



**Village Manager's Report
Week ending Dec. 13, 2013**

Meetings scheduled for the next week:

- December 14:
 - Village Board Special Joint Meeting with D97, 8:30 a.m., room 201
 - Personnel Committee of the Village Board, 10:30 a.m., room 130

- December 16:
 - Economic Development Committee of the Village Board, 6:30 p.m., room 130

- December 17:
 - Board of Health, 7 p.m., room 102
 - Citizen Police Oversight Committee, 7:30 p.m., room 215

- December 18:
 - Community Relations Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Housing Programs Advisory Committee, 7 p.m., room 215

- December 19:
 - Building Codes Advisory Commission, 5:30 p.m., room 215

Final diversity dinner of the year – The Community Relations Department will host the final diversity dinner of the year at 7 p.m., Wed., Dec. 18. While the intent is to have the dinners in private homes to create a more open and inviting atmosphere, an exception was made in this instance and the dinner will be at Village Hall. The popular diversity promotion program, often referred to as [Dinner & Dialogue](#), is an effort to open lines of communication amongst residents of diverse backgrounds in a safe environment with the aim of developing better social/cultural understanding and a stronger community.

Project to close Scoville near high school – A major construction project at Oak Park and River Forest High School during winter break will temporarily close Scoville Avenue to all traffic from Ontario Street to the north side of Pilgrim Congregation Church. Scoville will be closed from December 23 – 30 to allow a crane to be set up in the street to replace the chiller tower and equipment that air condition the building. Because of the impact on the neighborhood during the holiday season, the high school worked with the Village to provide affected properties with on-street parking passes good for the duration of the project. Ontario Street and alleys will remain open. [Click here to read Superintendent Isoye's letter to the neighborhood.](#)

Construction update – Water and sewer main improvements on Lombard Avenue under I-290 are in progress. The water main has been lined and the piping at Flournoy and Garfield streets is scheduled to be replaced next week. The project should be completed by December 20 and affected streets opened to traffic.

Viaduct project status – The pedestrian canopy under the Marion Street viaduct and the sign panels were scheduled to be installed by Friday (Dec. 13). Lighting work at both the Marion Street and Ridgeland Avenue viaducts should be completed by December 20.

Street resurfacing – Street resurfacing work is substantially finished the year, with remaining projects scheduled for spring 2014. Traffic signal loops will be installed next week on Lombard Avenue at Washington Boulevard. Parkways are being restored on Euclid, Belleforte and Cuyler avenues.

Sewer inspections and cleaning – Sewer inspections and siphon cleaning is scheduled to begin next week on Ridgeland Avenue. The project should be completed by the end of the year or early January depending on weather. Televising of sewers is substantially complete with two remaining locations to be finished next week.

Public Works activities – Testing of the pedestrian cameras at Lake Street and Kenilworth Avenue continues. The cameras work much like a traditional push button, but do not require any action by pedestrians. When a pedestrian stands at the intersection for more than three seconds, a signal is sent for the traffic light to change, similar to pushing a button. Light poles were replaced at 1100 Madison Street and the northeast corner of Euclid Avenue and Lake Street due to vehicle accidents. The annual Village wide collection of fall leaves is completed. The meter head change-out program continued and data analysis resumed as part of an effort to create a large meter replacement program.

Leading the government social media charge – Social Media Coordinator Patrick Rollens is a hit with [Emerging Local Government Leaders](#), an organization of more than 450 local government professionals in the early to middle stages of their government careers. Patrick recently conducted a webinar from his desk at Village Hall, discussing the different audiences on Facebook and Twitter and answering a number of real-time questions. The feedback from the group was incredibly positive and appreciative of his insights, prompting ELGL to ask Patrick to write a monthly column on social media trends for the organization's website. Based on the responses, Oak Park definitely is ahead of the curve when it comes to municipal governments using social media to engage the citizens they serve. [Click here](#) for an overview of what Patrick had to say and audience responses.

###