



**Village Manager's Report
Week ending January 30, 2015**

Meetings scheduled for the next week:

- Monday, February 2:
 - Village Board Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., room 201 (preceded by Executive Session at 6:30 p.m. in room 130)

- Tuesday, February 3:
 - Reinventing Government Meeting, 6:30 p.m., room 130
 - Environmental & Energy Commission, 7 pm., room 215

- Wednesday, February 4:
 - Citizen Involvement Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Public Art Advisory Commission, 7 p.m., room 102
 - Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m., room 201

- Thursday, February 5:
 - Plan Commission, 7 p.m., room 201

Upcoming Meetings:

- Monday, February 9 – Finance Committee of the Village Board, 7 p.m., room 101

- Tuesday, February 17 – Village Board Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m. room 201

- Monday, February 23 – Village Board Special Meeting, tentative 7:00 p.m. room 101 regarding Economic Development

Commissions to take up bike sharing study – Both the Plan Commission and Transportation Commission have scheduled public reviews of draft recommendations from the Active Transportation Alliance on bike sharing and making bicycling the priority on designated residential streets. The Plan Commission has scheduled its review for Feb. 3 and the Transportation Commission will meet on Feb. 23. The Transportation Commission will focus on possible locations for the Divvy bike docking stations, as the program prepares to expand into Oak Park. Both commissions will prepare recommendations for the Village Board after gathering public input. The [draft plan prepared by the Alliance is posted on the Village website](#).

Fox TV comes to Oak Park – Fox Chicago was scheduled to feature three sites in Oak Park as part of its morning show Friday. The segments were at [Careful Peach](#) on

North Boulevard, the [Frank Lloyd Wright Home & Studio](#) on Chicago Avenue and the Oak Park Conservatory on Garfield Street. Communications staff worked with Max Austin-Williams of Downtown Oak Park, Emily Sjostrom of Visit Oak Park and Diane Stanke of the Park District to facilitate the visit based on the format of the morning segment. This portion of Fox morning news is a fast-paced look at attractions of a different community each Friday.

Public art relocations set -- The privately owned sculpture on the corner of Lombard Avenue and Harrison Street was scheduled to be removed by the artist Thursday and moved outside of Oak Park. The Village-owned sculpture *Gate* will be professionally moved from its current site on Lake Street adjacent to Pier One Imports to the Public Works Center for storage by the end of February in preparation for the redevelopment project near its current site. The recently purchased piece *Natural Wonders* will be professionally moved from Lake Street in front of Gepetto's Toy Box to a permanent location on the pedestrian mall of the main branch of the Oak Park Public Library by the end of February.

Lake+Forest project update – All substructure construction is complete, including deep foundations, retention walls and water/sewer connections. Workers are installing a concrete support pad for a tower crane they began erecting Wednesday. Once the tower crane is erected, concrete work will begin and likely last until late summer. The crane is about 250 feet tall and has an arm with a 150-foot horizontal radius. It should be operational by Mon, Feb. 2 and remain in place until early fall. A weather vane at the top of the crane will measure wind conditions to help ensure safe operations. The wind may cause the crane to rotate when not in operation, but should not be a cause for concern since this response is part of its safety design.

Capital improvements update – The Ridgeland Avenue sewer main improvement project is out for bid, with the construction contract tentatively scheduled to be presented to the Board on March 2. A request for proposals for professional engineering services for annual water and sewer main improvement projects has been issued. Water and sewer projects planned for this year adjacent to Mann and Whittier elementary schools will be scheduled in the summer during school vacation. The engineering contract for these projects also is scheduled to be presented to the Board on March 2.

Public Works activities – A sinkhole was repaired on the southwest corner of Garfield Street and Gunderson Avenue, and a fire hydrant was replaced at 1038 S. Elmwood Ave. by the intersection of Lexington Street and Clinton Avenue. Crews continue to exercise water valves throughout the Village to identify candidates for replacement this year, as well as checking for frozen fire hydrants on the north side of the Village. Forestry crews focused on ash removals and elm pruning. The Village's private forestry contractor continued [winter cycle pruning](#) in the south part of town. All trees south of I-290 west of East Avenue have been trimmed, as crews continue working eastward through April.

Snow operations update – Crews salted and plowed Village streets for a snow event on Sunday and Monday. All Village streets and school crosswalks had to be salted again after nighttime snow and freezing drizzle made roads slippery again Tuesday morning.

First responders honored – Oak Park firefighters took part in a memorial ceremony earlier this month to honor first responders whose quick actions saved the life of a 16-year-old OPRF Huskies varsity hockey player after he collapsed on the sidelines before a game last fall. An off-duty nurse who worked at Lurie Children's Hospital was the first one the scene, followed by paramedics from the Fire Department. Working together, they revived the teen and transported him to the hospital, where doctors diagnosed a congenital heart defect. As part of the ceremony, hockey supporters raised \$4,000 for Saving Tiny Hearts, a nonprofit working in the field of congenital heart defects. Photographs of the ceremony are [posted on the Village facebook page](#).

Employee news – Village Planner Craig Failor has received the Illinois Association of Park Districts and the Illinois Park and Recreation Association Community Service Award. Craig was recognized for his outstanding contributions to the advancement of parks, recreation and leisure in the Village with his volunteer work on the Ridgeland Common Recreation Complex's working group. The special awards ceremony is set for Feb. 19 at the Oak Park Conservatory. In other employee news, Todd Coleman has joined Parking Services as an Account Clerk II.

Park to host summer camp open house – The Park District will host an open house next week to let residents know about and register for upcoming summer camp opportunities. The event is scheduled for 4 to 7 p.m., Mon., Feb. 2 at Ridgeland Common Recreation Complex. Camp staff will be on hand to talk about the programs offered for all ages and interests. Registration will be on a first-come, first-served basis. For more details, visit www.pdop.org.

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