



**Village Manager's Report
Week ending Feb. 8, 2013**

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- February 9: WCMC Legislative Breakfast, 9 a.m., Rosewood Restaurant, 9421 W. Higgins Road, Rosemont
- February 11:
 - Village Board Finance Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., room 101
- February 12:
 - Village Board Special Meeting Performance Management, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Medical Reserve Corps., 7 p.m., room 102
- February 13:
 - Farmers Market Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
- February 14:
 - Civic Information System Commission, 7 p.m., room 215
 - Historic Preservation Commission, 7:30 p.m., room 201

Save the date reminders (see calendar for all future meetings):

- February 18: Village Hall closed
- February 19: Village Board Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., room 201
- February 20: Comprehensive Plan Visioning Event, 7:30 p.m., 19th Century Club, 178 Forest Ave.

Annual health award nominations – The Health Department has launched its annual call for nominations of individuals and organizations that made exceptional contributions to improving the health of Oak Parkers during 2012. Recipients of the William Fitzsimmons Award will be honored during 2013 Public Health Week, April 1-7. If you know of an individual or organization that should be nominated, the form may be downloaded at www.oak-park.us/health – look for the link along the right margin. Nomination forms also are available at Village Hall. The nomination deadline is 5 p.m., Friday, March 22. The Fitzsimmons Award is named for local physician and humanitarian William Fitzsimmons who served as the Health Department's medical consultant from 1976 to 1992.

Harlem Avenue viaduct study update – The first draft of a lengthy, in-depth engineering study of the Harlem Avenue viaduct and adjacent streets has been completed. The project, a joint undertaking by the villages of Forest Park, Oak Park and River Forest begun in 2009, sought to identify ways to improve the geometric deficiencies of the viaduct, as well as improve the connections between the various transportation modes that converge in the area. A grant from the Federal Highway Administration covered 80 percent of the costs for the study, which was conducted by [H.W. Lochner](#). River Forest, as the lead agency on the project, is coordinating the final report, which will be made available to the public once completed. The next step is to submit the draft report to the Illinois Department of Transportation for final review.

I-GO solar canopy update – As Chicago-based not-for-profit car sharing company [I-GO](#) moves closer to installing a solar canopy to generate power for recharging its electric vehicles here in Oak Park, they are re-examining their current locations in the Village. The company now has cars at six locations in Oak Park, including at Village Hall. The sites for the charging stations were previously approved by the Village Board. However, I-Go has not proceeded with installation and questions have arisen about the best locations now that canopy design information is available. Preferred sites for the canopy likely will be higher-use areas in the community near high-traffic, transit access points, such as along the Blue or Green lines. Once new and preferred sites are selected, staff will bring an amended contract to the Village Board for consideration. The installation of charging stations could mean more all-electric cars in I-Go's Oak Park fleet.

Employee update – Information Technology has chosen its new Operations Manager from its own ranks. Tomas Kilikevicius, who has been a Network Specialist with the Village since 2006, has shown great self-initiative and made major contributions to the organization, including many behind-the-scenes solutions to issues faced by individual employees. We welcome him in his new role and look forward to continued success with his new duties.

Public Works activities – The Water & Sewer Division repaired a water main break at the southwest corner of the intersection of Madison Street and Ridgeland Avenue. Crews also repaired the public side of the sewer lateral at 1026 S. Elmwood Avenue and replaced a catch basin at the southeast corner of Euclid and Fillmore Street. The Forestry Division and contractor Winkler Tree Service continued pruning parkway trees between South Boulevard and Chicago Avenue, from Harlem Avenue to Austin Boulevard.

Snow removal activities – Public Works Department crews have been busy salting and plowing Village streets. Snow fell on Wed., Jan. 30, Sat., Feb. 2, Mon., Feb. 4 and Tue., Feb. 5. Each storm produced less than an inch of snow with the exception of Feb. 2, when a little over 2.5 inches of snow accumulated.

Nicor Community Challenge Update – Residents are weighing in online with their choice of the local organization to receive up to \$25,000 from Nicor to fund a project to improve energy efficiency. As of Thursday, more than 800 people had voted online, with the coalition of six [West Suburban PADS](#) homeless shelters holding a narrow lead over the [West Cook YMCA](#). Once voting ends at 5 p.m., Mon., Feb. 11, promotion efforts will shift to getting Oak Parkers to sign up for a Nicor energy-monitoring

program, [Energy Buzz](#). Each business and resident who signs up will add \$50 toward the maximum \$25,000 grant. Nicor is testing the Community Challenge in Oak Park and Evanston. People already are signing up for Energy Buzz and so far, Oak Park is leading Evanston. If you are interested in checking out how we are doing toward reaching our goal, visit www.nicorgasrebates.com/challenge. If you still have not voted on the organization you wish to get the funds Oak Parkers help raise, just [click here](#).

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