



**Village Manager's Report  
Weeks ending February 17, 2017**

**Meetings scheduled for the next week:**

- Monday, February 20:
  - Village Hall Closed
  
- Tuesday, February 21:
  - Village Board Executive Session, 6:15 p.m., room 130 *\*\* Please Note early start*
  - 7:00 p.m. *Thank You Cake* for Trustee Adam Salzman, room 201
  - Village Board Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., room 201
  
- Wednesday, February 22:
  - Forestry Sub-Committee, 6:45 p.m., room 101
  - Disability Access Commission, 7 p.m., 834 Lake St.
  - Community Design Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
  - HPC Architectural Review Committee, 7:30 p.m., room 215
  
- Thursday, February 23:
  - No scheduled meetings
  
- Friday, February 24:
  - No scheduled meetings

**Welcoming Village video** – The Communications Department has produced a brief video capturing the essence of the pre-vote discussion of the new Welcoming Village Ordinance. Media Production Manager Joe Kreml took a very creative approach to showcasing heartfelt comments from each board member, while capturing specific pertinent details of the ordinance. The video is posted on the [Village YouTube channel](#), as well as embedded on the Village website at [www.oak-park.us/welcomingvillage](http://www.oak-park.us/welcomingvillage).

**Adjudication survey** – The Office of Administrative Adjudication has begun to survey individuals who attend in-person hearings at Village Hall, including defendants, witnesses, parents and attorneys. The online survey is based, in part, on criteria used by the Illinois Supreme Court when it conducted a statewide customer satisfaction survey in 2015. The Adjudication survey, which began in January, is intended to help improve the customer experience.

**Police recruitment update** – The Fire and Police Commission reports that 225 individuals had applied to be Oak Park Police officers when the official job posting closed Fri., Feb. 10. The applicants now will go through an extensive vetting process

with the Village recruitment vendor [Industrial/Organizational Solutions, Inc. \(IOS\)](#) to ensure that all documentation is appropriate and in order. Candidates that advance from the vetting process then will undergo a background check. The final step in the process will entail candidates being interviewed by the Fire and Police Commission and ranked for selection by order of score. The Village plans to hire six new officers this year that will fill existing/anticipated vacancies which are attributed to promotions and retirements.

**Vantage occupancy grows** – Downtown Oak Park is reporting that the residential portion of the Vantage Oak Park development at Lake Street and Forest Avenue is now 70 percent occupied, with new tenants moving in weekly. DTOP is working with its member businesses to provide promotional materials that are distributed to each new resident to encourage them to explore the many options within blocks of their new homes.

**Parking revenue update** – The Parking & Mobility Services Department reports that parking revenue for 2016 increased nearly 2.5 percent over 2015. Revenue in 2016 was about \$6.74 million, compared to \$6.58 million in 2015. As expected, 2016 hourly revenue was down somewhat, likely due to the closure of the lots for the new Elevate development on Lake Street and North Boulevard. However, garage revenue increased proportionally as parkers rediscovered this convenient, nearby option. [Click here to review the full report.](#)

**Miscellaneous construction updates** – The contractor for the bicycle parking project poured the concrete pad for the fix-it station and installed remaining bike racks at Harrison Street and Euclid Avenue, and at Harrison and East Avenue. The new bicycle parking facilities are complete at the Oak Park Avenue and Garfield Street and North Boulevard and Forest Avenue locations. Surveying continued this week along Oak Park Ave to collect elevation and geometry information for future resurfacing.

**Project bid reports** – A pre-bid meeting was held this week for the Brookfield North Riverside Commission project that will construct a water main to transport Lake Michigan water through the Village along Fillmore Street. This project also will include reconstructing and resurfacing the entire length of Fillmore Street in Oak Park. Bids were opened Thursday (Feb. 16) for alley projects planned for the upcoming construction season. Plans also were issued to contractors this week for various street resurfacing projects and the demolition of the buildings at 932 – 946 and 970 Madison St.

**Public Works activities** – Street Division crews assisted the Fire Department by spreading salt on the roads and sidewalks to prevent water used fighting a severe fire at 316 Washington Boulevard from creating hazardous conditions in the cold early morning temperatures. Other Street Division activity included sweeping the main streets in the business districts, picking up litter, filling potholes and patching streets where openings were necessary for water line repairs. Water & Sewer Division crews repaired a sink hole at 1127 Gunderson St., upgraded a water service at 300

Oak Park Avenue and thawed frozen hydrants at various locations throughout the Village. The current cycle of tree pruning continued this week, with crews working eastbound from Harlem Avenue between Chicago Avenue and North Boulevard. Village contractors also continued removing trees infested with the emerald ash borer and other tree species with serious condition issues.

**Employee news** – Public Works Department veteran Mike Fenwick has been named Water & Sewer Superintendent after a stint as interim superintendent. Mike recently earned a Class D Public Water Supply Operator license from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, which required him to meet stringent experience and education requirements, as well as pass an examination demonstrating the necessary skills, knowledge, ability and judgment to properly operate and maintain the facilities entrusted to his care. Mike has been with the Village since early 2006, beginning as Street Division Supervisor and later becoming Street Division Superintendent.

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