

**PARK DISTRICT OF OAK PARK**  
**Regular Park Board Meeting**  
**Hedges Administrative Center**  
**218 Madison Street, Oak Park, Illinois 60302**  
**Thursday, February 19, 2026, 7:00pm**

**AGENDA**

- I. Call to Order/Roll Call**
- II. Approval of Agenda**
- III. Visitor/Public Comment**  
*Each person is limited to three minutes. The Board sets a limit of 30 minutes for public comments.*
- IV. Community Service Awards Presented**
- V. Consent Agenda**
  - A. Cash and Investment Summary\*\***
  - B. Warrants and Bills\*\***
  - C. Minutes\***
  - D. Approval of PDCC Application – Mekhala Merchant\***
  - E. Approval of Disposal Ordinance 2026-02-13\***
- VI. Staff Reports**
  - A. Executive Director's Report\***
  - B. Updates and Information\***
  - C. Revenue/Expense Status Reports\*\***
- VII. Old Business**
  - A. Administration and Finance Committee – Commissioner Wolmuth**
    - 1. 2026 PDOP Annual Report\*\*
    - 2. Intergovernmental Agreement Shared Facilities PDOP|OPPL at Dole Center Update
  - B. Parks and Planning Committee – Commissioner Worley-Hood**
    - 1. Field Park Renovation Project Legal Bid Contract Approval\*
    - 2. Field Park Project Owner Purchased Equipment\*
    - 3. Field Center Demolition Update
    - 4. Shared Mower Replacement PDOP|D97 Approval\*
    - 5. Professional Services Agreement Pleasant Home ADA Approval\*
  - C. Recreation and Facility Program Committee – Commissioner Lentz**
    - 1. Annual Historic Properties Operations Report\*
    - 2. Annual Recreation Report\*
- VIII. New Business**
- IX. Commissioner's Comments**
  - Commissioner Wollmuth
  - Commissioner Lentz
  - Commissioner Onayemi
  - Commissioner Worley-Hood
  - President Porreca
- X. Closed Session**
- XI. Continue Meeting to March 5, 2026**

\*Information attached. | \*\*Information to be provided at/prior to the meeting. | **Update/Recap** – verbal report to be provided at the meeting, no materials attached.



## AGENDA COMMENTS

Regular Park Board Meeting  
Thursday, February 19, 2026, 7:00pm

I. **Call to Order/Roll Call**

II. **Approval of Agenda** (Voice Vote)

No additions to the Agenda are anticipated at this time.

III. **Visitor/Public Comment**

IV. **Community Service Awards Presented**

V. **Consent Agenda** (Roll Call Vote) – Commissioner Wollmuth

*Commissioner Wollmuth: Motion of the Board for approval of the Consent Agenda which includes:*

- *the Cash and Investment Summary and Warrants and Bills for the month of January 2026;*
- *approval of the Minutes from the Committee of the Whole Meeting from January 8, 2026, and Regular Board Meeting from January 15, 2026;*
- *approval for the appointment of Mekhala Merchant as a member of the Park District Citizen Committee to serve a three-year term; and,*
- *approval of Disposal Ordinance 2026-02-13*

VI. **Staff Reports**

A. **Executive Director's Report\***

B. **Updates and Information\***

C. **Revenue/Expense Status Reports\***

VII. **Old Business**

A. **Administration and Finance Committee – Commissioner Wollmuth**

1. 2025 PDOP Annual Report\*\*
2. IGA Shared Facilities PDOP|OPPL at Dole Center Update

B. **Parks and Planning Committee – Commissioner Worley-Hood**

1. Approval of Field Park Improvements Contract\*

*Commissioner Worley-Hood: I move that the Board approve the contract with Hacienda Landscaping Inc., 17840 Grove Road, Minooka, IL for an amount not to exceed \$605,353.25 for the Field Park Renovations project base bid and authorize the Executive Director Jan Arnold permission to sign the contract.*

2. Approval of Field Park Project Owner Purchased Equipment\*

*Commissioner Worley-Hood: I move that the Board approve the purchase of Landscape Structures - Playground Equipment for \$135,760.00, Landscape Structures - Splash Pad Equipment \$48,111.00, Forever Lawn – Playground Grass Ultra \$164,896.07, and Landscape Forms \$41,800.00 for a total of \$390,567.07 through Sourcewell and authorize Executive Director Jan Arnold to execute the contracts.*

3. Field Center Demolition Update

4. Approval of Shared Mower Replacement PDOP | D97\*

*Commissioner Worley-Hood: I move that the Board approve the purchase of a zero-turn mower, Toro Ground Master 7200 Traction Unit for a purchase price of \$31,369.92 and the snow conversion kit for a purchase price \$26,260.98 for a combined total of \$57,630.90 and authorize Executive Director Arnold to sign the contract.*

5. Approval of Pleasant Home Professional Services Agreement ADA Restroom\*

*Commissioner Worley-Hood: I move that the Board approve the professional services contract with Daniel Rouse, from Oak Park, IL, in an amount not to exceed \$40,000 for the design and overseeing of the construction of the ADA restroom in Pleasant Home and authorize Executive Director Jan Arnold to sign a contract.*

**C. Recreation and Facility Program Committee – Commissioner Lentz**

1. Annual Historic Homes Report\*

2. Annual Recreation Report\*

**VIII. New Business**

**IV. Commissioner's Comments**

Commissioner Wollmuth

Commissioner Lentz

Commissioner Onayemi

Commissioner Worley-Hood

President Porreca

**X. Closed Session**

**XI. Continue Meeting to March 5, 2026**

**Park District of Oak Park  
Committee of the Whole Meeting  
John Hedges Administrative Center  
218 Madison Street, Oak Park, Illinois 60302**

**Thursday, January 8, 2026**

**Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

**I. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Commissioners Lentz, Onayemi, Worley-Hood, and President Porreca.

**Absent:** None

**Park District Staff Present:** Jan Arnold, Executive Director; Ann Marie Buczek, Director of Marketing & Community Engagement; Mitch Bowlin, Director of Business Operations; Paula Bickel, Director of Human Resources and Risk Management; Maureen McCarthy, Deputy Director of Recreation; Bill Hamilton, Superintendent of Properties & Planning; Roger Oney, Maintenance Supervisor Parks and Facilities; and Karen Gruszka, Executive Assistant.

**Others:**

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT –**

**III. ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

- A. 2025 Tax Teay Levy – Abatement Resolution for 2025 Levy Adjustment – Executive Director Arnold and Mitch Bowlin noted that, since 2022, Cook County has been automatically increasing tax levies to recapture losses from assessment appeals refunds. The District has the option to abate this levy increase and the Board agreed that the Park District has always abated the levy and not collecting additional taxes from residents. **This item will be brought before the Board on the regular agenda at the January Regular Board Meeting.**
- B. 2026 Full-Time Salary Bands – Executive Director Arnold and Paula Bickel, Director of Human Resources and Risk Management, noted that in the Board packets information on salary ranges for full-time staff were included which is looked at on an annual basis and has been increased for 2026 by 3%, all falling within the ranges presented to you. **This item will be brought before the Board on the consent agenda at the January Regular Board Meeting.**
- C. IPRA/IAPD Conference Update – Executive Director Arnold reminded the Board that the conference will be held January 29-31, with 25 staff members and five Board members attending. Senator Harmon, Eileen Lynch, and Representative Lilly have been invited to join our table at the annual awards luncheon during the conference where we will be receiving our Distinguished Accreditation Award. The Board briefly discussed the sessions our staff would be conducting



whom are: Mitch Bowlin, Ann Marie Buczek, and Susan Crane along with three staff that will be presenting at Wisconsin state conference. **No action is needed by the Board on this item.**

**IV. PARKS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE** – None

**V. RECREATION AND FACILITY PROGRAM COMMITTEE** – None

**VI. NEW BUSINESS** – None

**VII. CLOSED SESSION** – None

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:07pm, the Committee of the Whole meeting was adjourned. **The motion was passed with a voice vote of 4:0.**

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**Secretary**  
**Board of Park Commissioners**

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February 19, 2026  
**Date**

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**President**  
**Board of Park Commissioners**

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February 19, 2026  
**Date**



**Park District of Oak Park  
Regular Park Board Meeting  
John Hedges Administrative Center  
218 Madison Street  
Oak Park, Illinois 60302**

**Thursday, January 15, 2026**

**Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

**I. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Commissioners Lentz, Wick, Wollmuth, Worley-Hood, and President Porreca.

**Park District Staff Present:** Jan Arnold, Executive Director; Ann Marie Buczak, Director of Marketing and Community Engagement; Mitch Bowlin, Director of Business Operations; Bill Hamilton, Superintendent of Properties and Planning; Maureen McCarthy, Deputy Director of Recreation; Scott Sekulich, Registration and Customer Support Manager; Mike Baiardo, Superintendent of Special Facilities; Roger Oney, Parks and Facilities Supervisor; and Karen Gruszka, Executive Assistant.

**Others:** None.

**II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**The motion was passed by a roll call vote of 5:0**

**III. VISITOR/PUBLIC - None.**

**IV. CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Commissioner Wollmuth and seconded by Commissioner Worley-Hood to approve the Cash and Investment Summary and Warrants and Bills for the month of December 2025; approval of the Minutes from the Committee of the Whole Meeting (December 4, 2025), Regular Board Meeting (December 18, 2025); approval of Disposal Ordinance 2026-01-09; and the 2026 Full-Time Salary Bands. **The motion was passed by a roll call vote of 5:0.**

**V. STAFF REPORTS**

**A. Executive Director's Report** – In addition to the Executive Director's Report (which is included in the Board Packet), Executive Director Arnold informed the Board that Bill Hamilton and she would be meeting next Friday with a group of Futsal enthusiasts, looking to play at Barrie and they are willing to fundraise for a court which would be needed as there is currently no money set aside in the capital plan for it. We have engaged an architect for the ADA bathroom at Pleasant Home but are working closely with him on proposal and costs for the plan. A reminder that there are three referendum community sessions coming up that will take place at the CRC on January 22, February 4, and February 25. Staff believe with the cold weather this week, the Longfellow outdoor ice rink will be able to be brought back up for resident use.

**B. Updates and Information** – Written report included in the Board Packet.

**C. Revenue/Expense Status Reports** – No questions asked.

## **VI. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Parks and Planning Committee**

1. Field Center Park Playground Improvements Contract Approval Update – Executive Director Arnold informed the Board the bids are out and are expected to be returned January 28. Twenty-one bid packets were picked up and the walk through is next week. The Board will be updated at the February COW meeting of the bid results with approval coming to them at the February Regular Board meeting. The Board questioned if the presentation of the entire plan would be shown again and were informed that as it was just the contract for the work and they had already approved the plan, but she would send them the plan to refresh their visualization of the park. **No Board action is needed on this item.**
2. Cheney Mansion HVAC Geothermal Contract Approval Update – Executive Director Arnold informed the Board the bids for this project were also out and five bid packs had been picked up. She reminded them that the initial bids received were over budget and they had gone back and redesigned the system with alternates for the second and third floor. The bids will be opened on January 28. We are asking for this meeting to be continued to the February 5 so the work can be completed this year. **No Board action is needed on this item.**

### **B. Administration and Finance Committee**

1. 2025 Tax Year Levy – Abatement Resolution for 2025 Levy Adjustment – Commissioner Wollmuth: I move that the Board approve the 2025 Tax Levy Abatement Resolution 2026-01-01 for the 2025 Tax Year. Executive Director Arnold noted that, since 2022, Cook County has been automatically increasing tax levies to recapture losses from assessment appeals refunds. The District has the option to abate this levy increase. The 2026 budget did not account for this additional levy. Since the levy is not part of the current budget and does not affect future PTELL calculations, staff recommend abating the levy and not collecting additional taxes from residents. Motion was made by Commissioner Wollmuth and seconded by Commissioner Lentz to approve the 2025 Tax Levy Abatement Resolution 2026-01-01 for the 2025 Tax Year. **The motion was passed by a roll call vote of 5:0**
2. 2025 Program Scholarship and CDM Report – Scott Sekulich provided the Board with an overview of the 2025 Program Scholarship and CDM Report. Staff identified a significant increase in the usage of scholarships and CDM in 2025. A total of \$159,082 in scholarship funds was used for 4,368 activities and memberships, compared to \$140,450 in 2024. Additionally, an increase in CDM discounts was observed, with \$172,260 in 2025 compared to \$162,240 in 2024. In 2025, 518 households were approved for scholarships, up from 472 households in 2024. The growth in the financial assistance program was attributed to increased marketing efforts. Scott noted a new piece of information learned was that the knowledge of our scholarship programs was 50% learned from on line with the other 50% split between D97 and word of mouth, which really shows the importance of our relationship with D97. The CRC has also increased the adult use of the scholarship program. A discussion took place with the Board stating how pleased they are to see the increase in all ages taking advantage of the scholarships and the significant amount of financial aid provided to the community. They also questioned a possible report to show the monthly cost

users usage vs the scholarship users usage. The Board thanked Scott for the thoroughness of the report and went on to say that this report just shows the values of the Park District. Executive Director Arnold reminded the Board that she and Scott will be attending a meeting at the Township to give this report per the new IGA with them and noted the \$10,000 they donate to the Scholarship program.

#### **C. Recreation and Facility Program Committee – None**

#### **VII. NEW BUSINESS – None**

#### **VIII. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS**

**Commissioner Worley-Hood:** Commissioner Worley-Hood stated he is waiting on the FOPCON meeting as nothing has taking place yet with the holidays. He also said it has been good to watch the community wrap their head around the indoor pool concept when he speaks with them. He feels that a lot of people just don't trust government and see the individual groups on social media but once he has spoken with them they understand the reasoning.

**Commissioner Onayemi:** Commissioner Onayemi expressed that he had missed the IGOV meeting, but when he attended the Rotary Meeting he had received numerous compliments on Jan and the referendum points and information she shared at the Business and Civic Leaders meeting earlier on Wednesday. Many people who had attended that meeting came up to him thanking her and the park district for the information they received so, he wanted to extend the kudos to Executive Director Arnold.

**Commissioner Lentz:** Commissioner Lentz mentioned sustainable discussions, impacts of funding being taken away, and environmental education not only here but on a national level and how important it is to get the information out to the community. IGOV was mentioned as one way where the taxing bodies can give solid information. She also stated some of the stats that will be shared during the upcoming Community Meeting on the referendum and is looking forward to that knowledge being spread further.

**Commissioner Wollmuth:** Commissioner Wollmuth attended the Pleasant Home Meeting on Wednesday which had good discussion and they are slowly moving forward and working with the architect on what he has provided so far. He also mentioned that over the holidays he ran into friends that shared very positive compliments on not only the CRC but their experiences while there, especially with the staff that are so welcoming.

**President Porreca:** At our last regular meeting, we all voted to advance a pool referendum question to the voters of Oak Park. I have comments tonight about that pool referendum issue, that vote, and what it signifies and does not signify. I am providing a transcript of these remarks to staff so they can be placed in the minutes of this meeting verbatim so that anyone who is not present tonight can read my comments in full.

First, I want to state again for the record, as this board is well aware, that we as an agency are entirely neutral on the outcome of this referendum. We are not campaigning to pass or even hoping to pass this referendum. We are asking voters to make a binding decision about whether or not we should build an indoor pool replacing the outdoor pool at Ridgeland. The agency does not have an official stance for or against this project. It's being presented to our residents as the option for them to accept or reject.



Our goal now that we've approved a referendum is to inform residents of the facts behind the referendum decision, to encourage residents to be familiar with the answers in the FAQ, to use the tax calculator so that they understand the potential economic impact to their household, to make their own informed decision and then to vote their choice on March 17 or before, if voting early.

Emails we have received as well as online commentary indicate to me that our residents need us to communicate the facts clearly, objectively, and often ; this is a critical job for staff and for the board right now.

I communicated on December 22 and 23 with Mr. Skolnick, a reporter for the Wednesday Journal. I emailed him on December 22 to answer a question and then spoke with him for 26 minutes on December 23 to answer follow up questions; other than my confirmation that the pool issue was discussed at our June board retreat in an open meeting, none of my comments appeared in the article that was first published. In the article that was published this week, 3 weeks later, some of those were included. I want to tell you what I said to him.

In the December 23 conversation, I made it clear to this reporter that we are not trying to pass this referendum, but that we are going to the voters with the decision, which is our duty in this situation. When he said some people felt we were springing this on people at the last minute, I asked him to tell me how a press release, a website, an FAQ document, mailings, and email campaigns were springing it on people. I asked him how 90 days is not enough time for anyone to examine the information and make a decision and how is that "last minute" and his response to me was "That's a fair point."

As we all know, discussion of an indoor pool has come up regularly for over a decade. The concept of enclosing Ridgeland Common was proposed as early as 2017. Members of the community discussed the plan with Jan - in writing - back then. This is not a new idea.

As I have said to constituents this month, it's the professional staff's job to assess viable options and present the board with their recommendation. We directed Jan to do that, and she did it. I have the utmost confidence in the professionalism, expertise, and thoroughness of Jan's work. She is nationally renowned and her leadership is the force behind our Park District being a Gold Medal winner twice and a finalist 4 more times in the last decade. She is a dedicated public servant in this community and deserves nothing but respect for the quality and integrity of her work.

I've heard from some people that it is unacceptable to them to lose an outdoor pool to gain an indoor pool. That's fair and that's their choice. But that was the plan that was determined to be the best and most responsible option and the one that we would present to the voters and ask for the financing for.

I also discussed with the reporter that you can't go to referendum on a completely generic question without a concept that includes location, and general size and layout. There's no way to put a price tag for voters to vote on a completely generic idea. Preliminary work is required.

Whether or not this plan is accepted by a majority of the voters remains to be seen. We will, of course, abide by the decision of the voters.

As we have learned in all our board member training and continual board member development, every new project that gets proposed and built will - and should- receive scrutiny and commentary from



residents. No plan pleases everyone. Nevertheless, the duty of our elected office is to propose, approve, fund, and carry out projects for the benefit of our community.

Making the effort to run for office and spending the time and energy that it takes to be a well-informed and thoughtful board member is hard work and I appreciate each of you on this board for stepping up to that job. As I often say, being a leader means being willing to make a decision - even as you know that there is no decision that will please everyone. Sometimes people say mean and personal things about us as board members when they disagree with our decisions, but that comes with the role. We can and must accept that.

It would have been far easier for us to ignore the outcome of our community surveys and to defer any discussion of an indoor pool for future boards or staff to grapple with.

But this board believes that improving the quality of life for residents and responding to input about amenities that our residents would like to see in our community is our role. I thank each of my fellow commissioners for your commitment to our community and your willingness to lead.

I'm encouraged to see that people are seeking to learn more about the issues at stake in this referendum and I hope that we see many people at the upcoming meetings so that they can have all their questions answered, and that everyone casts a vote that aligns with their own values and needs on or before March 17.

Thank you again to Jan, her staff, and this board for your work on behalf of our community our neighbors.

**IX. CLOSED SESSION** – None

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:34pm, a motion was made by Commissioner Onayemi and seconded by Commissioner Lentz to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting. **The motion was passed by a voice vote of 5:0.**

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**Secretary**  
**Board of Park Commissioners**

February 19, 2026

**Date**

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**President**  
**Board of Park Commissioners**

February 19, 2026

**Date**

# Memo

**To:** Chris Wollmuth, Chair, Administration and Finance Committee  
Board of Park Commissioners

**From:** Jan Arnold, Executive Director

**Date:** January 30, 2026

**Re:** Park District Citizen Committee Application – Mekhala Merchant



## Statement

The Park District Citizen Committee (PDCC) was established in Fall 2003, to oversee the development of the Comprehensive Master Plan. Since the plan's completion, the responsibility of the PDCC has been to oversee the implementation of the Comprehensive Master Plan and the development and ongoing review of the park site plans, as well as to provide a valuable communication channel between the Park District and the citizens of Oak Park. The Mission and Guiding Principles of the Park District Citizen Committee state the committee should include 13 members.

## Discussion

There are currently only 11 members on the committee. Mekhala Merchant has expressed interest in joining the Park District Citizen Committee. Mekhala has been involved with OPRF South Asian Group and the Holi Event organized by the Village of Oak Park. Mekhala has an interest in helping to ensure that our parks meet the needs of families and is looking forward to soliciting feedback and volunteering when needed. Mekhala attended the last PDCC meeting and expressed desire to join the committee.

## Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Park Board approve the appointment of Mekhala Merchant as a member of the Park District Citizen Committee to serve a three-year term.

*Attachment: PDCC Application*



PARK DISTRICT  
of OAK PARK

# PARK DISTRICT OF OAK PARK

218 Madison Street • Oak Park, IL 60302 • (708) 725-2000 (info) • (708) 725-2301 (fax) • www.pdop.org

*In partnership with the community, we enrich lives by providing meaningful experiences through programs, parks and facilities.*

## Committee Interest Application

Thank you for your willingness to serve your community on one of our volunteer citizen's committees. The following information will assist the Park District in determining the best position for you to utilize your experience, abilities and interests.

**INSTRUCTIONS: Please complete and submit this application for review to the location listed above.**

**Committee you are interested in joining:** (please check all that apply)

Park District Citizen Committee (PDCC)  Environmental Sustainability Committee (ESC)  
 Active Adult Advisory Committee (SCCOPRF/AAAC)

### APPLICANT INFORMATION Please note, Oak Park residency is required to apply.

Applicant Name MEKHALA MERCHANT

Address 720 N Grove Ave

City Oak Park State IL Zip 60302

Email Address Mekhala.Samsi@gmail.com

Daytime Phone 281-728-3101 Evening Phone (Same)

Age of Applicant:  Up to 29 years  30-54 years  55 years & up

What park and public space are closest to your residence? Field Park / Mann Elementary / Lindberg Park

### AVAILABILITY

Please indicate your availability on a regular basis:

**CHOOSE ONE:**  Daytime  Evening  Anytime (as needed)

**CHOOSE ONE:**  Weekly  Semi-monthly  Monthly  Intermittently

### EDUCATIONAL DATA

Degrees (if any) Ph.D. in Psychology

Other Educational Experience Associate Professor

### COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OR OTHER INTERESTS

Please list any activities you are currently involved with: OPRF South Asian Group, Holi Event

organized by Village of Oak Park, Oak Park

Please indicate how you can best be of service to the Park District of Oak Park: By helping ensure that our parks meet the needs of families, solicit community feedback, volunteer when needed

Applicant's Signature: Mekhala Merchant Date 12/2/2025

*You are welcome to attach additional information in a resume or write on the back of this form.*

PARK DISTRICT OF OAK PARK

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-02-13

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING DISPOSAL OF PERSONAL PROPERTY  
OWNED BY THE PARK DISTRICT OF OAK PARK

WHEREAS, in the opinion of the Park District of Oak Park, it is no longer necessary, useful, or in the best interests of the Park District to retain ownership of the personal property described in this Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined by the President and the Board of Commissioners of the Park District of Oak Park to dispose of said personal property in the manner described in this Ordinance;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the President and Board of Commissioners of the Park District of Oak Park, Cook County and State of Illinois, as follows:

Section 1. Recitals. The foregoing recitals are hereby incorporated into this Ordinance as findings of the President and Board of Commissioners.

Section 2. Disposal of Surplus Property. The President and Board of Commissioners find that the personal property described in Exhibit A attached to this Ordinance and by this reference incorporated into this Ordinance (the "Surplus Property") is no longer necessary or useful to the Park District, and thus the Executive Director of the Park District is hereby authorized to direct the sale or disposal of the Surplus Property in the manner most appropriate to the Park District. The Surplus Property shall be sold or disposed of in "as is" condition.

Section 3. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval, and publication in pamphlet form in the manner provided by law.

PASSED this 19th day of February 2026

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

APPROVED this 19th day of February 2026.

By:

Kassie Porreca, Park Board President

ATTEST:

Sandy Lentz, Secretary

(See Other Side)

DESCRIPTION OF SURPLUS PROPERTY

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- Gymnastic Mats (foam wrapped vinyl)

**Executive Director's Report**

***From the desk of Jan Arnold***

**Friday, February 26, 2026**

1. **Upcoming Board Meetings** – The Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 19, 2025, at **7:00pm**. The Committee of the Whole Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 5, 2026, at **7:00pm**. All meetings will take place at the John Hedges Administrative Center. At the end of my report, there are some events you may consider stopping by.
2. **Indoor Pool Referendum Community Meeting** – The Park District held the second of three information meetings on February 4, 2026, from 7-8:00pm at the Community Recreation Center. There were approximately 50 in attendance. The final meeting will take place on February 25 at the Community Recreation Center. Please visit the PDOP website for all information on the indoor pool referendum. The residents will have the opportunity to vote on March 17.
3. **IAPD Joint Legislative Committee** – WSSRA and the Park District of Franklin Park are hosting the 2026 Legislative Luncheon on Friday, February 27, 2026, at 11:30 at the Park District of Franklin Park's Center. This luncheon will bring together local legislators and park commissioners to discuss issues that will be debated throughout this next legislative session and is very beneficial in identifying concerns.
4. **Outdoor Ice Rinks** – The Longfellow ice rink opened on December 8. Warmer December temperatures in the middle of the month led to the closing of the rink. With some colder temperatures experienced in January, the ice arena was opened on Sunday, January 19 and has continued to get good use. Staff have maintained the ice, periodically removing snow and adding new layers to the surface with a new sheet of ice laid in preparation for Winterfest. Skates were brought over from Ridgeland Common for participants use. Staff began to disassemble the rink on February 10 to make sure the rink is fully melted prior to the start of the playground construction project.
5. **Field Center Project** – The Field Center Project Schedule has been updated with delays due to numerous circumstances, including MWRD Permit approval delays, poor weather conditions, and extreme cold. The schedule has been pushed out to July 24. The Rammed earth forms continue to be installed and are anticipated to be complete by the end of February. The construction of the walls will start mid-March and conclude in April. The slab will be poured in mid-to-late March. Roofing will begin as soon as the walls are completed. Jan will work with the Rammed Earth contractor, to schedule a community demonstration of how Rammed Earth walls are made. Jan will also work with Patrick Brown and GC Kevin Leibe to set up a tour of the facility for Architects later in the schedule. Mock-ups of a water proofing coating, a water proofing/anti-graffiti coating and a waterproofing coating followed by an anti-graffiti coating will be created by the Rammed Earth contractor on existing Rammed Earth mock-ups, located at the concrete contractor's shop. The team needs to determine which method has the least impact on the appearance of the walls. There is a mandatory pre-bid walk through for the demolition of the existing Field Center on February 12. The bid opening for the playground/spray pad installation was held on February 4. The apparent responsive, responsible low bidder was Hacienda Landscaping Inc. A recommendation to approve a contract with Hacienda for the project will be presented to the park Board at the Regular Board

meeting On February 19. Staff are planning to bring a demolition contract recommendation to the Board on a Continued Board Meeting on March 5.

6. **Andersen Park Improvements** – The Andersen Project is substantially complete. The facility was opened to the public on November 15. A few remaining items need to be completed, including existing fence repairs, and the punch list completed. The contractor has some final inspections with the Village of Oak Park to complete. The Andersen Master Plan Meeting occurred on December 3, at 7pm-8:30pm at Andersen. There were approximately 15 in attendance. The updated Master Plan will be brought to the Board in February. Hacienda is working to close out some inspection details with the Village of Oak Park. The project passed all remaining Village inspections, and the project is largely closed out. Hacienda is required by contract to check plantings in the spring and replace any that have not survived.
7. **Cheney Mansion Geothermal Well Project** – The Cheney Mansion Geothermal HVAC installation project went out to bid on Demand Star on September 18. The base bid included installation of all HVAC equipment necessary to heat and cool the first and third floors. An Alternate was included to install all equipment necessary to heat and cool the second floor. All Base Bids were significantly over the total project budget and were rejected. Mark Nussbaum worked on a new system with a equipment design similar to the one in Pleasant Home with the Base Bid including the first-floor system, Alternate 1 the second-floor system, and Alternate 2 for the third-floor system. Including the Alternates will improve the chances of getting at least the first-floor work completed. Future phases can then be planned for the other floors. The re-bid of the Cheney mansion Project went out to the public on December 24 and contractors who submitted bids for the original project have been notified. On February 5 at the Continued Regular Board meeting the Board approved a contract with AMS Industries for the base bid and Alternate 1. Staff prepared the contract for the Cheney Geothermal HVAC Project between the Park District and AMS Industries. A meeting for contract signing to be set up.
8. **Longfellow Park Improvement** – The PDOP received a \$600,000 OSLAD for park improvements to include a new playground, splash pad, pickleball courts, etc. The project bid was scheduled to open on October 10 with the bid opening held on October 30, with five total bids received. Base bids ranged from \$1,348,202 to \$1,812,804. The apparent low bid was provided by Hacienda Landscaping, Inc. which the Board approved at the Regular Board Meeting on November 20. Staff presented a recommendation for owner purchased equipment at the December Board Meetings. The playground equipment, spray pad equipment, Portland Loo and Forever Lawn impact turf, have been ordered by the Park District as owner purchased equipment. The Pre-construction meeting was held on February 5. Park District, PRI, the General Contractor, Hacienda Landscaping, Forever Lawn and Musco Lighting were in attendance. Project start date has been confirmed for March 2. A fence will go up immediately. “Kids Around the World” will be removing the playground for installation in a location where it is greatly needed.
9. **CRC Solar Project** – The Park District has entered into a contract agreement with Windfree Solar following the Park Board's approval at the Continued Board Meeting on September 4. The Park District has also entered into an agreement with Energy Tax Savers to apply for a federal grant that could be valued at 30 to 50 percent of the total project cost if certain US equipment sourcing percentages are met. Windfree Solar representatives met staff on site on November to determine a few options to lay out the canopies and determine equipment locations inside the facility. As of January 1, Windfree Solar is in the process of designing the canopies and the solar system for a May

and June installation. The Design Process is on-going. Windfree Solar will be in communication with the Village for Permit Approval when the design is complete. Installation for the equipment remains on target.

10. **Rehm Pool Project** – The Park District hired Perkins & Will (PW) to complete a Rehm Pool Master plan in 2023. We received the IDPH permit on November 7 and notified the project team as soon as we received it. The project is now substantially complete. Jan Arnold is working with all parties, Perkins & Will, Counselman Hunsacker, and IDPH to get an approval on the drain boxes as soon as possible so that there are no impediments to opening the pool this summer.
11. **Holiday Lights** – The PDOP holiday lights were set up at Scoville Park, Taylor Park, Cheney Mansion, Pleasant Home, RCRC, and the GRC. Holiday Lights will be removed from all sites on March 1.
12. **WinterFest 2026** – WinterFest took place at Longfellow Park on Saturday, February 7, from 11am - 1pm. Roughly 75 people attended with the Abominable Snowman as the star of event. Crafts, igloo building, skating, and a snowman scavenger hunt were enjoyed by all.

**Calendar of Events**

Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays of each month – Drop-in Nature Center Hour, AGEEC, 12pm

**Feb. 19, 2026 - Regular Park Board Meeting, Hedges Administrative Center, 7:00pm**

Feb. 21, 2026 - Lunar New Year, Oak Park Conservatory, Time Slot Registration Required

**Feb. 25, 2026 – PDOP Referendum Community Meeting, CRC, 7-8pm**

Please visit the PDOP Website for online activities and programming.



FEBRUARY 2026

# Updates & Information

## **BUSINESS OPERATIONS**

### **FINANCE**

#### ***Mitch Bowlin, Director of Business Operations***

- Preliminary fieldwork for the 2025 audit took place on January 21, 2026. Final fieldwork is scheduled for February 23–27, with the final presentation to the Board on June 4, 2026.
- The Statement of Economic Interest (SEI) filers list has been submitted to Cook County. SEI statements will be emailed to PDOP Board members and staff in early March. Please complete the statements as soon as possible, as they are due to the County prior to May.
- As of February 10, 2026, prior year tax collections are just under 90% of the extended levy. The District is still waiting on approximately \$1.2 million.
- All 2025 W-2s, 1099s, and related forms have been provided to staff and vendors and submitted to the IRS.

## **MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS**

#### ***Ann Marie Buczek, Director of Marketing & Community Engagement***

- Finalized Spring/Summer Program Guide which will be delivered to residents February 27 - March 2.
- Developed PDOP's Annual Report, which will be included in the Spring/Summer Program Guide.
- Three staff members attended the 2026 IPRA conference bringing back a variety of ideas to enhance marketing and communication efforts.
- Continued voter education campaign on the indoor pool referendum through social media and enews communication, website updates, and community information sessions.
- Provided marketing support for summer camp registration, Oak Park Conservatory's Valentine's Market, and WinterFest.
- Began work with new website developer to address ADA compliance for PDOP's website.
- Sold \$8,900 in advertising and sponsorships, including Program Guide ads, ice arena dasher boards, and a Movies in the Park sponsor.

## **GUEST SERVICES**

#### ***Scott Sekulich, Registration and Customer Support Manager***

- 280 financial assistance applications have been completed for 2026. Total scholarships used in the month of January were \$10,362.41.
- 25 dog park memberships were purchased. All but two were renewals.

## HUMAN RESOURCES

### ***Paula Bickel, Director of Human Resources & Risk Management***

- Actively recruiting for a full-time Program Supervisor – Aquatics and General Maintenance Worker.
- Promoted Abby Sacks as the new Risk Manager.
- Trained new and rehired staff members in New Hire Orientation, Customer Service, First Aid, and CPR/AED.
- Conducted full-time Benefit Orientation Sessions with newly hired full-time staff.
- Attended IPRA Conference.
- Conducted an instructor train-the-trainer to certify staff as Ellis First Aid, CPR/AED instructors.
- HR Staff attended All Staff meeting, Manager's meeting, Wellness Committee meeting, DEI Committee meeting, Safety Action Committee, and Career Pathways Committee meeting.
- Held best practice quarterly meeting with Paycom, Finance, and HR.
- Sent all staff the annual review task of the safety and personnel policy manuals via Paycom.

## **PARKS AND PROPERTIES**

### MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS

#### ***Bill Hamilton, Superintendent of Properties & Planning***

- The Large Activity Room at RCRC has been painted by staff.
- Quotes have been received to refinish the dance floors at RCRC, Stevenson, and Dole.
- Relays have been installed for refrigeration compressor call out. We still need ADS to complete the final connection. When there is an alarm, staff will get an alarm message by text message alerting them to an equipment problem as early as possible.
- The Longfellow outdoor ice rink was open from January 18 until February 9. After a successful outdoor ice-skating season, the rink will now be taken down in time for playground construction to begin on March 2.
- Staff are currently in process of inspecting the tennis & pickleball courts and nets while also repairing the windscreens in anticipation of the warmer weather and increased amount of residents on the courts.
- Items previously placed on the disposal list have recently been sold on the auction site. These items included gas snow blowers and snow equipment, outdoor movie screen, refrigerator & freezer, and a water cart that generated over \$5,000 in returned revenue.
- A new door has been installed at the Conservatory, replacing the patron entrance door from the Rubenstein garden that was damaged by wood rot.
- A new heat exchanger ordered for GRC Roof Top Unit (RTU)-1. The replacement is set for February 22.
- Facility assets have been added to the new Computer Maintenance Management Software System (CMMS), Maintain X. Rollout for use by staff is set for the beginning of March.
- Tuckpointing at the Conservatory is scheduled to take place in March for the south side of the facility.
- PACT groups have received the initial draft of the Spring/Summer 2026 schedule.
- PACT permit review meeting has been scheduled on February 12 at 6pm.

- Staff have met to discuss seasonal pool set-up and pool opening dates. Schedules will be created for all critical facility tasks, contractor projects and equipment and supply purchases.
- Staff have begun the hiring process for seasonal positions for the pools, turf crew, grounds crew, and conservatory staff.
- Research has begun on vehicle purchases for 2026 that are included in capital. Arrangements have been made for the eventual lawn mower purchase that will be shared with D97 as part of our IGA to maintain athletic sites at the schools.
- A mandatory pre-bid walk through was set for potential bidders of the Field Center demolition project. Bids are due on February 25.
- A Longfellow pre-construction meeting was held with PRI, Park District staff, Hacienda and sub-contractors, on February 4 to discuss project specifics, and dates. The project will begin with the installation of construction fencing on March 2.

## HISTORIC PROPERTIES

### ***Susan Crane, Historical Properties & Special Events Manager***

#### **Cheney Mansion**

- January is traditionally quieter for private events and that was the case this month. We did host two private events in the month and two programs. Coming off the holidays, patrons are a bit slower to commit to many programs until after mid-month. That said, our annual Frozen Castle party for families was a near sell-out, and Anna and Elsa were well-received.
- Our Dance Classes began again on January 19 and once again both timeslots are near capacity.
- The month was very busy with appointments to tour for private events. Twenty-four appointments for events were conducted with 33% of those visiting booking. We still are booking available dates in 2026 and for weddings and we are well into filling up Saturdays for 2027.

#### **Pleasant Home**

- January was a bit more active at Pleasant Home. We also hosted two small private events, including our first wedding of the year. We did plan more programming at Pleasant Home for January with a focus on adult programming, and all of them ran. Our indoor Yoga and Brunch started and was full; a first-time Sip N Paint class also was full, and we will be adding a Cheney version for early summer; a healing properties of Tea event also ran with good numbers, and finally, we ended the month with a wine tasting partnering with Anfora Wine Merchants and were close to our capacity of 50 people. Each of these was promoted in our bi-weekly eblast and on social, which helped them to achieve enough participation to run.
- Appointments were also busy at Pleasant Home coming out of the holidays and engagement season with 15 appointments throughout the month—some visiting both homes for consideration. Of those tours, we had 20% book. We are booking 2026 dates and have just a handful of Saturdays still available and a few dates booked for 2027.

## OAK PARK CONSERVATORY

### ***Patti Staley, Director of Horticulture and Conservatory Operations***

- The Conservatory welcomed 1,820 visitors in January.

- During December, there were three rentals, two photo shoots, and three children's birthday parties.
- Storytime had 12 participants.
- Toddler exploration time had 41 participants.
- Winter Sowing Lecture had 94 participants.
- Plant Help Desk had six inquiries in January.
- Staff completed small dormant winter pruning at Austin, Longfellow, Cheney Mansion, Stevenson and Wenonah parks. Large tree pruning will take place in early February at those same parks as part of the yearly dormant winter pruning rotation.

## **RECREATION**

### **RIDGELAND COMMON RECREATION COMPLEX**

***Mike Baiardo, Superintendent of Special Facilities***

#### **Rink News:**

- Hired Nikko Lorusso as the Facility Operations Supervisor.

#### **Rink Special Events:**

- My Doll and Me Skate event had 226 participants attend, Doll of the Year was raffled off.
- Our next Teen event is scheduled for 2/14: Teen Night at the Rink - Valentine's Day Chill.

#### **Hockey:**

- The Ice Bears 8U Navy, 8U White, and 12U Navy teams all received first place in tournaments for the month of January.
- 90 kids have already registered for the upcoming Ice Bears Spring 2026 season with 26 of them being new players coming from Hockey Academy or Ice Bears Academy.
- The Ice Bears Jr. Coaching Program expanded and added two additional coaches with several interested in joining for the spring 2026 season.
- The Women's & Girl's Beginner class has three new participants for the winter session on Sunday mornings.

#### **Lifeguard Hiring:**

- 105 applicants thus far.
- 43 applicants offered jobs.
- 14 invited to the next swim test.

#### **Swim Instructor Hiring:**

- Lead Swim Instructors: four hired.
- Swim Instructors Offered: 26.

### **Aquatics Winter 2026 Registration Numbers**

- StarTots: 17.
- Swim School 3-5: 63.
- Swim School 6-13: 65.
- Stroke School: 14.
- Swim Team Prep: 4.
- Adult Programs: 22.
- Total Participants Served: 185.

**Figure Skating:**

- Our winter session of Learn to Skate Academy began and has a total of 524 registrations.
- Ice Show theme has been selected and will be called Practice to Podium and will be Olympic themed! Registration closed this past Saturday and has 144 registrations.

**GYMNASICS & RECREATION CENTER****Keith Kerrigan, Program & Operations Manager**

- Our girls' competitive gymnastics team attended the St. Jude meet in Rosemont January 10-11.
- The winter class session began January 5.
- On January 15, the GRC was visited by a gymnastics team from Australia who were in town for the Windy City meet. The Australian team had reached out to join our own team members for a light workout before the meet that weekend.
- The boys' and girls' teams attended the Windy City Invite at Navy Pier January 16-19. Our level 5 boys took 1st place for their age division!
- The GRC was closed on New Year's Day and Martin Luther King Day.

**GENERAL RECREATION****Joe Lilly, Program Manager****Afterschool/Teens:**

- Afterschool Registration for the 2026-2027 school year opened in January with a good mix of returning and new families enrolled. Andersen, Dole, Carroll, and Austin Gardens centers are already at capacity. Due to the anticipated expansion of Field Center, Field clubhouse has already doubled its enrollment for next school year.
- A teen esports Mario kart event was held at the CRC on January 9, with nine out of a max of twelve enrolled.

**Early Childhood:**

- Preschool Registration for the 2026-2027 school year opened in January with six registrants per class. There are still spots available.
- Indoor playground memberships are at 117 for the season.
- Staff continue to build on the success of enrichment classes with Austin gardens programming.

**Arts/Lifelong Learning:**

- We welcomed a new stained glass instructor, allowing us to expand this very popular class.
- Lifelong learning participants are adjusting to a new tile format with rolling registrations for fitness classes. This has come with some positive feedback and very excited participants trying classes for the first time.
- Lifelong learning memberships are at 502.
- Dance classes started their new sessions for the year with many of our early childhood classes filled with waitlists. Itty Bitty Ballet is a notable example.

**Nature/Adventure:**

- Archery classes have seen an uptick recently with our upcoming Valentines archery events running at capacity.

- Nature Center drop in continues to see a consistent group of patrons come out to spend time at Austin gardens.

**Camps:**

- Summer camp registration opened early February to residents.
- Early results show opening weekend registrations were just shy of last year's with 2025 users/checkout opening day totaling 2,565 and 2026 users/checkout opening day totaling 2,416.
- Popular camps so far this year included skate and swim and theater camps which saw some of our quickest registrations and largest waitlists.

## COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER

**Chad Druke, Program Manager**

**CRC**

- As of February 9, we have 6,178 paid monthly CRC memberships. We also have 3,769 free track memberships and 943 free afterschool memberships. In total we have 10,890 CRC memberships free or paid.
- In late January we had a sensor counter installed in the fit floor area. This device will let members know via the website as to how many people are currently in the fit floor area. Members can see the count and determine their comfort level before heading out to the CRC.
- The CRC afterschool program for the month of January averaged 78 participants per day.

**Sports/Martial Arts/Facility Attendants**

- Sports summer camp registration began on Saturday, December 7. Between in house and partnership camps we had 1,690 registrations over the first weekend of camp registration.
- Spring/summer adult softball and soccer league registration begins in mid-February. League play will start in late April.
- Staff will be attending the Northern Illinois University Sports Management summer job fair in late February. We are seeking candidates for our summer sports department intern position.

# Memo

**To:** Jake Worley Hood, Chair, Parks and Planning Committee  
Board of Park Commissioners

**From:** Bill Hamilton, Superintendent of Properties and Planning

**CC:** Jan Arnold, Executive Director

**Date:** February 13, 2026

**Re:** Field Park Improvements Contract Approval



## Statement

As part of the Field Center Construction Project, the playgrounds and splash pad were identified to be replaced in addition to the building of the new Field Center. A contract was entered into with Terra Engineering by the Park District in February of 2025 to provide landscape architecture, civil engineering, and electrical engineering services associated with the renovation of the Field Park playground and spray pad as well as to coordinate, as necessary, with ORG Architects who are responsible for the new Field Center. Terra conducted a Community Meeting in November of 2025 at the Field Center to discuss playground and site amenities the community would like to see. Terra then held an interactive presentation for neighborhood youth enrolled in Park District Summer Camp to obtain their input on amenities desired for the site. Suggestions that given in those meetings influenced the final playground design.

## Discussion

Terra Engineering and staff developed the legal bid in December of 2025. The Field Park Renovation Project Bid advertisement was published in the Wednesday Journal on January 7. The bid specifications and project manual were also available to prospective bidders for download on the Demandstar Website as of January 7. A mandatory Pre-Bid walkthrough held for contractors at Field Center at 10am on January 20. Fifteen vendors were in attendance and asked the architect a variety of questions which were answered and later included in an Addendum. Five total Addenda were issued during this process. The Field Park Project bid was originally due on January 28, 2026. Park District staff, in consultation with Terra Engineering, delayed the bid opening until February 4 to allow potential bidders additional opportunity to refine their proposals.

The bid opening was held on February 4 at 10:00 am. A total of seven bids were received. Hacienda Landscaping Inc. was the apparent, responsive, responsible low bidder, with a base bid of \$605,353.25 and a bid Alternate #1 of \$23,200, for the installation of four owner purchased shade structures for the north and south ball field dugouts. Owner Purchased items total \$390,567.07.

The total Capital Budget for the Field Park Renovation Project, including owner purchased equipment, demolition of the playground, splash pad, and the Field Center building and the installation of playground and spray pad equipment, site amenities, and landscape materials is \$1,000,000.

Playground/Spray Pad Installation:	\$605,353.25
Owner Purchased Equipment Installation:	\$390,567.07
Total :	\$995,920.32

The Alternate bid will not be accepted at this time but will be reconsidered by the Park District as funding becomes available.

The Park District has a long relationship with Hacienda, most recently completing the Anderson Park Playground Project and are the awarded contractor on the soon to be started Longfellow Park Project.

### **Conclusion**

The Parks and Planning Committee requests that the Park District Board of Commissioners grant authority to the Executive Director, Jan Arnold, to enter a contract agreement with Hacienda Landscaping Inc., 17840 Grove Rd. Minooka, IL for the Field Park Renovation Project Base Bid in an amount not to exceed \$605,353.25.

2/10/2026

Bill Hamilton  
 Superintendent of Properties and Planning  
 Park District of Oak Park  
 218 Madison St.  
 Oak Park, IL 60302

Subject: Field Park Renovation – Bid Results

Dear Mr. Hamilton,

The Field Park Renovation project received 7 bids on Wednesday, February 4<sup>th</sup> bid opening. Bid results are summarized below:

<u>Field Park Renovations - Bid Summary</u>				
<i>Bid Opening February 4, 2026</i>				
	<u>Hacienda Landscaping</u>	<u>Innovation Landscape</u>	<u>Great Lakes Landscape</u>	<u>Clauss Bros.</u>
<b>Base Bid Total</b>	\$ 605,353.25	\$740,033.10	\$801,901.00	\$861,116.05
<b>Alternate #1 Total (Dugout Shades Install)</b>	\$ 23,200.00	\$ 51,200.00	\$ 48,320.00	\$ 65,972.00
	<u>Schaefges Bros.</u>	<u>Landworks</u>	<u>Copenhaver</u>	
<b>Base Bid Total</b>	\$901,000.00	\$967,976.00	\$1,048,800.00	
<b>Alternate #1 Total (Dugout Shades Install)</b>	\$ 45,600.00	\$ 59,000.00	\$60,000.00	

We have reviewed the low bid with you and park district staff. We would recommend approving the low bid from Hacienda Landscape for the amount of \$605,353.25. At this time, the alternate should be considered pending future budget considerations by the park district.

We have worked with Hacienda Landscaping in the past and found them to be reliable and reputable contractor. Should you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

**TERRA ENGINEERING LTD.**



Craig Most  
 Senior Landscape Planner

Cc: Keven Graham, Landscape Department Director

# Memo

**To:** Jake Worley Hood, Chair, Parks and Planning Committee  
Board of Park Commissioners

**From:** Bill Hamilton, Superintendent of Properties and Planning

**CC:** Jan Arnold, Executive Director

**Date:** February 13, 2026

**Re:** Field Park Project Owner Purchased Equipment



## Statement

As part of the Field Center Construction Project, the playgrounds and splash pad were identified for replacement in addition to the new center being built. Terra Engineering was contracted by the Park District in February of 2025 to provide landscape architecture, civil engineering and electrical engineering services associated with the renovation of the Field Park playground and spray pad as well as to coordinate, as necessary, with ORG Architects who are responsible for the new Field Center.

## Discussion

As part of the playground improvements a few items were identified as owner purchased, like other past Park District projects, including most recently, the Longfellow Park Project. The pricing for these items is competitively bid through Sowcewell Contracts and Omnia Partners which the Park District has utilized to lower costs on project in the past. This includes playground equipment, splashpad equipment, safety turf grass, and light poles and fixtures.

The purchases will be made using three vendors, Landscape Structures, Inc., for the playground and splash pad equipment and Forever Lawn for the safety turf grass surface. Both are part of Sowcewell Contracts. Landscape Forms is providing light fixtures, poles and associated equipment and are part of Omnia partners.

• Landscape Structures - Playground Equipment	\$135,760.00
• Landscape Structures - Splash Pad Equipment	\$ 48,111.00
• Forever Lawn – Playground Grass Ultra	\$164,896.07
• Landscape Forms	<u>\$ 41,800.00</u>
Total	\$390,567.07

The Field Park Project bid was originally due on January 28, 2026. Park District staff, in consultation with Terra Engineering, delayed the bid opening until February 4 to allow potential bidders additional opportunity to refine their proposals. The total Capital Budget for the Field Park Project, including owner

purchased equipment, demolition of the playground, splash pad, and the Field Center building and the installation of playground and spray pad equipment, site amenities, and landscape materials is \$1,000,000.

## **Conclusion**

The Parks and Planning Committee recommends the Park Board of Commissioners approve the purchase of Landscape Structures - Playground Equipment for \$135,760.00, Landscape Structures - Splash Pad Equipment \$48,111.00, Forever Lawn – Playground Grass Ultra \$164,896.07, and Landscape Forms \$41,800.00 for a total of \$390,567.07 through Sourcewell and authorize Executive Director Jan Arnold to execute the contracts.

# Playground Grass™ Ultra Product Specifications

Components	Specifications
YARN TYPE	Primary: Polyethylene slit film Secondary: Heat set textured nylon monofilament
YARN COLOR	Primary: Olive Green Secondary: Turf Green/Tan Blend Additional Colors: Yellow, Orange, Red, Gold, Blue, Lagoon Blue
YARN COUNT	Primary: 5,040/1 Secondary: 4,200/8
TUFTING CONSTRUCTION	Dual yarn, same row
BLADE HEIGHT	1-1/2"
TUFTING GAUGE	3/8"
FACE WEIGHT	48 oz.*
TOTAL PRODUCT WEIGHT	103 oz.*
BACKING	Three-layer premium backing made with BioCel polyurethane and 100% recycled geotextile nonwoven fabric on a dual layer primary.
ANTISTATIC TECHNOLOGY	XStatic™ proprietary, patented antistatic technology
ANTIMICROBIAL PROTECTION	AlphaSan®
SEAMING	Micromechanical bonding
INFILL	0.75 - 1 lb. rubber psf. required 3.75 - 4 lbs. sand psf. required

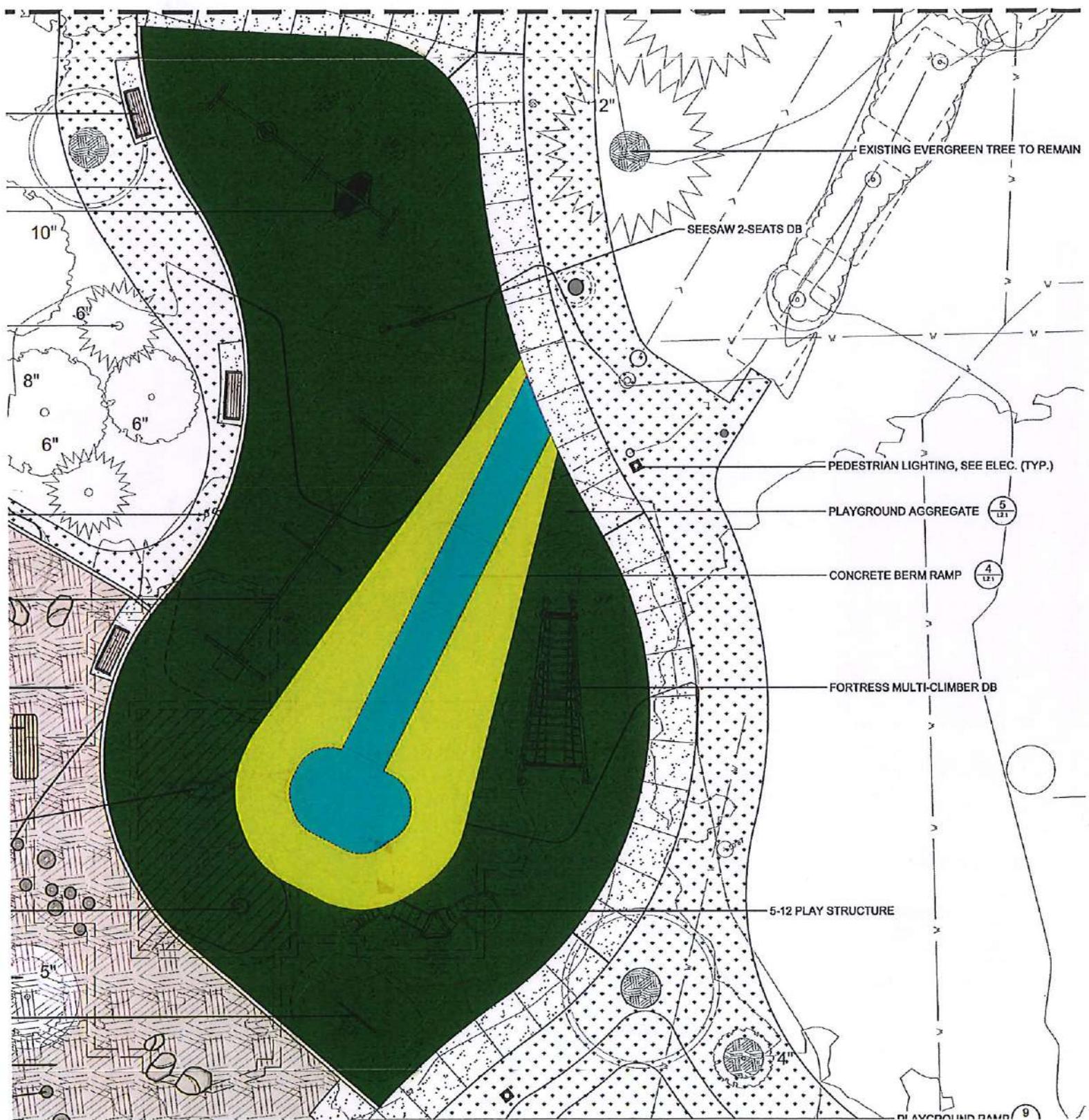
\*Product heights shown may have a variance of 1/8" and product weights shown may have a variance of 2%.

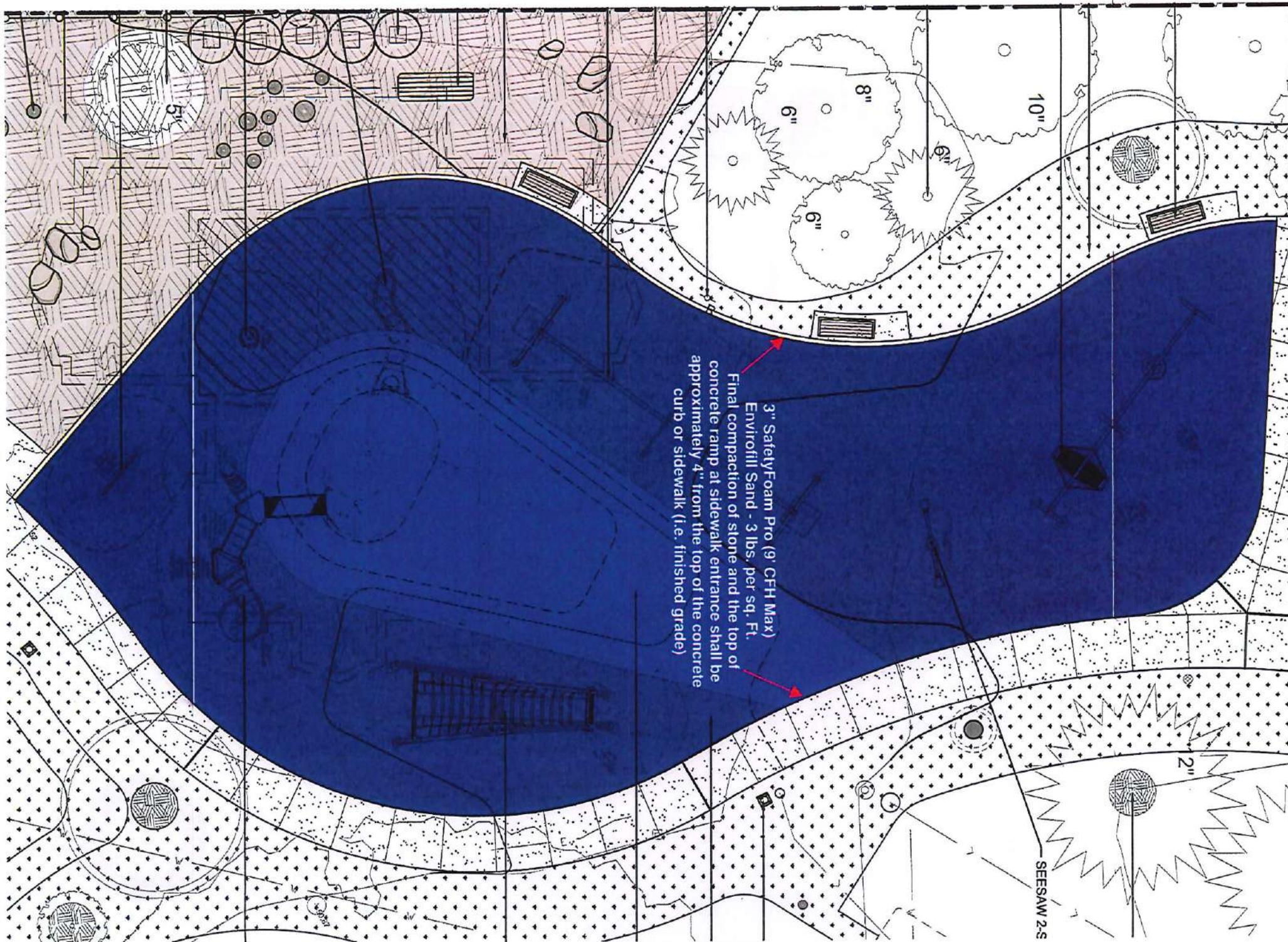
PLAYGROUND GRASS  
by ForeverLawn™

Also Available in the Following Colors:

- Blue
- Lagoon Blue
- Gold
- Yellow
- Orange
- Red

Grass without limits.





Revision Date: 1/26/2026

**Project Name:** Field Park Playground Grass Surfacing  
**Sourcewell Member:** Park District of Oak Park - #70186  
**Project Location:** 932 Division Street, Oak Park, IL 60302  
**Project Description:** ForeverLawn Chicago (FLC) is pleased to submit this proposal for the following materials. Costs associated with a certified ForeverLawn installation of the listed materials are included in the project price. The following published items are being provided through our contracted Sourcewell pricing and are included in the total project price:

• Item # FPUA:	Playground Grass Ultra (Green)	(7,275 sq. ft.)	\$ 47,433.00
• Item # FPUA Colors:	Playground Grass Ultra Colors (Yellow)	(2,145 sq. ft.)	\$ 14,092.65
• Item # FPUA Colors:	Playground Grass Ultra Colors (Lagoon Blue)	(975 sq. ft.)	\$ 6,405.75
• Item # SFPC30:	3" SafetyFoam Pro (Channels)	(886 panels)	\$ 33,216.14
• Item # MMBSEAM:	9" Micromechanical Seam Tape - 162' roll	(6 rolls)	\$ 2,477.22
• Item # MAPGT-12:	Mapei Glue Tubes - Case of 12	(1 case)	\$ 176.90
• Item # ENVG-16/30-62:	Envirofill Coated Sand 16/30 mesh pallet of 62 (6 pallets)		\$ 6,375.96
• Item # FLIns:	Standard Installation		\$ 47,920.95
	<b>Total Published Items:</b>		<b>\$ 158,098.57</b>

The following unpublished items are included in the total project price at their listed cost:

• Independent 3rd Party Post Installation Drop Test	\$ 1,600.00
• Shipping -	\$ 5,197.50
	<b>Total Unpublished Items:</b>
	<b>\$ 6,797.50</b>
	<b>Total Project Price:</b>
	<b>\$ 164,896.07</b>

All pricing assumes that the general contractor awarded the project will prepare the project site prior to FLC arrival. This includes all excavation, disposal, all stone through final compaction, construction of the concrete ramp, providing and installing the perimeter nailer boards, and installation of equipment. Costs associated with site prep are excluded in the total project price. Any site prep completed by FLC, including reworking or compacting the stone base will be charged accordingly and be added to the final balance owed.

The final compaction of the aggregate within the area shaded "Blue" as shown on the attached SafetyFoam Pro layout shall be approximately 4" from the top of the perimeter concrete curb or sidewalk (i.e. finished grade) to accommodate the 3" SafetyFoam Pro panels with channels (9' CFH max). The top of the concrete berm ramp at the entrance of the berm shall be approximately 4" below the top of the perimeter concrete curb or sidewalk (i.e. finished grade) to also accommodate the 3" SafetyFoam Pro panels (9' CFH max) wrapped over the concrete berm. The Playground Grass Ultra backing will account for the remaining difference once installed over the SafetyFoam Pro. FLC can provide a sample of 3" SafetyFoam Pro and Playground Grass upon request and prior to the GC pouring the concrete berm to assure there's no lip at the entrance to the berm.

The perimeter boards shall be anchored by the general contractor approximately 1" below the top of the perimeter concrete curb or sidewalk (i.e. finish grade). Individual 3" SafetyFoam Pro panels will then be provided and interlocked by FLC.



3426 Colony Bay Rockford, IL 61109

(P) 779-368-0251

[www.foreverlawn.com/chicago](http://www.foreverlawn.com/chicago)

The berm will then be wrapped in Playground Grass Ultra Colors (Color of Ramp Path = Lagoon Blue; Color of Slopes = Yellow). Playground Grass Ultra (Color = Green) will then be rolled out over the SafetyFoam Pro panels at ground level, cut, and seamed throughout the playground. The Playground Grass (Green) at ground level will be seamed directly to the Playground Grass (Yellow) at the base of the berm. All seams will feature our proprietary micromechanical seaming system. The Playground Grass Ultra will get anchored to the perimeter boards using 1" stainless steel staples. Envirofill sand infill will be provided and applied by FLC at an application rate of 3.0 lbs. per square foot upon completion.

This proposal excludes all applicable taxes. Freight and associated materials charges are included. Prevailing wage rates apply. Union labor rates are excluded in this proposal. **This proposal includes costs associated with performing and scheduling post-installation drop testing. An independent 3<sup>rd</sup> party will be scheduled by FLC to conduct a post-installation drop test following the installation of the Playground Grass.** Pricing is valid for 30-days from proposal date.

**Base Project Price:** **\$164,896.07**

**Project Size:** 6,026 square feet

**Project Terms:** 50% of the project price is due upon acceptance of this proposal. Remaining balance is due upon installation. Pricing is valid for 30 days from proposal date.

**Project Timeline:** Project completion will be scheduled upon acceptance of this proposal. This is contingent upon timely payment for the project to allow for shipment of materials and scheduling of crew.

**Approval:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Remit Payments to:** ForeverLawn Chicago, LLC – 3426 Colony Bay Drive, Rockford, IL 61109

We are proud to offer quality products, service, performance, and support that no other company can offer. The ForeverLawn difference includes, but is not limited to:

- Installation and support
- STC (Synthetic Turf Council) Certified Builders
- Ownership of the entire project
- 15 – year Playground Grass & SafetyFoam Pro warranty (Years 1-3 in full; Years 4-15 prorated)
- 2 – year Installation warranty (Certified ForeverLawn Chicago Installations Only)
- Greater Chicago references available upon request



3426 Colony Bay Rockford, IL 61109

(P) 779-368-0251

[www.foreverlawn.com/chicago](http://www.foreverlawn.com/chicago)

# Quote

Date: 02/03/2026

LF Quote#: 0000457950

PO#:

Project: Field Park - Oak Park, IL - Lighting

Bill To: Park District of Oak Park  
ATTN: Bill Hamilton  
218 Madison Street  
Oak Park, IL 60302

**CORPORATE**  
7800 E. Michigan Avenue  
Kalamazoo, MI 49048-9543  
P: 800.521.2546 F: 269.381.3455  
www.landscapeforms.com  
Federal I.D.# 38-1897577  
FSC# PBN-COC-001261

Ship To: Park District of Oak Park  
ATTN: Bill Hamilton  
929 Berkshire Street  
Oak Park, IL 60302

Ship To Contact Phone: 708-725-2052

Ship Via: Common Carrier

F.O.B.: Destination

Qty	Description	Unit Price	Total Price
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CONTRACT: OMNIA #07-100

**When ordering please confirm:**

- Shipping address and contact information (name and ph#)
- Billing address and contact information
- Is your firm or the project tax exempt? If so, exemption certificate must accompany order
- Delivery schedule:

Ship immediately upon completion  
 OR Ship On/After the date: \_\_\_\_\_

10	<b>Fixture Type:</b> A1 Luminaire Ashbery Light (AP100/200/300) Fixture Type: : Product: Drive Current: Color Temperature: Distribution: Lens: Center Element: Twist Lock: Powdercoat-Luminaire: : Pole and Luminaire Configuration: Product: Cover Options: Power Receptacle: Photomotion sensor: Powdercoat-Pole: Pole Height: Lens Height: Diameter:	<i>A1 Luminaire</i> <i>AP101 - (Small Ashbery - Single post-top)</i> <i>SO - (Standard Output)</i> <i>30K - (3000K)</i> <i>T3 - (Type III)</i> <i>FRS - (Frosted)</i> <i>20K (2000 K)</i> <i>NTW (No Twist Lock)</i> <i>BRZ - (Bronze Metallic)</i>  <i>(Pole itemized separately)</i> <i>AP-12-A1 (single post-top)</i> <i>NUT (Nut Covers)</i> <i>R (Power Receptacle)</i> <i>NMS (No motion sensor)</i> <i>BRZ - (Bronze Metallic)</i> <i>120" (10ft)</i> <i>144" (12ft)</i> <i>4 (4 inches)</i>	\$ 1,990.00	\$ 19,900.00
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Page: 1 of 4

Cust #: 70572  
SSR: Stella Murray  
Rep: Illinois Wisconsin Team, ILWC01

Landscape Forms Customer Service

Purchaser

Seller

landscapeforms

# Quote

Date: 02/03/2026

LF Quote#: 0000457950

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Qty	Description	Unit Price	Total Price
10	Fixture Type: A1 Pole AP-12-A1-NUT-R-NMS-BRZ Ashbery Pole for Small Luminaire: 12ft Lens Height, Single Post-Top. With Power Receptacle. No Motion Sensor. Bronze Powdercoat.	\$ 2,190.00	\$ 21,900.00
10	Ashbery Pole Nut Cover Kit. Includes: Nut Covers and Hardware Pack for use with (1) Ashbery Pole. Powdercoat color: Bronze Metallic	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
10	Ashbery 4in diameter mounting kit. Includes: Anchor Hardware and Template.	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
		Item Total	\$ 41,800.00
		Shipping & Handling	\$ 0.00
		Sub Total	\$ 41,800.00
		Estimated Tax	\$ 0.00
		Document Total	\$ 41,800.00

## Payment Terms: Pending-Net30

Landscape Forms, Inc. reserves the right to change payment terms based on payment history as well as information obtained from commercial credit reporting agencies.

- Purchaser is responsible for confirming options, materials, quantities, etc., for completeness and conformity to plans and specifications.
- Changes to or cancellations of standard product orders may incur a penalty charge of 30% or more.
- Orders including modified or custom product (Specials and/or Studio 431) may not be cancelled. If an order is terminated by the customer, payment in full is expected for the product subtotal regardless of current project status.
- Orders including modified or custom product (Specials, Structure and/or Studio 431) are subject to price increase after engineering/product development is complete and approved by the customer. Modifications in price will be handled via change order.

Page: 2 of 4

Cust#: 70572  
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- All manufacturing of product, as engineered and/or designed by Landscape Forms, shall be performed exclusively by Landscape Forms or its expressly authorized affiliates or subcontractors. Customer shall not engage any third party for the manufacture of said Product without the prior written consent of Landscape Forms.
- All orders that include a swing product must include an executed liability waiver to be accepted and entered into production.
- Only the Material Supplier Standard Limited Warranty shall apply to all product sold by Landscape Forms. No other warranties or changes to the standard warranty will be applied or accepted.
- No merchandise can be returned without authorization from Landscape Forms. Returns may be subject to a disposition fee of 30-100%.
- Prices based on quantities shown and quantity changes may affect price.
- QUOTED prices are held for 60 days. After receipt of a written ORDER, prices will be held for up to twelve months from receipt of the order. Changes in quantity or specification may affect pricing. Upfit and Scenic pricing will only be held for six months after receipt of a written order.
- Pricing includes selection from our standard color palette. Optional colors and custom color matches are available for an additional fee and will extend lead-time. Please contact our corporate office for more information.
- Fixtures for custom products are the property of Landscape Forms, Inc., and are not available for sale.
- Landscape Forms is a supplier only and ships via common carrier. Customer is responsible for offloading and installing unless otherwise indicated above.
- Handling fees alone will apply on third party and customer pick-up orders.
- Mounting hardware is only available on a limited number of products. Please consult the installation recommendations or contact our corporate office to confirm. In the event hardware is provided, it MUST be used for proper installation.
- Refer to Care and Maintenance guidelines for more detailed information and instructions.
- All orders ship upon completion of fabrication. A one-week grace period may be available, after which storage fees will apply.
- This Agreement contains the entire understanding between the parties. All prior communications are merged into this Agreement. The terms of this Agreement shall control any conflict between documents.
- This Agreement may be signed by the parties separately and by facsimile, and together they shall be deemed one binding, original Agreement.
- Purchaser shall pay all costs and expenses paid or incurred by Landscape Forms, Inc. in collecting any amounts due for goods purchased by Purchaser, including without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees and collection costs. Balances on invoices not paid within 30 days of date of invoice, or within an alternate period of time as determined and indicated by Landscape Forms, shall incur interest at a rate of 18% per annum. Cash discounts are not offered.
- The quoted price may include estimated tax, duties and tariffs. Actual tax, duties and tariffs shall be purchaser's responsibility and may be added to an invoice as a separate and additional charge to purchaser unless an acceptable exemption certificate is presented.

Page: 3 of 4

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Landscape Forms Customer Service

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Purchaser

Seller

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- To the extent purchaser supplies or modifies the standard specifications for any products, Landscape Forms, Inc. expressly disclaims all representations and warranties related to such products or their design whether express or implied except that the products shall be manufactured in accordance with purchaser's specifications.
- **REMITTANCE OPTIONS:** For information on paying via credit card, ACH, direct bank transfer, or wire please email us at [AR@landscapeforms.com](mailto:AR@landscapeforms.com). Please note all credit card charges will be subject to a 3% surcharge. Mail payments to:

**USD Checks**

Landscape Forms, Inc.  
Dept 78073  
PO Box 78000  
Detroit, MI 48278-0073  
USA

**CAD Cheques**

Landscape Forms, Inc.  
PO Box 2408  
Station A  
Toronto, Ontario M5W 2K6  
CAN

Page: 4 of 4

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Landscape Forms Customer Service

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Purchaser

Seller

landscapeforms

# Memo



**To:** Jake Worley-Hood, Chair, Parks & Planning Committee  
Board of Park Commissioners

**From:** Bill Hamilton, Superintendent of Properties & Planning

**Cc:** Jan R. Arnold, Executive Director

**Date:** February 13, 2026

**Re:** Zero Turn Mower Purchase – PDOP|D97 IGA

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## Statement

In 2024 School District 97 and the Park District of Oak Park renewed the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) regarding Sport Field Maintenance, an IGA originally agreed to in 2014. As part of the renewal agreement, District 97 and the Park District agreed to split the cost of a new replacement mower. The original mower, purchased by District 97 in 2015, maintained, stored, and operated by the Park District, is now ten years old and near the end of its useful life. Section 8A of the renewal agreement reads, "Purchase of Mower: D97 purchased a lawnmower in 2014 for the Park District to use in the care of the Sports Fields. That mower is anticipated to last two more years of this agreement, and a new mower will need to be purchased. The two Districts agree to buy a new mower in spring 2026 and will split the cost of the unit 50/50. The anticipated cost to D97 for the new mower in 2026 is \$22,600".

## Discussion

In 2015, Turf Manager, Travis Stephens, researched and recommended the purchase of the Toro Ground Master 7200 Traction Unit. This zero-turn mower has proven to be reliable, durable, and efficient. The snow removal conversion equipment package available has made this unit extremely versatile and one of our most effective snow removal vehicles. The purchase of the vehicle will be made by the Park District with District 97 reimbursing the Park District half of the purchase price when invoiced by the Park District.

The full delivered purchase price of the mower unit is \$31,369.92 including assembly, Base Deck, Recycler Completion Kit, Power Port/Electrical Accessory Kit, and Road light Kit. District 97's portion of this purchase price will be \$15,684.96 which is less than original estimate of \$22,600. Additionally, the snow removal conversion kit, which is the sole purchase of the Park District of Oak Park, has a full delivered purchase price of \$26,260.98 including assembly, Polar Track Cab, and Polar Track Kit.

The pricing for both items has been competitively bid through Sourcewell Contract #112624-TTC and is available through the low bid contractor Reinders, 911 Tower Road Mundelein, IL 60060. The Park District has allocated \$75,000 in the 2026 vehicle Capital Budget for a mower and snow removal conversion kit.

## Conclusion

The Parks and Planning Committee recommends the purchase of a zero-turn mower, Toro Ground Master 7200 Traction Unit for a purchase price of \$31,369.92 and the snow conversion kit for a purchase price \$26,260.98 for a combined total of \$57,630.90 for approval and authorize Executive Director Arnold to sign the contract. As mentioned previously, \$15,684.96 will be reimbursed to the Park District by District 97.

# Reinders

## Quote

Account: 368352

**Park District of Oak Park**  
218 Madison Street  
Oak Park IL 60302  
Attn: Travis Stephen

Prepared By:  
**Aaron DeLoof**  
Territory Manager  
911 Tower Road  
Mundelein, IL 60060  
Cell (262) 899-1588  
Fax (847) 678-5511  
[adeloof@reinders.com](mailto:adeloof@reinders.com)

<u>Quote ID</u> 2420046	PRICE SUBJECT TO CHANGE
<u>Quote Date</u> 1.27.26	Contract Quote

Sourcewell #112624-TTC / Omnia #2023261

QTY	CODE	DESCRIPTION	PRICE DETAILS
1	30495	<b>Groundsmaster 7200 Traction Unit</b>	\$24,148.02
1	30353	72 Inch Base Deck	\$4,158.18
1	30304	72 Inch Guardian Recycler Completion Kit	\$609.18
1	30382	12V Power Port/Electrical Accessory Kit	\$226.20
1	30374	Road Light Kit	\$1,021.80

Configured Contract Price: \$30,163.38  
Dealer Assembly & Delivery: \$1,206.54  
Trade Totals: \$0.00  
**Purchase Price:** **\$31,369.92**

# Reinders

## Quote

Account: 368352

**Park District of Oak Park**  
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Attn: Travis Stephen

Prepared By:  
**Aaron DeLoof**  
Territory Manager  
911 Tower Road  
Mundelein, IL 60060  
Cell (262) 899-1588  
Fax (847) 678-5511  
[adeloof@reinders.com](mailto:adeloof@reinders.com)

<u>Quote ID</u> 2420046	PRICE SUBJECT TO CHANGE
<u>Quote Date</u> 1.27.26	Contract Quote

Sourcewell #112624-TTC / Omnia #2023261

QTY	CODE	DESCRIPTION	PRICE DETAILS
1	30474	<b>Polar Trac Cab</b>	\$13,693.68
1	30675	Polar Trac Kit	\$11,557.26

Configured Contract Price: \$25,250.94  
Dealer Assembly & Delivery: \$1,010.04  
Trade Totals: \$0.00  
**Purchase Price:** **\$26,260.98**



# Memo

**To:** Jake Worley-Hood, Chair, Parks and Planning Committee

Board of Park Commissioners

**From:** Jan Arnold, Executive Director

**Date:** February 13, 2026

**Re:** Pleasant Home Professional Services Agreement ADA Restroom



## Statement

Acquired in 1939, the historic John Farson House, known as "Pleasant Home", is a National Historic Landmark designed in 1897, by architect George W. Maher. Outbuildings on the attendant grounds were subsequently razed, and Mills Park has been maintained as open space for many years. Pleasant Home was used for decades as a community center and is now rented out to the public for programs and events. Additionally, docents provide tours to the community at no cost.

A comprehensive historic structure report (HSR) on the home was conducted in 2002, and subsequent restoration and repair has included rebuilding the entire roof structure and some gutter systems; restoration of the library and great hall fireplace; restoration of the front fence entry; addition of an accessible lift at the west elevation; repair of the living room fireplace, front door, sun porch door and threshold; and boiler room mold abatement. Since 2011, the Park District has completed new boiler replacements, interior renovations on the second and third floors, plumbing repairs, entry door refinishing, multiple miscellaneous repairs, and window work. In 2018, the Park District replaced the roofing to match the original tile roof on the Home. Additionally, the Pleasant Home Foundation raised money in 2017, to restore the entry stained glass panels, which was completed in 2018. The HSR recommended adding air conditioning to the building to help control temperatures and humidity, which was added in 2021.

## Discussion

Pleasant Home does not have an ADA toilet for guests of the home to utilize. As part of the 2026-2030 Capital Improvement Plan, funding was set aside to hire an architect in 2026 to design and develop bid specifications and funds were placed in 2027 for the construction of the toilet.

In 2025, Laura Thompson assembled and chaired a task force comprised of Frank Heitzman, Doug Gilbert, Chris Wollmuth, Bill Hamilton, and me. We met twice at Pleasant Home to review potential locations for the toilet and to identify potential architects who are qualified to be involved with this type of project. Laura, Doug, and Frank met with three architects on site to discuss the project. After these conversations, they all agreed that Daniel Roush was their preferred architect for this project. Staff requested a proposal from Daniel, the task force reviewed and staff had additional follow-up with Dan on the pricing and requirements of the project. Based on the conversations and revised proposal, the task force recommends approval of Daniel Roush to design and oversee the construction of an ADA toilet inside Pleasant Home.

## Conclusion

The Parks and Planning Committee recommends the Park Board give Executive Director Arnold the authority to sign a contract with Daniel Rouse, from Oak Park, IL, in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.

Attachment: Professional Services Agreement

## Field Guide

Architecture and Design, Inc.

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### Fee Proposal

Client: Park District of Oak Park

Project: Pleasant Home Renovations: Accessible Bathroom

Location: Oak Park, IL

Reference: 2537

Date: January 7, 2026 January 21, 2026

Revision: 00 01

## Field Guide

### Fee Proposal: Park District of Oak Park / Pleasant Home Accessible Bathroom

---

#### A. Introduction

This proposal is for architectural design and documentation services provided by Field Guide Architecture and Design (FG) to the Park District of Oak Park (PDOP) for renovations to Pleasant Home, the historic residence located in central Oak Park and owned by PDOP. This proposal is based on a site visit and subsequent conversations in December, 2025. *The proposal was updated on January 20, 2026 to incorporate feedback from PDOP.*

#### B. Description of the Project

Pleasant Home is a Prairie Style mansion and National Historic Landmark designed by George W. Maher and completed in 1902. Owned by PDOP since 1939, the mansion is used as a house museum and event space. To support these functions, the facility includes public toilets, added to the north entry hall in 1972, and a handicap lift, added within the former Kitchen Porch in 2001. The public toilets are not accessible from the main floor and do not meet the dimensional criteria of current building codes.

This project will create one new single-user accessible toilet room to serve the first floor. Though the location of the new room has not been finalized, preliminary conversations point to the basement stair hall as a potential option. In addition to the new toilet room, other work may be considered in this area, including renovations to the Kitchen Porch's exterior envelope and modification to or replacement of the existing handicap lift.

#### C. Scope of Work

##### **1. Site Analysis & Programming**

- a) FG will research the property to better understand the existing conditions. This process includes a review of existing documents, including the Historic Structure Report (2002), site photographs, and local code requirements.
- b) Electronic drawings in AutoCAD format exist and have been provided to FG. Using these files, FG will create electronic base sheets as the basis for our work.
- c) FG will visit the site to verify measurements, take photographs, and otherwise confirm existing conditions and dimensions.
- d) FG will discuss the project with the Owner to establish the key objectives. As part of this process, we will review spaces and equipment required for the project, how these will be used, and what adjacencies are required between them.

## Field Guide

### Fee Proposal: Park District of Oak Park / Pleasant Home Accessible Bathroom

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- e) FG will confirm construction budget expectations with the Owner. We understand the construction budget to be \$400,000.
- f) Deliverables in this phase will include existing conditions drawings and a project summary addressing project objectives and zoning / code constraints.

## 2. Schematic Design

- a) Upon completion of Site Analysis & Programming, FG will prepare schematic design options and meet with the owner to discuss.
- b) The design options will include:
  - i) Floor plans showing the layout of the project.
  - ii) Cross sections and elevations showing the relationship of the design elements.
  - iii) Digital three dimensional model studies.
- c) FG will meet with the Owner to review the design scheme(s) and then study options to incorporate Owner feedback.
- d) FG will consider adjacent and related work scope items including the handicap lift and Kitchen Porch enclosure as required.
- e) Deliverables during this phase will include floor plans, elevations and model views explaining the design options.

## 3. Design Development

- a) Pending Owner approval of schematic design, we will further develop the design with the goal of establishing the key systems and details of the project.
- b) More detailed drawings will be produced in this phase, creating the foundation for the permit and construction documents in the next phase. Drawings may include existing/demolition plans, floor plans, ceiling plans, finish plans, enlarged plans (where required), preliminary MEP plans, and door/glazing schedules.
- c) During this phase, FG will prepare additional 2D and 3D views to better identify spatial relationships, structural & construction issues, material transitions, and integration of electrical and plumbing fixtures. This effort will help to achieve a consistent design, increase GC pricing accuracy, and improve construction coordination.
- d) Interior design concepts shall be developed during this phase. This may include cabinetry, counters, appliances, tile, flooring, plumbing fixtures, lighting fixtures, door hardware, cabinet hardware, toilet accessories, trim, moldings, interior doors, and paint colors.
- e) ~~Consultants. We do not anticipate needing additional consultants (structural or MEP) for this project. Should they be required, consultants will be retained during this phase and their fees~~

## Field Guide

### Fee Proposal: Park District of Oak Park / Pleasant Home Accessible Bathroom

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shall be in addition to FG's fees. Consulting engineers will be retained during this phase. We understand that Mark Nussbaum of ACE will provide pro bono MEP engineering services. For structural design, we will solicit proposals from qualified local consultants once the scope is better understood. At this time, structural engineering fees are not included in this proposal.

- f) State Historic Preservation Review. FG will work collaboratively with the Illinois SHPO to ensure that their reviews, feedback and approval are managed appropriately during the project. This effort will begin during the design development phase and continue through permitting and construction, as required.
- g) Upon Owner approval of the design, FG will prepare a pricing set for the Owner's review and for their use to obtain budget pricing from qualified contractors.

#### **4. Pricing and Contractor Selection**

- a) Upon approval of the pricing scope, and in collaboration with the PDOP team, FG will identify at least two, but no more than three, qualified local contractors and distribute the pricing documents to them with the intent of procuring cost proposals from each.
- b) FG will meet on site with each prospective contractor and field questions as required to assist them in preparation of their cost proposals.
- c) Once the GC proposals are ready, FG will review and summarize and meet with PDOP to assist in the selection of a contractor.
- d) It is understood that the selected contractor will work with FG and PDOP during the subsequent phase to refine and manage project costs. The final contract amount will be established after the permit is issued and 'For Construction' drawings are issued.

#### **5. Contract Documents and Permit Acquisition**

- a) Upon approval of the Design Development drawings and the construction budget, FG will complete detailed drawings and specifications suitable for submission to the Village of Oak Park. These documents will be coordinated with those of any consulting designers and engineers, and the entire package will be reviewed with the Owner prior to submission.
- b) Oak Park Zoning and Historic Preservation Review. In advance of building department review, this project may require reviews from the Village's Zoning and Historic Preservation divisions. If so, FG will interface with local authorities during this phase to secure necessary approvals in advance of the building permit submission.
- c) After Zoning approval, a complete package of documents 'For Permit' shall be prepared in compliance with the Village of Oak Park's requirements. These drawings will be stamped by a licensed architect. Drawings may include:

## Field Guide

### Fee Proposal: Park District of Oak Park / Pleasant Home Accessible Bathroom

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- i) Detailed site plan
- ii) Code matrix
- iii) Egress plans
- iv) Demolition plans (floor and ceiling)
- v) Floor plans (floor and ceiling)
- vi) Electrical power and lighting plans
- vii) Building section(s)
- viii) Interior elevations
- ix) Energy code compliance documentation
- x) Window / door schedules
- xi) Wall and ceiling types with UL listings
- xii) Material specifications
- xiii) Light and ventilation schedule
- xiv) Plumbing riser diagram
- xv) Structural plans
- xvi) Mechanical plans
- xvii) Architectural details
- xviii) Architectural specifications

- d) FG will complete the online permit application and will upload the required documents to the Village's electronic portal.
- e) Permit Corrections. FG will revise the drawings as required by village plan reviewers and resubmit to obtain the building permit.
- f) Permit Fees. Permit application, submission, and processing fees are the responsibility of the Owner and, if incurred by FG, shall be reimbursed per the attached terms and conditions.
- g) Interior finish information shall be included in the construction documents. Detailed interior design services, including furniture specifications and procurement, are not included but can be provided for an additional cost.
- h) Deliverables in this phase include a digital set of permit drawings that are signed and sealed by a licensed architect, and coordination with local authorities to ensure receipt of the permit.

## 6. Construction Administration

- a) **Construction Drawings.** FG will issue 'For Construction' documents upon completion of plan review and issuance of the permit. These drawings will incorporate any changes required by the village and will direct the work of construction. Throughout the construction phase, FG will supplement the drawings with sketches as required.
- b) **Administration.** FG will review GC provided submittals (ie, structural items, windows, doors, hardware, etc), answer GC submitted requests for information (RFIs), and review and sign off on GC requests for payments.

## Field Guide

### Fee Proposal: Park District of Oak Park / Pleasant Home Accessible Bathroom

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c) **Site Visits.** During construction, FG recommends a meeting on the average of ~~twice per month~~ once per week with Owner/Architect/GC. FG will check that the work is in accordance with the design intent set forth in the Contract Documents.

## D. Schedule

We understand the PDOP's schedule aim to be completion of design and permit acquisition in 2026 with construction slated for January of 2027 to minimize disruption to seasonal operations. FG will work with PDOP to meet this schedule and we have developed the anticipated durations below with this in mind. We can begin work within two (2) weeks of a signed proposal.

	<u>Jan 7</u>	<u>Jan 20</u>
a) Site Analysis & Programming .....	2 wks	2 wks
b) Schematic Design .....	4 wks	4 wks
c) Design Development.....	<del>4 wks</del>	6 wks
d) <i>Pricing and Contractor Selection</i> .....	.....	4 wks
e) Contract Documents & Permitting.....	<del>12 wks</del>	6 wks
f) Construction Administration.....	TBD	

## E. Compensation

### 1. Professional Services.

Compensation for this project shall be as listed below, by phase. *Hourly estimates have been revised and clarified.*

	<u>Jan 7</u>	<u>Jan 20</u>
a) Site Analysis & Programming <i>16 hrs @ 150</i> .....	\$ <del>3,000</del>	2,400
b) Schematic Design <i>12 32 hrs @ 150</i> .....	\$ <del>7,000</del>	4,800
c) Design Development <i>20 48 hrs @ 150</i> .....	\$ <del>7,000</del>	7,200
d) <i>Pricing and Contractor Selection 12 hrs @ 150</i> .....	.....	1,800
e) Contract Documents & Permitting <i>48 80 hrs @ 150</i> .....	\$ <del>21,000</del>	12,000
f) <u>Construction Administration 72 hrs @ 150</u> .....	<u>\$ 12,000</u>	<u>10,800</u>
<i>Total</i> .....	<i>\$ 50,000</i>	39,000

## Field Guide

### Fee Proposal: Park District of Oak Park / Pleasant Home Accessible Bathroom

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#### 2. Initial Payment.

Not required. Invoices shall be sent according to the standard terms, attached.

## F. Agreement

The undersigned principals warrant that they are the owners or duly authorized agents thereof and have the authority to contract as herein provided. Furthermore, both parties agree to the scope of work, clarifications and limitations, and payment terms as outlined within this proposal.

#### Proposed:

Field Guide Architecture and Design



Signature

Name: Daniel Roush, AIA

Title: Principal

Date: January 7, 2026 - January 21, 2026

#### Accepted:

(Owner)

Signature

Name:

Title:

Date:

## Field Guide

### Standard Terms and Conditions

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These Standard Terms and Conditions shall continue in full force and effect during and after the completion or termination of Field Guide Architecture and Design's ("Architect") employment by the Park District of Oak Park ("Owner"). These Standard Terms and Conditions shall control any conflicting term or condition unless FG agrees otherwise in writing. This agreement shall be governed and controlled as to validity, enforcement, interpretation, construction, effect and in all other respects by the statutes, the laws and decisions of the State of Illinois.

#### **Hourly Billing Rates – 2026**

Principal Architect	\$ 250.00
Project Manager	\$ 175.00
Draftsperson	\$ 125.00

For time spent drafting, FG Principal Daniel Roush charges the drafting rate.

Employee's hourly rates are not increased for overtime, unless otherwise agreed to by the Architect and the Owner; however, the billing rates may be increased annually due to salary increases.

#### **Reimbursable Expenses:**

Reimbursable expenses are billed in addition to fees for services. Reimbursable expenses include, but are not limited to, expenses such as blueprinting, photocopying, mockups, site photography, messenger, delivery services and transportation expenses. Reimbursable expenses are not marked up; they are passed through at cost.

#### **Invoicing and Payment:**

Professional services will be billed monthly or at project milestones. Payments are due within 14 days of issuance of any invoice. Interest charges of 10% per annum, which are calculated monthly, are added to past due invoices. Owner is responsible for any and all related attorneys' fees and collection expenses. Payment for services rendered shall be due whether or not this project is delayed, deferred, or cancelled.

#### **Additional Services**

The Owner may, at any time, by written change order signed by both parties, make changes within the general scope of this agreement in the services or work to be performed. If changes cause an increase in Architect's cost or time required of performance of any services under this agreement, whether or not agreed to by any change order, an equitable adjustment shall be made, and this Agreement shall be modified in writing accordingly to compensate Architect for any Additional Services.

#### **Outside Consultants:**

Unless otherwise noted, consultant's fees are not included in the Architect's professional services and will be charged separately. Typical project consultants may include, but are not limited to, structural and mechanical engineers, civil engineers, energy auditors, lighting or acoustical designers, interior designers and landscape architects, any of which may be required according to the needs of a particular project. A five percent (5%) service fee will be added to all consultant professional service invoices.

#### **Scope of Services**

The Architect, as representative of the Owner, shall perform only those architectural services described in the attached proposal. Any additional services the client wishes Architect to perform shall be deemed Additional Services and entitle Architect to additional compensation based on hourly rates set forth in this proposal or as otherwise agreed to by Architect and Owner.

#### **Cost Estimates**

Since Architect has no control over the cost of labor, materials, equipment, or services furnished by others, or over Contractors' methods of determining prices or over competitive bidding or market conditions, any opinion required of the Architect pertaining to construction costs is to be made on the Architect's experience and qualifications and represent Architect's best professional judgement as an experienced and qualified professional familiar with the construction industry; but Architect cannot and does not guarantee that proposals, bids or actual construction costs will not vary from opinions of probable cost prepared by the Architect. If the Owner wishes greater assurance the Owner shall employ an independent cost estimator or construction manager to estimate construction costs.

## Field Guide

### Standard Terms and Conditions

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#### **Travel:**

All round-trip travel time from the Architect's offices to job sites, irrespective of the number of hours spent for such travel, within fifty (50) miles of downtown Chicago is billable at the particular hourly rate for each applicable employee. Travel time beyond this area is billable at 50% of an employee's hourly rate.

#### **Performance; Limited Liability and Remedies:**

the Architect will exercise the degree of skill and care expected by customarily accepted practices and procedures in the architectural industry. The Architect will use its best efforts to perform with reasonable professional promptness and in accordance with any deadlines or schedules mutually established and agreed to.

The Architect is not a guarantor of the project to which its services are directed, and its responsibility is limited to work performed for the Owner. the Architect is not responsible for acts or omissions of the Owner, or for third parties not under the Architect's direct control. the Architect shall not have control or charge of, and shall not be responsible for, construction means, methods, techniques, sequences or procedures, for safety precautions and programs in connection with the work, for the acts or omissions of the Contractor, Subcontractors or any other person performing any of the work, or for the failure of any of them to carry out the work in accordance with the Contract Documents.

If a Contractor or subcontractor substitutes, or is allowed by the Owner to substitute, any equipment or component which differs from recommended by the Architect, then the Architect accepts no responsibility for the resulting change.

To the extent permitted by law, the Architect's liability under this Agreement, under its indemnity or otherwise, is limited to the amount of insurance held by the Architect at the relevant time of any damage, not to exceed \$1,000,000.00 in aggregate, and under no circumstances shall the Architect be liable for any consequential, punitive or special damages or indirect loss, loss of profits, loss of business or revenue, or loss or denial of opportunity in relation to this agreement or project, whether such action is based on contract, tort (including negligence or strict liability) or any other legal theory, or the performance or breach thereof, even if either part has been advised of the possibility thereof.

No party shall be responsible for any losses resulting from the non-fulfillment of any term of this agreement, to the extent such non-fulfillment is delayed or prevented by wars, acts of enemies of the state (including acts of terrorists), revolutions or other civil disorders, strikes, fires, floods, acts of God, or by any other cause not within the control of the party whose performance is interfered with, and which, by the exercise of reasonable diligence, such party is unable to prevent.

#### **Insurance:**

The Architect shall keep and maintain its current professional liability insurance policy for the duration of the project. Certificates of insurance can be provided upon request. If Owner desires additional insurance, the Architect shall use its best efforts to obtain the additional insurance, and Owner shall reimburse the Architect for all additional premium or other related costs that the Architect thereby incurs. Owner will use its efforts to ensure that the construction contractor(s) name the Architect as an additional insured on their comprehensive general liability insurance policies and agree to indemnify Owner and the Architect in language reasonably satisfactory to both Owner and the Architect.

#### **Owner Duties/Services/Obligations and Indemnification:**

The Owner will provide all necessary information regarding Owner's requirements as necessary for orderly progress of the work. The Owner will designate in writing a person to act as Owner's representative for services to be rendered under this Agreement, which person shall have authority to transmit instructions, receive instructions and information, interpret and define Owner's policies and requests for the Architect's services. The Owner will provide access to and make all provisions for the Architect to enter, without cost, limitation or burden to the Architect, publicly or privately owned property as required to perform the work.

**Negligence** – To the fullest extent permitted by law, the Owner shall hold harmless, defend and indemnify the Architect and its consultants, and each of their agents, owners, directors, employees, heirs, successors and assigns for any and all claims, damages, losses, judgments, costs and expenses (including attorneys' fees and costs of suit) arising out of: Owner's negligence or willful misconduct on this project; Contractor(s)' or any subcontractor(s)' negligence or willful misconduct in performing the work and/or supplying the materials; or: the negligence or willful misconduct of any other party relative to the project, including but not limited to liabilities for property damage and

## Field Guide

### Standard Terms and Conditions

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claims of third parties in any way related to the project, except that the Architect shall be liable for claims, damages, losses, judgments, costs and expenses due to the sole negligence of the Architect, its owners, directors, employees and consultants.

#### **Confidentiality and Use of Reports, Drawings and Electronic Media:**

Drawings, specifications and other work, documents or materials prepared by the Architect as instruments of service for the project ("Instruments of Service") are and shall remain property of the Architect and owned by the Architect whether the project for which they are made is executed or not. Such Instruments of Service shall not be used by Owner or any other constructor, subcontractor or third party for any other projects not involving the Architect.

The Architect shall retain all common law, statutory, and other reserved rights, including but not limited to, the copyright with respect to the Instruments of Service. Other contractors for the project may retain copies of the Instruments of Service for information and reference only in relation to the project or extensions to this project but shall not use, copy, duplicate, reproduce or replicate the Instruments of Service on any other projects, or for completion of this project by other, except by agreement in writing and with appropriate compensation to the Architect. In the instance another party does reproduce, duplicate, copy or utilize the Instruments of Service, such party must indemnify and hold the Architect harmless from any and all claims, liabilities, losses or damages whatsoever that result from such use, duplication or reproduction of the Instruments of Service.

#### **Construction Administration:**

Periodic site visits, if included in the Architect's Scope of Services, shall mean that the Architect shall visit the site at intervals, as agreed with Owner in writing, to become generally familiar with the progress and quality of the work as it proceeds in accordance with the Contract Documents, and shall keep Owner reasonably informed of the progress and quality of the work and shall endeavor to guard the Owner against defects and deficiencies in such work of the Contractor.

#### **Termination of Services:**

Either party may terminate this agreement upon at least seven (7) days' advance written notice to other. In the event that Owner terminates the agreement without fault of the Architect: (i) Owner shall compensate the Architect for all services provided to the date of which the Architect received notice of termination plus expenses incurred by the Architect due to premature termination of the project, including prorated profit and overhead; and (ii) the Architect shall not be liable for the use of its Instruments of Service created prior to the date of termination.

#### **Mediation**

Prior to the initiation of any legal proceedings, the parties agree to submit all claims, disputes, or controversies arising out of, or in relation to the interpretation, application or enforcement of this agreement to non-binding mediation. Mediation shall be conducted under the auspices of the American Arbitration Association in accordance with its existing terms and procedures. The cost of mediation shall be borne equally by the parties.

This article shall survive completion or termination of this agreement, but under no circumstances shall either party call for mediation of any claim or dispute arising out of this agreement after such period of time as would normally bar the initiation of legal proceedings to litigate such a claim or dispute under the laws of the state of Illinois.

#### **Legal Action**

All legal actions by either party against the other for breach of this agreement or failure to perform in accordance with the standard of care, however denominated, shall be barred two (2) years from the day after time the Owner knew or should have known of its claim or the Date of Substantial Completion, whichever is earlier.

Should it become necessary for the Architect to enforce any of the provisions of this agreement, or to collect any portion of the amount payable under this agreement, then all litigation and collection expenses, including but not limited to witness fees, court costs, and attorney's fees shall be paid by the Owner.

#### **Miscellaneous:**

To the extent within the Owner's control, the Architect shall have the right to take photographs and make other reasonable promotional use and/or publication of the project. The Architect shall be given appropriate credit on all construction signs or promotional materials or any and all publicity concerning the project.

## Field Guide

### *Standard Terms and Conditions*

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No right or obligation of either party under this proposal is assignable without the consent of the other party. Any other purported assignment by either party will be void.

Any and all exhibits, schedules and attachments hereto, including but not limited to any AIA Contract are made a part of this agreement by this reference. In the event of a conflict among any such exhibits, this proposal or the AIA contract, this agreement shall at all times govern.

#### **Agreed to by Owner:**

Signature

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Name:

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#### **Agreed to by Architect:**

Signature



Name: Daniel Roush, AIA

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# Memo

**To:** Chris Wollmuth, Chair, Recreation and Facility Program Committee  
Board of Park Commissioners

**From:** Maureen McCarthy, Deputy Director Recreation

**Cc:** Jan Arnold, Executive Director

**Date:** February 13, 2027

**Re:** Annual Historic Homes Report



## Statement

The Annual Historic Homes Report has been prepared and summarizes the completed 2025 Park District year.

## Discussion

The comprehensive Historic Homes Report details the various programs, rentals and events providing current and historical participation data, and financial data.

## Conclusion

Susan Crane, Historic Properties and Special Events Manager will be present at the February 19, 2026, Regular Board Meeting, with a summarized version of the report and to answer any questions the Board may have.



# 2025 Historic Properties Operations Report

## **HISTORIC HOMES MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of Cheney Mansion and Pleasant Home is to provide unique venues for private events, cultural arts, recreation events and community events for the enjoyment of Oak Park residents and non-residents.



## **Cheney Mansion**

- Cheney Mansion was designed and completed between 1911 and 1913 by Charles E. White Jr. The home had three owners before the Park District took possession in 1985. No funding was designated for its support.
- Over the last forty years, the home has been the site for weddings, private and corporate events, fundraisers, and film shoots.
- The Park District also hosts programs and special events at Cheney to provide the community with activities for people of all ages and interests.

## **Pleasant Home**

- Pleasant Home was built in 1897 and designed by architect George W Maher, is one of the earliest examples of Prairie-style architecture in the country.
- Pleasant Home was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1972. In 1996 the National Park Service made Pleasant Home a National Historic Landmark.
- This 30-room architectural gem is a showcase of 19th-century craftsmanship and artistry, with rich custom woodwork throughout the location, extraordinary art glass windows, a massive fireplace, intricate woodcarvings, and tile work. Pleasant Home is a distinctive venue for weddings, private celebrations, corporate events, fundraisers, and Park District special events.



## **REVENUE**

Revenue for both homes are collected from four sources:

- Rentals
- Preferred caterer fees
- Coach house rental at Cheney Mansion
- Recreational programs

### **□ RENTALS**

- Cheney Mansion Capacity is 150-170 Indoor Seated/225 Cocktail style. Pleasant Home Capacity is 100 guests.
- A seasonal tent is installed on the patio at Cheney from April through October.
- Latest end time for events is 11pm.
- Staff strictly adhere to outdoor music cut off times of 10 pm Fridays and Saturdays, and 9 pm on Sundays.
- Both locations have workable kitchen equipment for caterer use.

### **□ CATERERS**

- Shared list for both locations with eight caterers on our preferred list.
- Reviewed annually by Manager.
- Annual fee is \$2,000.

### **COACH HOUSE**

- Managed by Oak Park Residence Corporation/Housing Forward as a residential facility.
- Monthly rent is \$2,130.

### **□ PROGRAMS**

- Planned as family and adult focused events.
- Partner with other recreation areas and local partners to offer programming at the homes.

## **STAFFING**

### **DAILY OPERATIONS**

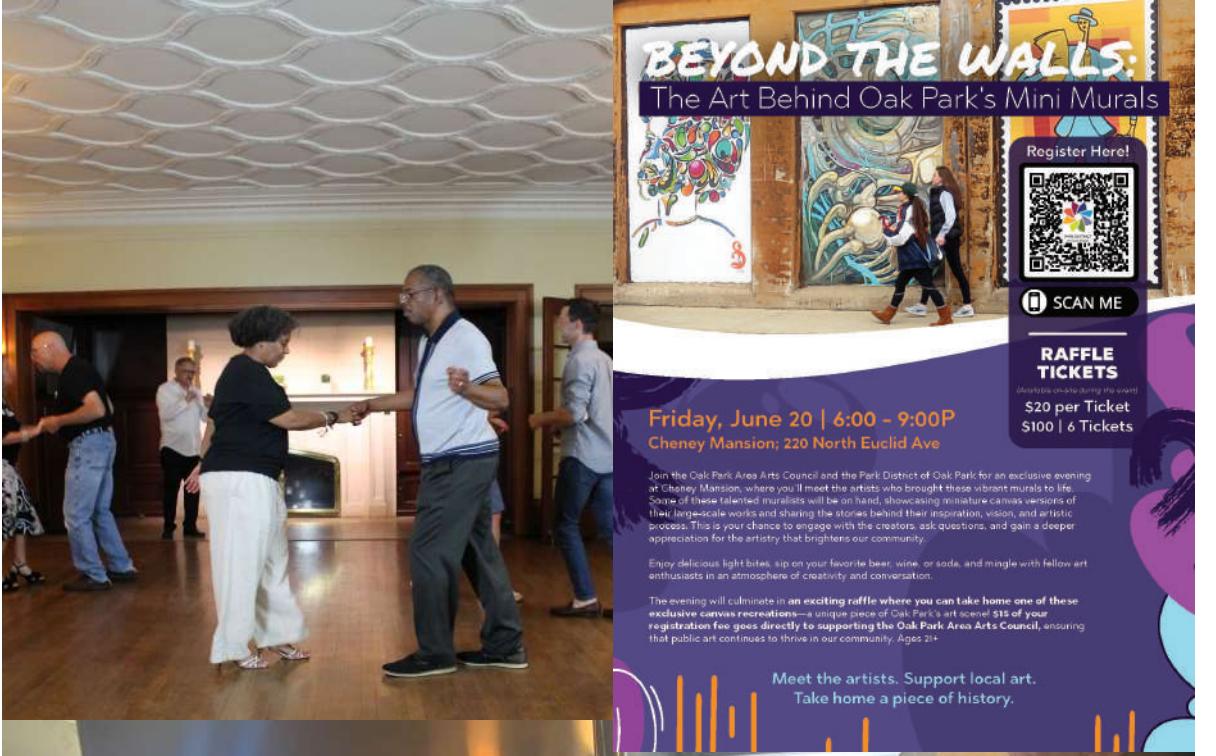
- In 2025, Cheney Mansion and Pleasant home was managed by one full-time Manager of Operations, one full-time Event Coordinator who has moved into a full-time Supervisory role, part-time Event Supervisors, and part-time Event Attendants.
- The Manager, Supervisor, and Part-Time Supervisors book the events and work with the clients and caterers on execution, as well as provide guidance during events for event attendants. They also work and plan adult and family programs at both homes, give tours, and maintain client communications.
- We also maintain a staff of part-time Event Attendants to work events at both properties as well as the large community events for the Park District.

### **EVENT MANAGEMENT**

- Depending upon the size of an event, the part-time Supervisor, Event Supervisor, or Manager are the lead for the event, and two to four Event Attendants are scheduled.
- Independent catering staff sets up and breaks down for food and beverage service for private events.
- Historic Properties Staff facilitate and set up ceremonies, work with independent caterers, clients and outside vendors for successful execution of timelines. Historic Properties Staff also handle regular custodial duties and cleaning requirements for the homes, as well as provide additional support for other community events and programs.

### **CONTRACTUAL**

- In 2025, we focused on the continued expansion and rebranding of our Adult Programs. We expanded our local business partnerships and nonprofit partnerships into larger scale events. We also expanded the type of entertainment options offered at both locations.
- With our larger partnerships, revenue from events is split benefitting both PDOP and our non-profit partners.



## 2025 CHENEY MANSION HIGHLIGHTS

- The number of private rental events held at Cheney in 2025 was 90, a 9% drop from 2024. We received cancellations in early 2025 due to uncertainty and mass layoffs early in the year. We were able to fill those dates with smaller rentals.
- Programming revenue continues to increase year after year. Revenue from programs increased 23% driven mostly in the adult programs.
  - We expanded our partnership with Fitzgerald's Nightclub and have landed on a popular format for Cheney.
  - For Fall/Winter, we worked with marketing on rebranding and repositioning our adult programs to make them easier and more tailored to our audience.
  - We continued to expand event offerings with Oak Park Festival Theater, and we added an art event with the Oak Park Area Arts Council that was very successful.
  - We continue to seek out more forms of entertainment for this audience to be held at both homes as a night out and a new way to look at what the Park District can offer.
- Family Programs continue to be solid throughout the year and we continue to follow trends and popular themes to bring increases.
- Our Holiday events in 2025 included family and adult events from late November through the week of Christmas and had 1,370 participants.
- Wells for the installation of Geothermal were installed during the summer.

## 2025 PLEASANT HOME HIGHLIGHTS

- The number of private rental events held at Pleasant Home in 2025 was 49, a 19% increase over 2024. Event revenue also increased by 27% over 2024.
  - We were able to rebound from any issues related to the departure of the Pleasant Home Foundation with an increase in weddings and corporate rentals at Pleasant in 2025.
- Overall program revenue in 2025 at Pleasant Home was down 5% from 2024.
  - Oak Park River Forest Symphony did not run their program as previous held, but we were able to offer two new classical music programs that had very positive responses, if not to full capacity. Adult programming at Pleasant, like Cheney, continues to be very popular, and we continue to seek new partners to add.
  - Holiday Events at Pleasant continued to drive a large amount of revenue and visitors, and we had over 950 participants in our family and adult Holiday events in 2025.
  - Our family events were just to budget, and we continue to develop themed events appropriate for Pleasant. This year added a Wicked-themed event to great success. We continue to follow what is trending and how it can be interpreted into an event.
- The Docent Program continues to grow.
  - Sunday, once a month, continues to be the busiest tour day.
  - Our docents also volunteer at programs and private events. For Private events, clients pay an additional fee to have a docent during cocktail hour and has contributed another \$600 in revenue in 2025.
    - Every time we have a docent for either a program or a private event, attendees love it and feel like they have a special inside view of the house and history.
  - At the end of the year, marketing did a campaign to recruit more docents as our core number dwindled to about 4 regulars. We have added two docents and are working with additional parties interested in taking the next steps.



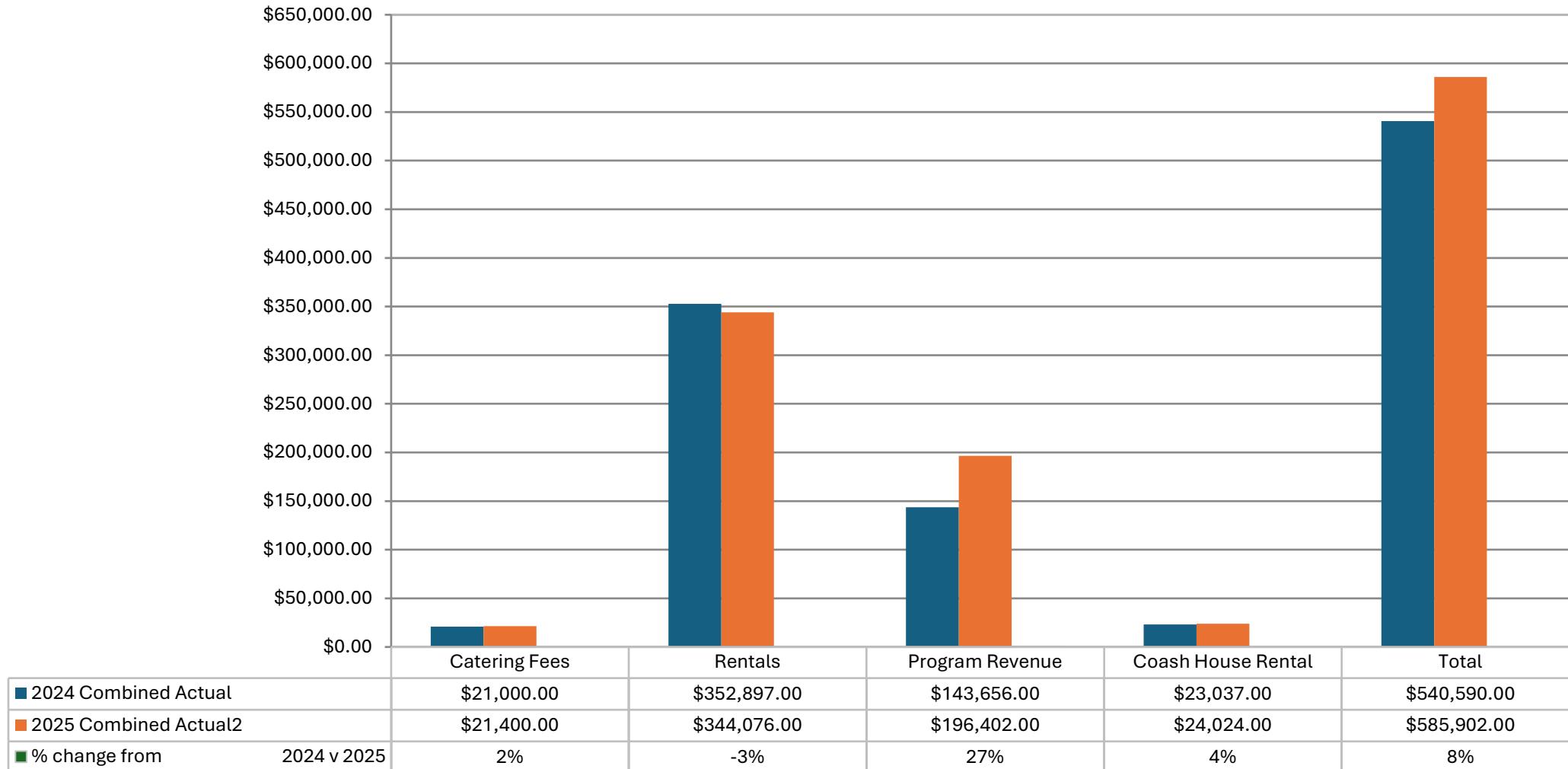
## 2025 Historic Homes Revenue Comparison

Combined revenue for the homes increased in 2025:

Program revenue continues to increase through partnerships and offerings and rebranding of our adult programs.

Rental revenues showed a slight decrease. Cancellations came in early in the year at Cheney.

Rental revenues at Pleasant Home had a 27% increase over 2024, offsetting some early cancellations at Cheney.



## 2025 Historic Homes Expense Comparison

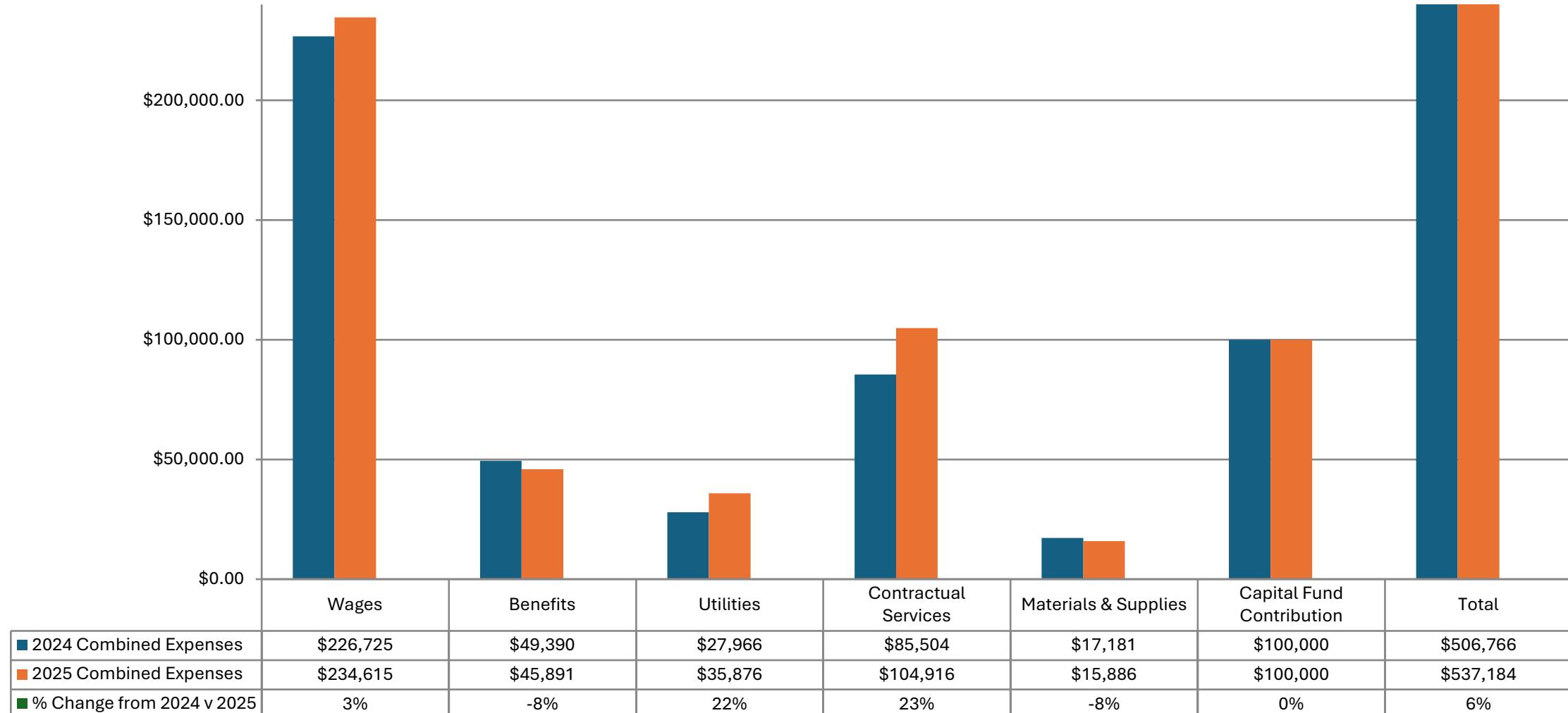
Combined expenses for 2025 increased slightly.

Third year of Capital Fund Contribution.

Revenue sharing partnerships contributed to increased in contractual expenses.

Continued increase in food/catering costs also contributed to increased contractual expenses.

Property repair expenses were up at Cheney impacting the overall utilities expenses.

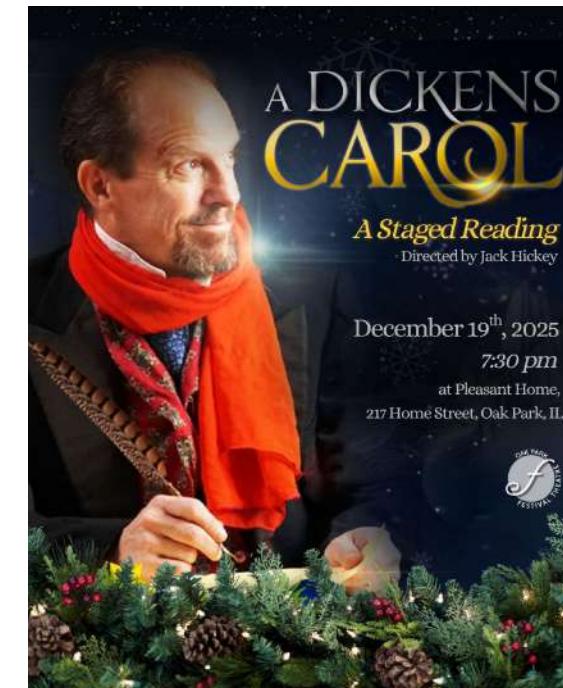


## PARK DISTRICT AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS

In 2025 Cheney Mansion and Pleasant Home were consistently being used by other Park District of Oak Park departments for programs, meetings, and events. Our community partners such as WSSRA, WSCAE, OPRFHS, The Village of Oak Park, The Imagine Foundation, Whittier Elementary, Lincoln Elementary, Oak Park River Forest Garden Club, Oak Park Area Art Council, Oak Park Festival Theater, Explore Oak Park and Beyond, and FOPCON all utilized both facilities for fundraisers, shows, and meetings.

Partnerships and programs that were offered in 2025 include:

- Outdoor Yoga and Funday Sunday Yoga Brunch
- Dinner Dance Events with PDOP Instructors
- WSSRA – Sensory Friendly Holiday Events and annual Fundraising Event
- WSCAE Annual Spring Art Show
- The Symphony of Oak Park and River Forest Performances
- Oak Park River Forest Garden Club – Monthly Meetings and Lectures
- Oak Park Area Arts Council – Annual Board Meeting and Beyond the Walls Art Event
- Oak Park River Forest High School Annual Student Art Show
- Imagination Foundation's Fundraising Event
- Oak Park River Forest High School Huskie Booster Event
- Oak Park Festival Theater New Works Readings
- FOPCON's Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
- Whittier and Lincoln Elementary Fundraisers



## WHAT'S AHEAD FOR 2026?

- The continuation of the Geothermal installation at Cheney.
- The installation of a commercial electric oven/stove at Cheney Mansion.
- Barring cancellations, both locations are poised to have the highest number of weddings ever.
- Re-implementing post-private event surveys.
- Creation of a new Tea Party Rental tier for private rentals.
- Implementing a new staff scheduling system with When to Work.
- Curate additional opportunities with the Oak Park Area Arts Council.
- Continued refinement and recruitment of the docent program and new docents for Pleasant Home.
- Continuing to focus on creative partnerships with local organizations and businesses for programming.
- Refocus attention on Family Programming and rebranding them in the program guide.
- Develop a curated historic self guided tour package at Cheney utilizing existing photos, articles, etc. for our free tour days.
- Continue to utilize cost recovery tool for programs and rental rates.
- Installation of an electric commercial oven at Pleasant Home.

**CHENEY**  **MANSION**  
*Distinctive Charm, Inspiring Setting*

**PLEASANT**  **HOME**  
*Beauty & Architecture that is distinctly Oak Park*



# Memo

**To:** Chris Wollmuth, Chair, Recreation and Facility Program Committee  
Board of Park Commissioners

**From:** Maureen McCarthy, Deputy Director Recreation

**Cc:** Jan Arnold, Executive Director

**Date:** February 13, 2026

**Re:** Annual Recreation and Special Facilities Department Combined Reports

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## Statement

The Recreation and Revenue teams prepared the Annual Comprehensive Programming and Participation Reports summarizing the completed 2025 Park District program year.

## Discussion

The Comprehensive Programming and Participation Reports, produced since 2005, details the various Recreation and Special Facilities Department areas, providing current and historical participation data, and financial data. Staff provides summaries of programs as well as data analysis and status of programs in 2025.

## Conclusion

Maureen McCarthy and Program Managers will be present at the February 19, 2026, Regular Board Meeting, with a summarized version of the reports and to answer any questions the Board may have.



# PARK DISTRICT OF OAK PARK

## 2025 Annual Recreation

### Participation Report



218 Madison St  
Oak Park, IL 60302  
(708) 725-2000  
[www.pdop.org](http://www.pdop.org)

# INTRODUCTION

The Program Participation Report was introduced in 2005. The report is developed and produced by administration and program staff.

The Park District's mission, vision, and values lay the foundation and set the direction of the agency. The Recreation Department, with the mission in mind, work to develop program opportunities that are accessible to the community and integrated into the Oak Park living experience. Doing so requires that programs are relevant, innovative, quality based and focused on enhancing the participant's recreational experience.

The data provided in this report is consistent with what is being tracked in the MPower system as performance measures.

This report:

- Identifies program strengths and weaknesses, providing an understanding of where there is a need for program improvements;
- Provides data used to identify trends and creates a framework for improved program decision making.

# PROGRAM OVERVIEW

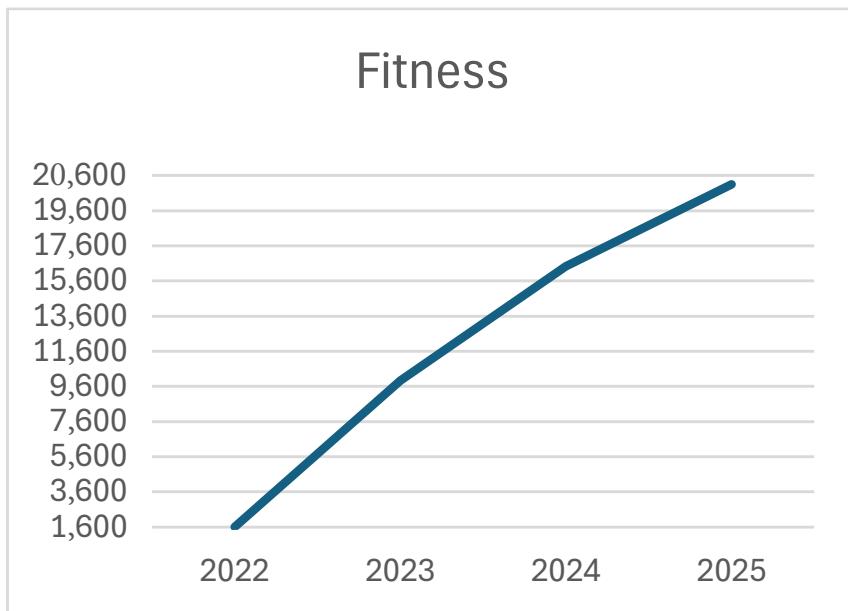
The programs offered by the Recreation Department include; fitness, adult and youth sports, day camps, afterschool, early childhood, special events, adult, senior, gymnastics, figure skating, hockey, aquatics and teen programs.



# FITNESS

## Fitness

Our Fitness program gained strong traction in 2025, showing clear growth across participation and programming. We hit 300 Ultimate Fitness Memberships, reflecting a notable increase in engagement and revenue. Our punch passes continued to be successful as well with 210 10-packs and 120 5-packs sold. During this time, we expanded to over 40 weekly fitness classes and introduced a new Wellness class, setting the stage for continued development in 2026. As we move forward, we are excited to build on this momentum and further support health and wellness throughout our community.



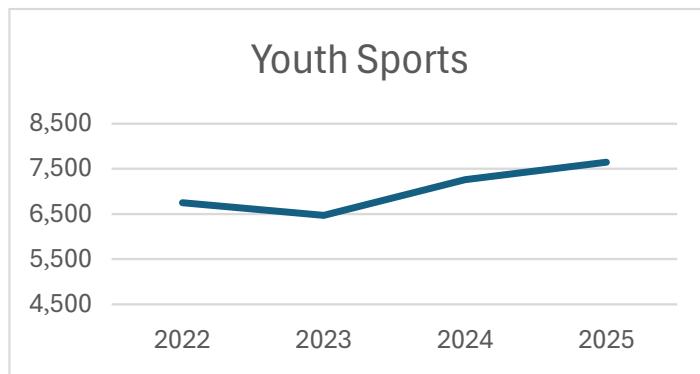
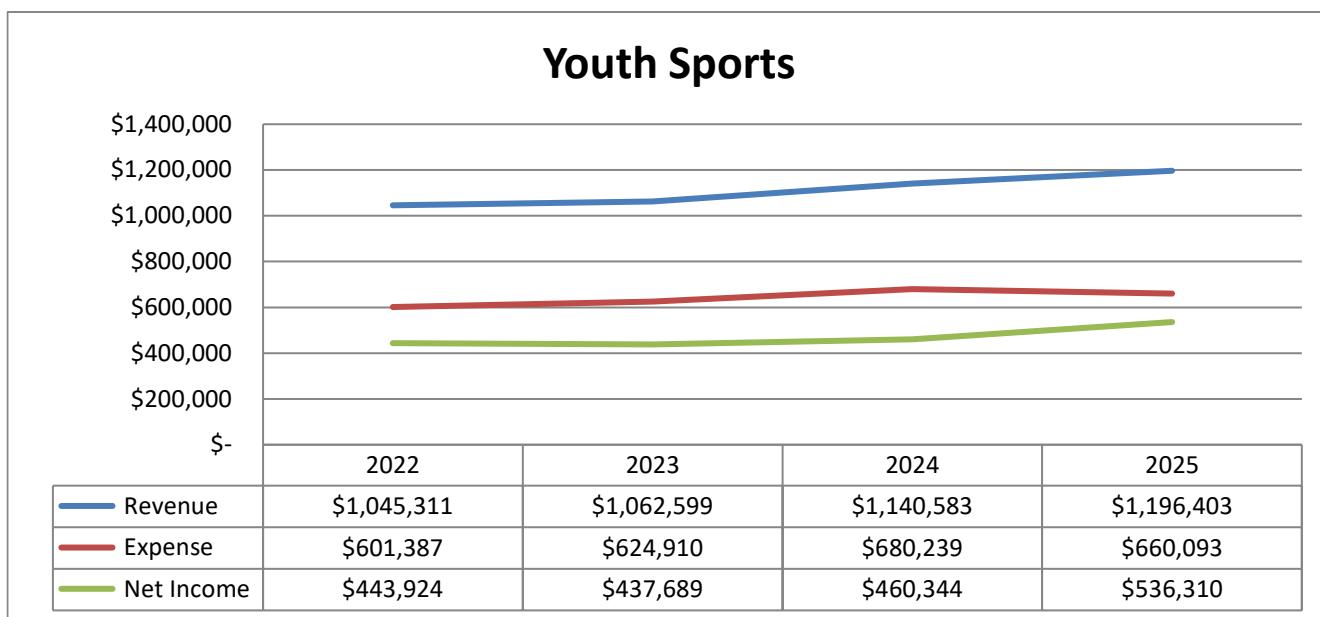
# YOUTH SPORTS

## Youth Sports

Youth sports in 2025 continued to produce high participation numbers and revenue growth. Main contributors to the participation and revenue growth were instructional basketball classes and the youth basketball leagues. We have been able to expand upon our instructional basketball and volleyball classes in recent years due to moving these classes to the CRC. We offered new youth pickleball lessons in the fall and look forward to running these classes throughout 2026 as well. In 2025 we also won a grant from NRPA that afforded us additional volunteer youth coach training for our 2025 coaches.

New to 2026, we are going to be offering a one-day tournament for high school sand volleyball. We are looking forward to seeing the turnout for this event and based on popularity, we hope to explore more of these one-day events in the future.

Youth sports partnership programs and camps saw a slight decrease in participation numbers in 2025 from 2024. The summer soccer camps saw a decrease in younger aged participants which correlates with the decrease in younger kids in the Oak Park area. That being said youth sports partnership programming still produced \$645,000 in total revenue for 2025. In 2026 we are downsizing the number of partners for summer soccer camps from 3 to 2 based on summer 2025 numbers.



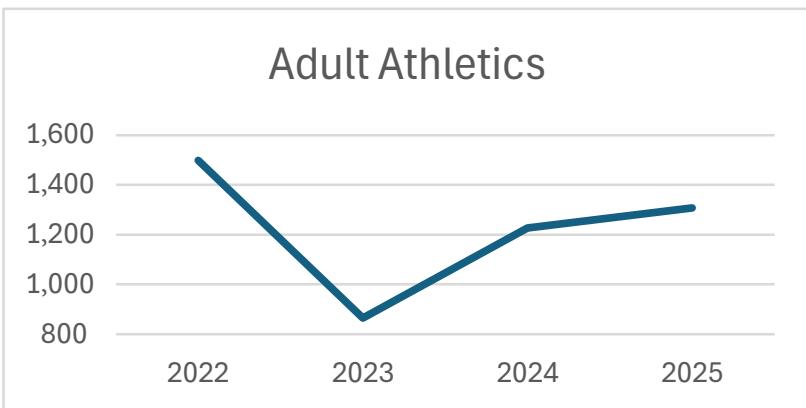
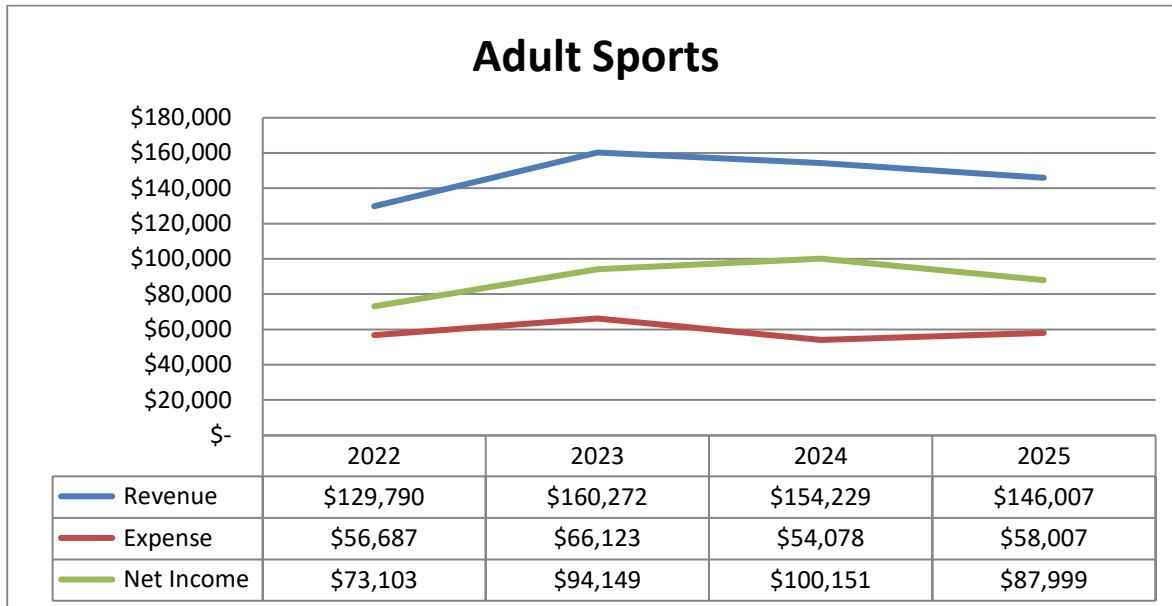
# ADULT SPORTS

## Adult Sports

In 2025, we were able to run our new adult pickleball leagues with a total of 42 teams across two seasons. In 2026, we will be offering these leagues again. We ran a one-day tournament in January which had 16 teams registered to play. Along with this tournament, we started to offer indoor pickleball lessons during the winter. Adult pickleball programming is certainly popular at this point and we look to capitalize on it in 2026.

The women's basketball program that had been so popular in years past became a women's open gym offering on the monthly CRC gym schedule. So, while we lost participants in our adult sports, these same participants became members at the CRC. We do however still offer the women's basketball league that continues to run each year.

During the outdoor season, we offered a new kickball league for adults that had five teams play this season. We look forward to expanding this league and gaining more teams in 2026. Our men's softball and adult soccer leagues remained steady in team participation compared to 2024.



# TEENS

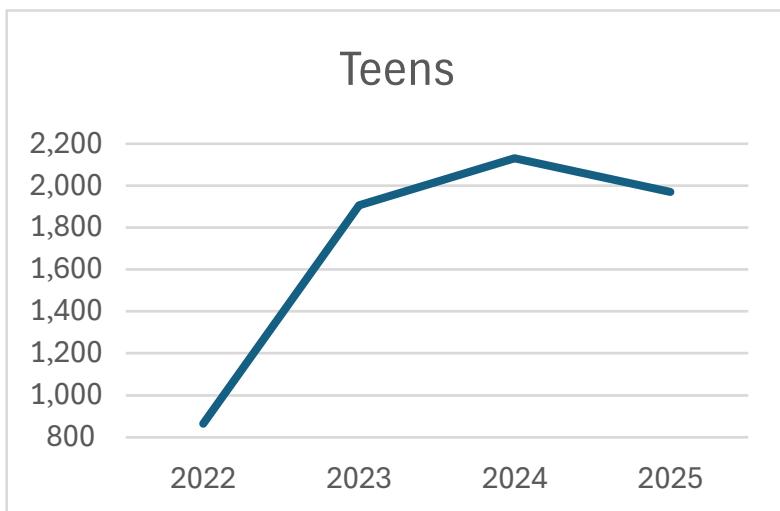
## Teens

Teen programming serves youth aged 11 to 18 and includes camps, trips, events, and classes. In 2025, the Esport's program expanded beyond gameplay to include STEM-based courses such as computer literacy, coding, and digital creation, while also growing competitive tournament offerings, and skill-development programming. Our Teen Camps were particularly successful this summer, along with the Counselor-In-Training (CIT) program, which saw 62 participants. In 2026, we look forward to expanding our E-Sports summer camp offerings, continuing to grow our CIT program, and introducing exciting new one-day activities to further engage our teen participants.

## CRC After School Program

Throughout the school year, we provide a free after-school program for Oak Park junior high and high school students, Monday through Friday, from 3–6 PM. Participants can access the gym and join in sports activities, while additional options include arts and crafts in the multipurpose room and dance classes in the dance/fitness studio. Mental wellness seminars are offered through our partnership with the Mental Health Board. We ended our partnership with Triton College for their tutors to assist with homework helpers as very little of the participants chose to take advantage of that program.

At the start of the 2024–25 school year, the program had 487 registered participants; by the end of the 24-25 school year, we had grown to 1,300 participants. The 24-25 school year produced our most successful teen Committee consisting of 10 program participants recruited to assist in planning and delivering activities for their peers. Members of the committee also developed leadership and work skills while receiving a \$100 monthly stipend during the school year. In January of 2026 we will be hosting our 1st parents night where parents can come talk to staff and staff describe the activities the children are involved with as well as expectations for the participants in terms of program rules. In the 25-26 school year we plan on continuing with our motto for the program which is “fun with purpose.”



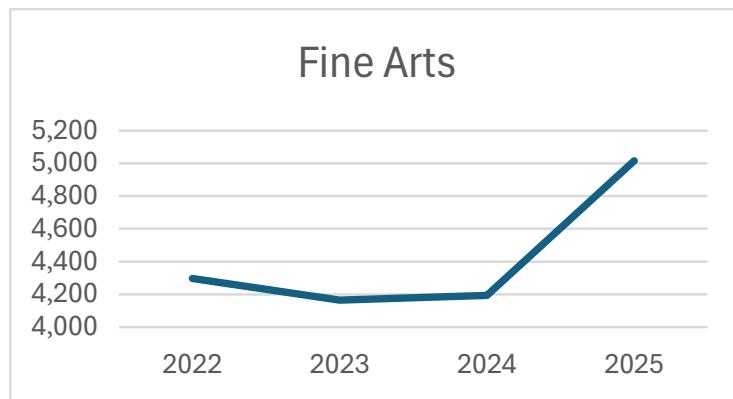
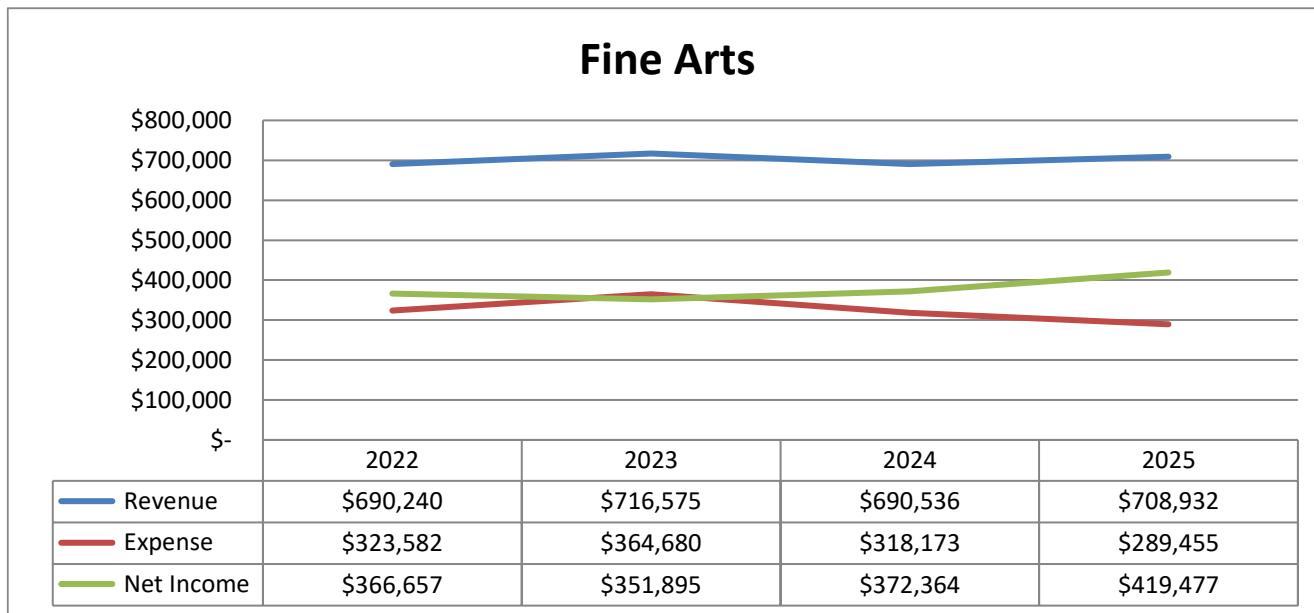
# FINE ARTS

## **Fine Arts**

2025 saw a change from interest in one-day workshops to session classes. Thanks to good forecasting, we were able to meet the demand for longer format classes by adding bonus sessions and new offerings throughout the year. We introduced Hand building, Saturday Afternoon, and Sunday Ceramics classes. Started an Abstract Life Painting class, Sewing/Alterations classes. Printmaking, Screen Printing, and Stained Glass saw huge growth in participants, and overall, our programs saw 800 more participants than in 2024 and over \$34,000 more in revenue from 2024.

## **Performing Arts**

2025 was another successful year for Performing Arts, offering more music, theatre, and dance classes for all ages. We introduced many new classes, some of which include Broadway Voices, Line Dance, Youth Chorus, Mini Musicals, and more, all of which were a success. We are excited for a new Cheer program we have created, which will begin in 2026. Over 2,000 tickets were sold for our three annual shows: The Nutcracker, our Spring Dance Recital: Once Upon A Time, and our Summer Musical: Alice in Wonderland Jr! In 2026, we look forward to expanding our performing arts offerings and creating new opportunities, including the new Field Center.



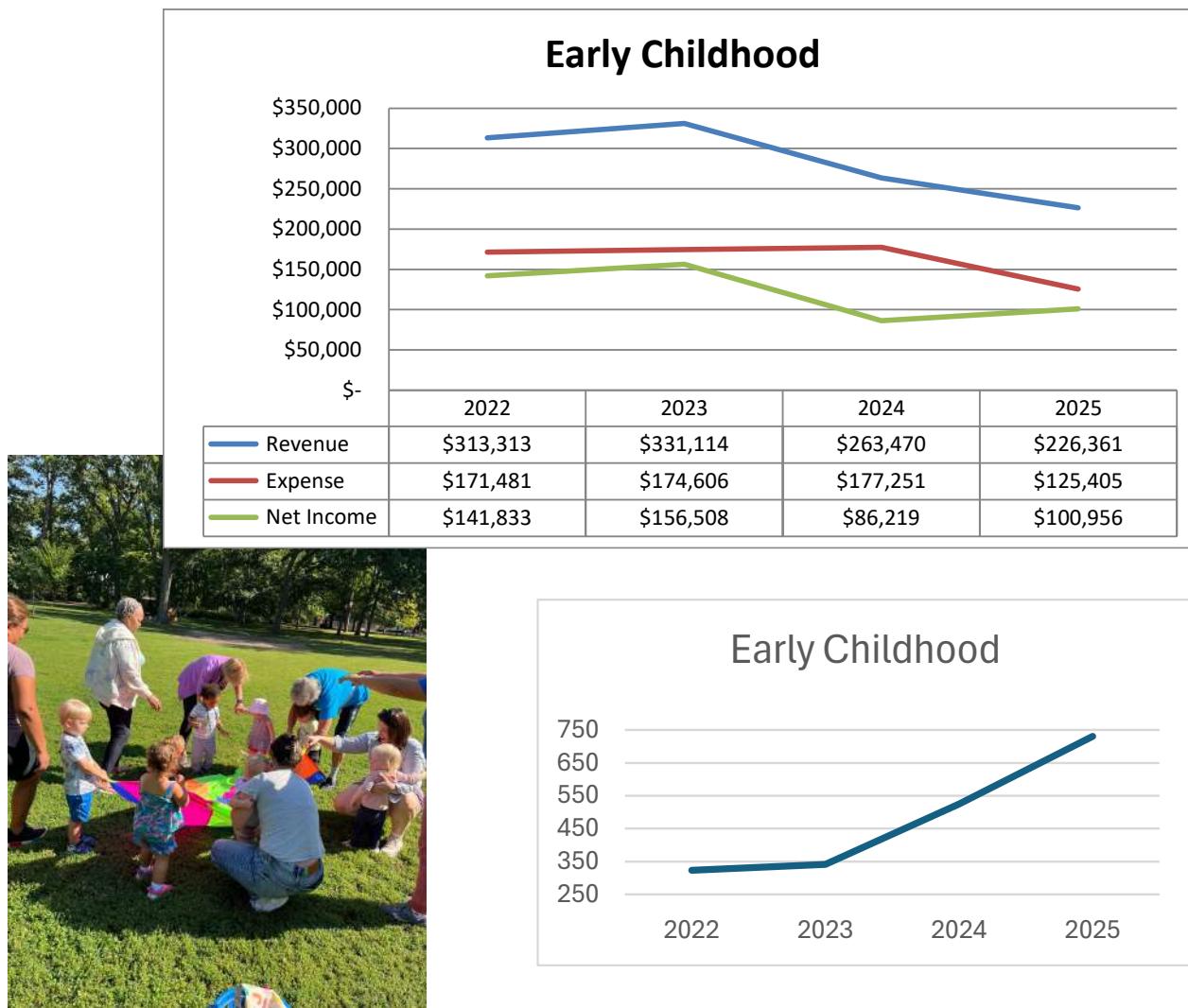
# EARLY CHILDHOOD

Our Early Childhood and Enrichment programs serve children ages eight months to five years, offering developmentally appropriate classes—many with caregiver participation—that support socialization, conceptual learning, and movement development. Our Nature Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten programs for ages three to five emphasize social, emotional, motor, and cognitive growth, with a strong focus on kindergarten readiness.

In 2025, we successfully operated three classrooms at the Carroll Center, including Nature Preschool, Pre-K, and Play-school (Spring 2025). The Cubhouse Indoor Playground experienced significant growth, reaching 115 memberships. Seasonal events remained highly popular, with programs such as Kinder New Year's Eve consistently reaching capacity and maintaining waitlists for the third consecutive year.

Enrichment programming at Austin Gardens also saw strong participation. Busy Bees & Butterflies reached full capacity in four of six sessions, and Mini Musicians continued to perform well. Birthday party bookings increased from 8 to 19 reservations and participation in School's Out programs grew by 50%. Overall enrollment in enrichment classes increased following the consolidation of Early Childhood age programs under one tile.

Looking ahead to 2026, we plan to expand enrichment offerings and strengthen cross-department collaboration, with a strategic focus on Monday programming to meet community demand. Planned additions include early childhood sports, music classes, expanded Austin Gardens programming, and new child-and-caregiver experiences. We look forward to another year of innovative, high-quality programming serving the Oak Park community.



# NATURE & ADVENTURE

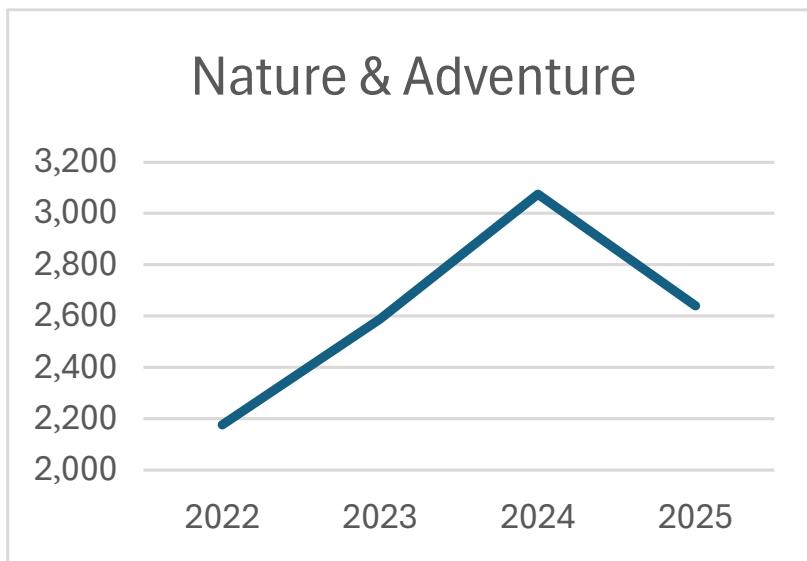
## **Nature & Adventure**

Nature & Adventure programming serves early childhood, youth, families, and adults at the Austin Gardens Environmental Education Center, Fox Center, and Lindberg Park. Offerings typically include camps, classes, trips, and events.

2025 was a great year for Nature & Adventure, with a total of 2,639 participants in paid programming and over 250 visitors to the free Open Nature Center hours at Austin Gardens. The number of programs for adults were increased this year, with forty participants in hiking trips throughout the summer and fall.

In 2026, we are excited to further expand our programming at Austin Gardens, offering nature birthday parties and scout badge programs. We are looking forward to a year of furthering outdoor exploration and environmental consciousness in our community.

**\*Revenue and Expense for this area is split in Community Programs, Day Camps and the Conservatory.**



# COMMUNITY PROGRAMS & EVENTS

## Community Programs & Events

In 2025, our Community Programs and Events brought the Oak Park community together with a variety of fun and engaging activities throughout the year.

Winter Fest kicked off the year in February, drawing approximately 200-250 attendees for the first time at Longfellow Park. The ice rink was open, we had Oakie and Parker along with some Ice Bears and many first time ice skaters. We had fun winter themed activities indoors and all enjoyed the hot chocolate!

Our annual Egg Dash and Scramble and Doggie Egg Scramble returned to Maple Park on April 19. With over 1,500 "Scramblers" and approximately 3,000 attendees overall, the morning was filled with excitement. Our Doggie Egg Scramble, held in partnership with the Animal Care League, was a hit with about 50 dogs hunting for treat-filled eggs.

In June, we partnered with the Village of Oak Park for Day in Our Village at Scoville Park, offering family-friendly activities.

July brought a new Themed Week: Pirate Week! Camps, historic properties, the Conservatory, and parks all embraced the theme including a first ever cardboard boat regatta at Rehm to kick off the week. We finished the week with Pirate Family Day Camp as part of Illinois Unplugged Day and Pirates of the Caribbean movie that night. The summer also featured popular Concerts in the Parks and Movies in the Parks.

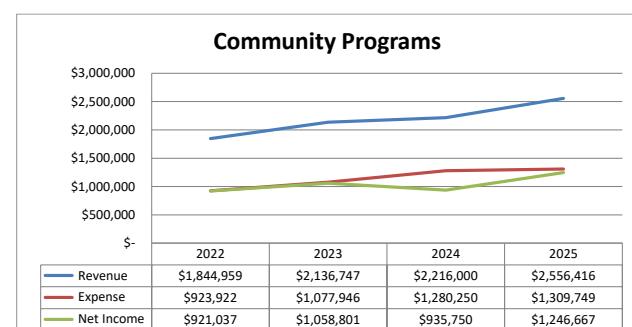
Our annual Fall Fest on September 21 at Rehm Park and the Conservatory was another highlight. Attractions included carnival rides, games, a master pumpkin carver, and animal demonstrations featuring bats, rats, and skunks. East Avenue came alive with food vendors, and the return of the Giant Slide. New this year was the very popular Prime Time Racing where participants could race mini cars around a track. The event attracted approximately 3,000 visitors on a beautiful fall day.

Building on the success of last year's themed week, we're excited to announce Mythical Creatures for July 2026 for Unplug Illinois. We're also engaging the community to select the June Movie in the Park.

**The Clubhouse Afterschool Program** continued to be a vital resource for families, serving more than 270 unique students from D97 elementary schools. The program provides a safe, supportive, and enriching environment for children. With the addition of the new Field Center, the Clubhouse will be able to serve an additional 24 students beginning in fall 2026.

**Our Lifelong Learning programs** saw big growth in participants, members, and revenue in 2025. We reached an all-time high in participation, with 1,127 more registrations than in 2024. Memberships remained strong, exceeding 400 participants throughout the year. Despite an increase in membership fees from \$52-\$75, our members were not only understanding, but we saw an increase in donations to the program of more than \$900 from September to December. We started the process of increasing our much-needed revenue to cover the cost of staff, and we should see much improvement in that area in the coming year. Dole Center continues to serve as a welcoming hub for Lifelong Learners, and we are prioritizing the need for sustainable revenue in 2026.

The **Frank Lloyd Wright Race** was successfully held on October 19, 2025, with 2,358 participants completing the 5k and 10k races. This was our highest participant total since the 2019 race. We added a lil runners race for ages 3-5 years old in 2025. In 2026, the race will take place on Sunday, October 18, with this being the golden 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the race.



# COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER

## Community Recreation Center (CRC)

In 2025 our main goal was member retention. In December 2025, we calculated that we are retaining an average of 60-64% of our CRC members. The national gym member retention rate is right around 60% so we're within that threshold.

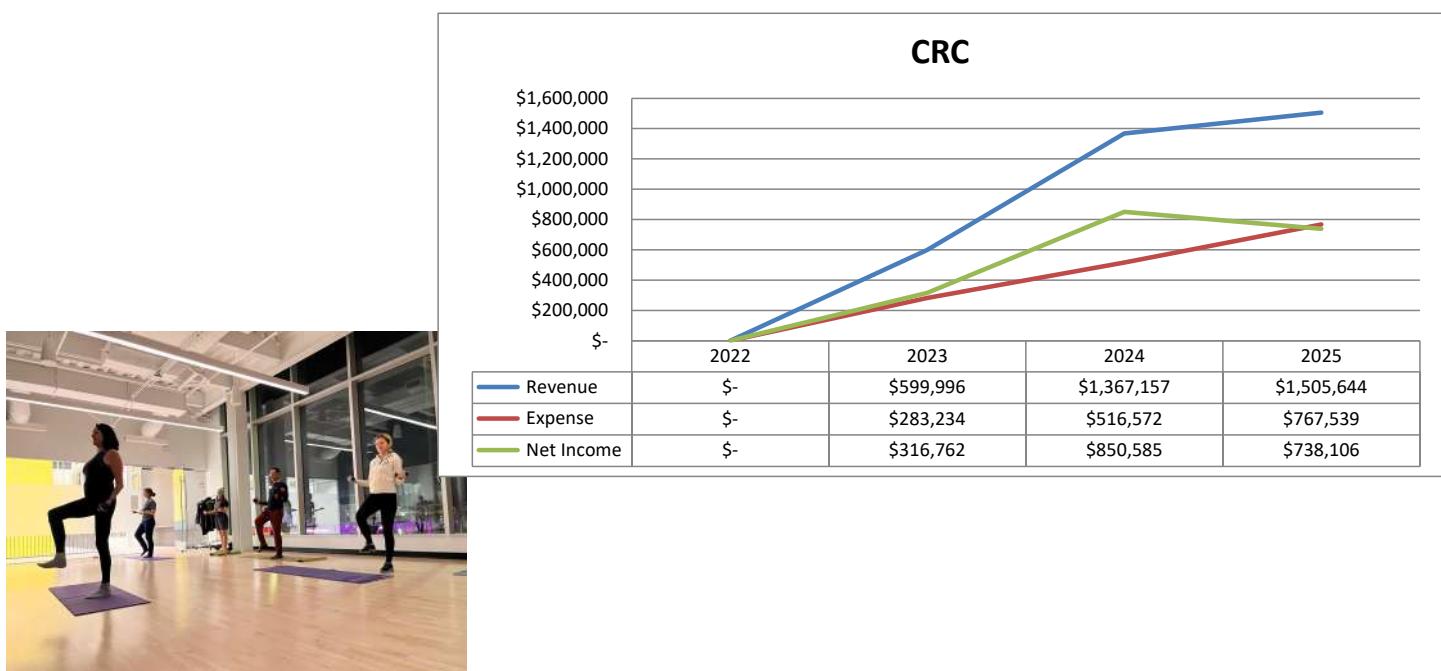
We feel our member retention is a success due to our hard-working staff, including custodial staff keeping the floors, bathrooms and locker rooms clean as well as our CRC staff making sure our fitness center and gymnasium are being maintained. Our Play Zone is another area we have excelled in keeping organized and sanitary for our young 3 months to 11-year-olds when parents need time to work out.

We have a little over 10,600 memberships, free or paid. The CRC is still getting new patrons in our doors every week.

The gymnasium hosted another successful Health and Wellness Fair in April welcoming approximately 400 residents and 100 vendors, seeing what the CRC has to offer. We held 2 successful blood drives in coordination with the Community Blood Center helping approximately 70 people with blood donated. The Community Blood Center also started free blood pressure checks at the end of 2025 and will continue to do this free service for our members every other month in 2026. The park district will be working with Thrive Counseling Center to offer free seminars/workshops to CRC members regarding mental health.

We held four member fitness challenges throughout the year and had an average of 8-10 participants. These free challenges offer members a chance to either try a piece of fitness equipment they've never used or push themselves to accomplish a 2-3 week fitness goal. In addition, we offer In-Depth Fitness Equipment Classes, a three-week series held weekly, helping participants feel confident using the fitness equipment.

The CRC remains committed to being a cornerstone of wellness and community connection in Oak Park.



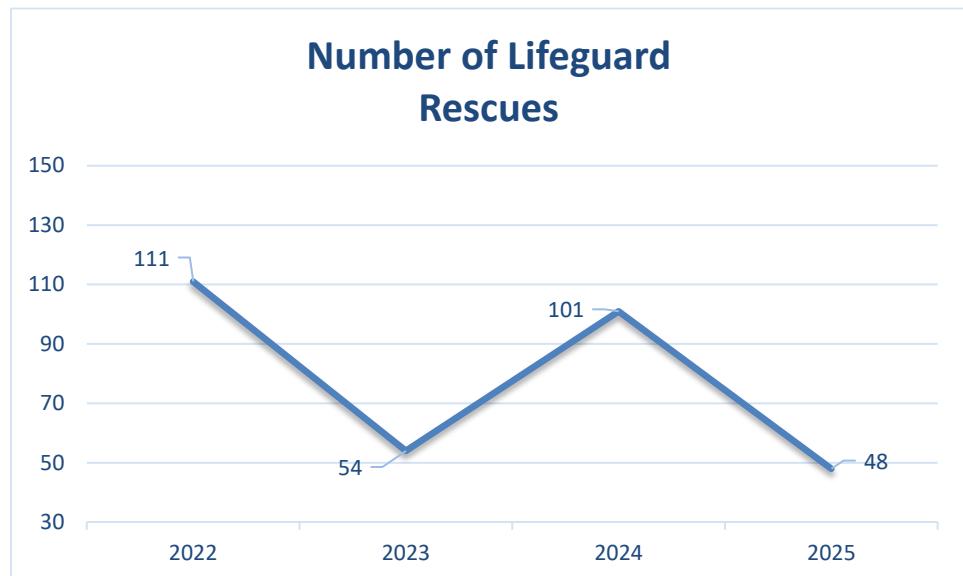
# Lifeguards

Recruiting, onboarding, and training efforts were a significant focus for full-time staff from January to May. This investment paid off, as the team started the summer fully staffed with 120 lifeguards for the third consecutive year. All lifeguards were trained by full-time staff and Pool Assistant Managers at Ridgeland Common.

Throughout the year, the Aquatic Leadership team maintained strong engagement with management, meeting weekly to discuss improvements to the aquatic operation. Their dedication contributed to the team's outstanding performance during Ellis audits. The lifeguard team consistently exceeded Ellis's criteria in all three audits and earned the **Platinum International Safety Award**.

Additionally, PDOP sent two teams to participate in the **IPRA Guard Games** in Glen Ellyn. While they did not take first place, their sportsmanship, enthusiasm, and professional demeanor outside our facilities were exemplary. This team spirit also shone through during the PDOP internal training sessions and guard games, which remain a highlight of the summer for staff.

The lifeguard team's dedication to training was evident in their professional handling of medical incidents and their proactive approach to preventive lifeguarding strategies throughout the season.



# Swim Academy

## Learn to Swim

Learn to Swim received a lot of positive feedback again this Summer. We saw an increase in returning swim instructors which allowed them to plan and run lessons more confidently. Returning instructors allowed us to add additional programs including a Master Swim Team and Aqua Yoga. Additionally, participants are now accustomed to checking in at the front gate of both facilities and asking the cashiers for instruction as needed. Overall, the first days of sessions ran smoothly.

For Summer 2026, the Swim Academy will be using the new activity pool to host lessons in the morning. This new element is a disruption to the norms from last year. To combat any first-day confusion, we will be including deck maps with instructions for meeting up with classes in addition to the usually directions given in the Learn to Swim Welcome Packet. The pool space no longer used by swim lessons will host a new adult swim program.

Fall and Winter lessons continue to be popular, with registration numbers surpassing previous years. OPRFHS's new Natatorium is still under construction, relegating lessons solely to Fenwick. However, weekend hours are available at OPRFHS and the District has been able to add Aquafit classes and lap swim there. We were able to add an additional session in March and April at both facilities.

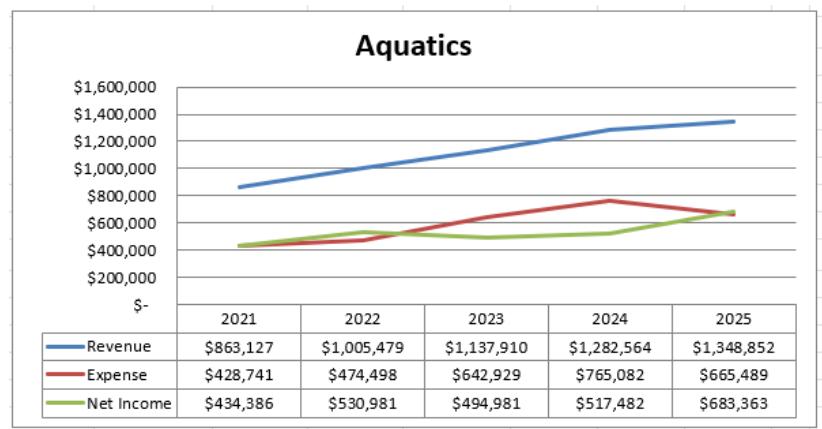
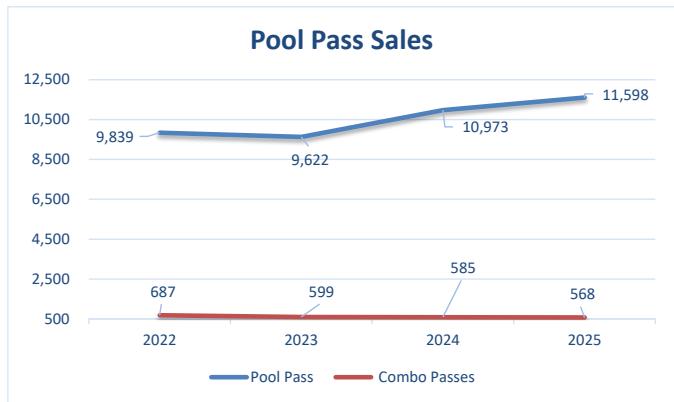
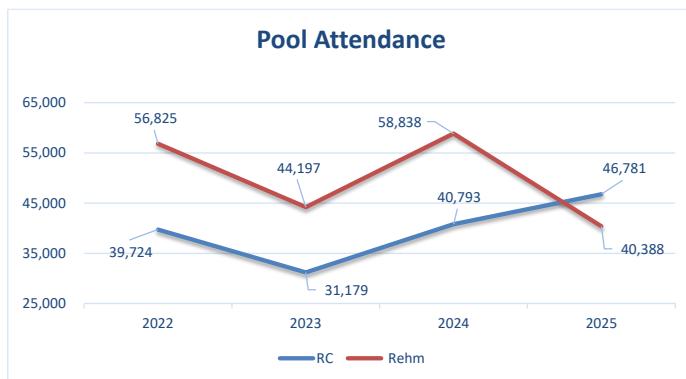


# Passes, Public Swim, Overall Financials

Pool pass sales have seen consistent growth over the past three years, with a 6% increase in 2025 from 2024. Looking ahead to 2026, we plan to provide a info packet that provides pool rules, weather-related closures, special events, and other key updates. This document will help pool pass sales for non-residents and that is our growth margin. 2026 should see growth in sales with the new activity pool open at Rehm.

Attendance at the pools decreased as the district opened Rehm with less attractions. Admissions followed a similar trajectory, as we saw a decrease in revenue for general and lap swim. Staff offset these numbers by maintaining expense for the amount of amenities that were open.

Overall bottom line for pools ended the 2025 fiscal year 30% increase in net earnings from 2024. This increase is mostly due to the amount of staff required at Rehm Pool. With the new activity pool construction not open, the district say a larger profit due to less staff being required per shift.



# Ridgeland Camps

Ridgeland Common hosted campers aged 5-14, offering a variety of camps designed to maximize ice time, pool time, and activities both indoor and outdoor. The Skate & Swim, Splash, Figure Skating, Hockey, and Jr. Lifeguard Camps all quality enrollment again this summer.

Camp Splash and Jr. Lifeguard Camp continued into their third year with strong enrollment. Jr Lifeguard and Camp Splash saw high enrollment with Jr Lifeguard filled at 90%. The Hockey Camp increased in popularity, with an increase of 5% in 2025. The camp will follow the ADM style of the current Hockey Program.

We saw a drop in extended camp enrollment and several weeks ran with two spots open due to people moving into other camps closer to weeks start—as they were on a waitlist of other camps. Leading to the overall drop in enrollment from 2024 to 2025 of 42 less campers.



# Public Skate

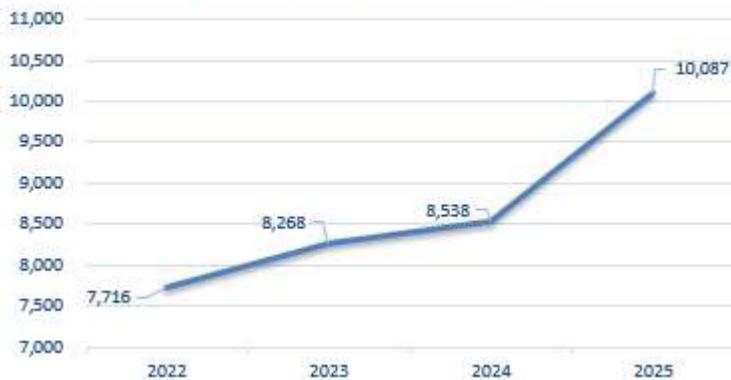
Ridgeland Ice Arena continues to prioritize Public Skate sessions, offering valuable opportunities for rink members to engage with the broader skating community. Public skate attendance reached its highest level recorded since 2019, along with the highest admission revenue during that time.

Beginning April 1, 2025, consistent Public Skate hours were implemented and will continue through 2026 and beyond: Fridays and Saturdays from 6:30–8:15 PM and Sundays from 12:45–2:45 PM. These changes did not impact the noon skate sessions, except during the summer months due to summer camp programming.

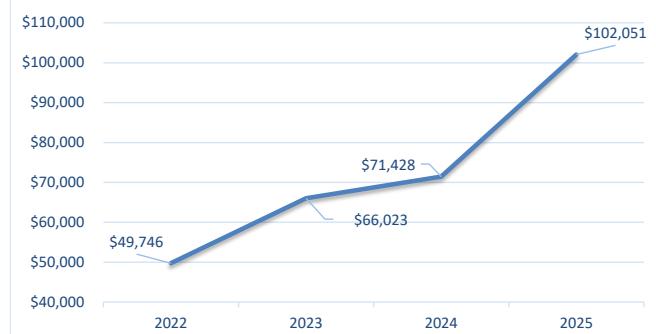
Additionally, skate rentals were included in the admission fee, and rink membership and program fees did not increase. The intent of this change was to drive rink membership pass sales; however, it appears to have instead contributed to increased public skate admission revenue.

Rink Membership sales, which provide access to all noon skates, public skates, and special events, declined in 2025. Staff plan to reintroduce Black Friday promotions and more actively market the value of the pass to public skate participants. With the purchase of a membership pass, skaters begin to see cost savings by their seventh public skate visit or fourth special event attendance.

## Public Skate Attendance



## Public Skate Admission



## Pass Sales

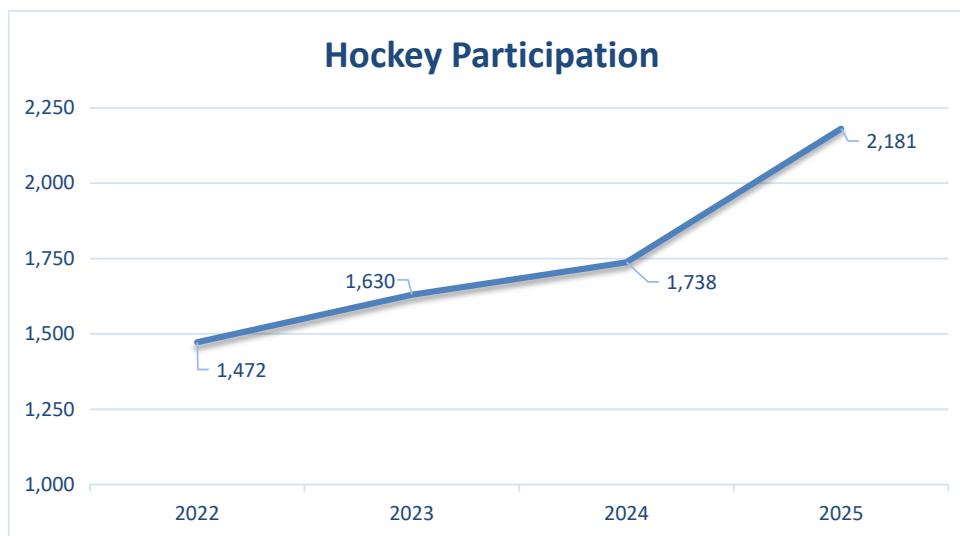


# Hockey Programs

Hockey programs saw a large increase in total participation due to drop in adult programs and Hruby Skates (rat hockey program). Overall participant registration in Hockey Academy and Ice Bears is down from 2024. At the same time we see the quality in play getting better as Ice Bears hockey program has more wins in each age division than in the past. Staff instruction and learn to skate programming lead to the increase in quality play. Those interested in Hockey Programming now start in Learn to Skate programming which is bringing down enrollment in early levels of hockey, but making quality of play better. Our Hockey Academy programs, serving young players ages 3-14, have maintained steady enrollment, with further room for growth in 2026.

The Ice Bears Hockey Program currently hosts 5 teams (2 Mite, 2 Squirt, 1 Peewee) with a total of 79 players. The majority of these players have come from our Hockey Academy program, specifically from the New Ice Bears Academy classes. There has been an outpour of positive feedback from parents about the new structure and leadership of the overall Hockey Program. In 2025, we made the difficult decision to discontinue our Bantam team due to low enrollment. At this age group, it is specifically hard to attract new players that want to learn hockey.

Adult Hockey participation has remained steady, with classes available for players at beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels. Our new structure helps players learn both the individual's skills, team concepts, and hockey sense to compete in the Adult Recreation Class. As mentioned, Hruby Skates has experienced large growth in 2025, with Paul Hruby continuing to be a strong community figure dedicated to his role.



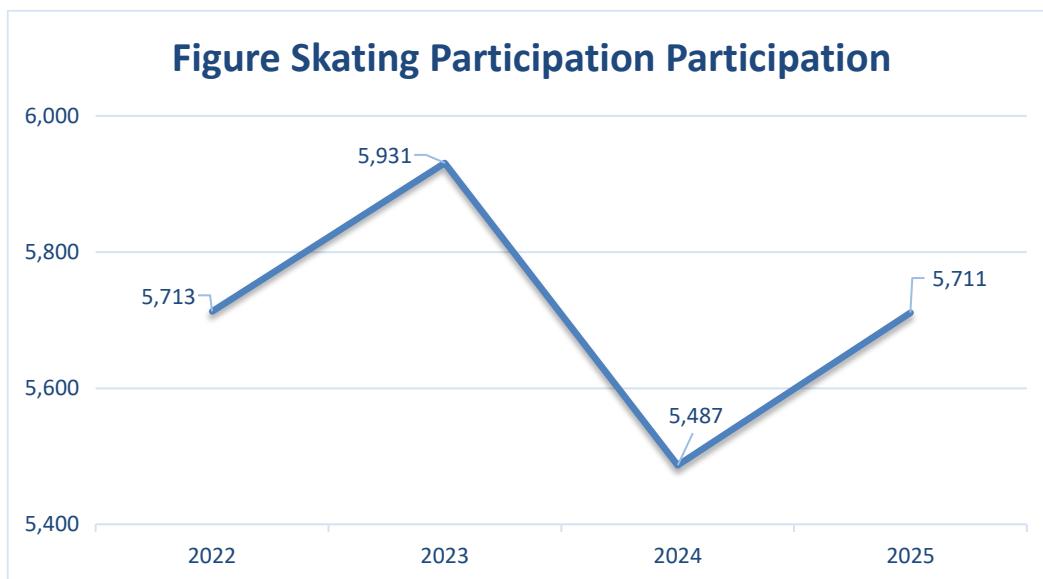
# Figure Skating Programs

Skate Academy has seen consistent enrollment year-over-year. This year the Ice Cubs or hockey programming for those under 5 utilizing the ice for the first time start in Learn to Skate.

This was put into place to help participants interested in trying hockey develop fundamental skating skills by making our Snowplow/Basic 1 & 2 classes a prerequisite to sign up for Ice Cubs.

Freestyle skate times increase in participation and monetary growth. Enrollment stayed steady for all higher level figure skating classes and specialized clinics. The district saw a large decrease in synchro team enrollment with 12 participants leaving or aging out. The team totals went from 24 to 12 in 2025.

The Holiday Skating Exhibition was once again a highlight of the holiday season, featuring 55 skaters. The event showcased solo performances, duos, and our synchronized skating teams. Additionally, our 2025 Ice Show, "Adventures on Ice", had 230 registrations, with skaters participating in shows spread over three days.



# Ice Rentals and Overall Financials

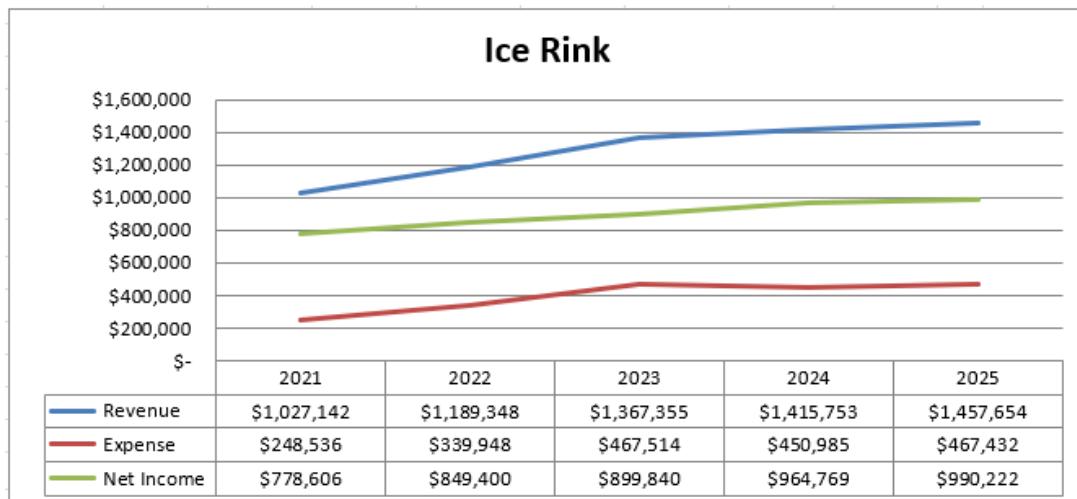
In 2025, Ice rental revenue finished the year 10% below budget. As well as seeing a decrease of 5% less revenue than 2024.

In 2025, the rink lost an individual men's hockey rental that was worth the value of \$12,000 annually. It didn't hurt the bottom line loss/gain of the Ice Rink because we closed our doors earlier on those days and was able to maintain expenses.

This is an area that the will remain stagnate for years to come. With the district choosing to build on programming, drop in opportunities, and providing benefits to our rink members, there will be limited growth. The Ice is being used from 6:00am until 11:30pm Monday—Friday in the fall through winter.

On the other hand, there is room to grow with Activity Room rentals. We are able to grow and are creating a plan to grow these rentals through information provided to general public and seeking out local groups.

Overall net gain of the Ice Arena continues to increase as the district continues to grow net profits. The district has seen a minimal drop in instructional class enrollment and has done well with pivoting and focusing on drop in programs, special events, and community services that all continue to grow.



# Gymnastics Programs

## Preschool and Recreation

The preschool program includes Tots and Gym Kids (ages 2-5), focusing on parent-child interaction and gymnastics fundamentals. Gym Kids (ages 6+) develop strength, coordination, and self-confidence through progressive levels. Oak Park Gymnastics follows the USAG Developmental Program, prioritizing safety.

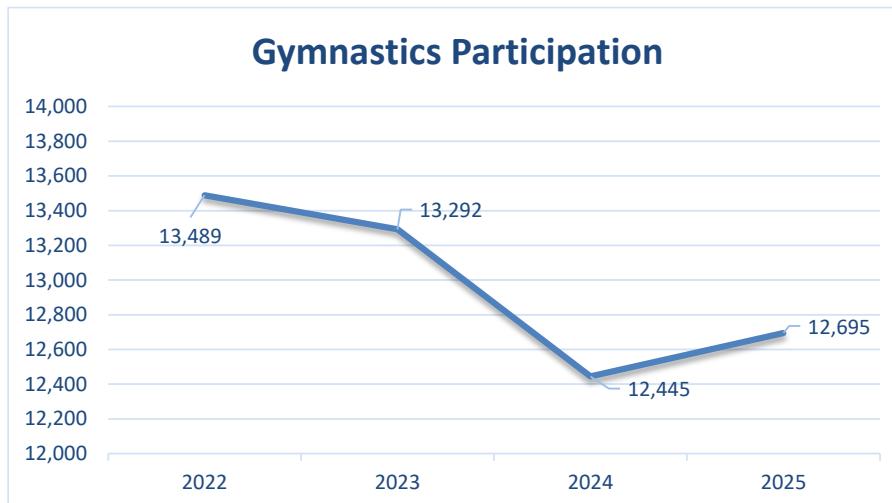
Overall participation increased in 2025, largely due to the addition of 6 weeks of summer gymnastics' camps and the addition of 2 more Preschool Playtimes on Mondays and Thursdays. The overall numbers do not include the number of Advanced level classes that are carrying over from Fall to Winter. Advanced level classes are now month-to-month payments and are not accounted for in future session enrollments. GRC enrollments were up by 300, however, an additional 156 is not included for advanced level classes.

## Team Gymnastics

The USAG season runs from December to March, with state, regional, and national events extending through May. The boys and girl's competitive teams are on the rise and continue to build. Successful yearly tryouts are contributing to consistent increases in team numbers. There are currently 48 team members with an additional 15 in our Accelerated program.

## Drop-ins:

Preschool Playtime (ages 1-6) and Open Gym (ages 6+ through adult) are offered weekly, with discounted passes available for both programs. Preschool Playtime allows up to 60 pre-registrations, while Open Gym accommodates 50 participants. Additional sessions were held during holidays and between classes, including Family Open Gym, which offers activities for families with children of all ages.



# Gymnastics Special Programs

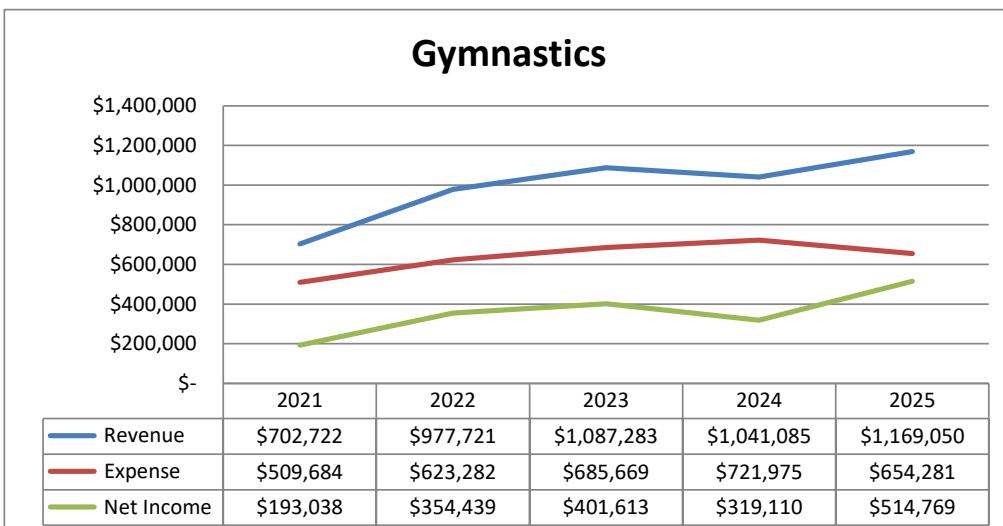
**Birthday Parties:** Birthday parties continue to be extremely popular. The simplified party package continued to be a success in 2025. In 2025, 98 parties booked out of 108 offerings. Oak Park residents are able to book parties 120 days in advance, while non-residents have only 90 days in advance. Currently 26 parties are already booked in 2026.

**Winter Camp:** The Winter Gymnastics Camp offered flexible, individual day registrations and ran for five days: December 22, 23, 29, 30, and January 2 from 8am-3pm. The camp included 4 hours of gymnastics instruction in the morning and traditional camp activities like board games and crafts in the afternoon. A total of 133 campers participated over the five days.

**Summer Camp:** Summer Camps started July 7 through August 15th, from 8am-3pm, with extended care from 3-6pm. The GRC offered 6 weeks of camp compared to 2 in years past. The camps served 411 campers, plus 103 in extended care. To continue to better meet community needs, the GRC will offer 10 weeks of gymnastics camp in 2026, up from 6 weeks in 2025.

**Ninja Course Challenge:** The Ninja Course Challenge remains a popular program at the GRC, continuously expanding to meet community demand. Since adding the warped wall in 2019, new obstacles like the slack line (2021) and Ninja Axle wheel have been introduced. In 2025, 9 sessions of challenges were held, serving 324 participants, who received a certificate and t-shirt. Due to growing interest and a waitlist, additional grouping options will be reviewed in 2026.

**Parent's Night Out/School Night Out:** Introduced in 2024, Parent's Night Out allows parents to enjoy a night out while their children participate in gymnastics, open gym, games, and pizza. The GRC held 12 events, serving 236 participants. School Night Out was a pilot program offered 4 times throughout the year for school aged children to participate in open gym style activity with their peers. This program served an additional 47 participants from neighborhood Oak Park schools.



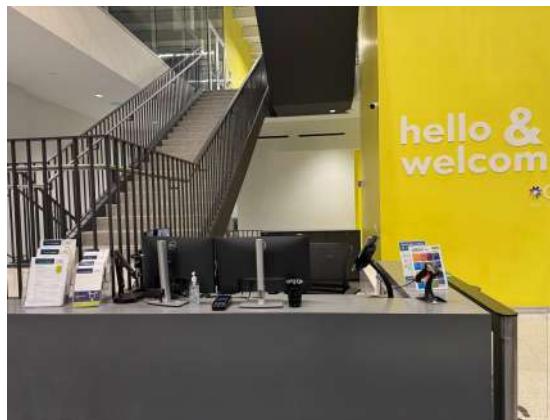
# Customer Service

Guest Services updated and created several resources and forms to better support staff and provide quick reference tools. Staff purchased iPads for each desk to be used for language translation and have utilized these tablets when necessary, especially during pool season. Staff were consulted to identify the resources that would be most helpful in assisting customers, resulting in a guest speaker training from Triton Colleges Community services which provided Tracy Crawford, previous Executive Director of NWSRA. Tracy provided a training for 12 out of 14 staff on deescalation and assertive customer service.

Guest Services Supervisor was tasked with hiring, training, and managing the Pool Cashiers. This has allowed brought consistency in training and processes. The supervisor hired 12 pool cashiers in 2025.

Guest Services Supervisor updated operational processes for cash control implementing a cash control manual and training. This created consistency throughout the district as the supervisor also provided training to Skate Shop staff and supervisors responsible for cash at RCRC.

Through monthly in-person staff meetings, Guest Services has strengthened communication throughout the district with updates from recreation staff, facility attendants, and the Parks and Planning departments. This has improved our ability to quickly identify the appropriate contacts for specific inquiries, making our internal processes more efficient and effective.



## **3 Year PACT Field Utilization**

The PACT program has been established to effectively manage and protect the Park District facilities while maximizing the benefits to Oak Park residents. The Park District places organizations accepted into one of four categories. The four categories that make up the acronym “PACT” are Partner, Associate Companion, and Tenant. Organizations that do not meet the requirements into the program will still have the ability to request use of Park District facilities, but will be required to follow the same procedures, policies, and fees as set for the general public.

<b><u>PACT Group</u></b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2025</b>
	<b>Hours*</b>	<b>Participants</b>	<b>Hours*</b>	<b>Participants</b>	<b>Hours*</b>	<b>Participants</b>
AYSO	4,230.5	1,449	4,438	759	4,438	856
Chicago Edge	1,920	1,085	1,890	575	1,890	598
East Ave Lacrosse	49	60	23.5	30	23.5	60
OPRF Alliance	1,119	215	646.5	250	646.5	250
OPRFYF/Cheer	340	190	216	250	216	222
OPRFYU	265	520	195	400	195	99
OPYBS	6,987.5	2,155	7,245.75	1,459	7245.75	1,443
Pony	928.5	204	"	"	"	"
Windmills**	122.5	192	174	125	174	100

### 2023 Hourly Rate

Associate (AYSO, OPYBS) = \$7/Hour

Companion (All other PACT Groups) = \$10/Hour

### 2024 Hourly Rate

Associate (AYSO, OPYBS) = \$8/Hour

Companion (All other PACT Groups except Windmills) = \$11/Hour

### 2025 Hourly Rate

Associate (AYSO, OPYBS) = \$10/Hour

Companion (All other PACT Groups except Windmills) = \$13/Hour

\*Hours reflect time that has been removed due to weather events.

\*\*Windmills became a Tenant in 2022 due to total participants were less than 50% Oak Park residents.

Windmills pays \$46/Hour, the standard hourly rate for field rental.

## Program Overview

2025 was another busy year for the Recreation and Special Facilities team. Combining the two departments in 2024 has resulted in more constancy in operations and more sharing of best practices.

2025 saw 122,269 individual registrations to our programs and memberships. This does not include the free community events such as Movies in the Parks, Concerts in the Park, Fall Fest etc. That was an increase of over 15,000 from 2024. 6% of our residents participated in a program or service that required registration through our system up 4%. With 440 households participating utilizing our financial assistance program.

Staff continue to identify service gaps in our community and try to help fill those gaps. We continue to seek partnerships with local businesses and individuals to meet the recreational needs of our residents. We are excited to build on our past success and continue to deliver quality programs to our residents.

