



Village Manager's Report
Week ending November 2, 2018

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, Nov. 5:
 - Executive Session, 6:30 p.m., room 130
 - Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Council Chamber

- Tuesday, Nov. 6:
 - Environment & Energy Commission, 7 p.m., room 124

- Wednesday, Nov. 7:
 - Citizen Involvement Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m., Council Chamber

- Thursday, Nov. 8:
 - Civic Information Systems Commission, 7 p.m., room 215
 - Historic Preservation Commission, 7:30 p.m., Council Chamber

- Friday, Nov. 9:
 - No meetings scheduled

Standard time returns – Standard time officially returns at 2 a.m., Sunday (Nov. 4), and clocks should be set back one hour. The [Oak Park Fire Department](#) urges residents to use the time change as a reminder to replace batteries in all smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Working detectors can double the chances of survival by providing critical extra time for safe escape, they say. More information on fire safety is posted on at www.oak-park.us/fire.

Early voting ends Monday – Mon., Nov. 5 is the last day to vote early at Village Hall. Polls will close at 5 p.m. However, early voting is available through the weekend. Times for each day are posted on the Village website – [just click here](#). Grace-period registration also is offered during early voting hours for anyone who missed the registration deadline. More information on the Nov. 6 General Election, including polling sites by address, is available on the Cook County Clerk's website www.cookcountyclerk.com/elections.

Business assistance success – A new Oak Park business has been approved for a property tax reduction incentive through the [Cook County Bureau of Economic Development](#) with the help of staff from the Development Customer Services Department and support by the Village Board. The business, [CrossFit Spero](#), which recently relocated to 221 Harrison St., received a [Class 7c incentive](#), which provides a real estate tax reduction for commercial properties that have undergone extensive construction rehabilitation. The Village Board had approved a resolution supporting the incentive.

Redevelopment project news – Streetscape crews are now working west from the alley east of the [Eleven 33 development](#) site along South Boulevard between Marion Street and Harlem Avenue. The existing sidewalk and pavement are being removed in preparation for pouring the decorative black concrete curb and gutter. Much remains to be done, but the goal remains to open South Boulevard by the holidays. Contractors for the [District House development](#) at Euclid Avenue and Lake Street are working right up to the 7 p.m. deadline every day as they push toward getting the sidewalk open by mid-November.

Madison Street demolition update – The perimeter of the former Car X building at 700 Madison St. has been enclosed with a security fence and adjacent sidewalks closed to pedestrians on both Euclid Avenue and Madison Street in preparation for demolition. An alternate pedestrian path will be available in the adjacent parking lane on Madison Street prior to building demolition, protected from traffic by barrier walls. Actual demolition of the building could start as soon as next week.

Construction updates – Improvements to the expressway overpass on Oak Park Avenue between Garfield and Harrison streets continued this week with removal and replacement of the west concrete sidewalk and parapet. The work is expected to be completed by mid-December. The North and South boulevards project will wrap up next week with pavement striping. Underground work began this week for the sewer relief project on Berkshire Street between Grove and Linden avenues. AT&T will be boring exploratory holes on Lake Street next week to confirm locations and depths of their resources in preparation for the street project. AT&T contractors will limit activities to the early mornings to minimize disruption to traffic. Affected businesses have been informed of the work.

Public Works Activities – In addition to pushing leaves, Streets Division crews repaired the traffic delineators on the Jackson Boulevard curve area near Harlem Avenue, restored parkways and assisted Forestry Division crews with various tasks. Water & Sewer Division crews replaced damaged fire hydrants at Madison Street and Ridgeland Avenue and 1120 N. Humphrey Ave., and repaired a water service line leak at 466 Washington Blvd. Crews also repaired a sewer line at 114 S. Gove Ave. and upgraded a water service at 727 N. Taylor Ave. as part of the lead abatement program.

Employee news – The Oak Park Fire Department officially welcomed firefighter/paramedic Conrad Duraj to their ranks after his successful completion of the required one-year probationary period. Conrad's proud mom participated in the ceremony at the Central Fire Station to share this important moment in his career. The highly structured probationary period includes training, mentoring and monthly evaluations. In other employee news, Public Health Director Mike Charley joined registered nurse Janet Clark in a presentation about the dangers of opioid misuse and addiction at an Oak Park Township lunch session last week. The presentation focused not only on understanding issues associated with opioid misuse and addiction, but also on safe disposal of unwanted prescription drugs. In addition, each of the 30-plus seniors in attendance was given a lock box to keep their medicines secure and reduce the chances of theft.

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