



**Village Manager's Report  
The Week Ending August 5, 2016**

**Meetings scheduled for next week:**

- Monday, August 8:
  - No scheduled meetings
- Tuesday, August 9:
  - No scheduled meetings
- Wednesday, August 10:
  - Farmers Market Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
- Thursday, August 11:
  - Civic Information Systems Commission, 7 p.m., room 215
  - Historic Preservation Commission, 7:30 p.m., room 201
- Friday, August 12:
  - No scheduled meetings

**Village Hall garage repair** – Repairs to the underground garage at Village Hall are set to begin Monday (August 8). While much of the work will be below grade, replacement of the drive along the south entrance to Village Hall and the Police Station (connecting Lombard and Taylor avenues) will also be a part of the construction activity. The work will affect street parking on the west and east sides of the building and pedestrian access to the south entrance. Access to Village Hall via the south entrance will be maintained via a golf-course style temporary bridge. The Lombard Avenue entry that offers access to the elevator for persons with disabilities will remain open. The Village Hall surface parking lot will remain open throughout the project. Restrictions will be in place along the west side of Taylor, the east side of Lombard and north side of Adams to accommodate construction staging. As a result, employees who park on the street must comply with posted parking restrictions. Visitors to Village Hall will be directed to the west side of Lombard and east side of Taylor where parking is limited to two hours and tends to turn over frequently. The time limits will be enforced. The project, which also includes repairing the garage ceiling and installing a new lighting system, is scheduled to be completed by October.

**Hi-tech street crossing signal** – Installation of a new hybrid street crossing signal is scheduled to begin next week on Chicago Avenue at Harvey Avenue. The high-intensity activated crosswalk beacon, or HAWK, will give Chicago Avenue motorists a red light when activated by pedestrian button or electronic detection of a bicycle. In addition to the red signal for motorists, walk indicators will be displayed for pedestrians and bicyclists crossing Chicago. The signal heads facing traffic on Chicago remain dark unless the signal is activated.

**Electronics recycling tally** – Last weekend’s [electronics recycling](#) event at the Public Works Center continued the trend of attracting quite a crowd. Some 405 vehicles passed through the center during the four-hour event, dropping off unwanted electronic items from 438 households. The next collection event is scheduled for Aug. 27.

**Chicago Avenue construction** – The second stage of sewer the improvement on Chicago Avenue is nearing completion. The main line is substantially complete between Forest and Grove avenues, and will be followed by the installation of sewer laterals and services, work that is estimated to take about two weeks. Traffic continues to be detoured to Division Street via Oak Park and Harlem avenues, but the eastbound lane will be opened Sunday for the [Frank Lloyd Wright One Mile Run](#). Planning is underway for repaving Chicago Avenue, which could begin as early as Aug. 15. This state project is expected to begin at Harlem Avenue and move eastward to Austin Boulevard. Given delays associated with the state budget crisis, final tasks such as permanent striping and street scape details may not be completed this season. The immediate goal is to get as much of the work done as possible by Holmes Elementary School before the start of the new school year.

**Elevate Oak Park development** – Work continues to focus on the water infrastructure, with flushing and pressure testing of mains underway on North Boulevard from Harlem Avenue to Marion Street, and on Westgate Street from Maple Avenue to the cul-de-sac near Marion. Water sampling and service connections are set for next week. Temporary water shutoffs will be necessary, but all affected customers will be notified well in advance. The first of the two alleys by the project set to be improved this season is nearing completion.

**Harrison Street lighting improvements** – Installation of the new ornamental light poles and fixtures began late last week on Harrison Street between Ridgeland Avenue and Austin Boulevard. The new lights are expected to be installed and powered up within a few weeks. Parkway concrete and brick restorations are being completed as the work progresses toward completion.

**Pavement patching/resurfacing** – Patching of various streets to prolong their service life continued this week, including the southbound lane of Austin Boulevard. Crackfilling and microsurfacing is scheduled to begin next week. The final round of resurfacing projects also began this week with curb and sewer repairs. Streets adjacent to schools are being given priority, with the goal of completing as much work as possible prior to the new school year.

**Fire Department report** – July saw a spike in responses to calls for emergency medical services. The 354 EMS responses in July represented 65 percent of all calls, compare to a typical month of about 60 percent. Department personnel had contact with 412 patients in July, 310 of which required transport to a medical facility. Of those transported, 149 required advanced life support services. July’s 34 fire/hazardous conditions responses included five building fires, one of which was caused by a lightning strike that displaced the residents due to extensive damage to the living room ceiling. The other four fires were suppressed quickly with minor losses. These fire/hazardous conditions responses represented about 6 percent of the total in July. Other responses included 82 general service calls (15 percent), 43 alarm initiated (8 percent) and 30 good intent (6 percent).

**Public Works Activities** – Street Division personnel delivered and picked up barricades, posted no-parking placards and signage for events downtown, including *Thursday Night Out*

and *Arts Dan la Rue*, as well as delivered and picked up barricades for block parties at various locations in the community. Division crews also repaired pavement where water breaks had been fixed, painted curbs to indicate no parking by fire hydrants, striped the Village Hall parking lot, cleaned street bump outs and parking lots, trimmed weeds in brickwork and concrete sidewalks in business areas, removed litter and filled potholes. Water & Sewer Division crews completed water service upgrades at 709 Clinton Ave., 1043 S. Scoville Ave. and 604 Carpenter Ave., and repaired a catch basin that was causing a sinkhole at Austin Boulevard and Randolph Street. The Forestry Division continued working on routine summer tasks including tree removals, landscape restorations and responding to resident requests. Crews also pruned for roof, sidewalk and vehicle clearances at various locations. Building Maintenance Division staff managed work related to the new boiler system project at Village Hall, oversaw repairs to the Council Chamber air conditioning system and installed a secondary sump pump back-up system in the vault. Plans are to add a high-water alarm to the system that will send an alert to staff via text or email when conditions require attention.

**Employee news** – Police Chief Rick Tanksley will be honored for his more than 32 years of service to the Village at an event scheduled for 4 to 7 p.m., Thurs., Aug. 11, at the Nineteenth Century Club. Friends, colleagues and acquaintances are invited to stop by and wish the chief well at any time during the event. However, a brief ceremony and the presentation of a few tokens of the community’s appreciation are planned for 5:30 p.m. Among those scheduled to speak is diversity pioneer Sherlynn Reid who has known the Chief his entire career and worked closely with him on many occasions. [Click here to see the event flyer.](#)

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