



**Village Manager's Report
Week ending June 30, 2023**

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, July 3:
 - No meetings scheduled
- Tuesday, July 4:
 - 4th of July – Village Hall closed
- Wednesday, July 5:
 - Village Board, 6 p.m. in Council Chambers
 - Citizen Involvement Commission, 7 p.m. in Room 101
- Thursday, July 6:
 - Environment & Energy Commission, 7 p.m. in Room 101
- Friday, July 7:
 - No meetings scheduled

July 4th parade set for Tuesday – Oak Park’s July 4th parade steps off at 10 a.m. next Tuesday, July 4 from Longfellow Park at Ridgeland Avenue and Adams Street. Parade participants march north on Ridgeland Avenue to Augusta Street and disperse at Whittier School. The route offers many viewing opportunities along the way and features dozens of groups commemorating the nation’s birthday and celebrating Oak Park’s rich diversity. For more information about the parade, visit www.oak-park.us/parade23 or email community@oak-park.us.

Parking restrictions eased – Overnight on-street parking restrictions will not be enforced on most Oak Park residential streets around the July 4th holiday. Overnight restrictions will be lifted at 2:30 a.m. this Saturday, July 1, and resume at 2:30 a.m. on Thursday, July 6. All other parking regulations remain in effect, including restrictions in zones reserved for permit holders, daytime posted restrictions and regulations related to traffic and public safety. The holiday parking schedule for all of 2023 is posted at www.oak-park.us/holidayparking.

Village Hall closed for holiday – Village Hall will be closed on Tuesday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day. Refuse and recycling collection will be delayed by one day next week starting Tuesday as a result of the holiday. Should an incident that doesn't quite rise to the level of a 911 emergency occur when Village Hall is closed, residents can call the Police non-emergency number 708.386.3800 for assistance.

Registration ongoing for Youth Martial Arts Camp – Space is still available for the Village's free, one-day [Summer Martial Arts Day Camp](#) for kids ages 6 through 14 who live or attend school in Oak Park. The camp will be held the morning of July 12 in the Julian Middle School

gymnasium. Sessions will last one hour and be broken up by age. The Village's Adjudication Office is coordinating the event and is working with local martial arts schools to bring the program to the community. Find more information and a link to the camp application packet on the Village website at www.oak-park.us/MAcamp.

Leadership recruitment underway – The Human Resources Department is seeking candidates for the Development Services Director and Assistant Village Manager/Neighborhood Services Director positions, both of which are posted on the Village website at www.oak-park.us/jobs. HR worked with the Office of Communications to create hiring brochures for both positions. [Click here](#) for the Development Services Director brochure. The first review of applicants for this position is scheduled for July 14. [Click here](#) for the Assistant Village manager/Neighborhood Services Director brochure. The first review of applicants for this position is scheduled for July 21.

Village responds to hazardous air quality conditions – This week the Chicagoland area, including Oak Park, was severely impacted by wildfire smoke from Canada, causing extremely unhealthy air quality conditions. After alerting the public to the air quality emergency, the Public Health Department distributed more than 150 free N95 masks to residents within the first five hours of the alert. Masks will continue to be available for free to residents at Village Hall while supplies last. The Village website now hosts an air quality page at www.oak-park.us/aq, with real-time updates on local air quality and guidance for populations at risk for harm caused by air pollution.

Feedback gathered at Oak Park Avenue open house – Several dozen members of the community attended a public open house related to the upcoming streetscaping project along Oak Park Avenue held Tuesday at the Oak Park Township Senior Services Center. The open house was intended as a way to share information about the scope of the project and gather feedback to inform design development for the project, which is expected to get underway in 2025. Village staff was joined by members of the project's team of contractors from Terra Engineering and Design Workshop. The open house exhibits and a video recording of the project team's presentation are posted on the project's dedicated website at www.renewtheavenue.com/june27-openhouse.

Blood drive held at Village Hall – The Public Health Department, in partnership with Vitalent Blood, held a successful blood drive this past Tuesday at Village Hall. Participants in the drive included 12 first-time donors, and the 17 units of blood collected have the potential to save the lives of 51 patients in our region. The Health Department thanks all who came out to donate and the support provided by Pawfficer Howie from the Police Department for those providing donations. Anyone interested in future opportunities to donate blood is encouraged to reach out to the Health Department at health@oak-park.us or 708.358.5480.

Sustainability update – Chief Sustainability Officer Marcella Bondie Keenan and Vic Sabaliauskas, Building Maintenance Supervisor within the Public Works Department, recently attended an electrification roundtable hosted by Oak Park and River Forest High School District 200. The event brought together technical experts with executive leadership and elected officials from two municipalities, three school districts and one park district to discuss building electrification planning. CSO Bondie Keenan also participated in the

Climate Ready Outreach to Oak Park (COOP) monthly meeting. COOP is a local initiative bringing together 20 diverse community-based organizations around shared values of climate action, sustainability and social equity. More information about COOP is available at www.oneearthcollective.org/one-earth-local.

Employee news – The Village welcomed Shalonda Lane as the new Collective Impact Manager in the Village Manager’s Office. In the newly created role, Shalonda will assist in building and assessing racial equity impact needs under the direction of Chief DEI Officer Dr. Danielle Walker. Shalonda grew up in the Austin neighborhood in Chicago and earned undergraduate and graduate degrees from Northern Illinois.

Holiday traffic enforcement campaign – The Oak Park Police Department is joining law enforcement agencies across Illinois in an effort to discourage impaired and unbuckled motorists during the July 4th holiday. Police officers are stepping up traffic enforcement through July 5, showing zero tolerance for impaired drivers. Officers also will be checking to make sure drivers and their passengers are buckled up as required by state law. [Click here to read more.](#)

Water and sewer project set to begin – Construction crews will begin mobilizing after the Fourth of July holiday for the Village’s upcoming water and sewer replacement project along Augusta Street between Lombard Avenue and Austin Boulevard. The initial work will include preconstruction videotaping, construction layout and installing inlet protection. Once the existing sewer and water main are replaced along Augusta, the contractor will move to Euclid Avenue to replace sewer and water main between South Boulevard and Lake Street. The entire project is expected to continue into November. All residents impacted by construction work are being issued parking passes.

Forest and Ontario improvements – Sign posts were installed and traffic control barriers were installed this week as construction work began in the area of the Forest Avenue and Ontario Street intersection. With removals expected to begin next week, the roadway will be closed to through traffic with one lane will be open for nearby residents.

Street resurfacing project – Construction crews completed roadway excavation this week along the sections of Ontario Street and Elmwood Avenue undergoing street resurfacing. The next step involves binder installation in both locations. Full roadway reconstruction is expected to wrap up in early July.

Division Street improvement project – Concrete removal and replacement is ongoing along the south side of Division Street, and the contractor expects to mill the roadway after the Fourth of July holiday as the street resurfacing portion of the multi-faceted project gets underway. Paving work is expected to continue into early August.

Pete’s Fresh Market update – AT&T completed its structural installation and will now begin six weeks of wire pulling at the site of the new Pete’s Fresh Market on Madison Street. Comcast is also nearing completion of its work, which includes removing a power supply from a nearby pole, removing two riser guards and removing two vaults on either side of the alley adjacent to the project site.

Miscellaneous construction updates – Construction is complete in the first three alleys scheduled for repairs as part of this year’s alley improvement project, and the contractor plans to begin work on the final three alleys after the Fourth of July holiday. Along Roosevelt Road, Illinois Department of Transportation crews are installing detector loops and patching the roadway as part of the state’s resurfacing project.