



**Village Manager's Report**  
**Week ending October 23, 2020**

**Meetings scheduled for next week:**

- Monday, Oct. 26:
  - Community Design Commission 10 a.m., via GoToMeeting
  - Village Board Regular Meeting, 5:30 p.m., via GoToMeeting
- Tuesday, Oct. 27:
  - Plan Commission, 7 p.m., via GoToMeeting
- Wednesday, Oct. 28:
  - Transportation Commission, 7 p.m., via GoToMeeting
- Thursday, Oct. 29:
  - Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m., via GoToMeeting
- Friday, Oct. 30:
  - No meetings scheduled

**New Deputy Police Chief** – Shatonya Johnson, a 20-plus-year veteran of the Oak Park Police Department has been named Deputy Chief. She is the first woman to achieve the rank in the Oak Park Police Department. She joins Joseph Moran who was promoted to Deputy Chief in 2019 and fills the vacancy created following the retirement of Frank Limon. In her new role as Deputy Chief, Johnson will oversee support services, which includes detectives, federal task force investigators, community policing, youth services, records, evidence, training and budget. You can [read the news release with more details on the Village website](#).

**Halloween preparation** – Efforts to ensure the public knows about safety guidance related to trick-or-treating and COVID-19, as well as the earlier hours this year, the Village will begin messaging throughout the coming week including with yard signs, mobile LED displays and messages on social media. With the risks of traditional Halloween activities increasing as the state and community face a surge in the number of positive COVID-19 cases, our messages will urge residents to carefully consider the risks before interacting with others beyond their households. The community remains divided between those who want Halloween canceled and those who want the tradition to continue. The information and tools to allow families to make informed choices are posted on the Village website, including signs residents can post to invite or discourage trick-or-treaters – [click here to view](#).

**Parking restrictions to resume** – On-street overnight and posted daytime [parking restrictions](#) are scheduled to resume at 2:30 a.m. on Mon., Oct. 26. Special parking accommodations put in place due to the COVID-19 pandemic will no longer be in

effect after this date as plans get underway for the [annual fall leaf pickup program](#) and the possibility of the [snow emergency parking plan](#) being implemented. The Transportation Commission is scheduled to discuss recommendations for permanent changes to overnight parking restrictions at a meeting next week, including expanding some of the zones and increasing the number of available single-use parking passes available each month.

**Police orders posted online** – As Police Chief Reynolds continues a comprehensive review and update of the guidelines that govern police activities and actions, he has asked that the more than 200 current General Orders be shared with the community. They are posted online at [www.oak-park.us/police](http://www.oak-park.us/police). The orders range from the mundane like using a tollway transponder to those that govern the most serious matters a police officer may face. Current orders related to use of force are highlighted for easy review. The process to update the orders is on track to be completed in the first quarter of 2021. Links to the updated orders will be posted on the Police webpage as soon as they are available.

**Slow streets survey results** – With the end of the slow streets pilot program on Oct. 16, the brief survey/questionnaire was closed and a final report compiled. About three quarters of the 915 respondents said they supported the program. The majority of respondents lived on or near a slow street. The most interesting findings likely will be among the more than 800 comments made by the survey respondents. The report will be shared with the Transportation Commission for initial review – [click here to review](#).

**Plan Commission activities** – The Plan Commission is scheduled to review the application for a six-store residential development at 835 Lake St. during a meeting set for 7 p.m., Tues., Oct. 27. The project calls for a bank ATM and parking for 88 vehicles on the first floor, with 84 rental units above. The applicant is seeking variances for density and height, as well for as yard setbacks and lot coverage. The Commission also will review recommendations for two Zoning Ordinance text amendments referred by the Village Board regarding planned development timelines and additional retail exceptions in the downtown districts.

**Zoning Board of Appeals hearings** – In a meeting scheduled for 7 p.m., Thurs., Oct. 29, the Zoning Board of Appeals will hear four applications. The Glitter Nail Academy is seeking a special use permit for an educational facility/vocational use at 238-240 Madison St. Oak Park BodyWorx is seeking a special use permit to build and operate a drive-through facility at 6209 North Ave. DayCare is seeking a special use permit to operate a day care center at 266 Lake St. And Hinsdale Bank & Trust is seeking a variance to operate a financial institution on the ground floor at 141-151 N. Oak Park Ave., the former site of Winberie's Restaurant.

**Lake Street update** – A delivery delay pushed to next week the installation of the new traffic signals at the Forest Avenue intersection. A water service line break east of Harlem Avenue caused some damage to a small portion of the newly installed concrete sidewalk on the north side, but had minimal impact on the area. The initial layer of pavement is set to be installed next week between Forest and Oak Park

avenues. Work on the new decorative curbs, crosswalks and sidewalk base course were expected to be completed this week between Oak Park and Euclid Avenues, and installation of the brick intersection at Lake Street and Oak Park Avenue starts next week. Work remains on schedule to allow reopening of the intersection to traffic before Halloween. Project updates are updated regularly at [www.betterlakestreet.com](http://www.betterlakestreet.com) and questions are accepted via email to [info@betterlakestreet.com](mailto:info@betterlakestreet.com)

**Miscellaneous construction updates** – Resurfacing-related activities are underway on Greenfield Street from Linden Avenue to Columbian Avenue; Superior Street from Harvey Avenue to Lombard Avenue; and Austin Boulevard from Lake Street to Chicago Avenue. The projects also include upgrades to corners at various intersections to bring them into compliance with the American’s with Disabilities Act. AT&T is relocating infrastructure on Euclid between Jackson and Madison Street, and ComEd is installing underground conduits on Euclid avenue from Randolph to South Boulevard and on Randolph Street to west of Oak Park Avenue. Final work related to landscaping and irrigation on Madison Street should wrap up by the end of the month. Construction activities that also should be completed by the end of the month include installation of a new water main on Austin Boulevard, the annual sidewalk replacement program and pavement microsurfacing treatment.

**Employee news** – Police Chief LaDon Reynolds recently received an executive education certificate of Completion from the [Harvard Kennedy School](#) for the course *Leadership and Character in Uncertain Times*. The five-week online program offers a unique opportunity to help high-ranking individuals learn how to lead in times of conflict and disagreement, while acting with integrity and authenticity. This program is part of Harvard University’s economic development, nonprofit leadership, public leadership and public policy executive certificate series that attract participants from around the globe.

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