



Village Manager's Report
Weeks ending February 3, 2017

Meetings scheduled for the next week:

- Saturday, February 4
 - i-Gov workshop, 9:30 a.m., Austin Gardens Environmental Education Center, 167 Forest Ave.

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

- Tuesday, February 7:
 - Environmental & Energy Commission, 7 p.m., room 130
 - HPC Education Committee, 7:30 p.m., room 215

- Wednesday, February 8:
 - Special Community Design Commission, 6:45 p.m., room 101
 - Farmers Market Commission, 7 p.m., room 102

- Thursday, February 9:
 - Civic Information Systems Commission, 7 p.m., room 215
 - Historic Preservation Commission, 7:30 p.m., room 201

- Friday, February 10:
 - No scheduled meetings

Lake Street open house – The Engineering Division will host an open house next week for residents and business operators interested in learning more about major improvements being planned for Lake Street. The event is scheduled for 6:30 to 9 p.m., Wed., Feb. 8 at Village Hall. Individuals may drop by any time during the open house to view exhibits, speak with Village staff and consultants, and comment on the project. Exhibits on display will illustrate various aspects of the proposed project that is intended to replace infrastructure that has reached the end of its life cycle, while also improving walkability, accessibility and traffic flow along this important Oak Park corridor. More information on the proposed project is posted at www.oak-park.us/lakestreetimprovements.

Two Brothers eyeing Oak Park – Crain's Chicago Business reported Wednesday that the family behind Two Brothers Brewing had signed a letter of intent to purchase the former Marion Street Cheese Market space to open their fifth restaurant. The story indicated the deal is moving forward to bring a full-service restaurant featuring Two Brothers beers and a shop featuring their coffee to the 5,000-square-foot space that

has been vacant since September. The story also notes the *construction boom* underway downtown. [Click here to read the story...](#)

Internet service speed survey – Working with the Civic Information Systems Commission, the Communications Department has created an online survey to help gather information about the current state of internet service and learn more about what the community wants in terms of speed. Information gathered through the survey will help the commission make recommendations for the Village Board to consider for improving internet service in the community. The survey, which also is promoted in the February issue of the OP/FYI newsletter, is posted at www.oak-park.us/speedsurvey.

2016 services by the numbers – The annual by-the-numbers summary of public services provided by the Village is included in the February issue of the OP/FYI newsletter, which should be arriving in mailboxes this week. As the article explains, and accompanying infographic illustrates, many might say Oak Park is a small town, but the municipal services that make the Village such a great place to live, work and do business are anything but small. [Click here to view a snapshot of municipal service delivery in 2016...](#)

Bicycle parking update – Work resumed this week on bicycle parking projects around the community. Contractors caulked shelter roofs and adjusted the layout of the fix-it stations that will allow riders to make minor repairs and fill tires. Installation of the parking racks will continue through next week at the various locations.

Public Works Activities – Street Division crews continued to focus on filling potholes, patching street openings where water main repairs had been made and picking up litter throughout the Village. Water & Sewer Division crews repaired a broken water line valve at Chicago and Oak Park avenues and a broken water service and main at 915 N. Grove Ave. Tree pruning continued between Chicago Avenue and South Boulevard from Austin Boulevard to Harlem Avenue, as well as between Division Street and Chicago Avenue from East Avenue to Austin Boulevard. A contractor also is removing diseased and damaged trees identified during the pruning, with the focus primarily on ash trees infested with the emerald ash borer.

Employee news – Public Works Department Fleet Superintendent Ken Crowley was featured in the January issue of *Field & Bean* magazine, a publication of the Illinois Soybean Association. Ken has been an advocate of expanding the use of biodiesel in our municipal vehicles. Under Ken's leadership, the Fleet Division became a member of the B20 Club, a program created by the Illinois Soybean Association and American Lung Association to help promote the use of biodiesel fuel manufactured domestically from waste products. B20 has been the diesel product of choice for the Village since 2008. All 70-plus municipal diesel vehicles run on B20 biodiesel fuel, including fire engines and snow plows. By using biodiesel fuel, the Village is helping to reduce greenhouse gas and promote greater diversity in fuel supplies. [Click here to read the article about Ken...](#)

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