

PUBLIC HEARING PROCEDURE

The Oak Park Plan Commission makes recommendations to the Village Board. The Plan Commission has nine appointed volunteer members.

The Plan Commission considers various applications for requests to amend the Oak Park Zoning Ordinance or for special uses, planned developments, text and map amendments and right of way vacations. The Plan Commission is required to consider all applications filed in these matters. State law requires that the Plan Commission hold a public hearing on applications filed with it. Public hearings allow the applicant to explain their application and to provide evidence and argument suggesting why the Plan Commission should recommend that the application be granted. Then, after the Plan Commission has heard from the applicant, the Plan Commission hears public testimony for, against or neutral on the application. After the Plan Commission has heard from the applicant and the public, the Plan Commission then asks questions of the applicant. Once all the testimony and evidence have been received, the Plan Commission closes the public hearing, deliberates on the application and then votes on a recommendation.

Order of presentation for a public hearing - This may be modified by the Chairperson:

1. Identification of Applicant Statement regarding the nature of the case, relief sought, and submittal of proof of notice.
2. Presentation by the Applicant and Applicant's consultants.
3. Report by staff and consultants to the Village
4. Commissioners' examination of Applicant.
5. **Cross-examination** of Applicant and their consultants **by Interested Persons** (public within 300 feet) who have filed an appearance with the Village Clerk by 5PM the business day proceeding the hearing.
6. **Public Testimony (Public Comment)*** Staff will read into the record written comments received prior to the meeting.
 - a. Those **in favor** of the application.
 - b. Those **objecting** to the application.
 - c. Those **neither in favor nor opposed** to the application.
7. Examination by Commissioners' of objectors' professional witnesses.
8. **Cross-examination** by the **Applicant** of objectors' professional witnesses.
9. In some cases re-examination may be allowed.
10. Summary by Applicant.
11. Summary by Objectors –generally a representative of any organized group.
12. Rebuttal by Applicant.

*** TESTIMONY:** If a person is unable to complete his/her testimony in five (5) minutes, he/she may submit testimony in written form or, if time allows and at the discretion of the Chairperson, may present it orally (in five minute increments) after others have had an opportunity to testify.

COMMISSION QUESTIONS: At any point in the proceedings, the Commissioners may call upon witnesses who have not previously testified, such as Village staff and Village consultants. The Commissioners may ask questions at any time during the hearing.