



**Village Manager's Report
Week ending March 17, 2023**

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, March 20:
 - Village Board meeting, 7 p.m., Council Chambers
- Tuesday, March 21:
 - Citizen Police Oversight Commission, 7 p.m., Room 215
- Wednesday, March 22:
 - No meetings scheduled
- Thursday, March 23:
 - Community Development Citizen Advisory Commission, 6 p.m., Room 215
 - Historic Preservation Commission Architectural Review Committee, 7:30 p.m., Room 201
- Friday, March 24:
 - No meetings scheduled

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

Village Hall hosting early voting –Suburban Cook County voters can cast an early ballot for the April 4, 2023 Consolidated Municipal Election starting Monday, March 20 through April 3 – including weekends – at Village Hall, 123 Madison St. The Consolidated Municipal Election includes races for local governing agencies, including three seats on the Village Board of Trustees. Grace-period registration is also available during early voting hours for those individuals who missed the registration deadline. Valid identification is required to register during the grace period, and a vote must be cast immediately after registration. Early voting hours vary by date – details are [posted on the Village website.](#)

Village participating in climate action budgeting cohort – The Village has been selected to participate in a cohort focused on budgeting for climate action along with other local government agencies from across the United States. The initiative is organized by [ICLEI USA](#) and [ResourceX](#) and aims to help local governments increase their climate change and sustainability impact through better coordination between climate action, budget and purchasing processes. [Click here](#) to read a press release with more information about the cohort.

CDBG application update – Nineteen local non-profits submitted applications to receive Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding through the Village for the upcoming 2023 Program Year, which will run from Oct. 1, 2023 through Sept. 30, 2024. The U.S.

Department of Housing and Urban Development has allocated \$1,539,187 to the Village of Oak Park for PY23. The applications from local non-profits, which were due earlier this week, are seeking funding to support public service, public facility improvement and administration expenses. Village staff will now work with the Community Development Citizens Advisory Commission to review all grant applications and make recommendations to the Village Board, which makes the final decisions on funding allocations. More information about the Village's CDBG program is available at www.oak-park.us/cdbg.

Spring break COVID-19 testing – With respiratory illnesses spreading throughout the community, Oak Park health officials are urging residents to undergo a COVID-19 test before and after embarking on any spring break travel. The Oak Park Health Department's mobile response van will be hosting a series of free COVID-19 rapid and antigen testing events before and after spring break. Pre-spring break testing will be available from 3 to 5 p.m. next Wednesday, March 22 at Barrie Park, from 1 to 4 p.m. next Thursday, March 23 outside Cheney Mansion and from 10 a.m. to noon at the main fire station and 2 to 4 p.m. at the Rehm Pool parking lot next Friday, March 24. An additional post-spring break testing event is set for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 2 at Lindberg Park. [Click here](#) for a flyer with details about the testing events. More information about COVID-19 testing in Oak Park is available at www.oak-park.us/testing.

Bake sale space available – Local not-for-profit organizations seeking fundraising opportunities are encouraged to consider reserving a space for a bake sale at the Oak Park Farmers' Market. Space is available each Saturday from opening day on May 20 through October. Download an application via a link at www.oak-park.us/farmersmarket. Call 708.358.5780 or email farmersmarket@oak-park.us for more information.

Police Department releases 2022 crime statistics – Oak Park Police investigated 238 more crimes in 2022 than in 2021, pushing the overall crime rate up about 11 percent, according to data compiled by the Police Department for the FBI's National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) used by law enforcement agencies in the United States for collecting and reporting data on crimes. A news release with an analysis of the 2022 crime statistics is posted on the Village website at www.oak-park.us/crimestats2022. The information is also being shared across the Village's communications channels.

Lake Street Theater improvements – Work will begin next week to replace the seating throughout the entire Classic Cinemas Lake Theater at 1022 Lake St. The project is expected to last approximately one month, and the theatre intends to stage the work so that it does not impact all of its individual theatres at the same time. The work will require dumpsters to be occasionally located in the alley behind the theatre and/or parking spaces on Lake Street. The project will also involve periodic deliveries of the new seating, which will block on-street spaces west of the theatre from roughly 7 to 9 a.m. Staff from the Development Customer Services and Public Works departments is keeping the Downtown Oak Park business association informed of the planned work as well as working with the various waste haulers to notify them of the project and its potential impacts.

Water main valve replacement update – The replacement of an existing valve at 902 S. Austin was completed last week, but the concrete curb replacement won't take place until

work at the two remaining valve replacement locations is completed in several weeks. The other two valves are scheduled to be replaced later this month to coincide with Oak Park Elementary School District 97's spring break as a way of minimizing traffic impacts near schools.

Division Street water and sewer project – Materials and equipment continue to be delivered to the sites of upcoming water and sewer projects as the contractor prepares to break ground the week of March 20. Completed tasks include root pruning, tree protection and sewer lining from Hayes to Humphrey avenues. All work will be within the right of way, and residents impacted by the construction project will receive parking passes.

Pete's Fresh Market update – All utility work is done for the time being at the new Pete's Fresh Market on Madison Street. AT&T will soon start its utility relocation work for the project, and the contractor will soon begin scheduling the upcoming cul-de-sac installation on Euclid Avenue.

Miscellaneous construction updates –The contractor for the new development at Pleasant and Marion streets is installing walls on the fifth floor and will soon begin installing windows on the north side of the property. Elsewhere, Nicor Gas continues its televising project on the 300 block of Harrison Street, 800 block of S. Cuyler Avenue and 800 block of S. Elmwood Avenue, resulting in partial lane closures while work is ongoing.