

December 31, 2024



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**Joint Statement from Mayor Barnett and Library Board President Topic  
Regarding the January 2, 2025 Village Council and Library Board of  
Trustees Meeting**

On January 2, 2025, the Downers Grove Village Council and Downers Grove Library Board of Trustees will be holding a joint meeting at 7:30 PM at Herrick Middle School. The purpose of the joint meeting is to explore, as an alternative to the potential April 2025 referendum that is the subject of a resolution planned for a vote on the Council's January 7 agenda, a framework for discussions between the Council and LBOT, to explore potential alternative approaches for selecting LBOT trustees and the pros and cons of such alternatives including retaining the current selection process.

To facilitate the January 2 meeting and provide a starting point for discussions, we propose the creation of a joint subcommittee consisting of a subset of members of the Council and the LBOT, assisted by appropriate staff of each body to conduct this analysis over a defined time period.

On January 2, all members of the Council and LBOT will have the opportunity to discuss this potential framework, followed by public comment on the framework and any additional comments by Council and LBOT members.

Provided the result of this joint meeting is productive, we anticipate that the Council and LBOT would meet again in early February 2025 to finalize a plan for this subcommittee, eliminating the need for a referendum in April of 2025. The committee's work would begin thereafter and aim to be completed by approximately September 2025. Such a timeframe would preserve the opportunity for a March 2026 referendum question if deemed appropriate after the subcommittee's work is completed.

While comments at the January 2 meeting will not be restricted, in keeping with the spirit of the meeting and the cooperative and collaborative nature of the proposal, we request that comments focus on this potential framework.

If the Council proceeds with voting on the resolution regarding the potential April 2025 referendum on January 7, the public will have an opportunity to provide comments on that resolution at that time.