



The Village of Oak Park
Village Hall
123 Madison Street
Oak Park, Illinois 60302-4272

708.383.6400
Fax 708.383.6692
www.oak-park.us
village@oak-park.us

January 21, 2025

Bloomberg Philanthropies Asphalt Art Review Team:

I am writing in support of the Village of Oak Park and the proposed Asphalt Art Grant opportunity. As the Village President in Oak Park, I care deeply about the arts and the safety of our residents and I believe this project has the potential to not only make the streets safer for all pedestrians crossing at high-foot-traffic intersections, but also to bring unique artwork and beautification to the Oak Park Arts District (OPAD), an important business district in the community and region.

In 2024 the Village completed a necessary micro-resurfacing project, and the previously-decorated crosswalks on Harrison Street had to be covered over, removing an extra element of visibility and increased awareness to vehicles they provided. As the OPAD is very much driven by foot traffic, this grant opportunity gives the Village the potential to address this issue and make a real difference for businesses and residents alike.

The impact of this project would be significant to our community. If the Village is selected for this grant and is able to implement this project, we can expect to see an added safety element for all those who visit the OPAD, resulting in a reduction of the potential for crashes and injuries, an increase in the number of those who visit the OPAD as residents and visitors alike will come to view the asphalt art and increased traffic to all businesses, therefore driving sales within the district.

I strongly believe that the Asphalt Art Grant program is the right solution for our community. The Village of Oak Park has a proven track record of success, dedication and a wealth of experience in which we can draw from in order to execute and complete this project.

I would also like to acknowledge the work that has been done in alignment with this grant by Bike Walk Oak Park, the Oak Park River Forest Chamber of Commerce, the Village of Oak Park's Transportation Commission, and the Oak Park Area Arts Council.

Thank you for considering this proposal. Your support to the Village and the Oak Park Arts District would surely make a meaningful difference to those living in, visiting, and operating businesses in our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Vicki Scaman".

Vicki Scaman
President
Village of Oak Park

cc: Village Manager, Kevin J. Jackson