

Oak Park, Illinois Referenda Voter Frequently Asked Questions

What is a referenda?

- A referendum is a question on the ballot about a public policy issue.
- It places a public policy question before voters for a yes-or-no vote.
- In Oak Park, and across Illinois, referenda are one method used for voters to make these decisions.

What types of referenda might I see on my ballot?

Binding	Advisory	Township
Becomes law	Public opinion	Annual Meeting process
Must be implemented	Not binding	May go to ballot

How does a referendum get on the ballot?

Residents → Collect signatures → File petition
- OR -
Governing Body → Passes Ordinance/Resolution
- OR -
Township Meeting → Vote at meeting

This information is provided for educational purposes only.

For more information, please contact:

Village Clerk Christina M. Waters

clerk@oak-park.us

708.358.5670

www.oak-park.us/clerk



November 2026 General Gubernatorial Election

Referenda Deadlines

- **August 3, 2026:** File petitions
- **August 10, 2026:** File objections
- **August 17, 2026:** Board approval deadline
- **August 27, 2026:** Certification deadline

Register & Vote

- **October 6, 2026:** Registration closes
- **October 7 – November 2, 2026:** Grace period voting
- **October 18, 2026:** Online registration closes
- **October 19 – November 2, 2026:** Early voting

Vote by Mail

- **August 5, 2026:** Apply
- **October 29, 2026:** Request deadline

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