

ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2 (“ADMINISTRATION”), ARTICLE 19 (“COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION”) OF THE OAK PARK VILLAGE CODE AND VARIOUS OTHER PROVISIONS TO REDEFINE THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION AND ITS DUTIES

WHEREAS, the Village of Oak Park (“Village”) as a home rule unit of local government as provided by Article VII, Section 6 of the Illinois Constitution of 1970 has the authority to exercise any power and perform any function pertaining to its government and affairs except as limited by Article VII, Section 6 of the Illinois Constitution of 1970; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board has determined to adopt this Ordinance amending the Oak Park Village Code to redefine the Community Relations Commission and various other provisions from the Oak Park Village Code; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Oak Park, Cook County, Illinois, in the exercise of their home rule powers, as follows:

Section 1. Recitals Incorporated. The above recitals are incorporated herein as though fully set forth.

Section 2. Village Code Amended. Chapter 2 (“Administration”), Article 19 (“Community Relations Commission”), Section 2-19-1 (“Establishment; Composition”) of the Oak Park Village Code is hereby amended to add the underlined language to read as follows:

ARTICLE 19

2-19-1: ESTABLISHMENT; COMPOSITION:

There is hereby established a commission to be known as the Village of Oak Park Community Relations Commission. The Commission shall consist of a chairperson and eight (8) members appointed by the President and subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees for three (3) year terms on a staggered basis with the chairperson and four (4) commissioners appointed during one year and five (5) commissioners appointed in each of the next two (2) years. All members must be residents of the Village of Oak Park and must be broadly representative of the diversity of the population as well as the different sectors of the community. Minority groups are encouraged to be represented on the Commission at all times. One member of the Commission shall be an attorney with experience in at least one of the following areas: housing law, employment law, housing or employment discrimination, civil rights or other related areas of the law. One member may be a high school student. Members may have experience or training in the various aspects of the duties of the commission, including but not limited to community engagement, mediation, facilitation, project management, and cultural competence.

Section 3. Village Code Amended. Chapter 2 (“Administration”), Article 19 (“Community Relations Commission”), Section 2-19-2 (“Duties and Functions”) of the Oak Park Village Code is hereby amended to delete the overstricken language and add the underlined language to read as follows:

2-19-2: DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS:

The Community Relations Commission shall, in addition to performing the duties delineated in Chapter 13 of this code, work with the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion to ~~secure the furnishing of equal services to all residents; and to develop improved intergroup relations; to encourage and foster fair and equal treatment under the law to all; and to maintain equality of opportunity for employment and advancement in the Village government.~~ ensure equal and equitable access to services for all residents, workers, business owners and visitors of Oak Park; to promote and facilitate inter/intragroup unity and cultural understanding to help deter prejudice, discrimination and intolerance; to encourage and foster fair and equitable treatment to all under the law by administering the Village’s Human Rights Ordinance, monitoring trends and facilitating community-wide discussions; and to monitor the activities of Village hiring practices for equitable employment and advancement opportunities in the Village government.

Section 4. Severability and Repeal of Inconsistent Ordinances. If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be held invalid, the invalidity thereof shall not affect any of the other provisions of this Ordinance. All ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect after its passage, approval and publication as required by law.

ADOPTED this 10th day of June, 2025, pursuant to a roll call vote at follows:

Voting	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
President Scaman				
Trustee Enyia				
Trustee Leving Jacobson				
Trustee Straw				
Trustee Taglia				
Trustee Wesley				

APPROVED this 10th day of June, 2025.

Vicki Scaman, Village President

ATTEST

Christina M. Waters, Village Clerk

Published in pamphlet form this 10th day of June, 2025.

Christina M. Waters, Village Clerk