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## News from Town Hall

## August 2018

### Town Hall

#### Town Meetings:

**August 1** - Oakland Pointe HOA Meeting - 7:00 p.m. (HTH)

**August 14** - School Advisory Committee - 4:00 p.m. (HTH)

**August 14 & 28** - Commission Meeting - 7:00 p.m. (HTH)

**August 20** - Deer Island HOA Meeting - 6:45 p.m. (HTH)

**August 21** - P & Z Meeting - 6:30 p.m. (HTH)

**August 23** - Johns Landing HOA Meeting - 7:00 p.m. (HTH)

HTH = Historic Town Hall      OMH = Oakland Meeting Hall

### Around Town



For several years, there has been a lot of “talk on the street” about a new civic facility in the planning stages. Well, it’s now officially on the way! The Oakland Town Commission recently awarded a construction contract for what will eventually become known as The Oakland Art and History Center.

Located on the site of the former “little white house”, directly across from the Oakland Town Hall, the facility is envisioned to become a vibrant new addition to the Town Center area. It will provide a new civic venue that will be used primarily as a local history center, and will also be used as a location for other art and cultural purposes. It will also provide much needed public restrooms and possibly a small concession area that could be used by visitors to the West Orange Trail, as well as by our own residents.

You may wonder “Who is paying for all of this?” To begin with, in June of 2016 the Town was the recipient of a

\$225,000.00 financial assistance grant by United Arts of Central Florida. Since then, additional funding has been secured by the collection of Impact Fees being paid by developers of our new subdivisions. We additionally anticipate a reasonable level of financial participation from Orange County Parks and Recreation for constructing the restrooms that the West Orange Trail users will utilize. Since inception of the effort in late 2015, staff has worked diligently on a finance plan that will allow for construction of the facility, and one that will also not be a burden on our existing residents.

### Town Clerk

The Town is seeking volunteers to serve on the Planning and Zoning Board, and the Appearance Review Board. You must be a Town of Oakland resident. The Appearance Review Board has requirements such as an engineering, construction, or architectural background for some positions. If you are interested in serving on one of these important Boards, please contact Town Clerk Kim Gay at [kgay@oaklandfl.gov](mailto:kgay@oaklandfl.gov), or you can visit our website [www.oaklandfl.gov](http://www.oaklandfl.gov) for an application. If you would like information on the duties of these Boards, please contact Town Planner Jay Marder at [jmarder@oaklandfl.gov](mailto:jmarder@oaklandfl.gov).

### Oakland Avenue Charter School

August brings the start of another awesome school year here at Oakland Avenue Charter School. Over the summer break there have been several improvements to our campus, including our brand new main entrance, perimeter fencing, and the addition of our Art and Music learning cottages. We’re excited to welcome back our students on Monday, August 13!

### Planning Department

#### Proposed “Sidewalk-Plus Project”

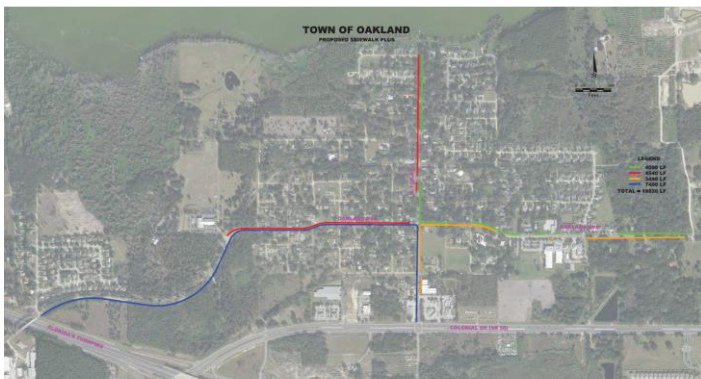
**Overview** - The Town’s recently adopted Mobility Master Plan envisions a fully multimodal, sustainable community that emphasizes walking and bicycling. The first major step to reach that goal for pedestrians must involve the Town’s two main east-west/north-south connectors, Oakland Avenue and Tubb Street. These streets form a plus “+” sign at their intersection; thus, the name “Sidewalk Plus Project”. Oakland Avenue runs

west-to-east about two miles from West Colonial Drive/SR 50 to the Town limits with Winter Garden (the road becomes Plant Street at Tildenville School Road/Avalon Road). Tubb Street runs south-to-north from West Colonial Drive/SR 50 to Lake Apopka, a distance of almost one mile.

**Connecting the Town** - By building sidewalks on these two streets, the Town becomes instantly pedestrianized. With the West Orange Trail, major facilities become connected: Oakland Avenue Charter School, the Oakland Nature Preserve, churches, parks, civic facilities and activity centers for neighborhoods, existing and planned.

**Grant Application** - The Mobility Master Plan gave the Town the ability and justification to request bicycle/pedestrian funding from Metroplan Orlando, the Orlando Urban Area's Metropolitan Planning Organization. All significant transportation funding and projects are planned and approved by Metroplan through a state and federal approval process. Oakland's Mobility Master Plan was funded through Metroplan. In this case the Town's application proposes to be included in Orlando's TIP, or the Five-Year Transportation Improvement Program, updated each year. As submitted in July 2018, the proposal would be placed under the special bicycle/pedestrian category that insures a certain percentage of funding goes to that type of transportation mode.

**Project Map** - The below map depicts the location of the proposed Sidewalk Plus Project. Note that there are several gaps where segments of sidewalks already exist.



**Questions?** Feel free to contact Jay Marder, Planning and Zoning Director, at 407.656.1117, ext. 2107 or [jmarder@oaklandfl.gov](mailto:jmarder@oaklandfl.gov).

## ***Police Department***

As we move in to the heart of hurricane season, memories of Hurricane Irma still linger. Although we were fortunate to not have any loss of life or serious injuries, we did experience scores of power outages, lines and trees down and significant debris covering our roadways. Hurricane Irma was a “wake up call” to many of us as to how important it is to be prepared. Besides the obvious preparations, such as having supplies of food, water, batteries and candles, we recommend a few other important things as well. Walk your property, looking for tree branches that may need to be trimmed; clean out gutters and position the end of the downspout so that the water runs away from your home; if you live in a flood prone area, pick up a few sandbags and store them in your garage or carport; make sure to update your emergency contact

numbers, and have the contact information of a neighbor you can communicate with, should you be away during hurricane season.

Please know that your police department is prepared to assist you in any way possible during weather events such as hurricanes. And, as always, remember to buckle up!

## ***Public Works Department***

### **SPECIAL NOTICE!**

As we have emphasized, hurricane season has arrived! Don't wait until a tropical storm or hurricane is imminent before you begin preparation. Please visit the following websites for even more tips on how you can protect your family, your property and yourself during times of emergency.

<http://www.orangecountyfl.net/EmergencySafety/DisasterPreparedness>

<http://www.orangecountyfl.net/EmergencySafety/HurricaneGuide>

### **Sanitary Sewer - Next Phases**

In July of last year, the Florida State Legislature appropriated an additional \$1,000,000.00 to be utilized in constructing future phases of our sanitary sewer network. This is 100% grant money that we will not have to pay back! The Florida Department of Environmental Protection, which oversees the administration of the funding, has recently approved our plans to extend centralized sewer to the industrial areas of West Oakland Avenue. They also approved our plans for an extension that is expected to bring sewer availability to the South Tubb Street/S.R. 50 area. Once designed and constructed, these improvements are expected to spur economic growth in those areas of the Town.

## ***Oakland Nature Preserve***

### **Happenings**

#### **Cork & Canvas**

Enjoy a special evening of wine, snacks and art. Instructors will guide you to create your own masterpiece as you learn about the plants and animals that call the Preserve home. Supplies provided. Space is limited, so register early:

<http://www.oaklandnaturepreserve.org/cork-canvas/>  
21 and older. Members - \$30, non-members - \$35.

### **Volunteer Opportunities**

- **Community Work Days:** Saturdays - 8:00 a.m.
- **Restoration Projects:** Mondays - 8:00 a.m.  
(Pre-register at [www.OaklandNaturePreserve.org](http://www.OaklandNaturePreserve.org))

### **Upcoming Events**

- **August 4 - Summertime Story Time**
- **August 7 - Insect Safari**
- **August 23 - Cork & Canvas**
- **August 23 - Tai Chi (Advanced) begins**
- **August 25 - Tai Chi (Beginner) begins**

***\*\*Follow us on Facebook to see everything that is happening at Oakland Nature Preserve!***