



Memorandum

TO: Kevin J. Jackson, Village Manager

FROM: Emily A. Egan, Development Services Director

FOR: Village President and Board of Trustees

DATE: September 12, 2024

SUBJECT: Park(ing) Day Celebration

Purpose

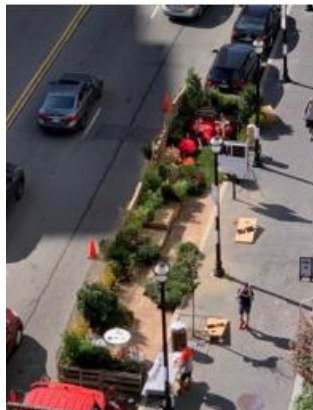
The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an informational update regarding staff's coordination of the Village's inaugural celebration of [Park\(ing\) Day](#) on Friday, September 20, 2024 in collaboration with several community groups.

Background

Park(ing) Day is a global, public, participatory project where people across the world temporarily repurpose curbside parking spaces and convert them into public parks and social spaces to advocate for safer, greener, and more equitable streets for people. It is also a day of education to explain the value of the real estate next to the curb.

The Parking & Mobility Services Division is leading the coordination of the interdepartmental project with the following community groups: Bike Walk Oak Park, Hemingway Business District, The Collaboration for Early Childhood, Visit Oak Park, Oak Park Township, The Oak Park Area Arts Council, Visit Oak Park and The Oak Park River Forest Chamber of Commerce.

The top of the next page features images of Park(ing) Day celebrations from around the world:



Jersey City, 2019



Singapore, 2018



Nashville, 2013

An informational meeting was held with community organizations in late August. A guest from the Parking Reform Network was invited to explain the history and goals of Park(ing) Day. A survey about programming and event needs was sent to participants interested in contributing to the event. Staff finalized the programming, event location, and site-specific infrastructure needs for the event.

Day-Of Details

The 2024 Park(ing) Day will be held in the Hemingway Business District as part of the excitement and momentum for the 2025 “Renew the Avenue” infrastructure and beautification construction project. Two parallel parking spaces near 163 S. Oak Park Avenue will be used for the event from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday, September 20th. Visitors can enjoy refreshments, music, activities, giveaways, and overviews of programs offered by community partners.

Relation to Village Goals

Village Board Goal: Vibrant, Diverse, Connected Neighborhoods; Emphasis on Relationship Between Neighborhoods and Business Districts:

Explore the role that special events play in the community including impact to neighborhood relationships, economic vitality and overall community experience. Recommend special event policies related to the Board's vision, values and goals of community affordability, community health and safety, racial equity, vibrant, diverse and connected neighborhoods, sustainability and resiliency and economic vitality.

Village Board Goal: Economic Vitality; Support New and Existing Small Businesses and Districts:

Work with businesses, non-profit organizations and established business districts in their efforts to sponsor and improve upon existing special event programming and assist, where possible, any organization looking to create new community

events or re-establish previous events like May Madness, Third Friday and potential Roll and Stroll events.

The Climate Ready Oak Park (CROP) Plan:

Promote sustainable businesses and business practices by celebrating the community and closing down business districts to motorized vehicles and partnering with local businesses and artists to host the events. (SB03)

For questions, contact Emily Egan, Development Services Director, by phone at 708-358-5422 or via email at eeegan@oak-park.us.

cc: Lisa Shelly, Deputy Village Manager
Ahmad Zayyad, Deputy Village Manager
Erin E. Baynes, Assistant to the Village Manager
Sean Keane, Parking and Mobility Services Manager
Cameron Davis, Assistant Development Services Director
All Department Heads