for local residents and for families of Herrick and DG North students.

Agenda Section & Item: Active - ORD 2026-11286 A. Ordinance: Vacating the Village Public Alley Lying South of 1205 and 1219 Ogden Avenue

Commenter: Christie Cantilena

Comment: I am writing to demand that the Village Council vote NO this Tuesday on the Alley Vacation (ORD 2026-11286) and the PUD and Special Use Permit for the proposed Dutch Bros development at 1205 and 1219 Ogden Avenue. Unfortunately, I am unable to attend this meeting due to personal obligations, which is why I am submitting my testimony in writing.

During the first reading, Mayor Bob Barnett explicitly stated that he hopes to work with developers to find a way to "diminish the pain" of the project for residents who live nearby. If this council genuinely wants to diminish our pain and protect the community, your most powerful and immediate action is to deny the alley vacation. Do not give away our public property. Denying the alley vacation forces the developer to operate strictly within the boundaries of their private parcels without permanently stripping away

vital infrastructure from the existing neighborhood. If this council is signaling support out of a fear of being sued by a corporate developer for denying a Special Use, you must look at this discretionary leverage. The village has absolutely zero legal obligation to give away or sell public infrastructure to a private entity.

The proposal to vacate the public alley lying south of the property is the most disruptive part of this project. This alley is not just empty asphalt; it is an active, vital, and necessary access route. I personally work in downtown Downers Grove and regularly utilize this specific alleyway to safely get to Saratoga Avenue. Because Linscott Avenue is a dead end in one direction and only goes one way, removing this alley cuts off our safe exit route. I would have to go down Saratoga to turn left onto Ogden to turn left onto Linscott to get home because there is no other access and that is ridiculous. By vacating this public asset, myself, the local business owners, and the surrounding residents are being completely blocked from accessing a residential road. Instead of being able to safely utilize the existing traffic light to navigate the area, we will be forced to pull directly out onto Ogden Avenue. Forcing drivers to make a dangerous left turn onto a chaotic, high-traffic arterial road like Ogden—or face a massive, gridlocked detour just to get around to Saratoga—is an unacceptable hazard that actively increases the "pain" inflicted on this neighborhood. Why is this council prioritizing hypothetical future developments over the actual families, business owners, and local workers who utilize this alley every single day? I live right here and see this area every single day. Council members have frequently pointed out how they live in certain areas of the village and see firsthand how things affect or don't affect where they live. You need to take the word of the residents who are right here experiencing it daily. This total disregard for the existing community extends directly to the safety of our children. All this council had to do was wait a mere 23 days to perform a real-time, accurate traffic study while BOTH Herrick Middle School and Downers Grove North High School were back in session. Instead, to push the developer's aggressive timeline and the village's own agenda, you refused. Pushing this through based on standard, artificial traffic models completely brushes aside the devastating intersection of peak morning coffee hours with morning school commutes, as well as the chaotic afternoon school dismissal traffic. To make matters worse, it is utterly ridiculous that a member of this council compared a high-velocity, double-lane coffee drive-thru to a traditional sit-down establishment like Steak 'n Shake. They are completely different business models with entirely different traffic patterns and turnover rates. A morning coffee rush creates a constant, rapid queue that will inevitably cause car stacking to overflow straight onto our residential roads, paralyzing the neighborhood during the exact hours our students are walking and driving through the area. Finally, I must hold this council accountable to its own precedents. A member of this council previously voted against the Andy's Frozen Custard proposal on Ogden Avenue due to traffic, safety, and regional impacts. Yet, for a project with an even higher turnover rate situated directly on a major school transit

route, that same seat is suddenly signaling support. If a custard shop was too disruptive for Ogden Avenue, this hazardous coffee drive-thru is disqualifying. The Planning and Zoning Commission did its job by voting 5-1 to deny this project. Even if you are hesitant to deny the entire proposal, you have the absolute right and duty to protect our infrastructure. Diminish the pain for residents by voting NO on the alley vacation this Tuesday.

Agenda Section & Item: Active - ORD 2026-11286 A. Ordinance: Vacating the Village Public Alley Lying South of 1205 and 1219 Ogden Avenue

Commenter: Franklin E

Comment: Went to the egress point for Dutch Bros. onto Ogden at 8:15. Took 38 seconds to turn right for 1 car without Herrick in session. As I sat waiting a car whipped in onto Linscott nearly hitting me. The D58 school plan had to account for an additional 250-350 cars for this year and avoid pushing traffic into the residential areas as much as feasible (not accounting for those cars failing to follow posted signage by stopping or standing on Saratoga) Dutch Bros appears not to account for the anticipated added volume or stack its plan on the D58 additional plan conditions from 2023 and 2024 but rather looks to data from 2023 and from December 2025 without considering the actual additional volume anticipated and required by the village for D58's study and plan for this year. It also doesn't account for the fact that there are also so many pedestrians that access Doerhoefer or Jewel by foot that cross at that Saratoga crossing in the mornings and the evenings and all weekend long. The village says we will get 70k in tax revenue. That will quickly be spent by police monitoring or calls for people not following the posted street sign rules. Dutch Bros says it will hire traffic control for grand opening but what about every promotion or giveaway they do? Dutch Bros has noted a 7.7% increase in customers site by site for last year in their corporate documents.

Stabilization does not mean less traffic. There is no doubt this will increase traffic and gridlock on Ogden. The village has touted bike paths and diversion of car congestion as a priority yet this will only bring car traffic to a spot on Ogden that is heavily used by pedestrians year round. In the summer children and teens cross back and forth going to Doerhoefer from the south and accessing Downtown Downers from the north. At least at Starbucks you can gather and sit outside and students can meet there. But even that causes backup onto Ogden and it isn't nearly as close to the light at Main when you turn right from there. Naperville denied Dutch Bros for a reason. We've seen unfortunate accidents happen to members of our community along Ogden Avenue. How does encouraging more car traffic consider the safety of our community? Dutch Bros would be great to have...somewhere else in DG.