



May 8, 2023

Members of the Illinois General Assembly,

As budget negotiations continue and the scheduled legislative adjournment date of May 19 quickly approaches, cities, villages, towns, and counties across the state respectfully request your support and commitment to [Invest in Communities](#) by restoring the Local Government Distributive Fund (LGDF) this session.

The testimony of fifteen mayors and witness slips submitted by more than 200 communities for the Subject Matter Hearing on April 18 in the House Cities and Villages Committee highlighted the vital importance of restoring LGDF to all local governments. It is an essential resource to fund pensions, infrastructure, state mandates, and community services such as mental health, while easing the burden of property taxes and assisting home rule and non-home rule communities alike. The testimony of mayors at the Subject Matter Hearing [can be watched online here](#), and the materials provided to each Committee member are enclosed with this letter, including community fact sheets from 68 municipalities.

Recent meetings between mayors and the Governor, House and Senate leaders, and legislators have indicated that municipalities and lawmakers have an opportunity to work together to create a path to restoration. Investing in communities is a shared priority, for the ultimate benefit of our shared constituents. On behalf of our members and the citizens they serve, we urge you to work with your colleagues to ensure that LGDF is restored in the FY24 budget.

Our members recognize and appreciate the support of the 51 legislators signed on as co-sponsors of [HB 1116](#), [SB 180](#), [HB 2087](#), and [SB 2206](#). Thank you again for demonstrating your commitment to this critical issue and advocating for our communities. If there is additional information we can provide to supplement the information enclosed with this letter to aid your advocacy efforts with other legislators on this issue, please let us know. We urge all legislators that are not cosponsoring the legislation to restore LGDF to please consider doing so.

We ask you to fight for us and Invest in our Communities by restoring the Local Government Distributive Fund for the benefit of every county, municipality, and resident in the state. Please contact Vicky Smith, Executive Director of the Southwest Conference of Mayors, at (708)701-

2232 or smith@swmayors.com with any questions or if additional information is needed. Thank you for your attention to our request.

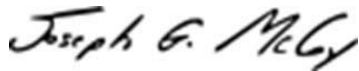
Sincerely,

Catherine M. Adduci



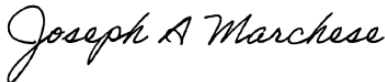
President, Illinois Municipal League
Village President, Village of River Forest

Joe McCoy



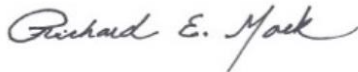
Executive Director, Illinois State Association of Counties

Joseph Marchese



President, DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference
Mayor, City of Darien

Richard E. Mack



President, McHenry County Council of Governments
President, Village of Ringwood

Dan Shapiro



President, Northwest Municipal Conference
Mayor, Village of Deerfield

Gerry Bennett



President, Southwest Conference of Mayors
Mayor, City of Palos Hills

Steven Streit



President, Will County Governmental League
Mayor, City of Lockport

Mark Kownick



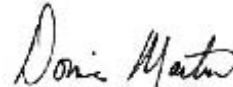
Chairman, Metropolitan Mayors Caucus
Mayor, Village of Cary

Greg Rusteberg



Chairman, Barrington Area Council of Governments
President, Village of Deer Park

Dominic Marturano



President, Lake County Municipal League
Mayor, Village of Lindenhurst

Stephan Pickett



President, Metro West Council of Government
President, Village of Sleepy Hollow

Robert Kolosh



President, South Suburban Mayors & Managers Association
President, Village of Thornton

Rich Pellegrino



Executive Director, West Central Municipal Conference