

PROCLAMATION

EARTH MONTH APRIL 2023

WHEREAS, in 1970, Senator Gaylord Nelson proposed to the Congress of the United States that a special day be set aside to celebrate and promote environmental awareness, called Earth Day, which is observed on April 22nd; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Oak Park has made a commitment to preserving and enhancing the quality of the environment by appointing residents to serve on the Environment and Energy Commission; and

WHEREAS, on August 2, 2022, the Village of Oak Park declared a climate emergency and adopted the award-winning *Climate Ready Oak Park* community plan; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Oak Park has committed to achieving a sixty percent reduction in carbon emissions by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2050; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Oak Park has committed to protecting and enhancing biodiversity on thirty percent of community land by 2030; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Oak Park recognizes that priority communities, including communities of color, low-income communities, older adults, children, disabled individuals, and others, are disproportionately adversely impacted by climate change; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Oak Park has committed to direct forty percent of the public climate and sustainability funds to local priority communities, and to partner with the most impacted community members to design climate and sustainability policies and programs; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Oak Park continues to support and expand partnerships, policies and programs that advance equitable building decarbonization and waste reduction efforts; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Oak Park has long been recognized as a regional leader in climate resiliency.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Vicki Scaman, President of the Village of Oak Park and Board of Trustees, do hereby proclaim the Month of April as EARTH MONTH and ask community members and local institutions and organizations to take ambition action to address the challenges of climate change and loss of biodiversity, not only during this month but throughout the year.

AOPTED AND APPROVED this 24th day of April, 2023.

Vicki Scaman, Village President

ATTEST:

Christina M. Waters, Village Clerk