



Village Manager's Report Weeks ending March 31, 2017

Meetings scheduled for the next week:

- Monday, April 3:
 - No meetings scheduled
- Tuesday, April 4:
 - Environmental & Energy Commission, 7:00 p.m., room 130
 - HPC Education Committee, 7:30 p.m., room 215
- Wednesday, April 5:
 - Citizen Involvement Commission, 7:00 p.m., room 101
 - Zone Board of Appeals, 7:00 p.m., room 201
- Thursday, April 6:
 - No meetings scheduled
- Friday, April 7
 - No meetings scheduled

Fire Department receives grant – The [Oak Park Fire Department](#) has received a \$2,000 grant for fire prevention education activities. The grant, which was presented this week, was from commercial property insurance giant [FM Global](#). The company's [Fire Prevention Grant Program](#) provides funds to fire departments and brigades, as well as national, state, regional, local and community organizations to support fire prevention, preparedness and control efforts. Fire officials say the grant will be used for smoke detector awareness education. [More details are posted online.](#)

Early voting ends Monday – Early voting will continue at [Village Hall](#) through Mon., April 3. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day except Sunday. Cook County election workers have been managing early voting in room 101 since March 20. Village Hall also is a grace period registration site, which allows those with proper identification to register and immediately cast a ballot. Voting has been steady, but relatively light, with no lines. By late Thursday afternoon, officials say about 1,100 early voters had cast ballots at Village Hall.

Yard waste collection begins next week – Seasonal [collection of yard waste](#) will begin Monday (April 3). Bundled brush no larger than two feet in diameter and four feet in length and yard waste such as grass clippings, leaves, shrubs and vines will be picked up on regular refuse collection days. A green yard waste sticker must be attached to each brush bundle, 32-gallon paper bag and rigid container. Stickers are \$2.50 each. Residents are urged to look for alternatives to bagging yard waste such as mulching mowers, leaf shredders or backyard compost piles.

Health needs assessment survey continues – A survey intended to gather information useful to setting future public health priorities remains open to adults who live, work or attend school in Oak Park or River Forest. The survey is part of *Community Health Needs Assessment* conducted every five years by the Oak Park Department of Public Health and its partners the Community Mental Health Board of Oak Park Township, the River Forest Township Mental Health Committee and the Rotary Club of Oak Park and River Forest. The survey should take no more than 20 minutes to complete and all respondents are anonymous. If you or anyone you know might like to take the survey, it is posted at www.oak-park.us/needsassessment.

Construction updates – Construction resumed this week on Chicago Avenue between Harlem and Belleforte avenues. Sidewalks are being removed and foundations installed at various locations for the new lighting. Water and sewer main improvements are scheduled to begin next week on Taylor Avenue from Flournoy Street to Harrison Street.

Alley improvements – Construction began this week to improve underground drainage in alley segments scheduled for improvements this season. Workers will begin removing existing pavement next week south of South Boulevard between Euclid and Wesley avenues, and north of North Boulevard between Kenilworth and Oak Park avenues. Seven residents within the alley project limits have opted to have their private garage aprons replaced as their alleys are reconstructed, allowing them to take advantage of the Village's contract unit price.

Lake Michigan pipeline project – Engineering staff will host members of the Brookfield-North Riverside Water Commission next week at the Public Works Center, as plans are finalized to bring Lake Michigan water to these west suburban communities via a main through Oak Park. The two-year project will begin in Forest Park and proceed east along Fillmore Street across the entire width of the Village. Fillmore will be reconstructed as part of the project.

Miscellaneous construction projects – Streetscape work for the Emerson redevelopment project downtown was delayed until next week. However, the sidewalk and parking lane on the south side of Lake Street remained closed from the new Maple Avenue to the east side of the development site so that workers could install underground electrical infrastructure. The parking and loading zones on Lake Street will remain closed until early May.

Public Works activities – With the threat of heavy snow likely gone, Street Division crews began reinstalling speed bumps in various alleys. Crews also installed benches in the Arts District along Harrison Street and fixed streets opened for water repairs at 900 N. Grove Ave., 936 N. East Ave. and 1042 Hayes Ave. Water & Sewer Division crews replaced a fire hydrant damaged in a vehicle accident at Lexington Street and Harlem Avenue, repaired water cutoff valves at 705 Wisconsin Ave. and 1116 S. Lombard Ave., and fixed a meter pit frame at 720 Belleforte Ave. Seasonal tree pruning continued, with this week's activity on Fair Oaks and East avenues, between Chicago Avenue and Division Street. Forestry contractors also continued removing diseased and damaged trees at various locations throughout the Village.

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