

PROCLAMATION

NATIONAL BIKE MONTH - MAY 2026

WHEREAS, since 1956, the month of May has been recognized as National Bike Month, a celebration of being on a bike as a means to advance the movement to build a Bicycle Friendly America for everyone; and

WHEREAS, bicycling has been shown to improve people's health, well-being, and quality of life, growing the economy of the Village of Oak Park, attracting tourism dollars and local business spending, and reducing congestion and parking costs on our streets and roads; and

WHEREAS, conventional cars and trucks currently account for more than a quarter of Oak Park's greenhouse gas emissions, and a community-wide transition to sustainable modes of transportation such as bicycling is a vital strategy in achieving our Climate Ready Oak Park commitment to reduce emissions; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Oak Park adopted a Vision Zero plan in 2024 with its goal of making the roads safer for everyone, including cyclists, and its implementation will offer environmental, economic, health, transportation, and other benefits to the community; and

WHEREAS, bicycling access and safety are core components of our local transportation system, and the Village of Oak Park affirms our decision-making to plan for and implement local transportation priorities; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Oak Park adopted an update to its Bike Plan in 2025, building on the Village's foundational work over the past two decades in creating a safer and more accessible community to bike; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Oak Park installed 9.5 miles of bike lanes throughout the community in 2025, anticipates installing an additional 2.5 miles of bike lanes and just over 5 miles of neighborhood greenway this year; and

WHEREAS, throughout May, the Village of Oak Park will celebrate biking and the freedom, the joy, and the well-being it imbues within us, as well as the power that more people riding bikes has in making life better for everyone.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Vicki Scaman, President of the Village of Oak Park and Board of Trustees, do hereby proclaim May 2026 as National Bike Month in the Village of Oak Park, and I urge all residents to join me in this special observance.

DATED this 19th day of May 2026.

Vicki Scaman, Village President

ATTEST:

Christina M. Waters, Village Clerk