



March 24, 2020

**COVID-19 Status Report
Oak Park Village Board of Trustees**

To: Village President and Village Board of Trustees

Fr: Cara Pavlicek, Village Manager

As means to share a brief summary of information regarding Village of Oak Park operational activities in response to COVID-19. In most cases, formal public guidance or employee guidance has been publicly disseminated via the Village website or Village social media channels.

New Public Health Guidance

Oak Park Director of Public Health Mike Charley issued the following today:

- A bulletin was issued reporting a new positive test in Oak Park today as of 4:40 PM on 3/24. This is the third Village resident testing positive for the COVID-19 coronavirus. The individual was screened and tested Friday March 13 and the positive result confirmed today.

The Oak Park Department of Public Health was notified of the positive test as established by state and local public health protocol. The individual, is an adult female in her 30s. Because of privacy laws, no additional information can be released about the individual. It is noted, that privacy precludes location information regarding individuals tested to anyone other than Public Health Officials and First Responders.

Enforcement related to the Governor's Order

Staff continues to follow-up on emails to the Board and staff as well as phone calls. We are not sending back to the board specific responses for general business follow-ups but please be assured we are responding to the emails.

Staff would also note that Public Health Director Charley has advised it is permissible for neighbors to keep up a popular trend that is happening when residents schedule a time to celebrate on a block with a song of support for medical providers or others at an appointed time so long as the participating families stay on their own "front porch" in order to keep their 6 foot social distancing.

Community Stakeholders Conference Call

As noted in the 3/17 and 3/20 Daily Status Report, the Village has held calls with a group of Community Stakeholders with strong participation from local units of government and community based organizations. Yesterday, this call transitioned to social services task force and the Township is leading. Attached is a letter sent by the Village and Township to its network of contacts (including block party captains) to recruit volunteers for a variety of social service needs, currently focused on seniors.

Community Mental Health Board of the Oak Park Township is also sharing the Social Service Resource Guide with is an important database of services, especial for mental health resources. The link below will be auto updated as the source document is updated weekly.

<https://tinyurl.com/oprfguide>

Lake Street and other Public Works Construction Activities

As noted in the 3/17 Daily Status Report, contractors for the State and Village are able to continue work on water/sewer mains on Lake Street approximately halfway between Oak Park Ave & Euclid Ave at this time. Public Works is working with the contract to expand street closures associated with this work while the businesses are closed pursuant to the Governor's Order, so that we may complete work in this portion of the project as soon as possible.

Employee Retirement

As noted in the 3/17 Daily Status report, Deputy Fire Chief Pete Pilafas will retire on April 8, 2020. On Monday, March 30, Fire Battalion Chief Ron Kobyleski will begin serving as in Interim Deputy Fire Chief. In the Police Department, Commander Shatonya Johnson will begin serving as Interim Deputy Police Chief, which fills an existing vacancy. A competitive recruitment will be held for both positions in the near future. Based upon the length of recruitment, others command staff in fire and police will be asked to serve in interim roles.

Village Financial Position

As I reported to the Village Board via email on 3/18, CFO Drazner has been asked to prepare several financial forecasts to anticipate expenditures which are shifting from non-essential activities to public health, first responder overtime, and projected reductions in revenues. I am reviewing those draft documents and I anticipate providing information to the Village Board on or about April 1st along what recommended action steps.



**PLEASE READ! AN IMPORTANT COVID-19 MESSAGE
ON PROGRAM UPDATES FROM OAK PARK TOWNSHIP
SENIOR SERVICES**

March 24, 2020

Dear Senior Residents of Oak Park and River Forest Townships:

Oak Park Township and River Forest Township collaborate to support our older adult residents. We hold your health and safety in highest regard during this time of the COVID-19 pandemic. Township Senior Services continues to provide services to seniors in both communities, even though offices are closed to the public.

If you are an older adult needing services, please contact Township Senior Services at (708) 383-8060. A helpful staff member will be able to assist you.

Although on-site dining and group activities are suspended, Township Senior Services is continuing the following:

- Lunch program meals, available for pickup in the parking lot at the 130 S. Oak Park Avenue building, Monday to Friday between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.,
- Home delivered meals, with delivery modifications to protect workers, volunteers and clients,
- Senior bus transportation, by appointment (708-383-4806), for dialysis and medical appointments, with verbal health pre-screening,
- Care management team to help the most vulnerable seniors and their caregivers
- Trained specialist support for questions on Medicare, Medicaid and other benefits
- Information team to assist with info requests and referrals.

****Please note:** Onsite availability and frequency of these services are subject to change based upon direction from local, state and federal officials.

We have created, in partnership with the Park District of Oak Park, an on-line portal for volunteers to sign up to help us meet the essential needs of seniors. If interested in volunteering with Oak Park Township Senior Services, please go to the **Oak Park COVID-19 Community Response Volunteer Interest** survey at <https://bit.ly/399p9zW>.

Volunteers and staff are helping us to enhance our ongoing services to older adults in Oak Park and River Forest to include:

- Pick up and drop off of groceries and other items, snow removal, trash/recycling to alley or curb, pet care and other non-direct contact needs that may be more challenging, given the current situation.
- Partnering with the YMCA and Housing Forward to provide meals to seniors they are serving.
- Partnering with Beyond Hunger to provide groceries on a monthly basis.

The Community Mental Health Board of Oak Park Township and Oak Park & River Forest Townships put together this comprehensive resource guide: <https://tinyurl.com/oprfguide> of Social Services available in the community that is updated on a regular basis as services and service delivery changes, which is happening as the situation changes. We are also convening regular conference calls with direct providers, funding agencies, other local governments (including the Village), and other interested organizations (arts, business, etc.) and will continue to do so as the situation transitions from response to recovery.

Please know that we are here to support your needs during the extraordinary times brought by the COVID-19 pandemic. We are here to help you, just give us a call at **708-383-8060!**

Sincerely,

Oak Park Township Senior Services