

Community Restroom

The Village of Oak Park is looking at options for a community restroom to benefit public health and reduce the strain on local businesses that allow access to their facilities. The community restroom is intended to be a service for residents, tourists, commuters and individuals experiencing homelessness. Plans, which are subject to Village Board approval, call for the public restroom to offer 24/7 access to an ADA compliant restroom facility with a changing table and a sharp object disposal box. The final location of the community restroom is intended to be in a public area near public transit, local businesses and parks to benefit the community, deter crime and reduce waste in common areas.



The Village is looking at the design of the Portland Loo as the prototype for a community restroom in Oak Park.



Potential location of community restroom near Marion Street and North Boulevard.

Proposed Maintenance Plan

Measures for cleanliness: The Village's contracted maintenance company will include the community restroom on its daily cleaning schedule. The restroom will be cleaned and restocked with supplies twice a day.

Servicing of unit: If the community restroom needs servicing, whether it be a broken lock, clogged toilet or frozen pipes, the Village's contracted maintenance company will take care of any servicing needs.

Graffiti control: There is a graffiti proof powder coat on all of the internal and external sides of the unit to help reduce the chances of it being tagged, while also making it easy to clean. If the unit is scratched, the Village's Public Works Department will be able to buff the surface to erase any markings, since the unit is made of stainless steel.

Sharp-object disposal: Items placed in the sharp-object disposal box in the community restroom will be taken by the Village's contracted maintenance company to the Public Works Center for proper disposal.

Proposed Security Plan

Hours of operation: The community restroom is intended to be open to the public 24/7, 365 days a year. The restroom is capable of being locked, if needed, and use will be assessed to determine if 24/7 access is needed and safe for the community.

Security staffing: The community restroom will be added to the Oak Park Police Department's 40-beat patrol route to ensure up to five (5) security checks will be completed during each shift, for a total of 15 checks during a 24-hour period.

Occupancy: The Portland Loo is designed to have louvers on the top and bottom of the restroom to allow for privacy while utilizing the space, but to also help ensure individuals use the space for intended purposes.

Combating drug usage: A blue light in the community restroom is utilized to deter intravenous drug usage as the light inhibits individuals from locating veins. In addition, there will be a sharp-object disposal box located in the community restroom.

Fire prevention: The Portland Loo is constructed out of stainless steel. All contents of the Loo are also made of stainless steel, minimizing the possibility of it catching on fire. It is also designed with louvers on the top and bottom that allow circulation within the unit.