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Community Meeting Planned to Discussed OPRF High School Parking Options

A community meeting to gather neighborhood input on a new parking management plan under consideration for the Oak Park and River Forest High School neighborhood is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., Thurs., April 4. The meeting will be held in the Little Theater of the high school, 201 N. Scoville Ave.

Officials from the Village and School District 200 will present an overview of the need for additional parking and outline available options, including building a multi-level garage on vacant high school property north of Lake Street just south of the field house.

“Just building a garage would not completely solve the parking issues in the area,” said Village Trustee Gus Kostopulos, Parking and Traffic Commission liaison. “By making the garage a component of a broader plan, however, the Village would be able to dramatically reduce the impact parking has on the surrounding neighborhood.”

A parking management plan for the neighborhood likely would include new on-street permit parking for teachers along the school side of its perimeter and student parking on South Boulevard, according to Kostopulos. The plan also would need to address the need for parking for school buses, special events and Park District activities, as well as the overnight parking needs of neighborhood residents.

“Parking near the high school has been a long-standing issue for the neighborhood surrounding the high school,” Kostopulos explained. “Everyone has worked hard to manage the limited parking supply in the area, but regulations can only go so far. Demand far exceeds supply. We need to come up with ways to create additional parking.”

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Community Meeting Agenda

7:30 P.M., Thursday April 4

Little Theater

OPRF High School

201 N. Scoville Ave.

Agenda

- 1) Introductions & Brief Process Review
- 2) Overview of Parking Alternatives
 - a) Teacher/Staff Parking
 - b) Student Parking
 - c) Residential Parking
 - d) Special Event/Bus Parking
- 3) Next Steps
 - a) Outreach & Coordination with Stakeholders
 - b) Design Concept & Construction
- 4) Calendar
 - a) Intergovernmental Agreement
 - b) Future Meetings
 - c) Design/Construction & Parking Implementation
- 5) Questions & Answers