



Village Manager's Report
Week ending Feb. 9, 2018

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, Feb. 12:
 - Personnel Committee, 6 p.m., room 130
 - Special Meeting of the Village Board, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Transportation Commission, 7 p.m., room 201 (Council Chamber)

- Tuesday, Feb. 13:
 - No meetings scheduled

- Wednesday, Feb. 14:
 - Farmers' Market Commission, 7 p.m., room 101

- Thursday, Feb. 15:
 - Building Codes Advisory Commission, 5:30 p.m., room 215

- Friday, Feb. 16:
 - No meetings scheduled

Snow report -- Public Works crews have been clearing and salting streets and sidewalks since Saturday (Feb. 3), but their stamina was put to the test last night and today (Feb. 8 and 9) as the season's biggest storm descended on the area. By mid-morning today, snow totals varied from six to eight inches cross Oak Park. The Public Works Department had 13 large trucks on the streets, four smaller pick-up truck plows in the alleys and one specialty piece of equipment clearing sidewalks by the mass transit stations, schools and other public crossings. The snow emergency parking rules were implemented Thursday night in advance of the storm, which banned all parking on major roadways around the clock and limited parking on residential streets to one side from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Just how long the regulations will remain has not yet been determined. With forecasts of additional waves of snow over the next couple of days, crews are expected to continue working through much of the weekend. Police reported that the streets were remarkably calm overnight Thursday into Friday morning, given the road conditions. They credit the school districts' early decision to close today with reducing traffic during the morning rush, which may have allowed the plows to do a better job and thereby reduce the chances of accidents.

Crime-free housing seminar – The Development Customer Services Department's Neighborhood Services Division held its first [Crime Free Housing Program](#) training workshop of the season this week for rental property owners and managers. About 40 participants were in the Council Chamber for the workshop, which featured representatives of the Community Relations, Police, Fire and Health departments,

Housing Center, Housing Authority and Shriver Center on Poverty Law. Village property inspectors also participated as did the Village's Sustainability Manager. In addition to important details on the Crime Free Housing Program, information on fire prevention, rodent control and sustainability was presented. Planning for future workshops is underway.

CDBG application process – The application process for distribution of Community Development Block Grant and Emergency Solutions Grant funds to local organizations officially began today (Fri., Feb. 9). An estimated \$215,000 in Village Public Service CDBG funds, \$20,000 in Public Facilities Improvements CDBG funds for one project and \$125,000 in ESG funds are available for plan year 2018, which runs from Oct. 1, 2018 to Sept. 30, 2019. Additional plan year 2018 grant funds will be set aside for Village-run activities that fall within the program rules. Non-profit organizations and other agencies that meet federal eligibility guidelines have until March 9 to apply. A mandatory application workshop was scheduled for this afternoon. More information on the program and application process is [posted on the Village website](#).

A Day in Our Village exhibitor registration – Exhibitor registration for [A Day in Our Village](#) is now open through Fri., May 18 at www.oak-park.us/diovreregistration. June 3 will be the 45th consecutive year the Village has sponsored the festival on the first Sunday in June. Considered one of the area's premier community events, the festival provides an opportunity for current and prospective residents to discover the diversity and variety of civic, cultural, social service, business, educational and religious organizations and groups in the Village. Last year, more than 160 vendors filled Scoville Park, while musicians provided entertainment and local restaurants set up a food court by the library.

Miscellaneous construction updates – The week's cold and snowy weather postponed the annual cleaning and inspections of sewer mains as well as the data collection surveys for next construction season's road and utility projects. Activity will resume as weather allows. Sewer inspections are nearing completion. With the demolition of the former District 97 administrative building and Robinson's Ribs Restaurant on Madison Street at Home Avenue completed, the fencing is expected to come down and the sidewalks opened to pedestrians next week.

Public Works activities – Street Division crews had no time for tasks other than snow removal operations throughout the week, a task that often involves staff from other divisions as conditions warrant. In addition to assisting with snow removal, Water & Sewer Division crews reset water shut-off valves at 945 S. Grove Ave. and 1134 Wisconsin Ave., and continued inspecting and thawing fire hydrants throughout the Village as needed. Tree trimming continued this week, although hampered somewhat by the weather. Crews are on now on East Avenue, with work scheduled to move east between Division Street and North Avenue.

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