



**Village Manager's Report**  
**Week ending January 5, 2018**

**Meetings scheduled for next week:**

- Monday, January 15:
  - No meetings scheduled – Village Hall closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day
  
- Tuesday, January 16:
  - Executive Session, 6:30 p.m., room 130
  - Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., room 201 (Council Chamber)
  - Citizen Police Oversight Committee, 7:30 p.m., room 102
  
- Wednesday, January 17:
  - Community Relations Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
  - Housing Programs Advisory Committee, room 215
  
- Thursday, January 18:
  - Building Codes Advisory Commission, 5:30 p.m., room 215
  - Plan Commission Special Meeting, 7:30 p.m., room 101
  
- Friday, January 19:
  - No meetings scheduled

**Village Hall closed Monday** – Village Hall will be closed on Mon., Jan. 15 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Should an incident occur that does not rise to the level of calling 911, residents are reminded they can call the Police non-emergency number 708.386.3800 for assistance.

**One more chance to recycle holiday trees for free** – Next week, (Jan. 15 – 19) will be the last week the Village's refuse hauler will be collecting holiday trees for free. Trees must be placed in the regular collection area by 7 a.m. on the [neighborhood's regular refuse collection date](#). Monday's holiday will not affect the collection schedule. Trees set out after the collection program ends will require a pink bulk refuse sticker be attached. Stickers are available for \$2.35 each and available at most local grocery and hardware stores, as well as at Village Hall.

**Contractors recruited for HUD-funded programs** – The Neighborhood Services Division will host an information session to recruit contractors to prequalify for the [Single-Family Rehab and Small Rental Property Rehab programs](#) supported by federal funds administered by the Village. The session is scheduled for 5 to 7 p.m., Thurs., Jan. 18, at Village Hall. The range of benefits available to contractors who pre-qualify will be presented, as well steps necessary to participate. In addition to being able to

pick and choose among available projects, pre-qualified participants can expect quick payouts on generally low-risk, relatively short-duration projects, low competition and an opportunity to give back to the community by helping low-income families, senior citizens and people with disabilities. Contractors who already do business in Oak Park have been invited through a range of media, including direct mail, email and signs at the permits counter in Village Hall. [Click here to view an information flyer...](#)

**Washington/Wisconsin traffic signal update** – Activation of the new traffic signal at Washington Boulevard and Wisconsin Avenue was delayed again this week by the Illinois Department of Transportation. Engineering Division staff is working with IDOT to set a firm date for signal activation. Once the date is confirmed, the stop signs and right-turn-only restriction signs will be removed. Digital message signs alerting drivers of the new signal, which were placed on site last week, will be activated concurrently with the new signal.

**Madison Street demolition** – With the final utility disconnections complete, demolition of the former District 97 administrative building and Robinson's Ribs restaurant on Madison Street east of Home Avenue 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.

**Road conditions report** – Slippery pavement conditions had crews out salting throughout the Village last Sunday and Monday (Jan. 7 and 8), and again on Wednesday (Jan. 11). Accumulations were less than an inch during each event, but icy conditions on streets, overpasses and school crosswalks required attention to ensure safe travelling conditions. As temperatures fell dramatically Thursday night, crews were back out salting to ensure any water remaining from the day's rain did not create hazardous conditions for the morning commute.

**Public Works activities** – Street Services Division crews filled potholes, picked up litter, installed signs and removed graffiti at various locations in the Village. Street Lighting Division crews repaired the cable causing outages on Harrison Street at Home Avenue and all lights are now working properly. Water & Sewer Division crews repaired a water main break at 622 Lyman Ave. and continued to thaw frozen fire hydrants as necessary throughout the Village. The Forestry Division continued working with contractors to prune trees on East, Columbian and Linden avenues between Division Street and Chicago Avenue, The seasonal trimming program will continue moving to the west before turning north of Division Street.

**Employee news** – An article on conflicts of interest penned by Village Attorney Paul Stephanides has been published in two prominent law journals. Titled *Impermissible Conflicts of Interest in Administrative Proceedings*, Paul's in-depth analysis of the timely topic appeared in the winter 2017 edition of the *Labor Law Journal* and the December 2017 edition of the *Journal of the Illinois Local Government Lawyers Association*. Paul was also recently re-elected to a second term as Regional Vice President of the [International Municipal Lawyers Association](#), a professional

organization of local government lawyers with 2,500 members from across the United States and Canada. [Click here to read the article...](#)

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