

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

REQUESTING INFORMATION

In accordance with 5 ILCS, Par. 140/1, Freedom of Information Act, the Park District of Oak Park shall make available to any person for inspection or copying all public records, except as otherwise provided in Section 7 of this Act.

All requests to inspect, copy, or certify public records must be submitted to the District in writing. The District encourages requestors to submit their requests on the convenient Park District of Oak Park Freedom of Information Request Form provided by the District which can be found online at www.pdop.org or at the District's Administration Center. These forms are also available for pickup at 218 Madison Street, Oak Park, Illinois 60302.

The District will review all written requests and will respond to each written request to inspect, copy, or certify public records in a manner consistent with the Illinois Freedom of Information Act after payment of any fees, if applicable

Requests and other communications regarding District records relating to a request to inspect, copy, or certify public records, all requests for copies of FOIA rules, and all requests for any other information relating to the District's implementation of the Illinois Freedom of Information Act must be directed to:

Freedom of Information Officer
Park District of Oak Park
218 Madison Street
Oak Park, Illinois 60302
E-mail: foia@pdop.org



PARK DISTRICT
of OAK PARK

Park District of Oak Park
218 Madison Street
Oak Park, Illinois 60302
(708) 725-2000
www.pdop.org
info@pdop.org

ESTABLISHED FEES

Copies (8.5x11" or 8.5x14", B&W)

- First 50 pages Free
- Additional pages \$0.15/side

Other Types of Records with Set Fees

- Actual Cost

Certification

- \$1.00/record plus copy cost

Mailing

- Cost of Postage

If the requested records are of a type not listed above, then the fees charged for copying the records will be the actual charges incurred by the District, and the above fees will not apply. The above fees will also not apply if the fee for the requested records is otherwise fixed by statute. If the requested records are produced on an electronic medium, then the Requestor must pay the actual cost of the medium.



Park District of Oak Park
MUNICIPAL DIRECTORY

PARK DISTRICT PROFILE: 2026

SUMMARY OF PURPOSE

The Park District of Oak Park, created in 1912, serves the recreational needs of the 52,553 residents of Oak Park, providing over 3,000 recreation programs and special events annually. Overseen by a Board of five elected officials, the District owns an Administrative Center, two outdoor pools, an indoor ice rink, the Oak Park Conservatory, Cheney Mansion, Pleasant Home, a gymnastics & recreation center, seven recreation centers plus 13 parks totaling 83 acres of parkland. Our mission is: "In partnership with the community, we enrich lives by providing meaningful experiences through programs, parks, and facilities."

PARKS & FACILITIES

Each year, the Board of Commissioners approves a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) which maps out the future direction of the Park District of Oak Park regarding park renewal and facility improvements. A full copy of the current CIP can be found online at www.pdop.org.

Andersen Center & Park	824 N Hayes	(708) 725-2712
Austin Gardens	167 Forest	(708) 725-2713
Barrie Center & Park	1011 S Lombard	(708) 725-2711
Carroll Center & Park	1125 S Kenilworth	(708) 725-2710
Community Recreation Center	229 Madison St	(708) 725-2000
Elizabeth F Cheney Mansion	220 N Euclid	(708) 725-2500
Oak Park Conservatory	615 Garfield	(708) 725-2400
Dole Center	255 Augusta	
Euclid Square	705 W Fillmore	
Field Center & Park	935 Woodbine	(708) 725-2714
Fox Center & Park	624 S Oak Park	(708) 725-2029
Gymnastics and Recreation Center	21 Lake St	(708) 725-2000
Lindberg Park	1151 N Marion	
Longfellow Center & Park	610 S Ridgeland	(708) 725-2008
Maple Park	1105 S Maple	
Mills Park & Pleasant Home	217 S Home	(708) 383-2654
John L Hedges Administration Center	218 Madison	(708) 725-2000
Randolph Park	300 S Grove	
Rehm Pool & Park	515 Garfield	(708) 725-2350
Ridgeland Common	415 Lake	(708) 725-2000
Scoville Park	800 W Lake	
Stevenson Park	49 Lake	(708) 725-2302
Taylor Park	400 W Division	
Wenonah Park	850 S Wenonah	

ADA & INCLUSION

William Hamilton, Superintendent of Properties & Planning, serves as the ADA Coordinator for the District and has the responsibility of supervising the Park District's transition to ADA-accessible parks and facilities.

The Park District works closely with our partner, West Suburban Special Recreation Association, which allows residents of all ages with disabilities to participate in year-round programming specifically designed to meet their individual needs or are able to participate in Park District programs with inclusion support.

For assistance and information on accessibility at the Park District of Oak Park, contact William Hamilton at William.Hamilton@pdop.org or call him at (708) 725-2052.

COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGIC
MASTER PLAN

A Comprehensive Strategic Master Plan (CSMP) has been adopted by the Board of Commissions to establish direction and goals for the District. A full copy of the current CSMP can be found online at www.pdop.org.

BUDGET

The 2026 Operating Budget is \$27,701,361. The Park District also budgeted \$8,066,450 in 2026 for Capital Expenses. In 2025, the Park District received the Government Finance Officers Association's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the 15th year in a row, reflecting our organization's commitment to meet the highest principles of governmental budgeting. A full copy of the current budget can be found online at www.pdop.org.

TAXES

The tax rate for the Park District increased with the 2005 voter approved referendum. Tax rates by their nature are dependent upon the amount of money asked for annually and the community's assessed value of property. In the 2024 tax year, the community's equalized assessed value increased 0.7%. The resulting tax rate for the District was 0.546. This represented an increase of 0.025 from the previous year. Park District Revenues are generated evenly from property taxes and fees for services, which are used to support maintenance and capital improvements of parks and facilities.

CITIZEN COMMITTEES AND BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



CITIZEN COMMITTEES

The Park District values community input and involvement and has organized citizen-led volunteer committees to work with the Park Board of Commissioners and staff for the betterment of the District and our community. These committees include:

- Board of the Citizens' Center of Oak Park and River Forest
- Park District Citizens Committee (PDCC)
- Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee (ESAC)

Board of the Citizens' Center of Oak Park and River Forest provides guidance and recommend direction to the Park District regarding the development and implementation of recreational activities for senior citizens.

- Georgia Keleher, President
- Helen Schmucker, Vice-President
- Jack Kennelly, Treasurer
- Barbara Hunt, Secretary
- Rita Anderson , Member
- Jennifer Mack, Member
- Janis Martin, Member
- Amy Overby, Member
- Yolanda Ruiz, Member
- Donna Weaver, Member
- Nancy Wisti Grayson,, Member
- Megan Ulczak, Park District Staff
- Marea Cordero, Executive Director

PDCC oversees the implementation of the Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan and Capital Improvement Plan and provides a valuable communication channel between the Park District and the citizens of Oak Park.

- Kavita Vermani, Chair
- Robert Kleps, Citizen
- Kathleen Lorden, Citizen
- Andrew France, Citizen
- Jay Rowell, Citizen
- Matt Barber, Citizen
- Denny Burke, Citizen
- Janet Coffey, Citizen
- Mekhala Merchant, Citizen
- Daniel Crane, Citizen
- Jan Arnold, Park District Staff
- Maureen McCarthy, Park District Staff
- Sandy Lentz, Board Representative

ESAC acts as a liaison between the Park District and the community, helping implement the Park District's Environmental Policy, assisting the Park Board in identifying and exploring sustainability issues and environmental initiatives, helping determine annual projects, and green team volunteer opportunities.

- Cathi Knickerehm, Chair
- Terry Grace, Citizen
- McLouis Robinet, Citizen
- Kara Finnegan, Citizen
- Laura Stamp, Citizen
- Steven Miller, Citizen
- Lauren Smith-MacGregor, Citizen
- Patti Staley, Park District Staff
- William Hamilton, Park District Staff
- Travis Stephen, Park District Staff
- Jan Arnold, Park District Staff
- Ade Onayemi, Board Representative

(Citizen Committee members as of July 2026)

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The Park District of Oak Park is governed by five elected Oak Park residents who voluntarily give service to the community. The Commissioners elect a President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary each year.

Regular Park Board meetings are generally held on the third Thursday of each month at 7:00pm at the John L. Hedges Administration Center, 218 Madison St, Oak Park. Residents are invited to attend and are welcome to make suggestions or comments to improve the services the Park District provides. Residents must sign up for public comment before the meeting starts.

Committee of the Whole meetings are generally held on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00pm at the John L. Hedges Administration Center, 218 Madison St, Oak Park. However, there is no Committee of the Whole meetings in July and August. Public comment is also available at these meetings.

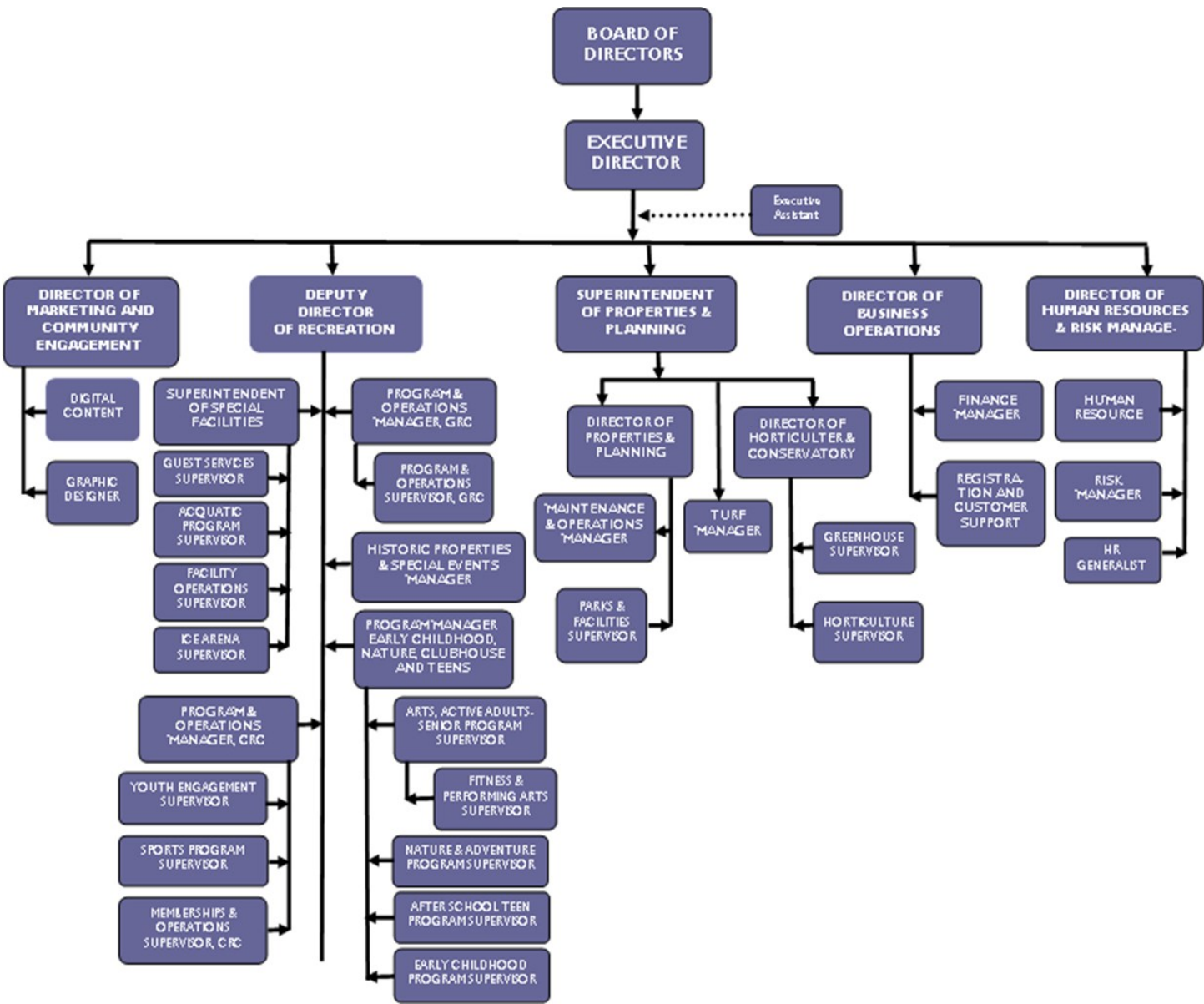
The District welcomes the opportunity to assist residents and visitors with disabilities. If you need special accommodations for a Park Board meeting, please e-mail William Hamilton, Superintendent of Properties & Planning at (708) 725-2052 or email william.hamilton@pdop.org. Or contact Karen Gruszka, Executive Assistant at karen.gruszka@pdop.org or call (708) 725-2017.

- Board of Commissioners
- Chris Wolmuth, President
- Jake Worley-Hood, Vice President
- Ade Onayemi, Treasurer
- Kassie Porreca, Secretary
- Sandy Lentz, Commissioner

PARK DISTRICT STAFF

The Executive Director, appointed by the Board of Commissioners, is responsible for the administration of the Park District, which employs 60 full-time staff and over 530 part-time and seasonal workers.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Jan Arnold	Executive Director	Jan.Arnold@pdop.org	(708) 725-2020
Maureen McCarthy	Deputy Director of Recreation	Maureen.Mccarthy@pdop.org	(708) 725-2021
William Hamilton	Superintendent of Properties & Planning	William.Hamilton@pdop.org	(708) 725-2052
Mitch Bowlin	Director of Business Operations	Mitch.Bowlin@pdop.org	(708) 725-2015
Paula Bickel	Director of Human Resources & Risk Management	Paula.Bickel@pdop.org	(708) 725-2028
Ann Marie Buczek	Director of Marketing & Community Engagement	AnnMarie.Buczek@pdop.org	(708) 725-2121
Patti Staley	Director of Horticulture & Conservatory Operations	Patti.Staley@pdop.org	(708) 725-2451
Mike Baiardo	Superintendent of Special Facilities	Mike.Baiardo@pdop.org	(708) 725-2315
Nelson Acevedo	Director of Parks & Facilities	Nelson.Acevedo@pdop.org	(708) 725-2053