

2026 Work Plan for Environment and Energy Commission

2026 Initiatives and Ongoing Projects

ENABLING LANGUAGE	PROJECT	OUTCOMES/METRICS	TIMEFRAME	BUDGET	PROGRESS UPDATES
Advise on energy-related matters of concern The best methods of maintaining an environment beneficial to the Village	Oak Park Electric Shuttle	Receive quarterly updates on the Electric Shuttle pilot and provide recommendations on service and marketing.	Q1, Q2, Q3, and Q4 2026		In 2025 the EEC provided input on the Electric Shuttle Feasibility Study
Advise on energy-related matters of concern; Promote energy efficiency	Building Energy Policies	In Q1, evaluate the Benchmarking results from the previous reporting cycle and develop recommendations to the Village Board for methods to improve compliance. In Q2, provide recommendations to the Village Board on Building Performance Standards development. Quarterly, evaluate Village energy related programs, namely the One-Stop-Shop, Energy Efficiency Grants, and commercial programs. In Q3, develop recommendations to the Village Board for changes or additions to the programs for the following fiscal year. Develop recommendations to the Village Board on Village codes related to energy and sustainability.	Q1 2026 (Benchmarking) Q2 2026 (BPS) Q3 (energy programs)		The EEC reviewed and provided recommendations on the program guidelines for the energy efficiency grant program. The EEC reviewed and provided comment on the RFP to hire a vendor to develop the One Stop Shop.

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		Support education around residential electrification and efficiency by recommending specific outreach methods, facilitating relationship building, and spreading information through personal networks.			
Solid waste management-related matters generally	Community Waste Reduction Program	In Q2, develop recommendations to the Village Board for policy updates or programmatic improvements to the retail bag fee policy. Receive quarterly updates on the Village's waste programs including composting participation, recycling contamination, and waste related studies. In Q3, develop recommendations for the Village Board for changes or additions to the programs for the following fiscal year. Go on a tour of LRS's recycling facility and compost facilities.	Q2 2026 (plastic bag)	\$500 for outreach, communications, in-person events, etc. to solicit community feedback	The EEC launched a survey to gather input on plastic bag usage in the Village to inform policy recommendations.

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The best methods of maintaining an environment beneficial to the Village	Biodiversity Program	In Q1, provide program design recommendations to support tree canopy improvements on private properties. In Q1, provide program design recommendations to increase native gardens in Village parkways. In Q2, propose recommendations to the Village Board related to light pollution programs and policies. In Q3 and Q4, continue to provide public statements in support of sustainable fall leaf management, including “leave the leaves” and increased use of the CompostAble program for fall leaves.	Q1 2026 (tree and parkway programs) Q2 2026 (lighting) Q4 2026 (leaves)		Provided comment on the Parkway Planting ordinance which was passed in March 2025.
Promotes energy efficiency... a pollution-free environment in Oak Park... recycling...	Sustainability Awards (Green Awards)	In Q1, solicit, evaluate, and recommend award recipients. In Q1, participate in awards ceremony.	Q4 2026 select awardees / Q1 2027 awards ceremony	\$500 for purchasing of awards	The EEC increased categories of the Green Awards by engaging community partners Oak Park Climate Action Network (OPCAN) and Wild Ones of West Cook (WOWC)

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The best methods of maintaining an environment beneficial to the Village	Key performance indicators	Receive quarterly updates from staff on CROP plan progress and assist in gathering data from the community. In Q4, provide recommendations, if any, to the Village Board on improvement in metric tracking and communication.	Q4 2026		In Q4 2025, the EEC provided feedback on proposed Village data dashboards.
The best methods of maintaining an environment beneficial to the Village Methods to promote for Village residents	Earth Month	Serve as a planning and advisory body for the annual Earth Month activities.	Q1		