



**For Immediate Release:** June 16, 2016

From: David Powers  
Communications Director  
708.358.5781  
[powers@oak-park.us](mailto:powers@oak-park.us)

Contact: Craig Failor  
Village Planner  
708.358.5440  
[cfailor@oak-park.us](mailto:cfailor@oak-park.us)

### **Proposed zoning changes ready for public review**

Decisions are within sight on proposed changes to the local zoning laws that regulate virtually every aspect of land use in Oak Park, and officials are ready to formally unveil their recommendations to the public.

The first draft of recommended changes to the Village zoning ordinance will be presented to the public at open houses scheduled for 3 to 9 p.m., Tues., June 28, and 7 a.m. to 2 p.m., Thurs., June 30 at Village Hall, 123 Madison St.

Residents and property owners are invited to come out and review the recommended changes, ask questions and provide feedback to Village staff and representatives of [Camiros Ltd.](#), the consulting firm helping to guide the review and revision process.

Brief overview presentations are scheduled for 4 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., June 28, and 8 a.m. and noon on June 30, but officials will be on hand throughout the open houses to accommodate the schedules of anyone interested in learning more about the important project.

The effort to develop recommendations for changes to the Village's zoning ordinance has been underway for nearly two years. The goal of the initiative, officials say, is to better align local laws with recommendations in [Envision Oak Park](#), the community's long-range comprehensive plan adopted in late 2014.

"Since the current zoning ordinance and map were reviewed and extensively updated in 2002, the ordinance has been amended multiple times to correct technical issues and add information," said Village Planner Craig Failor, liaison to the Plan Commission, whose citizen volunteers also are involved in the project.

"Although amendments always will be necessary from time to time, the ordinance needs to be thoroughly reviewed and updated now to ensure important objectives in the comprehensive plan are realized. In addition, we need to address what is taking place currently in the marketplace and anticipate future development needs."

A wide range of changes have been discussed in multiple Plan Commission meetings since the process began, as work progresses toward developing a comprehensive set of recommendations for Village Board consideration.

The process also has included interviews with representatives of Village volunteer boards, commissions and committees, business interests, local activist groups, historic preservationists, real estate agents, developers, architects and neighborhood organizations to ensure their varied perspectives were considered.

Property owners interested in learning more before the open houses or who are unable to attend, are urged to visit [www.oakparkzoning.com](http://www.oakparkzoning.com), where the proposed draft is posted along with a wide range of information about the process to date. Public comments also may be posted on the website.

For more information, call 708.358.5440 or email [planning@oak-park.us](mailto:planning@oak-park.us).

###