



Village Manager's Report
Week ending January 19, 2018

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, January 22:
 - Special Meeting, 7 p.m., room 201 (Council Chamber) – the meeting will be preceded by a 6:30 p.m. reception for employees who will be recognized at 7 p.m. with a Service Award
 - Transportation Commission, 7 p.m., Room 101
- Tuesday, January 23:
 - Board of Health, 7 p.m., room 102
- Wednesday, January 24:
 - Disability Access Commission, 7 p.m., Oak Park Public Library, 834 Lake St.
 - Community Design Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Historic Preservation Architectural Review Committee, 7:30 p.m., room 215
- Thursday, January 25:
 - No meeting scheduled
- Friday, January 26:
 - No meetings scheduled

Neighborhood crime prevention forums – Police have announced four neighborhood forums that will be held Jan. 30 – Feb. 2 to discuss crime and prevention directly with residents as a follow up to the two community-wide meetings held in December at Village Hall. In addition to talking about crime trends and prevention, the forums also will introduce new communication strategies that can help expand information beyond the Village's current media tools. [Click here to read the news release announcing the forums...](#)

Decommissioning Divvy – With the Divvy bike-sharing program set to end on Wed., Jan 24, we are using our communications tools to alert local subscribers that they will not be able to pick up or drop off at any Oak Park location after Tuesday., Jan. 23. [Motivate](#), the company that operates the [Divvy system across the Chicago area](#), is expected to notify all current Oak Park subscribers of the change in services and manage user inquiries, including any refunds that might be requested. Until the infrastructure can be dismantled and moved, signs will be installed at the Oak Park stations indicating that the service is no longer available here.

Forestry web page recognized in Australia – The parkway tree care and maintenance page on the Village website (www.oak-park.us/trees) was featured in *the BARK*, a magazine published by Arboriculture Australia Ltd., which represents tree workers, arborists, professional tree management and urban forestry throughout Australia and the Asia Pacific region. The article on communicating about urban forestry programs was penned by the Morton Arboretum's Community Trees Program Specialist, included screen shots of the websites of Ithaca, New York and Oak Park to illustrate the article's recommendations. [Click here to read the article...](#)

Snow response – Several waves of light snowfall have kept crews busy plowing and salting since the end of last week. Crews were on the streets Jan. 12, 14, 15 and 16 dealing with events that were enhanced by lake effect snow. Total accumulation for the events approached four inches, but with snow coming in waves crews were able to keep up without needing to call in Police to enforce the snow emergency parking rules.

South Boulevard/Harlem Avenue redevelopment – Work is progressing on the new development. The next significant neighborhood impact is expected to begin on Fri., Feb. 9 when both lanes of South Boulevard between Harlem Avenue and Marion Street will be closed for 10 days. Delivery vehicles will have access to the businesses on South Boulevard east of the development site. Pedestrian access also will be maintained on the north side of the boulevard. Engineering staff continues to monitor the alley closure east of the project site as well as the overall construction project to minimize impacts on adjacent properties.

Madison Street demolition – Demolition of the former District 97 administrative building on Madison Street at Home Avenue began this week. Demolition of the former Robinson's Ribs restaurant immediately to the east should be underway by next week. The properties are completely fenced and adjacent sidewalks closed to pedestrians on both Home Avenue and Madison Street. Crossing guards are stationed at the Madison Street traffic signal to direct students around the site as they travel to and from school. An alternate pedestrian path is available in the parking lane on Madison Street, protected from traffic by a barricade. Access to the alley between Home and Clinton avenues will be closed only by the demolition sites.

Public Works Activities – In addition to snow operations, Street Division crews placed temporary patches on streets where water line breaks were repaired. Permanent patches will be placed in the spring. Crews also filled potholes and picked up litter in the business districts. Street Lighting Division staff is working with the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) to repair the traffic signals on Lake Street at Harlem Avenue that allow emergency vehicles to override the signal for safe passage when responding to a call for service. Water & Sewer Division crews repaired a water main break at Chicago and Cuyler avenues and a water service leak at 901 N. Elmwood Ave. Winter parkway tree pruning has been completed up to Oak Park Avenue, with work continuing westbound between Division Street and Chicago Avenue.

Employee Service Awards – Nearly three dozen individuals will be honored at 7 p.m., Mon., Jan. 22 for their service to the community as municipal employees of the Village of Oak Park. This year's awards, which are given annually, will mark

anniversaries for 35 employees for five, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 years of service. A reception is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. A Special meeting of the Village Board will follow the awards' ceremony.

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