



Terrace Leaves

January • February 2025

A Message From the Mayor



Dear Oakbrook Terrace Residents,

As we begin another year, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your ongoing commitment, support, and dedication to making our community a wonderful place to live.

This year has been one of challenges and triumphs; together, we have overcome many obstacles.

Whether it was through volunteering at local events, participating in town meetings, or simply helping a neighbor in need, your collective efforts have made an incredible difference in the lives of so many.

I am continually inspired by the resilience and spirit of our residents. Your hard work and community involvement have helped us achieve new milestones, from improving streets and curbs to enhancing our public services, ensuring that our City remains a safe and vibrant place for families to thrive.

I would also like to extend my deepest thanks to the dedicated City staff, local businesses, and community organizations who have worked tirelessly to support our shared goals. It is because of your collective efforts that we have been able to move forward and continue building a stronger, more connected community.

Thank you to everyone who attended the Veterans Day Remembrance Event this year. We must commemorate the sacrifices made by the members of our armed services and those residents of Oakbrook Terrace who bravely served our country. For more than 50 years, we have celebrated the Children's Holiday Party and Tree Lighting event. We had a great turnout, and our hard-working City staff and volunteers should be commended for putting on this great event.

2024 Financial Highlights

- The City is seeing even better performance in the Business District, with sales tax revenue up 17% vs. November of the prior year. Growth is mainly due to economy-driven price increases and new business grand openings.
- Drury Lane's entertainment taxes have generated \$178,759 in FY24/25.
- Hotel/Motel revenue has remained constant in line with FY24. With an increased budget amount, we aim to see revenue exceed \$1,681,875 vs. last year of \$1,669,664.
- Food and Beverage Eating Tax, as well as its companion, Alcoholic Beverage Tax, have generated \$725,843 in revenue.
- Video Gaming revenue continues to increase and will exceed \$584,000 in FY24/25.

- Total city revenues are projected to exceed budgetary amounts above \$400,000 due predominantly to better-than-expected tax proceeds related to home rule sales tax, sales tax, business district sales tax, hotel tax, and income tax, which have offset any losses that may be incurred due to a decrease in traffic light enforcement revenue.

- We have completed and started numerous projects this year: City Strategic and Comprehensive Plan, continued installation of additional Flock Cameras, curb installation, new water SCADA system, sealing of city streets, BSA implementation, and completion of Mac Arthur Drive "No through traffic" signs.

- Lastly, through November of this year, the City received \$115,000 in grant funds. The funds have been used for various capital improvement needs throughout the city.

In the upcoming year we will continue to keep our property taxes one of the lowest in the county, keep public safety a priority, offer free disposal of refuse, clean streets and the most efficient snow removal program in the County.

We will also carry on our community events, such as the Easter Egg Hunt and basket giveaway, Fourth of July community lunch and raffle concluding with a Fireworks display, fourth annual Summer Concert Series, National Night Out, Pumpkins In the Park, Veterans Day Ceremony, and of course, ending the year with the Children's Holiday Party, and lighting of the City's Christmas tree.

As we look ahead to the new year, I am excited for the opportunities that await us. With your continued involvement, I am confident that we will keep making progress, addressing new challenges, and working together to create an even brighter future for our City.

I am proud of all the accomplishments that the City was able to achieve in 2024. Once again, our City is in great financial shape, with a strong fund balance and operating reserves. I also want to thank our City Council Members for all of their dedication and hard work in making this possible.

Thank you to our Planning & Zoning Department, City Staff, and Public Works Department, as well as our Police Commission and Police Department, for all your efforts and hard work in keeping the City operating safely in 2024.

On behalf of the entire Oakbrook Terrace City Council, I want to wish you and your loved ones a joyful, peaceful, and prosperous New Year. Again, thank you for your dedication, passion, and for being such an essential part of our community.

I am proud of Oakbrook Terrace and proud to be your Mayor. I wish you and your family all the best in the coming year.

Sincerely,
Mayor Paul Esposito

SNOW SHOVELING SAFETY



Shoveling snow is strenuous work. It can cause muscle strains and back injuries, especially if you do not lift properly. It can also put severe stress on your heart, leading to a possible heart attack.



Before you start shoveling, move and stretch your muscles to warm them up.



Layer your clothing to keep muscles warm and flexible.



Avoid caffeine and nicotine before beginning to shovel, as stimulants, they may increase your heart rate and cause your blood vessels to constrict.



Use a shovel with a handle that is long enough to let you keep your back just about straight when lifting. An ergonomic shovel with a bent handle is better than one with a straight handle.



Take it slow. Shoveling can raise your heart rate and blood pressure dramatically.



Most importantly, listen to your body. Don't shovel to the point of exhaustion. If you are out of breath, take a break. If you feel tightness in your chest, stop immediately.



Drink plenty of water, avoid dehydration.



Push the snow whenever possible rather than lifting it.



Lift smaller loads of snow.



Lift with your legs bent and your back as straight as possible.



Step in the direction you are throwing the snow. This will help to avoid twisting your lower back.



ILLINOIS PUBLIC RISK FUND
Cost Control Through Cooperation Since 1985



A Little Bit of History

By the Oakbrook Terrace Historical Society

Reprinted from the City of Oakbrook Terrace 1994 West Fest Brochure

The Past...

In the 1880s, the area now known as Butterfield Road and Summit Avenue was already a great place to conduct business. Albert Knapp opened a creamery and cheese factory there when it was called The Corners, and the dairy farmers followed to make their homes in the area. It was a great place to live, too, but some residents complained that they had trouble getting their special delivery mail and Christmas packages.

Dr. Frederick Bates, then Elmhurst postmaster, suggested establishing a Class J Post Office there, and calling it Utopia. The Post Office only lasted until 1903, but the name stayed. A one-room Utopia school operated until 1947, and the City of Utopia was incorporated on June 24, 1958. It wasn't until a November 1959 referendum that the name was changed to Oakbrook Terrace, which was the original name of a proposed regional shopping center to be built there.

Although the shopping center property that became Oak Brook Center was disannexed from the City, it remained in the Oakbrook Terrace Park District and in Salt Creek School District 48. An area of single-family homes had been built between Butterfield

Road and 22nd Street and Route 83 and Summit Avenue, many of them after World War II. The curving subdivision streets commemorated war heroes, like MacArthur, Nimitz, Eisenhower and Patton.

In the suburban Baby Boom, decades after the war, Oakbrook Terrace became a magnet for inexpensive family fun activities. There was a drive-in movie theater, miniature golf courses, and a compact amusement park, Dispensa's Kiddy Kingdom. Later, a go-cart track and water park opened in the vicinity.

Corporate real estate developers were also discovering Oakbrook Terrace for its convenient location, attractive open land availability, and low municipal tax rate. As more major corporations and retailers built offices and stores, the commercial areas of the city grew around the established residential neighborhood.

While business growth has attracted the most attention to Oakbrook Terrace in recent years, with a number of Fortune 500 firms operating in the community, a tranquil setting for family life remains the center of the city.

*Please visit us on Wednesdays from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
17W245 16th Street, Oakbrook Terrace
Call 630-834-8661*



Explore the City's Restaurant Guide for a Culinary Experience

Feeling exhausted from cooking every night? Why not take a break and let one of our City's forty-plus restaurants handle dinner for you? Explore the diverse culinary offerings conveniently listed in the City's restaurant guide, available on our website at oakbrookterrace.net/community/page/restaurants. Treat yourself to various dining options and discover a world of flavors right here in our community. Say goodbye to kitchen duty and hello to a delightful dining experience. Check out the restaurant guide today!

Oakbrook Terrace Police Station Official Community Warming Center

With the potential for cold weather this winter, residents are reminded that in the event of weather emergencies, the Oakbrook Terrace Police Station is an official community warming center. For more information, please call the Police Department non-emergency number at 630-941-8320.



Monday, February 17 City Hall Closed for President's Day

City Departments CORNER

Community Development Department

Around Town New Businesses – Open Now!!!

Advanced Hair Restoration – 2 Mid America Plaza, Suite 915

Advanced Hair specializes in transforming lives with simple, one-day hair restoration treatments that deliver lasting, natural results. Their Advanced FUE® hair transplant technology provides a minimally invasive solution that uses your own natural hair—guaranteed to grow for life.

Whether you're looking to restore your hairline, thicken thinning areas, or achieve a full transformation, their expert team is dedicated to helping you regain confidence with results that speak for themselves. Schedule a free consultation at advancedhair.com.



Lily Bridal – 17W170 22nd St.

At Lily Bridal, step into a world of enchantment. Their collection celebrates romance with ethereal gowns, delicate lace, and shimmering beadwork. Feel like a princess on your special day. Schedule a time to see their collection at 331-979-7153.

Nano Brow Art – 17W300 22nd St.

Nano Brow Art has opened its doors, offering cutting-edge permanent makeup services like Nano Brows, Ombre Brows, lip blushing, and eyeliner enhancements. Nano Brow Art focuses on enhancing natural beauty through gentle, precise techniques.

Whether you're looking for a polished, everyday look or a confidence boost, this is your chance to support a local business dedicated to artistry and care. Learn more or book a consultation at Nano Brow Art at nanobrowart.com.



Police

New Traffic Signs

"No Through Traffic" signs have been installed on MacArthur Drive, between Stillwell Road and Karban Road. This action has been taken in response to the feedback received from the community and after careful consideration of traffic patterns in the area.

These signs were installed to improve the safety and quality of life for residents by reducing unnecessary traffic



Evolution – 1S132 Summit Avenue, Suite 108

A holistic wellness therapy center that uses a three approach system to restore and heal the body and mind. They harness the power of the body by treating the physical, mental, and emotional components in tandem, leaving you transformed from the inside out. Check out the full range of treatment options at evolucionhealth.com and schedule a service today.



Tranquility Hydrotherapy, 17W580 Butterfield Road Second Floor, Unit G

At Tranquility Hydrotherapy, they believe that a healthy scalp is the foundation of beautiful, strong hair and they understand that scalp wellness is essential not only for vibrant hair growth but also for overall well-being. A well-nourished scalp promotes circulation, balances oil production, and prevents issues such as dandruff, dryness, and hair thinning.



As pioneers in scalp care, Tranquility Hydrotherapy offers an unparalleled experience, combining the highest quality organic products, state-of-the-art equipment, and tailored, unique services designed to deliver the ultimate relaxation and rejuvenation. Discover the transformative power of expert scalp care and experience the pinnacle of luxury by scheduling an appointment at tranquilityhydrotherapy.com. Enhance your experience even further by joining their membership rewards program.

Furnace Filter Maintenance

With the cold weather season upon us, keeping our homes warm is a necessity, and maintaining the furnace is a big part. Furnace filter maintenance is key to keeping the furnace running strong and extending its life. By not changing the filter, lack of airflow through the furnace may cause it to overheat and shut the unit down, leading to costly repairs. Develop a schedule to check the filter monthly. If you can no longer see light through the filter, change the filter. Clean filters keep air quality high and energy bills low.

flow and congestion. By restricting access to through traffic, we hope to create a more peaceful environment for everyone living in the area.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in observing the new traffic regulations. Thank you for your continued support.

New Police Officer Jennifer Portillo

Officer Jennifer Portillo was hired by the Oakbrook Terrace Police Department on September 16, 2024, and successfully completed her training in December 2024. Please join us in congratulating Officer Portillo.



City Departments CORNER

Public Services



2024-25 Driveway Snow Removal Program

The City provides a Private Driveway Snowplowing Program. On behalf of the Mayor and City Council, we welcome your participation in the program for this year if you meet the following requirements:

- Only residents who cannot shovel snow due to a temporary or permanent disability, regardless of age, are eligible. You must provide a statement from a medical doctor verifying that your disability prevents you from shoveling snow.
- If a resident has a permanent disability that will prevent them from shoveling snow for the foreseeable future, a yearly verification of disability is not required, but an application form does need to be completed on a yearly basis.
- If a residence also houses an able-bodied person, besides the disabled resident, the disabled resident will not be eligible.
- If more than one person resides in the house, a doctor's note will be required for each individual stating that they are disabled.

- A seasonal charge of \$50.00 is required prior to the start of the program. This charge covers all winter plowing, no matter how many snowstorms occur. There will be no refunds of this fee if there is little or no snow this year and plowing is not required.
- This program is for removal of snow on driveways only, not sidewalks.
- You must sign the waiver of liability that is provided in the packet and return it to the City.

Participants should be aware that driveway clearing will only take place after a snowfall of two inches or more and driveways will be cleared after all streets and public facilities have been done.

Packets for the Private Driveway Snow Removal Program are available at City Hall for residents to pick up effective November 1, 2024.

City Salting & Snow Removal Policy

Residents are asked to follow the city's salting and snow removal policies to support efficient removal of snow and ice from local roads while assuring traffic safety.

- * The City only plows and salts City streets, dead ends and cul-de-sacs; the only exception is if the City agrees to provide service by contract and is compensated accordingly, or if a handicapped resident resides there who has been approved to participate in the City's private driveway snow removal program (see above).
- * The City does not provide snow removal from sidewalks or driveway entrances. The only exception is the driveway snow removal program.
- * Snow removal operations follow established snowplow routes, chosen to allow for optimum use of City equipment, manpower and supplies. Snow removal is conducted on City streets and City property only, with the only exception as identified in the private driveway snow removal program.

- * The City prohibits parking on all City streets, dead ends and cul-de-sacs after a 1" snowfall. This allows snow crews to clear the streets without the potential for a collision between a parked car and a snowplow or salt truck.
- * City snowplows discharge snow from the streets toward the adjacent parkway and driveway, sometimes creating windrows of snow at driveway entrances. It is impossible to prevent this; it is a by-product of our effort to clear streets of snow accumulation in the safest and most efficient manner.
- * Residents are prohibited from shoveling snow from their driveways into the street where it can become compact and harden into ice mounds, creating a dangerous safety hazard for motorists and emergency vehicles.
- * Residents are asked to keep mailbox doors closed to prevent damage.
- * City snow crews try to minimize the mounding of snow around fire hydrants, but plows are designed to discharge snow into the unpaved parkway, making it difficult. Any assistance that homeowners can provide to keep fire hydrants in front of their home visible is greatly appreciated by the City and the Fire Protection Districts serving City residents.

2025 Brush Pick-Up Dates

Brush pick-ups will take place on Mondays on the following dates:

April 7 and 28	May 12	June 2 and 23
July 14	August 4 and 25	September 15
October 6 and 27		



CITY OF OAKBROOK TERRACE

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Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181
www.oakbrookterrace.net

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Oakbrook Terrace Pet Regulations

All dogs and cats residing in Oakbrook Terrace must be vaccinated for rabies and owners must have a rabies vaccination tag, typically provided by the veterinarian at the time of the vaccination. In addition, City ordinance requires that pets be leashed when not enclosed on their own property. As a courtesy, please respect your neighbors and clean up after your pet and do not let your pet run on the property of others. To help protect your pet in the event that it is lost, you may register it with the Oakbrook Terrace Police Department with your contact information, needed information about the pet and your pet's photo.

Preventing Frozen Water Pipes

Residents are reminded that water pipes can freeze and burst during very cold weather, but by taking precautions, this can usually be prevented. The following are some steps you can take on very cold days:



- ✓ Use insulation around exposed pipes and water meters
- ✓ If pipes are located against exterior walls, expose them to the warm air in the house
- ✓ If your kitchen or bathroom sink is located against an outside wall of the house, leave the cabinet door open to allow the warmer air to circulate around the pipes
- ✓ Run water in a trickle from pipes near outside walls

Villa Park Library Card

As of May 1, 2024, library cards are a flat \$20 to all residents through April 30, 2025. The library card provides access to all of the library's resources. For more information, please visit www.villapark.lib.il.us/.

Water Bill Payments

The City accepts Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover for payment of water bills. In addition, there are other ways to pay your Oakbrook Terrace water bill: have it debited automatically from your checking account, mail it in, or drop your payment into the convenient drop-box located at the Butterfield Road entrance to City Hall. You can also now pay your water bill over the phone with a credit card by calling 630-941-8300, ext. 242, or pay online by visiting www.oakbrookterrace.net. If paying by mail, please send it no less than five mailing days before the due date to avoid a penalty for late payment. Please note that water bills are mailed to residents on a bi-monthly basis. IF YOU ARE MOVING, please call City Hall at 630-941-8300, ext. 242, to schedule a final reading.

Phone Numbers

For City Services:

POLICE	Emergency	911
	Information.....	630-941-8320
FIRE EMERGENCY	.....	911
MAYOR	.....	630-941-8300, EXT. 208
CITY CLERK	.....	630-941-8300, EXT. 206
CITY ADMINISTRATOR	.....	630-941-8300, EXT. 207
ASSISTANT TO THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR	.....	630-941-8300, EXT. 267
ADMINISTRATION	.....	630-941-8300, EXT. 202
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	.....	630-941-8300, EXT. 209
CODE ENFORCEMENT	.....	630-941-8300, EXT. 265
PUBLIC SERVICES	.....	630-941-1651
WATER BILLING	.....	630-941-8300, EXT. 242
SPECIAL EVENTS	.....	630-941-8300, EXT. 267
OBT PARK DISTRICT	.....	630-627-6100
YORK CENTER PARK DISTRICT	.....	630-629-0886

January/February 2025 City of Oakbrook Terrace

Mayor Paul Esposito
City Clerk Michael Shadley
City Administrator Jim Ritz

Ward III: Ald. Mary Fitzgerald Ext. 273
Ald. Robert Rada Ext. 275

Ward II: Ald. Frank Vlach Ext. 276
Ald. Dennis Greco Ext. 274

Ward I: Ald. Charlie Barbari Ext. 271
Ald. Joseph Beckwith Ext. 272

Monthly Meetings:

City Council — 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 7 p.m.
Planning & Zoning Commission — 1st & 3rd Tues., 6 p.m.
Police Commission — 2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Police Pension Board — 2nd Monday of the quarter

CITY HALL HOURS
Mon.-Fri. 8:30 am - 4:30 pm