



Village Manager's Report Week ending June 5, 2015

Meetings scheduled for the next week:

- Sunday, June 7:
 - Elected Officials welcome brunch, 9:30 a.m. - Oak Park Main Library -
 - Day in our Village, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m., Scoville Park
- Monday, June 8:
 - Village Board Special Meeting, 7:00 p.m., room 101
- Tuesday, June 9:
 - No scheduled meetings
- Wednesday, June 10:
 - Farmers Market Commission, 7 p.m. room 101
- Thursday, June 11:
 - Civic Information Systems Commission, 7 p.m., room 215
 - Historic Preservation Commission, 7:30 p.m., room 201
- Friday, June 12:
 - No scheduled meetings

Upcoming Meetings:

- Monday, June 22 – Finance Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., room 130
- Wednesday, November 18 – Village Tri-Board Meeting, 7 p.m., OPRFHS

A Day in Our Village festival is Sunday – The 42nd annual [A Day in Our Village festival](#) is scheduled for Sunday. The Village Board table will be space 104 near last year's location. Spaces will be clearly marked as part of the set-up process well before the 11 a.m. opening to the public. Staff from our Information Technology Department and vendor MGP will be in an adjacent space demonstrating the initial fruits of the [Village's participation](#) in the GIS Consortium. The other governmental bodies will be nearby as well. The Board will have about 250 copies of the Farmers' Market 40th anniversary poster to distribute along with other materials including bags, pens, bumper stickers and window clings.

Outdoor sculpture walk returns – The [Oak Park Sculpture Walk](#) officially opens for its fourth season Sunday. Public Works crews installed the 12 new pieces in pedestrian-friendly sites along Chicago Avenue between Ridgeland Avenue and Austin

Boulevard. A brochure for a self-guided walking tour is available at www.oak-park.us/sculpturewalk, along with an interactive Google map created by Communications staff. Brochures also will be available at the [Oak Park Visitors Center](#).

Testing in Lake/Westgate parking lots – Sections of the surface parking lots in the Lake Street/Westgate Street development site will be closed Monday and Tuesday for environmental testing and site remediation. No permit holders are affected. However, signs will be placed to alert lot users to the coming activity and the actual work sites cordoned off for safety.

Lake & Forest power update – ComEd will begin installing an electrical conduit next week on Forest Avenue between Erie and Lake streets to accommodate the needs of the new development under construction there. The project is projected to take about a month to complete, and will require trenching on the east half of Forest. Traffic disruptions are expected on Forest, but flaggers will be on hand to help maintain a safe flow through the work site. This portion of Forest will be resurfaced once the underground work is complete. The ComEd contractor has distributed information to properties within 500 feet of the work alerting them to the project and its impact. This is an important phase of the project since it also will be beneficial to current and potential businesses in the downtown area.

Electronics recycling sets records, creates traffic issues – Saturday's electronic recycling event at the Public Works Center was our biggest ever, requiring Police assistance to manage traffic that at one time was backed up along south Boulevard westward beyond Ridgeland Avenue. A number of residents had to be turned away as Police citing safety concerns shut down the event about 30 minutes before it was scheduled to end. Those who were turned away were urged to return for the next collection event scheduled for June 27. By the time Saturday's event ended, items had been unloaded from 486 vehicles representing 531 households. Unlike in past years, the Village now incurs costs to sponsor these events, as state collection goals have been met and the demand for the materials from recycling firms has declined. This means staff likely will begin checking for identification at future events to ensure residents are served first. Since the [Village began recycling electronic items](#) in 2010, nearly 740,000 pounds of electronics have been collected from more than 9,600 households. By state law, these items are no longer accepted in landfills.

Surplus vehicle auction – Fleet Services has posted two former police vehicles for sale on PublicSurplus.com, an auction site the Village uses regularly to dispose of surplus equipment. The site will be accepting bids for a 2009 Crown Victoria and a 2004 Ford Explorer for the next two weeks – [click here to view the Village posting](#). Recent sale prices for Village vehicles auctioned on the site have ranged from \$1,625 to as much as \$3,100.

Fire Department May report – The Fire Department responded to 585 calls in May, up from the 503 calls in April. So far this year, the Department has responded to 2,623 calls for service. About 63 percent of all calls in May were for emergency

medical services, followed by general service calls (20 percent), alarm initiated (13 percent) and fire/hazardous conditions (4 percent). Response times averaged about five minutes and forty eight seconds, including turnout and travel. The Fire Department responded to one major fire incident in May, which started on the back porch of an older, two-flat frame building in the 600 block of North Humphrey Avenue. Firefighters had to enter the burning structure to rescue two unconscious residents, who were treated and transported to area hospitals where they recovered. The Department made contact with 395 residents in May, up from the 362 contacts in April. Some 288 patients were transported to a medical facility in May, 153 of which required advanced life support services.

Central Reservoir project update – Repairs to the interior roof of the Central Reservoir under Stevenson Park continued. Exterior soil has been completely removed from the top of the reservoir and a sealant coating is set to be installed on the outside roof next week. The sealant will be applied over two nights to avoid possible damage from daytime heat, which can cause the material to blister and fail. Letters were sent to residents alerting them to the overnight work. While there should be no sound disruptions to the neighborhood, the field lights will be on to provide supplemental illumination for the work.

Ridgeland sewer project begins – The second stage of the sewer improvement project on Ridgeland Avenue has begun. The street is closed between Chicago Avenue and Division Street and traffic detoured west to Oak Park Avenue. East-west intersections will be open to cross traffic as work allows. The replacement of the main sewer line will begin at Chicago and advance north to Division. Work is tentatively scheduled to be completed the first week of August.

Capital improvements status – Bids for water and sewer improvement projects approved by the Village Board on June 1 are tentatively scheduled to begin on June 15. The first local street resurfacing project was scheduled to begin this week on Harvard Street between Maple and Wenonah avenues. Work remaining from the 2014 sidewalk program will begin next week and take three to five weeks to complete.

Alley improvements update – Eleven alleys have been completed under the current alley improvement program and have been reopened to traffic. Pavement removal and sewer work continues for the remaining alleys, which are on schedule for completion by June 15. The last alley projects for this year, consisting of alleys north of South Boulevard, are tentatively scheduled to begin June 8.

Public Works Activities – Streets Division crews cut sidewalks and excavated soil for new tree pits at various locations in the Village, while also continuing to install new trash cans and benches in the Southtown Business District. A water service leak at 641 S. Elmwood Ave., a sinkhole at 964 S. Oak Park Ave. and a leaking water service line at 504 S. Austin Blvd. were repaired. Crews also repaired a sewer causing flooding during heavy rains in the alley behind 20 Madison St. Forestry crews continued pruning, removing problem trees, picking up brush, delivering wood chips and responding to requests for tree inspections. New trees are being planted throughout the Village and will continue through next week.

Employee news – Jill Juliano in the Engineering Division of the Public Works Department earned a state Professional Engineer license. Charles Miller in the Fleet Division has been certified as a Compressed Natural Gas Fuel System Inspector. Building Maintenance Superintendent Vic Sabaliauskas received his Environmental Protection Agency Refrigerant Technician certification. Daniel Smith, a recent graduate of Bradley University, has joined the Engineering Division as an Engineer Tech I.

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