



**Village Manager's Report  
Week ending May 14, 2021**

**Meetings scheduled for next week:**

- Monday, May 17:
  - Village Board Meeting, 7 p.m., via Zoom
- Tuesday, May 18:
  - Citizens Police Oversight Committee 7:30 p.m., via Zoom
- Wednesday, May 19:
  - Disability Access Commission, 6 p.m., via Zoom
  - Liquor Control Review Board, 7:30 p.m., via Zoom
- Thursday, May 20:
  - Building Codes Advisory Commission, 5:30 p.m. via Zoom
- Friday, April 21:
  - No meetings scheduled

**Vehicle license sales begin** – Renewal notices have begun going out to residents for 2021/2022 vehicle licenses. Every Oak Park resident who owns or leases a motor vehicle is required to purchase a local license before July 15 to get the lowest rate, which increases by \$20 after the deadline. Windshield decals are no longer issued. Parking enforcement officers use remote electronic recognition technology to scan license plates to ensure compliance. Vehicle license rates vary by type of vehicle, with discounts for senior citizens, persons with disabilities and active-duty veterans. Residents who have questions or need more information can call 708.358.7275, visit [www.oak-park.us/parking](http://www.oak-park.us/parking) or email [parking@oak-park.us](mailto:parking@oak-park.us).

**Watering restrictions in effect** – As part of the interstate compact for preserving the Great Lakes, summer watering restrictions are in effect May 15 through Sept. 15. Outdoor water use is limited Mondays through Fridays to even-numbered street addresses on even-numbered days, and to odd-numbered addresses on odd-numbered days. Newly planted grass seed, sod, trees and shrubs are exempt from the restrictions for their first 30 days of growth. Anyone requiring more information can call 708.358.5700 or email [publicworks@oak-park.us](mailto:publicworks@oak-park.us).

**Latest local water quality report is online** – Residents interested in knowing about the quality of the water they drink can find the latest annual report at [www.oak-park.us/waterqualityreport](http://www.oak-park.us/waterqualityreport). Each year, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requires communities to provide details on the quality of the local drinking water. In addition to analyses of substances in the water, the report also includes facts about the community's drinking water delivery system and source. An archive of past water

quality reports is posted at [www.oak-park.us/waterquality](http://www.oak-park.us/waterquality). A paper copy of the latest annual water report is available by calling 708.358.5700 or emailing [publicworks@oak-park.us](mailto:publicworks@oak-park.us).

**Preservation guidelines review** – The Architectural Review Committee of the Historic Preservation Commission has begun a review of proposed revisions to the project review guidelines. Any recommendations for changes would go to the full commission for consideration, most likely in June. The full commission also is set to review the Historic Preservation Ordinance. Any recommendations for changes to either the review guidelines or the Historic Preservation Ordinance ultimately will go to the Village Board for consideration and any final actions.

**Oak Park Avenue improvements traffic impact** – Water main installation now underway between Washington and Madison streets may require completely closing this section of Oak Park Avenue temporarily during some of the work. When this is necessary, local access to the adjacent parking lots will be maintained. In the meantime, traffic is being limited to northbound travel through this section during work hours. The section of Oak Park Avenue between Harrison and Van Buren streets has been reopened and restoration from Van Buren Street to Jackson Boulevard is well underway. Sewer lining between Garfield Street and Roosevelt Road, which is expected to continue through the month, is requiring some night work to ensure proper curing of the materials during low-flow periods. Temporary asphalt restoration is complete between Chicago and Augusta on Oak Park Avenue with the final concrete restoration to take place once the private service replacements are installed. The overall project, which includes resurfacing Oak Park Avenue from Roosevelt Road to North Avenue, remains on schedule to be completed in November. Construction details and schedules are posted at [www.opaveanew.com](http://www.opaveanew.com).

**Miscellaneous construction updates** – Illinois Department of Transportation contractors will soon begin grinding off the top pavement layers on North Avenue for the repaving project between Harlem and Cicero avenues. The second major state project impacting Oak Park entails making corner sidewalk crossing ramps on Harlem Avenue from Roosevelt Road to North Avenue ADA compliant. The IDOT contractor is still working on the west side of Harlem Avenue. In the downtown Oak Park, ComEd is working with businesses and residents to schedule late-night, temporary power outages so that critical infrastructure repairs can be completed in two vaults. Crews also are addressing punch-list items from the recent reconstruction project between Harlem and Euclid avenues, including electrical work for the lighting and traffic signals, and adjustments to the bricks in the intersection of Lake Street.

**Fire hydrant testing to begin** – The Oak Park Fire Department will begin testing fire hydrants Monday (May 17) as part of an annual routine procedure that is expected to continue into early October to ensure proper operations of these vital emergency response devices. Crews will be out each workday inspecting, flushing and measuring flow rates on all 1,240 fire hydrants in the Village. The inspections also will make sure all hydrants are accessible and not damaged in any way that could affect performance in an emergency. Residents on the same water line may notice cloudy water the first time a tap is opened after a nearby test, but the water should clear up

if the tap is allowed to run for a few minutes. Residents who wish to have more information about the testing can call 708.358.5600 or email [fire@oak-park.us](mailto:fire@oak-park.us).

**Employee news** – Joseph Terry has been promoted to Deputy Chief of Emergency Medical Services and Infectious Diseases for the Oak Park Fire Department. Deputy Chief Terry most recently served as the Interim Director of Public Health, helping us navigate the challenges of COVID-19. In his new role, In addition to managing the activities of Fire Department EMT services, in his new role JT also will supervise the Fire Prevention Bureau, whose personnel inspect all public buildings and commercial establishments in Oak Park at least once a year to ensure fire safety code compliance. DC Terry has been with the Fire Department since 2007.

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