



# CITY OF OAK PARK

## Office of the City Manager

**Mayor**  
Marian McClellan  
**Mayor Pro Tem**  
Paul Levine  
**Council Members**  
Michael Seligson  
Carolyn Burns  
Kiesha Speech  
**City Manager**  
Erik Tungate

CITY HALL • 14000 Oak Park Blvd., Oak Park, MI 48237 • Ph: (248) 691-7589 • [www.ci.oak-park.mi.us](http://www.ci.oak-park.mi.us)

PRESS RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Denise DeSantis,  
(O) 248- 691-7589 | (C) 248-514-3940  
[d-desantis@ci.oak-park.mi.us](mailto:d-desantis@ci.oak-park.mi.us)

### **City of Oak Park Responds to Reports of Inappropriate Handling of City Funds by Former Employee**

*You may have seen or read a news report announcing that a former employee of the City of Oak Park is under investigation for inappropriate handling of City funds. Generally, it is our policy not to comment on items that are under current investigation as it may jeopardize the ongoing case. However, due to the media attention and resident inquiries, and in the interest of transparent and responsive governing, I can make the following statement at this time:*

**September 14, 2015, Oak Park, Michigan** – The subject matter at hand is currently under investigation and the person of interest has not yet been formally charged. This limits our ability to disclose details. At this time, I can disclose that the person of interest was promptly terminated from employment after an internal investigation determined there were grounds for termination. Any and all funds lost have been returned to the City through appropriate insurance coverage. The matter has been handed to the Oakland County Sheriff where it remains under active investigation.

At this time, I would like to assure the residents and business owners of Oak Park that the City takes great pride in maintaining extremely strict financial management policies and practices. After the discovery of this matter the City's policies and procedures underwent additional review and scrutiny. As a result, I instituted additional safeguards to protect against situations like this from happening in the future. Oak Park is a financially sound community.

In fact, the City of Oak Park was recently awarded – for the 21st consecutive year - the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, or CAFR, for its comprehensive annual financial report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014. The CAFR is issued by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada and is considered one of the most prestigious awards within government for having the highest level of excellence in financial management and reporting. In order to be awarded a CAFR, an impartial panel of individuals with expertise in public sector financial reporting review submissions for evidence that the government entity goes beyond the minimum requirements of generally accepted accounting principles to prepare a comprehensive annual financial report that provides the spirit of transparency and full disclosure.

In addition, this past week Standard & Poor's revised the City's debt credit rating to an A+ positive from an A+ stable rating. In their report, S&P rated the City of Oak Park as having adequate economy, strong management, strong budgetary performance, very strong budgetary flexibility, very strong liquidity, very weak debt and contingent liability profile, and a strong institutional framework.

The City of Oak Park is a responsible, financially stable and growing community. While unfortunate incidents such as this happen in both the public and private sectors, the City of Oak Park will not tolerate inappropriate behavior in City operations as evidenced by the swift and decisive handling of this matter. Be assured, the City is protecting its funds and is in the strongest financial position it has been in for several years.

We will provide further updates at the appropriate time. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully,



Erik Tungate  
City Manager, City of Oak Park

*The City of Oak Park is situated on the southern-most border of Oakland County, Michigan, and serves as a suburban ambassador to Detroit. Incorporated as a city in 1945, Oak Park's current population exceeds 29,300 and is home to more than 500 local businesses, including corporate headquarters.*

###