

## The Beacon News

### Don't miss out on chance to influence big decisions

([http://www.suburbanchicagonews.com/beaconnews/news/opinions/153336.2\\_4\\_AU30\\_EDIT\\_S1.article](http://www.suburbanchicagonews.com/beaconnews/news/opinions/153336.2_4_AU30_EDIT_S1.article))

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In the next week, local residents will have a chance to weigh in on four issues that have huge implications for this area.

From particle physics to road construction, each opportunity to give input should be valued. Let your opinion be known while you still can.

- The West Aurora School District is making video from its recent community dialogue sessions available on local cable TV and online, continuing its extensive and admirable campaign to solicit public opinion on two possible referendums. Despite already holding dozens of forums and sending out thousands of surveys, Superintendent Jim Rydland wants to make sure everyone gets a chance to have a say.

ACTV-10 started airing Rydland's Nov. 16 vision presentation this week and will continue to show it at noon on Wednesdays and 2 p.m. on Mondays through the end of December. Following his presentation, the public-access channel will alternate the broadcast of four recent question-and-answer sessions.

FVTV-17 will air the series starting at 9 p.m. Sunday and 1 p.m. Monday. It will repeat the schedule weekly until all the programs are aired.

The videos also are available at [www.d129schools.com/dialogues.asp](http://www.d129schools.com/dialogues.asp).

"The people who didn't come to our forums can sit on their couch and watch them," said district spokesman Mike Chapin. "We've shared with the public what we know, and the public has told us, 'This is what you should keep, what you should change, what you should create and what you should get rid of.'"

On Monday, the School Board will consider all the feedback when it starts discussing whether to place referendum questions on the April ballot. So far, the district has received about 2,000 comments and suggestions.

The district is making a tremendous and laudable effort to solicit feedback, and -- like the opportunities outlined below -- the invitation to shape major decisions shouldn't be wasted. ...