



**For Immediate Release:** 03.16.06

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**Dame to Become City Manager of Grosse Pointe, Michigan**

Deputy Village Manager Peter J. Dame has accepted the position of City Manager of the Detroit suburb of Grosse Pointe, Michigan, a community of about 5,700 residents on the southwestern shore of Lake St. Clair. Dame's last day in Oak Park will be April 11.

"Pete has been a key member of the management team of the Village of Oak Park, a role that I know has prepared him well to take such an important career step," said Village President David G. Pope. "I am extremely happy for him both professionally and personally. He will have the opportunity to do what his training and experience have prepared him to do, and do it in his home state, which has long been of interest to him."

Grosse Pointe is about 100 miles from Dame's hometown near Kalamazoo and he is a graduate of the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, which is a short distance from Grosse Pointe. He also holds a Masters Degree in public administration from George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

"Pete's selection as manager by the Grosse Pointe City Council is an acknowledgement of the high caliber of professional staff in Oak Park," Village Manager Carl Swenson said. "His experience and expertise in Oak Park will be greatly missed. But individuals with his credentials will always be sought by other communities."

Dame joined the Oak Park Village Manager's Office in 1994 after five and a half years as a Congressional aide. During his tenure in Oak Park, he has managed a wide variety of activities, including the successful launch of the Village's free shuttle system, the design of the innovative, environmentally sensitive new Public Works building, economic development projects such as the Holley Court parking garage expansion and wayfinding system, and the launch of the Village's cable TV channel.

He also has had numerous intergovernmental achievements such as completion of the downtown Oak Park Intermodal station that links Metra and CTA trains, and PACE and CTA bus routes. In addition, he has led efforts to promote multimodal alternatives to the Eisenhower Expressway expansion and mitigate the highway's impacts with a cap that would reconnect the community and establish new park space. Dame and his family live in Oak Park near the Eisenhower Expressway.

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"I have often said and truly believe that one of the best parts of working for the Village of Oak Park was the opportunity to live here and be a part of the community," Dame said. "My Oak Park years will always have a special place in our family history, as our three children were born here, and we became a part of this community.

"The opportunity to be the chief administrator of a community as attractive as Grosse Pointe in my home state is too good to pass up. The parallels between Oak Park and Grosse Pointe are striking as both are premier original suburbs adjacent to the central city, each with renewed interest in development of their unique downtowns and a highly cherished quality of life. My experiences in Oak Park will be of great benefit and offer valuable perspective."

In his role as City Manager of Grosse Pointe, Dame, as the chief administrative official, will be responsible for day-to-day operation of government services, organizational development, budgeting and labor relations. He also will work with the city council and administrative staff to craft strategic and financial planning objectives, and serve as an ambassador for the community to other governmental agencies.

Established in 1893 and incorporated as a home rule city in 1934, Grosse Pointe is a 20 minute drive from Detroit's central business and convention district.

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