

# Park District of Oak Park

## 2026 Park Report Card

### Executive Summary

As part of an ongoing commitment to maintaining safe, attractive, and welcoming parks, two staff members conducted individual inspections of all 18 Park District parks. Each park was evaluated for signs of damage, defacement, maintenance needs, and potential safety hazards. Collectively, the parks achieved an **average condition score of 89%**, demonstrating that the Park District's parks are generally in strong overall condition.

Performance remained consistently high across all park size categories. **Tier 1 parks (less than 1 acre) averaged 86.5%; Tier 2 parks (1–3 acres) averaged 91.6%; Tier 3 parks (3–7 acres) averaged 88%; and Tier 4 parks (7+ acres) averaged 90%.** Andersen Park achieved a perfect **100% score**, with no noticeable issues identified during the inspection.

The most common maintenance issue identified across the system was **fencing requiring fresh paint and minor repairs**. Other recurring observations included aging or damaged signage, localized playground turf deterioration, minor sidewalk trip hazards, and cosmetic damage to tennis courts and other amenities. Several issues were associated with ongoing construction or recent special events and were therefore temporary or already being addressed.

A key strength of the inspection process was the Park District's immediate response to identified deficiencies. **All items identified during the inspections were entered into MaintainX as work orders**, creating a documented process for assigning, tracking, and completing corrective maintenance. Several issues had already been resolved by the time of reporting, including the non-functioning water fountain at Austin Gardens and the missing swing component at Carroll Park.

Overall, the assessment indicates that the Park District's park system is **well maintained, with most identified deficiencies being minor, localized, and manageable through routine maintenance and asset replacement programs**. The inspection also provides valuable system-wide data that can be used to prioritize work, identify recurring maintenance needs, anticipate capital replacement requirements, and support proactive asset management.

The findings reinforce the importance of regular park inspections and a data-driven maintenance approach. By systematically evaluating every park, documenting deficiencies, and converting findings into trackable work orders, the Park District is strengthening accountability while ensuring that parks remain safe, functional, attractive, and responsive to community needs.

All Park Details:

**Andersen Park:**

Andersen was the only park that scored 100% with no noticeable issues on the day of inspection.

**Austin Gardens:**

Austin Gardens was still showing some signs of the Festival Theater stage being on the grass for the summer and the water fountain along the building was not functioning. The fountain was discovered to have been connected to a breaker that was tripped and has since been fixed.

**Barrie Park:**

Barrie had a lot of fences and banisters that paint was missing from with some of the railings showing rust. There are a few signs that are reaching their end of life that are already being looked at for replacement by our marketing team.

**Carroll Park:**

Carroll similarly had many areas along the fence that require painting, though the fence itself is in good shape. There was a missing play piece swing on the playground that has since been returned to the playground after receiving repairs. There were a few noted spots on the sidewalks that could be trip/fall hazards.

**Euclid Park:**

Euclid's playground turf has several cosmetic damaged areas that need to be repaired. The tennis courts similarly have some torn spots and cracks.

**Field Park:**

Due to the construction the areas examined were limited. There was a water fountain out of order due to the work being done on the water lines for the new Field Center. More signs require replacement similar to what was seen at Barrie.

**Fox Park:**

Fox has some rules signs ready for replacement. Despite the playground showing its age, it was in surprisingly great shape!

**Lindberg Park:**

Lindberg has some signs needing replacement. Painting is also needed for many of the fences there. The playground turf has areas of damage that need to be filled or replaced.

**Longfellow Park:**

Longfellow had much more limited scope due to the ongoing construction there. Some uneven sidewalk areas were noted.

**Maple Park:**

Maple Tennis Courts were under construction. There were signs that were damaged or defaced. Fences require paint and some minor repairs.

**Mills Park:**

There were some signs requiring replacement and a trash can lid that had a crack in it.

**Randolph Park:**

A few areas of turf and grass that were damaged and could be a tripping hazard. The fence needed a few spots repainted and the bench nearest Oak Park Avenue had been slightly damaged. A few stickers on the exercise equipment are beginning to become damaged and faded.

**Rehm Park:**

The lawns at Rehm recently had a few vehicle incidents that left tracks in some areas near the sidewalk along Gunderson. The dug up areas from the work the Village had done had been recently repaired and looked good.

**Ridgeland Common Field:**

The fences had a few areas that required paint and repairs. The walls and fence that surrounded the dog park were also damaged and required attention. More signs that require replacement.

**Scoville Park:**

Minor damage from squirrels to trash cans. The tennis courts had a large number of mostly cosmetic cracks showing.

**Stevenson Park:**

Fences require painting and repairs from damage. Playground had a recently created hole burned into a play feature that staff were made aware of.

**Taylor Park:**

Some sidewalks were uneven creating potential tripping hazards. Discovered areas of a berm near the tennis courts where it appeared that children had been digging ramps to ride their bikes.

**Wenonah Park:**

Playground turf shows some wear and tear around some play features.