



The Civic Federation

177 North State Street, Suite 400, Chicago, IL 60601 • 312.201.9066 fax 312.201.9041 • www.civicfed.org

Board of Directors

Steven H. Abbey
David A. Abel
Catherine Adduci
Allan Ambrose*
Adrienne Archia*
Murray E. Ascher*
Alicia Mazur Berg
Abel E. Berland ✧
Brian Bernardoni
Roger Bickel
J.D. Bindenagel
Aileen Blake
Douglas H. Cameron
Whitney Carlisle
Timothy L. Christen
Robert J. Christie
Richard A. Ciccarone*
Jerry Cizek ✧
Nancy J. Clawson
Lew Collens
Elizabeth G. Coolidge
Omar Daghestani
Amy Anderson Day
Kevork Derderian ✧
Julian C. D'Esposito
Jon B. DeVries
Thomas H. Donohoe
Martin L. Eisenberg
Brian D. Fabes
Timothy J. Faerber
Timothy Fair
Stephen Friedman
Charles R. Gardner*
Carol W. Garnant ✧
Sarah Garvey*
Anthony Gedeller
Ronald J. Gidwitz
Peter G. Glick
Judith A. Gold*
Andrew F. Gottschalk*
Patrick Hagan*
Philip Hale
M. Hill Hammock
Albert C. Hanna
Patricia M. Holden
Bruce T. Hopple
Margaret Houlihan Smith
Lorna Brett Howard
James H. Kane
William Ketchum
James Kranjc*
Stephen Legatzke
Michael A. Lovett
William Mack*
Glenn Mazade
Susan McKeeever*
Eileen Mitchell*
Fred Montgomery*
Timothy E. Moran
Monica M. Mueller
Michael E. Murphy ✧
Bert Nuehring*
Michael F. O'Brien
Holly O'Connor
Gregory O'Leary
Robert Pasin
Dorice Pepin
Donovan Pepper
Bruce Rauner
Alexander I. Rorke
Scott Saef ✧
John Sciacotta
James E. Spiotto*
Caryn Stancik
Barbara Stewart ✧
Eugene S. Sunshine
Theodore M. Swain*
Kent A. Swanson
Courtney Thompson
Thomas Vanden Berk
Robert Vihon*
Sue E. Wallace*
John F. Ward ✧
Jeffrey D. Warner
Andrew Weil
Jerrold Wolf
Philip Zinn*

IMMEDIATE RELEASE – OCTOBER 26, 2010

For more information, contact Laurence Msall at 312-201-9044

Officers

Thomas McNulty, *Chairman*
A.G. Anglum, *Vice Chairman*
Mark Davis, *Vice Chairman*
Thomas Livingston, *Vice Chairman*
Joseph B. Starshak, *Treasurer*
Laurence J. Msall, *President*
Lise Valentine, *Vice President*

*Executive Committee
✧ Past Chairmen's Council

DUPAGE COUNTY BUDGET CUTS EXPENDITURES, MAINTAINS SERVICES *Civic Federation Supports FY2011 Budget, Urges More Complete Planning Process*

Citing DuPage County's plan to cut expenditures by 3.0% while pledging to maintain core services, the Civic Federation announced today that it supports the \$459.4 million proposed FY2011 budget. However, the Federation warned that the County will need to improve its financial planning process to prepare for an uncertain future.

Like many governments, DuPage County predicts continued declines in its economically sensitive revenues for FY2011, including income and sales tax proceeds. In response, the County proposes salary freezes and a 1.6% reduction in staff as well as a slight property tax increase of \$250,000 to balance its budget. "DuPage County leaders are prudently recommending a maintenance budget for FY2011 in the face of ongoing economic malaise," said Laurence Msall, president of the Civic Federation.

Unfortunately, the difficult times are not at an end. Even though the County is reducing headcount this year, it projects continuing increases in personnel costs, including 10% rises in health insurance and pension expenses. The Federation is also concerned that the County's overly optimistic sales tax revenue projections will present a challenge to the government's ability to live within its budget next year.

The Civic Federation therefore encourages DuPage County to fully implement the planning policies the Civic Federation has recommended for the past five years. These policies should include:

- A robust performance measurement system that would guide future difficult decisions on policy issues;
- A more complete Capital Improvement Plan that is transparent to residents; and
- A formal long-term financial plan that involves input from policymakers and stakeholders.

"DuPage County is doing many financial things right, such as maintaining adequate reserve funds," said Msall. "However, if the County is to continue to minimize the burden it places on taxpayers, it must develop long-term plans to counteract worrying financial trends."

The Civic Federation's full set of recommendations to improve the financial management practices of DuPage County government can be found at www.civicfed.org.

The Civic Federation is an independent, non-partisan government research organization founded in 1894. The Federation's membership includes business and professional leaders from a wide range of Chicago area corporations, professional service firms and institutions. For more information, please visit the Federation's website at www.civicfed.org.