



**Village Manager's Report
Week ending April 24, 2015**

Meetings scheduled for the next week:

- Monday, April 27:
 - Village Board Executive Session, 6:30 p.m., room 130
 - Village Board Special Meeting, 7 p.m., room 201
 - Transportation Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
 - HPC Education Committee, 7:30 p.m., room 215

- Tuesday, April 28:
 - Public Health Mosquito Forum, 7 p.m., room 201
 - Board of Health, 7 p.m., room 102
 - Liquor Control Review Board, 7:30 p.m., room 124

- Wednesday, April 29:
 - No scheduled meetings

- Thursday, April 30:
 - No scheduled meetings

- Friday, May 1:
 - No scheduled meetings

Upcoming Meetings:

- Monday, May 4 – Village Board Regular Meeting/Swearing-in Ceremony, 7:30 p.m., room 201
- Monday, May 11 – Village Board Special Meeting, 7 p.m., room 101
- Monday, May 18 – Village Board Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., room 201
- Monday, May 25 – Village Hall Closed for Memorial Day Holiday
- Tuesday, May 26 – Village Board Special Meeting, 7:p.m., room 101 (tentative)

Earth Fest is Saturday – The Village's sixth annual celebration of green living - [Earth Fest](#) - is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., tomorrow (Sat., April 25), in the [Public Works Center](#). This year's event will include food trucks, vendors and information booths highlighting local environmental organizations and initiatives. The event also will feature an open house of our LEED® Gold-certified facility, with a behind-the-scenes look at public service delivery and opportunities for children to sit in the big trucks and other cool equipment

Public invited to comment before I-290 discussion – Staff have worked to ensure the community is aware of Monday night’s special meeting where the widths of sidewalks and streets on the bridges crossing a reconstructed Eisenhower Expressway will be discussed. A short video was created explaining the scope of the discussion and a page set up on the Village website to allow for comments prior to the meeting. Comments will be accepted until noon, Monday, at www.oak-park.us/ikesidewalks. Our goal is to have the comments available to the Board prior to the meeting.

Public meeting for proposed historic district – The Historic Preservation Commission has scheduled a public meeting to discuss the creation of a fourth historic district in Oak Park. The meeting is set for 7 p.m., Mon., April 27 in the Veterans Room of the Oak Park Public Library. The proposed [Hulbert Houses Historic District](#) would encompass the 500 through 800 blocks of Clinton and South Kenilworth avenues, long identified as one of Oak Park’s premiere neighborhoods. A second public meeting also is planned.

Capital improvements map online – Engineering Division staff worked with Communications to create an electronic map of the 2015 capital improvement projects for the Village website. The Google-based map displays project name, location, funding source, anticipated project start and completion dates, and contact information. Staff also has promoted the web address – www.oak-park.us/construction – to the community.

Arbor Day tree plantings – Village officials and staff joined representatives of the Park District and Mortem Arboretum in Scoville Park Friday as several saplings grown from the acorns of some of Oak Park’s oldest oak trees were planted. The event also acknowledged the recent designation of the entire Village as a municipal arboretum. The highlight of the event was students from the Green Club at [Beye Elementary School](#) planting several of the small trees. More information on the arboretum accreditation is [posted on the Village website](#).

Scouts stripe stop signs – Reflective striping has been placed on stop sign posts at 14 intersections adjacent to Holmes, Mann and Whittier elementary schools thanks to the efforts of local Boy Scout Matthew Dibbern. Matthew contacted the Village last year about his Eagle Scout project to enhance public safety by increasing the visibility of the signs. He then organized fundraising to pay for the project, ordered the materials and assembled a team to install the striping under the supervision of Public Works staff. Upon completion of the project, Village staff inspected and verified that the striping conformed to national industry standards.

Storm damage cleanup – High winds kept Forestry Division and contractor crews on the job late Wednesday dealing with storm damage. A large limb from a tree at 129 Wesley Ave. fell across the roadway and caused damage to a parked car. A fallen limb from a parkway tree at 513 Carpenter Ave. blocked the roadway but caused no property damage. Limbs from a tree on private property also fell in the alley of 814 N. Oak Park Ave.

Recycling results – Last Saturday’s paper-shredding and clothing recycling events attracted 323 households, collecting more than 3,100 pounds of clothing and 9,000 pounds of paper. The record-setting event averaged more than 100 cars per hour dropping off items at the Public Works Center.

Ridgeland Avenue construction update – The sewer project on Ridgeland Avenue between Lake and Erie streets continued on schedule with excavation and spot repairs. This phase of the project should be completed in the first week of May, barring any weather delays. The second phase of the project is expected to close the roadway between Chicago Avenue and Division Street from June through August. Traffic will be allowed on Ridgeland between the two project phases. Also on Ridgeland, saw cutting of curbs for ramps remaining from last year’s state repaving project is underway.

Alley improvements update – Work on the first round of alley projects for 2015 is continuing. The alley south of Harrison Street between Taylor and Lyman avenues is substantially complete and tentatively scheduled to re-open to residents today (April 24). Two alleys are tentatively scheduled to be opened to residents and concrete pavement poured for two additional alleys next week. Pavement removal and storm sewer work is continuing on other alleys where concrete soon will be poured. So far, sewer work has been completed on eight alleys. Construction also has begun on the two alleys remaining from last year’s schedule. Work is expected to take about three weeks per alley, but should be completed by mid-May.

Capital improvements update – An inspection of the interior of the central reservoir was completed this week to assess areas with cracks and exposed-rebar. [Photos from a tour of the empty reservoir posted on the Village Facebook page](#) last week proved to be one of the most popular social media items so far this year. Asbestos removal began at 260 Madison St. Building demolition and site restoration should be completed within the next three weeks. A catch basin installed at the southwest corner of Ridgeland and South Boulevard required South Boulevard between Ridgeland and Elmwood avenues to be closed temporarily.

Public Works Activities –Streets Division crews repaired sidewalk brick, filled potholes and prepared tree pits for the outdoor dining areas downtown. Crews also cut pavement open for water utility repairs and installed removable speed bumps in several alleys, while the private contractor completed a Village wide sweeping cycle. Water & Sewer Division crews repaired a sewer lateral at 926 N. Marion St. and b-boxes at 1179 S. Euclid Ave., 902 N. Humphrey Ave. and 1215 N. East Ave. Main sewers south of I-290 were jetted and inlets cleaned at various locations throughout town. Forestry Division crews pruned trees, removed stumps and restored landscape at various locations in the community. Private contractors are almost finished with the season’s pruning and removals of problem trees. Contractor crews also are doing regular landscape maintenance and spring clean-up across the Village. Alpine Tree Service, the Village’s new stump-removal contractor, began work south of I-290, working north.

Employee news –Environmental Services Manager Karen Rozmus was chosen as the first recipient of the [West Cook Solid Waste Agency GreenQuality Achievement Award](#) She received the award for her “dedication to promoting environmental improvement and the regional quality of life in the West Cook County Region.” Karen is a member of the board and has been an active member representing Oak Park since the agency’s inception in 1989.