



## Village Manager's Report Week ending May 31, 2019

### Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, June 3:
  - Village Board Executive Session, 7 p.m., room 130
  - Village Board Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Council Chamber
- Tuesday, June 4:
  - No meetings scheduled
- Wednesday, June 5:
  - Citizen Involvement Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
- Thursday, June 6:
  - Plan Commission, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
- Friday, June 7:
  - No meetings scheduled

**Day in Our Village participation** – With the 46<sup>th</sup> annual [A Day in Our Village festival](#) set for Sun., June 2, preparations have been made for the Village Board's participation. A booth has been reserved and trustees typically oversee booth activities in pairs, with shifts from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and 1 to 3 p.m. If you have not already done so, please [contact the Village Manager's Office](#) if you would like to schedule a time slot.

**Village Hall parking lot status** – New light poles were installed and turned on and concrete poured for the new Village Hall parking lot plaza this week, while repairs continued on the roof of the underground garage. The southernmost portion of the lot appears set to reopen as early as next week, which will allow some police cars to park in the lot. Major landscaping will be completed before the final layer of asphalt is applied to reduce the risk of damage from equipment.

**Lake and Forest traffic disruptions delays** – The start of installing ComEd infrastructure for the Albion development downtown was delayed until next week. Once the work begins, traffic will be interrupted on Lake Street and Forest Avenue for about a month, but most of the activity occurring overnight, which should help reduce impact on traffic flow. Work will begin in the alley west of Forest Avenue and progress towards Lake Street and will include installing a large underground manhole at the west jog of Forest Avenue that will require closing northbound Forest Avenue for several days. The contractor then will install conduit on Lake Street from the alley west of Forest Avenue to the east jog of Forest Avenue, closing eastbound Lake Street during the overnight hours into early July. AT&T also will install fiber optic

conduits in the same trench so that high-speed internet will be available to businesses on Lake and Marion streets south and west of the Forest Avenue intersection.

**Madison Street update** – Concrete removal began this week to bring crossing ramps into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. A staging plan has been developed so that pedestrian routes will remain available while portions of sidewalk are closed for replacement. Communications with the business operators and residents most affected by the project has been maintained via email and in person. The communications effort also includes construction updates posted on the dedicated project website [www.madisonstreetconstruction.com](http://www.madisonstreetconstruction.com).

**South Boulevard streetscape status** – Trees now have been planted as part of the streetscape improvements on South Boulevard between Marion Street and Harlem Avenue. The parkway also has been planted with grass seed. With the June 14 completion target nearing, ComEd still needs to install an electrical meter for the new traffic signals at Harlem Avenue, which will then allow crews to remove the temporary wooden poles, complete the remaining sidewalk and install the bus shelter.

**New tourism board members** – The convention and visitor's bureau [Visit Oak Park](#) recently announced new board members. The new board members are John Binder, founder and operator of [ChiTown Gangster Tours](#); Jennifer Fournier, a principal at [Via Digerati Marketing](#); Diane Stanke, director of marketing and customer service for the [Park District of Oak Park](#); Keith Strom, executive director of the [Ernest Hemingway Foundation](#); and Katrina Thompson, mayor of the [Village of Broadview](#). The new board members will be introduced at Visit Oak Park's annual meeting scheduled for 5:30 p.m., June 13 at Unity Temple. The meeting also will detail the launch of a new website and marketing efforts.

**Water and sewer improvements** – Clarence Avenue remains closed between Roosevelt Road and Harvard Street as underground work has begun for the water and sewer improvement project. Installation of the sewer main and associated structures is scheduled to begin next week at Harvard Street, with crews working south along Clarence Avenue. The Harvard Avenue intersection was closed intermittently to traffic this week. The intersection closure was coordinated with the Police and Fire departments to ensure public safety.

**Alley improvements** – Storm sewers were installed this week in the alley south of Van Buren Street and west of Humphrey Avenue. Pavement removal started in the alley south of Chicago Avenue and west of Lombard Avenue. Pavement was poured in the alley south of Greenfield Street between Austin Boulevard and Humphrey Avenue. Nine of the 15 alleys scheduled for reconstruction this season have now been paved.

**Miscellaneous construction updates** – The sidewalk along the west side of Oak Park Avenue remains partially closed as rehabilitation of the bridge over I-290 continues. Utility work related to the Rush Oak Park Hospital construction project continues to disrupt traffic periodically on Madison Street, but the project is nearing completion. AT&T restored the brick this week on Marion Street near North Boulevard and on Oak Park Avenue by Hunter Court just south of Lake Street where underground work had

been done. Pleasant Street between Grove and Kenilworth avenues was scheduled to be closed for several hours today (Fri., May 31) to replace a roof at 139 S. Grove Ave. Union Pacific Railroad is on schedule to begin repairs next week to portions of the concrete retaining walls at the southeast corner of Harlem Avenue and North Boulevard. Vehicle traffic should not be affected by the UPRR project, but the will require closing the sidewalk on the east side of Harlem Avenue and the south side of North Boulevard during the daytime.

**Public Works activities** – While the Village was mostly spared from the week’s strong storms, Forestry Division crews did respond to a few reports of downed limbs and brush and Water & Sewer Division crews patrolled for flooded streets and cleared inlets as necessary to eliminate standing water. Street Lighting Division crews secured a light pole damaged by a delivery truck at 162 Forest Ave. and installed new poles at 213 N. Cuyler Ave. and 500 Washington Blvd. that had been damaged in earlier vehicle accidents.

**Employee news** – Four veterans from within the Police Department’s ranks have been promoted to high level command posts. Joseph Moran, a detective commander with more than 25 years of experience with the Oak Park Police Department, has been sworn in as deputy chief, joining Deputy Chief Frank Limon on the Department’s senior command staff. Advancing to the rank of commander are three current sergeants – Dave Jacobson and Donicio Silva, who joined the Police Department in 1995, and Shatonya Johnson, who has served here since 2000. In other employee news, Jamarro Brown joined the Water & Sewer Division of the Public Works Department this week. Jamarro previously worked in the Water Division of the LaGrange Park Public Works Department.

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