



Mayor Scott Wehrli & Naperville City Council
City of Naperville – Municipal Center
400 S. Eagle Street
Naperville, IL 60540

June 16, 2025

Dear Mayor Wehrli and Members of City Council,

We are writing in regard to Item **25-0714** on the June 17 City Council agenda item, concerning the "*First Reading of the Naperville Municipal Code to establish Municipal Grocery Taxes*" as a replacement for the 1% state grocery tax.

The board of the Downtown Naperville Alliance - comprised of downtown property owners, business owners, and designated members - discussed this topic at our recent meeting. Following the meeting, a strong majority of the board, via electronic vote, expressed support for enacting a local 1% grocery tax. Most felt this would serve as a straightforward continuation of the existing tax and maintain alignment with other suburban municipalities.

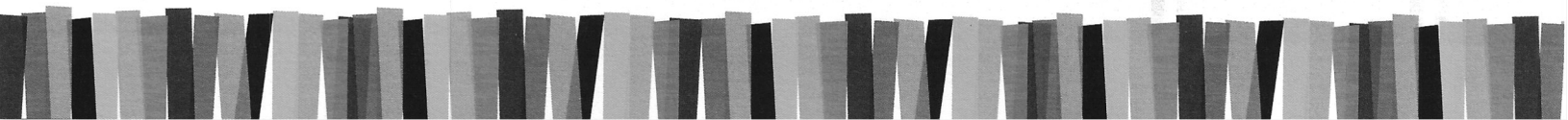
However, the group does **not** support increasing the Home Rules Sales tax as a means of offsetting the grocery tax shortfall. There was strong concern that such an increase would place an added burden on our retailers and restaurants, especially in today's challenging economic climate. Additionally, higher sales taxes could lead to increased credit card processing fees for these businesses – at a time when profit margins are already under significant pressure.

We appreciate your thoughtful consideration of this important matter and thank you for your continued leadership in maintaining Naperville as a safe, welcoming, and well-regulated community.

Sincerely,

Joseph Tota
DNA, Board Chairperson

Katie Wood
DNA, Executive Director



DOWNTOWN NAPERVILLE ALLIANCE – MANAGEMENT COUNCIL:

Elected Council Members:

- ◇ Joseph Tota – Chairperson – Tapville Social & downtown property owner
- ◇ Kris Hartner – Naperville Running Company & downtown property owner.
- ◇ Christopher Mason – Allegory
- ◇ Kim Coyne – Naperville Bank & Trust
- ◇ Pamela Bartlett – Pinot's Palette
- ◇ Lauren Collander – Lauren Collander Interiors
- ◇ AdreAnne Tesene – Two Bostons Pet Boutique
- ◇ Rick Hitchcock – Property Owner
- ◇ Marisa Hird – Naperville Running Company
- ◇ Terri Hayes – Artistic Creations Salon
- ◇ Pranav Amin – Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea
- ◇ Dave Della Terza – Naperville Public Library
- ◇ Alice Chin – Compass Real Estate
- ◇ Adam Black – Couture Vision
- ◇ Shannon Drexler – Amber Waves
- ◇ Mike Kristula – Treasures Naperville
- ◇ Barry Greenberg – Greenberg Law Firm
- ◇ Eric Sowa – Barber Haus

Designated Council Members:

- ◇ Ian Holzhauer - City Council Representative
- ◇ Kaylin Risvold – President Naperville Area Chamber of Commerce
- ◇ Monica Conners – President Naperville Development Partnership & Naperville Convention & Visitors Bureau
- ◇ Steve Rubin – Chairperson Downtown Advisory Commission & downtown property owner
- ◇ Jim Godo – North Central College

Appointed Council Members:

- ◇ Dave Laurinaitis – Downtown Supervisor – Department of Public Works
- ◇ Mike Bulthuis – CBD Supervisor – Department of Public Works
- ◇ Jen Loudon – Director of TED – City of Naperville
- ◇ Colton Parchem – Naperville Police Department

Downtown Naperville Alliance:

- ◇ Katie Wood – Executive Director