

How to Apply

If you feel that you have the interest and skills to make a contribution to this committee, fill out our committee application form located online at www.pdop.org/about/Citizen-Committees. Please direct your completed application and a letter of interest to:

President, Board of Park Commissioners
Park District of Oak Park
218 Madison Street
Oak Park, IL 60302
Fax: (708)725-2301

You can also email your information to **Jan Arnold** at jan.arnold@pdop.org.

Members of the PDCC are appointed by the Park Board to serve staggered 3-year terms. The PDCC meets the 4th Monday of every month at 7:00pm.

If you have any questions regarding this committee, please contact Jan Arnold, Executive Director, at 708-725-2020, or via email at jan.arnold@pdop.org.



In partnership with the community, we enrich lives by providing meaningful experiences through programs, parks and facilities.



An Invitation to Participate Park District Citizen Committee



The History

The Park District Citizen Committee (PDCC) was organized in fall 2003 to assist and support the comprehensive planning process. The Committee supplied guidance to the planning consultant team to ensure maximum community input, ultimately assuring accountability for the process. The original PDCC members were selected based on organizing a group of residents with a broad, community-wide perspective rather than selecting individuals representing particular interest groups.

The Park District of Oak Park's Comprehensive Plan was presented to the Village of Oak Park, Park District of Oak Park and the Park District Citizen Committee on October 23, 2004. One of the recommendations made by the consultants was to continue the Park District Citizen Committee to provide a voice of the community and to collect valuable feedback provided by its members. A continuing need exists for formal, informed public advice regarding current and future planning, programs and projects of the Park District of Oak Park.

We invite you to apply to be a part of this important advisory committee.



Mission & Guiding Principles

It is the mission of the Park District Citizen Committee to monitor Park District activities with a broad mandate. This committee will oversee the implementation of the District's Comprehensive Plan and Capital Improvement Plan, and provide a valuable communication channel between the Park District and the citizens of Oak Park. The PDCC will provide an independent perspective on parks and recreation issues affecting the community with each member representing only themselves and not any organization they may belong to. Through this cooperative effort, the Park District will be better able to assess community needs and expectations necessary to carry out its mission.

Specific Responsibilities

- ✿ Act as a direct liaison between the Park District and the community
- ✿ Help the Park District to better understand citizen concerns and to be responsive to community needs
- ✿ Assist Board and staff in identifying and considering parks and recreation issues and explore future initiatives for parks and recreation in Oak Park
- ✿ Collect information and data as needed and provide fresh ideas and insights to the Park District's decision-making process
- ✿ Review and analyze information and data provided by the Park District
- ✿ Monitor the implementation of the Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan and the Capital Improvement Program Determine annual projects, as identified by the Park Board and Executive Director
- ✿ In general the Park District Citizen Committee serves as an advisory group, at the request of the Park Board, and acts as a "sounding board" in alignment with the Park District of Oak Park's mission, vision and values.

Desired Skills & Experience

Members of the PDCC will represent a general "cross-section" of the community with a diverse range of interests. The PDCC will not include a member merely representing a specific viewpoint or a specific user group.

Members are users of parks and recreation in our community. Additionally, it is helpful that members of the PDCC have skills or experience related to matters relevant to the Park District, such as:

- ✓ Information gathering and market research
- ✓ Public policy and governance
- ✓ Fundraising and not-for-profit development
- ✓ Transportation planning;
- ✓ Urban planning and design
- ✓ Information technology
- ✓ Leisure, recreation, health and tourism
- ✓ Community outreach and cross-cultural communication
- ✓ Property management
- ✓ Historic preservation

