Providing the very best in park and recreational opportunities, facilities and open lands for our community.

Oak Brook Park District
A National Gold Medal Agency

2018/2019 Annual Report

www.obparks.org
Mission Statement:
To provide the very best in park & recreational opportunities, facilities, and open lands for our community.

Vision:
To provide a diverse range of opportunities designed to keep the members of the Greater Oak Brook Community happy, fit and active. By maintaining fiscally responsible practices and focusing on communication, environmental stewardship, and accessibility, the Oak Brook Park District works to help our community as a whole be its very best and feel its very best.

About This Report
This report highlights progress, accomplishments, goals, and initiatives of the Oak Brook Park District, as outlined in our 2016 Strategic Plan.

The report follows our five STRATEGIC INITIATIVES, developed through our Strategic Planning process. They focus on developing a tactical and adaptive working plan linking our mission, vision, and core values with policy making and organization. This will ensure the operational goals for the next three years fall within the parameters of our mission and vision.

5 STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

To ensure that the very best facilities are available to our constituents.

To offer the very best in park and open space to our constituents and to be a community leader in environmental conservation and stewardship.

To provide a diverse range of the very best passive and active recreational programs and opportunities to our entire community, regardless of age or ability.

To foster a work environment that encourages collaborative teamwork and the development of the very best in park and recreation professionals.

To prioritize the fiscally responsible use of resources in all aspects of our operations.
Progressive Upgrades
Updated the fitness studios with a new fan system in addition to adding mirrors and barres to Studio B.

The Aquatic Center switched out overhead lighting to LED lights to conserve energy and lower maintenance costs.

The Aquatic Center installed Variable Frequency Drives on all main pumps to improve pump performance while increasing energy efficiency.

A new spin on an old tradition
Replacing the local MIST Tri Series, Fitness Staff developed the Triple Threat Dri-Tri Series, featuring “Tackle the Tri”, “Team Dri Tri”, and “Turkey Dri Tri”.

Re-energized programs
Swim team numbers grew from 225 members last year to 346 this year, a 65% increase. This year’s athletes combined for 14 new team records over the course of the season.

Open Pickleball interest exploded averaging 30 patrons per day. The renewed interest has lead to the creation of several new pickleball programs.

The Youth Basketball League partnered with Breakaway Basketball to offer an additional practice per week and the 1-4 grade league filled to max capacity with 160 kids enrolled.

Playground Partners
Partnered with Knights Basketball and Breakaway Basketball to offer the Build A Dream 3v3 Tournament weekend. In its inaugural year, 31 teams participated raising over $6,500 for the Universal Playground.

A Successful Season
Entered into agreement with the Village of Oak Brook to manage the Bath & Tennis Club pools. The agreement was extended into a 3 year contract for the 2019-2021 summer seasons.
Inclusive play comes to Oak Brook...
Completed construction of the Sandlot, a Universal Playground at Central Park. This barrier-free playground is designed for people of all ages and abilities.

In September 2018, we celebrated the opening of a $1 million playground in Central Park. The Sandlot features equipment designed to increase social and play interaction among people of all ages and abilities. The playground is fully fenced and the features are accessible through double-wide ramping. From parents and grandparents that have limited mobility with typically-abled children, to families that have a child with special needs, this incredible park provides a fun and interactive environment where everyone can experience the benefits of play together. The playground is located near the Tennis Center at 1301 Forest Gate Road.

On Inclusion:
We are all better when we have the opportunity to play together and learn from each other! The Oak Brook Park District works to remove physical, social, and emotional barriers to play and recreation so that people of all ages and abilities have access to exciting opportunities designed to help them be their very best and feel their very best, every single day.

**Eagle Scout Project Completed**
20 bird houses were built and installed at Dean Nature Sanctuary through a cooperative Eagle Scout project.

**50 trees planted**
Over 50 new trees were added to the parks, including White Oak, Crimson King Maple, Colorado Spruce, Norway Spruce, and White Pine.

**Protecting Pollinators**
Two monarch butterfly waystations were established and registered, one at Dean Nature Sanctuary and one along the south shoreline of Ginger Creek at Central Park. The areas are planted with milkweed and other native plants which are critical to the health, sustainability, and successful migration of monarch butterflies.

**Central Park Improvements Completed**
New and innovative LED sports lighting was installed on Field #1 at Central Park, along with the adjustment of the baseline fences to increase field safety.

The sledding hill at Central Park was enlarged to allow for more users and a better sledding experience.
Central Park North Acquisition

“A Referendum to Preserve Oak Brook’s Limited Green Space”

“The relocation of McDonald’s corporate offices to Chicago presents the Oak Brook Park District with an opportunity to secure more open space and park land for the community. On November 6, 2018, the Oak Brook Park District will ask residents to vote on a referendum for the issuance of up to $17.9 million in bonds to purchase 34 acres of open space between Jorie Boulevard and Route 83 at Kensington Road, commonly known as the ‘McDonald’s Soccer Fields.’”

-From Oak Brook Park District FAQ

The referendum question was on the Nov. 6, 2018, ballot, and all residents of the Oak Brook Park District had the opportunity to vote on the measure.

Why Go to Referendum?
Earlier in 2018, Oak Brook Park District held focus groups to listen to what the community wanted. The clear direction from residents was for the park district to try to acquire the 34-acres of land next to Central Park. If the referendum passed, the Park District would be able to purchase the land and secure critical open space for the community.

Results
After the overwhelmingly successful passing (68% voter support) of the referendum in November of 2018, the sale of the former McDonald’s property known as Autumn Oaks, was finalized in February of 2019.

The Park District has begun the planning process to develop the open space into a valuable recreation area through the planting of trees and other native landscaping, in addition to the improved athletic fields and other features.
Agency Financial Recap

The annual operating budget produces revenue which contributes to capital replacements and improvements such as field maintenance, ballfield work, and facility repairs.


2018/2019 Revenues by Source

- Property Taxes: $3,353,130
- Other Taxes: $161,448
- Charges for Services: $5,457,069
- Sponsorship & Grants: $557,077
- Miscellaneous: $441,554
- Interest: $58,190

2018/2019 Expenditures by Allocation

**Fiscal Year 2018/2019 Expenditures**

- Salaries and Wages: $4,232,837
- Contractual Services: $2,771,874
- Supplies and Materials: $718,130
- Professional Services: $113,284
- Repairs and Maintenance: $264,949
- Capital & Depreciation: $1,677,280
- Debt Service: $548,876

Your Tax Dollars | 2018

Source: DuPage County Clerk
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