



Village Manager's Report
Week ending September 20, 2019

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, Sept. 23:
 - Village Board Special Meeting, 7 p.m., Public Works Center
 - Transportation Commission, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
- Tuesday, Sept. 24:
 - Board of Health, 7 p.m., room 102
- Wednesday, Sept. 25:
 - Community Design Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Disability Access Commission, Public Library, 834 Lake. St.
 - Historic Preservation Commission Architectural Review Committee, 7:30 p.m., room 215
- Thursday, Sept. 26:
 - No meetings scheduled
- Friday, Sept. 27:
 - No meetings scheduled

Census 2020 kickoff set – Invitations have been sent to stakeholders for the Oct. 2 local kick-off of the Census 2020 effort to maximize the count. The meeting of the *Complete Count Committee* is set for 8:30 a.m., Wed., Oct. 2 at Village Hall. A representative of the U.S. Census Bureau will discuss how local stakeholders can help ensure the most successful and accurate community population count. Prospective attendees are asked to RSVP to housing@oak-park.us. Requests for more information on the local count effort may be directed to Neighborhood Services Division Manager Jeff Prior at 708.358.5421.

Local landmark hearing – The Historic Preservation Commission has set Oct. 10 as the date to formally consider 408 N. Kenilworth Ave. for local landmark designation. The commission considered the nomination by the homeowners at its regular meeting on Sept. 12 and found that home built in 1890 and remodeled in 1910 may meet at least one of the criteria for designation. The commission is required to hold a hearing within 45 days of the nomination and then make a formal recommendation to the Village Board for final consideration.

Pedestrian signal improvements – Installation of the new LED countdown signals and controllers at various pedestrian crossings is scheduled to begin in mid-October. The equipment will provide a clear and consistent message of time remaining before a

signal change. The project is supported with a federally funded [Safe Routes to School Program](#) grant.

Paper shredding, clothing collection – Last Saturday's shredding and old clothing event brought more than 500 households to the Public Works Center. They dropped off 383 bags of old clothing and 617 boxes of documents. Thanks to a cooperative program with the Epilepsy Foundation of Greater Chicago, the textile materials will be repurposed. The paper shredding event helped residents safely dispose of paper items with personal information such as canceled checks, documents containing credit card numbers, social security numbers and medical information.

Multi-family housing grants – Oct. 1 is the deadline for applications for funds distributed through the recently restructured Multi-Family Housing Incentive Program. The Housing Programs Advisory Committee and Development Customers Services Department hosted a question-and-answer session with prospective applicants on Sept. 12 just after the application process began. Applications will be reviewed by the committee and staff, with recommendations for funding presented to the Village Board for consideration. More information on this and other housing programs is posted at www.oak-park.us/housing.

Madison Street update – Paving of Madison Street is scheduled to begin next week and take about four days, barring any unforeseen weather or other delays. Engineers estimated that it will take an additional four weeks after paving is finished to install the street markings along the entire stretch of roadway. The Police Department will coordinate guards at key student crossing points during paving operations. Changes to the schedule and other timely developments will be included in the weekly email updates sent to subscribers who signed up for specific project alerts as well as posted on the dedicated project website www.madisonstreetconstruction.com

Home Avenue bridge update – Crews removed damaged and deteriorated materials from the Home Avenue pedestrian bridge this week as [major improvements](#) to the popular shortcut across the expressway progressed. Activity next week will include replacing deteriorated steel reinforcing bars and setting the concrete forms for surface patching. New concrete is expected to be poured the following week. Police are keeping a close eye on the pedestrian and traffic flow in the area, with special attention to daily student pedestrian activity. [Designated alternate routes](#) have been established and signs erected to help guide pedestrians and bicyclists around the area. Communication with District 97 officials and administrators at the schools whose students are most affected has continued.

Albion development update – Crews are scheduled to grind the asphalt next week in preparation for resurfacing portions of Forest Avenue and the north half of Lake Street along the project south and east frontages. A ComEd contractor also will be patching part of the south half of Lake Street from the alley west of Forest Avenue to the east jog of Lake Street. Remaining restoration tasks expected to begin within the next two weeks include the brick alley adjacent to Austin Gardens and the alley west of Forest Avenue by the former Community Bank building.

Utility projects – Replacement of the water and sewer mains on Scoville Avenue from Roosevelt Road to the alley adjacent to the Turano headquarters construction site

began this week and is projected to take about three weeks to complete. Replacement of the water main on Austin Boulevard between Chicago Avenue and Lake Street is expected to start the week of October 7. All underground utility work has been completed for water and sewer improvement projects on Clarence Avenue and on Berkshire Street. Curbs have been installed on Berkshire Street and surface prepped for new asphalt. Crews also patched the intersection at the Oak Park Avenue. The contractor will be removing the existing roadway on Clarence Avenue next week in preparation for new pavement. Work on Berkshire Street should be completed by the end of September, with the Clarence Avenue project expected to wrap up by early October.

Street resurfacing projects – The final layer of asphalt is scheduled to be installed next week on all project streets including Wisconsin Avenue, Marion Street, Clarence Avenue, Randolph Street and Iowa Street. In other street maintenance news, crews are applying special surface treatments on various streets throughout the community to extend life, improve ride quality and preserve deeper layers of the pavement structure.

Employee news – The Oak Park Fire Department celebrated a promotion and the successful completion of the mandatory probationary period by three firefighters/paramedics. Firefighter Joe Pantaleo, who has been with the Department for 14 years, was promoted to Lieutenant, while Firefighters/Paramedics David Stefanik, Dustyn Sadler and Gregory Ostrand completed their year-long probationary periods. In other employee news, the Police Department welcomed eight new officers this week. Officer Benjamin Blanck, who had already completed basic police academy training, has begun his 18-month probationary period, while Victor Vivo, Ricky Passarella, Kyle Jordan, Adrian Moreno, Michael Surace, Michael Kurasz and Alejandro Flores are now enrolled in the Suburban Law Enforcement Academy in Glen Ellyn.

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