



Village Manager's Report
Week ending Feb. 28, 2014

Meetings scheduled for the next week:

- March 3:
 - Village Board Executive Session, 6:30 p.m., room 130
 - Village Board Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., room 201

- March 4:
 - Environmental & Energy Commission, 7 p.m., room 130
 - Board of Health, 7 p.m., room 102

- March 5:
 - Citizen involvement Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Public Art Advisory Commission, 7 p.m., room 102
 - Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m., room 201

- March 6:
 - Plan Commission, 7pm, room 201

Soft launch start for new online parking pass program – The new overnight on-street parking pass program is scheduled to launch at midnight tonight. Vehicle owners will be able to request up to 10 overnight on-street parking passes per vehicle per month – three are free and the other seven are \$7 each. This new program, approved by the Village Board in December, greatly increases the number of passes for residents and their guests and for the first time allows the passes to be obtained online. To use the system the first time, go to www.oak-park.us/onlineservices, click on *Overnight Parking Pass* and create an account. You will need a credit card, telephone number and the vehicle's license plate number. One account can manage multiple license plate numbers. Once registered, just enter the block and street where the vehicle will be parked. The system will keep track of the number of times per month that vehicle is parked. The first three are free, and then the user's credit card will be billed for each additional pass requested that month – up to the maximum. Parking enforcement officers will be able to check which vehicles have passes via a smartphone. Vehicle owners who already have a [PassPortParking](#) account for use at parking meters will not have to create a second account to access the overnight pass system. However, users must obtain their overnight passes via the link on the Village website anytime they request a pass. At this time, the live overnight parking pass request telephone system will continue to issue the free passes. The additional passes can only be purchased online. This condition ensures the new technology is cost efficient. Persons without access to the internet can use a public computer at Village Hall during normal business hours. A soft launch of the new program is being done so that we can test the system over the weekend prior to beginning promotions

next week, including a story on the front page of the March/April issue of the *OP/FYI* community newsletter, which should be reaching residents next week.

Construction traffic delays likely near Lake & Ridgeland Friday – Some 40 concrete trucks are expected to make deliveries to Ridgeland Common today as work on a new ice rink progresses. Trucks will be arriving and exiting the site throughout Friday from Lake Street, west of Ridgeland Avenue. Anyone with questions and requesting more information is being urged to [contact the Park District of Oak Park](#). Information on the entire renovation project is posted on the Park District's website - [just click here](#).

Capital improvements map online – The Communications Department worked closely with Engineering staff to build an [interactive online map](#) to track and display capital improvement projects planned for 2014. In the past, this map has been available to the public only as a static Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) file. The new website's capabilities allowed for a more dynamic, user-friendly presentation via [Google Maps](#). There may be a small learning curve for individuals not familiar with Google Maps, which has default displays that may require users to move, enlarge and reduce the base image depending on the information they are seeking. Mapping projects like this are a great way to visualize data online, and more projects are planned. The long-term goal is to be able to upload data directly for interactive display of a wide range of location-related information.

Smoke-free multi-unit housing initiative continues – The Health Department has contacted more than 400 Oak Park apartment building owners and condo boards to promote *Breathe Easy Oak Park*, a campaign intended to reduce exposure to secondhand smoke in multi-unit housing. Several trainings session offered by the Village's Housing Division and the Health Department prompted a number of building owners and condo board representatives to request more information about going smoke free. The Health Department also recently shared samples of the Village campaign's educational and promotional materials with the Cook County Health Department, which hopes to adapt our materials for similar campaigns in other municipalities. The *Breathe Easy Oak Park* initiative was funded under the [Illinois Department of Public Health Tobacco Free Communities Grant Program](#), which provides funding to local certified health departments for programs to reduce exposure to secondhand smoke.

Winter Conditions continue – Public Works Department crews were back on the street Fri., Feb. 21, after the thaw and light snow was followed by dropping temperatures that led to icy streets. The thaw also had Water & Sewer Division crews responding to flooded areas created by the rapid melt and clogged sewer inlets. The division also repaired frozen water services at 1112 Edmer Ave., 115 N. Kenilworth Ave., 1026 N. Harvey St., 217 Home Ave. (Pleasant Home) and 1164 S. Lombard Ave. In addition, crews repaired water main breaks at 44 Washington Blvd. and North Boulevard at Oak Park Avenue, and a leaking water service line at 214 Austin Blvd. Throughout the week crews also filled potholes across the Village and placed temporary patches where streets had been opened to repair broken mains and frozen water services. Crews also are preparing for what could be more snow over the coming weekend. So far this season, crews have responded to 31 snow events that have dumped 74 inches of snow on the Village as measured at the Public Works Center.

Tree-trimming update –The winter parkway tree pruning cycle continued, with 172 trees trimmed this week. Forestry Division crews focused on the 600 block of North Oak Park Avenue and the 700 block of North Marion Street. Winkler, the Village’s winter cycle trimming contractor, pruned trees on the 500 through 900 and 1200 blocks of North Kenilworth Avenue and 600 through 1200 blocks of North Grove Avenue. The division also removed a storm damaged parkway tree at 6630 Roosevelt Road and hanging broken limbs from a parkway tree at 343 S. Maple Ave.

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