

Community Meeting Notice for

## Chicago and Harlem Avenues District Plan

The Village of Oak Park is initiating a neighborhood planning study for improving the Chicago Avenue and Harlem Avenue District. The southern boundary of the district is Harlem at Ontario Street, the northern boundary is Chicago / Harlem intersection and Belleforte Street intersection on Chicago Avenue to the east. (The Oak Park Village boundary along Harlem Avenue is the western boundary.)

The Village would like to invite you to participate in this planning study by attending a series of community meetings in your district. Public involvement in the planning process is very important in establishing a shared vision for this district which will ultimately result in better planning decisions because you, your neighbors and local business and property owners will all be involved in the creation of the plan recommendations.

**Solomon Cordwell Buenz (SCB) Team:** The Village of Oak Park has selected the *Solomon Cordwell Buenz* planning team to conduct this study; their team incorporates *Business Districts Inc.* (BDI) for market related issues, *Fish Transportation Group* (FTG) for transportation and parking issues.

*The following is the list of community meeting dates, locations and topics:*

**Location for all three Community Sessions:** Holley Court Terrace, 1111 Ontario (Harlem and Ontario), 2nd Floor, Oak Park Room, Oak Park, IL 60301 (Parking available in the Holley Court Garage)

➤ **COMMUNITY SESSION I: Tuesday September 11, 2007, 7-9 PM**

This meeting will focus on identifying critical issues in the district. The planning team will present initial district findings, observations and development strategies with an interactive community dialogue to identify critical issues for the Chicago/Harlem District.

➤ **COMMUNITY SESSION II: Thursday October 25, 2007, 7-9 PM**

This meeting will focus on a wide variety of ideas for improving the business district from the perspective of the physical image, to increasing the market potential of the existing and future businesses. The team will present a variety of planning alternatives for consideration by and feed back from the community. These alternatives will include design guidelines, development ideas and business strategies for establishing a future vision for the Chicago/Harlem District.

➤ **COMMUNITY SESSION III: Tuesday December 11, 2007 7-9 PM**

This meeting will focus on reaching consensus on the plan recommendations and community priorities. This will be an informative presentation by the team which summarizes the plan recommendations for feedback and prioritization of key components.

**NOTE:** *If you are unable to attend a community session or wish to review or comment on the project, a special web site will be created which can be accessed via the Village of Oak Park's web site at [www.oak-park.us](http://www.oak-park.us). All of the information presented and gathered at the community sessions will be posted on the project web site. Also, a special e-mail address ([ChicagoHarlemPlan@oak-park.us](mailto:ChicagoHarlemPlan@oak-park.us)) has been created for public use at any stage of the process where you can comment or ask questions about the planning process. Your e-mails will be sent directly to the Village Planner and Solomon Cordwell Buenz's project manager. You can also contact the Village by telephone at 708/358-5418.*