

**VILLAGE OF OAK PARK  
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2020 - 7:00 PM**

***SPECIAL NOTE*** - The Village President has determined that an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent due to the COVID-19 outbreak during the Governor's disaster proclamation. It is not feasible to have a person present at the regular meeting location due to public safety concerns related to the COVID-19 outbreak during the Governor's disaster proclamation. A special meeting is being conducted remotely with live audio available and optional video. The meeting will be streamed live and archived online for on-demand viewing at [www.oak-park.us/commissiontv](http://www.oak-park.us/commissiontv) as well as cablecast on VOP-TV, which is available to Comcast subscribers on channel 6 and ATT Uverse subscribers on channel 99. Remote meetings of Oak Park Citizen Commissions are authorized pursuant to Section 6 of Governor J.B. Pritzker's Executive Order 2020-07, with limitations. Governor Pritzker's Executive Order allows for remote participation meetings by public bodies, but public bodies are "encouraged to postpone" meetings and should only hold meetings when "necessary." Executive Order No. 2020-07 (COVID-19 Executive Order No. 5) at Section 6. The Illinois Attorney General issued "Guidance to Public Bodies" regarding the Governor's Executive Order on April 9, 2020. In that guidance, the Attorney General states, "Where a public body does not have critical issues that must be addressed because time is of the essence, cancelling or postponing public meetings may be prudent during the COVID-19 outbreak, rather than holding meetings that could pose a risk of danger to the public." Thus, the test as to whether to hold a meeting is an issue to be discussed is "critical" that must be addressed immediately.

***PUBLIC COMMENT*** - Oak Park Citizen Commissions welcome your statement to be read into the public record at a meeting. Public statements of up to three minutes will be read into the record during Non-Agenda public comment or Agenda Item public comment, as an individual designates. Statements will be provided to the Commission members in their entirety as a single document. Please follow the instructions for submitting a statement provided below. Questions regarding public comment can be directed to (708) 358-5672 or email [clerk@oak-park.us](mailto:clerk@oak-park.us).

Non-Agenda public comment is a time set aside at the beginning of each Citizen Commission meeting for public statements about an issue or concern that is not on that meeting's agenda. Individuals are asked to email statements to [transportation@oak-park.us](mailto:transportation@oak-park.us) to be received no later than 60 minutes (6:00 PM) prior to the start of the meeting.

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Please call (708) 358-5724 if you are unable to attend

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Also, follow us on *facebook*, *twitter* and *YouTube*.

If you require assistance to participate in any Village program or activity, contact the ADA Coordinator at (708) 358-5430 or e-mail [building@oak-park.us](mailto:building@oak-park.us) at least 48 hours before the scheduled activity.

If email is not an option, you can drop comments off in the Oak Park Payment Drop Box across from the entrance to Village Hall, 123 Madison Street, to be received no later than 5 PM on the day of the Commission meeting. Agenda item public comment will be limited to 30 minutes with a limit of three minutes per statement. If comment requests exceed 30 minutes, public comment will resume after the items listed under the agenda are complete.

### AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Non-Agenda Public Comment - Up To 15 Minutes
3. Agenda Approval
4. Approval of Draft Transportation Commission Meeting Minutes
  - 4.1 June 9, 2020 draft Transportation Commission meeting minutes
5. DEVELOP A DRAFT 2021 TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION WORK PLAN
  - 5.1 Staff Agenda Item Commentary
  - 5.2 Background Information
  - 5.3 Approved 2020 Transportation Commission Work Plan
  - 5.4 Draft 2021 Work Plan Template
6. OTHER ENCLOSURE
  - OE1 Summary Report of the Implementation of the Slow Streets Pilot Program
7. Adjourn

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Please call (708) 358-5724 if you are unable to attend

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DRAFT Meeting Minutes  
Transportation Commission  
Tuesday, June 9, 2020 - 7:00 PM  
Remote Participation Meeting

1. Call to Order

Transportation Commission Staff Liaison Michael Koperniak called the remote participation meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Roll Call

Present: Camille Fink, Garth Katner, Meghann Moses, Aaron Stigger, Robert Taylor, James Thompson, chair Ron Burke

Absent: None

Staff: Village Engineer Bill McKenna, Development Customer Services Director Tammie Grossman, Staff Liaison Michael Koperniak

Other: Trustee Susan Buchanan

2. Non-Agenda Public Comment

None

3. Agenda Approval

Chair Burke made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Katner. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

4. Approval of the draft February 24, 2020 Transportation Commission meeting minutes

Commissioner Taylor made a motion to approve the draft February 24, 2020 Transportation Commission meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stigger. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

## 5. A FIRST DISCUSSION ABOUT IMPLEMENTING SLOW STREETS RESIDENTIAL STREETS IN OAK PARK FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING

Staff Liaison Koperniak gave a brief presentation on the Slow Streets proposal.

Village Engineer McKenna gave a brief presentation about the current difficulties of sending out adequate public notice and receiving public testimony caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Koperniak read aloud written public testimony from bicycle advocacy group Bike Walk Oak Park supporting the creation of Slow Streets in the Village.

The Commission, Staff, and Trustee Buchanan discussed:

- Street closings for business areas and who has the authority to close the streets.
- Can the Village Board of Trustees give Staff administrative authority to implement a Slow Streets program.
- Trustee Buchanan gave the Village Board's thoughts on street closings and that there was no universal concurrence about residential streets.
- How to quickly implement a Slow Streets program.
- Considered full street closures versus partial street closures.
- Implementing a Slow Streets program given that the Village is considered a bike friendly community.
- The feasibility of implementing a Slow Streets program on a large scale.
- The benefits of phasing in the Slow Streets program so that it could be implemented quickly and to keep the process moving.
- What types of barricades and signage would be used to identify a street as a Slow Street.
- The possibility and pros and cons of removing parking on one side of the street.
- The fact that the Village is not fully enforcing parking regulations during the pandemic.
- How other cities are dealing with closures at street intersections.
- Considered what would be a realistic plan.
- The Village's safety concerns about mixing vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians in the roadway.
- Considered if closed streets safer or less safe than open streets.
- How to enlighten the public about Slow Streets.

- Considered if bicyclists should be allowed on sidewalks.
- The perils to pedestrians and bicyclists of vehicles making rolling stops.
- Considered what streets to include in the pilot program.
- How to accommodate overnight on-street permit parking on the Slow Streets.

Commissioner Thompson made a motion to: (1): Have the Village implement a Slow Streets pilot program generally on the streets forming a rectangle bounded by Harvey Avenue on the east, Van Buren Street on the south, Kenilworth Avenue on the west, and Thomas Street on the north. (2) Have Staff implement the pilot program as soon as possible and to continue consulting with the Transportation Commission. (3) Implement partial street closures so that local traffic can still drive on the Slow Streets and park there.

Commissioner Taylor seconded the motion.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes - Thompson, Taylor, Fink, Katner, Moses, Stigger, Burke

Nays - None

The motion passed unanimously.

## 6. Adjourn

There being no further business, Commissioner Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stigger. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Submitted by:

*Michael Koperniak*

Staff Liaison Michael Koperniak

## Village Of Oak Park

### Transportation Commission Agenda Item

<b>Item Title:    Develop a Draft 2021 Transportation Commission Work Plan</b>
<p>Review Date:     <u>August 11, 2020</u></p> <p>Prepared By:     <u>Michael Koperniak</u></p>
<p><b>Abstract (briefly describe the item being reviewed):</b></p> <p>Every year the Village's commissions and committees develop work plans for the coming year. These plans are reviewed and approved by the Village Board of Trustees. The approved work plans outline the activities that the Village Board wants each commission and committee to perform.</p> <p>The draft plans are scheduled to be submitted to the Village Manager's Office in September for review and approval by the Village Board.</p> <p>Included with this agenda item is a copy of the approved 2020 Transportation Commission work plan and a blank template for the draft 2021 work plan. The draft 2021 work plan lists the Commission's 2020 accomplishments as of August 2020. The Commission held only three meetings during the first seven months of the year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Currently, and into the foreseeable future, the Village is adhering to Governor Pritzker's Executive Order 2020-07, related to the COVID-19 pandemic, which allows for remote participation meetings by public bodies only when meetings are considered "necessary".</p> <p>It is not known at this time when regular monthly public meetings will resume at Village Hall.</p>
<p><b>Staff Recommendation(s):</b></p> <p>Staff is recommending that the Transportation Commission carry over all of its approved 2020 work plan items into the 2021 work plan so that it can start each item anew. The 2021 work plan will in essence be a duplicate of the 2020 work plan.</p>
<p><b>Supporting Documentation Is Attached</b></p>

# MEMORANDUM

0820-1  
5.2  
1/2

Date: August 11, 2020

To: Transportation Commission

From: Mike Koperniak, Staff Liaison  
Parking and Traffic Commission M.K.

Re: Staff recommendation to carry over all 2020 Transportation  
Commission work plan items into the 2021 work plan

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Staff is recommending that the Transportation Commission carry over all of its approved 2020 work plan items into the 2021 work plan so that it can start each item anew. This is because it appears likely at this time that the Commission will not be able complete any of its 2020 work plan items this year due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, the Transportation Commission has held only three public meetings during the first seven months of this year: in January, February, and June. The first two were regular public meetings in the Village Hall Council Chambers while the third meeting was a remote participation meeting held by video conferencing over the internet.

The Covid-19 pandemic has totally altered Staff work flow and work days. Staff is already on its third variation of a work schedule and it's bound to change again before the return to a normal work schedule is possible. Due to staff and equipment limitations, commission / committee remote participating meetings are being held only on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and only one meeting at a time can be held.

It is not known at this time when regular monthly public meetings at Village Hall will resume. Presently, the Village of Oak Park is adhering to Governor Pritzker's Executive Order 2020-07 which allows for remote participation meetings by public bodies, but public bodies are "encouraged to postpone" meetings and should only hold meetings when "necessary."

In addition, The Illinois Attorney General issued "Guidance to Public Bodies" regarding the Governor's Executive Order. In that guidance, the Attorney General states, "Where a public body does not have critical issues that must be addressed because time is of the essence, cancelling or postponing public meetings may be

prudent during the COVID-19 outbreak, rather than holding meetings that could pose a risk of danger to the public." Thus, the test as to whether to hold a meeting is if an issue to be discussed is "critical" and must be addressed immediately.

Holding the August Transportation Commission meeting in order to develop a draft 2021 work plan can be deemed as "critical" in that the Commission requires an approved work plan for next year. All Village commission / committee draft 2021 work plans should be approved by the Village Board this year so that the commissions and committees can carry out their approved work plan items starting in January of next year.

Each of the four items on the 2020 work plan, not counting the standard review of petitions, are discussion and review items that could take more than one meeting to adequately address. While all four are worthy work plan items, none of them are "critical" and must be addressed immediately.

At this time, contiguous monthly meetings cannot be guaranteed for the remainder of this year. As a consequence, the momentum developed from reviewing and discussing an item over several contiguous meetings is lost. Time will be wasted trying to figure out where the discussion left off several months ago.

It is hoped that the pandemic will be over by the end of this year and that regular monthly in-person meetings can resume in 2021. The Commission spent two meetings developing the 2020 work plan. By carrying the 2020 work plan items over into 2021, the Commission can resume, or better yet start over fresh, with reviewing and discussing the work plan items it spent considerable time developing.



## Approved 2020 Work Plan for Transportation Commission

Approved by the Village Board of Trustees on January 21, 2020

### 2020 Initiatives and Ongoing Projects

ENABLING LANGUAGE	PROJECT	OUTCOMES	TIME FRAME	COST (if any)
Recommendations	Continue to review the following issues brought before the Commission and make recommendations to the Village Board: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parking</li> <li>• Traffic</li> <li>• Transportation related items referred by the Board from other Commissions</li> <li>• Various school traffic plans</li> <li>• Pavement geometric changes</li> <li>• Electrical powered traffic control devices</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved utilization and efficiency of on-street and off-street parking resources</li> <li>• Improved level of safety for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motor vehicles as they move about in the public right-of-way.</li> <li>• Improved level of safety for school children walking to and from school</li> </ul>	These are recurring annual projects	from Transportation Commission fund = \$2,400/year for mailing notifications + \$1,000/year for agenda printing costs + \$6,000/year for traffic consultant studies + \$600/year for staff webinar training
	Evaluate Parking Pilot Program after 180 days with periodic interim status reports (carried over from 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review results of parking pilot plan developed for the area bounded by South Boulevard, Oak Park Avenue, Harrison Street, and Harlem Avenue.</li> <li>• If necessary, recommend changes to the plan based upon results</li> <li>• Determine whether the Parking Pilot Program has met its objectives.</li> </ul>	Start data collection in 1st quarter of 2020	

*TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION*

0820-1  
5.3  
1/5

## Approved 2020 Work Plan for Transportation Commission

Approved by the Village Board of Trustees on January 21, 2020

ENABLING LANGUAGE	PROJECT	OUTCOMES	TIME FRAME	COST (if any)
	Review update of Village's Neighborhood Greenways plan and its implementation (carried over from 2019 work plan)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make Village more bike, mobility challenged, and pedestrian friendly</li> <li>• Prioritize streets for implementing the plan</li> <li>• Review how bike plan interacts with Village's 5-year capital improvement plan program</li> <li>• Implement a public education campaign</li> <li>• Engage the public to improve and accelerate implementation of the bike plan</li> <li>• Review why Divvy Bike Program failed</li> <li>• Increase the level of bike sharing</li> <li>• Make the Neighborhood Greenways more user friendly for all users</li> </ul>	Start in 1st quarter and finish by 4th quarter of 2020	
	Review the effectiveness of the existing citizen petition process / system for implementing traffic calming measures and then modifying or replacing them if warranted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement a more efficient and effective process for addressing citizen traffic calming requests</li> <li>• Develop an adopted vision for transportation in the Village of Oak Park</li> </ul>	Due by 3 quarter of 2020	
	Review the effects of the 2019 Madison Street corridor traffic calming project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop traffic calming recommendations for north-south and east-west streets adjacent to Madison Street</li> </ul>	Due by 4th quarter of 2020	

*TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION*

0820-1  
5.3  
2/5

## Approved 2020 Work Plan for Transportation Commission

Approved by the Village Board of Trustees on January 21, 2020

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2019 Completed Initiatives as of August 2019 (no meetings in June)

ENABLING LANGUAGE	PROJECT	OUTCOMES
Recommendations	Evaluate Parking Pilot Program after 180 days with periodic interim status reports	Three interim status reports have been provided in March, May, and August.
Recommendations	Evaluate 3 key street intersections to improve a pedestrian's safety and experience	This item has been discussed at two meetings. Four intersections were chosen for evaluation: Lake & Scoville, Oak Park & Garfield, Oak Park & Adams, Oak Park & Augusta. Evaluation is still underway as of September 2019.
Recommendations	Review update of Village's Bicycle plan and its implementation (carried over from 2018 work plan)	This item was discussed at four meetings. A Commission recommendation was made to concentrate on bicycle plan improvements around OPRF High School. This recommendation still needs to be presented to the Village Board of Trustees.
Recommendations	Develop Neighborhood Traffic Management Plan (NTMP) (carried over from 2018 work plan)	This item was reviewed in February. No further action on this item since then.
Recommendations	Review report on status of working/nonworking detector loops and how they are maintained and monitored (carried over from 2018 plan)	This item was initially reviewed in February and a follow-up review was had in August. The Transportation Commission is satisfied with the outcomes from the August report.

*TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION*

0820-1  
5.3  
3/5

## Approved 2020 Work Plan for Transportation Commission

Approved by the Village Board of Trustees on January 21, 2020

Recommendations	Petition For Daytime Parking Restrictions On The 1000 Block Of South Scoville Avenue	Recommendation was made to install three hour parking restrictions on the 1000 block of South Scoville Avenue Monday through Friday between 9am and 5pm.
Recommendations	Petition for a traffic calming device at the intersection of Adams Street and Wisconsin Avenue	Recommendation was made to approve the All-way Stop at Adams and Wisconsin and to include continental crosswalk striping on all four legs of the intersection.
Recommendations	Petition for a traffic calming device at the intersection of Kenilworth Ave. & Lexington St.	Recommendation was made to install four-way stop signs at Kenilworth and Lexington with high visibility crosswalks on all legs.
Recommendations	Petition for implementation of a traffic calming device on the 1150 block of Home Ave.	A Motion was made to table this item in order to collect more traffic data on 1150 block of Home Ave and Montessori school, with additional enforcement and mobile speed unit.
Recommendations	Petition to remove daytime parking restrictions on the 1150 S. Elmwood Avenue block	This item was reviewed in May. A Motion was made to table this item
Recommendations	Petition for implementation of a traffic calming device on the 600 block of N. Euclid Avenue	Recommendations were made to (1) Install pinch points. However, if a sufficient number of the block's residents approve the installation of brick street pavers and agree to pay the added cost, then the Transportation Commission recommends installation of brick street pavers. (2) Install temporary pinch-points in order to evaluate their effectiveness. (3) Request increased police enforcement of the 500 and 600 blocks of north Euclid Avenue during peak traffic hours.

*TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION*

0820-1  
5.3  
4/5

## Approved 2020 Work Plan for Transportation Commission

Approved by the Village Board of Trustees on January 21, 2020

Recommendations	Petition for implementation of a traffic calming device on the 500 block of N. Euclid Avenue	Recommendations were made to (1) Install pinch points. However, if a sufficient number of the block's residents approve the installation of brick street pavers and agree to pay the added cost, then the Transportation Commission recommends installation of brick street pavers. (2) Install temporary pinch-points in order to evaluate their effectiveness. (3) Request increased police enforcement of the 500 and 600 blocks of north Euclid Avenue during peak traffic hours.
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### Instructions for completing Work Plan

Please follow these instructions to complete your work plan:

Chart One: 2020 Initiatives & On-Going Projects

**Column 1:** Provide enabling language for your commission by topic. Use exact references only.

**Column 2:** List your 2020 Initiatives/projects you propose to the Village Board.

**Column 3:** Indicate what outcomes your project will produce.

**Column 4:** Indicate the proposed time frame for this project, including one which may be multi-year.

**Column 5:** If required for your project, indicate your proposed budget for this project.

Chart Two: 2019 Accomplishments

**Column 1:** Provide enabling language for your commission by topic. Use exact references only.

**Column 2:** List your 2019 Accomplishments

**Column 3:** Indicate what outcomes you achieved

## Draft 2021 Work Plan for Transportation Commission

Approved by the Village Board of Trustees on \_\_\_\_\_

### 2021 Initiatives and Ongoing Projects

ENABLING LANGUAGE	PROJECT	OUTCOMES	TIME FRAME	COST (if any)
Recommendations	Continue to review the following issues brought before the Commission and make recommendations to the Village Board: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Parking</li><li>• Traffic</li><li>• Transportation related items referred by the Board from other Commissions</li><li>• Various school traffic plans</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improved utilization and efficiency of on-street and off-street parking resources</li><li>• Improved level of safety for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motor vehicles as they move about in the public right-of-way.</li><li>• Improved level of safety for school children walking to and from school</li></ul>	These are recurring annual projects	from Transportation Commission fund = \$2,400/year for mailing notifications + \$1,000/year for agenda printing costs + \$6,000/year for traffic consultant studies + \$600/year for staff webinar training

# Draft 2021 Work Plan for Transportation Commission

Approved by the Village Board of Trustees on \_\_\_\_\_

ENABLING LANGUAGE	PROJECT	OUTCOMES	TIME FRAME	COST (if any)

*TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION*

0820-1  
5.4  
2/5

## Draft 2021 Work Plan for Transportation Commission

Approved by the Village Board of Trustees on \_\_\_\_\_

### 2020 Completed Initiatives as of August 2020

ENABLING LANGUAGE	PROJECT	OUTCOMES
Recommendations	January - Petition for overnight on-street permit parking on the 400 block of N. Taylor Ave.	Village Board of Trustees approved this at its March 2, 2020 meeting.
Recommendations	January - Petition to install a traffic calming device on the 1150 blocks of Home and Clinton Avenues	The Commission recommended: 1. Accept staff's recommendation for the 1150 blocks of Home and Clinton Avenues for a temporary speed trailer and radar signs, 2. For staff to investigate flashing stop signs or other Level 1 traffic calming measures, and 3. Support installation of speed tables on the 1150 blocks of Home and Clinton Avenues as long as neighbors support it.
Recommendations	January - Discussion regarding parking permits for registered local businesses	The Commission discussed with Staff the possibility of implementing a permit parking system for registered local businesses.
Recommendations	February - Verbal update to Transportation Commission's recommendation to amend parking pilot regulations	Staff provided an update on this topic. Commission discussion was held regarding: three hour parking restrictions in the pilot area, parking passes on Madison Street, the various parking needs of residents of multi-unit buildings vs. the needs of residents in single family homes, the parking needs survey and how it will be managed, and an indicator of demand for passes and use of parking meters



## Draft 2021 Work Plan for Transportation Commission

Approved by the Village Board of Trustees on \_\_\_\_\_

Recommendations	February - Discussion about permanently changing the meeting day of the monthly Transportation Commission meeting	The Commission approved permanently changing the meeting date to the second Tuesday of the month.
Recommendations	February - Discussion to prioritize 2020 Transportation Commission work plan items	The Commission discussed: developing a vision statement, developing a Complete Streets Plan, reviewing plans from other communities, and develop a five-year rolling bike plan
Recommendations	March	Meeting cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic.
Recommendations	April	Meeting cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic.
Recommendations	May	Meeting cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic.
Recommendations	June - Discussion about implementing a Slow Streets Pilot Program on residential streets in Oak Park for social distancing	Village Board of Trustees adopted a Slow Streets Pilot Program Ordinance at its July 20, 2020 meeting. The 1st phase of the Pilot Program was implemented on August 3, 2020 on Kenilworth Ave., Van Buren St., and Harvey Ave. all south of Madison Street.

## Draft 2021 Work Plan for Transportation Commission

Approved by the Village Board of Trustees on \_\_\_\_\_

Recommendations	July	Meeting cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic.
Recommendations	August	Developed draft 2021 Transportation Commission work plan

### Instructions for completing Work Plan

Please follow these instructions to complete your work plan:

Chart One: 2021 Initiatives & On-Going Projects

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Chart Two: 2020 Accomplishments

**Column 1:** Provide enabling language for your commission by topic. Use exact references only.

**Column 2:** List your 2020 Accomplishments

**Column 3:** Indicate what outcomes you achieved

Date: August 11, 2020August 6, 2020

To: Transportation Commission

From: Mike Koperniak, Staff Liaison  
Transportation Commission     MK    

Re: Report on the Implementation of the Slow Streets Pilot Program

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Following is a summary report on the implementation of the Village's Slow Streets Pilot Program.

On June 9, 2020, the Transportation Commission made a recommendation to the Village Board of Trustees to implement a Slow Streets Pilot Program.

On July 6th the Village Board approved a motion to concur with the Transportation Commission's recommendation to adopt a Slow Streets Pilot Program generally located on the streets bounded by Van Buren Street, Kenilworth Avenue, Thomas Street, and Harvey Avenue Village to allow for greater social distancing for people walking and biking during the COVID-19 pandemic. Slow Streets involve allowing only local traffic on streets to reduce the volume of traffic and encourage slower speeds allowing the streets to be shared with pedestrians and cyclist. You can view the Village Board's July 6th agenda item and the video of the Village Board meeting here:

<https://oak-park.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=4584960&GUID=F489A210-6C4E-43F5-BD8D-43DD5761581F&FullText=1>

[http://oak-park.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view\\_id=2&clip\\_id=1256](http://oak-park.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=1256)

On July 20th, the Village Board adopted an Ordinance establishing the Slow Streets Pilot Program to be administered by the Village Manager. A copy of the Ordinance is included with this report. You can view the Village Board's July 20th agenda item and the video of the Village Board meeting here:

<https://oak-park.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=4594586&GUID=84490A17-BD72-4111-B76F-3ED3EE373449>

[http://oak-park.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view\\_id=2&clip\\_id=1261](http://oak-park.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=1261)

The Pilot Program started on Monday, August 3rd and is scheduled to end on October 16, 2020 unless terminated earlier by the Village Manager. Streets in the Slow Streets Pilot Program generally include:

- On the north - Thomas Street between Kenilworth and Harvey Avenues
- On the east - Harvey Avenue between Thomas and Van Buren Streets
- On the south - Van Buren Street between Harvey and Kenilworth Avenues
- On the west - Kenilworth Avenue between Van Buren and Thomas Streets

A map is included with this report. The Village rented barricades and signs to install at the entrances to each Slow Streets block. Pictures of barricade / sign installations are included with this report.

The Pilot Program will be implemented in phases. The first phase was implemented on Monday, August 3rd, and includes Kenilworth Avenue, Van Buren Street, and Harvey Avenue, all south of Madison Street. Staff will evaluate the Pilot Program in this first phase for two to three weeks before any decision is made for expanding the program to other areas shown on the map.

The Village worked with local bicycle advocacy group Bike Walk Oak Park to inform the public about the Pilot Program. The Village sent out notices to the Wednesday Journal and Oak Leaves newspapers notifying them about the Pilot Program. The Village is also adding the Pilot Program to its Facebook, Twitter, and e-news pages. The Village created the following dedicated website to the Pilot Program:

[www.oak-park.us/slowstreets](http://www.oak-park.us/slowstreets)

The website includes an online feedback survey, map, and a FAQ section. A printout of the Village's website is included with this report. The Village has already received some feedback about the Pilot Program. Staff will review this public feedback (along with internal Police, Fire, Health, and Public Works feedback) as part of its evaluation process.

Attached Exhibits:

- Ordinance establishing the Slow Streets Pilot Program
- Map from the Ordinance showing the adopted Slow Streets
- Pictures of the barricade / sign installations
- A printout of the Village's Slow Streets Pilot Program website

## ORDINANCE

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 15 (“MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC”),  
ARTICLE 1 (“IN GENERAL”) OF THE OAK PARK VILLAGE CODE  
TO ADD A NEW SECTION 15-1-28 (“SLOW STREETS PILOT PROGRAM”)**

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Oak Park (“Village”) is a home rule unit of government as provided by the provisions of Article VII, Section 6 of the Illinois Constitution of 1970; and

**WHEREAS**, as a home rule unit of government, the Village is expressly empowered to perform any function pertaining to its government and affairs, including, but not limited to, the power to regulate for the protection of the public health, safety, morals and welfare; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Village of Oak Park Resolution 20-120 dated March 13, 2020, the Oak Park Village Board declared an emergency affecting the public health due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 disease pursuant to Section 8-10-5 of the Illinois Municipal Code, 65 ILCS 5/8-10-5, and Sections 2-6-10, 2-27-9 and 20-1-6(Z) of the Oak Park Village Code, and said emergency was extended through June 1, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 26, 2020, Illinois Governor JB Pritzker declared a disaster in the State of Illinois due to the outbreak of COVID-19 disease and on that same date, Governor Pritzker issued Executive Order 2020-43 (COVID-19 Executive Order No. 41) which provides for certain social distancing requirements due to the COVID-19 disease outbreak, including a prohibition on gatherings of more than fifty people; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Illinois Municipal Code, Section 11-302 of the Illinois Vehicle Code, 625 ILCS 5/11-302, and Section 15-1-2 (“Regulation and Control of Vehicular Traffic”) of the Oak Park Village Code, the Village is authorized to regulate, control, and approve all matters pertaining to vehicular traffic within the Village; and

**WHEREAS**, at the July 6, 2020 Village Board Regular Meeting, the Village Board adopted a motion that a Slow Streets Pilot Program be created by ordinance; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village has determined that it is necessary and reasonable and in the best interests of the Village to implement a Slow Streets Pilot Program on certain residential streets in the Village for people walking and biking due to the COVID-19 disease outbreak for the reasons stated above and per the Village’s objective of being a walkable and bikeable community; and

**WHEREAS**, this Ordinance establishes a Slow Streets Pilot Program by adding a new Section 15-1-28 (“Slow Streets Pilot Program”) to the Oak Park Village Code

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Oak Park, Cook County, Illinois, in the exercise of their home rule powers, as follows:

**Section 1. Recitals Incorporated.** The above recitals are incorporated herein reference as though fully set forth.

**Section 2. Village Code Amended.** Chapter 15 (“Motor Vehicles and Traffic”), Article 1 (“In General”), of the Oak Park Village Code is amended by adding a new Section 15-1-28 (“Slow Streets Pilot Program”) to read as follows:

**15-1-28: SLOW STREETS PILOT PROGRAM:**

- A. For the purpose of this section, a slow street is a section of a street that is located between two intersecting streets on which through motor vehicle traffic is prohibited in order to reduce the volume of motor vehicle traffic and to encourage slower speeds allowing the street to be shared with pedestrians and cyclists.
- B. The Village Manager is authorized to establish, implement, and terminate a slow streets pilot program.
- C. The slow streets pilot program shall generally be located on the streets bounded by Van Buren Street, Kenilworth Avenue, Thomas Street, and Harvey Avenue as established by the Village Manager.
- D. It shall be unlawful for any person to use a slow street for the purpose of driving a motor vehicle from one street to another street.
- E. The slow streets pilot program shall terminate on October 16, 2020 unless terminated earlier by the Village Manager.

**Section 3. Severability and Repeal of Inconsistent Ordinances.** If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be held invalid, the invalidity thereof shall not affect any of the other provisions of this Ordinance. All ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

**Section 4. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect after its approval, passage and publication as provided by law.

**[REMAINDER OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]**

**ADOPTED** this 20<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2020, pursuant to a roll call vote as follows:

Voting	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
President Abu-Taleb				
Trustee Andrews				
Trustee Boutet				
Trustee Buchanan				
Trustee Moroney				
Trustee Taglia				
Trustee Walker-Peddakotla				

**APPROVED** this 20<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2020.

---

Anan Abu-Taleb, Village President

**ATTEST**

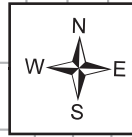
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Vicki Scaman, Village Clerk

Published in pamphlet form this 20<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2020.

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Vicki Scaman, Village Clerk



## Slow Streets Network Pilot Program

### Slow Streets Route

 Slow Street

 Slow Street Gap

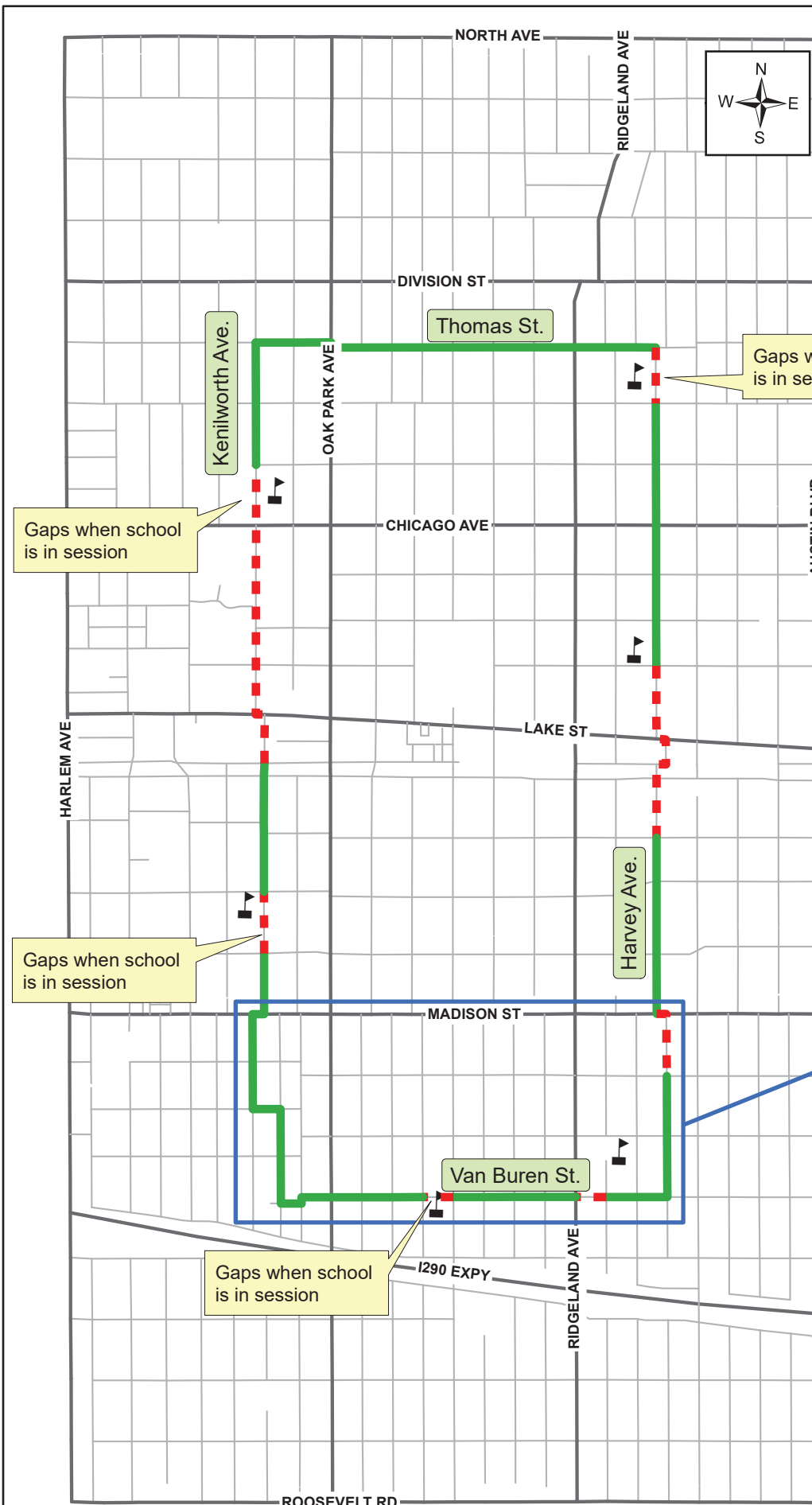
 SCHOOL

The Transportation Commission developed its recommended route at its June 9, 2020 meeting

Initial phase to be implemented

0  $\frac{1}{4}$   $\frac{1}{2}$   
Miles

# Exhibit A









0820-1  
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8/14



looking westbound on Van Buren St. at East Ave.



looking northbound on Kenilworth Ave. at Adams Street



The Village of Oak Park | 123 Madison St. Oak Park, IL 60302 | [village@oak-](mailto:village@oak-park.us)0820-1  
OE1  
9/14

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Survey](#)[Slow Streets Pilot  
Program](#)

# Slow Streets Pilot Program

The Village's slow streets program is intended to reduce vehicle traffic and speeds on a small number of side streets to allow space for people to bike, walk, and roll safely while also observing social distancing protocols.

Portions of Van Buren Street, Kenilworth Avenue, Harvey Avenue and Thomas Street - roughly five miles of roadway - have been selected to serve as corridors where signage and barricades are used to minimize vehicle through traffic and prioritize activities such as walking, jogging, biking, rollerblading and wheelchair rolling.

- [Click here to provide feedback about the slow streets program](#)
- [Click here to view a map of the proposed slow streets network](#)

### What are slow streets?

Slow streets are...

- low traffic side streets where light interventions are used to further reduce and slow vehicle traffic.
- a space for people to walk, run, rollerblade, bike, scooter, etc.
- a temporary pilot program intended to be in place in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Will slow streets restrict my ability to drive through the street?

No, vehicle access will be maintained for residents

### CONTACT US

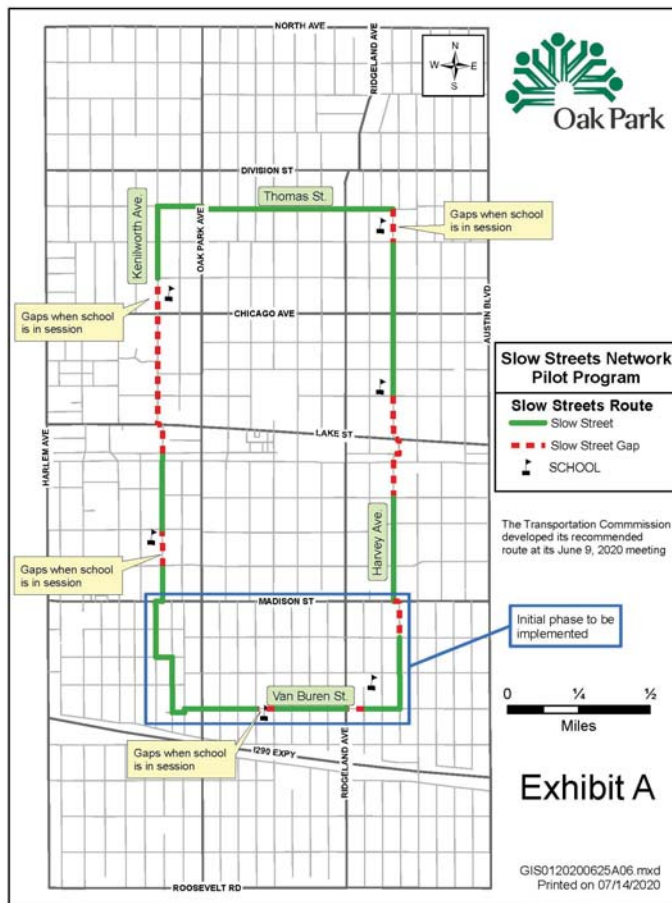
[publicworks@oak-park.us](mailto:publicworks@oak-park.us)  
708.358.5700  
201 South Blvd.

## Useful Links

[Basement Flooding  
Prevention](#)[Capital Improvements  
Projects](#)[Lead Water FAQs](#)[National Arbor Day  
Foundation](#)[Refuse & Recycling](#)[Safe Walking Routes  
to Schools](#)[Traffic Calming  
Toolbox](#)[Tree Care &  
Maintenance](#)[Water Leak FAQs](#)[Water Reclamation  
District](#)

Traffic Calming Toolbox	who live along slow streets route and their visitors, as well as deliver drivers and emergency vehicles.	Water Quality Re	0820-1 OE1 10/14
Tree Care & Maintenance	However, residents who live in the vicinity of slow streets are urged to avoid driving along the corridor whenever possible.		
Water Leak FAQs			
Water Quality	<b>What do slow streets look like?</b> Slow streets are local streets where vehicles share the roadway with pedestrians and cyclists.		
Recycling			
Special Event Permits	Slow streets will have signs indicating to vehicle drivers and pedestrians that they are entering a shared space. There will be no overhaul or permanent change to the look and feel of the streets.		
Ticket Appeals	<b>Where are Oak Park's slow streets?</b> Portions of Van Buren Street, Kenilworth Avenue, Harvey Avenue and Thomas Street have been designated as corridors where signage and barricades will be used to minimize vehicle traffic and encourage drivers to slow down and be alert for people walking along the roadway.  The program will be implemented in phases. In the first phase, Van Buren Street will be a slow street between Kenilworth and Harvey avenues. Kenilworth and Harvey also will be slow streets for a three-block stretch between Madison and Van Buren streets in the initial phase.  Plans call for additional phases that would expand the slow streets along Kenilworth and Harvey avenues from Van Buren Street in the south to Thomas Street in the north, with gaps near main thoroughfares such as Lake Street and Chicago Avenue. In this phase, Thomas Street would also be designated a slow street between Kenilworth and Harvey.  Only the blocks marked in green on the map below will be designated as slow streets. Areas marked as slow street gaps are noted with red dashes to indicate blocks along the route where slow streets will not be in effect and regular traffic rules apply. The slow street gaps are in place near main thoroughfares such as Lake Street and Chicago Avenue where installing barricades and maintaining the slow street network is not feasible.		

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OE1  
11/14



[Click to enlarge](#)

Areas shown with red dashes are gaps in the slow street network due to a variety of issues that prevented closing these streets to thru traffic. The issues include:

- Intersections and blocks with traffic signals, which cannot be easily closed since these roads carry heavier volumes and road closures at signals require additional traffic control, signage, and detours. This includes the intersections of Chicago and Kenilworth, Lake and Kenilworth and Lake and Harvey
- The Lake Street Improvement Project has detour traffic using Kenilworth Avenue, which makes Kenilworth and other streets in the area of Lake Street not appropriate for slow streets.
- High demand areas for on-street parking permits along Kenilworth from North Boulevard to Erie and Harvey from South Boulevard to Pleasant Street. These streets are typically congested due to on-street parking and there is not enough space to safely intermix bikes and pedestrians with traffic.

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- In front of schools when schools are in session

### How were the slow streets decided?

The plan was developed by the Village's [Transportation Commission](#) and Engineering Division in response to concerns among residents about the difficulty of maintaining 6 feet of social distance on many sidewalks and park paths.

Kenilworth Avenue, Thomas Street and Van Buren Street were designated as greenway streets in a [the Village's Bicycle Plan](#) adopted in 2014. Harvey Avenue is a lower-traffic street that officials determined would make a natural eastern boundary for the slow streets network.

### How long will the slow streets pilot program remain in place?

The Village Board approved the slow streets pilot program to remain in place through Oct. 16, 2020.

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, residents have increasingly been walking and jogging in the street in an effort to maintain social distance while exercising, exposing themselves to fast-moving vehicle traffic.

The slow streets program is intended to create safe pedestrian and bicycle corridors and is part of the Village's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the disruption it has created in the lives of Oak Park residents.

The slow streets program also fits with the Village's objective of being a walkable and bikeable community. Officials say they intend to use the pilot program to [gather feedback](#) so a decision can be made about the feasibility of continuing the slow streets program in the future.

### How can I provide feedback?

Residents who wish to provide feedback about the program are invited to take a short survey by clicking the link below:

[www.oak-park.us/slowstreetssurvey](https://www.oak-park.us/slowstreetssurvey)

Residents may also contact the Public Works Department at 708.358.5700 or [publicworks@oak-park.us](mailto:publicworks@oak-park.us).

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**Are social distancing guidelines in effect along slow streets?**

Yes, all social distancing and public health guidelines apply along slow street routes. This means anyone who uses the slow streets to walk, jog or bike should maintain six-feet of separation from others.

Face coverings are required along the slow streets route in circumstances where it is not possible to socially distance per Gov. J.B. Pritzker's [statewide executive order](#) requiring any person over age two to wear a face-covering when in a public place and unable to maintain a six-foot social distance.

Concerns about violations of public health guidelines can be directed to the Police Department's non-emergency line at 708.386.3800. Dispatchers will relay the complaint to officers in the field so they can address the problem.

More information about the Village's COVID-19 response is posted at [www.oak-park.us/covid19](http://www.oak-park.us/covid19).

**Are outdoor gatherings encouraged on slow streets?**

No, slow streets are expressly not intended to serve as a location for a public gathering.

The slow streets program prioritizes activities such as walking, jogging, biking, rollerblading and wheelchair rolling. Gatherings should be avoided to avoid impeding pedestrian, bicycle and limited vehicle traffic.

**Are parking rules affected on slow streets?**

No, parking regulations are not affected by the slow streets program.

Information about parking restrictions in Oak Park is available on this website at [www.oak-park.us/parking](http://www.oak-park.us/parking).

Village Hall  
123 Madison  
St.  
Oak Park, IL  
60302  
village@oak-  
park.us  
708.358.5700

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Email us at [feedback@oak-park.us](mailto:feedback@oak-park.us)