





## Memorandum

TO: Kevin J. Jackson, Village Manager 

FROM: Tammie Grossman, Development Customer Services Director 

FOR: Village President and Board of Trustees

DATE: May 11, 2023

SUBJECT: Envision Oak Park Comprehensive Plan

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As a follow-up to the Village Board meeting Monday night, May 8, 2023, staff is providing this memorandum to the Village Board with information on the extent to which the Village's Envision Oak Park Comprehensive Plan ("Plan") has been implemented and impacted Village service-delivery. Following is a concise summary of the Village's progress on implementing the goals of Envision Oak Park. And attached you will find a report entitled "A 5-year Review of Oak Park's 2014 Comprehensive Plan" for further review.

First, the Plan is used when reviewing each and every planning application. The recommendations within the Plan are used as part the overall rationale in our staff reports.

Second, Envision Oak Park contained recommendations that were implemented in the 2017 rewrite of the Zoning Ordinance regulations as were recommended in the Plan. Such recommendations included modernizing the entirety of the zoning code and streamlining and shortening the Planned Development Process. Envision Oak Park was also used as a basis for adding the zoning code updates related to accessory dwelling units. The Village's planning efforts and zoning code re-write has received local and national recognition. The Village Planner has presented at several forums to encourage communities to follow Oak Park's direction.

Third, Envision Oak Park was funded by the U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as part of its sustainable community's initiative and that funding required an emphasis on increasing the supply of affordable housing in our community. The report contains findings and objectives on how to increase supply of affordable housing. The report was relied on for the state funding applications related to the Community Builder's project at 801 S. Oak Park Avenue which brought \$15 million dollars into our community and 37 affordable housing units including work/live units which was a recommendation contained in Envision Oak Park.

Fourth, Envision Oak Park introduced the Environmental Sustainability chapter which recognized our community's ground-breaking sustainability planning initiated in 2010.

The objectives and goals recommended in this Plan are to minimize overall energy consumption and increase our investment in renewable energy sources, enhance our water quality, encourage locally produced foods, and advance regulations and programs for green infrastructure all in order to establish a more resilient and sustainable community. These goals and objectives were the impetus for establishing the Village's expanded sustainability staff and planning.

Finally, in 2019 staff engaged a group of UIC students as part of their Capstone Project to conduct a review of the goals and objectives within the Plan. Their findings determined that overall 39% of the goals and objectives showed significant progress. Another 48% were found to be continuous and ongoing. They found only approximately 13% of all the goals and objectives had not been initiated. The percentages are based on personal interviews of Village staff, reviewing reports and general knowledge gained from Village activities. It is staff's intent to pursue an update to the Plan in the near future. It would be important to require that the hired consultant reconfirm the utilization and accomplishments of the current Plan. We have attached the report for your review.

Please contact Tammie Grossman, Development Customer Services Director, with any questions at [tgrossman@oak-park.us](mailto:tgrossman@oak-park.us) or 708/358-5422.

#### Attachment

cc: Lisa Shelley, Deputy Village Manager  
Ahmad Zayyad, Deputy Village Manager  
Christina M. Waters, Village Clerk  
All Department Directors

# **A 5 Year Review of Oak Park's 2014 Comprehensive Plan**

**By**

**Armando Ponce, Eddie Thomson, Allison Izguerra, Precious McNeil, Paul Mizner**

**(In partial completion of the requirements for the Bachelors in Arts at the University of  
Illinois at Chicago For the Village of Oak Park)**

**05/01/2019**

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## I. Letter of Transmittal

Armando Ponce, Precious Mcneil, Allison Izguerra, Eddie Thomson, Paul Mizner  
UIC Capstone  
412 S Peoria St  
Chicago, IL 60607

May 1, 2019

Craig Failor  
Village Planner  
Village of Oak Park, Illinois  
123 Madison St.

Dear Craig,

I submit here a proposal in support of an analysis entitled "A Five Year Review of Envision Oak Park 2014" to be performed under our direction of The University of Illinois at Chicago in the College of Urban Planning and Policy.

Questions relating to any technical aspects of the analysis should be directed to Dr. Curtis Winkle. Questions on the process and methods should be addressed to the group: Armando Ponce, Precious Mcneil, Allison Izguerra, Eddie Thomson, Paul Mizner @ [Aponce9@uic.edu](mailto:Aponce9@uic.edu).

Sincerely,

Armando Ponce, Precious Mcneil, Allison Izguerra, Eddie Thomson, Paul Mizner

## II. Executive Summary

In 2014, the Village of Oak Park published the Envision Oak Park Plan. The plan sets forth numerous goals and objectives that seek to address the challenges faced by the village. Community feedback and information obtained from multiple jurisdictions were used to develop these goals and objectives. Production of the plan was made possible through a \$200,000 grant from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The plan is laid out in chapters with each one containing information regarding a specific topic. The chapters analyzed as part of the five year review were 4 through 14. Phone interviews were conducted with relevant department heads and employees to ascertain progress made on the chapter goals and objectives. If additional information was needed online sources such as websites, community surveys, and budget reports were also analyzed.

Following the data acquisition phase, progress made on goals and objectives was codified into one of three categories. Not started indicates that progress has not been made. Ongoing indicates that some progress has been made, but certain aspects of the goal have yet to be addressed. Significant progress indicates that there has been sustained and noticeable progress that was verified through interviews and external data acquisition. The N/A category is for goals where data could not be obtained or the goal itself was difficult to quantify.

### Chapters 5, 7, 9, 13 demonstrated the least amount of progress on chapter objectives:

Chapter 5 is about the of arts and culture in village. This pertains to public, private, and historical art in Oak Park as well as the Architecture. The total percent of objectives completed in this chapter was 69%.

Chapter 7 discusses neighborhoods, housing, and diversity. This chapter focused on Oak Park residents having access to opportunities and access to quality housing. This chapters objectives have a 48% ongoing rate.

Chapter 9 focused on the health and safety of all Oak Park residents. This includes physical safety, ensuring Oak Park residents maintain healthy lifestyles, and good mental health. This chapter had significant progress with 44% of its objectives completed.

Chapter 13 discusses the environment and sustainability. It focused on how Oak Park can improve practices to be more a greener community. Overall, this chapter had 30% of its objectives completed with 48% of the objectives ongoing

Chapters 8, 10, and 14 demonstrated marginal progress on chapter objectives

Chapter 8 focused on Education with an emphasis placed on equity and strengthening community involvement. As a whole, 50% of the objectives contained within the chapter were classified as ongoing.

Chapter 10 focused on Transportation and Infrastructure, with extra attention paid to street maintenance and communication infrastructure improvement. Overall, over half of the goals were currently in progress, along with over 25% of the goals unaccounted for.

Chapter 14 focused on Governmental Excellence specifically improving communication within and between the six taxing bodies present within Oak Park. Communication between the government and residents of Oak Park was an additional area of emphasis.

Chapters 4, 6, 11, and 12 demonstrated the most amount of progress on chapters objectives

Chapter 4 was focused on the community's land-use, historical preservation, architecture, and redevelopment opportunities. The Village of Oak Park was able to complete 88% of the objectives in this chapter.

Chapter 6 was focused on the parks, open space, and environmental features within Oak Park. The total percentage of objectives with significant progress was 16% with 64% of objectives ongoing.

Chapter 11 focused on Community Life and Engagement, with a heavy emphasis on how the government of Oak Park could improve assisting the residents of Oak Park. They focused on placing residents and businesses on government boards, and on outreach efforts like improved social media and a block party packet. Overall, 73% of the goals are currently in progress.

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Chapter 12 discussed the economic health and vitality of Oak Park. It focused on the relationship between local businesses and government. This chapter had 65% of its objectives completed and 30% of its objectives ongoing.



## II. Introduction

Every community in Illinois is allowed to draft and adopt a comprehensive plan, and the Village of Oak Park has now created two plans. The first plan was created in 1990 with goals to solve challenges related to housing, transportation, parking, public facilities, citizen participation, and economic development. Then twenty-four years later, in 2014 the comprehensive plan “Envision Oak Park” was created to define the future plans and development of the village. Funding for the plan came from a \$200,000 grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The plan aims to solve challenges relating to transportation, public health, housing, development, education, and village planning.

As the five-year mark of Envision Oak Park approaches, it has become necessary to analyze and research the goals and objectives of the plan to see if progress has been made. This report presents research on the degree which will answer the following: Have there been steps in Envision Oak Park to show progress toward goals? Have any of the programs been implemented or completed? Is there anything not in the plan that is currently happening? As time progresses what was not able to be completed?

Our research team is composed of five students from the University of Illinois at Chicago in the process of receiving their undergraduate degrees in urban studies. Our final project was to put all our knowledge and experiences together for the benefit of Oak Park. Our purpose was to evaluate and determine if the goals and objectives stated in Oak Park’s 2014 comprehensive village plan had been completed. After conducting our analysis we assessed overall progress as a percentage of total objectives accomplished for each chapter. Lastly, conclusions were formed and recommendations were made to ensure full completion of the plan.

### III. Methods:

In order to assess progress towards the defined objectives, phone and in-person interviews were conducted with several governmental department leaders. We divided the multiple chapters contained within the comprehensive 2014 plan and conducted separate interviews with individuals who had expertise pertaining to our specific chapter. This process lasted three weeks and concluded with the research team meeting to discuss the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and challenges of the interview process. All of the interview responses were then consolidated into one work document to ease in the analysis of data.

Given the qualitative nature of the interview process, it was determined that quantitative data was also necessary to give the interview responses more validity. Village websites, annual reports, and university databases were the main sources of this data and helped to provide more background information to the responses. In cases where the interview responses were vague or, no information was provided more research was conducted. Following this research stage, interviewees were sent back a copy of the responses to ensure the information and data correctly portrayed their opinion.

The final step of our data and interview process was devising a method which properly measured progress on the goals contained within the comprehensive 2014 plan. One member of the research team was responsible for converting all of the interview responses into a more comprehensible table. Based on the interview responses objective progress was codified into one of three categories: significant progress, ongoing, or not started. Where possible justification was given for why some goals were not yet started. An additional category, N/A, was also used for objective where no information could be obtained or the objective was difficult to quantify. The codification process was completed by all members of the research team to ensure similar criteria for progress were followed. Lastly, a table and pie charts were developed to observe overall progress made for each chapter and for the plan as a whole.

## V. Findings:

# 4. Land Use & Built Form

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### Main Chapter Goals

Goal 4.1 (Significant Progress) - Strengthen and protect the character, integrity, and cohesion of the village and its neighborhoods.

Goal 4.2 (Ongoing) - Enhance the architectural integrity of the village through both preservation and innovation.

Goal 4.3 (Ongoing) - Diversify the economy and strengthen the tax base through land use and development.

Goal 4.4 (Ongoing) - Seek innovative and creative solutions to provide redevelopment opportunities and to recapture open space at a variety of scales

### Progress Made On Chapter Subgoals

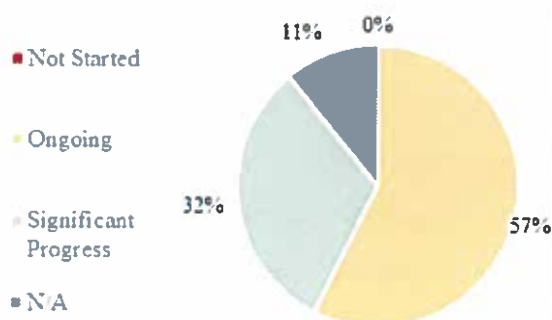


Figure 4.1

	Number	Percentage
Not Started	0	0%
Ongoing	11	58%
Significant Progress	6	32%
N/A	2	11%

Figure 4.2

### Chapter Summary:

This chapter was focused on the community’s land-use, historical preservation, architecture, and redevelopment opportunities. The information for this section came from an interview with Craig Failor the village planner of Oak Park and independent research. After the data was completed we were able to analyze the level of completion for this chapters goals. After completing the analysis it was concluded that the village of Oak Park has made significant progress towards strengthening their community’s spaces, parks, schools, as well as significant sustainable effort made to help the environment.

Elementary schools such as Holmes, Lincoln, and Longfellow have received renovations or expansion projects in the past five years. The park district has created new turf fields, improved playground equipment, and fixed park infrastructure. Environmental education center and a discovery garden have been created at the conservatory both of which improve the image of Oak Park.

There has been limited collaboration with the surrounding communities but there has been a connection with the City of Chicago. The Chicago Metropolitan Agency of Planning and the Department of Transportation have been analyzing potential improvements to North Avenue. Oak Park has also created the 2017 zoning ordinance that separates land use and regulates new developments. This zoning ordinance now requires a buffer zone between commercial uses and properties and that new developments must include a distance of 10 feet between alleys and businesses to ensure the safety of the business and protection of the environment.

The village is maintained through frequent check ins on violations, complaints, and signage. This helps to build a sound environment that is responsive to the community and cares about the preservation of the village. With a large number of Frank Lloyd Wright designed homes, Oak Park possesses a rich architectural history. These homes are managed, funded, and protected by the nonprofit organization Frank Lloyd Wright Trust as well as Village Historic District ordinances. Other historical or old buildings are insured by federal program such as the Federal Historic preservation incentive program, state tax credits, and historic housing renovation grants. In addition, Oak Park has eight buildings that are LEED Certified Silver and one building that is Certified Platinum (see appendix B).

The village promotes the use of infill development in order to prevent urban sprawl, support redevelopment, and preserve old buildings. Businesses now vary from restaurants, light manufacturing, retail, and offices. The diversification of land-use gives the village opportunities to attract more businesses. Oak Park also offers incentives such as low parking minimums, higher density development near transit areas, and reduced setback requirements for mixed-use developed. Based on these findings and analysis it is evident that a significant amount of progress was made in this chapter.

**Future Priority Goal:**

Goal 4.4 - Seek innovative and creative solutions to provide redevelopment opportunities and to recapture open space at a variety of scales.

Incentives for sustainable developments would provide benefits to developers to include reusable materials, new plants/trees, or green environments to their projects. It could help supplement the incentives for mixed use development.

## 5. Arts & Culture

### Main Chapter Goals

Goal 5.1 (Ongoing) - Support the arts through Village policies and programs.

Goal 5.2 (Significant Progress) - Preserve and enhance existing arts and culture resources.

Goal 5.3 (Ongoing) - Promote contemporary arts and culture as a major reason to visit Oak Park.

Goal 5.4 (Ongoing) - Strengthen the existing arts environment and integrate artistic uses of space throughout the village.

Goal 5.5 (Significant Progress) - Integrate the arts into childhood education and lifelong learning, ensure access to arts and culture, and improve the quality of everyday life for all Oak Park residents.

### Progress Made On Chapter Subgoals

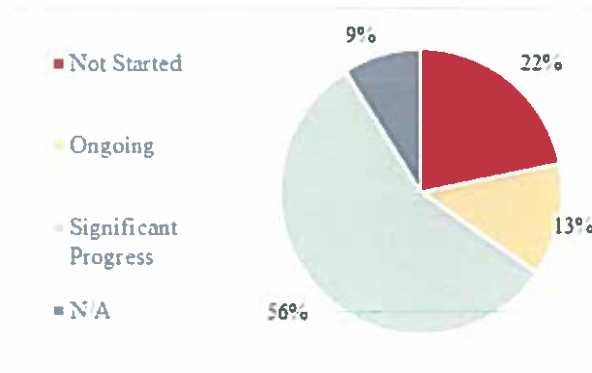


Figure 5.1

	Number	Percentage
Not Started	5	22%
Ongoing	3	13%
Significant Progress	13	57%
N/A	2	9%

Figure 5.2

### Chapter Summary:

This chapter focused on arts and the culture of the Village of Oak Park. The Development Customer Services Director and Oak Park Area Arts Council Director were both interviewed and provided insight on the different programs, events, and news currently happening in the village.

There are numerous art programs, festivals, and exhibitions that take place in Oak Park. The Mini Mural Program was launched in 2010 and hired local artists to paint murals along North and South Boulevards at Oak Park Avenue near the Green Line. These murals also extend to East and West of Marion Street. The summer arts program “Off the Wall” has occurred since 2010 and pairs local sixteen year olds with an art master to complete art projects. In addition, the OPAAC worked with schools to give the students art credit for their work. An arts festival, in the

Harrison Street Business District, called “What’s Blooming” happens every year to showcase art around Oak Park.

Facilities such as the Library, Senior Services Dining Hall, and Village Hall hold rotating art exhibits. The Village Hall permanently houses Hall of Fame exhibit that showcases famous people from Oak Park. Regarding maintenance, the public works team assists in the cleaning of historic public statues and other public art pieces. The historical preservation of the art culture such as the Mini Mural, art in new buildings, Frank Lloyd Wright homes, Unity Temple, 19 Century Club, Pleasant Home, and Chaney Mansion is important. Two significant restorations have recently been completed to Unity Temple and The Historical Society.

Public outreach and marketing of events is done primarily through social media to promote and support current events, festivals, and programs happening in the village. Oak Park has a long history of famous architecture and artists in the community. This art is beautiful and is vital in attracting tourists, promoting history, and giving an identity to the village. Based on these findings and analysis the Village of Oak Park has shown a significant amount of progress in this chapter.

**Future Priority Goal:**

Goal 5.3 - Promote contemporary arts and culture as a major reason to visit Oak Park.

Aside from the Frank Lloyd Wright homes, Oak Park contains many other cultural and artistic assets. Many community artists have created public art and the village should actively promote this art. Developing a stronger artistic community can be done through social media such as Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter which can help market art pieces and events. In addition, partnerships with various nonprofit groups to promote each others events would help increase tourism in the village.

# 6. Parks, Open Space, & Environmental Features

## Main Chapter Goals

Goal 6.1 (Ongoing) - Find new and innovative ways to accommodate demands for both natural and programmed green space throughout the community.

Goal 6.2 (Ongoing) – Support an active and involved community by engaging Oak Park’s citizens and providing easy access to parks, open space, and environmental features.

Goal 6.3 (Significant Progress) – Promotes sustainable development and maintenance practices in parks and open spaces.

Goal 6.4 (Ongoing) – The Village and its open spaces should serve as an educational model and strive to highlight its historical heritage.

Goal 6.5 (Ongoing) - Maintain and Enhance Oak Park’s Urban Forest

## Progress Made On Chapter Subgoals

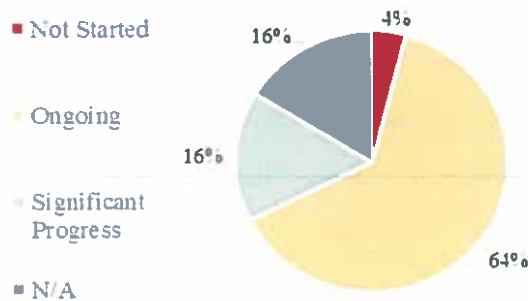


Figure 6.1

	Number	Percentage
Not Started	1	4%
Ongoing	15	64%
Significant Progress	4	16%
N A	4	16%

Figure 6.2

## Chapter Summary

Chapter 6 focused on the environmental features and its upkeep. The phone interviews were conducted with the Public Works Director, the Forestry Superintendent, the Sustainability Coordinator, the Village Manager, and the Park District of Oak Park.

The chapter focuses on ways they’ve best utilized the limited space they have to create an environmentally friendly community. They begin stating the importance of these assets because they’re costly to develop land into green space, but takes much longer to replace. Both the Village and the Park District have made significant strides towards their goals and are continuing



the programs they have implemented. Trees are one of the characteristics that defines Oak Park and differentiates from any other area. In 2014, they completed an Urban Forest Inventory in order to track any underutilized land, which can create opportunities to develop community gardens or green alley ways. The program uses Geographic Information Systems to track each tree in Oak Park. It also has a feature where it provides information, such as the height, species and age. Residents can also access this via their website. They also try to minimize the impacts of natural disasters by implementing a Stormwater Backup program, which provides financial assistance for homeowners who install systems for heavy rain events. The Park District installed a tank in Austin Gardens park and divert it for flushing toilet use.

The Village is actively pursuing efforts in the goals of obtaining more open space. In order to develop these open spaces, there needs to be funding. In February 2019, the Park District received the Open Space Land Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) Grant, which was valued at \$400,000. The local matching funds comes from the Capital Improvement budget to enhance Stevenson Park. To foster easy access to parks and open spaces for pedestrians and bicycles, they've added bike racks to many of the parks, such as Longfellow, Austin, Lindberg, Euclid, Carroll, and Maple Park. Future plans for open space would be to develop an Urban Forest Management Plan, which would layout future designs of parks and open space, and maintain and increase its urban forest population. The goal is to complete drafting in 2019.

This chapter had a significant amount of ongoing programs because they believe that a built-out community is an important aspect of quality of life.

### **Future Priority Objective**

Objective 6.2.4 - Ensure that the local street networks support multi model access to parks, open space and environmental features.

The Divvy bike program lasted only a short time and the Village of Oak Park is currently looking at other bike programs. Some necessary criteria would be affordability for the residents as well as educating residents about safety precautions.

## 7. Neighborhoods, Housing, & Diversity

### Main Chapter Goals

Goal 7.1 (Ongoing) – Sustain and broaden diversity and integration throughout Oak Park.

Goal 7.2 (Ongoing) – Ensure all Oak Park neighborhoods foster social interaction and inclusiveness.

Goal 7.3 (Significant Progress) – Provide mixed-income housing that is accessible, integrated, and responsive of Oak Park’s diverse population.

Goal 7.4 (Ongoing) - Maintain the long-term viability, quality, and character of Oak Park’s housing.

### Progress Made On Chapter Subgoals

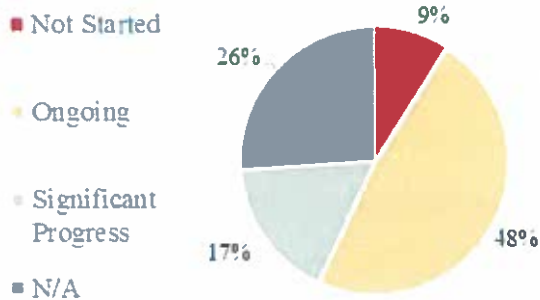


Figure 7.1

	Number	Percentage
Not Started	2	9%
Ongoing	11	48%
Significantly Progress	4	17%
N/A	6	26%

Figure 7.2

### Chapter Summary

This chapter entails the importance of community and how diversity is necessary to strengthen the neighborhoods and housing. Phone interviews were conducted with the Community Relations Director and the Development Customer Services Director.

The chapter begins with Oak Park’s Diversity Statement, which they adopted in 1973. It entails embracing differences and creating an environment that is respectful of that. To raise awareness, the Community Relations Department hosts diversity dinners to create an open dialog about ethnic and cultural differences; eight dialogs have been held in 2019 so far. They have implemented a new diversity training program for one hundred-fifteen police officers as well. In terms of housing, landlords must attend housing seminars. The Community Relations

Department also educate residents and mediates any complaints, such as discrimination or eviction. Oak Park has made significant strides towards providing housing opportunities for all families. In downtown, there are about twelve hundred new residential units that are developed and open or under construction, some of which are considered affordable. The Village of Oak Park adopted an Affordable Housing Ordinance in March 2019 that requires 10% of rental and townhome developments of 25 or more units, where zoning relief is sought, to be available. Developments meeting this criteria also have the option of provided cash-in-lieu.

### **Future Priority Objective**

**Objective 7.1.1** Ensure that the composition of and actions taken by Village boards and commissions reflect the community's commitment to diversity and affordable housing and Oak Park's adopted Diversity Statement.

A study was conducted through Village Clerk's office, but there has not been one conducted following the adoption of the Diversity Statement. It is imperative that boards and commissions reflect the Village's commitment. One way to do this is to diversify them. This would foster innovation on the board and for the citizens.

## 8. Education

### Main Chapter Goals

Goal 8.1 (Significant Progress) - Foster equal opportunities for academic achievement

Goal 8.2 (Ongoing) - Maintain a high-quality education system that delivers success for all

Goal 8.3 (Ongoing) - Encourage the creation of a new financing paradigm for public education

Goal 8.4 (Ongoing)- Create a unified and comprehensive system of support for education

### Progress Made On Chapter Subgoals

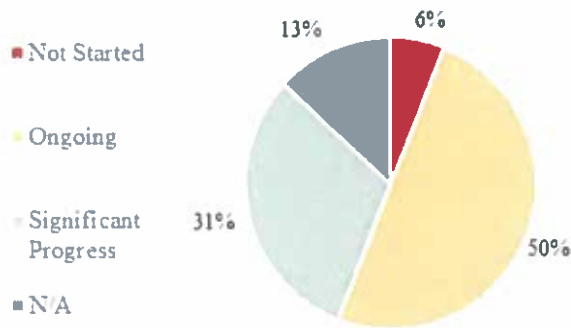


Figure 8.1

	Number	Percentage
Not Started	1	6%
Ongoing	8	50%
Significant Progress	5	31%
N/A	2	13%

Figure 8.2

### Chapter Summary

This chapter focused on the education system present within the Village of Oak Park and how it interacts with the community. School district 97 (SD97) is in charge of the public elementary and middle schools while school district 200 (SD200) monitors the high school. Phone interviews were conducted with an SD97 School Board member, Director of Oak Park Public Library, the Village Manager, and an HR Specialist. Getting into contact with both SD97 and SD200 was the main obstacle for this chapter. The goals of this chapter revolved around providing equal access and opportunities for all students both inside and outside of the classroom.

The concept of equity has begun to enter the public vocabulary indicating that the community has begun to recognize the need to address differences in student achievement across

socioeconomic groups. The village is currently working in conjunction with the University of Chicago to help build better outcome data and provide resources to the community. In addition to the phone interviews, the various school board websites were also explored to verify progress on particular goals. A majority of the goals were either ongoing or had significant progress indicating that effort has been put into accomplishing the goals set forth in the Envision Plan.

### **Future Priority Objective**

Objective 8.4.4 - Coordinate with local businesses and civic organizations to establish an apprenticeship and mentoring program that provides students with vocational training, workplace experience, and life skills.

While this program would only take place at the high school level it could be invaluable in providing students with soft skills that are not often taught in the classroom. Providing vocational training would be a great benefit to students who do not wish to obtain a degree whether it be for monetary or personal reasons.

## 9. Community Health & Safety

### Main Chapter Goals

Goal 9.1 (Significant Progress) - Make Oak Park a safe environment for citizens to live

Goal 9.2 (Significant Progress) - Provide residents with the knowledge and tools necessary to engage in safe living

Goal 9.3 (Ongoing) - Ensure that all residents of Oak Park have access to healthcare services

Goal 9.4 (Ongoing) - Provide comprehensive support for persons with disabilities, mental health, and substance abuse issues

Goal 9.5 (Ongoing) - Provide Oak Park residents with the environment and tools to make healthy and active lifestyle choices

### Progress Made On Chapter Subgoals

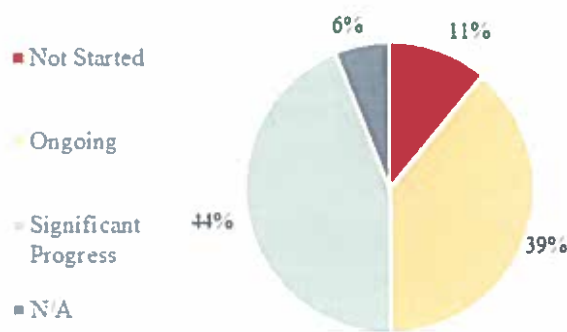


Figure 9.1

	Number	Percentage
Not Started	2	11%
Ongoing	7	39%
Significant Progress	8	44%
N/A	1	6%

Figure 9.2

### Chapter Summary

Chapter 9 focused primarily on the health and safety of Oak Park residents. In person and on the phone interviews were conducted with the Chief of Police, Chief of the Fire Department, and the Public Health Director. They provided information on current programs, health risk initiatives, and safety.

The chapter begins by discussing the importance of maintaining an up to date Emergency Preparedness Plan in the event of potentially harmful scenarios. It is the utmost importance to the village that their police and fire stations are well funded so they are able to respond to calls and

have appropriate levels of service. Crime and safety are also a crucial priority. Therefore, crime and patterns of crime must be closely monitored. The village continues to collaborate with nearby communities to monitor and minimize and prevent illegal activities. Community engagement and support are also discussed in this chapter. The village actively educates their residents by providing easily accessible information and also monitors community health. Mental health for those with disabilities and substance abuse issues are taken very seriously by the village. As a result, programs and support networks have become available for those who need it. The last of the chapter discusses the importance of a healthy lifestyle paired with good nutrition. The village promotes programs to encourage physical activity and provides its residents with information regarding healthy eating.

**Future Priority Goal:**

Goal 9.4 - Provide comprehensive support for persons with disabilities, mental health, and substance abuse issues.

While Thrive is active, and Oak Park Township manages some programs, the Village of Oak Park could offer more programs addressing stigma around mental health.

# 10. Transportation, Infrastructure, & Communication Technologies

## Main Chapter Goals

Goal 10.1 (Significant Progress) - Develop transportation, information, and other infrastructure networks that support multimodal and universal access to destinations in Oak Park and elsewhere

Goal 10.2 (Ongoing) – Design transportation networks that protect support and enhance the safety and heritage of Oak Park’s neighborhoods and business districts

Goal 10.3 (Ongoing) – Build information and communication infrastructure that enhances neighborhood engagement, government transparency, economic development, and environmental sustainability

Goal 10.4 (N/A) – Make the Eisenhower transportation corridor safe, convenient and reliable with multi-modal options that support environmental sustainability and livable communities

Goal 10.5 (Ongoing) – Support a strong infrastructure system that leverages new sustainable technologies

## Progress Made On Chapter Subgoals

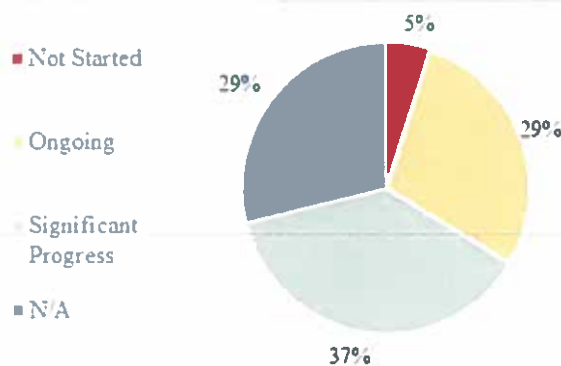


Figure 10.1

	Number	Percentage
Not Started	1	5%
Ongoing	6	29%
Significant Progress	8	38%
N/A	6	29%

Figure 10.2

## Chapter Summary

The main focus of this chapter was improving connections via transportation in and around Oak Park. It also focused extensively on information technology infrastructure, such as cellular towers and internet connections, as well as improvements that could be made to the



I-290 Eisenhower Expressway. Most of the projects within this chapter have been worked on, with significant progress being made, or the project is ongoing.

Interviews were conducted with the Parking & Mobility Services Manager, Public Works Director, Village Engineer and Assistant Village Engineer, Information Technology Director, and the Communications Director. While substantial information was provided, more information could have been provided that would have been helpful in gathering the most complete responses.

### **Future Priority Objective**

Objective 10.3.2 - Work with local and regional business leaders to identify needs and deficiencies with respect to upcoming information technologies and identify scalable and expandable projects to attract business and industries of the future

As Oak Park has continued to see an expansion of residents, businesses must ensure that their internet strength and coverage is at a maximum. With the future becoming increasingly dependent on information technology, it will be imperative for the businesses of the future to have access to modern internet properly suited to their needs

# 11. Community Life & Engagement

## Main Chapter Goals

Goal 11.1 (Ongoing) – Enhance communication among residents, businesses, the Village, and other community partners

Goal 11.2 (Significant Progress) – Facilitate business engagement and responsiveness to neighborhood needs and interests

Goal 11.3 (Ongoing) – Facilitate regular dialogue between non-for-profit organizations and all sectors to ensure their missions and services are responsive to community interests and needs.

Goal 11.4 (Significant Progress) – Provide opportunities for participation in positions of service or leadership

Goal 11.5 (Significant Progress) – Utilize local events as an avenue for bolstering civic engagement and pride

Goal 11.6 (N/A) – Provide opportunities for residents to strengthen their community.

## Progress Made On Chapter Subgoals

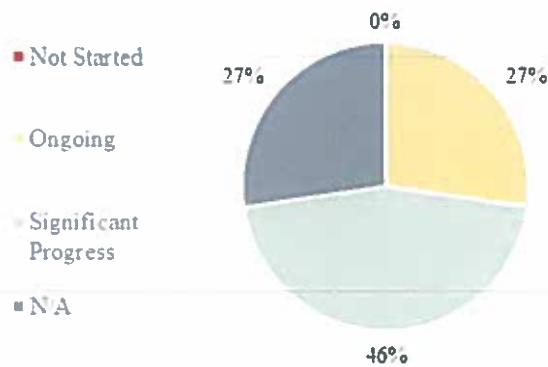


Figure 11.1

	Number	Percentage
Not Started	0	0%
Ongoing	6	27%
Significant Progress	10	45%
N/A	6	27%

Figure 11.2

## Chapter Summary

Chapter 11 focused on Community Life and Engagement through a number of different means. It attempted to enhance communication between the village and both citizens, businesses and nonprofits. It also attempted to provide leadership opportunities, as well as opportunities to bring residents together to boost pride in the Village. Overall, the chapter found a large amount of it's goals either currently being worked on, or having nothing happening with them at the

moment. For this chapter, interviews were conducted with the Village Manager, Development Customer Services Director, and the Communications Director. The Village Manager provided a substantial amount of facts and figures, and other interviewees provided a majority of the information for this chapter and gave very detailed explanations.

### **Future Priority Goal**

Objective 11.4.3 - encourage local businesses to adopt mentoring and hiring practices that foster the development of “home-grown” leaders.

With Oak Park promoting the expansion of local businesses, encouraging mentorship programs could be a good way to recruit businesses to Oak Park. This could give businesses a stronger sense of community and convince those being mentored that Oak Park is a desirable place to work.

# 12. Economic Health & Vitality

## Main Chapter Goals

Goal 12.1 (Significant Progress) – Ensure that economic vitality is spread throughout the Village

Goal 12.2 (Significant Progress)– Ensure that Oak Park maintains a “business-friendly” environment

Goal 12.3 (Significant Progress) – Expand and promote business support services

Goal 12.4 (Significant Progress) – Diversify and stabilize the Village’s tax base

Goal 12.5 (Ongoing) – Position Oak Park as a destination for shopping, dining, entertainment, and culture

## Progress Made On Chapter Subgoals

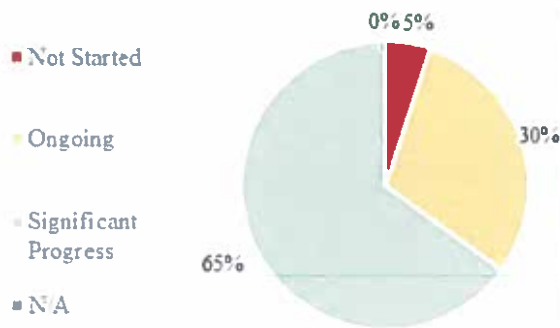


Figure 12.1

	Number	Percentage
Not Started	1	5%
Ongoing	6	30%
Significant Progress	13	65%
N/A	0	0%

Figure 12.2

## Chapter Summary

This chapter focused on the economic trends and practices that shape Oak Park and its businesses. In-person interviews were conducted with the Development Customer Services Director and Economic Development Corporation Executive Director.

The economic health of the village was strongly emphasized as it can affect many quality of life factors. With the village thriving economically, it can continue to be an attractive place for residents, businesses, and visitors. Market trends are constantly monitored to maintain a competitive edge. To promote a good working relationship with businesses, many online

processes for local businesses have been or will be streamlined. Similarly, the village is always working to identify challenges that could drive away investment.

Diversifying and stabilizing the village's tax base is crucial to ensure a high level of service and program delivery. In order to incentivize this diversification, monetary incentives such as facade improvement are given the businesses that invest in projects which accomplish the broader goals of Oak Park. The marketable assets of the village can be used to bring people in and there is always encouragement of cross promotion between businesses.

### **Future Priority Goal**

**Goal 12.3 – Expand and promote business support services**

Continuing to build a strong relationship between government and local businesses can be beneficial for both parties.

# 13. Environmental Sustainability

## Main Chapter Goals

Goal 13.1 (Ongoing) - Minimize overall energy consumption and increase investment in renewable energy sources.

Goal 13.2 (Ongoing) - Conserve water and improve water quality

Goal 13.3 (Not started) - Provide access to locally produced, healthy, and sustainable food

Goal 13.4 (Significant Progress) – Advance regulations and programs for green infrastructure to build a resilient, sustainable community

Goal 13.5 (Ongoing) – Create a Zero Waste Village

## Progress Made On Chapter Subgoals

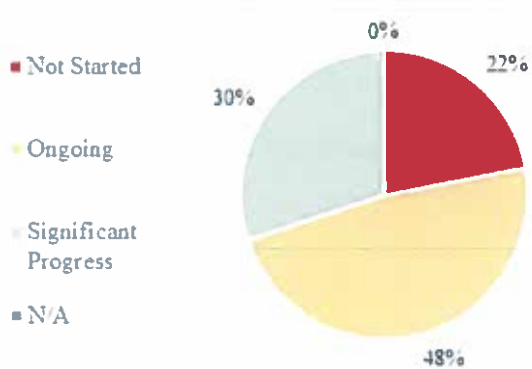


Figure 13.1

	Number	Percentage
Not Started	5	22%
Ongoing	11	48%
Significant Progress	7	30%
N/A	0	0%

Figure 13.2

## Chapter Summary

This chapter focused on the environment and sustainability, and how the village can be up to date on green technology. Phone interviews were conducted with the Sustainability Coordinator, Village Engineer, Forestry Superintendent, and the Environmental Services Manager.

This chapter begins by discussing environmental sustainability within the village, and all of its practices it uses to make Oak Park greener. Part of the village’s efforts for sustainability is education for their residents. This part of the chapter describes how awareness and hands on campaigns can aid in the efforts, and that the village can serve as an example for other

communities. Regarding awareness, the village ensures that its governmental staff is supporting green technologies related to energy conservation and green energy development to guide government decision making.

The chapter also discusses how improving and maintaining overall water quality is important and how reducing ground chemicals can help in this effort. Oak Park strives for advancing regulations and programs for green infrastructure to build a resilient, and more sustainable community, and out of this effort all of Oak Park is now a certified arboretum.

The last part of the chapter touches on how climate change can alter the local natural environment. Adapting to the consequences of climate change is important to the village so they create policies to support green technology and support sustainable development.

### **Future Priority Goal**

Goal 13.4 – Advance regulations and programs for green infrastructure to build a resilient, sustainable community

While some buildings have LEED certification, it would be beneficial to promote and ensure more buildings to gain this certification.

# 14. Governmental Excellence

## Main Chapter Goals

Goal 14.1 (Ongoing) - Provide honest, effective, high-quality government and superior customer service

Goal 14.2 (Significant Progress) - Achieve superior efficiency in the delivery of governmental services.

Goal 14.3 (Ongoing) - Manage the total real estate tax burden on the community.

Goal 14.4 (Ongoing) - Promote intergovernmental coordination and cooperation in the delivery of services.

Goal 14.5. (Significant Progress) - Maximize opportunities for citizens to engage with government and play a role in ensuring government transparency and accountability.

## Progress Made On Chapter Subgoals

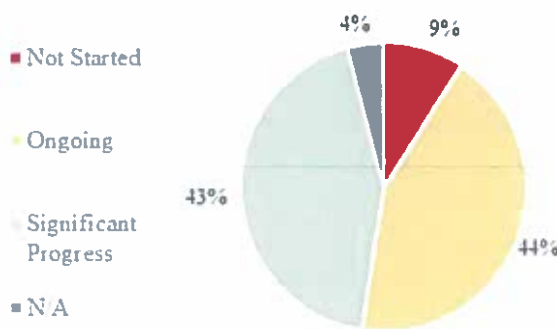


Figure 14.1

	Number	Percentage
Not Started	2	9%
Ongoing	10	43%
Significant Progress	10	43%
N/A	1	4%

Figure 14.2

## Chapter Summary

This chapter was primarily focused on improving communication both between government entities and the community and between government entities. An emphasis was placed on customer service and improving efficiency. Phone interviews were conducted with an HR Specialist, Village Manager, and Oak Park Library Director. While communication overall has improved since the Envision Plan was made all interviewees echoed that communication



could still be improved across all levels of government. The importance of communication cannot be understated as it is critical to maintaining a responsive and effective level of service to residents and visitors alike.

The Village of Oak Park website provided information to improvements in the customer service process. Many of the permitting processes have been moved online with more planned for the future. Goal 14.3 regarding the real estate tax burden has seen no observable progress on some goals indicating a need to focus attention towards this for the future. As a whole, nearly all of these goals are ongoing or have significant progress. However, it is important to note that while significant progress has been made on some goals further work can still be done to improve customer satisfaction and government efficiency.

#### **Future Priority Objective**

Objective 14.5.1 - Provide readily available access to information to enable citizens to (a) understand government operations and finances, (b) identify opportunities to support or collaborate with government, and (c) hold government accountable.

Significant progress has already been made towards this goal, however, many of the reports developed by the taxing bodies remain tedious and difficult to understand. If these reports are simplified into a more distributable form or graphic the public can become more aware of what is occurring within the village. This in turn increases transparency and allow residents to keep the government more accountable.

## VII: Analysis/ conclusion

Based on the interview responses and codification of these responses into their respective subgoals, pie charts and tables were developed to better demonstrate the implementation progress of the goals contained within Envision Oak Park. Analysis was completed on the micro level within each specific chapter as well as on the macro level looking at how progress levels compare between chapters to overall plan progress.

As a whole the research team identified 9 percent of subgoals as not started. A majority of these subgoals were found within Chapter 5 (Arts and Culture) and Chapter 13 (Environmental Sustainability). The lack of available manpower, community need, and funding were the main reasons for this codification. Regarding community need, some of the demand for particular proposed programs were addressed by organizations outside of local government.

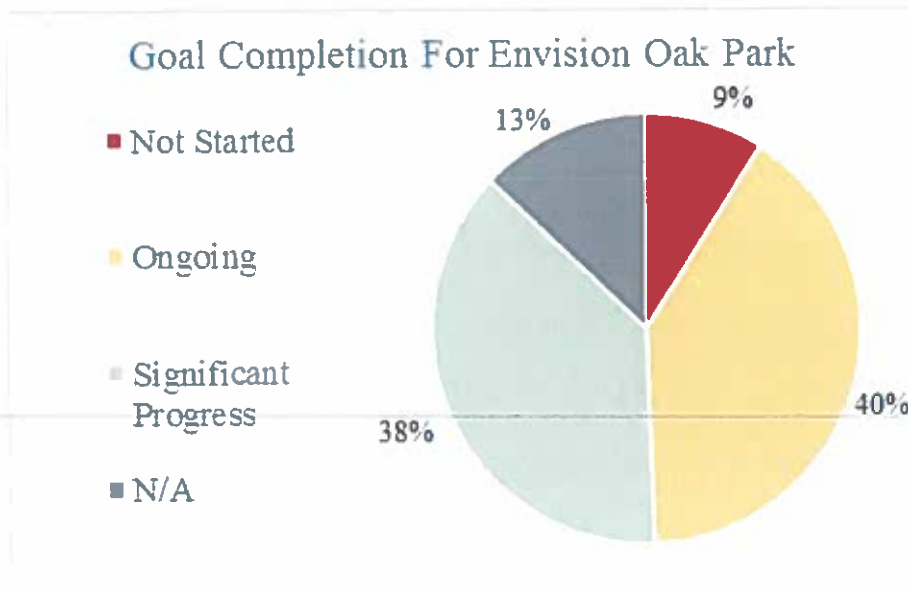
Subgoals categorized as ongoing showed some progress made towards accomplishing the goal, but were either just coming to fruition or had remaining portions to address. The ongoing category represented 40 percent of the subgoals for the entire plan. This was the largest of the categories and demonstrated that at least some form of progress has been made. Chapter 6 (Parks and Open Space) and Chapter 4 (Land Use & Built Form) had the highest percentage of ongoing subgoals indicating that if the current programs and initiatives continue it can be expected they will progress to the significant progress category.

With 38 percent of subgoals being in the significant progress category, there is an observable impact made from the implementation of the plan. Subgoals categorized in the significant progress category showed sustained activity towards the goal through the number of projects completed, policies developed, or demonstrated investment. It is important to note that while significant progress has been made towards these subgoals there remains an additional

capacity to improve upon this progress. Chapter 7 (Neighborhoods, Housing, & Diversity) is an area for growth in this category as only 17 percent of subgoals fell into this category.

In certain instances data pertaining to subgoals was not provided nor could be located. These subgoals were then codified as N/A. This category should not be heavily relied on to draw conclusions as the data may exist, but was not able to be located by the research team. Therefore some of the subgoals may in fact lie within the other categories. Chapter 10 (Transportation, Infrastructure, & Communication Technologies) had 29 percent of its subgoals classified as N/A. This relatively high percentage indicates the need for further research into potential data sources and persons with advanced knowledge of the content contained within the chapter.

VIII: Appendix



1.

Goal Progress by Chapter Subgoals

Chapter	Progress				Total # of Goals
	Not Started	Ongoing	Significant Progress	N/A	
4 - Land Use & Built Form	0	11	6	2	19
5 - Arts & Culture	5	3	13	2	23
6 - Parks, Open Space, & Environmental Features	1	15	4	4	24
7 - Neighborhoods, Housing, & Diversity	2	11	4	6	23
8 - Education	1	8	5	2	16
9 - Community Health & Safety	2	7	8	1	18
10 - Transportation, Infrastructure, & Communication Technologies	1	6	8	6	21
11 - Community Life & Engagement	0	6	10	6	22
12 - Economic Health & Vitality	1	6	13	0	20
13 - Environmental Sustainability	5	11	7	0	23
14 - Governmental Excellence	2	10	10	1	23
<b>Overall</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>232</b>

2.

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### Goal Progress by Percentage of Chapter Subgoals

Chapter	Progress				Total # of Goals
	Not Started	Ongoing	Significant Progress	N/A	
4 - Land Use & Built Form	0%	58%	32%	11%	19
5 - Arts & Culture	22%	13%	57%	9%	23
6 - Parks, Open Space, & Environmental Features	4%	63%	16%	16%	24
7 - Neighborhoods, Housing, & Diversity	9%	48%	17%	26%	23
8 - Education	6%	50%	31%	13%	16
9 - Community Health & Safety	11%	39%	44%	6%	18
10 - Transportation, Infrastructure, & Communication Technologies	5%	29%	38%	29%	21
11 - Community Life & Engagement	0%	27%	45%	27%	22
12 - Economic Health & Vitality	5%	30%	65%	0%	20
13 - Environmental Sustainability	22%	48%	30%	0%	23
14 - Governmental Excellence	9%	43%	43%	4%	23
<b>3. Overall</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>232</b>

### 4. ( Interview Responses 2014-2019 )

#### Chapter 4 - Land Use & Built Form

Goals and Objectives	2019 Interview responses	2015 Interview Responses	Progress Made
<b>Goal 4.1 Strengthen and protect the character, integrity, and cohesion of the village and its neighborhoods.</b>			
4.1.1 Establish and strengthen focal points, such as schools, parks, commercial districts, and other community gathering spaces, within the village's neighborhoods.	Carroll Center Addition (to be completed December 2019) Taylor Park Drainage Improvements (Completed August 2017) Euclid Square Park (Completed August 2017) Maple Park Renovation (Completed December 2016) Middle School All-weather Fields Project (Completed April 2016) Austin Gardens Environmental Education Center (Completed June 2016) Elsie Jacobsen Discovery Garden at the Oak Park Conservatory (Completed September 12, 2015) 218 Madison Renovation (re-opened April 2015) Lindberg Park Renovation (re-opened April 2015)	The park district and school districts continue to review and upgrade their land and facilities. These initiatives and goals meet this objective.	Significant Progress

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	<p>Holmes Elementary Expansion Project (2018)                  Lincoln Elementary Expansion Project (2019)                  Longfellow Elementary Expansion Project (2019)</p>		
<p>4.1.2 Strengthen the community's urban fabric through context-sensitive infill development that is complementary to the scale and character of surrounding residential neighborhoods.</p>	<p>Difficult to quantify</p>	<p>It is the intention with the regulations of the Zoning Ordinance and goals of the Comprehensive Plan to ensure all infill development is contextual with its surrounding neighborhood. Exceptions to this are generally reviewed and approved through a public process, such as the Lake and Forest and the Colt Site developments.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>4.1.3 Work cooperatively with neighboring communities to ensure that the village's edges remain strong and attractive.</p>	<p>Chicago Metropolitan Agency of Planning and Chicago Department of Transportation study of North Ave.</p>	<p>In the past, the Village of Oak Park worked with the City of Berwyn and Town of Cicero to develop a cooperative zoning and streetscape project. Conversations were also conducted with other abutting Oak Park communities during the Comprehensive Plan rewrite process. Our intent is to involve the City of Chicago in discussions regarding any planning for the North Avenue business corridor. The Village Of Oak Park has been in contact with the City of Chicago in the past regarding streetscaping of North Avenue and parking along Austin Boulevard.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>4.1.4 Ensure that residential areas have adequate buffering and/or screening from incompatible adjacent land uses.</p>	<p>Separate of land use.                  New development must include 10ft deep landscape between alley and business.                  2017 zoning update.</p>	<p>It is the intention to include regulations in the Zoning Ordinance to ensure buffering and screening of residential areas. During the Zoning Ordinance rewrite process, this can be reviewed to ensure the proper balance between commercial needs and residents' protections are in place.</p>	<p>Significant progress</p>
<p>4.1.5 Preserve a sound built environment through appropriate code enforcement efforts and</p>	<p>Daily checking (public relations) of zoning ordinances, violations, property maintenance, and proper signage. Keep up to date with complains.</p>	<p>This is ongoing with staff in the Development Customer Services Department. A future goal or policy could be making buildings code</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

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preventative maintenance programs.		compliant when new businesses open up- using a proactive approach to code enforcement.	
<b>Goal 4.2 Enhance the architectural integrity of the village through both preservation and innovation.</b>			
4.2.1 Support the preservation of the historical and architectural heritage through public policy, sensitive development practices, and design of private and public improvements and projects.	Ensuring the preservation of old buildings through state and federal incentives. (i.e. Federal Historic preservation incentive program, state Tax Credits, Historic Housing renovation grants) The non profit organization Frank Lloyd Wright Trust protects and funds the famous homes.	The Village staff continues to look at ways to preserve the historical and architectural heritage such as reviewing the potential of a new historic district in south Oak Park – the Hulbert Homes Subdivision for example. We are currently in the process of gathering neighbor support for this designation. As development occurs in historic areas, evaluations of potential impacts are made. The Historic Preservation Commission guidelines are being updated and will be made to be more user-friendly.	Significant progress
4.2.2 Promote private initiative and public stewardship in maintaining and improving the village’s landmarks and historic districts.	Annual Oak Park village awards to nominate current renovations and preservations.	This is ongoing	Ongoing
4.2.3 Seek funding that supports local historic preservation policies and projects.	State and Federal Grants	Staff continues to seek and is successful in finding grant funding for preservation initiatives such as the establishment of new or expanded historic districts and guideline updates.	Ongoing
4.2.4 Support innovative building design and construction practices within the village and continue an award program to recognize innovative design and the application of “green” building techniques.	LEED Certification Silver: Right sized passive homes US Bank (North Ave) PCC West Suburban Austin Gardens Environmental Center Ridgeland Common Recreation Complex PNC Bank Branch Harlem/ Ontario Project 1135 N.Grove (Platinum)	<i>The Village could consider adopting a green building code with voluntary compliance to help business and property owners understand what is available to them. Another goal could be to offer low-cost loans incentivizing owners to make renovations. The Village currently gives Green awards through the Environment and Energy Commission during</i>	Significant progress

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		<i>the Stewardship Awards ceremony held at the end of the year.</i>	
4.2.5 Improve the community's image through enhanced design-specific standards.	Illinois Department of Transportation and Chicago Transit Authority working to bring bridge updates and stops. Ongoing.	<i>The Village has some design-specific standards currently in place and are considering additional standards in the future. The Zoning Ordinance contains some basic design requirements for commercial developments; the Sign Code has design standards for signs; and the Historic Preservation Guidelines provide design standards for historic properties. Staff is considering the inclusion of additional design standards for new development which incorporate design standards reviewed by the Community Design Commission in 2009.</i>	Ongoing
4.2.6 Enhance the appearance of the community's El stops and Metra Stations to foster positive perceptions of the village and to assist in creating a stronger sense of place at transit nodes.		<i>The Village is currently studying this objective.</i>	Ongoing
<b>Goal 4.3 Diversify the economy and strengthen the tax base through land use and development.</b>			
4.3.1 Promote a mix of local commercial land uses throughout the community that supports and responds to the needs of nearby residents.	Town meetings to discuss community needs	<i>The Village is continuing this effort through the Oak Park Economic Development Corporation and other retail/commercial consultant initiatives, such as Buxton.</i>	Ongoing
4.3.2 Encourage a diversified mix of business to maintain a healthy and stable local economy.	Oak Park now has restaurants, breweries, manufacturing, small community businesses, and service businesses.	<i>This is ongoing.</i>	Significant progress
4.3.3 Provide opportunities for clean industry within the village as a means of diversifying the tax	Sustainable Products, Manufacturing and Green products (i.e. Flower shops)	<i>This is yet to be determined/ considered.</i>	Ongoing



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base and fostering employment opportunities.			
4.3.4 Encourage the growth of transit-oriented development (TOD) in order to provide greater access to local goods and services, expand the variety of housing options, and maximize transit, bicycle and pedestrian access throughout the village.	Higher Development for transportation areas.	<i>With the current and proposed developments emerging in the Greater Downtown area, growth in our major TOD area is increasing; both residential and commercial. The Comprehensive Plan identifies other areas of opportunity which may be considered as development increases</i>	Ongoing
<b>Goal 4.4 Seek innovative and creative solutions to provide redevelopment opportunities and to recapture open space at a variety of scales</b>			
4.4.1 Promote mixed-use development within the village to maximize the use of land and to foster more compact, walkable, and vibrant neighborhoods.	Incentives for Mixed- Use development such as Low requirement for parking, high density/transit areas, reduced setback requirements (closer to the train).	<i>This has been and is currently the standard for all commercial districts. However, when a single-use development occurs, it is generally due to the need to increase a specific land use in that area of the Village.</i>	Significant progress
4.4.2 Support opportunities for shared use of spaces within the community.	No information obtained	<i>Our governmental agencies (park district, school district, village, library district, etc.) have always been able to share spaces for public events and continue in this collaborative mode. It has been the Village's goal to ensure land uses, such as parking areas, are shared due to the limited space available.</i>	N/A
4.4.3 Encourage redevelopment and revitalization of the underused and underdeveloped property while promoting the preservation of historical resources and character.	The use of infill and reuse development opposed to building new developments.	<i>This is ongoing.</i>	Ongoing

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<p>4.4.4 Create focused nodes of commercial activity in areas with high levels of accessibility along the Village's commercial corridors, allowing other areas of the corridors to become more residential in nature.</p>	<p>Multiply family homes on madison to diversify commercial corridors.</p>	<p><i>This will be reviewed as part of the Zoning Ordinance rewrite process.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
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Chapter 5 - Arts & Culture

Goals and Objectives	Interview Responses		Progress Made
<p><b>Goal 5.1 Support the arts through Village policies and programs.</b></p>			
<p>5.1.1 Conduct and maintain a complete survey of performing arts spaces within the village, including such characteristics as location, size, and capacity, economic impact, etc.</p>		<p><i>Several areas have been identified but not in any formal way at this time.</i></p>	<p>Not started</p>
<p>5.1.2 Regularly complete a comprehensive review of all current and planned arts funding.</p>	<p>No information obtained</p>	<p><i>This is conducted yearly with the budget process through the funding of the Oak Park Area Arts Council (OPAAC).</i></p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>5.1.3 Identify opportunities to support public art through public/private partnerships.</p>	<p>Mini Mural Program (Urban Railroad)- submit art to OPAAC for mini mural space on Humphrey-Harlem. Summer Arts Program(2005)- 16 year olds work with art master. Mosaic Art title- 450ft mural at the Wonderworks Museum Elmwood and North Ave.</p>	<p><i>OPAAC has an annual gala to capture private partnerships. The planned development process has a public art requirement.</i></p>	<p>Significant progress</p>

<p><b>Goal 5.2 Preserve and enhance existing arts and culture resources.</b></p>			
<p>5.2.1 Assist with the preservation and maintenance of culturally significant properties and monuments, including purchasing when appropriate, to preserve Oak Park's history.</p>	<p>Public Works team to clean historic statues. Unity Temple restoration has been completed. The Historical Society renovation has been completed.</p>	<p><i>Currently the Unity Temple renovation project is under way. The Scoville Park monument was recently renovated. The Cicero Fire Station (a.k.a. Pumping Station) on Lake Street is currently under renovation for the Historical Society of Oak Park and River Forest offices and museum. The Park District maintains historical homes, such as the greenhouse at Cheney Mansion and the landscaping at the Conservatory. The Village budgets for a purchase of a piece of art each year.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>5.2.2 Promote and support public art throughout the community.</p>	<p>Oak Parks Festival ("What's Blooming") Arts is in the budget every year, Reoccurring.</p>	<p><i>This is the role of the OPAAC.</i></p>	<p>Significant progress</p>
<p>5.2.3 Establish an "Arts and Culture Hall of Fame" program through projects like permanent exhibits in all public facilities, themed public art, targeted funding, and others to spread awareness of Oak Park's artistic legacy.</p>	<p>Oak Parks Hall of Fame: Located in Village Hall, Rotating Artist exhibit. Facilities such as the Library, Senior Services Dining Hall, and village hall hold art exhibitions.</p>	<p><i>There are several rotating art galleries; at Village Hall and the library for example, but no Hall of Fame location is anticipated at this time.</i></p>	<p>Significant progress</p>
<p>5.2.4 Promote the complete history of Oak Park, including its buildings, cultural "icons", and other aspects, as a way of both celebrating accomplishments and learning from missteps of previous generations.</p>	<p>Public Art Ownage. Statues bought must be upkeep along with plaques to inform the public. Mini Mural, Art in new buildings, Frank Lloyd homes, Unity temple, 19 Century club, Pleasant Homes, Chaney, Conservatory all promote the culture and history of the village.</p>	<p><i>This is ongoing.</i></p>	<p>Significant progress</p>
<p><b>Goal 5.3 - Promote contemporary arts and culture as a major reason to visit Oak Park.</b></p>			

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5.3.1 Develop a unified marketing strategy for arts and culture in Oak Park.	Visit Oak Park. A collaboration between OPAAC, Oak Park Council, Park District, and Township. The United Village Arts Collaboration. Advertisement online through social media and billboards.	<i>Visit Oak Park markets Oak Park with a coordinated marketing strategy.</i>	Significant progress
5.3.2 Coordinate program planning among different arts groups throughout the year to create a balanced calendar of events.	The PAAC no longer exists, but other art-related groups continue to work together.	<i>This is a future goal of the Public Art Advisory Council (PAAC) by coordinating with the Park District and OPAAC.</i>	Not started
5.3.3 Continue to support popular seasonal festivals and special events, and increase the number and variety of events offered throughout the year.		<i>The Village has a Special Events Sponsorship grant program to support this.</i>	N/A
5.3.4 Create a self-guided bicycle tour for all existing public art located in the village.		<i>This needs to be explored further. The PAAC has conducted an inventory of village-owned public art, so resources are there.</i>	Not started
5.3.5 Build a local collection of both permanent and rotating public art pieces.	Village hall and Art exhibitions	<i>This is ongoing.</i>	Significant progress
<b>Goal 5.4 - Strengthen the existing arts environment and integrate artistic uses of space throughout the village.</b>			
5.4.1 Support the installation of public art as a part of public development and some private development.	Maintenance and detailing of the statue at the center of Oak Park, Mura wall, and support of Architecture in the village.	<i>The planned development process requires a public art donation- this is ongoing. The Village has been discussing a future goal regarding a "Percent-for-Art" program, where a percentage of large development projects are earmarked toward public art.</i>	Significant progress
5.4.2 Promote and support local Oak Park artists when commissioning public	Provides space for local Oak Park artist, support the off the wall program, and other cultural attractions	<i>The Mini-Mural program is ongoing. Discussions for incorporating public art into public projects are ongoing.</i>	Significant progress

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projects, including design, construction, maintenance, etc.			
5.4.3 Increase the number of live-work spaces in targeted locations through incentives, marketing, and other methods.	The 2017 Zoning Ordinance allows live-work units on Harrison Street, North Avenue and within the Neighborhood Commercial district and as special uses on Roosevelt Road.	<i>This will be explored in the Zoning Ordinance rewrite. There is potential for this on Harrison Street and Chicago Avenue at Austin.</i>	Not started
5.4.4 Partner with developers and property owners to adaptively reuse underutilized properties for arts and culture purposes.	Wayfinding system, vs. Way fund system. This system is under consideration.	<i>This is to be discussed.</i>	Not started
5.4.5 Make access to and between existing and emerging cultural destinations a consideration of future transportation improvements.	Bike Lane on Madison, Oak Park Ave (2021), and way fund system.	<i>This is to be discussed.</i>	Ongoing
<b>Goal 5.5 - Integrate the arts into childhood education and lifelong learning, ensure access to arts and culture, and improve the quality of everyday life for all Oak Park residents.</b>			
5.5.1 Endorse compliance with the State of Illinois' arts learning standards.	Past three years the OPAAC has worked and developed plans for learning standards (i.e. Art Credits).	<i>This is to be determined.</i>	Significant progress
5.5.2 Support local schools in practicing focused arts integration with the curriculum for other concepts like sustainability, local history, architecture, etc.	Off the Wall Program as well other programs mentioned.	<i>This is an ongoing goal.</i>	Significant progress
5.5.3 Partner with schools, the Oak Park Public Library, and other organizations to improve the availability and effectiveness of extra-curricular art programs by coordinating on issues including space, transportation, scheduling, resource sharing, etc.	Partnering with local schools to give students credit for extracurricular art programs, working with the library to showcase public art, and creating the village hall of fame in the village government building.	<i>OPAAC has the Off the Wall program, which creates different artwork each summer with students. The Public Works department partners with the Oak Park Education Foundation to include summer programs to have students paint under viaducts. There is a student</i>	Significant progress

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		<i>representative on the PAAC.</i>	
5.5.4 Establish a cultural collection offering arts and cultural resources and facilities for residents and visitors of Oak Park and the surrounding region.	Cultural Attractions	<i>This is to be determined.</i>	Ongoing
5.5.5 Support “new media” cultural literacy for residents of all ages.	Twitter: @Vopnews Facebook: @ Village of Oak Park, Illinois Instagram: @Oakparkil Youtube: Oak Park Arts Council:	<i>This is to be determined.</i>	Significant progress

## Chapter 6 - Parks, Open Space, & Environmental Features

Goals and Objectives	Interview Responses		Progress Made
<b>Goal 6.1 – Find new and innovative ways to accommodate demands for both natural and programmed green space throughout the community.</b>			
6.1.1 Conduct an inventory of all the parks, open space, and natural resources and identify undeveloped or underutilized land that provides opportunities for green connections, links, and community gardens.	Urban Forest Inventory that was put into Geographic Information Systems is updated regularly. You’re able to pull report of block listing of all trees. Inventory has expanded - how many trees were planted.	<i>The Village completed the 2014 Urban Forest inventory; this has been put into Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for community access via our website.</i>	Ongoing
6.1.2 Develop a village-wide Open Space Master Plan for all public properties through coordination with residents, Park District, local agencies, not-for-profits, business associations, School Districts, stakeholders, and property owners.	The Park District of Oak Park’s 2015-24 Comprehensive Master Plan was developed through a community-driven process, which identified key properties. Tenure document serves as a guide to agency and programs to meet the needs of residents. Consultants identifies properties for green space.		Ongoing

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<p>6.1.3 Continue existing funding and explore new funding sources to preserve/enhance parks, open space, and natural resources.</p>	<p>In February 2019, the Park District received the Open Space Land Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) Grant valued at \$400,000 by the Office of Governor Pritzker and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. The local matching funds comes from the Capital Improvement Budget to enhance Stevenson Park.</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>6.1.4 Provide passive and natural open spaces that support sustained ecosystems and provide an opportunity for residents to interact with nature.</p>	<p>Native plantings to support wildlife and support water drainage. Bioswales added in Euclid Square and expanded in Taylor Park. Plan to be added to Yield &amp; Stevenson Park in 2019. Green Block Program Education; self-guided tree tours, children can tag them (benefits of trees, how impact property values)</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>6.1.5 Conduct studies to determine where streets, alleys, and rights-of-way can incorporate green connections or links and provide guidelines for implementation.</p>	<p>Green alleys created before 2014. Seeking the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) Grant for 2020 and get requesting approval for nine alleys.</p>	<p><i>The Village has a program to develop green alleys, which is ongoing based on funding availabilities.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>6.1.6 Research the benefits of, and implement if appropriate, various potential funding sources related to enhancing existing parks, open space, and environmental features.</p>	<p>Seeking funding from the Open Space Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) program for public parks and open space. Also, the Green Mountain Sun Energy Club grant for the Oak Park Conservatory to achieve long-term sustainability.</p>		<p>Not Started</p>
<p><b>Goal 6.2 – Support an active and involved community by engaging Oak Park’s citizens and providing</b></p>			

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<p><b>easy access to parks, open space, and environmental features.</b></p>			
<p>6.2.1 Build strategic relationships with both public and private entities.</p>	<p>Partnerships with local nonprofits, such as The Deep Roots Project that educates on how to plant edible gardens, pesticide free. They also make tools available.</p>	<p><i>The Village was granted arboretum status by the Morton Arboretum; this was through a partnership with the Park District.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>6.2.2 Support the design and program parks and open spaces to provide opportunities for festivals and special events.</p>	<p>Renovated Austin Gardens Environmental Center in 2015 to increase usability for the community, such as Park District programs nature and gardening classes.</p> <p>Day in Our Village event that gives current and prospective residents to discover organizations and groups in the village.</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>6.2.3 Accommodate easy access and provide amenities to parks and open spaces for pedestrians and bicyclists.</p>	<p>Added bike racks for many parks, which was approved in 2014; Maple, Euclid Square, Carroll, Longfellow, Fox, Austin, and Lindberg Park; adding them to Stevenson park in 2019.</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>6.2.4 Ensure that the local street network supports multi-modal access to parks, open space, and environmental features.</p>	<p>Bicycle Capital Improvement Program, reviewed annually, looking at bike programs</p> <p>Bike lanes added on Madison St. in 2019 with mixed support from the community</p>	<p><i>Bike Plan Updates will go to the Village Board in June/July 2015. The Divvy bike program is scheduled to be installed soon - spring 2016. Sidewalk repair is ongoing. Yard waste and composting programs in local schools and with residents is in place.</i></p>	<p>Significant Progress</p>
<p>6.2.5 Collaborate with schools and libraries to incorporate parks and environmental features into educational curricula.</p>	<p>Park District provides free tours for School District 97 and parochial schools tour at Oak Park's Conservatory and Austin Gardens Environmental Education Center.</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>



<p><b>Goal 6.3 – Promote sustainable development and maintenance practices in parks and open spaces.</b></p>			
<p>6.3.1 Promote Plant Health Care best practices to maintain or improve the appearance, vitality and, safety of the parks and open space by using the most cost-effective and environmentally sensitive practices and treatments available.</p>	<p>Approved the Park District Integrated Pest Management Policy in 2018, which reduces pest problems in open garden space. Progressive program advises the school district to operate pesticide free as much as possible.</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>6.3.2 Minimize the impacts on the current stormwater management system by increasing green space and decreasing the impervious surface area in all parks and open spaces.</p>	<p>Sewer Backup Protection Grant Program provides financial assistance for homeowners who install systems for heavy rain events. In 2016, Oak Park partnered with the Center for Neighborhood Technology on the Rain Ready Grant Program. It offers owners with affordable improvement to help keep their property dry. Bike Boulevards is in its planning stages.</p> <p>Flood mitigation project 500,000 gallons of water infiltration (all water was diverted from storms)</p>	<p><i>Stormwater back-up program is ongoing, Rain Barrel program is ongoing. Completed eight (8) green alleys and Bike Boulevards will provide for additional landscaping areas.</i></p>	<p>Significant Progress</p>
<p>6.3.3 Use village-owned properties as a sustainable model by implementing green design techniques and maintenance practices.</p>	<p>Rain garden to be placed behind the building will be going to the board (2019) to be included as a part of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) grant. Natural plantings installed on South Boulevard in 2018.</p>	<p><i>The Public Works building continues to be a model of a sustainable facility. Future goals (2016) are to install a rain garden in the green space behind the building. Also, a demonstration of natural plantings will be installed on South Boulevard. New materials for tree pits over old cast iron grates are being used to test new permeable walking surfaces on busy urban sidewalks.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

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<p>6.3.4 Take steps to conserve water and reduce the waste of natural resources by emphasizing the use of native plant species, recycled materials, permeable pavers, and porous asphalts for all new installations.</p>	<p>Park District installed a tank in Austin Gardens and divert it for flushing toilet use and Longfellow Park to use for athletic field irrigation. Field Park was scheduled to be installed in 2017</p>		<p>Significant Progress</p>
<p><b>Goal 6.4 – The Village and its open spaces should serve as an educational model and strive to highlight its historical heritage.</b></p>			
<p>6.4.1 Celebrate the legacy of Oak Park’s natural environment through education and awareness about important events, spaces, and people.</p>	<p>Various events throughout the year help highlight the natural environment of Oak Park</p>	<p><i>The Village, in partnership with the Park District, hosted an Arbor Day event in Scoville Park to raise awareness about the importance of trees in our urban environment and recognize our new status as a municipal arboretum. The Historic Oak Propagation Project was a partnership with a group responsible for creating seedlings from old-growth oak trees in the Village.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>6.4.2 Collaborate with adjacent municipalities, Cook County Forest Preserve, and historical societies to develop educational programs designed to encourage more involvement in the local parks, opens space, and environmental features.</p>	<p>No information provided</p>		<p>N/A</p>
<p>6.4.3 Use parks and open spaces as biodiversity models to educate citizens on the role they can play in maintaining their urban habitat.</p>	<p>Increased native plantings and biodiversity in all of parks by looking at shrubs.</p> <p>Rain garden maintains two honey beehives at Public Work Center established in 2016 and two hives established at the Village Hall in 2018. It provides pollinating services, education opportunities, and tours</p>		<p>Significant Progress</p>

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6.4.4 Encourage installation of native plant gardens.	No updates given	<i>The South Boulevard demonstration on natural plantings is scheduled for 2016. This can be a discussion for the Zoning Ordinance rewrite.</i>	N/A
<b>Goal 6.5 – Maintain and enhance Oak Park’s Urban Forest.</b>			
6.5.1 Develop an Urban Forest Management Plan with specific guidelines to inform the future design of parks and open space, maintain and increase the urban forest population, and increase species diversity.	This is still ongoing. Goal is to complete drafting in 2019.	<i>The Village will begin drafting this in 2015 with an expectation for completion in 2016.</i>	Ongoing
6.5.2 Seek input from the community and experts in decision-making regarding the village’s tree population.	No updates given	<i>The Forestry component of the Community Design Commission provides this service.</i>	N/A
6.5.3 Ensure the long-term health of the local tree population through the use of a comprehensive toolbox of municipal policies, programs, and incentives.	2019 – Tree Pruning Program reprunes village trees three (3) times a year. Currently has adequate maintenance, funding and oversight; Proven to minimize storm damage.	<i>This is ongoing.</i>	Ongoing
6.5.4 Construct wildlife corridors with native plants and replace trees that must be cut down with native trees to ensure habitat preservation.	No updates given	<i>Any replacement plantings on Village managed properties utilize native plant material to act as wildlife refuges within our urban environment. Native trees are utilized as a significant proportion of the Village’s planting program.</i>	N/A
6.5.5 Educate residents and business owners on the “proper care” of trees through outreach programs, handouts, mailings, and/or useful web resources.	Residents can access through multimedia: educational videos, social media or the newspaper.	<i>The Village’s Community Design Commission Forestry component is working with the Morton Arboretum to provide educational talks on tree health. Also, outreach is part of the Community Design Commission’s work plan goals.</i>	Ongoing

Chapter 7 - Neighborhoods, Housing, & Diversity

Goals and Objectives	Interview Responses		Progress Made
<p><b>Goal 7.1 Sustain and broaden diversity and integration throughout Oak Park.</b></p>			
<p>7.1.1 Ensure that the composition of and actions taken by Village boards and commissions reflect the community's commitment to diversity and affordable housing and Oak Park's adopted Diversity Statement.</p>	<p>Another study was never conducted.</p>	<p><i>A previous study through the Village Clerk's office was conducted but needs to be updated.</i></p>	<p>Not started</p>
<p>7.1.2 Provide education and awareness programs, distributed through all available communication tools and networks, to highlight Oak Park's diversity and increase sensitivity to and respect for various ethnic, cultural, and religious differences.</p>	<p>Eight (8) dialogs conducted for 2019.</p> <p>Landlords must attend housing seminars.</p>	<p><i>The Community Relations Department creates videos to provide education and promote existing programs like Fair Housing law training and Crime-Free Housing seminars. This department also holds diversity dinners to provide for open dialogue on ethnic, cultural and religious differences.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>7.1.3 Assess all major proposed governmental actions, including but not limited to zoning, development, schools, and public works proposals, for their impacts on promoting integration.</p>	<p>Recently updated the zoning code to promote integration within the community. Simplify and streamline the zoning process.</p>	<p><i>Staff/Commissions regularly consult the Homes for a Changing Region Report and consider affordable housing in new residential developments.</i></p>	<p>Significant Progress</p>
<p>7.1.4 Advance regional diversity through schools, multi-jurisdictional programs, not-for-profits, and other resources to grow diversity and acceptance in and around Oak Park.</p>	<p>School districts are undertaking efforts to have a more diverse workforce</p>	<p><i>Staff works with District 97's Multicultural Education Center to develop diversity education for students. Student winners are showcased at A Day in Our Village. Staff is currently working with an Austin neighborhood summer program to provide cross-community collaboration for teen education/jobs programs.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

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<p>7.1.5 Actively market Oak Park to a broad spectrum of potential residents throughout the Chicago region and ensure that all neighborhoods are appealing to all residents and potential residents.</p>	<p>Village funds The Regional Park Housing Center to promote the village as a good place to live. They work with new tenants or first-time home buyers and provide information and assistance on which areas would best suit them.</p>	<p><i>Housing Center programs are an ongoing effort.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>7.1.6 Support all programs and projects that encourage, require, or incentivize the development of housing, neighborhood services, or other outcomes that foster diversity, inclusion, and integration throughout Oak Park.</p>	<p>Still ongoing. The Single-Family Rehab program offer grants through The Regional Housing program.</p>	<p><i>Housing programs are current and ongoing including single family rehabilitation loans, small rental and multi-family housing incentive programs.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p><b>Goal 7.2 – Ensure all Oak Park neighborhoods foster social interaction and inclusiveness.</b></p>			
<p>7.2.1 Review local codes and standards to encourage all public facilities and private gathering spaces to not only meet standards for accessibility, but to encourage shared spaces and interaction among all potential users.</p>	<p>ADA Coordinator and Staff Liaison job is to ensure elevators, entrances and exits are up to code.</p>	<p><i>In 2015, as the building codes were updated. The Disability Access Commission will review the codes for future updates. Park District building renovations and District97 building renovations are reviewed for accessibility.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>7.2.2 Utilize a multi-layered approach to encourage social interaction among all residents through existing community resources and networks, and the expanded use of neighborhood organizations, local events, and activities.</p>	<p>On average 10k-15k attendants to attend a Day in Our Village</p>	<p><i>Actively promoting diversity dinners and partnering with the Austin community fits into this objective. A Day in Our Village and the Fourth of July parade are ongoing events that encourage social interaction.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>7.2.3 Adopt policies or regulations that require housing for residents with specific needs to be integrated into all portions of the Village, and encourage social interaction among all residents.</p>	<p>No updates given</p>	<p><i>The Zoning Ordinance update will discuss this. The current ordinance allows for housing for people with disabilities.</i></p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>7.2.4 Expand the presence of neighborhood organizations to enhance local communication networks and allow residents to improve the broader Oak Park</p>	<p>No updates given</p>	<p><i>Neighborhood organizations tend to be developed organically depending on events occurring near or within their neighborhoods.</i></p>	<p>N/A</p>

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community through neighborhood-based involvement.			
7.2.5 Assess and mitigate the impacts of existing or potential barriers that may hinder social interaction among residents.	No updates given	<i>This year's A Day in Our Village included representatives from Berwyn, Cicero, Austin and Galewood for the first time to encourage cross-community interaction.</i>	N/A
<b>Goal 7.3 – Provide mixed-income housing that is accessible, integrated, and responsive to Oak Park's diverse population.</b>			
7.3.1 Continue the Village's active role in encouraging the rehabilitation and development of accessible and integrated housing through the use of municipal resources, policies, and support.	About twelve hundred (1200) new residential units in downtown districts developed and open or under construction.	<i>The Housing programs encourage this and are ongoing.</i>	Significant Progress
7.3.2 Create informational resources to increase awareness of and access to programs and funding available for housing that enhances accessibility for Oak Park's diverse population.	New intensive training program for one hundred fifteen (115) police officers for awareness.	<i>The main role of the Housing Programs Advisory Commission- outreach is ongoing at A Day in Our Village and Earth Fest. Crime Free Housing Seminars are ongoing as well as diversity training for local Realtors. A future goal will be a training video for police on diversity issues.</i>	Ongoing
7.3.3 Establish educational and financial resources to foster the development of accessible housing units through rehabilitation of Oak Park's historic housing stock and new housing development.	No updates given	<i>Housing programs offer educational resources such as First Time Homeowner informational seminars.</i>	N/A
7.3.4 Encourage housing variety in each neighborhood that responds to the specific needs of residents of various ages, incomes, and levels of mobility, especially in areas that provide unique access to transit, local goods, and	Two (2) more developments with affordable housing, The District House and Lexington Homes. Creating an inclusionary housing ordinance is in consideration by the Village.	<i>Developers have been encouraged to add affordable housing, such as the Lincoln Property development at South Boulevard and Harlem Avenue.</i>	Significant Progress

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services, government services, recreation, etc.			
7.3.5 Partner with other communities or entities to advocate and create opportunities for regional, state and federal programs and policies that aim to achieve housing that supports local diversity and accessibility.	No updates given	<i>The Village is a member of the West Cook County Housing Collaborative.</i>	N/A
7.3.6 Encourage Transit-Oriented Development with appropriate housing types and densities as a means of broadening housing choice, responding to local and regional markets, providing more direct access to goods and services, and strengthening the village's business districts.	Five (5) transit-oriented developments represents a private investment of \$306 million.	<i>Current development projects are in transit areas. A future goal is to update all business district plans, which will encompass this.</i>	Significant Progress
<b>Goal 7.4 – Maintain the long-term viability, quality, and character of Oak Park's housing.</b>			
7.4.1 Establish a toolbox of policies, resources, protocols, and programs that enhance the flexibility of the village to maintain multi-family and single-family housing in the face of naturally-occurring events (i.e. storms, flooding, etc.) or longer-term challenges (i.e. foreclosures, vacancy, etc.).	Programs still exists; was adopted in 2009 maintenance code.	<i>The Vacant Building Ordinance and Sewer Backup Prevention grant are ongoing. Currently, there is a five-day response for permits to help those in disaster situations. CityView, a building permit software program, will also improve data on this through tracking of foreclosures and vacancy. A future goal would be a low-cost loan program for those not covered by insurance.</i>	Ongoing
7.4.2 Encourage property maintenance by clarifying rules and regulations, ensuring consistent inspections, and minimizing the time required for obtaining work permits and occupancy permits.	Some of the permitting processes have been moved online to the Village of Oak Park website	<i>The adoption of the International Property Maintenance Code will clarify standards (2015) and the rollout of CityView will also help minimize time issues.</i>	Ongoing
7.4.3 Sponsor activities that foster neighborhood pride and encourage a high	No updates given	<i>Each year, the Village citizen commissions reward outstanding properties through the stewardship awards</i>	N/A

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level of maintenance for housing and landscaping.		<i>program: the Cavalcade of Pride Awards; the Green Awards and the Historic Preservation Awards.</i>	
7.4.4 Partner with local organizations, contractors, craftsmen, technicians, etc. to complement on-going Village rehabilitation programs and provide low-cost or volunteer maintenance to residents with disabilities, elderly residents, or low-income tenants and property owners.	Exploring Handyman program, which targets seniors with disabilities.	<i>This is a future goal.</i>	Not Started
7.4.5 Support apartment properties and condominium associations so they can continue to provide high-quality multi-family housing throughout Oak Park.	Housing Incentives program, the Condo Network is funded through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG); seminar held for condo owners and looking to do this again for 2019.	<i>The Village has the Multi-Family Housing Incentives program, the Condo Network and works with the Oak Park Residence Corporation for smaller condo association issues. There is ongoing assistance for condo associations regarding problem solving; such as noise issues and neighbor-to-neighbor complaints.</i>	Ongoing
7.4.6 Continue the maintenance and beautification of public spaces throughout Oak Park's neighborhoods, including streets, alleys, plazas, parks, etc.	Still ongoing	<i>The Village has a green alley program that is ongoing.</i>	Ongoing

## Chapter 8 - Education

Goals and Objectives	Interview Responses		Progress Made
<b>Goal 8.1 – Foster equal opportunities for academic achievement.</b>			
8.1.1 Facilitate coordination among the various community partners in education to establish strong transitional programs between all stages of education.	Oak Park Public Library has increased collaboration since the development of the plan. Library staff are present within school libraries to assist with tech services. Staff also assist SD97 school board with curriculum development.		Significant progress



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	<p>SD97 and SD200 collaborate on aligning K-12 curriculum and the transfer of student records as they progress through the system.</p> <p>The Oak Park Education Foundation raises money and provides funding for before and after school programs.</p>		
<p>8.1.2 Work with community partners to support an integrated early childhood education system that includes early identification of at-risk students and supports those students with high-quality programs.</p>	<p>The library has a dedicated team to help locate social services for residents. Village of Oak Park provides funding for youth intervention services and other social services.</p>		<p>Significant progress</p>
<p>8.1.3 Work with community partners to identify and implement strategies to better engage parents as partners in education inside and outside of the classroom.</p>	<p>SD97 indicated that measuring parent engagement is hard to quantify as it may have evolved with the times as more parents now have full-time jobs, although the participation among parents has not gone down.</p>		<p>N/A</p>
<p>8.1.4 Encourage the practice of diverse hiring among all community partners in education to reflect the diversity within Oak Park's population.</p>	<p>In SD97, an outside group was hired to study current HR policies and suggest revisions or new policies to reflect a more equitable approach to the hiring process. Jobs are now posted earlier in the year without knowing exact staff placement but rather a general sense of how many staff need to be hired,</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>8.1.5 Collaborate with community partners to begin to address the digital divide by providing meeting space, access to technology, and training opportunities for parents and families to gain technical skills and learn how to help their students achieve academic success.</p>	<p>The library is one of the most accessible of the governmental entities and helps break down the digital divide by providing access for all Oak Park residents. Staff invite teachers to the library to learn about new tech which they can then introduce to students and parents.</p>		<p>Significant progress</p>

<p><b>Goal 8.2 – Maintain a high-quality education system that delivers success for all.</b></p>			
<p>8.2.1 Work with the school districts, other community partners, and parents and caregivers to raise achievement for all students and encourage in-school and after-school programs that discourage complacency.</p>	<p>Village government provides funding for overhead and training costs associated with after-school programs.</p> <p>SD97 provides funding for various after school programs as well as contracting out certain services or programs.</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>8.2.2 Encourage the school districts to explore different approaches to deliver resources to students at all achievement levels.</p>	<p>On March 11th, 2019 a school board meeting was held with goal of establishing an equity plan within six months (to be modified over time).</p> <p>Student achievement is assessed both through internal and state level testing. This data is utilized at the building and grade level to influence the decision making and allocation processes.</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>8.2.3 Help foster partnerships between the school districts, colleges, and universities to develop, test, and implement new education approaches that continue to keep Oak Park schools at the forefront of education.</p>	<p>SD97 and SD200 collaborate with the school board of River Forest to provide youth intervention services and identify students that would benefit from such programs.</p> <p>The University of Chicago is currently working with the school districts to help build better outcome data and provide resources to the community.</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>8.2.4 Support community partners in the communication of consistent performance information to all members of the community.</p>	<p>Social media outlets and the school district websites enable the distribution of student performance, staffing, and budgeting information to community partners.</p> <p>Many of those interviewed echoed the need to have these reports in a more digestible format such as an infographic or brief summary.</p>		<p>Significant progress</p>

<p><b>Goal 8.3 – Encourage the creation of a new financing paradigm for public education.</b></p>			
<p>8.3.1 Partner with the school districts to create educational materials and host informational sessions to educate citizens on the underlying economics and current issues with education finance.</p>	<p>The general public has direct input on the operating and capital budget through mandated public hearing and a 30-day budget adoption notice. Not much attention is paid to these processes because of its obscurity. Therefore, the main public input method are referenda which were needed in 2011 and 2017 for budget revisions.</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>8.3.2 Make information regarding school finance more accessible and easy to understand by the general public.</p>	<p>While budget information is available online to the general public they are tedious to read as fiscal years don't align with tax years resulting in possibly misleading surpluses and deficits year to year.</p> <p>A financial transparency policy has sought to make documents more accessible to the general public, but lacks the manpower to focus on non-state required documents.</p> <p>A finance committee comprised of community members help to provide more oversight on the budgeting process.</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>8.3.3 Support school districts in monitoring and adapting their cost structure to leverage changes in delivery systems for various levels and types of education.</p>	<p>No information obtained</p>		<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>Goal 8.4 – Create a unified and comprehensive system of support for education.</b></p>			
<p>8.4.1 Support the school districts and other education providers to assist with the establishment of a community-wide tutoring program, including identifying</p>	<p>Tutoring is provided by multiple organizations without a coordinated approach. For-profit tutoring has emerged reducing the</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>

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volunteers and grants to recruit and train instructors.	focus on developing the community-wide tutoring program. SD97 is seeking to resolve this lack of access to tutoring as it is seen as an equity issue.		
8.4.2 Support on-going dialogue among all community partners in education to identify opportunities and implement strategies to leverage resources between organizations and create collaboration across all Oak Park jurisdictions.	SD97 makes an effort to ensure buildings are accessible to non profit organizations.		Ongoing
8.4.3 Provide residents with information about the educational resources available to them and establish a one-stop portal for information about education in Oak Park.	Both the SD97 and SD200 websites provide residents with educational resources and other information regarding budgets, staff, and events.		Significant progress
8.4.4 Coordinate with local businesses and civic organizations to establish an apprenticeship and mentoring program that provides students with vocational training, workplace experience, and life skills.	Hasn't happened at elementary school and middle school level, but attempts are being made to try in parents with particular expertise into the classroom		Not started

Chapter 9 - Community Health and Safety

Goals and Objectives	Interview Responses		Progress Made
<b>Goal 9.1 – Make Oak Park a safe environment for citizens to live.</b>			
9.1.1 Regularly review, update, and exercise Village government’s Emergency Preparedness & Response Plan.	Plans include Emergency Operations Plan, The Food Program Emergency Plan, and the Animal Control Emergency Plan. Information on Emergency Preparedness on Oak-Park.us	<i>The Emergency Operation Plan is going to the Village Board in July 2015 for a study session. The Food Program Emergency Plan is current and ongoing. The Animal Control Emergency Plan is current and ongoing</i>	Ongoing

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<p>9.1.2 Support the maintenance and improvement of levels of service provided by police and fire departments.</p>	<p>Increased staffing added 3 fire and paramedics over the last 5 years. 3 ambulances were added to address increased needs for medical services and calls.</p>	<p><i>This is ongoing.</i></p>	<p>Significant progress</p>
<p>9.1.3 Seek outside funding, resources and collaborative efforts to support police and fire department programs and services.</p>	<p>Funding sources and collaborative efforts to support police and fire programs and services. Funders: · DOJ Ballistic Vest grant (50/50 matching for new vests) · IDOT STEP (full reimbursement for increased holiday traffic enforcement seat belt/dui) · Tobacco Enforcement (full reimbursement for compliance checks) · Emergency ID Bracelet grant thru Community Mental Health Board · Alcohol Compliance Checks through OP Township</p>	<p><i>This is ongoing.</i></p>	<p>Significant progress</p>
<p>9.1.4 Create an environment that is safe, attractive, and conducive to biking and walking.</p>	<p>Difficult to quantify</p>	<p><i>The Village is involved in updating the bike route plan and sidewalk replacement program.</i></p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>9.1.5 Work closely with surrounding communities to identify and monitor crime patterns.</p>	<p>Police and Fire departments are always in contact with surrounding communities to monitor and identify crime.</p>	<p><i>This is ongoing.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p><b>Goal 9.2 – Provide residents with the knowledge and tools necessary to engage in safe living.</b></p>			
<p>9.2.1 Provide information to all residents through various outlets and resources regarding services and programs.</p>	<p>The Crime Free Housing Initiative ongoing, West Nile Virus and Rat literature/education, are ongoing which includes, door to door, special events, and kiosks. Smoke free programs in</p>	<p><i>The Crime-Free Housing initiative is ongoing. The distribution of West Nile Virus Literature/Education is ongoing including door to door, special events, village kiosk, and educational presentations. This is a grant program that is</i></p>	<p>Significant progress</p>

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	<p>place: Indoor Smoking Ordinance, The Multi-Family Housing Breathe Easy Program is ongoing, Illinois Tobacco-Free Communities: Tobacco 21, E-Cigarettes, Smoke Free Campus (Village Buildings)</p>	<p><i>ongoing although subject to future grant availability. The distribution of Rat Literature/Education is ongoing and will continue including door to door, special events, and the Village kiosk. Smoke Free programs are in place. The smoking cessation programs are funded through grants; state funding has been cancelled for Quitline, so ongoing efforts are subject to funding. Staff will continue to enforce the Indoor Smoking Ordinance a Village ordinance. The multi-family housing Breathe-Easy Program is current and ongoing.</i></p>	
<p>9.2.2 Collaborate among municipal agencies, not-for-profits, local providers and funders to ensure that all residents have the knowledge and tools necessary to engage in safe living.</p>	<p>OP and RF Opioid Task Force South Youth Committee Completed IPAN Process completed over 5 years Don't manage Dental Sealant Program</p>	<p><i>The nursing division collaboration with local physicians on communicable disease is current and ongoing, however staffing challenges continue due to limited availability of qualified individuals willing to work in the position. Childhood Lead prevention programs are current and ongoing as long as grant monies remain. Dental Sealant Grant/Program is current and ongoing but subject to grants.</i></p>	<p>Significant progress</p>
<p>9.2.3 Collaborate with local partners to develop and publish a community health report card that monitors the overall health of the Oak Park population.</p>	<p>Adopt a Firefighter Ongoing Second Grade Fire Trailer demonstration still ongoing</p>	<p><i>The Fire Department is continuing their public education programs, like "Adopt a Firefighter", which currently involves 1100 students. Another successful program that is continuing is the Second Grade Fire Trailer demonstration at schools. The Annual Health Department report is available, as well as the I-Plan report- this is a future report required every three years by the state.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

<p><b>Goal 9.3 – Ensure that all residents of Oak Park have access to healthcare services.</b></p>			
<p>9.3.1 Encourage collaboration among municipal agencies, not-for-profits, local providers and funders to ensure that all residents have access to primary healthcare, oral healthcare, and behavioral healthcare services.</p>	<p>Communicable Disease is ongoing          STD surveillance is ongoing          Affordable Care Act navigator is not active          Thrive (mental health agency) is active          Child care surveillance is ongoing          Oak Park Township programs managed by them not by Oak Park Health Department</p>	<p><i>The following are programs through the Health Department:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· <i>Family Case Management Program – for high risk pregnant females and parents, use Cornerstone program to track cases. This is for babies 0-1 year old. Currently, this is not staffed although it is funded.</i></li> <li>· <i>Communicable Disease. This is current and ongoing.</i></li> <li>· <i>STD Surveillance. This is current.</i></li> <li>· <i>Smoking/Tobacco – promote Quitline referral program, Smoke-Free Illinois. The state has discontinued funding for the Quitline and programs are under review currently by the governor’s office.</i></li> <li>· <i>Dental Sealant Program – Children’s clinic. This is current and ongoing but subject to grants.</i></li> <li>· <i>Child Care Surveillance- daycare inspections. This is current and ongoing. Food and hazards inspections are required by the state.</i></li> <li>· <i>Long Term Care Surveillance</i></li> <li>· <i>Affordable Care Act - residents are referred to an office that has a “Navigator”, or to web resources or to the PCC Wellness Center in Oak Park.</i></li> <li>· <i>Thrive – we refer people to their highly trained therapists and clinicians who provide counseling for individuals, couples and families. They offer psychiatric services, 24/7 crisis services, youth services, in-home counseling for older adults, and other specialized programs.</i></li> <li>· <i>Oak Park Township – we</i></li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p>

		<p><i>work in collaboration with their programs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Oak Park Township Youth Services (OPTYS) supports programs and services that work for the prevention of juvenile delinquency and which address youth who are at risk of becoming involved or are already engaged in inappropriate and/or illegal activities. OPTYS also advocates for programs and services which enhance the social and emotional development of youth and their families. OPTYS is committed to promoting opportunities for youth and their families to obtain needed services.</i></li> <li>○ <i>Seniors – The mission of Oak Park Township Senior Services is to enhance the quality of life for seniors in our community by providing a broad array of supportive services that promote the values of independence, self-esteem, and dignity.</i></li> </ul>	
9.3.2 Identify funding sources to assist residents in accessing healthcare and social services.	Family Case Manager Program started in January temporarily closed due to short staffing but now active	<i>The Health Department does not currently look for funding sources as a department, but family case manager nurses can help residents with this.</i>	Significant progress
9.3.3 Provide educational information regarding local opportunities for accessing healthcare services.	Health Department Provides people services Wellness Center offers some free or reduced fee services.	<i>The Health Department provides this information.</i>	Significant progress
9.3.4 Support the local public health services and maintain capacity for addressing emerging health issues.	Trending communicable diseases are reported to the Oak Park Health Department. Collaborative effort with school nurses and physicians to respond to these trending diseases.	<i>The Oak Park Health Department is the state of Illinois delegate agency Health Department (Certified Health Department) meaning that all reportable communicable diseases are reported to the Oak Park Health Department. Our nurses will monitor communicable disease and work in a collaborative effort</i>	Ongoing



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		<i>with local physicians and hospitals to respond to persons affected by reportable illnesses. An example of this was the H1/N1 vaccinations done here locally, allowing residents to receive in Oak Park versus through the County.</i>	
<b>Goal 9.4 – Provide comprehensive support for persons with disabilities, mental health, and substance abuse issues.</b>			
9.4.1 Provide education and awareness of mental health and substance abuse issues in order to remove the stigma associated with these issues.	Community Mental Health Board of OP Township works on this	<i>Other groups in town are working on this – not the Health Department directly.</i>	Ongoing
9.4.2 Ensure that venues, events, activities, and programs are physically and socially inclusive of people with disabilities.			Not started
9.4.3 Support collaboration among municipalities, agencies, and not-for-profits in advocating and procuring funding for programs that support person with disabilities, mental health, and substance abuse issues.	Supports IMPACT Group Collaborates with Opioid Task Force, CMHB of OP Township, Thrive, Positive Youth Development Group, River Edge Hospital, Rush OP Hospital, and Rosecrance Focusing on marijuana and e-cigs	Supportive of the IMPACT group: an Oak Park River Forest High School teen/parent/educator group advocating for those youth with substance abuse issues.	Significant progress
<b>Goal 9.5 – Provide Oak Park residents with the environment and tools to make healthy and active lifestyle choices.</b>			
9.5.1 Implement changes to local policies, systems, and the built environment which serve to encourage increased access to physical activity and good nutrition, and reduce exposure to second and third-hand smoke.	Tobacco free village buildings Limit the sale of tobacco Health Board gives recommendation to village board, then provides direction for village manager which gives direction to health	<i>The Health Board will refer to the Village Board a recommendation to limit the sale of tobacco to those 21 and over. Also, Village-owned buildings will become tobacco-free worksites in July 2015.</i>	Ongoing

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	department director		
9.5.2 Partner with existing neighborhood agencies to promote programs that improve health and increase opportunities for physical activity.	No progress on this	<i>The Park District mainly does this. Also, the Village is partner of the Collaboration for Early Childhood Care and Education, which touches on this.</i>	Not started
9.5.3 Provide a central resource for information on all aspects of safe and healthy living, and utilize governmental and neighborhood networks to distribute information to all residents.	Village Website	<i>To be determined.</i>	Significant progress

## Chapter 10 - Transportation, Infrastructure, & Communication Technologies

Goals and Objectives	Interview Responses		Progress Made
<b>Goal 10.1 – Develop transportation, information, and other infrastructure networks that support multimodal and universal access to destinations in Oak Park and elsewhere.</b>			
10.1.1 Ensure that business districts benefit from multi-modal access that balances the needs of pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, and motorists.	The Business Districts in the area are attempting to balance the needs with varying opportunities for travel. I-290 Reconstruction efforts underway	<i>The business districts in these areas attempt to balance the needs with varying opportunities for travel. Also the I-290 bridge reconstruction and enhancements coordination efforts are underway.</i>	Ongoing
10.1.2 Maintain and update a strategic information plan that evaluates the feasibility of developing an open, high-speed broadband communication network and guides the development of civic information systems.	IT plan continued, finished telephone implementation 2015, gis 2015, police fire, cad records management in 2015, permit, I, I syte 2016, financial system, 2017, video security system in 2018, records info manage	<i>The IT Strategic Plan was adopted by the Village Board. The Village Hall / Fire Department's Cat-6 cabling project was approved by the Board. The Mitel telephone system project was approved by the Board. Joining of the</i>	Significant progress

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	<p>2017, unified parking system 2019</p> <p>In progress- fiberwind in progress 2020, hris system, parts done, don't have end time 2020</p>	<p><i>GIS Consortium (GISC) was approved by the Board. Implementation of the GISC server was approved. CityView Permit, Licensing &amp; Inspection project is Board approved. Enterprise GIS service, village staff training and go-live of MapOffice in-house service was approved.</i></p> <p><i>In progress are the following:</i></p> <p><i>ETA 2015, Go-live of GIS MapOffice public</i></p> <p><i>ETA 2015, Video &amp; Access Control security systems</i></p> <p><i>ETA 2015, Go-Live Police and Fire CAD/RMS system</i></p> <p><i>ETA 2015, Go-Live CityView System</i></p> <p><i>ETA 2015 GIS 5-year plan</i></p> <p><i>Working on Parking Technology system</i></p> <p><i>Planned Financial system</i></p>	
<p>10.1.3 Advocate for and partner with CTA, Pace, and Metra to modernize facilities to safely accommodate users of all modes and all abilities by ensuring that transit stations and stops meet or exceed ADA guidance and easily transfer from transit to walking or bicycling.</p>	<p>PACE is transitioning to posted stop program, parking working with public works to help pace find best locations for posted stops to make sure ada accessible, pedestrian accessible, safety top concern</p>	<p><i>Staff is meeting with PACE to develop Village projects. The Transportation Commission has had two meetings with PACE (CTA was also present) to open a dialogue on current ADA accessibility and future plans for bus stops- the hope is to improve accessibility of shelters and add stops. The Village is also in talks with IDOT to redo train facilities as part of the I-290 discussions.</i></p>	<p>Significant progress</p>

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<p>10.1.4 Plan and install “complete streets” on key corridors that accommodate bus transit, bicycle, and pedestrian trips.</p>	<p>Last fall, removed traffic lane on Madison street for bike lanes between Austin and Harlem Lake Street redesign of commercial area from Harlem to Euclid for complete streets</p> <p>Bike plan updated in 2015 bike blvd and bike sharing, divvy is gone, and now focusing on parking, and focusing on bike sharing</p>	<p><i>The Village reviews this policy when intersection and roadways are improved. The Bike Plan and Divvy program are coming in 2015/2016.</i></p>	<p>Significant progress</p>
	<p>Done through checklist for compliance on complete streets</p>		
<p>10.1.5 Ensure that the land use impacts of parking are efficiently managed and continue to regularly review the village parking strategy to incorporate best practices for travel demand management, pricing, and both on-street and off street parking supply.</p>	<p>No information</p>	<p><i>Due to upcoming development in the Village, a study has begun on overnight zone areas Y2, Y3, Y4 (roughly Harlem to Oak Park Avenue/South to Madison) to look at the parking needs as they've increased. Currently there is a higher demand for 24 hour parking. This study will go to the Transportation Commission in the next six months then onto the Board. Staff works with private developers to increase multi-use facilities and incorporate private parking in developments. The Village conducted a pilot program for some zones for on-street signage this year. Parking-pay-by-phone rolled out in October 2013, with currently over 400 transactions a day. Online overnight passes rolled out in 2014, with currently 5,000 transactions a month.</i></p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>Goal 10.2 – Design transportation networks that protect support and enhance the safety and heritage of</b></p>			

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<p><b>Oak Park's neighborhoods and business districts.</b></p>			
<p>10.2.1 Continue enhancing the integrated traffic signal network to discourage cut through traffic.</p>	<p>Add traffic signal at Washington and Wisconsin, all are integrated and operated at public works.</p> <p>Working on timing and other traffic issues</p> <p>Retiming on lake street, signal timing on Lake street</p>	<p><i>In progress.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>10.2.2 Enhance sidewalks and crossings infrastructure to ensure safe, walkable and accessible neighborhoods and business districts.</p>	<p>Improving ADA standards- Highlighting Lake and Madison jobs for pedestrian safety, islands, crosswalks, priority for pedestrians, improved signals at Chicago and Harvey</p>	<p><i>In process to improve intersections up to current ADA standards.</i></p>	<p>Significant progress</p>
<p>10.2.3 Educate and encourage students on safe use of the transportation network.</p>	<p>Got grant for improving signals and crosswalks</p> <p>Find safe routes to school on village website</p>	<p><i>The Village has implemented the sidewalk "walk to school" program for the past few years.</i></p>	<p>Significant progress</p>
<p>10.2.4 Regularly update the Oak Park Bike Plan to ensure that the Village creates a safe, logical, and integrated cycling network that connects to surrounding communities.</p>	<p>Transportation Committee Reviewing the Bike Plan currently to attempt to improve it</p>	<p><i>The Bike Plan Update is going to the Village Board in June/July 2015. The Village will provide Bike Boulevards and Divvy bike rental areas.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>10.2.5 Encourage travel demand management to support the use of the street by all modes and encourage employers to offer incentives to employees to carpool or take transit to work.</p> <p><b>Goal 10.3 – Build information and communication infrastructure that enhances neighborhood engagement, government transparency, economic</b></p>	<p>Not happening at the moment</p>	<p><i>Employee incentives for the "bike-to-work" program have been implemented. Staff will review in the Zoning Ordinance during its rewriting.</i></p>	<p>Not started</p>

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<p><b>development, and environmental sustainability.</b></p>			
<p>10.3.1 Review and amend regulations, as appropriate, to remove barriers and provide incentives for expanding information infrastructure.</p>	<p>Small cell legislation for Illinois legislator, cell antennas for utility poles, past maybe last year</p>	<p><i>To be discussed.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>10.3.2 Work with local and regional business leaders to identify needs and deficiencies with respect to upcoming information technologies and identify scalable and expandable projects to attract business and industries of the future.</p>	<p>No information</p>	<p><i>To be discussed.</i></p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>10.3.3 Build civic communication infrastructure among the six governmental units in Oak Park.</p>	<p>Half the fibrewind projects, school district 97, village reached agreement to build fiberwind jointly Opened up discussion with agencies, lib, Park, 200 school districts, but only village and school district agreed to pay  Comcast, att have become service providers</p>	<p><i>There could be a push in the future for a village-wide Wi-Fi network (the Park District allows for this in some parks). Also conversations continue about expanding the infrastructure to solve the 'last mile' slowdown from providers to individual homes – this would be installing high-speed fiber in alleys/parkways to individual homes- this is difficult to do in an already established community like Oak Park.</i> <i>Accomplished:</i> <i>T-Mobile cellular antenna special use permit at 408 S. Oak Park Ave. approved by the Board</i> <i>March 2015, Wireless Bridge Partners; installed small cell antennas on some village-owned street lights and buildings (10.3.1 &amp; 10.3.2)</i> <i>In Progress:</i> <i>On-going "IT COG" meets</i></p>	<p>Significant progress</p>

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		<i>regularly and includes discussion of opportunities of sharing knowledge and technologies (10.3.3) Working on an upgrade of village fiber network systems May 2015, submitted fiber recommendation for Madison TIF (10.3.2 &amp; 10.3.3)</i>	
<b>Goal 10.4 – Make the Eisenhower transportation corridor safe, convenient and reliable with multi-modal options that support environmental sustainability and livable communities.</b>	The Village and IDOT have had several working group meetings. A memo of understanding of design components was completed in 2015.	<i>The Village and IDOT have had several working group meetings. A memo of understanding of design components was completed in 2015.</i>	
10.4.1 Ensure that the Eisenhower supports both local and regional travel needs and improves public transit access to destinations to the west and east of Oak Park.	Village received federal funds to work on Eisenhower for feasibility study, aspects for noise walls, caps, still pending review, start work to study in 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of this year	<i>This is to be determined.</i>	Significant progress
10.4.2 Maintain the existing expressway footprint, soften the visual barrier and preserve the established built form, character, and historic assets.	No information	<i>No changes approved at this time.</i>	N/A
10.4.3 Improve non-motorized mobility across the Eisenhower corridor by widening bridge sidewalks to safely accommodate bicycles and pedestrians and create small areas of open space.	No information	<i>This is in discussions.</i>	N/A
10.4.4 Explore and test creative solutions for managing transportation patterns, integrating all modes of travel, and designing infrastructure in order to maximize mobility	No information	<i>To be discussed.</i>	N/A

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and minimize impacts on surrounding neighborhoods and commercial districts.			
<b>Goal 10.5 – Support a strong infrastructure system that leverages new sustainable technologies.</b>			
10.5.1 Regularly review and update the capital improvement program in order to maintain existing systems and integrate new infrastructure technologies.	The Capital Improvement programs updated annually, reviewed in the fall. Green alleys apart of plan	<i>The Capital Improvement programs include the green alleys program.</i>	Significant progress
10.5.2 Use renewable energies that are easily scalable, environmentally sound, efficient, and adaptable to environmental change and community demand.	No information	<i>Solar panels on garages and at the Public Works building are in place; geothermal has been installed at Village Hall. Unity Temple is installing a geothermal heating and cooling system.</i>	N/A
10.5.3 Update the municipal infrastructure plan to focus more specifically on sustainable systems.	Green alley program done through funds when available	<i>The Five Year Capital Improvement Plan, which includes the infrastructure plan, will be presented to the Board in 2015.</i>	Ongoing
10.5.4 Encourage on-site stormwater detention with processing strategies, such as rain gardens, rain barrels, bioswales, and permeable paving that take stress off the combined sewer system.	COMMS RUN WEBSITE but didn't do much. Streamed and tv station. Civic Information Systems commission, work closer with IT on	<i>The Municipal Water Reclamation District's (MWRD) storm water management plan took effect on May 1, 2015.</i>	Ongoing

## Chapter 11 - Community Life & Engagement

Goals and Objectives	Interview Responses		Progress Made
<b>Goal 11.1 – Enhance communication among residents, businesses, the</b>			



<p><b>Village, and other community partners.</b></p>			
<p>11.1.1 Utilize existing and future communication networks, including neighborhood organizations, not-for-profits, government mailing lists, etc. as networks for creating awareness about Village decision-making, policies, and programs.</p>	<p>Instagram, social media site for pd and preparing to launch for fire department</p>	<p><i>The Village is currently using a multi-platform to push out messages; the Newsletter, e-mail blasts, website, social media (Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest), videos via YouTube, and news releases. Inserts in the Village FYI newsletter from other local governmental agencies are provided at no charge to the agency (postage paid by the Village).</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>11.1.2 In all units of local government, ensure that the diversity of opinions in Oak Park is respected and that collaborative efforts focus on actions to advance an overall common good.</p>	<p>Still a lot of discussion for equity, staff will be taking training incorporating equity into discussion making process.</p> <p>Adopted "A Welcoming Village" Ordinance in 2017 to expand human rights for people from different countries of origin</p>	<p><i>The Council of Governments (COG) and the Business Association Council (BAC) organizations are groups that support this objective. The website allows for certain pages to be opened up to public comment to ensure more feedback from residents. This was done for the I-290 sidewalk feedback. Residents are able to comment anonymously and easily.</i></p>	<p>Significant progress</p>
<p>11.1.3 Recognize geographically-based groups as opportunities for effective citizen communication.</p>	<p>Producing the social media content</p>	<p><i>Currently, good partnerships exist with neighborhood organizations, not-for-profits, etc. with cross-communication between Village and groups. Citizens can report an issue on Facebook, the issue is routed to the appropriate department and resolved. Going forward, data and information developed</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

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		<i>through the GIS consortium will enhance neighborhood social media sites like Everyblock.com.</i>	
<b>Goal 11.2 – Facilitate business engagement and responsiveness to neighborhood needs and interests.</b>			
11.2.1 Support and strengthen the role of existing business networks in order to enhance communication and dialogue.	Staff members regularly attend business meetings for districts, of which there are 5.	<i>The Village actively promotes special events and organizations through various communication platforms. Also, it highlights unique businesses or business owners on the YouTube channel. A future endeavor could be a Business e-newsletter targeting local businesses.</i>	Significant progress
11.2.3 Actively engage the business community during the development of local policies and regulations that may impact their ability to invest in Oak Park and provide important services to residents.	The village has a robust public process to update it's permit process,. The Village has also implemented updates to it's building codes. Has also included businesses in it's conversations on Streets and Sanitation operations	<i>The business community engaged in the Comprehensive Plan discussions and will be invited for conversations on the Zoning Ordinance rewrite process.</i>	Significant progress
11.2.4 Encourage businesses to think locally, hire locally, and serve locally.	Interaction for nonprofits are interesting, help the non-profits with links, etc. old folks' homes and stuff like that. Tend to work through other gov. agencies to promote	<i>The Village encourages this to occur.</i>	Ongoing
<b>Goal 11.3 – Facilitate regular dialogue between non-for-profit organizations and all sectors to ensure their missions and services are responsive to community interests and needs.</b>		<i>The Village Manager and the Village President sit on the Community Works Advisory Board of the Oak Park River Forest Community Foundation. Also, through the CDBG process, non-for-profits are in communication with the</i>	

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		<i>Village. The Village actively promotes/highlights non-for-profits in communications. The Village's YouTube channel provides thoughtful videos to raise awareness of organizations.</i>	
11.3.1 Support the roles of not-for-profits that help accomplish community objectives.	Has seen an increase of \$400,000 from 2017 to 2018, which saw the budget rise from \$2.2 million to \$2.6 million	<i>This is to be analyzed.</i>	Significant progress
11.3.2 Foster collaboration among not-for-profits through interactions with municipal staff and board and commission members, and facilitate access to information about public and not-for-profit organizations, their missions and key contact persons.	Currently works with Oak Park Area Arts Council, and Early Childhood Education Organization to assist them	<i>This is to be analyzed.</i>	Ongoing
11.3.3 Encourage community involvement and participation in not-for-profit organizations.	Difficult to quantify	<i>This is to be determined.</i>	N/A
11.3.4 Actively engage not-for-profit organizations when drafting, assessing the impacts of, or debating a proposed public policy.	Work through other projects, can direct federal grant money to certain groups, help to make sure that they have access to these goods. If messages are good, shared to social media NOT A DIRECT SERVICE PROVIDER	<i>This is to be determined.</i>	Ongoing
<b>Goal 11.4 – Provide opportunities for participation in positions of service or leadership.</b>			
11.4.1 Actively promote and advertise opportunities for citizens to participate in community decision-making through seats on boards and commissions, focus groups, targeted stakeholder meetings, etc.	If there are community meetings, they will actively promote these types of meetings with communication tools if village is affiliated. 19-20 boards of volunteer groups to	<i>Community Leadership administered by Dominican University; funded by the Oak Park River Forest Community Foundation provides leadership training. The Village has ongoing</i>	Significant progress

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	advise board, create public record. Post online, help to drum up support.	<i>messages through various platforms about vacancies on commissions, public meetings and other opportunities for public involvement. The Civic Information Systems Commission is planning to offer live interaction via the web for citizens to comment during a meeting. Another future step could be integrating all commission agendas into the Granicus system. Meetings could be recorded and televised via the web. Equipment and staffing would need to be increased to facilitate this.</i>	
11.4.2 Coordinate with local schools, businesses, and not-for-profits and other entities to establish programs for children and young adults that grow future leaders.	Posting online to promote these events. Communications arms regularly share information  Have been growing the number of services offered  Placed youth representatives on advisory boards, and now have youth employment programs in the summers	<i>This is to be determined.</i>	Significant progress
11.4.3 Encourage local businesses to adopt mentoring and hiring practices that foster the development of “home-grown” leaders.	No information	<i>This is to be analyzed.</i>	N/A
11.4.4 Highlight the successes and positive activities of residents and businesses through local media outlets and official recognition.	Series of videos of oak park's own people, new businesses, rely heavily on video and social media tools  Oak Park's Own- Highlighting small business owners in the village	<i>Business Buzz, You Really Should Eat This, and Chef Talk, among others, are some of the series created for the YouTube channel to highlight unique local businesses and residents. The Village continues to seek out cooperative relationships</i>	Significant progress

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		<i>with business groups and neighborhood organizations to cross-publicize events by linking to websites/social media posts and retweeting information.</i>	
<b>Goal 11.5 - Utilize local events as an avenue for bolstering civic engagement and pride.</b>			
11.5.1 Create and distribute information at the block or neighborhood level through various networks and resources such as block groups, community organizations, and event permitting packets.	Create the materials, don't distribute. Police sheets, flyers for events, block party application packet. Produce FAQ's and how to throw good parties	<i>The Village is in the process of revamping, through recommendations of the Fair Housing Task Force, to better implement communication through information packets. This is currently being done through Public Works.</i>	Significant progress
11.5.2 Encourage events that go beyond individual blocks in order to foster shared community pride at the neighborhood or village-wide levels.	No information	<i>This is to be determined.</i>	N/A
11.5.3 Identify opportunities for shared events that highlight several facets of the community.	Parades, special events, Day in our Village, among others, meet this objective.  Have seen a large growth in the Day in Our Village	<i>Parades, special events, Day in our Village, among others, meet this objective.</i>	Significant progress
11.5.4 Highlight the actions of Oak Park citizens whose actions help advance local community objectives.	Have seen a increase in block parties due to Village and easily found FAQ's on block party. Rose from 454 in 2017 to 487 in 2018	<i>Each year, residents and businesses are celebrated at the Stewardship Awards. The Cavalcade of Pride awards, Historic Preservation awards and Environmental awards are presented. Commissioners are recognized at the Commissioner Recognition night. The Health Department highlights volunteers and community members as well</i>	Ongoing

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		<i>as local restaurants through annual awards.</i>	
<b>Goal 11.6 – Provide opportunities for residents to strengthen their community.</b>			
11.6.1 Support neighborhood organizations and block groups in their efforts to provide local events hosted and attended by residents.	No information	<i>A strong relationship exists between neighborhood groups and the Village communication network so that events such as BarrieFest, What’s Blooming on Harrison Street, etc. are included in the Village’s social media communication.</i>	N/A
11.6.2 Provide opportunities for residents to donate time and talents to assist others in their neighborhood.	Have seen an increase of volunteer hours from 3000 in 2014 to 3700 in 2018  157 Volunteers in 2018 on 21 Advisory Boards compared to 141 Volunteers on 19 Advisory Boards in 2014	<i>To be determined.</i>	Significant progress
11.6.3 Support efforts at the neighborhood or block levels that foster interaction between generations of Oak Park residents.	No information	<i>To be determined.</i>	N/A
11.6.4 Encourage the recording of history or stories about past or current neighborhood residents.	No information	<i>Residents are able to learn more about each notable person highlighted on the walls of Village Hall through the website. The Village maintains a strong relationship with the Oak Park River Forest Historical Society.</i>	N/A

Chapter 12 - Economic Health & Vitality

Goals and Objectives	Interview Responses		Progress Made
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<p><b>Goal 12.1 – Ensure that economic vitality is spread throughout the Village.</b></p>		<p><i>Projects include: streetscape project on Chicago Avenue; lighting project on Harrison Street; business district plans for Madison Street and possibly North Avenue. Buxton research will help with this. Also, if the Board funds a Certified Business District program this will aid in this goal.</i></p>	
<p>12.1.1 Determine Oak Park’s appropriate and supportable market mix to maximize economic potential.</p>	<p>Review sales tax data to view new trends. Keep data on rental dates, TIF districts, traffic numbers on streets, always pondering how OP is competitive in the market place</p>	<p><i>Information is collected via business licensing and state sales tax data; OPEDC contracts with Buxton Consulting Group to do a market research study.</i></p>	<p>Significant progress</p>
<p>12.1.2 Maintain the condition and capacity of Village infrastructure and technology to ensure that it is suitable for all types of development.</p>	<p>Capital Improvement Budget found online and is 5 years out. Maximize by getting state and federal funds for infrastructure improvement. Technology wise, converted to web based and paperless permitting and licensing module called cityview. In the process of going paperless for parking. Creating a standalone village branded app.</p>	<p><i>This is ongoing.</i></p>	<p>Significant progress</p>
<p>12.1.3 Identify impediments to attracting investment through continuous contact with businesses, developers and other industry professionals.</p>	<p>Technology changes addressed impediments. Efforts still ongoing to address other pediments. Work with businesses so they understand OP population density to drive more sales. Business Association Council works to identify and address impediments. Work is split up between many people never just one.</p>	<p><i>A dedicated staff liaison to the Business Association Council attends all business districts and associations. This person helps identify impediments.</i></p>	<p>Significant progress</p>
<p>12.1.4 Ensure that neighborhood and commercial area plans adequately reflect the needs of both residents and the business community.</p>	<p>Board is part of the budget process for 2019, want them to rely on comprehensive plan and not individual business plans. Not updating</p>	<p><i>All plans have been completed, however this needs updating periodically.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

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	the individual business district plans anymore.		
<b>Goal 12.2 – Ensure that Oak Park maintains a “business-friendly” environment.</b>			
12.2.1 Ensure that all boards, commissions, and departments understand the impacts of programs and policies on the economic health of the village.	Monthly report on commission activities that is shared with village manager to ensure everyone is working toward a common goal.	<i>There can be improvements in this area. The Village's staff liaisons to the Plan Commission (PC), Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA), Energy and Environment Commission (EEC) and others work to ensure impacts are identified through their processes and application reviews. An example is the EEC considering banning plastic bags; the Business Association Council will weigh in on this.</i>	Ongoing
12.2.2 Identify and implement ways to streamline standard approval procedures.	Update Zoning code to take out delays. implemented online permitting/licensing/inspection program. People can upload applications into the online system for more efficiency.	<i>The Business Service Center offers a one-stop location to expedite business related processes. Preliminary walk-thrus of certain businesses by this division identify potential impediments to approval.</i>	Significant progress
12.2.3 Ensure that all entities and individuals impacted by a process are actively engaged and involved before policies are drafted and adopted.	Run new legislative initiatives past the business districts and citizen commissions before taken to village board to ensure people are engaged. Holds open houses for citizens and businesses.	<i>The Business Association Council does this.</i>	Significant progress
<b>Goal 12.3 – Expand and promote business support services.</b>			
12.3.1 Provide access to enhanced data and communications technology and infrastructure.	Online app for parking and online permitting portal.	<i>WiFi nodes on streetlights will improve wireless coverage in the Village. Communication upgrades are ongoing via the Village</i>	Significant progress



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		<i>website. Building permit processing will improve once the CityView permit processing application gets underway.</i>	
12.3.2 Ensure a strong relationship between the business community and local government.	Always ensure contact between government and businesses before policies and programs are rolled out.	<i>This is ongoing.</i>	Ongoing
12.3.3 Recognize businesses that invest in projects that accomplish broader goals of the Oak Park community.	Gives commercial facade improvement grants to local businesses Holiday decor program for publicity Stewardship awards for businesses that have good services for people with disabilities. Health Department has award ceremony for businesses with low health code violations. Newsletters highlight new business openings. Ribbon cuttings for new developments and businesses, village staff will attend.	<i>Local business owners have been encouraged to make presentations to the Village Board on their investment within our community.</i>	Significant progress
12.3.4 Encourage the creation of a business incubator for startup businesses and entrepreneurs.	Continue to look for the right location but nothing in the works currently. Nothing ongoing	<i>The Village is in discussion jointly with the Library, OPEDC and OPRF Community Foundation to host events at library. This is an ongoing goal of the OPEDC.</i>	Not started
12.3.5 Where feasible and economically competitive, encourage local governments, institutions, not-for-profits, other businesses and residents to buy locally from Oak Park businesses.	No Procurement Fair anymore RFP Process to sign up Any events held, local businesses are used. Part agencies are encouraged to use local OP businesses	<i>The procurement fair hosted by the OPRF Chamber of Commerce will likely be held annually. This could be modified in the future.</i>	Significant progress
<b>Goal 12.4 – Diversify and stabilize the Village’s tax base.</b>		<i>This can be addressed in the Zoning Ordinance update; also through the</i>	

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		<i>Buxton Marketing survey.</i>	
12.4.1 Continually review the balance of local land uses and related tax revenue to avoid over-reliance on a particular revenue stream (i.e. residential property taxes or sales tax).	<p>Staff monitors tax bases changes. Staff looks at local sales tax generation, to make sure OP continues to see an upward trend for sales tax generation.</p> <p>Try to look at new development opportunities that maximize real estate property taxes of vacant land.</p>	<i>Staff monitors the tax base changes three times a year by industry use and by business district. This influences marketing by OPEDC and guides how we look at regulatory documents, such as the updating of the Zoning Ordinance.</i>	Significant progress
	Parking around transit stations where there's a high potential to utilize that property.		
12.4.2 Actively recruit businesses and development that addresses gaps in local land use and tax revenue balance.	<p>Analyze current sales tax revenue. Analyze where people are going to buy goods where they can't buy in OP, then bring that type of business to OP. Monitor industry trends.</p>	<i>This is ongoing through OPEDC efforts.</i>	Significant progress
12.4.3 Continually review municipal codes and ordinances to determine whether they accommodate evolving development needs and trends.	<p>Updated Zoning Code that controls where development can go. Updated Comprehensive Plan. Updated building codes, constantly looking at ordinance updates. The Sign Code only reviewed</p>	<i>In 2013-2014 the Comprehensive Plan was updated. In 2014-2015, the business license process was updated. The Sign Code will be reviewed and reformatted in 2015. The Zoning Ordinance will be updated in 2015-2016.</i>	Significant progress
12.4.4 Identify and market preferred development sites for missing or underrepresented uses in order to streamline business recruitment efforts.	<p>Village owns its own parcels, did an active request for proposal for the village owned parcels. EDC keeps a list of properties that are for sale on their website. Still ongoing.</p>	<i>This is ongoing.</i>	Ongoing
<b>Goal 12.5 – Position Oak Park as a destination for shopping, dining, entertainment, and culture.</b>			

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12.5.1 Encourage cross-promotion among businesses and commercial areas.	Joint events are encouraged between business districts. Facilitated through Business Association Council.	<i>This is ongoing by the Village, but on an informal basis mainly facilitated through the BAC.</i>	Ongoing
12.5.2 Prepare a regional marketing campaign that promotes Oak Park assets and highlights regional access to the village through public transit.	Branding campaign ongoing to promote people coming to the village. OPwhereelse.com has information on this.	<i>Visit Oak Park does this.</i>	Significant progress
12.5.3 Work collaboratively to promote events and attractions.	Promoted by Special Events Committee International Council of Shopping Centers has events where retailers can express interest in expanding business opportunities	<i>This is ongoing through the BAC, as well as through internal staff meetings of the Special Events Committee who coordinates and supports these events.</i>	Ongoing
12.5.4 Support the development of a multi-purpose venue or capacity with conference/meeting space to attract trade shows, conferences, banquets, etc. and create local jobs related to those activities.	Done by VisitOakPark/OPEDC. OPEDC working with Urban Land Institute to educate people on new activities and developments in OP	<i>This is ongoing through the OPEDC.</i>	Significant progress

## Chapter 13 - Environmental Sustainability

Goals and Objectives	Interview Responses		Progress Made
<b>Goal 13.1 – Minimize overall energy consumption and increase investment in renewable energy sources.</b>			
13.1.1 Support public awareness campaigns and hands-on workshops to educate consumers about energy efficient systems and practices for private residences and businesses.	Earth Fest is hosted every Spring. Has solar panels mapped out for village facilities.  Smart City USA not viable and funders pulled out.  Decarbonization	<i>The Village hosts Earth Fest each spring. The Village is looking into a solar panel purchase program. The Village taps into the Smart City USA initiative for information.</i>	Ongoing
13.1.2 Support and promote green buildings, energy-efficient systems and practices, renewable energy installations, and net-zero developments for both new construction and	Some buildings have LEED certified buildings but no new ones have been added.	<i>This is ongoing.</i>	Ongoing

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existing building renovations through grants, incentives, and regulations.			
13.1.3 Support knowledge and awareness of the latest best practices and technologies related to energy conservation and green energy development to guide government decision-making.	Difficult to quantify but policy decisions have sought to encourage these practices	<i>This occurs where applicable.</i>	Ongoing
13.1.4 Advocate for and maintain 100% renewable energy procurement through community choice aggregation.	Trying to figure that out, not possible for %100 procurement.	<i>The Village Board will reconsider current direction on this issue.</i>	Ongoing
13.1.5 Support policies and programs that increase local grid reliability, diversify Oak Park's energy sources and strengthen its resiliency from local impacts of climate change.		<i>This is to be determined.</i>	Not started
<b>Goal 13.2 – Conserve water and improve water quality.</b>			
13.2.1 Encourage reduced water consumption through outreach, pricing, and water billing information and statistics.	Few ongoing plans: Water Conservation Plan Water Sewer Rate Study Rain Barrel Program and Water Saver Kits	<i>In 2013, a Water Conservation Plan was completed. In 2014, a Water Sewer Rate study was completed (Conservation through rate structure). Pricing changes should shift residents toward reducing water consumption. The rain barrel program and the water saver kits are offered for residents as well.</i>	Significant progress
13.2.2 Facilitate the elimination of the use of synthetic herbicides, pesticides, and fertilizers, and promote non-toxic products and practices to residents and businesses.	Projects with community lawn and garden.	<i>This is to be analyzed.</i>	Ongoing
13.2.3 Promote and incentivize the use of high-efficiency water conservation, rainwater harvesting, and greywater re-use systems.	Partnerships-most around stormwater and harvesting.	<i>A future goal is to partner with other communities. Local code groups will approach the State for a review of policies on this.</i>	Ongoing

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<p><b>Goal 13.3 – Provide access to locally produced, healthy, and sustainable food.</b></p>		<p><i>Sugar Beet Co-Op and the Farmer's Market offer locally produced foods. The Zoning Ordinance rewrite will address resident opportunities for urban agriculture.</i></p>	
<p>13.3.1 Advance year-round access to local healthy food through the support of markets, co-ops, community supported agriculture (CSA), and local food store procurement.</p>	<p>Not happening currently</p>	<p><i>This is to be determined.</i></p>	<p>Not started</p>
<p>13.3.2 Promote policies, strategies, and metrics that make local, healthy food procurement a priority for schools, institutions, restaurants and grocery stores.</p>		<p><i>This is to be determined.</i></p>	<p>Not started</p>
<p>13.3.3 Support development of indoor facilities for local food production utilizing available private and public green space.</p>		<p><i>This is to be analyzed.</i></p>	<p>Not started</p>
<p>13.3.4 Support the development of a community greenhouse, aquaponics, and growing center in an existing underutilized facility that supports and trains people on growing and eating healthy, local food.</p>		<p><i>This is to be analyzed.</i></p>	<p>Not started</p>
<p>13.3.5 Amend municipal regulations to allow urban agricultural and related business activities.</p>	<p>Zoning allows for bee keeping and chicken coops but no livestock.</p>	<p><i>This will be a discussion during the Zoning Ordinance rewrite process.</i></p>	<p>Significant progress</p>
<p><b>Goal 13.4 – Advance regulations and programs for green infrastructure to build a resilient, sustainable community.</b></p>		<p><i>MWRD, Wild Ones, the Community Foundation are supportive of this initiative.</i></p>	
<p>13.4.1 Work with regional agencies including the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) and surrounding communities to undertake large-scale stormwater management planning and infrastructure upgrades.</p>	<p>Still happening, works with local communities. Rain Ready run by the Village Sewer Backup Protection Plan North Marion Street project for sustainable development</p>	<p><i>Cook County Completed the Hazard Mitigation Plan which was adopted in 2015 titled; "Hazards to all water, storm related activities"</i></p>	<p>Significant progress</p>
<p>13.4.2 Reduce the demand on local stormwater collection and treatment infrastructure through</p>	<p>Oak Park is a certified arboretum, every tree is mapped</p>	<p><i>The North Marion Street streetscape project included an underground</i></p>	<p>Significant progress</p>

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the use of various techniques applicable to streetscapes, infrastructure and development.	Zoning Ordinance will address these  Use of cisterns	<i>cistern to collect rainwater runoff. The use and promotion of permeable pavers in private development, rain barrels, and rain gardens have also supported this objective. The Zoning Ordinance rewrite will address some of these concepts as well.</i>	
13.4.3 Where appropriate, create “green corridors” that foster habitat ecosystem restoration.	Ongoing, Climate Change Adaptation Plan  Paris Climate Accord	<i>To be analyzed.</i>	Significant progress
13.4.4 Develop and implement a comprehensive climate change adaptation plan.	OP continues to support sustainable development and design	<i>To be analyzed.</i>	Ongoing
13.4.5 Amend local regulations so that they support sustainable development and design.	Village staff will look at building code amendments.	<i>The Zoning Ordinance rewrite process will address this. The Village staff will also look at building codes amendments.</i>	Ongoing
<b>Goal 13.5 – Create a Zero Waste Village.</b>		<i>A draft Zero Waste Plan is expected sometime in 2017. This objective is identified in the PlanIt Green Plan also.</i>	
13.5.1 Sustain and expand commercial and multi-unit recycling and composting programs.	Residents and businesses can sign up for compost pickup	<i>This has been expanding over the last few years through Department of Public Works initiatives.</i>	Ongoing
13.5.2 Provide residents and businesses with local opportunities for discarding or retrieving reusable materials and items.	At your door pickup available for hazardous and hard to recycle material	<i>This has been in place relative to mulch stations and material drop off opportunities at Public Works.</i>	Ongoing
13.5.3 Encourage and require the deconstruction and reuse of building materials rather than demolition and landfill.		<i>This is encouraged through LEED initiatives for Planned Developments.</i>	Ongoing

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13.5.4 Create and implement a comprehensive Community Zero Waste Plan.	Completed	<i>This is to be determined.</i>	Significant progress
13.5.5 Explore opportunities to support a regional organic waste facility that can take advantage of economies of scale in waste reduction and management.	Has metrics to track total diversion rates that include organics.	<i>This is to be determined.</i>	Significant progress

Chapter 14 - Governmental Excellence

Goals and Objectives	Interview Responses		Progress Made
<b>Goal 14.1 Provide honest, effective, high-quality government and superior customer service</b>			
14.1.1. Maintain comprehensive performance measures to objectively evaluate performance levels and set the foundation for improvement.	Village of Oak Park - Primarily internal metrics used to assess customer satisfaction, pavement conditions, response times for emergency services etc.  Oak Park Library - Collection of customer service satisfaction data both quantitative and qualitative which is then used to better serve the community	<i>A performance measurement program is ongoing.</i>	Ongoing
14.1.2 Increase the ability of residents and stakeholders to accomplish needed activities through electronic means.	Village of Oak Park has moved much of its permitting online	<i>The Strategic IT Plan is underway. This includes a rollout of public accessible GIS information.</i>	Significant progress
14.1.3 Regularly survey residents, businesses, and stakeholders to assess their impressions of local government customer service levels.	Residents are surveyed every two years through the Community Report Card. This information is used as a reference tool to help dictate financial and administrative decisions.	<i>The Community Survey will be administered this fall.</i>	Significant progress
14.1.4 Develop a strong culture of customer service oriented performance that crosses all six local jurisdictions, including the	New steps have been taken to improve customer service across all jurisdictions. Robust training is conducted every	The Village created the Development Customer Services Department who will begin meeting this	Ongoing

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recruitment, training, and maintenance of high-quality professional staff at all levels.	two years for newly elected village trustees and the mayor; during this time all taxing bodies have a welcome meeting for new staff and to increase communication between taxing bodies.	goal. Further initiatives are to be determined.	
14.1.5 Ensure the concerns of residents/stakeholders/customers are handled properly and that an appropriate response/action is undertaken in a timely manner.	Village of Oak Park has increased its social media presence although some comments or complaints are not necessarily getting to the right place.	<i>This is an improving and ongoing effort. The Village wide survey addresses this.</i>	Ongoing
<b>Goal 14.2 Achieve superior efficiency in the delivery of governmental services.</b>			
14.2.1 Explore alternative approaches to service delivery and government decision making that could enhance efficiency.	In 2018 the Village Board established a taxing body efficiency task force through which citizens evaluated 5 of the 6 taxing bodies.	<i>This is ongoing.</i>	Significant progress
14.2.2 Where appropriate, consolidate or combine various service providers into fewer facilities through collocation or facility consolidation.	An advisory referendum concerning further study of consolidation was approved and some consolidation may occur in the future.	<i>The use of Madison TIF funds for the new D97 Building. This building will consolidate two previous building uses into one.</i>	Significant progress
14.2.3 Streamline procedures and eliminate redundancy where possible by reviewing the Village's organizational structure, departments, staff positions, and boards and commissions to determine their respective roles and responsibilities.	Not specifically focused on job consolidation but some may occur to reduce redundancy (e.g. one payroll system between various taxing bodies)  Clearer definition of roles and operating procedures	<i>This is ongoing.</i>	Significant progress
14.2.4 Ensure strong intra-agency communications between all departments, boards, commissions, and committees.	Communication exists between staff of the different taxing bodies but could be improved in terms of timeliness and collaboration.	<i>This is ongoing.</i>	Ongoing
14.2.5 Develop appropriate benchmark comparisons to gauge efficiency—measuring performance against corresponding Oak Park levels over time as well as against leading-edge communities.	Benchmarking has not occurred to any extent as best practices are predominantly determined by the local community. Internal benchmarking has occurred to see progress within different departments over time.	<i>This is ongoing.</i>	Ongoing



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<b>Goal 14.3 Manage the total real estate tax burden on the community.</b>			
14.3.1 Create a standing, community-wide citizen's financial oversight council to assess the overall tax burden and trends, review 5-year revenue and spending projections, and offer recommendations for improvement to the six local governing jurisdictions.	Intend to start in the next few years	<i>This is to be determined.</i>	Not started
14.3.2 Develop coordinated five-year financial projections across all local jurisdictions based on common assumptions.	Jurisdictions do have financial projections though it is unclear whether they are operating under the same common assumptions.	<i>This is to be analyzed.</i>	Not started
14.3.3 Conduct coordinated orientations for all newly elected officials of all local governing bodies and regularly review with all elected representatives the drivers of overall revenue and spending.	Orientations are conducted every two years across all local governing bodies.	<i>Every two years, the Village hosts leaders from all six taxing bodies at meet/greet prior to Day in our Village.</i>	Significant progress
<b>Goal 14.4 Promote intergovernmental coordination and cooperation in the delivery of services.</b>			
14.4.1 Publish a community-wide Report Card that encompasses performance information for all six local governmental jurisdictions that includes consistent objective evaluation criteria, multi-year trends, and relevant comparison information.	Community Report Card survey is conducted every two years and is published in a lengthy report.	<i>This is to be evaluated.</i>	Significant progress
14.4.2 Continue to conduct multi-jurisdictional meetings at all levels and regularly update Village officials and staff on the status of discussion and initiatives.	Multi-jurisdictional meetings do occur though the level and regularity of these meetings is not known.	<i>This is ongoing.</i>	Ongoing
14.4.3 Explore and evaluate opportunities for multi-jurisdictional planning and service collaboration at the local and regional level to improve efficiency and effectiveness.	Various service collaborations at both the village and local level ranging from parking agreements to the provision of crossing guard services.	<i>This is ongoing.</i>	Ongoing
14.4.4 Explore and evaluate opportunities to merge local jurisdictions.	Advisory referendum recommending further study of consolidation was voted on and some consolidation may occur in the future.	<i>This is ongoing.</i>	Significant progress

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<p>14.4.5 Cooperatively pursue a variety of revenue sources with other agencies and governmental bodies to offset expenditures and explore ways to reduce costs and increase fund balances.</p>	<p>Development has been encouraged in the downtown area to increase density, reduce empty lots, and reduce the overall tax burden on Oak Park residents.</p>	<p><i>This continues to be analyzed.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p><b>Goal 14.5. Maximize opportunities for citizens to engage with government and play a role in assuring government transparency and accountability.</b></p>			
<p>14.5.1 Provide readily available access to information to enable citizens to (a) understand government operations and finances, (b) identify opportunities to support or collaborate with government, and (c) hold government accountable.</p>	<p>Through the village website and social media a significant amount of data is accessible to citizens. Some of the financial reports remain tedious to the general public though steps are being taken to address this issue.</p>	<p><i>Information can be obtained from the Village website.</i></p>	<p>Significant progress</p>
<p>14.5.2 Provide long and short-term opportunities for citizens to offer their expertise in meaningful ways to help identify, analyze, and solve issues facing governmental bodies.</p>	<p>Taxing body efficiency task force, SD97 finance committee, SD97 facilities committee, are all opportunities for citizens to offer their expertise.</p>	<p><i>This is to be determined.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>14.5.3 Create opportunities for all community members to share their attributable perspectives with governmental officials and to explore possible solutions through in-person gatherings, surveys, and online engagement.</p>	<p>Community members have the ability to participate in budget hearings and other community meetings although some officials mentioned that these meetings are often frequented by the same group of people. Surveys such as the Community Report Card and social media provide additional opportunities for community feedback</p>	<p><i>This is ongoing.</i></p>	<p>Significant progress</p>
<p>14.5.4 Promote governmental collaboration with local non-profits, active citizens and citizen groups to jointly address issues of shared concern.</p>	<p>Local non-profits provide tutoring for students. The Oak Park Education Foundation raises money to provide funding for extracurricular programs.</p>	<p><i>This is to be analyzed.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>14.5.5 Develop protections to avoid undue influence by any citizen or interested party on governmental decisions.</p>	<p>difficult to quantify</p>	<p><i>This is to be analyzed.</i></p>	<p>N/A</p>

