

First of all, much thanks to you and Tony for following up on our local aspect of this issue.

On Tuesday July 13th, The Oak Brook Village Board did *unanimously* pass this resolution (copied attachment). I was given 5 minutes to address the Board at the beginning of their meeting prior to consideration and vote on this. In summary, I explained that while I understood and accepted the call and need for public pension reform, the need to address this issue in a fair and honest manner, in a spirit of respect and cooperation, and with *all* parties (voters/taxpayers included) be fully informed and educated on all aspects and implications of any such reform, both in its immediately and long term effects, was crucial. I then referred to the action that was taken back in 1993, which in essence "re-mortgaged" the Downstate Fire Pension Plan by changing the basis of contribution amount and extending the funding term to 40 years starting in 1993. I made the argument that this, in fact, was a significantly contributing factor in the overall public pension crisis we are all now facing. Lowering the contribution costs again today will only create a far more difficult challenge in the years to come, regardless of any "two-tiered" system changes (i.e., *funding* is the main issue). Finally, I suggested that the public be made aware of all the possible ramifications of reform, including a generally older aged police and fire protection force, how that might affect service, and the associated increase in injury and disability claims that could reasonably and logically be expected with such changes. I have viewed the information available on the IPPFA website (including the Power Points) and only wish I was given more time to present a case. It was apparent to me that my words fell on deaf ears. Going forth, I will first seek to get support and approval from my own local pension board to pursue making information available to the residents of Oak Brook through both open forums and targeted group presentations such as local subdivision and homeowners' groups. I will certainly employ the information provided on the IPPFA website and will try to keep you abreast of any further actions or developments in the Village of Oak Brook.

Again, many thanks to you and the IPPFA.

Regards, Mark Fleishman