



Village Manager's Report  
Weeks ending November 22 and 29, 2019

Meetings scheduled for next two weeks:

- Monday, Nov. 25:
  - Village Board Special Meeting, 7 p.m., room 201 (Council Chamber)
- Tuesday, Nov. 26:
  - Board of Health, 7 p.m., room 102
- Wednesday, Nov. 27:
  - No meetings scheduled
- Thursday, Nov. 28:
  - No meetings scheduled – Village Hall closed for Thanksgiving
- Friday, Nov. 29:
  - No meetings scheduled – Village Hall closed for Thanksgiving
- Monday, Dec. 2:
  - Village Board Executive Session *tentative*, 6:30 p.m., room 130
  - Village Board Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Council Chamber
- Tuesday, Dec. 3:
  - Environment & Energy Commission, 7 p.m., room 124
- Wednesday, Dec. 4:
  - Citizen Involvement Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
- Wednesday, Dec. 5:
  - Plan Commission 7 p.m., Council Chamber
- Thursday, Dec. 6:
  - No meetings scheduled
- Fri., Dec. 7
  - No meetings scheduled

**Holiday refuse collection delay** – Refuse, recycling and yard waste collection will be delayed by the Thanksgiving holiday. Thursday's [regular pick-up](#) will be delayed until Friday, and Friday's collection delayed until Saturday. Residents with questions are urged to call 708.358.5700 or email [publicworks@oak-park.us](mailto:publicworks@oak-park.us).

**Village Hall holiday closings** – [Village Hall](#) will be closed on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 28 and 29, for Thanksgiving. Regular business hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. [Parking Services](#) is open until 7 p.m. Mondays except holidays. 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.

**Parking restrictions eased** – As in past years, [overnight on-street 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. 27 and resume at 2:30 a.m., Mon., Dec. 2. Restrictions will remain in effect in paid overnight permit areas, including on-street zones.

**Free weekend parking** – The annual holiday parking program begins next week with free parking on Saturdays in public garages and for two hours at pay-by-plate stations and marked meters downtown and in the vicinity of south Oak Park Avenue. The program, which includes the Friday after Thanksgiving, continues through Dec. 25. Of course, parking in Oak Park is always free on Sundays. The program is intended to thank residents and visitors who shop locally.

**Stepped up traffic enforcement** – The Oak Park Police Department is joining law enforcement agencies across the state in a traffic safety campaign focusing on impaired and unbuckled drivers. Stepped-up patrols will include seat belt enforcement zones and roadside safety checks during what typically is one of the busiest travel times of the year. More on the campaign is [posted on the Village website](#).

**Electricity-powered transportation planning** – Members of the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Environmental Committee chose Oak Park to begin discussions of how to design a program to prepare municipalities to support and encourage greater use of electric vehicles. Members gathered at Village Hall to hear from Oak Park Village staff and discuss what municipalities may need to consider when purchasing electric vehicles and installing charging stations, preparing for expanded electricity-powered transportation and applying for grant funds that may be available to support local efforts. The Village was chosen to host the program's kick-off gathering because of our early adoption of electric municipal vehicles, charging stations and EV-friendly public policies. More information about the committee and its work is posted online – [just click here](#).

**Fleet honored** – [Heavy Duty Trucking magazine](#) has named the Village one of its 2019 *Top Green Fleets*. The award recognizes long-term commitments to sustainability and the promotion of fuel efficiency and alternative fuels, participating in green pilot projects, and testing new technologies. In addition to a certificate honoring the achievement, our Public Works Department's Fleet Services Division was featured among the 25 award recipients in the November issue of the magazine – [click here to see the electronic version](#).

**Solar purchasing pool** – Oak Park is among the first nine communities to jump into the purchasing pool for the first community solar project in Illinois. The Metropolitan Mayors Caucus created the [Community Solar Clearinghouse Solutions](#) (CS2) to help municipalities subscribe through the purchasing pool for new solar projects for public

facilities. This new initiative not only will save municipalities money, but also is a step toward achieving the [Greenest Region Compact](#) goal of advancing renewable energy. [Click here to read more](#) about the innovative approach to supporting environmental sustainability.

**Landlord training** – The second of two opportunities for rental property owners or their agents to complete the required crime-free housing training seminar is scheduled for 9 a.m. to noon, Mon., Dec. 9, at Village Hall. All rental unit owners or their designated agents are required to complete the training each year regardless of the number of units owned. Training this year incorporates a discussion of the impacts of recreational and medical marijuana on rental properties. The training also will offer suggestions for how property owners can help maximize the Oak Park count in the 2020 Census by reaching renters, who are what officials call *hard-to-count* constituents. The training is hosted by the Neighborhood Services Division of the Development Customer Services Department.

**Miscellaneous construction updates** – While weather has slowed all of the season's remaining construction projects, crews still hope to apply the remaining specialty bicycle lane symbols and install parking signs on Madison Street before Thanksgiving. Preparation work for next spring's scheduled water main replacement project on Austin Boulevard between Chicago Avenue and Lake Street got underway at Lake Street and will continue through next week before shutting down for the winter. City of Chicago contractors remain optimistic that they can wrap up the resurfacing project underway on Austin Boulevard between Iowa Street and North Avenue before Thanksgiving.

**Employee news** – Mary Avinger, an administrative assistant in the Public Works Department, is now a [Certified Administrative Professional \(CAP\)](#). To earn the certification through the [International Association of Administrative Professionals \(IAAP\)](#), Mary had to demonstrate proficiency in a wide range of measurable performance outcomes, including organizational communications, business writing, office and records management, and event and project. Fleet Services Superintendent Ken Crowley is now a [Certified Automotive Fleet Manager](#) through the [National Association of Fleet Administrators \(NAFA\)](#). To earn the certification, Ken had to master eight professional development disciplines within a three-year period, including asset, business, financial, information, maintenance, risk and vehicle fuel management. In other employee news, members of the Police Department are supporting the [Movember Foundation](#) this month by growing mustaches and beards to raise awareness of men's health issues. In addition to relaxing the Department's hair and facial hair standards for male officers during November, female officers have been permitted to wear nail polish and/or photos and pins honoring the men in their lives.

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