



A Statement from the Downers Grove Public Library Foundation on Council Resolution 2024-10593

The Downers Grove Public Library Foundation invests in, and fosters awareness of, the library's cultural, educational, and social service programs that meet the community's evolving needs. Our mission is to support and strengthen the library as a cornerstone of the community as a place for everyone to discover, grow, play, and learn.

Based on this mission, the foundation is concerned about Council Resolution 2024-10593, which seeks to place a nonbinding referendum on the ballot next April asking "Shall the trustees of the Downers Grove Public Library be elected, rather than appointed?" The resolution is scheduled for a vote on December 3, 2024, and was introduced at the Council's November 19, 2024 meeting.

Like most Illinois libraries, DGPL is part of the Village as a result of government consolidation. This model has proven successful for both our award-winning library and village for more than 130 years. This proposed advisory referendum question about the library – which was not done in partnership with the Library Board of Trustees (read their full statement [here](#) to learn how an elected board would affect the way the library is currently structured and funded) – would require extensive changes, including creating an independent taxing body that would force additional costs onto taxpayers. Such a decision should be given the proper consideration our community deserves.

Libraries are essential and should be properly funded. DGPL is thriving under the existing partnership, and was even named among the top 10 public libraries in its budget class in the country. We encourage those who support the library to email the Village Council and/or attend the Dec. 3 meeting to voice their support in preserving DGPL as the high-quality, award-winning library whose service and staff we all know and love.