



**Village Manager's Report
Weeks ending November 18 and 25, 2016**

Meetings scheduled for the next two weeks:

- Monday, November 21:
 - Village Board Executive Session, 6:30 p.m., room 130
 - Village Board Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., room 201

- Tuesday, November 22:
 - First Time Homebuyer Seminar, 6 p.m., room 101
 - Board of Health, 7 p.m., room 102
 - HPC Education Committee, 7:30 p.m., room 215
 - Liquor Control Review Board, 7:30 p.m., room 124

- Wednesday, November 23:
 - No scheduled meetings

- Thursday, November 24:
 - Village Hall Closed

- Friday, November 25:
 - Village Hall Closed

- Monday, November 28:
 - Transportation Commission, 7 p.m., room 201

- Tuesday, November 29:
 - No scheduled meetings

- Wednesday, November 30:
 - Forestry Sub-Committee, 6:45 p.m., room 101
 - Community Design Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m., room 201

- Thursday, December 1:
 - Plan Commission, 7 p.m., room 201

Upcoming Committee Meetings and Special Meetings:

- Monday, December 5:
 - Village Board Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m. FY16 Budget Adoption

- Wednesday, December 7: HPC/CDC/EEC Joint Awards Ceremony, 7 p.m., 19th Century Club (doors open at 6:30)
- Monday, December 12: ONLY IF NEEDED Village Board Special Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Budget Adoption

Holiday to affect waste collection schedule – Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, residents whose refuse typically is collected on Thursday will have their service delayed until Friday, and Friday’s regular collection delayed until Saturday. Regular yard waste collection ends on Sat., Nov. 26, after which residents will need to call Waste Management at 888.656.5350 to arrange a special pick-up for a fee based on the quantity.

Parking restrictions eased – As in past years, [overnight parking restrictions](#) will not be enforced on most Oak Park residential streets during the Thanksgiving holiday. Overnight restrictions will be lifted at 2:30 a.m., Wed., Nov. 23 and resume at 2:30 a.m., Mon., Nov. 28. Restrictions will remain in effect in paid overnight permit areas, including on-street zones. Posted daytime restrictions and regulations related to traffic and public safety also remain in effect.

Village Hall closed for Thanksgiving – Village Hall will be closed on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 24 and 25, for Thanksgiving. Should an incident that doesn't quite rise to the level of a 911 emergency occur when Village Hall is closed, residents are urged to call the [Police Department](#) non-emergency number 708.386.3800 for assistance.

Free weekend parking begins – Efforts to promote shopping local begins the Friday after Thanksgiving when shoppers can park free in a public garage and for two hours at marked meters and pay-by-space stations downtown and in the vicinity of South Oak Park Avenue. Parking then will be free in the garages every Saturday and for two hours at these meters and pay-by-space lots through Dec. 25. Issues with the plastic bags in past years have staff investigating new ways to mark the meters with the free parking message.

Downtown construction updates – Repairs to the pedestrian crosswalks on Marion Street between Pleasant Street and South Boulevard shifted to the east side of the roadway this week, reducing traffic to one lane around the work sites. The granite crosswalk edging pavers are being replaced with white concrete, which should darken with time and traffic to blend in with the street palette, while maintaining visibility. The contractor also was expected to begin replacing granite crosswalk edging pavers where needed between South Boulevard and Lake Street. Meanwhile, soil and tree grates were expected to be placed on the south side and sod on the north side of South Boulevard, west of Marion Street, as the streetscape project winds down for the winter. Remaining concrete should be poured and street lights installed on the south side of the boulevard by the outdoor dining area and remaining electrical work completed along the north side. The area will be cleaned up prior to the holidays and any remaining work suspended until the spring.

Chicago Avenue resurfacing update – Crews were expected to finish resurfacing Chicago Avenue from Belleforte Avenue to Austin Boulevard before the Thanksgiving holiday, including pavement markings. The planter by the Frank Lloyd Wright Home & Studio also should be reconstructed before Thanksgiving. However, the northwest

corner of Chicago Avenue at Oak Park Avenue will remain closed to pedestrians for about two weeks to make adjustments to recent work. Parents of Holmes Elementary School students and crossing guards were notified of the impact on the intersection and urged to avoid that corner of the intersection until the work is completed.

Miscellaneous construction projects – Properties on the 500 and 600 blocks of Highland Avenue were connected to the new water main this week, with roadway reconstruction to begin next week. Brick restoration related to the new decorative street lighting continued on Harrison Street. Crews focused on punch-list and corrective items for the new bike parking facilities, with installation of the shelters expected to occur during the last week of November. Broken water main valves are scheduled to be replaced next week at Kenilworth Avenue and Garfield Street. Work will require closing Grove Avenue at Garfield Street on Wednesday (Nov. 23), and Garfield from Oak Park Avenue to Clinton Avenue from Tuesday, Nov. 22 until Friday Nov. 25.

Public Works activities – Street Division crews removed alley speed tables and trained equipment operators on snow plowing and sidewalk clearing procedures in preparation for the coming winter. Crews also continued their overnight leaf-pushing duties as the fall collection program moves into its final weeks. Continued unseasonably warm weather allowed Water & Sewer Division crews to complete water service upgrades as part of the lead abatement program at 605 Carpenter Ave., 1129 Wesley Ave. and 819 Woodbine Ave. Crews also reset a water shut off valve at 443 Lenox Ave. and jetted sewers at various locations. Parkway tree planting has been completed for the season allowing Forestry Division crews to resume regular maintenance activities throughout the Village.

Financial reporting approach honored – The Village’s 2015 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) has earned a *Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting* from the [Government Finance Officers Association](#), which represents public finance officials throughout the United States and Canada. According to the association, the certificate of achievement is the highest form of recognition in government accounting and financial reporting. CAFRs are [posted on the Village website](#) along with a wide range of financial documents and reports. [Click here to read the award letter.](#)

Employee news – The Community Relations Department has welcomed Megan Tideman as a new intern who will handle a variety of tasks in support of the Department. Megan is a certified mediator and has a wide range of experience in cultural inclusion programs and racial diversity initiatives. She will earn a master’s degree in conflict resolution at Dominican University in January. Environmental Services Manager Karen Rozmus received the *Lifetime Achievement Award* from [Illinois Counties Solid Waste Managers Association](#) for her significant contributions to the industry.

###