



CITY OF OAK PARK

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A Message from Oak Park City Manager Erik Tungate

Oak Park City Manager Declines Offer as Grand Traverse County Administrator

July 28, 2017, Oak Park, Michigan – I want to thank the people of Grand Traverse County for their support during the selection process for County Administrator. It has been an honor to receive a formal offer to lead the County to implement their plan to fully fund the retirement system, drive new economic development projects, enhance communications, and work to improve services for all County residents. My admiration for the Grand Traverse area has only grown. Without a doubt, Grand Traverse County has a special place in my heart.

I also want to specifically thank the members of the County Commission for their vote of confidence. In particular, I would like to thank Carol Crawford who is a tremendous asset to her community. I have no doubt Grand Traverse will continue to prosper under her leadership.

Throughout this process, I was reminded that I currently work for one of the best groups of elected officials in the State. Without interference, they have allowed me the latitude to run the daily operations of the City of Oak Park. Working together with our phenomenal administrative team and our great residents, they deserve all of the credit for the City's turnaround. We are continuing to take on our pension liabilities and are pursuing a vast array of new economic development projects. Oak Park is quickly becoming one of the most improved sub-markets in the Metropolitan Detroit region.

That said, I am happy to announce that I have decided to stay in my current position as City Manager of the great City of Oak Park. While the offer to lead Grand Traverse County is a good one, I weighed all factors when making my decision. When I did that, I was reminded that it is not just about me; it is about where I can be most effective in improving the lives of others.

I am forever grateful for the opportunity I have been offered by the people of Grand Traverse County. I am excited to lead Oak Park in its next phase of growth. Whether I am in Grand Traverse County or in Oak Park, I will always be a Michigander and love this great state that we all call home.

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On July 19, 2017, Grand Traverse County Board of Commissioners reached a decision to offer employment to Oak Park City Manager Erik Tungate as Grand Traverse County Administrator. Upon the Board's decision,

information about the Board's intent to offer employment was publicized before Mr. Tungate was formally extended the offer. After careful consideration and appreciation, Mr. Tungate has decided to decline the Board's generous offer. This is Mr. Tungate's formal announcement of that decision. He is choosing to inform the public of his decision in this manner since the information has already been circulated and community members in Oak Park, as well as Grand Traverse County, may be interested to learn of his decision.

Video Message: <https://youtu.be/wl4Ucri-8Ds>

