



Main Library
834 Lake St.
Oak Park, IL 60301
p 708.383.8200
f 708.697.6917

Dole Branch Library
255 Augusta St.
Oak Park, IL 60302
p 708.386.9032
f 708.386.0023

Maze Branch Library
834 Gunderson Ave.
Oak Park, IL 60304
p 708.386.4751
f 708.445.2385

October 3, 2025

Village of Oak Park
123 Madison Street
Oak Park, IL 60302

Subject: Request for Authorization of \$4.5 Million Bridge Funding

Dear Members of the Village of Oak Park Finance Committee and Village Board,

On behalf of the Oak Park Public Library Board of Trustees, we are writing to respectfully request that the Village of Oak Park authorize and implement a temporary bridge funding mechanism in the amount of \$4.5 million to support the library's continued operations.

As detailed in the accompanying memo from our Executive Director and finance team, the library is facing an anticipated cash flow shortfall due to the delay in the issuance of the second installment of the 2024 Cook County property tax bills. Based on our current projections, the library's cash reserves may be depleted as early as late December 2025.

Without a clear timeline from the County for the disbursement of these funds, this temporary bridge funding will be essential to ensure the library can maintain uninterrupted services and operations through at least April 2026.

We are requesting that the Village Finance Committee and Board consider and authorize the most viable and cost-effective mechanism to provide this funding, whether through a Tax Anticipation Warrant (TAW) or a direct loan from the Village.

We are grateful for your continued partnership and support, and we remain committed to working closely with you to safeguard the essential services the Oak Park Public Library provides to our community.

This request is submitted jointly and with the full support of both the President of the Library Board of Trustees and the Chair of the Library Board's Finance Committee.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Virginia Bloom (Oct 6, 2025 12:41:34 CDT)

Virginia Bloom

President, Oak Park Public Library Board of Trustees


Colin Bird-Martinez (Oct 6, 2025 13:36:45 CDT)

Colin Bird-Martinez

Chair, Oak Park Public Library Board Finance Committee