

Organization

Downtown Oak Park

Harlem/Lake/Marion Corporation was established in 1988 as a 501 C(6). It was organized for the purpose of promoting the development and expansion of business within Special Service Area Number One. * *The organization is up for renewal every 5 years. It will be up for renewal 2023.*

Geographic Area: Harlem Avenue to Ontario Street to Forest Avenue to North Boulevard

Mission Statement: “Our mission is to create and support a thriving and vibrant business environment in Downtown Oak Park”

Vision Statement: “The DTOP association will be the lead agent in building a highly successful and dynamic business environment that serves its members and community”

Purpose

- Development and implementation of promotional and advertising campaigns
- Establish uniform standards of property maintenance relating to appearance and operation of businesses
- Schedule civic and cultural events in Special Service Area Number One
- Establish uniform standards in the area; enhance the physical environment of the public areas surrounding the business locations of its Members
- Assist members in providing physical improvements to their properties.

Downtown Oak Park will work toward creating an environment, which will increase retail and other business activity within the area and achieve a viable tenant mix.

Funding

Each Member shall be either an Owner or Merchant in Special Service Area Number One. Each Member must pay annual dues (\$50/year) and assessments established from time to time by the Board of Directors. *Merchants and property owners must be a paid member to have voting rights.*

DTOP 's budget is funded by a special service tax that is placed on the commercial properties in the geographic area defined at SSA #1. DTOP receives these funds through the Village of Oak Park on a quarterly basis.

Events and sponsorships are a stream of revenue but the costs of the events put on usually out way the money brought in from them.

