



# Oak Brook Park District

*A National Gold Medal Agency*

## 2024/2025 ANNUAL REPORT



### OAK BROOK PARK DISTRICT

1450 Forest Gate Road. Oak Brook, Illinois 60523

[www.obparks.org](http://www.obparks.org)



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# Mission Statement:

To provide the **very best** in **park & recreational opportunities, facilities,** and **open lands** for our community.

## Vision

To provide a diverse, inclusive and holistic range of opportunities designed to keep the community happy, fit and active.

### About this report

**This report highlights progress, accomplishments, goals, and initiatives of the Oak Brook Park District, as outlined in our 2025-2029 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 year fall within the parameters of our mission and vision.







# 5 Strategic Initiatives

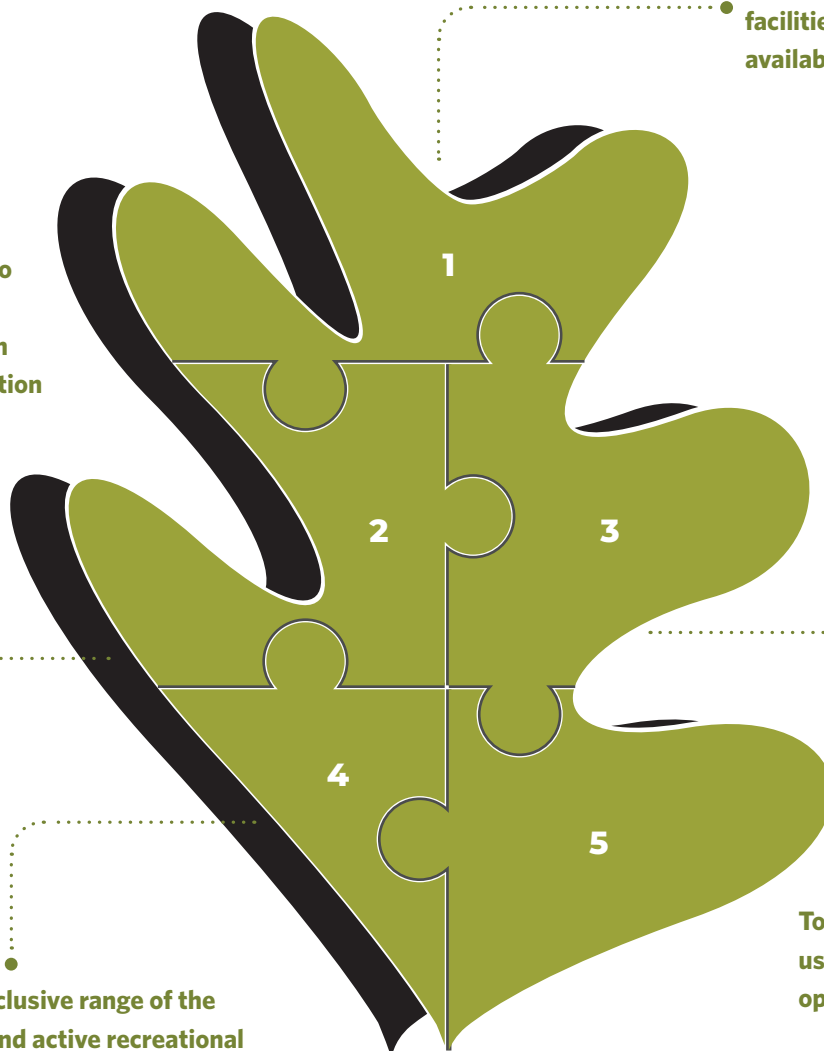
To provide the very best in park and open space to our constituents and to be a community leader in environmental conservation and stewardship.

To ensure that the very best facilities are accessible and available.

To foster a diverse 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.

To provide an all inclusive range of the very best passive and active recreational programs and opportunities to our entire community.





**To ensure that the very best facilities are accessible and available.**



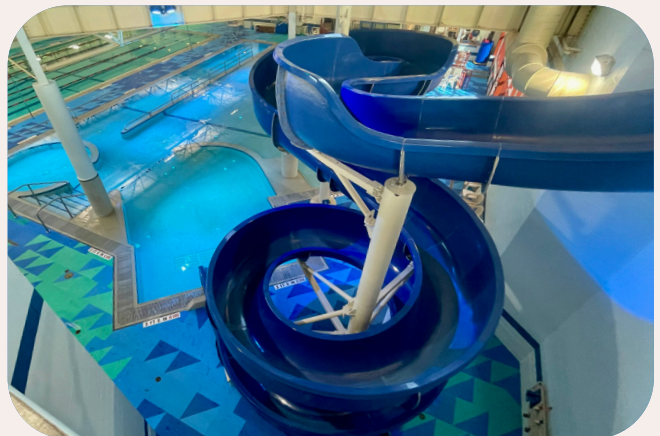
The Oak Brook Park District completed the new concessions and Ginger Creek Pavilion. This fully accessible stand enhances event capability, supports field and pavilion rentals, and offers a focal point for gatherings and rentals on park grounds. In addition to supporting day-to-day programming and park operations, this pavilion is available for rental by residents and community groups, helping to offset operational costs and expand uses of our park venues.



The Tennis Center's front desk and lounge area received a major refresh, creating a more welcoming and efficient space for both guests and staff. Along with indoor improvements, the outdoor patio was enhanced with new shade structures and picnic areas, providing a comfortable spot for families and players to gather. These updates strengthen the overall experience at the Tennis Center and support the growing needs of our community.



This past summer, the Park District opened the annual Summer Concert Series with a ribbon-cutting event to celebrate the grand opening of the new Oaks Amphitheater.



The roofing project at the Family Recreation Center is complete. The Swim Central (Previously the Family Aquatic Center) installed a new HVAC unit, flooring, sound system, window tint, and painting of the interior walls.

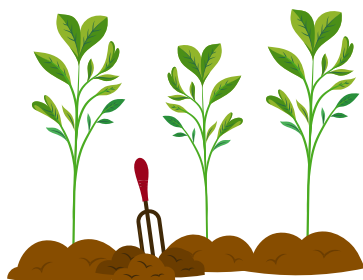




**To provide the very best in park and open space to our constituents and to be a community leader in environmental conservation and stewardship.**



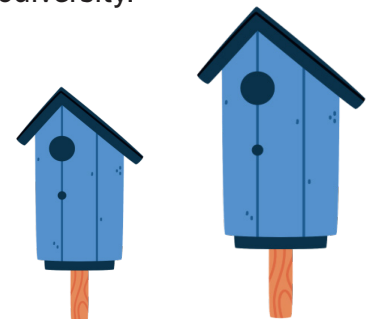
Through grant funding provided by the Chicago Region Trees Initiative (CRTI), 35 native trees were planted at the Dean Nature Sanctuary to enhance habitat diversity, improve ecosystem resilience, and support long-term conservation goals.



The Oak Brook Park District celebrated Oaktober by giving away free trees saplings, and 27 6-8ft Oak Trees to the community.



Three Bat houses were installed as part of a Girl Scout Gold Award project to enhance the sanctuary's ecological integrity by providing essential roosting habitats that support natural insect control and promote biodiversity.

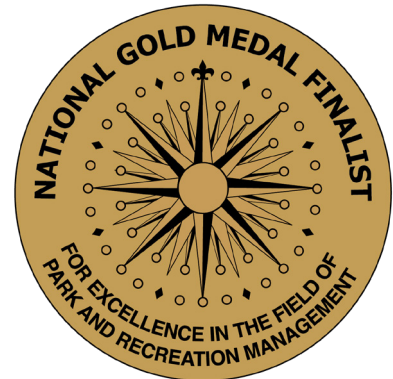






**To foster a diverse work environment that encourages collaborative teamwork and the development of the very best in park and recreation professionals.**

- The American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration (AAPRA), in partnership with the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), recognized the Oak Brook Park District as a finalist for the 2024 National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management. This prestigious award honors agencies that demonstrate excellence in long-range planning, resource management, and innovative approaches to delivering high-quality recreation services to their communities.



- JJ's List hosted a Training on Disability Awareness with staff, a commissioner, and community members!

## 2025 ILLINOIS PARK & RECREATION ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Bob Johnson & Jake Stachowiak presented "Engaging the new collar worker".
- Brian DeWolf & Mike Contreras presented "Breakaway from the Traditional Youth Basketball League".
- Laure Kosey & Haley Colucci presented "Human Resource Orienteering".
- Rachel Jones & Laure Kosey presented "Parks Reinvented: Harnessing the Potential of Your 501 © (3) Nonprofit"

JJ's List - Disability Awareness Training











**To provide an all inclusive range of the very best passive and active recreational programs and opportunities to our entire community.**



The Park District and Village of Oak Brook hosted the Celebration of International Cultures for the first time! The event took place at our new Oaks Amphitheater and was a great success.

The Park District helped facilitate an agreement between Gateway Special Recreation and Ray Graham to extend adult day programming. A one-year agreement for the Elevate program started on September 1, 2024.



The Oak Brook Park District made a splash with its first Cardboard Regatta at Swim Central. Participants of all ages put their creativity and teamwork to the test as they built and raced boats made entirely out of cardboard and duct tape.

For the first time ever, the Park District offered three full-day preschool classes for young learners. This expansion reflects the District's commitment to meeting the growing needs of families, particularly those seeking extended-day early childhood care. It also positions the program as a more competitive and comprehensive option within the early learning landscape.



Over 61,000 people walked the Winter Lights trail which makes this the most attended year ever for this event. Total donations collected was over \$7,200 which was split between the Oak Brook Park District Foundation and People's Resource Center.





**520,533**  
patron visits to the  
Family Recreation  
Center.



**\$1,326,623**  
Membership  
Revenue



**Over \$24,000**  
raised for the  
Hinsdale Hospital  
Foundation Open  
Arms Breast Cancer  
Outreach Fund!



**144**  
participants  
registered for the  
Rafa Nadal camp!

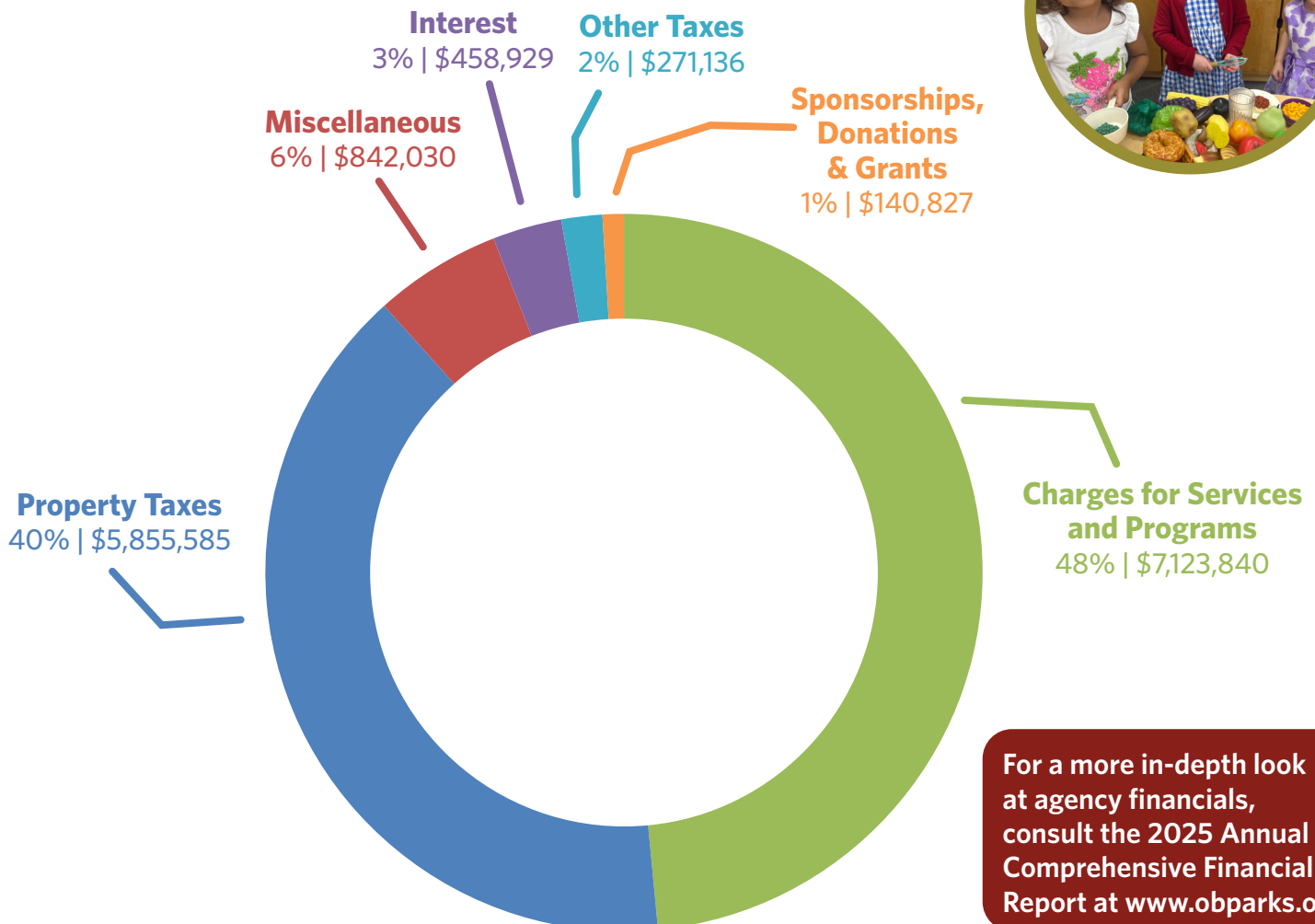


# Agency Financial Recap



To prioritize the fiscally responsible use of resources in all aspects of our operations.

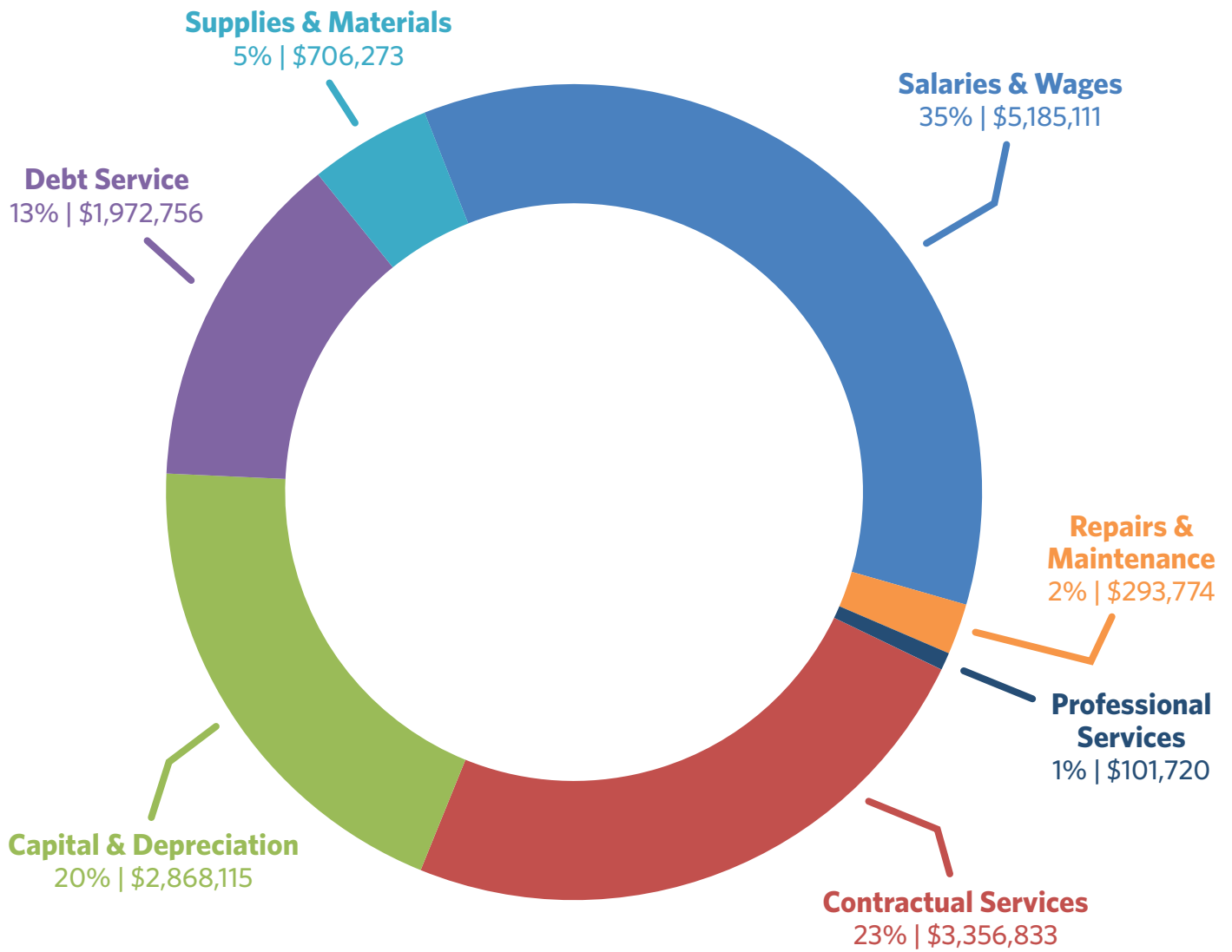
## Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Revenues





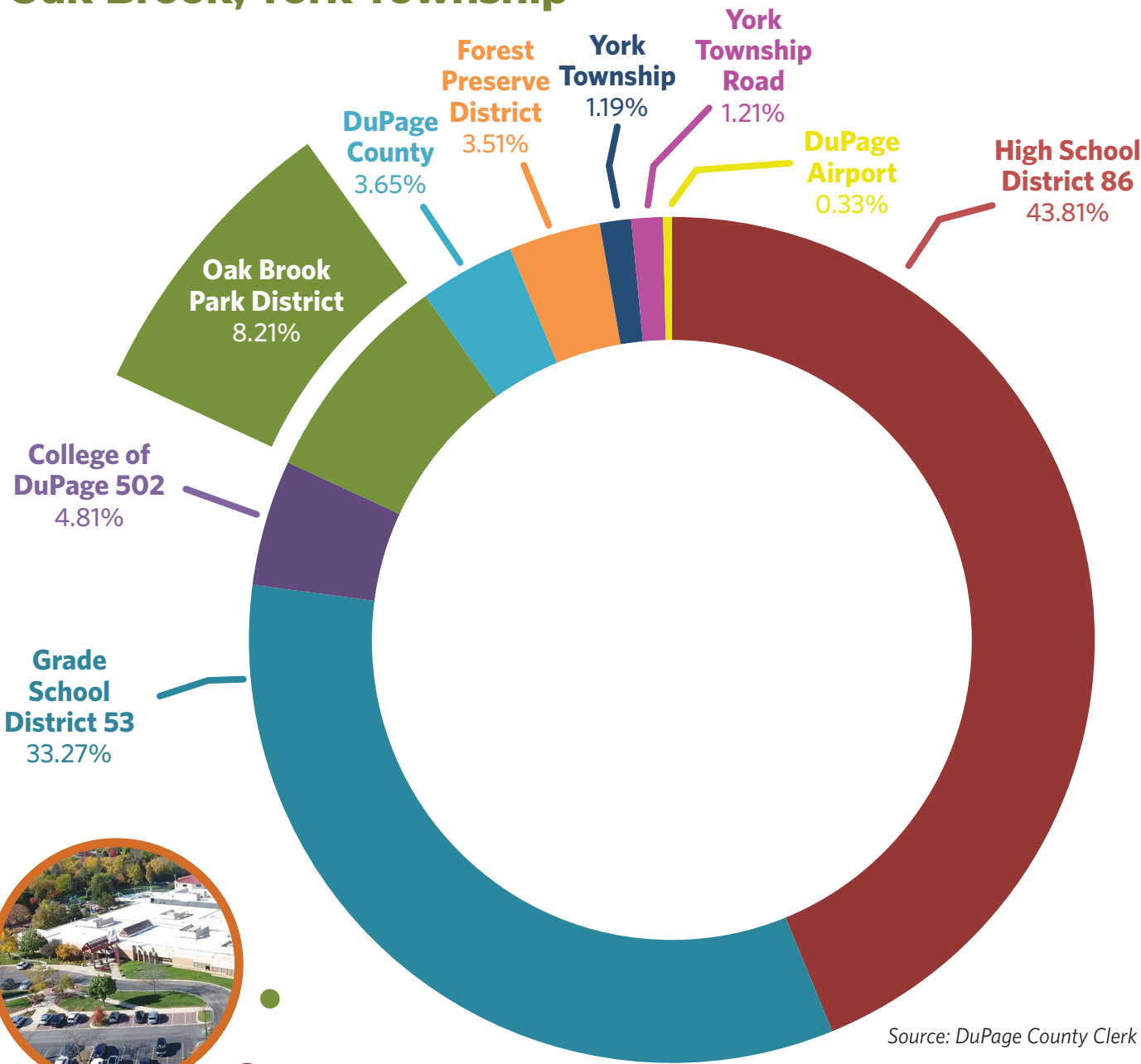


## 2024/2025 Expenditures





# 2024 Property Tax Distribution: Oak Brook, York Township







## Cost Saving/Revenue Generating Measures

- The installation of the new lettering and lighting for Oaks Amphitheater and Ginger Creek Pavilion was completed in-house by Parks staff.
- Increased Out of District daily fees from \$12 to \$14.



- \$130,000+ In Sponsorships, Advertising, and Event Vendors

- \$1,750 Grant from the DuPage Foundation's JCS Visual Arts and Music to bring Starr Chief Eagle for a NEW Cultural Arts program.





# Putting Residents First

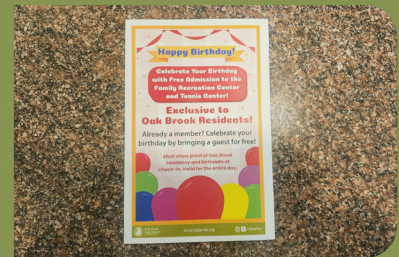
## First on the 1st program

The Oak Brook Park District's "First on the 1st" initiative invites residents to enjoy free access to Central Park Campus facilities each month, including swimming, fitness classes, open gym, and tennis. The program continues to thrive, offering residents an ongoing opportunity to connect with staff, explore amenities, and experience all the Park District has to offer.



## Resident Birthday Promo

This new promotion invites residents to celebrate their birthday with free access to Park District facilities. If the resident is already a member, they could make the day even more special by bringing a guest along.



## Free CPR classes for In District residents

Residents were invited to take part in free CPR and AED training, gaining valuable life-saving skills through hands-on instruction. The classes covered adult, child, and infant CPR techniques, empowering participants to respond confidently in emergency situations and support a safer community.



## Conducted community survey and focus groups

We conducted a community-wide survey in the winter of 2024 and followed it with senior, youth, membership, tennis, and "State of the District" focus groups in May 2025, giving residents an opportunity to share their thoughts and help shape our future offerings.



# Staff Recognition

Laure Kosey was elected IPRA (Illinois Park & Recreation Association) Board of Directors Chair elect.



Bob Johnson received the IPRA (Illinois Park & Recreation Association) Parks and Natural Resources Section Distinguished Member Award.



Haley Colucci received the IPRA (Illinois Park & Recreation Association) Diversity section distinguished member award.



## Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA)

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to the District for its annual comprehensive financial report (ACFR). This was the **twenty-ninth** consecutive year that the District has received this prestigious award.



