



**Village Manager's Report
Week ending February 24, 2023**

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, February 27:
 - Village Board meeting, 6:30 p.m., Council Chambers
 - Citizen Police Oversight Committee, 7 p.m., Room 124

- Tuesday, February 28:
 - Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee, 6 p.m., Council Chambers
 - Board of Health Commission, 6 p.m., Room 102

- Wednesday, March 1:
 - Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m., Council Chambers
 - Citizen Involvement Commission, 7 p.m., Room 101

- Thursday, March 2:
 - Building Codes Advisory Commission, 5:30 p.m., Room 215
 - Plan Commission, 7 p.m., Council Chambers

- Friday, March 3:
 - No meetings scheduled

**COVID-19 Weekly Reports are posted at www.oak-park.us/covid19
just click on the *Status report bulletin* heading**

Black History Month Honors Celebration – The Village hosted its inaugural Black History Month Honors Celebration at the Nineteenth Century Club on February 18. The family-friendly event featured food, entertainment, speakers, fellowship and more. The celebration was designed to honor five areas or themes: history, youth, voice, resistance and solidarity. A recording of the entire program, as well as photos from the event, are available at <https://www.oak-park.us/bhmhc23>.

Child Care Business Assistance Grant Awards Exceed \$100,000 – The Village's current 2023 Business Assistance Grant Program, designed to assist Oak Park Child Care Providers who were greatly impacted by the COVID-19 emergency, has processed nine (9) grants totaling \$106,750. Overall, the Village has processed 321 business assistance grants, totaling \$1,073,959.43 in assistance, since the start of the COVID-19 emergency. Anyone operating a licensed child care business in Oak Park and interested in obtaining more information about the business grant assistance program, is encouraged to contact the Village's Development Customer Services Department at business@oak-park.us.

Public Parking Garage Daily Parking Revenue and Utilization Increasing in 2023 – Data regarding the daily customer use and parking revenue generation at the Village of Oak Park’s Holley Court, Avenue and Lake & Forest parking garages in January of 2023 shows an increase in utilization and revenue compared to recent years. January 2023 daily parking revenue at the three garages all show an increase over the same time period in 2022 and 2021. However, January 2023 customer parking utilization is still below the totals recorded pre-COVID-19. Overall daily garage revenue collected in January 2023 is as follows:

- **Holley Court Garage** – **50% higher** revenue than January 2022 and 13% lower revenue than 2019 (Down \$6,791 compared to 2019);
- **The Avenue Garage** – **47% higher** revenue than January 2022 and 31% lower revenue than 2019 (Down \$10,107 compared to 2019); and
- **Lake & Forest Garage** – **17% higher** revenue than January 2022 and 37% lower revenue than 2019 (Down \$15,291 compared to 2019).

In combination, daily parking garage revenue at the three public parking garages is **up 38.4%** over January 2022 totals. Click [here](#) to see the comparison of revenue, by month, from 2019 to the present, in each of the three parking garages.

Climate Ready Oak Park highlighted - On February 22, Oak Park’s climate and sustainability plan, Climate Ready Oak Park, was highlighted at the Midwest Climate Summit session “Climate Action Planning: Bringing Communities Together to Equitably Address Sustainability, Transit, and Green Infrastructure.” Sustainability Coordinator Marcella Bondie Keenan joined the conversation virtually, in a discussion with the Climate Ready planning team. Learn more at www.midwestclimatecollaborative.wustl.edu/summit.

Block event applications open March 1 – Public works will begin accepting applications for the 2023 block party and sale season on Wednesday, March 1. The seasons runs from April 1 – October 31. Each block is limited to two events. The event can be a block party, a block sale or a combination of both. The total number of events is limited to 30 per weekend, but may be limited on any given weekend due to other Village commitments. More information is available at <https://www.oak-park.us/blockparties>.

Single-use plastics survey - The Village of Oak Park is surveying Oak Park businesses and community members to better understand the potential effect of new ordinances about single-use plastic utensils and Styrofoam food packaging. Please note, the proposed changes do not apply to plastic drinking straws. The feedback from this survey will be used to help evaluate the potential new ordinances. The survey is available on EngageOakPark.com: <https://engageoakpark.com/single-use-plastics>.

Pete’s Fresh Market – The contractor for the new Pete’s Fresh Market completed all on-site utilities. The insertion valve on Euclid Ave north of Washington Blvd was installed on February 21. This week the contractor will be starting the storm sewer work on Wesley Ave. Next week they will connect the newly installed watermain to the existing water main on Euclid Ave. This work will involve a shut off of water service on February 28 for all residents on the 400 block of Euclid Ave. Affected residents have been notified and will receive another notification on Friday, February 24.

Nicor Inspection Project – Nicor Gas will be in town next week televising sewers in areas identified to have potential gas line cross bores in the sewer system. The televising locations are south of the expressway and south of Jackson Blvd. Nicor will distribute letters to impacted residents. The contractor will also post “No Parking Signs” 48 hours prior to any parking restrictions.

Pleasant & Marion – The contractor for the new development at Pleasant and Marion Street are installing wall panels for the fourth floor. The wall panels for the third floor are complete. Structural steel installation and wall framing are ongoing for the site.

Public Works visits OPRFHS job fair – On February 22, Interim Assistant Public Works Director Ken Crowley represented the Village at a job fair hosted at OPRF High School. Crowley was recruiting for summer internship positions available within the Village, as well as discussing with students all employment opportunities available in a municipality.

Probationary officers graduate academy – The Village of Oak Park congratulates two probationary police officers who graduated from the Police Academy on February 17. The officers were hired to join the department in summer 2022 and will begin their field training in Oak Park next week.

Fire department accepting applications – The Village is seeking qualified candidates for the position of firefighter/paramedic within the Oak Park Fire Department. Additionally, OPFD will be hosting an optional Open House for qualified candidates on March 15 from 5-8 p.m. at the main fire station, 100 N. Euclid Ave. More information is available at <http://www.oak-park.us/jobs>.