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**Citizens Invited to Discuss Public Health Interests with Legislators**

With the future approach of how to deal with some of the most pressing public health issues likely to be determined by legislation, the Oak Park Department of Public Health has invited area lawmakers to participate in an open dialogue with voters from 7:30 – 9:30 p.m., Wed., Aug. 25 at Village Hall, 123 Madison St.

State Senator Don Harmon (D-39th) and State Representative Karen A. Yarbrough (D-7th) have said they plan to participate, and Health Department officials expect other legislators to take part as well.

“Given the role of legislation in how public health issues are addressed it is important for voters and lawmakers to discuss their views and concerns face to face,” said Oak Park Department of Health Director Georgeen Polyak, PhD. “We hope to create a forum where an open and informative dialogue can occur.”

Among the health issues likely to be discussed are legislation to address tobacco and alcohol use, HIV/AIDs prevention, lead poisoning prevention, health insurance coverage for children and health disparities among various income groups within the community.

Each elected official has been invited to spend 10 minutes outlining what he or she believes are the most pertinent public issues, followed by an information question and answer period.

Anyone wishing to attend is asked to call 708.358.5480 or email [health@oak-park.us](mailto:health@oak-park.us).

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