



Village Manager's Report
Week ending October 18, 2019

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, Oct. 21:
 - Village Board Executive Session, 6:30 p.m., room 130
 - Village Board Regular Meeting 7:30 p.m., Council Chamber

- Tuesday, Oct. 22:
 - Board of Health, 7 p.m., room 102
 - Liquor Control Review Board, 7:30 p.m., room 124

- Wednesday, Oct. 23:
 - Community Design Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Disability Access Commission, 7 p.m., Main Library, 834 Lake St.
 - Historic Preservation Commission Architectural Review Committee, 7:30 p.m., room 215

- Thursday, Oct. 24:
 - Finance Committee of the Village Board Meeting 6:30 p.m., Council Chamber

- Friday, Oct. 25:
 - No meetings scheduled

Races to close streets temporarily on Sunday – Traffic will be disrupted from about 7:30 to 10 a.m., on Sun., Oct. 20 for the annual Frank Lloyd Wright Races. Events start at Scoville Avenue and Ontario Street, just east of Oak Park and River Forest High School and finish in front of the school. Several streets along the [race route](#) will be closed and traffic flow on other streets will be restricted to one way. More information, including race routes, is posted at www.flwraces.com.

Fall leaf collection begins next week – The annual fall leaf collection program is scheduled to begin next week, with eight pickups planned for Oct. 21 - Dec. 12 in each quadrant of the Village. The program allows residents to rake leaves into the street the day before the scheduled pickup dates. Leaves in the street are pushed into piles by Public Works crews during the night to reduce impact on traffic and parked cars, and then collected the following day. Residents who miss a scheduled pickup date are urged to keep their leaves on the parkway until the night before the next scheduled pickup to minimize traffic and parking issues. More information, including a map with specific collection dates, is [posted on the Village website...](#)

Dementia-friendly project kick-off – More than 60 attendees participated in the kick-off event for the new initiative to have the Village designated as a [Dementia Friendly](#)

[Community](#). A wide range of interests were represented at the event held Thursday at the Nineteenth Century Club, including units of local government, social service agencies, businesses, health care organizations, non-profits and interested residents. The event featured Dr. Raj C. Shah, who is an associate professor of family medicine at Rush Medical College, co-director of the Center for Community Health Equity and a geriatrician for the [Rush Alzheimer's Disease Center](#). A follow-up meeting will be held in November as part of the process to craft an action plan for achieving the dementia-friendly community designation. Information about the effort, including details about future meetings, will be posted on the Village website at www.oak-park.us/dementiafriendly.

Austin Boulevard project updates – The old asphalt was removed and the first layer of new pavement placed as part of a City of Chicago project resurfacing project on Austin Boulevard from Iowa Street to North Avenue. Sidewalk crossing ramps for ADA compliance and other concrete work also is scheduled for the east side of Austin. The remaining portion of Austin Boulevard between Lake and Iowa streets will be resurfaced following the Village's planned water main replacement project between Chicago Avenue and Lake Street, which is now on hold due to a contractor scheduling conflict. The project will likely be postponed until spring 2020, although a few weeks of preparation work could begin this month.

Madison Street update – Crews are making progress on installing the extensive range of pavement markings on Madison Street, but work is expected to take the remainder of the month to complete. How traffic flow will be controlled along the street is becoming apparent as the striping is applied. The contractor also is relocating traffic signal heads to match the new lane configurations. Construction updates, including scheduling details, continue to be distributed weekly via email to subscribers and posted on the dedicated project website www.madisonstreetconstruction.com.

Miscellaneous construction updates – The brick alley has been restored behind the Albion Development project adjacent to Austin Gardens and the pavement on Forest Avenue and Lake Street along the project's south and east frontages has been restored. Pavement markings along the Lake Street frontage still need to be completed. The Home Avenue pedestrian bridge over the Eisenhower Expressway is now open to pedestrian and bicycle traffic. The Berkshire Street and Clarence Avenue water and sewer projects are expected to wrap up this week with application of the final layer of pavement.

Employee news – Our sustainability efforts got a new asset this week when Leslie Hernandez joined staff for a 10-month stint thanks to the financial support of an [AmeriCorps](#) program called the Greenest Region Corps, or *GRCorps*. Leslie, who has a degree in environmental science from DePaul University, will focus on data-driven research and implementation of an updated greenhouse gas inventory. She also will help track and update facility energy use needed to update Oak Park's sustainability plan. Leslie will work closely with Sustainability Coordinator Mindy Agnew who was instrumental in bringing Leslie on board.

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