



January 15, 2019

Mayor and City Council  
City of Naperville  
400 S Eagle  
Naperville, IL 60540

Mayor Chirico and City Council Members,

The NACC is pleased to recognize that Naperville was recently ranked among the best 25 communities in the country for small businesses. This was the only community in Illinois to receive that honor despite the significant externalities that weigh on businesses in this state. Key to maintaining a pro-growth stance is reducing the tax burden faced by job creators, including additional raises to the Home Rule Sales Tax or the Food and Beverage Tax.

In addition to the honor mentioned above, Naperville is experiencing a restaurant "moment", with more restaurants opening, and thus more tax dollars generated, than any nearby competitor. Yet restaurant, brick and mortar retail, and local small business margins are tight and especially vulnerable to anti-competitive tax raises that eat into those razor thin numbers.

In addition, we hear the warnings of greater market volatility and an impending downturn increasing. We ask that in a desire to diversify our tax base and meet the three financial principles that Naperville does not further expose itself to these increasingly volatile revenue streams.

We understand the desire of many on this council to continue to drive down residential property taxes, however we disagree with framing the issue solely as residential property taxes versus businesses operating taxes. The relief valve could be the third financial principle which sets an admirable but ultimately arbitrary deadline for increasing Naperville's debt reserves.

For these reasons, we respectfully ask that the Naperville City Council make no further plans to raise the Home Rule Sales Tax or the Food and Beverage Tax in 2019.

Sincerely,

Nicki Anderson  
President & CEO  
NACC

Colin Dalough  
Director of Government Affairs  
NACC