



Village Manager's Report The Week Ending June 10, 2016

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, June 13:
 - Village Board Special Meeting, 7:30 p.m., room 201
 - Transportation Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
- Tuesday, June 14:
 - No scheduled meetings
- Wednesday, June 15:
 - Community Relations Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Housing Programs Advisory Committee, 7 p.m., room 102
- Thursday, June 16:
 - Building Codes Advisory Commission, 5:30 p.m., room 102
- Friday, June 17:
 - No scheduled meetings

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

- Monday, July 4
 - 4th of July Parade, 10 a.m., Longfellow Park (Ridgeland and Adams St.)

A Day in Our Village report – This year's *A Day in Our Village* turned out to be the largest in the festival's 43 years of promoting community and citizen involvement. Some 160 vendors showcased their offerings to new and prospective residents, requiring some creative use of almost every inch of Scoville Park. Three local charities benefited from the dunk tank, with many reporting how much they enjoyed the good-natured participation and courage of those who braved the cold water for such worthy causes. Community Relations Director Cedric Melton offered special praise to the many volunteers who helped with the event as well as to Public Works Department staff who worked not only to prepare the park for the event, but also helped break it all down at the festival's end.

Vehicle sticker sales – The Village has sold about 9,396 vehicle stickers since sales were opened to the public on May 9. About 72 percent of all sales have come through the online portal, followed by 19 percent in-person at Village Hall and 9 percent via the U.S. Mail. Currently, sales represent about 38 percent of the 24,881 stickers sold through the July 15 deadline last year. This year's sales volume is similar to that of last year at this stage of the sales cycle.

Green Line punch list – Final tasks associated with the CTA Green Line improvement project will continue through the remainder of the month. The work should not disrupt traffic or parking, but could be noisy since crews will be using air hammers and a forklift during the overnight hours of at least three days. Work will occur tonight (Fri., June 10) and Monday night (June 13) on the tracks from Marion Street to Oak Park Avenue and Tuesday night (June 14) at the Harlem Avenue station. Additional work on the tracks will occur on subsequent nights, but will entail mostly cleaning up and installing signs, which should be less intrusive.

Oak Park Station development update – Sewer has been installed on Westgate Street up to the edge of the pavement at Harlem Avenue. Metal plates and cold patch are used on the roadway at the end of each work day to allow traffic until temporary concrete pavement can be poured. At least one lane of traffic is being maintained on Westgate during working hours, with partial lane closures managed by a flagger. Crews began connecting the new sewer to the existing line on Harlem Avenue at Westgate, which requires closing two northbound lanes and shifting traffic into one lane by using the turn lane. The work on Harlem, which could be wrapped up by this week, occurs between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m., and does not affect southbound traffic.

Harrison Street lighting improvements – Crews are preparing for Village and ComEd inspections required to install electric services for the new lighting system nearing completion on Harrison Street from Ridgeland Avenue to Austin Boulevard. Poles from the old lighting system are being removed and restoration of the sidewalk has begun.

Alley projects update – Sewer work is now complete in all alleys currently under construction. Concrete pavement has been completed in 13 alleys, with eight alleys remaining to be paved. Pavement was scheduled to be poured this week in alleys in the 500 block of North Lombard and Hayes avenues, and Iowa Street between Lombard and Hayes. Concrete will be poured for private garage aprons in the alleys in the 400 block of North Taylor and Humphrey avenues. These properties are among the 22 within the alley construction area that opted into the private apron replacement program to take advantage of the Village's contract price. Removal of old pavement was scheduled to start this week on the east/west alley between Marion Street and Home Avenue and Pleasant Street and South Boulevard.

South Boulevard streetscape – The south side of South Boulevard is now open to westbound traffic, with a slight jog from Maple Avenue to Harlem Avenue to allow for remaining manhole rehabilitation. Work continues along the north side of South Boulevard from the CTA entrance to the east, as crews work toward a tentative July 8 reopening of the street to two-way traffic. Temporary traffic signals are in place at Harlem and South, and work on street lighting will begin next week on the north side of South Boulevard. Engineering Division staff is working closely with DIVVY representatives to coordinate installation of the docking station with the work underway on the boulevard.

Street resurfacing – With the pavement binder course now being placed on the 1000 block of Mapleton Avenue and Harvey Avenue scheduled for the final surface next week, the first round of street resurfacing projects continues. Landscape restoration also is underway at the outdoor dining space at the southeast corner of South Boulevard and Oak Park Avenue.

Chicago Avenue update – The sewer construction project on Chicago Avenue reached into the Ridgeland Avenue intersection this week for connection work requiring using the turn lane to maintain two-way north/south traffic. Metal plates are being used at the end of the workday to allow traffic on the regular southbound lane of Ridgeland. Contractors estimate up to four more weeks will be required to replace the sewer between Fair Oaks/Scoville Avenue, and then work will shift to between Forest and Grove Avenue. Chicago Avenue through traffic is being detoured to Division Street via Oak Park and Ridgeland avenues. Local traffic is being allowed on Chicago Avenue from Oak Park Avenue to Scoville/Fair Oaks Avenue during this first stage of work. Meanwhile, bids to resurface Chicago Avenue across the community were scheduled to be opened this week by the Illinois Department of Transportation. The repaving will follow soon after the sewer construction, likely by mid-August.

Public Works activities – Summer interns were expected to complete an inventory of historical sidewalks this week, collecting location and condition information about of the sandstone sidewalks that remain in the community. The information will be used to apply for an [Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program grant](#) in the upcoming weeks. Streets Division crews helped install art in Mills Park for the annual Sculpture Walk, swept downtown streets, relocated newspaper boxes and a bike rack for construction activities and South Boulevard and installed a new bike rack on North Avenue. Crews also made permanent fixes to streets that were opened for water repairs in the winter, cleared viaducts, filled potholes, removed litter and cleaned up parking lots. Water & Sewer Division crews replaced a broken fire hydrant on the northeast corner of Grove Avenue and Thomas Street, repaired the sewer lateral at 321 S. Euclid Ave. and upgraded water services at 722 Hayes Ave., 1156 S. Grove Ave. and 938 S. Kenilworth Ave.. Forestry Division and contractor crews continued cleaning up storm debris throughout the Village remaining from the May 31 storm. Staff has continued to find issues with trees remaining from the storm that require immediate attention, while also keeping up with routine tasks such as resident requests for forestry services.

Fire Department May report – Oak Park firefighter/paramedics responded to 551 calls for service in May, bringing the total of calls to 2,727 so far in 2016. The 326 calls for emergency medical service represented 59 percent of all May calls, a slight decrease from April. Contact was made with 393 patients in May, which included 271 transports to a medical facility, 146 of which required advanced life support services. Other May activity included responding to 96 calls for general service (17 percent), 48 calls for fires/hazardous conditions (9 percent), 42 calls of good intent (8 percent) and 37 alarm-initiated calls (7 percent). The average response time was four minutes, 35 seconds. Department personnel responded to four vehicle and two building fires in May, the most significant in an apartment building that was caused by drying clothes over a space heater. Tenants had to be displaced temporarily for smoke mitigation, but the fire was contained to the room of origin. Also in May, staff took the fire safety trailer to every second grade class in the Village to teach life safety skills in a realistic residential setting.

Employee news – An Oak Park resident with experience in a wide range of areas related to local government administration including land use, zoning, real estate and violation defense, has been hired as the new Assistant Village Attorney. Rasheda D. Jackson will assume her new duties at Village Hall on Mon., June 13. Rasheda was chosen from a strong

field of candidates and her selection from the group attests to her qualifications to take on this important role at Village Hall. You can [read more about Rasheda in a news story posted on the Village website.](#)

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