



**Village Manager's Report**  
**Week ending November 11, 2022**

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, November 14:
  - Village Board Meeting, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
- Tuesday, November 15:
  - Citizen Police Oversight Committee, 4 p.m. via Zoom
  - Environment and Energy Commission, 5:30 p.m. via Zoom
- Wednesday, November 16:
  - Community Design Commission, 7 p.m. via Zoom
  - Housing Programs Advisory Committee, 7 p.m. via Zoom
- Thursday, November 17:
  - Building Codes Advisory Commission, 5:30 p.m. via Zoom
  - Village Board Finance Committee, 6:30 p.m., Council Chamber
  - Architectural Review Committee, 7 p.m. via Zoom
- Friday, November 18:
  - No meetings scheduled

**COVID-19 Weekly Reports are posted at [www.oak-park.us/covid19](http://www.oak-park.us/covid19)  
just click on the Status report bulletin heading**

**Community survey open through Nov. 16** – There is still time for residents to weigh in on how they rate Oak Park as a place to live as part of the National Community Survey. Responses will be accepted through Nov. 16 at [polco.us/oakpark22](http://polco.us/oakpark22). The survey asks residents their opinions about safety in Oak Park, the economic health of the community and much more. The information gathered through the survey will be presented to the Village Board in early 2023. More information about the initiative, including links to past survey results, is available on the Village website at [www.oak-park.us/communitysurveys](http://www.oak-park.us/communitysurveys).

**Holiday decorations going up soon** – With the holiday season drawing near, the Village has entered into an agreement with McAdam Landscaping to install holiday garland and lights on 109 street poles in the Southtown, Pleasant, Hemingway and Chicago Avenue business districts. Installation is

expected to begin next week. The Village is also partnering with the Downtown Oak Park business district and Oak Park Arts District on their holiday decoration installations.

**Local business celebrations** – Real People Realty held a ribbon cutting this week to celebrate its new Oak Park location at 148 Harrison St. Development Customer Service Department staff represented the Village at the event. Real People Realty now has five Chicagoland offices and is the second largest independent realty company in Illinois with more than 900 agents. Village staff also joined Oak Park River Forest Chamber of Commerce members in congratulating long-time Oak Park restaurant Khyber Pass as part of its celebration of 27 years of operation in the community.

**Vaccine clinic update** – The Oak Park Health Department is continuing to host weekly COVID-19 vaccine clinics every Tuesday through Dec. 6 at Cheney Mansion. Morning and afternoon appointments are available from 10 a.m. to noon and 4 to 7 p.m. Booster shots are available for anyone age 5 and older if eligible. With the Health Department winding down its clinics for the year, individuals age 6 months and older seeking a primary vaccine series can sign up for an appointment but may need to receive any required additional doses through another provider. The next clinic is scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 15. Visit [www.oak-park.us/vaccine](http://www.oak-park.us/vaccine) to register for an appointment. The Health Department will not be hosting a clinic Nov. 22 in the days leading up to Thanksgiving but will return with a clinic Nov. 29.

**Free at-home COVID-19 tests available** – A limited number of free at-home COVID-19 tests are available to residents in zip code 60302 and 60301 through a privately-funded, direct-to-consumer mail order program at [www.accesscovidtests.org](http://www.accesscovidtests.org). The Oak Park Health Department continues to provide PCR and rapid testing at various locations. All testing by the Health Department is free and insurance is not required. For more information, visit [www.oak-park.us/testing](http://www.oak-park.us/testing).

**Electric vehicle rebate** – The Village’s sustainability and communications teams are sharing information about the Illinois Electric Vehicle Rebate Program, which is again accepting applications through Jan. 31, 2023 for all-electric vehicles purchased from an Illinois licensed dealer. The program, administered by the Illinois EPA, offers residents a \$4,000 rebate for the purchase of an electric passenger vehicle or \$1,500 rebate for the purchase of an electric motorcycle. Find complete details, including specifics about eligibility requirements, on the Illinois EPA website – [click here to view](#). The Village’s comprehensive climate plan, [Climate Ready Oak Park](#), outlines investments in electric vehicle transportation as a key strategy to reducing emissions and supporting a clean future in Oak Park.

**South Boulevard crosswalk repair** – Damaged paver crosswalks will be removed and new concrete will be poured next week at the intersection of South Boulevard and Marion Street. South Boulevard will be closed to eastbound traffic from Harlem to Home avenues for the duration of the project, which is expected to wrap up by Nov. 23.

**Sewer improvements nearly complete** – The contractor finished final paving on Lenox and Thomas Streets this week. Parkway restoration and pavement markings are also complete, with only a few punch list items remaining before the project is wrapped up.

**Street resurfacing winds down** – The final layer of asphalt was installed, pavement markings added and landscape cleanup completed this week at all locations undergoing street resurfacing in 2022.

Parkway sodding is set to occur next Wednesday. Plans call for the second stage of the resurfacing project to resume next April.

**Johnson sworn in as Police Chief** – Shatonya Johnson was formally sworn in as the first female to hold the position of Oak Park Chief of Police during a ceremony held Friday afternoon in the Council Chamber at Village Hall. Johnson’s family and friends joined colleagues past and present as she recited her oath with Village Clerk Christina Waters. Johnson, who began serving Oak Park as a patrol officer in 2000, is the 14<sup>th</sup> police chief in Village history. More information about her appointment and background is posted on the Village website – [click here to view](#).

**Employee news** – Juan Perez is the newest Customer Service Representative within the Parking and Mobility Services Division after recently moving to the Development Customer Services Department from his previous position as a Parking Enforcement Officer with the Police Department. A Chicago native who now lives in Oak Park, Juan brings more than 20 years of customer service experience to his new role having previously worked at Jewel before arriving at the Village. In other employee news, Business License Officer Johnathan Wilson recently obtained his International Code Council certification as a Property Maintenance and Housing Inspector. The certification process includes a written exam based on codes and standards currently in effect. Johnathan is a member of the DCS Neighborhood Services Division team. The Village also welcomed two new employees this week. New Fire Inspector Andrew Clancy has worked in the fire service for 21 years and law enforcement for four years prior. He is a graduate of Southern Illinois. Michelle Coffel, the newest Records Clerk in the Police Department, has a bachelor’s degree in law enforcement.