



**Village Manager's Report**  
**Week ending Dec. 3, 2021**

**Meetings scheduled for next week:**

- Monday, Dec. 6:
  - Village Board Meeting, 7 p.m. via Zoom
- Tuesday, Dec. 7:
  - Energy & Environment Commission, 5:30 p.m., via Zoom
- Wednesday, Dec. 8:
  - Building Codes Advisory Commission, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom
- Thursday, Dec. 9:
  - Historic Preservation Commission, 7:30 p.m., via Zoom
- Friday, Dec. 10:
  - No meetings scheduled

**COVID-19 Weekly Activity Reports are posted at [www.oak-park.us/covid19](http://www.oak-park.us/covid19)**  
**just click on the *Village Manager Reports* heading**

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**Climate action website launches** – Oak Parkers are being asked to provide input for the Village's *Climate Action Plan* via a newly launched interactive platform at [www.oak-park.us/climateplan](http://www.oak-park.us/climateplan). Residents also may send input via the dedicated email [ClimatePlan@oak-park.us](mailto:ClimatePlan@oak-park.us). The website is part of a Village-led initiative to create a *Comprehensive Sustainability and Climate Action Resiliency Plan*, or *Climate Plan* for short. Residents will be given a wide range of opportunities to get involved in helping set goals and objectives. In-person public engagement will begin tomorrow (Sat., Dec. 4) at the [Winterfest and Cookie Walk](#) in downtown Oak Park where Village staff and the consultant team will have an outdoor station.

**ZBA supports downtown hotel** – The Zoning Board of Appeals voted 5 to 1 this week to recommended approval of the [special use application](#) to operate a Holiday Inn Express and Suites Hotel at 1140 Lake St. The project will include adding one floor on top of the existing five-story portion of the building in the front. One of the conditions set by the ZBA is to work out delivery logistics during the permit stage, as several residents testified about current traffic issues in the alley/private road between FFC and Chipotle, as well as in the alley. According to the applicant, deliveries should be limited since the hotel will not have a bar or restaurant. In addition, the online check-in process will direct patrons to use the proposed hotel entrance via the second floor from the Holley Court parking structure, which should

help offset traffic issues. The ZBA also required the applicant to move the proposed projecting sign to the west side of the building instead of the east side as originally proposed. This ZBA recommendation likely will come to the Village Board for consideration in January.

**Plan Commission action** – The Plan Commission voted 7 to 1 last night (Dec. 2) to continue the hearing for the 7 Van Buren St. development application to Dec. 16. All public testimony, cross examinations and commissioner questions were concluded at last night's meeting, with the main focus of the conversation continuing to be on parking concerns. The Commission will take up the summaries by the applicant, objectors and rebuttals to objections before deliberating and crafting a recommendation on both the development application and the application to vacate a portion of Van Buren Street. Pending the outcome of the Dec. 16 meeting, the findings of fact will be reviewed and approved by the Commission at its Jan. 6 meeting. All documents related to Plan Commission hearings are [posted on the Village website](#). Recordings of all commission meetings are posted online at [www.oak-park.us/commissiontv](http://www.oak-park.us/commissiontv).

**COVID-19 Business grant update** – Another 71 grant applications totaling about \$207,000 have been approved for local businesses and non-profit organizations. To date, the federally-funded program administered by the Village has distributed nearly \$700,000. This latest round of awards includes 27 for past-due rent/mortgage assistance and 33 for PPE reimbursement assistance to businesses. Eleven applications also were approved for PPE reimbursement for local non-profit organizations. An additional 16 applications are currently under review. A complete list of grant recipients is [posted on the Village website](#).

**Pete's Fresh Market construction** - ComEd crews have begun underground work on Euclid Avenue from Randolph Street to Washington Boulevard as part of the new Pete's Fresh Market that is coming to Madison Street. The work is expected to take about three weeks. ComEd also has started underground work on the south side of Washington Boulevard from Euclid Avenue to the alley directly to the east, work that is projected to take two weeks. Signs prohibiting parking have been posted, and temporary parking permits provided to residents whose parking is affected. Overhead utility work likely will be delayed. Updates will be provided as soon as they are available. In the meantime, Pete's contractors are still awaiting a permit to erect a fence around the construction site.

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