



Village Manager's Report The Week Ending May 27, 2016

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, May 30:
 - Memorial Day – Village Hall Closed
- Tuesday, May 31:
 - No scheduled meetings
- Wednesday, June 1:
 - Citizen Involvement Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Public Art Advisory Commission, 7 p.m. room 102
 - Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m., room 201
- Thursday, June 2:
 - Oak Park Area Arts Council, 5:30 p.m., room 215
- Friday, June 3:
 - No scheduled meetings

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

- Sunday, June 5
 - Day in our Village, Scoville Park, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.

On-street parking restrictions eased – As is tradition for major holidays, the [overnight on-street parking restrictions](#) will not be enforced on most Oak Park residential streets over the Memorial Day weekend. Overnight restrictions will be lifted at 2:30 a.m., Sat., May 28, and resume at 2:30 a.m., Wed., June 1. However, restrictions will remain in effect in areas such as on-street enclaves and on-street overnight parking zones, which are reserved for permit holders. All other parking regulations also remain in effect, including posted daytime restrictions and regulations related to traffic and public safety.

Village Hall closed Monday – [Village Hall](#) will be closed on Mon., May 30, in observance of Memorial Day. Residents are urged to call the [Police Department](#) non-emergency number 708.386.3800 for assistance should an incident that doesn't quite rise to the level of a 911 emergency occur when Village Hall is closed.

Local Memorial Day events – The annual gathering of veterans, their families and the community is scheduled for 9 a.m., Mon., May 30, at the *Peace Triumphant Monument* in Scoville Park. The event, hosted by the Park District, will include local officials and dignitaries, who will focus on how the nation mourned the death of Abraham Lincoln 150 years ago as a symbol of fallen service members. [More details are posted online](#). The Oak

Park event was purposely scheduled to end in time for the [91st Annual Memorial Day Parade](#) in River Forest, which is scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. The parade will begin at Division Street and Ashland Avenue, move south on Ashland to Lake Street, then west to Keystone Park where additional festivities are planned.

Valet parking usage rising – *Valet Oak Park*, the public valet service downtown, is increasing in popularity. April saw 437 uses, compared to 291 in March, a 50-percent increase. The two, bright red London-style telephone booths serving as the valet stands on Lake Street and North Boulevard have raised the visibility of the program and staff have worked with area businesses to talk up the new service. A range of marketing efforts are in the works that should further increase awareness of this [convenient downtown parking](#) option.

Oak Park Station development update - Catch basins have been completed on Maple Avenue, including inlets, storm laterals and connections to the sewer main. Sewer main is being installed on Westgate Street from Maple Avenue toward Marion Street, and then will be installed from Maple to Harlem Avenue. Existing sewer connections also are being replaced with temporary connections where necessary as the work progresses. Temporary concrete pavement has been poured for the portion of sewer trench on Westgate between Maple and Harlem, and metal plates will be in place to maintain traffic flow. At least one lane of traffic is being maintained on Westgate, with a flagger on hand to ensure safe flow. The Illinois Department of Transportation permit required to temporarily close a section of Harlem Avenue for project-related utility work is still pending. The work, which will occur at night, could begin next week if the permit is issued and the necessary bond secured.

South Boulevard streetscape update – Work this week focused on tying in the new water main at Harlem Avenue and transferring all water services. Sewers are 90 percent complete, with only lining and alley work remaining. Tasks expected to be completed next week include lining the sewer, patching pavement and installing temporary signals at Harlem Avenue. South Boulevard is expected to open to westbound traffic by June 6. South Boulevard through-traffic currently is being detoured on North Boulevard and Randolph Street via Marion Street. Engineering Division staff continues checking in periodically with adjacent businesses to ensure their needs are coordinated during the work.

Chicago Avenue closures – The first stage of the project to replace sewer mains on Chicago Avenue began this week. The work requires closing Chicago to all but local traffic from Ridgeland Avenue to Scoville/Fair Oaks Avenue. However, the street was reopened for the Memorial Day weekend, with work scheduled to close the stretch of roadway again next week. Chicago Avenue through-traffic will be detoured to Division Street via Oak Park and Ridgeland avenues. Once the first phase is completed, the second phase of the project will begin on a two-block stretch of Chicago Avenue between Grove and Forest avenues. This phase will require detouring through traffic at Harlem and Oak Park Avenues. The final phase of the project, which is expected to occur mid-August, involves resurfacing the entire length of Chicago Avenue from Harlem to Austin Boulevard. The Illinois Department of Transportation is leading the paving project and is scheduled to open bids on June 10.

Alley/sidewalk improvements updates – Sewers have been installed on 12 alley segments to date, with additional segments to be completed next week south of South Boulevard between Marion Street and Home Avenue. Concrete pavement has been completed on 11 alleys. Work is progressing northward, with activity currently focused between Lake Street and Chicago Avenue. Owners of 18 residential properties within the alley project area have

opted to have their garage aprons replaced during the project, which allows them to take advantage of the Village's price. Contractor crews removed any concrete frames and other obstacles in the work areas for the holiday weekend to ensure safe pedestrian routes. In related news, a pre-bid meeting was held today (Fri., May 27) for improvements planned for the two alleys adjacent to the Oak Park Station Development downtown. The work schedule will be coordinated with the developer.

Street resurfacing update – The surfaces of Harvey Avenue from Jackson Boulevard to Madison Street, and Mapleton Avenue between Thomas to Greenfield streets were milled this week in preparation for resurfacing. Paving was delayed by the rain, but should be performed at both sites next week. The outdoor dining area at Citrine Cafe was paved this week at the southeast corner of South Boulevard and Oak Park Avenue. Landscaping and lighting will be added by the restaurant owner as per an agreement with the Village for improving the public space.

Harrison Street lighting project update – Directional boring for electrical ducts and conduit were expected to be completed this week, as work to improve the lighting continued on Harrison Street from Ridgeland Avenue to Austin Boulevard. The next task will be to connect the electrical service to power the new system.

Non-Village construction projects – The contractor for the Oasis residential development has completed all asphalt work on Washington Boulevard and Randolph Street. In the meantime, the Village is working to help residents file claims with the developer for damage to private property during construction of the townhouses. The CTA Green Line track improvement project through Oak Park has been completed. Engineering Division staff will meet with the contractor to discuss damage to Village property caused by the work. Nicor contractors continued restoring parkways and private properties in north Oak Park where new gas mains and services were installed.

Public Works Activities – Streets Division crews continued to repave sections of streets where utility repairs were made and power washed the Marion Street viaduct, an ongoing battle to rid the area of pigeon droppings. Traffic lane and curb painting also began, and crews continued the routine tasks of removing litter, cleaning parking lots and filling potholes. Water & Sewer Division crews repaired a sewer lateral at 401 Linden Ave., fixed a water service leak at 605 N. Oak Park Ave and upgraded a water service at 744 Hayes Ave. New trees are going in at a rapid pace, with Forestry Division and contractor crews planting about 50 trees a day. Nearly 350 will be planted this season, representing 36 species – [click here for more details](#). Forestry crews also kept up with routine summer tasks, including removing ailing trees, grinding stumps, restoring landscape and responding to resident requests.

Still time to be part of July 4th parade – Participants, volunteers and sponsors still have time to be a part of the July 4th Parade. June 3 is the deadline to register to be in the parade. Volunteers also are needed on the morning of July 4 to help monitor traffic crossings along the parade route. If you know of anyone who might be interested in participating in the parade or volunteering, please have them call 708.358.5407 or email community@oak-park.us for more information.

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