



**Village Manager's Report
Week ending May 3, 2013**

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- May 6:
 - Village Board Special Meeting, 6:30 p.m., room 201
 - Reception immediately following in Room 101 prior to Swearing-in
 - Village Board Regular Meeting/Swearing-in Ceremony, 7:30 p.m., room 201
- May 7:
 - Environmental & Energy Commission, 7 p.m., room 130
- May 8:
 - No scheduled meetings
- May 9:
 - Civic Information Systems Commission, 7 p.m., room 215
 - Historic Preservation Commission, 7:30 p.m., room 201

Save the date reminders (see calendar for all future meetings):

- May 13: Village Board Special Meeting on Protocols, 7 p.m., room 101
- June 2: Board Outreach Event - Day in our Village, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m., Scoville Park
- July 4: Parade, 10 a.m. (Ridgeland/Jackson)

Vehicle sticker sales about to begin – Renewal notices are scheduled to go in the mail on May 13 to residents who purchased stickers last year. As in past years, the renewal notice will include a unique web identification number that allows a vehicle owner to correct most information, including address and telephone number, and vehicle information. New this year, anyone who loses the renewal notice will be able to look up their web ID number on the web site using the e-mail or telephone number included in the previous year's application. Promotion messages will continue to stress online renewals, although mail and in-person sales will be available. In addition to the regular Monday late hours, the Parking Services Center will be open on the morning of Sat., July 6.

Building safety discussions planned – The Building & Property Standards has scheduled a series of informational sessions this month in support of [Building Safety Month](#), a worldwide public awareness campaign intended to foster better understanding of what it takes to create and maintain safe and sustainable structures. Topics of interest to residential property owners will be featured on Wed.,

May 15, while information will be targeted to contractors and design professionals on Wed., May 22. All sessions will be from 1 – 5 p.m. Residential property owners can learn about deck and fence requirements, flood control systems, kitchen and bath remodeling, electrical system safety, lead and home renovations, fire safety and the permit process. Topics to be addressed for contractors and design professionals will include the Cook County Demolition ordinance, recycling and re-use, worksite safety, structural loads, lead and renovations and the energy conservation code. All sessions will be held in room 101 of Village Hall. Anyone interested in participating can call 708.358.5430 or e-mail building@oak-park.us for more information.

Guide for persons with disabilities – The Disability Access Commission, with the help of the Communications Department, recently published the *Guide for People with Disabilities*, a 20-page handbook of resources, agencies and organizations for families and caregivers. The handbook covers a variety of categories, including resources for education, employment and legal assistance. Hardcopies of the booklet have been distributed around Oak Park and are available at the information kiosk at Village Hall. A PDF of the booklet is available for download from the Village website – [just click here to review](#).

North Boulevard sewer/water mains project update – Work is underway to replace the water and sewer mains on North Boulevard between Kenilworth and Oak Park avenues, and on Kenilworth from South Boulevard to Lake Street. The project is scheduled to be completed by June 1. The southbound lane of Oak Park Avenue is expected to remain closed at North Boulevard for about a week. Southbound traffic is being detoured east on North Boulevard, allowing continued access to the Avenue Garage. Pedestrian access to the Green Line station also has been maintained.

Ridgeland Common project update – Work to replace the water main under Ridgeland Common continues. Traffic is open on Ridgeland, but short-term, periodic lane closures still may occur.

Forestry update – The Forestry Division began mulching and watering new trees recently planted on parkways throughout the Village. Three parkway trees had to be removed this week – two due to damage from car accidents and one that was in decline. The division also continued parkway tree pruning between Chicago Avenue and Division Street, working from Ridgeland Avenue toward East Avenue.

Public Works update – The Street Services Division is focusing on pavement repairs and potholes, while the Water & Sewer Division is rodding slow-draining curb inlets. The Public Works Department hosted a paper shredding event Sat., April 27 as part of Earth Month activities.

Four earn sustainability certifications – Four Village employees have earned the title of [Envision Sustainability Professional \(ENV SP\)](#). Public Works Director John Wielebnicki, Village Planner Craig Failor, Assistant Village Engineer Bill McKenna and Public Works Engineer Lori Brown took the required on-line courses and passed the sustainability infrastructure rating system exam. The training is offered by the [Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure \(ISI\)](#), a nonprofit organization co-founded by the American Public Works Association, the American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Council of Engineering Companies and the [Zofnass Program for Sustainable Infrastructure](#) at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design. The

program provides a holistic framework for evaluating and rating the community, environmental and economic benefits of infrastructure projects.

Conservatory plant sale -- The Oak Park Conservatory's annual plant sale is Sat., May 4. Friends of the Oak Park Conservatory, who support the facility year round, get the first look from 2 – 7 p.m., Friday, while the general public can come from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m., Saturday. However, non-members can join on Friday and take advantage of the early sale. Vegetables, herbs and flowers – most grown in the Conservatory greenhouses – will be available for sale, including tomatoes, basil, geraniums and ground covers. More information is posted at www.fopcon.org. This is the 24th year of the plant sale.

Senior staff retirement – Human Resources Director Frank Spataro recently announced that he will be retiring. His last day will be May 17. We all sincerely appreciate the years of hard work Frank has dedicated to our Village and wish him and his family all the best. Since it is premature to know when/how we will begin the recruitment process for a new director, Deputy Village Manager Lisa Shelley will coordinate human resources efforts in the interim.

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