



Village Manager's Report Week ending March 5, 2021

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, March 8:
 - Village Board Special Meeting, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom
- Tuesday, March 9:
 - Transportation Commission, 7 p.m., via Zoom
- Wednesday, March 10:
 - Farmers' Market Commission, 7 p.m., via Zoom
- Thursday, March 11:
 - Historic Preservation Commission, 7 p.m., via Zoom
- Friday, March 12:
 - No meetings scheduled

CDBG funding notification – Oak Park is set to receive \$1,629,530 in federal Community Development Block Grant funds for Program Year 2021, which runs from Oct. 1, 2021 through Sept. 30, 2022. The Village's share is down about 2.23 percent from the previous program year, or about \$36,000. This will be the second consecutive program year that the Village will not receive separate Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds for homelessness assistance. The Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee (CDCAC) typically makes its annual recommendation to the Village Board for local allocation of CDBG funds in June.

Plan Commission action – The Plan Commission voted 6 to 3 in support of the proposed mixed use planned development at 203 S. Marion St. The item likely will be set for review at the March 15 Village Board Meeting. The majority of the commission members said they felt that the development was appropriate for the area, while also noting the need for some additional aesthetic improvements. The commission did add conditions, including requiring an on-site manager in perpetuity, seeking a minority or women-owned business enterprise operator and not allowing tenants to seek on-street overnight parking permits. In other business, the Commission unanimously recommended approval of a Zoning Ordinance text amendment to allow a live/work dwelling unit as a special use in the Madison Street Zoning District and approved the special use application to allow a unit at 1114 Madison St.

Zoning Board update – The Zoning Board of Appeals continued until April the hearing for the special use permit for a double drive through lane at the McDonald's, 111 Madison St. While no opponents attended the hearing, three letters in opposition to the proposal were submitted and read into the record.

Oak Park Avenue improvements – Traffic control and detour signs were installed this week on Oak Park Avenue between Harrison Street and Jackson Boulevard as the season’s largest construction project is about to get underway. Materials and equipment were delivered and staged with water main installation set to begin Monday (March 8). Meanwhile, traffic control signs will be going up and materials and equipment staged next week for the water main work on Oak Park Avenue between Chicago Avenue and Augusta Street. All underground work is expected to be completed in June and then be followed by resurfacing from Roosevelt Road to North Avenue, except for the section between Pleasant and Ontario streets. The project is expected to be completed in November. Construction details and schedules are available at a dedicated website, www.opaveanew.com.

New business licenses – Six new business licenses were issued in February by the Development Customer Services Department. New business licenses were issued to coffee roaster and retailer Whirlwind Coffee Company, 513 Madison; fitness studio Solarium, 502 S. Oak Park Ave.; home kitchen operation Sugar Blitz, 110 Bishop Quarter Lane; massage and acupuncture site Mend Wellness, 840 S. Oak Park Ave; and homebased health care firm Alinda Care, 6636 Roosevelt Road. A business license also was issued for the new corporate headquarters of Turano Bakery, 6501 Roosevelt Road.

Madison/Euclid project update – Infrastructure relocation activities near the intersection of Madison Street and Euclid Avenue continues, as AT&T and ComEd crews make way for the new senior living facility to be built there. Nicor has resumed routine infrastructure inspections, with crews currently working between Harrison Street and Jackson Boulevard, and between Gunderson Avenue and Austin Boulevard.

Employee recognition event – Forty-nine Village employees will be recognized for their years of service at the virtual Village Board meeting scheduled for 6:30 p.m., Monday (March 8). Award categories are in five year increments through 40 years. Employees scheduled to be recognized have been invited to participate via Zoom, and also may have members of their families present for the meeting. The meeting link was provided via a special email to those employees who are to be recognized for their service to the community.

Employee news – Tom Fulton has been named permanent supervisor of the Water & Sewer Division of the Public Works Department, a role he has filled in an interim capacity since July 2020. A 17-year-veteran with the Department, Tom previously served as supervisor of the Streets and Street Lighting Divisions. Having also worked in a wide range of other roles within the Department, Tom brings a hands-on understanding of how all Public Works operations must work together to deliver vital public services to the community.

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