



**Village Manager's Report
Week ending October 25, 2013**

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- October 28:
 - Village Board Special Meeting, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Transportation Commission, 7 p.m., room 201
 - HPC Education Committee, 7:30 p.m., room 215

- October 29:
 - Chairs of Advisory Board & Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Senator Harmon's Town Hall Meeting to discuss proposed renovations of the Eisenhower Expressway (I-290) and improvements to the CTA Blue Line, 7:30 p.m., Gwendolyn Brooks Middle School

Save the date reminders (see calendar for all future meetings):

- November 7: Village Board Special Meeting, FY14 Budget, 7 p.m. room 101
- November 11: Village Board Special Meeting, FY14 Budget, 7 p.m. room 101
- November 14: Village Board Special Meeting, FY14 Budget, 7 p.m. room 101
- November 20: Tri-Board Meeting, Intergovernmental Agreement Annual Meeting regarding Early Childhood Collaboration, 7 p.m., D97 offices
- December 2: Village Board Regular Meeting, 7 p.m. room 201
- December 10: Village Board Reinventing Government, 7 p.m., room 130

Transportation secretary here Tuesday – Senator Don Harmon's office has confirmed that [Illinois Transportation Secretary Ann Schneider](#) will be at [Gwendolyn Brooks Middle School](#), 325 S. Kenilworth Ave., Tuesday to talk about plans to rebuild I-290. The public meeting is scheduled for 7:30 to 9 p.m. Audience members will have an opportunity to ask questions about the agency's proposed alternatives for reconfiguring lanes between Racine Avenue and Mannheim Road. The vice president of Planning at the CTA, Michael Connelly, will participate as well. Residents posted about 50 comments on the Village website about IDOT's plans. While the commenting has closed, we are continuing to direct visitors to our website, www.oak-park.us/eyeontheike, for more information on the project and its impact on Oak Park. [Click here to review the comments](#) posted on our webpage.

Final Farmers' Market of the season is Saturday – The final [Oak Park Farmer's Market](#) of the season is Saturday. [Stone soup](#) made from market vendor vegetables will be served from about 9 a.m. until the pot is empty. Shoppers are urged to help make the event earth-friendly by bringing their own mugs.

Last chance to recycle electronics – Saturday will be the last opportunity this year for residents to safely dispose of unwanted electronic items now banned from landfills. Items will be accepted from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Public Works Center. Just about any kind of electronic item can be recycled, including computers, peripherals, laptops, monitors, TVs, cell phones, rechargeable batteries, printers, fax machines, MP3 players, portable digital assistants, video game consoles, video cassette recorders/players, video disk players, zip drives, scanners and microwaves. As usual, Public Works staff will be on hand to help with the unloading.

Police to help dispose of old medications – As part of the [National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day](#) sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice, residents will be able to safely dispose of unwanted or expired medication from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, in the lobby of the Oak Park Police Department. The last single-day collection event was held in April, when citizens across the country turned in 742,497 pounds - or 371 tons - of unwanted or expired medications for proper disposal at 5,829 take-back sites, including the Oak Park Police Department. Events such as this are important to keeping medications out of landfills and from contaminating water supplies.

Annual property management seminar set – The Village will host the annual property management seminar Wed., Oct. 30. Owners and managers of multi-family apartment buildings with four or more units are required to attend and learn about a wide range of programs, services and legal requirements. Representatives from various Village and community organizations, including Building & Property Standards, Fire, Health and Police, will participate. Sessions will be at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m., allowing attendees to choose the time that best fits their schedules. Registration is not required.

Trick or treat hours – Halloween trick or treaters will be on our streets from 3 to 7 p.m., Thurs., Oct 31. Police are urging drivers to take care and parents to accompany young children and inspect all treats.

CDBG/ESG proposal presentations set – Members of the Community Development Citizens Advisory Commission (CDCAC) soon will begin hearing presentations from applicants for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding for Program Year 2014. Presentations are scheduled for Oct. 29, Oct. 30, Nov. 5 and Nov. 7. The CDCAC will decide funding levels for most 2014 proposals on Dec. 3 and take public comments on Dec. 17. After these dates, the CDCAC will meet as needed. For the first time in many years, all nine seats on the CDCAC are filled.

Construction update – Concrete for the second half of Highland Avenue between Harrison and Van Buren streets is scheduled to be poured next week, as the water and sewer improvement project continues. Sealing of the concrete pavement is all that remains on the Taylor Avenue project. Only punch list items remain for the season's alley and sidewalk replacement projects. Bicycle shelters should be installed early next week near the viaducts at Marion Street and Ridgeland Avenue as part of viaduct improvement projects. Resurfacing of Lombard Avenue just north of Village Hall has been completed, except for an area near Washington Boulevard that

should be done by the end of the month following needed underground work. Driveways and curbs will be completed on Belleforte and Cuyler avenues next week, along with curb patching on Garfield Street. Microsurfacing is complete except for a small portion on Monroe Street near Harlem Avenue.

Public Works activities – The annual fall leaf collection began this week and will continue through Dec. 5. Seven pickups are planned for each section of the Village. Street Division employees push leaves into large piles overnight and Waste Management crews pick them up the following day. The Street Lighting Division began early morning repairs throughout the Village, with an average of six to 10 streetlight outages discovered and repaired each morning. Forestry crews removed a parkway tree that had split and fallen across Oak Park Avenue at Pleasant Street on Wednesday. Village foresters are planning for the second round of fall planting in late November, and are marking ash trees affected by the emerald ash borer for removal in the winter months ahead.

Affordable Care Act presentation draws crowd – Wednesday's presentation on the Affordable Care Act in Village Hall attracted 61 individuals, including numerous local small business owners. The program featured Andrea Kovach of the Shriver Center and Dennis Foldenauer of the U.S. Small Business Administration. Staff of the Health Department, the Children's Clinic of the OPRF Infant Welfare Society, the League of Women Voters and the Chamber of Commerce planned and sponsored the presentation, which was recorded and [can be viewed on the Village website](#).

Health Department staff honored – Mike Charley, Environmental Health staff supervisor, was named *Member of the Year* for the North Chapter of the [Illinois Environmental Health Association \(IEHA\)](#). The award was presented this month at the organization's annual meeting in Bloomington. Mike served as IEHA president in 2012.

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