



Village Manager's Report
Week ending September 18, 2015

Meetings scheduled for the next week:

- Monday, September 21:
 - Village Board Executive Session, 6:30 p.m., room 130
 - Village Board Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., room 201
- Tuesday, September 22:
 - First Time Homebuyer Seminar, 6 p.m., room 102
 - Liquor Control Review Board, 7:30 p.m., room 124
- Wednesday, September 23:
 - Disability Access Commission, 7 p.m., 834 Lake St.
 - HPC Architectural Review Committee, 7:30 p.m., room 215
- Thursday, September 24:
 - No scheduled meetings

Upcoming Meetings:

- Monday, September 28 – Village Board Special Meeting, 7 p.m., room 101
- Monday, October 26 – Village Board Special Meeting, 7 p.m., room 101
- Thursday, November 5 - Village Board Budget Study Session, 7 p.m., room 101
- Wednesday, November 18 – Village Tri-Board Meeting, 7 p.m., OPRFHS

District sprays for mosquitos – As part of its efforts to eliminate mosquitoes that carry West Nile virus, the [Des Plaines Valley Mosquito Abatement District](#) sprayed in Oak Park early Thursday night. This was the first time this season the district had sprayed in Oak Park. However, spraying has occurred in many if not all of the other communities within the abatement district's 77-square-mile jurisdiction. West Nile virus has been found in birds and mosquitoes throughout Illinois, including Oak Park. The Village activated all of its communications tools to notify residents of the spraying, including the community notification system [RapidNotify](#). So far this year, the state health department has confirmed 10 human cases of West Nile Virus and three related deaths. The risk can continue well into October.

Paint exchange is Saturday – Residents are invited to safely dispose of unwanted, but useable latex paint – or pick up free paint – at *The Great Paint Exchange* Saturday at the Public Works Center. Half-to-full cans of paint can be dropped off from 9 to 11 a.m., and anyone in need of paint can choose from the paint collected from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Only latex paint will be accepted.

Recycling update – Nearly 300 households participated in the paper shredding and old clothing recycling event held Saturday at the Public Works Center. Nearly 200 of the participating households brought both paper and clothing, while more than 50 brought only paper. Residents were invited to bring up to two bags or small boxes of documents containing personal information such as canceled checks, credit card or social security numbers, or medical information. Representatives of Epilepsy Foundation also were on site collecting apparel of all types in any condition for recycling, including shoes, belts, hats, bags, linens and towels.

Zoning Ordinance review update – The first comprehensive review of the Zoning Ordinance since 2002 is well underway. The proposed approach for the Madison Street corridor was presented to the Plan Commission earlier this month. Staff also presented the Madison Street plan to the Madison Street Coalition, whose membership includes representation from the Madison Street Business Association. In addition, the consultant recently submitted the draft report on the full Zoning Ordinance to staff for review. Once staff review is complete, a Plan Commission review will be scheduled, possibly in early October. The commission will hold a public hearing on the proposed revisions once the review phase is complete. Recommendations then will be presented to the Village Board for consideration. More information about the project and its progress is available at www.oakparkzoning.com, a dedicated project website where presentations and reports are posted and public comments accepted.

MapOffice report – The Information Technology Department is reporting that the public mapping feature saw 334 visits in August. The majority of the visits – 116 – allowed users to find the information they sought and exit. Another 69 visitors used the custom overlay features such as the tree inventory, while another 52 used the search feature. [Google Street View](#) and the terrain view also proved popular features. As more Oak Park-specific data becomes available, use of [MapOffice](#) is likely to grow in the community. [Click here to see the August report.](#)

Microsurfacing continues – The contractor has completed about half of the street microsurfacing work scheduled for this season throughout the community. Completed streets are being swept of any remaining loose gravel. Work on the remaining portions of streets scheduled for microsurfacing will occur in about two weeks.

Public Works activities – Sink holes were repaired at Greenfield Street and Edmer Avenue, 526 N. Grove Ave. and at Berkshire Street and Mapleton Avenue. A leaking water valve was repaired at 900 S. Oak Park Ave. and a service tap installed at 317 S. Euclid Ave. Forestry crews handled routine resident requests, while Streets Division crews restored pavement at various locations where water line repairs occurred and closed down the Sculpture Walk, returning banners and steel art bases to storage until next year. In addition, the alley next to Cucina Paradiso on North Boulevard was repaved, and curbs were painted by fire hydrants at various locations in the community. Other activities included general cleanup and weeding in the business districts and repairs to the areas on Roosevelt Road where damaged wrought iron fencing was removed.

Street resurfacing nearing completion – Surface milling and installation of the pavement binder course were underway this week on Hayes Avenue, Greenfield

Street and Berkshire Street. The final pavement surface course should be installed on these streets by early next week. Sod restoration around the curb work has begun on other streets included in the season's second round of street resurfacing projects, with all remaining paving projects expected to be completed soon.

Ridgeland Avenue project concludes – Pavement markings were installed this week on Ridgeland Avenue between Chicago Avenue and Division Street as this important north-south roadway was reopened to motorists after many weeks of detours. Sod restoration, the only remaining task, should be completed within the next two weeks.

Employee news – Elia Gallegos has been promoted to CDBG Grants Coordinator. Her eight years of experience as an Account Clerk II working with the Village's CDBG-funded housing programs made Elia a logical choice to assume these important new responsibilities. In her new role, Elia will help set and implement Village goals for federal investments. She also will be involved in evaluating and monitoring Village projects funded through federal grants. In other housing-related news, Jeff Richardson has retired after nine years with the Village. His contributions as a Housing Programs Supervisor and a team-player helped shape how the Village manages housing programs and initiatives.

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