CHICAGO AVENUE STREETSCAPE
HONORING DR PERCY L. JULIAN

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

GOAL: Despite his boundary-breaking accomplishments, Dr. Percy L. Julian is largely unrecognized. The Dr. Percy Julian Streetscape project seeks to honor his legacy, provide a brand and identity for the district, and facilitate economic development to build meaningful capacity around organizations of the district.

SCOPE: The proposed streetscape will span Chicago Avenue, from his former home on East Avenue to Austin Boulevard, and will include site features and outdoor exhibits that tell the story of Dr. Julian's life. These exhibits, ranging from signage to public art, will integrate into Oak Park's thriving business district along Chicago Avenue to create a cohesive identity for the area and to bolster economic development.

DR. PERCY L. JULIAN:
Dr. Julian was a brilliant chemist, entrepreneur and philanthropist whose work had far reaching impacts in medicine and civil rights advocacy. He and his family were among the first African-American residents to call Oak Park home. Here, Dr. Julian raised his family and became a leader in the fight to end racial discrimination and expand scientific knowledge.

CHICAGO AVE. PROJECT SITE

PROJECT TEAM

PRI
PLANNING RESOURCES INC.

Planning Resources Inc. (PRI) will lead the design team. PRI is a landscape architecture and urban design firm celebrating its 43rd year in business with the mission to create attractive and functional solutions where people live, work, and play. PRI has worked in Oak Park for over a decade to create award-winning public spaces.

Leading the PRI team is CEO Darrell Garrison and Sr. Landscape Architect Jennifer Kelliher. Together, they have over 40 years of landscape architecture experience and an in-depth understanding of urban streetscapes.

TERRA
ENGINEERING LTD.

TERRA is a multi-disciplinary engineering firm focused on providing sustainable solutions. TERRA is based in Chicago and has worked in the Oak Park community for over 30 years, with projects including streetscapes, roadway reconstruction, and infrastructure improvements.

PRESCOTT GROUP LLC

Prescott Group is a public affairs firm in Oak Park, IL that specializes in public outreach, strategic communications, government advocacy and event management.

Oak Park

HELP US BUILD THE VISION!

If you have questions or ideas to share, please contact Brandon Crawford at bcrawford@oak-park.us.

PHASE 1: UNDERSTAND
Gather information about the site, community, and Dr. Percy L. Julian

PHASE 2: EXPLORE
Process information into conceptual ideas that meets the identified goals and visions.

PHASE 3: REALIZE
Finalize a concept that it meets feedback provided by stakeholders and community members.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

The first phase of the effort to recognize Dr. Percy L. Julian and his place in Oak Park's history is to design streetscape concepts that would include public art, signage, and other elements.

Part of that process involves introducing the project and gathering input from community stakeholders, such as residents, businesses, organizations, institutions and assets, and the public.

To accomplish that important and inclusive goal, the Project Team plans the following steps in 2025:

- Stakeholder Workshops
- Online Community Survey
- Community Open House Meeting
- Project Updates
- Media Outreach

The Project Team's objective as part of Community Engagement is to learn from stakeholders key information, such as:

- How often do they do business in or visit the proposed district?
- How much do they know about Dr. Julian?
- What part of his story is intriguing or inspiring?
- What concerns or questions do stakeholder have?
- What ideas do stakeholders have about how best to recognize Dr. Julian in a streetscape design?
- What is their feedback on preliminary streetscape design concepts the Project Team will develop later in the project?

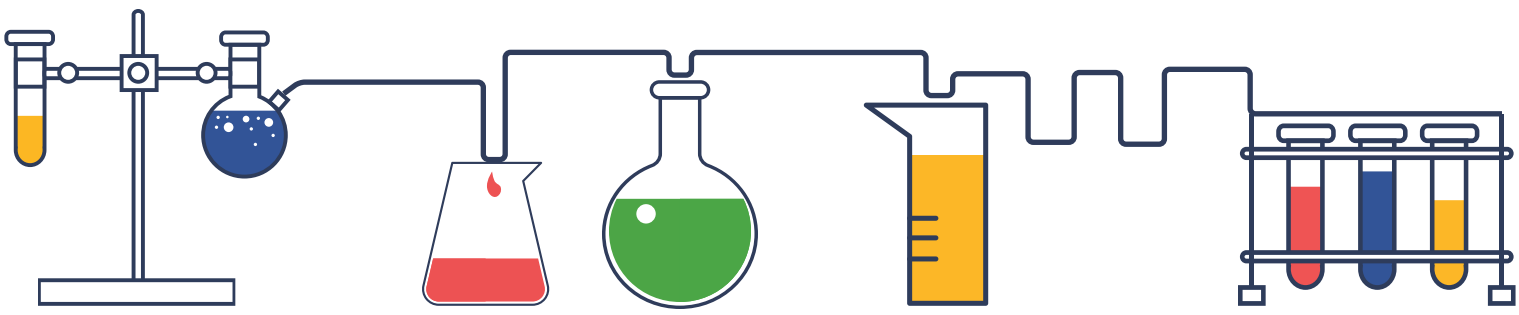
YOUR INPUT IS NEEDED!

The Village of Oak Park invites you to learn more about development of streetscape design on Chicago Avenue between Austin Boulevard and East Avenue to honor the legacy and impact of Dr. Percy L. Julian.
Please attend an upcoming public meeting where you can provide input on what the streetscape will look like and get answers to any questions you have.

ALL MEETINGS BEGIN AT 7 PM:

Tuesday, January 28, Beye School

Thursday, January 30, Whitter School

Tuesday, February 4, Beye School

Thursday, February 6, Whitter School