



For Immediate Release: 11.25.02

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Village Seeking Dedicated, Year-Round Bicyclists

The Village is seeking dedicated, year-round cyclists who are interested in renting one of five secure, weatherproof bike lockers to be installed on North Boulevard at the intermodal transportation station near the Marion Street mall.

Each bicycle locker, designed to fully enclose a bike, will be available beginning January 1 for an annual fee of \$100 and a refundable key deposit of \$25.

Anyone interested in renting a locker, must contact the Village at 358.5726, or at bikelocker@oak-park.us by December 20.

The Village will hold a drawing from the pool of interested applicants, with the first five names drawn given the first choice to rent a locker. Remaining names will be placed on a waiting list in the order they are drawn and contacted as lockers become available.

To be eligible for the drawing, applicants must ride their bikes year-round for a portion of their commute to work, be at least 18 years old and be an Oak Park resident. The bicycle also must be registered with the Police Department by the time a *Bike Parking Application*, locker rental fee and key deposit are submitted.

Depending on the interest and success of this program, additional lockers may be installed in other areas of the Village.

“The Village has long been committed to making our community more bicycle-friendly,” said Village Manager Carl Swenson. “The number of cars on our streets has increased dramatically over the past several years, placing greater demands on our already short supply of parking. Encouraging more residents to bicycle to mass transit stations is good for the Village.”

In addition to the new lockers, the Village also has installed bicycle racks at municipal parking lots and erected signs to encourage motorists to share the roads with bicyclists. The Village also designated Augusta Avenue a part of the Grand Illinois Trail, a 475-mile bicycling loop between Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River.

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