



Oak Park Saves \$1.2 Million By Refinancing 2006 Street Improvement Bonds

Statement on City Finances

It's a very exciting time for us and I want to ensure that you know that your funds and your City government is operating at the highest standard and with the utmost efficiency focused on the utmost level of quality. Given all the things that have happened recently in the news, I thought this was an appropriate time to explain where we stand financially.

I want to assure the community that even with the unfortunate discovery and subsequent charges filed against a former employee charged with embezzlement, the City has taken the appropriate steps. The matter was properly investigated, the employee was immediately terminated, and the appropriate people are charged with the crime. The City has subsequently been reimbursed 100% by an insurance policy the City held.

Make no mistake, when issues as serious as this surface, we will use every resource available to find them and we will root them out on your behalf. We take your funds — your hard-earned taxpayer dollars — very, very seriously. We put safeguards in place to guard against this ever happening again.

The City's finances are stronger than they have been in years. Standard and Poor's has upgraded our rating to a A+ Positive, we are carrying a 15% leveraged general fund balance of \$2 million per year, and we saved taxpayers \$1.2 million by refinancing our 2006 Street Improvement Bonds.

The City of Oak Park refinanced their 2006 Street Improvement Bonds from a 4.5% interest rate to a 2.52% interest rate to save nearly \$1.2 million, net. For the average taxpayer owning property in the City of Oak Park, that equates to an annual savings of approximately \$50 to \$75 per taxpayer.

"We were able to refinance the City's 2006 Street Improvement Bonds in a manner in which we pass along savings directly to our taxpayers through a decrease in their property taxes," said City Manager Erik Tungate who credits a lower interest rate, a window of opportunity to refinance, and the remaining length of time in the amortization schedule as the contributing factors. "We are always in pursuit of opportunities to save our residents money, either directly or through city operations, and this is the result of our most recent efforts."

In 2013, Oak Park refinanced its 2003 Street Improvement Bonds from a 4.5% to a 1.9% interest rate on the remaining 15-year amortization to save approximately \$1.8 million.

"It is always a proud moment when the City can explain a tax reduction, versus a tax increase," said Oak Park Mayor Marian McClellan. "We accomplish this by being responsive to the needs of our residents and our business community while promoting a strong culture of excellence."

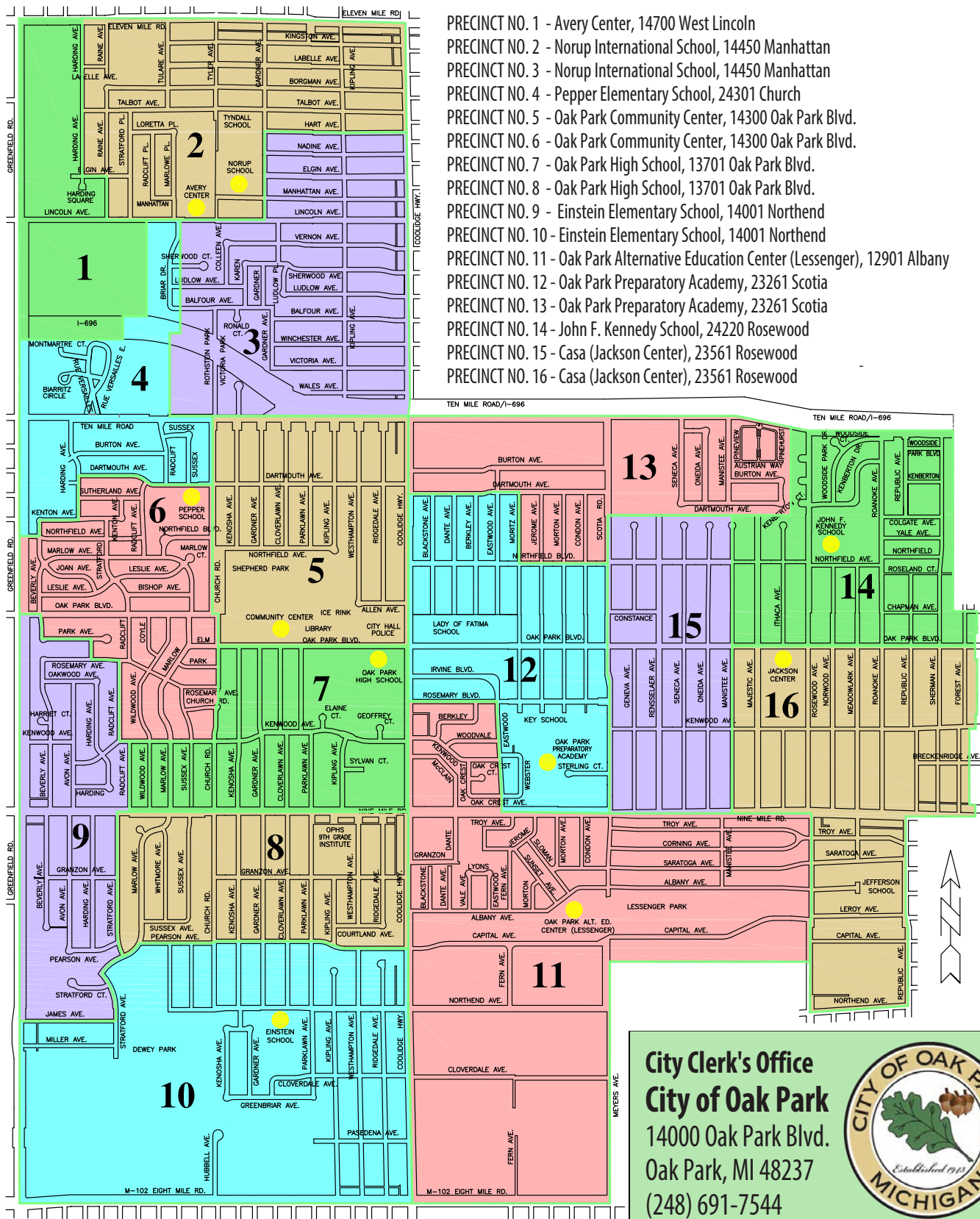


Standard and Poor's Upgrades City Rating to A+ Positive

Standard & Poor's revised the City's rating to A+ positive from A+ stable. "Our policies have led to improved financial performance over the last three years. This is full recognition that our hard work is starting to pay off and the City is on a path to prosperity," said Erik Tungate, Oak Park City Manager. Standard & Poor's Ratings Services is a division of McGraw Hill Financial. It is a well-known and respected financial services company that issues credit ratings for the debt of governments, government entities, and public and private companies.

GENERAL CITY ELECTION: Tuesday, November 3, 2015 - Polls are open between 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

CITY OF OAK PARK VOTING PRECINCTS



ELECTIONS: Oak Park Residents Vote for Mayor, Two Council Seats and Ferndale School Millage

Choose One of Two Ways to Vote

VOTING OPTION NO. 1: Absentee Voter Ballot

STEP 1: QUALIFY. Absentee voter ballots provide voters with a convenient way of voting when they are unable to attend the polls on Election Day. A voter may obtain an Absentee Voter Ballot if he or she is age 60-years-old or older, unable to vote without assistance at the polls, expecting to be out of town on election day, or unable to attend the polls due to religious reasons.

STEP 2: APPLY. Request an Application for Absentee Voter Ballot by calling (248) 691-7544, go online at www.michigan.gov/vote, or inquire at the City Clerk's office. Ballots will be mailed within one business day after receipt of application.

STEP 3: VOTE. Vote, then seal the ballot in the return envelope provided, and sign the envelope in the red box labeled "SIGN HERE."

STEP 4: RETURN BALLOT. The Absentee Voter Ballot must be returned to the City Clerk's office no later than 8 p.m. on Election Day. The Clerk's office will be open on Saturday, October 31st, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Voters may come to the City Clerk's office on Monday, November 2 until 4 p.m. to obtain an Absentee Voter Ballot which must be voted at the Clerk's Office.

VOTING OPTION NO. 2: Vote in Person

The City of Oak Park is divided into 16 precincts. Voters are assigned a precinct in which to vote based on where they live. Polls are open on Tuesday, November 3, 2015 from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. All voters will be asked to provide photo identification as required by law.

NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION VOTER INFORMATION

Qualified Oak Park electors will have the opportunity to vote for a Mayor and two City Council members. Electors in Precincts 14, 15 and 16 will also have the opportunity to vote on a millage proposal for the Ferndale Public School District. Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, November 3.

Candidates for Mayor

Incumbent Mayor Marian McClellan and challenger Aaron Tobin will vie for the Office of Mayor.

Candidates for Two City Council Positions

Solomon Radner and Ken Rich are running for the two open Council Member positions.

Ferndale Public Schools Millage Proposal

Voters in Precincts 14, 15 and 16 who reside in the Ferndale Public School District will have the opportunity to vote on a millage proposal for the District.

YOUR VOTE COUNTS

Vote on Tuesday, November 3 between 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

CURBSIDE LEAF REMOVAL: Here's the Scoop!

The City of Oak Park has two options for residential leaf collection:

OPTION NO. 1: Dispose of leaves along with regularly scheduled weekly refuse collection

Leaves must be placed in a paper compost bag no heavier than 30-gallons or in a trash can no larger than 35-gallons that is marked with a yard waste decal. Decals can be obtained from the Water Department or the Public Works Department. Containers with leaves must be separated from trash and recyclables. Please note, leaves placed in plastic bags will not be picked up.

OPTION NO. 2: Rake leaves into the street according to the 2015 Curbside Leaf Removal Schedule

From October 19 to December 18, leaves must be raked into the street for curbside collection on the dates that are appropriated to your section number. (See map for details). Large vacuum trucks and loaders remove the leaves from the street. Sweeper trucks sweep the streets in each section after final leaf pick-up. To ensure collection, residents must rake leaves out to the curb prior to the first collection date assigned for that week and their section. For example, if a resident lives in Section 2, and their second scheduled pickup days are October 28 and 29, leaves should be raked to the street prior to October 28th. After the final pickup date for your section, leaves can be bagged and placed to the curb for pickup on the regularly scheduled trash day.

For more information, call (248) 691-7497 or visit www.ci.oak-park.mi.us.

HELPFUL TIPS:

- Rake leaves to the gutter line, at least four inches from the curb to help to ensure that street drains do not become blocked.
- Rake leaves to the curb a day or so prior to the scheduled date of the designated section to ensure leaves are picked up.
- Leaves that are mixed with debris, brush, or grass clippings will not be removed.
- Last day for bagged leaves and yard waste collection is December 18.
- Do not park on or near leaf piles on the scheduled collection days.



APPROVED VENDOR FOR CITY OF OAK PARK

- Emergency Service
- Tree Trimming
- Storm Damage Specialist
- FREE ESTIMATES

313-308-5558

Other Services Available! Visit www.jmac-treeanddebris.com

Specializing in Removal of **DANGEROUS TREES**

CURBSIDE LEAF REMOVAL SCHEDULE

SECTION 1:

Leaves to curb by: October 19
Leaves to curb by: October 26
Leaves to curb by: November 9
Leaves to curb by: December 2

SECTION 2:

Leaves to curb by: October 20
Leaves to curb by: October 28
Leaves to curb by: November 12
Leaves to curb by: December 4

SECTION 3:

Leaves to curb by: October 21
Leaves to curb by: October 30
Leaves to curb by: November 17
Leaves to curb by: December 8

SECTION 4:

Leaves to curb by: October 22
Leaves to curb by: November 3
Leaves to curb by: November 20
Leaves to curb by: December 10

SECTION 5:

Leaves to curb by: October 23
Leaves to curb by: November 5
Leaves to curb by: November 25
Leaves to curb by: December 14

For leaf collection on: October 19
For leaf collection on: October 26 and 27
For leaf collection on: November 9, 10, and 11
For leaf collection on: December 2 and 3

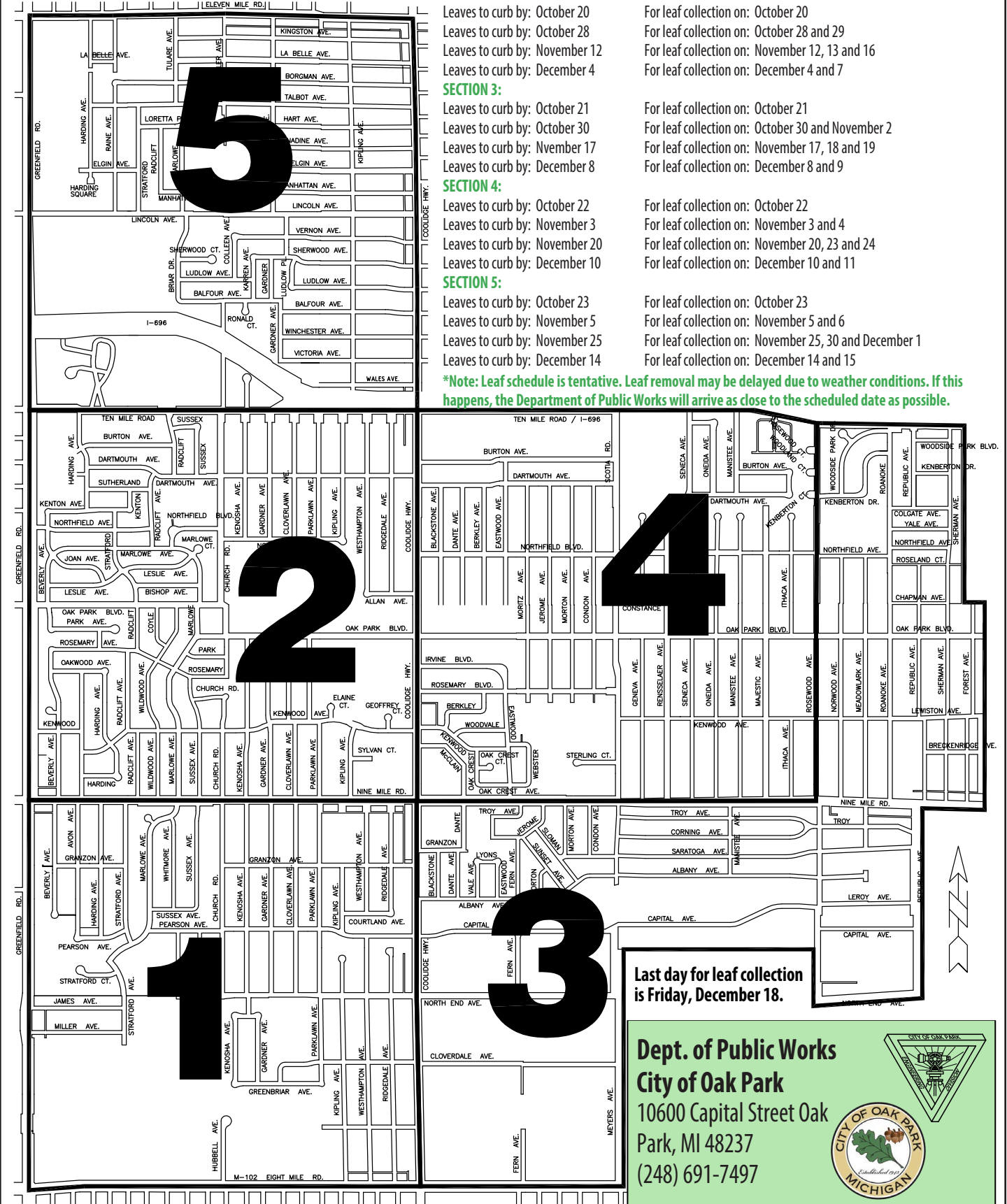
For leaf collection on: October 20
For leaf collection on: October 28 and 29
For leaf collection on: November 12, 13 and 16
For leaf collection on: December 4 and 7

For leaf collection on: October 21
For leaf collection on: October 30 and November 2
For leaf collection on: November 17, 18 and 19
For leaf collection on: December 8 and 9

For leaf collection on: October 22
For leaf collection on: November 3 and 4
For leaf collection on: November 20, 23 and 24
For leaf collection on: December 10 and 11

For leaf collection on: October 23
For leaf collection on: November 5 and 6
For leaf collection on: November 25, 30 and December 1
For leaf collection on: December 14 and 15

***Note: Leaf schedule is tentative. Leaf removal may be delayed due to weather conditions. If this happens, the Department of Public Works will arrive as close to the scheduled date as possible.**



**Last day for leaf collection
is Friday, December 18.**

**Dept. of Public Works
City of Oak Park
10600 Capital Street Oak
Park, MI 48237
(248) 691-7497**



City of Oak Park: Community, Commerce and Culture



Perkins Signs Books at Library

Lynne Rae Perkins, an author and illustrator from Michigan, held a meet and greet at the Oak Park Library on October 4th.



Oak Park Welcomes New Officer

Adam Langford is the newest member of the Public Safety team. He is cross-trained in police, fire and emergency.



Citizen's Academy Graduates

Twenty-three Oak Park residents graduated Oak Park Citizen's Academy, a four-week Public Safety program.



Public Safety Open House

Oak Park's Department of Public Safety held their Open House on Sunday, October 4th during Fire Safety Week.



Oak Park Toastmasters

The Oak Park Toastmasters received a Proclamation from City Council at the October 5th City Council meeting.



The First Bottle of the First Box

The First bottle from the first box of the first shipment to the first establishment to receive a Class C Liquor License arrived at Sahara's.



Successful Recycling Event

Electronics recycling and paper shredding were part of the Haul Your Own Junk Away Recycling Event in September.



Pet Immunization and Licensure

The Oak Park Low Cost Pet Vaccination Clinic was held on October 3rd.



Library Receives 30 Computers

The Oak Park Library received a hardware and software upgrade with the addition of 30 new computers.



Homeowners Receive Awards

Sixty-one properties in Oak Park received Beautification Awards. The Beautification Award Ceremony was held Thursday, October 1.



Married in City Hall

Congratulations to Tiffani Lee Dupuy and Aaron Roumaya who were married in City Hall on Friday, October 23.



McDonalds Grand Opening

McDonalds owner Sujit Datta held the grand opening of his new state-of-the-art McDonalds located on Greenfield near Lincoln.



Hogan Receives Proclamation

Grandmaster Robb Hogan, an Oak Park Recreation Dept. martial arts instructor and bodyguard, received a Proclamation on October 19.



Black Belts to Four Students

Congratulations to four students who received black belts after qualifying in Grandmaster Hogan's class.



Fall in Bloom Demonstration

The Oak Park Arts and Cultural Commission held a floral demonstration via Sharon Rome of Rose of Sharon Florist.



New Commission Members

On October 5, City Council appointed 17 new Commissioners to various Commissions and Boards. There are still seats remaining to be filled.

Mayor
Marian McClellan
Mayor Pro Tem
Paul Levine
Council Members
Michael Seligson
Carolyn Burns
Kiesha Speech
City Manager
Erik Tungate

ECRWSS

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OAK PARK BRANCH, City of Oak Park's Community Newsletter

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community happenings

November 2015 Dates to Remember

- November 1** - Daylight Savings Ends
- November 2** - City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- November 3** - General Election, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- November 6** - Senior Day Trip - Pewabic Pottery, Detroit
- November 8** - Shop Oak Park Holiday Bazaar is Canceled
- November 9** - 2016 Resident Shelter Reservations Begins 8 a.m.
 - Emergency Services Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
 - Planning Commission Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- November 11** - Veterans Day
 - Friends of the Library Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
- November 12** - Ethnic Advisory Commission Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- November 16** - City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- November 17** - Library Board of Directors Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
 - Seniors - Blind Side Movie and Snacks, 12 noon
- November 18** - Oak Park Arts and Cultural Commission Meeting, 7 p.m.
 - Recreation Advisory Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
 - Master Plan Townhall Meeting, 5-7 p.m.
- November 19** - 50 Up Club Holiday Pot Luck, 12 Noon
- November 20** - Senior Lunch Bunch - Pasqualis
- November 23** - Public Safety Retirement System Meeting
 - Business Roundtable, Robert Wittenburg, 8 a.m.
- November 24** - Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- November 25** - City Office Closed
- November 26** - Thanksgiving. City Offices Closed. Library Closed.
 - Trash Collection Delayed One Day
- November 27** - City Offices Closed. Library Closed.
 - Trash Collection Delayed One Day
- November 29** - Library Closed
- November 30** - Cyber Monday

December 2015 Dates to Remember

- December 1** - Winter 2015 Taxes Issued
- December 2** - Oak Park Arts and Cultural Commission Meeting, 7 p.m.
- December 6** - Chanukah Begins at Sunset
- December 7** - City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- December 9** - Friends of the Library Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
- December 10** - Ethnic Advisory Commission Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- December 11** - Curbside Leaf Removal Ends
 - Senior Day Trip, Henry Ford Museum
- December 14** - Chanukah Ends at Sunset
 - Emergency Services Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
 - Planning Commission Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- December 15** - Beautification Advisory Commission Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
 - Board of Review
 - Library Board of Director's Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- December 16** - Recreation Advisory Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
 - Communications Commission Meeting, 7 p.m.
- December 17** - Recycling Commission Meeting, 7 p.m.
 - 50 and Up Club Holiday Pot Luck, 12 Noon
- December 18** - Yard Waste and Brush Removal Ends
 - Seniors Lunch Bunch, Detroit Hard Rock Cafe'
- December 21** - City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- December 22** - First Day of Winter
 - Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- December 23** - City Offices Closed
- December 24** - Christmas Eve. City Offices Closed. Library Closed.
 - Trash Collection Delayed One Day
- December 25** - Christmas. City Offices Closed. Library Closed.
 - Trash Collection Delayed One Day
- December 26** - Kwanzaa Begins (Until January 1)
- December 27** - Library Closed
- December 28** - Public Safety Retirement System Meeting
- December 30** - City Offices Closed
- December 31** - New Years Eve. City Offices Closed. Library Closed.
 - Trash Collection Delayed One Day

New TUITION FREE Charter School Now Open!



Enroll your child in our Pre-K through 6th grade
Rigorous Learning Academy TODAY
at www.fdi-academy.org
or call the school at (248) 953-2003.

Please visit and like our Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/FDIAcharter>

BOOBASH Saturday, October 31
4-7:30 p.m., Com. Ctr.

Published by:

City of Oak Park

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