



rRemarks Data for January 12, 2021 Village Council Meeting

Agenda Section	Agenda Item	Comment	Commenter
Comments of a General Nature		We would like to present a brief proposal in support of Downers Grove Police Dept.	Regina Brent/Paul Scott/Unity Partnership, NFP, P.O. Box 5072, Naperville
Comments of a General Nature		We would like a future meeting with Commissioner Gray, Chief Gillette, Mrs. Blanchard regarding the issues with African-Americans residing in Downers Grove, IL. What can we do to bridge the gap and to rebuild trust between all parties.	Unity Partnership, Regina Brent, P.O. Box 5072, Naperville
<i>The following comment was received after 5:00p.m. and summarized at the Village Council meeting.</i>			
Comments of a General Nature		<p>My name is Anjali Alva and I have been a resident of Downers Grove for almost 6 years and am proud to be a part of this community, along with my husband and daughter.</p> <p>I am calling upon Village Council to provide public assurances as to how Downers Grove will ensure the integrity of our upcoming local municipal elections, so that our community can trust the certified results.</p> <p>I am concerned by the polarization of our country that literally resulted in an attack on our democracy as both Chambers of Congress were under siege in our nation's Capitol in an effort to disrupt our election process. I am not here to get into the reasons this happened – even though those are absolutely issues that our community needs to urgently address.</p> <p>There is clearly a part of the community that isn't just unhappy that their candidate did not win the Presidency, but that they reject the certified outcomes and are willing to resort to violence. It would be naive to deny that some of those people live here in our community.</p> <p>Every voter should feel confident that we have safe and secure elections as they mail in their ballot or walk into their local polling places, including right here in Village Hall. Yes, the election process itself in Downers Grove is controlled by the Illinois Board of Elections, and locally by the DuPage County Clerk's Office. The process and documentation in place for voting and the election process is not in question. My worst nightmare would be to see the terrible events of last week play out here within our local community – violently or otherwise – in an effort to undermine the legitimacy of our democracy. My fundamental questions are, what will you do to ensure that all members of our community recognize lawfully and legitimately elected officials for the Village in the upcoming elections? If there are challenges to the results, what is the Village prepared to do to prevent violence in the community? Given recent events, every elected official has a duty to work in service of strengthening our democratic institutions.</p> <p>I know that Downers Grove can be a model for others facing the same challenges. Each of you has an opportunity to lead – as a voice of reason to members of your party, to your neighbors, and the rest of our country – not just as individuals but collectively representing the Village, as a democratic institution. It is more important than ever to have a proactive, bipartisan effort working to build greater trust in these institutions.</p> <p>I invite other members of our community to add their support for the Village Council to address these challenges that will directly impact our upcoming local elections – by email, phone calls and additional public comments, in the defense of our democracy</p>	Anjali Alva, 7219 Ticonderoga Pl, Downers Grove