



**Village Manager's Report
The Week Ending July 1, 2016**

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, July 4:
 - 4th of July Parade, 10 a.m., Longfellow Park (Ridgeland and Adams St.)
 - Village Hall Closed
- Tuesday, July 5:
 - Village Board Contract Review Committee, 6:30 p.m., room 130
 - Village Board Executive Session, 7 p.m., room 130
 - Village Board Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., room 201
 - Environmental & Energy Commission, 7 p.m., room 215
- Wednesday, July 6:
 - Citizen Involvement Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Public Art Advisory Commission, 7 p.m., room 102
 - Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m., room 201
- Thursday, July 7:
 - Plan commission, 7 p.m., room 201
- Friday, July 8:
 - No scheduled meetings

July 4th activities – In addition to the July 4th parade that steps off at 10 a.m., Monday from [Longfellow Park](#), Oak Park musician [Jim Gill](#) will present a children's concert from noon to 1 p.m. at nearby [Dole Library](#). The annual fireworks display is scheduled to begin at dusk in the football stadium of [Oak Park and River Forest High School](#).

Parking restrictions eased – The Village will not enforce the [overnight on-street parking restrictions](#) on residential streets over the July 4 holiday weekend. Overnight restrictions will be lifted at 2:30 a.m., Sat., July 2, and resume at 2:30 a.m., Wed., July 6. However, restrictions will remain in effect in areas such as on-street enclaves and zones that are reserved for permit holders. All other parking regulations also remain in effect, including daytime posted restrictions and regulations related to traffic and public safety.

Divvy at Farmers' Market – The [arrival of Divvy ride share in Oak Park](#) will be officially launched from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Farmers' Market this weekend (July 2). Divvy staff will have a booth to interact with patrons. They will have a map of Oak Park locations, explain how the program works and hand out coupons for discounted memberships. Five of the six station installations scheduled for this week were completed. However, the station set to go in this week near the Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio likely will not be completed until next week.

Village Hall closed Monday – [Village Hall](#) will be closed on Mon., July 4, in observance of Independence Day. Should an incident that doesn't quite rise to the level of a 9-1-1 emergency occur when Village Hall is closed, residents are urged to use the Police non-emergency number 708.386.3800 to request assistance.

State budget watch – A last-minute compromise in the Illinois Legislature this week should mean that no construction projects with funding administered by the Illinois Department of Transportation will stop, as was feared. Local projects that would have been affected included the South Boulevard streetscape project underway between Marion Street and Harlem Avenue and the resurfacing of Chicago Avenue, from Harlem Avenue to Austin Boulevard, which is expected to begin in August.

Vehicle sticker sales update – Vehicle owners had purchased 14,121 stickers through June 25, down slightly from the 15,035 stickers sold during the same period in 2015. Online activity remains high, with the 9,468 stickers sold so far this year representing about 67 percent of 2016 sales. In-person sales at Village Hall remain a popular option, the 3,485 stickers sold representing nearly 25 percent of 2016 sales to date. Another 1,167 stickers have been sold via the U.S. Mail so far this season.

Electronics recycling report – The season's first electronics recycling event Sat., June 25, broke all previous records for participation. Crews helped unload 723 vehicles that came to the Public Works center during the four-hour event to drop off items from 757 households. Electronics recycling events also are scheduled for Saturdays, July 30 and Aug. 27.

Chicago Avenue project update – Chicago Avenue reopened to traffic today (July 1), as the work on the section between Ridgeland and Scoville/Fair Oaks avenues was completed. The street will remain open to all traffic until about July 11, when the second stage of the local sewer project will shift west to between Forest and Grove avenues. Message boards and signs are in place to prepare motorists for the new street closure and activities are being coordinated with Holmes Elementary School, Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio, and the affected businesses. Chicago Avenue through traffic will be detoured to Division Street via Harlem and Oak Park avenues during the second stage. The state is scheduled to pave the entire length of Chicago Avenue through Oak Park after the local sewer project is completed.

South Boulevard streetscape status – Work continued this week along the north side of South Boulevard. The south side remains open to westbound traffic between Marion Street and Harlem Avenue. Concrete was poured for the foundations of the new light poles, controllers and [handholes](#). Electrical work and irrigation system pipe installation is scheduled for next week. The area was cleaned to accommodate visitors during the holiday weekend. The street may be opened to two-way traffic as early as the end of next week.

Marion Street crosswalk repairs – Repair to crosswalks on Marion Street began this week north of North Boulevard. Failing bluestone is being replaced with blue-tinted concrete and the borders are being repaired. Work is being staged so that only half of each crosswalk is replaced at a time to maintain traffic flow. All crosswalks were reopened for this week's *Thursday Night Out*, with work scheduled to resume after the holiday weekend. Crosswalk repairs south of the tracks are being coordinated with the South Boulevard streetscape project to minimize impact on traffic, but likely will begin within a few weeks.

Alley and sidewalk improvements – Sewer work is completed in all scheduled alley segments, as the year’s first phase of projects continues to progress close to the original schedule. Sixteen alleys have been paved, with five remaining. Work currently is underway between Lake and Augusta streets. Aprons have been poured in the alley segments between Marion Street and Home Avenue and Pleasant Street and South Boulevard and the alley is open from Marion. The alley return at Home Avenue has been poured and will be open by July 5. The alley segments between Ontario and Lake streets and Ridgeland and Cuyler avenues have been paved, with the aprons expected to be completed this week. The preconstruction meeting for the season’s second round of alley projects is scheduled for July 14.

Street resurfacing and pavement patching – The surface-course pavement was placed this week on Mapleton Avenue between Thomas and Greenfield streets, and on Harvey Avenue from Jackson Boulevard to Madison Street. Pavement markings should be completed by early next week. Patching of roads and alleys throughout the Village is tentatively scheduled to start next week.

Other construction projects – Installation of the new water main on Westgate Street between Maple Avenue and Marion Street continued this week as part of the *Elevate* development downtown, formerly known as Oak Park Station. The Village is requiring flaggers to maintain safe traffic flow. Electrical control cabinets have been installed on Harrison Street as part of the lighting improvement project underway between Ridgeland Avenue and Austin Boulevard. Electric service will be installed immediately after inspections have approved the work to date. Lighting fixtures should be delivered the week of July 11, keeping the project on track for substantial completion by early August.

Public Works activities – Streets Division crews washed and painted the railroad abutment panels along North and South boulevards in preparation for future art projects. Crews also power washed sidewalks in problem areas at various locations throughout the Village, fixed street openings where water line repairs had been made, installed new bike racks at Adams Street and East Avenue, trimmed weeds in brickwork and sidewalks in business districts, picked up litter, cleaned parking lots and filled potholes. Water & Sewer Division crews replaced a broken fire hydrant at 1108 N. Elmwood Ave. and repaired a leaking fire hydrant at Greenfield Street and Fair Oaks Avenue, a water main break at 924 N. Oak Park and a sink hole at 518 N. Euclid Ave. Street Lighting Division crews secured a traffic signal pole damaged in a vehicle accident at Jackson Boulevard and Highland Avenue. Forestry Division crews focused on routine summer tasks including tree removal, landscape restorations and responding to resident requests.

Employee news – The dedication and hard work of Emergency Preparedness Manager Murray Snow has been recognized by the Illinois Department of Public Health, which recently presented him with a *Local Leadership Award*. This award recognizes those whose work has surpassed assigned duties by making substantial contributions to the field of emergency preparedness. Murray was nominated by one of his peers for helping the community become prepared to respond to emergency situations. He received the award at the recent [Integrated Public Health and Healthcare System Preparedness Summit](#).

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