



Village Manager's Report
Weeks ending December 22 and 29, 2017

Meetings scheduled for the next weeks:

- Monday, December 25 & Monday January 1:
 - No meetings scheduled – Village Hall closed
- Tuesday, December 26 thru Tuesday January 3:
 - No meetings scheduled
- Wednesday, January 3
 - Citizen Involvement Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
- Thursday, January 4
 - No meetings scheduled
- Friday, January 5
 - No meetings scheduled

Save the Date: Village Board January Meeting Schedule – The Village Board will hold its first Regularly Meeting on Tuesday, January 16, as Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is observed on Monday, January 16. The Village Board also will hold Special Meetings on Monday, January 22, and Monday, January 29.

Holidays affect Village Hall hours – Village Hall will close at noon today (Fri., Dec. 22) and remain closed all day Mon., Dec. 25. Village Hall also will be closed all day Mon., Jan. 1. When incidents that don't quite rise to the level of a 911 emergency call occur when Village Hall is closed, residents can call the Police Department non-emergency number 708.386.3800 for assistance. The holidays also will mean [refuse collections](#) are delayed by one day next week and the first week in January, with each week's last collection day moved to Saturdays.

On-street parking restrictions eased – As with many major holidays, on-street, overnight parking restrictions will not be enforced on most Oak Park residential streets during the Christmas and New Year's holiday. Restrictions will be eased beginning at 2:30 a.m., Sat., Dec. 23 and resume at 2:30 a.m., Wed., Jan. 3. Restrictions are not lifted in paid overnight permit areas, including posted on-street zones. All other parking regulations also remain in effect, including daytime restrictions and regulations related to traffic and public safety. Information on parking rules and regulations is posted at www.oak-park.us/parking.

Garages option for vacation, guest parking – With the holidays often meaning visitors and travel, residents are reminded that overnight parking is available in the Holley

Court Parking Garage, the public garage at Lake and Forest and The Avenue Parking Garage. Maximum fee is \$16 per day.

Free reusable bags – In preparation for the [implementation of the 10-cent fee](#) on single-use bags provided by Oak Park's larger retailer stores set to begin on Jan. 1, reusable bags are available to all residents free of charge in the lobby at Village Hall and at the Public Works Center on South Boulevard. The Village also is working with local not-for-profit organizations to provide reusable bags to individuals who may not be able to afford to buy them. The web page www.oak-park.us/bringyourbag has been created to house information about the program as it is launched and evolves.

OP/FYI returns to bi-monthly publication – With the January issue set to reach mailboxes the first week of the new year, the [OP/FYI newsletter](#) will return to its original bi-monthly publication schedule as part of the effort to trim Village operating expenses and take advantage of the growing reliance of citizens on the internet as a source of the most up-to-date news. In addition to the January issue, newsletters are scheduled for March, May, July, September and November. The *OP/FYI* was originally launched in 1989 on a bi-monthly schedule, moving to a monthly schedule in 2001. The schedule was reduced to six issues in 2008 and increased to nine issues in 2012, where it has remained until 2018. Residents will be urged to sign up for news by email at www.oak-park.us/enews and follow us on Facebook and Twitter at www.facebook.com/vopnews and twitter.com/vopnews.

Incentive set for composting – The incentive of three months of free service for new subscribers to the Village's composting program is set to begin. New subscribers who agree to 12 months of continuous, uninterrupted service will save \$44.56. More than 1,000 households currently participate in the program that provides a special 96-gallon mobile cart for organics and an under-sink collection bucket. Residents who maintain backyard compost piles or mulch grass clippings are urged to investigate sharing organics carts and costs with neighbors. Residents interested in participation can sign up online at www.oak-park.us/compost.

South Boulevard/Harlem Avenue redevelopment – The tower crane was installed this week on the south side of the Lincoln development site on South Boulevard, east of Harlem Avenue. The 100 block of South Maple Avenue was closed for two days during the work, but has since reopened and permit parking restored. Installation of sewer and water mains in the alley east of the project site is expected to be completed before the end of next week. Staff has continued to monitor the alley closure and the overall construction project to minimize impacts on adjacent properties.

Washington/Wisconsin traffic signal – With the delivery of the long-delayed equipment, the new traffic signal at the intersection of Wisconsin Avenue and Washington Boulevard is expected to be operational before the New Year. Final inspections and turning on the new signal must be coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation.

Miscellaneous construction projects – Surveys continued this week at numerous locations throughout the Village to prepare construction plans for next year's road and utility projects. Work on the salt storage building at the Cook County Forest Preserve facility in Maywood started this week and should be complete before the

end of the year. Annual cleaning and inspections of sewer mains at various locations throughout the Village are underway, including on Madison Street. The work typically takes about a month to complete.

Public Works activities – Favorable weather conditions have allowed Streets Division crews to focus on cleaning and sweeping streets, and picking up litter throughout the community. Crews are ready to shift to snow response should the weather change. Streets crews also repaired damage caused in two vehicle accidents, including a bollard near 1022 Lake St. and a traffic signal at Lombard Avenue and Washington Boulevard. Water & Sewer Division crews repaired two water main breaks on Kenilworth Avenue, one at Washington Boulevard and another Randolph Street. Crews also repaired a sewer lateral at 814 North Blvd.

Employee news – Four veteran Oak Park Police officers were promoted to sergeant at a ceremony this week at Village Hall. The new sergeants are Kevin Collins, who joined the force in 1995, Shatonya Johnson, who joined in 2000, Manny Ruiz, who joined in 2005 and Samantha Deuchler, who joined in 2006. Most recently Collins was the District 97 school resource officer, Ruiz and Deuchler were school resource officers at District 200 and Johnson was the residential beat officer in Zone 2. As these new sergeants assume their new duties in the Patrol Division, other officers will be selected for their old posts. Also recognized at the ceremony were new Police Commanders Roger Grivetti, Thomas Dransoff and Michael Lepczynski, who were promoted from sergeant earlier in the month. The Public Works Department welcomed Brian Rebeles and Dawn Skoda to the Water & Sewer Division. Brian has more than 10 years of experience in construction and eight years in public works roles, having worked previously for the villages of Hinsdale and Clarendon Hills. Dawn grew up in Oak Park and graduated from Oak Park and River Forest High School before going to college at Arizona State and making the state her home. After living in Arizona for 28 years she moved back to Oak Park and has worked part time for the Park District of Oak Park and the Farmer's Market through the Health Department. In other Public Works news, Bill Madlener of the Street Lighting Division retired this week after more than 27 years with the Village.

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