



# CITY OF OAK PARK

## Corridor Improvement Authority

**Mayor**  
Marian McClellan  
**Mayor Pro Tem**  
Julie Edgar  
**Council Members**  
Solomon Radner  
Shaun Whitehead  
Stephanie Crawford  
**City Manager**  
Erik Tungate

### CITY OF OAK PARK CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES MARCH 12, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. in the Executive Conference Room, City Hall, 14000 Oak Park Blvd, Oak Park, MI 48237 by Chair Novik, and roll call was made.

**PRESENT:** Board Member Novik  
Board Member Edgar  
Board Member Parish  
Board Member Gierada  
Board Member Johnson

**ABSENT:** Board Member Peteet  
Board Member Wujcik

**OTHERS PRESENT:** CIA Manager Michelle Bishop  
Deputy City Clerk Jo Lynn Williams-Elliott

#### **3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA OF MARCH 12, 2026**

**MOTION by Edgar, SECONDED by Varish** to approve the agenda for March 12, 2026.

**VOTE:** Yes: All  
No: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 19, 2026**

**MOTION by Edgar, SECONDED by Johnson** to approve the minutes of February 19, 2026, as submitted.

**VOTE:** Yes: All  
No: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

**5. MISSION STATEMENT:** The mission statement was read by Chair Tom Novik

#### **6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- A. 11 Mile Water Tower Social District Mural Project/Mural Update – Bishop shared a visual concept provided by the artist with some previous changes included, which included removing the bad mitten images, changing the gear shape color, and changing the OP logo transition. Mural will be submitted to City Council for final approval on 4/8. Muralist plans to start 4/9.

**MOTION** by Edgar and seconded by Gierada to approve the mural with the new changes.

**VOTE:** Yes: ALL  
No: NONE

### **MOTION CARRIED**

- B. Future Event Options– Edgar and Novik teamed up to pare down Bishop’s idea list. Some of the considered options include: Friday Concert Series, Food Truck Rally, Sunday Funday, Groove after the Cruise, Taste of Oak Park, OP Masterclass, Valentine’s Day Business Swap, Self-care Night, Winter 5k, and possibly partner with the Water Tower District business on events they have in motion already (i.e. Market on Mother’s Day, Kentucky Derby, Restaurant Night). Another idea was presented by Gierada -Restaurant week and use a passport with stamps. Passports could be potentially used for other businesses as well in the future.  
Novick asked the group to bring new ideas or ideas to strengthen the presented options to the next meeting.
- C. 2026/2027 Budget / CIP through 2029 – 2028-2029 is currently in the red due to CIP projects (11 Mile road diet/beautification and 9 Mile bike lane continuance) but additional money needs to be allocated. New line items were added and provided to the board, including money for a social media company/intern to create content and help create our business directory. There is money in the budget for Halloween activation (scarecrows) and holiday street pole decorations. *NOTE: There is money allocated for public art and murals, but more research needs to be done on building ages and whether murals can cause further decay. We may need a plan B option on the CIA supported murals.*

### **7. NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Match on Main Grant: The grant is now open to apply. Oak Park has had winners the two prior years. Bishop reached out to inform business owners to let them know about the grant and even held an informational zoom call. Three businesses have expressed that they plan to apply to date and the deadline is April 6<sup>th</sup>. Once all submissions are in, Bishop will send them to the board so they can vote via email since the deadline is prior to the next board meeting in April. The applications from the top two businesses will be forwarded to the MEDC.

### **8. MANAGER UPDATE:**

- Facade grant has 30k allocated for the next few years, asked the board if they want to break it down into specific grants for signs, facades, and murals.
- Landscaping RFP is out and is due March 26<sup>th</sup> to be awarded during the first council meeting in April.
- 9 Mile building RFP is going out soon and will be due April 16<sup>th</sup>.
- July 9<sup>th</sup> is the target date for the kickoff. Still waiting for confirmation from all involved.
- Ribbon cutting scheduled for next week Wednesday for Lifestyle Athletics on 9 Mile.
- MSOC is offering board training for 3 days starting on March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30. The first session will be held at the Oak Park community center.

- April meeting has changed to April 23<sup>rd</sup> because Bishop will be at the Main Street Conference.

**9. BUDGET FINANCE REPORT:** No additional payables during February.

**10. BOARD MEMBER COMMENT:** The Promotions committee is looking for volunteers from the board. There are currently 3 volunteers on the list, and the plan is to have a brainstorming session next week.

**11. PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:27 p.m.

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Jo Lynn Williams-Elliott, Deputy City Clerk