



**Village Manager's Report
Week ending April 27, 2018**

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, April 30:
 - Transportation Commission, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
- Tuesday, May 1:
 - Taxing Body Efficiency Task Force, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Environment & Energy Commission, 7 p.m., room 130
- Wednesday, May 2:
 - Madison Street Coalition, 2 p.m., room 101
 - Citizen Involvement Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
- Thursday, May 3:
 - Plan Commission, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
- Friday, May 4:
 - No meetings scheduled

Recycling opportunities Saturday – The Village will host [two special recycling opportunities tomorrow](#) (Sat., April 28) at the Public Works Center. Crews will be on hand to shred documents containing personal information and repurpose old clothes that may not be suited for donating to a resale shop. Both events will run simultaneously from 9 a.m. to noon. Each household is limited to two bags or small boxes of documents containing personal information such as bank accounts numbers, credit card numbers, social security numbers and medical information. Paper materials that can be placed in the recycling cart or bin, such as newspaper, magazines, chipboard or junk mail, will not be accepted. The Public Works Department has partnered with the Epilepsy Foundation to collect clothing and apparel of all types and in any condition such as shoes, belts, hats, bags, linens and towels. The materials are sent to developing nations to have the raw materials repurposed for other uses.

Acting Police Chief – Deputy Chief LaDon Reynolds was named Acting Chief of Police this week as Chief Tony Ambrose has taken an extended leave of absence. This step by the Village Manager is standard procedure when the Police Chief will be unavailable for a period of time. The Police Department operates under a strict chain of command and a Chief of Police is essential to maintaining operational protocols. Chief Ambrose specifically recommended Deputy Chief Reynolds for the role. Acting Chief Reynolds was promoted to Deputy Chief in September and has been with the Oak Park Police Department for more than 23 years. The official statement on the action is [posted on the Village website](#).

Telecommunication interruption – A Waste Management truck turning from an alley onto Ridgeland Avenue just north of Madison Street Wednesday (April 25) took down a major telecommunication cable that interrupted television and internet service for several blocks, including Village Hall. Damage was extensive and service remained intermittent from about 8 a.m. to well into the afternoon for both Comcast and AT&T customers. In addition pulling down the major telecommunications cable, the truck knocked down a light pole and damaged traffic signal cables. Ridgeland Avenue was closed between Madison Street and Washington Boulevard for several hours, until work could move back into the alley. Most service was restored by the end of the day, but permanent repairs could continue for several days.

Alley improvements – Pavement removal began this week in the alley between Roosevelt Road and Fillmore Street, east of Elmwood Avenue. Work on the underground drainage components continued on the three other alley segments under construction. So far, 26 residents within the boundaries of the alley projects have elected to have their private garage aprons replaced as their alleys are reconstructed. Participants are able to take advantage of the Village's contract unit price, which is lower than the cost a single property owner would pay to hire a contractor.

Miscellaneous construction updates – Union Pacific Railroad contractors are repairing the overpass at Marion Street and South Boulevard, temporarily affecting pedestrian travel, but not interfering with traffic. ComEd construction crews are expected to keep one lane of the Clinton Avenue viaduct at North and South boulevards closed for several weeks as electrical resources are relocated. With the Oak Park segment of the Lake Michigan pipeline project complete, curb restoration is underway on Fillmore Street between Highland Avenue and Austin Boulevard in preparation for paving in May. Preparations are underway to notify residents and business likely to be affected by the first resurfacing projects of the season, which are expected to begin within the next few weeks. Village staff will coordinate parking and garbage collection during the work.

Public Works Activities – Contract crews have begun permanent pavement repairs where temporary patches were applied during the cold weather following water line work. Street Division crews continued repairing pavers on Lake Street in the downtown business district. Crews also continued picking up litter in the business district, with special focus on North Avenue and Harrison Street where unusual amounts had accumulated. Water & Sewer Division crews replaced damaged fire hydrants at Austin Boulevard and Harvard Street and 233 N. Taylor Ave., and upgraded a water service at 821 S. East Ave. as part of the lead abatement program. Forestry Division crews removed stumps and pruned trees along Fillmore Street.

Prescription drug disposal event – The Township will be a site for safe disposal of expired and unwanted prescription drugs for [National Rx Take-Back Day](#), a one day event sponsored by the federal Drug Enforcement Administration to help prevent drug addiction and overdose deaths. Items other than liquids and hypodermic needles in their original packages can be dropped off from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., tomorrow (Sat., April 28) at the Township's 105 S. Oak Park Ave. headquarters. The Police Department maintains a prescription drug disposal box available around the clock in the lower-level lobby.

Employee news – Cameron Davis joined Village staff this week as the new Assistant Director of [Development Customer Services](#). An Illinois native, Cameron brings nearly 30 years of local Illinois government experience to the job, including long tenures as village administrator in Cary and Homer Glen. Most recently, he served as assistant county administrator for Lake County, A graduate of Northern Illinois University. Cameron is a past president of the [Illinois City/County Management Association](#).

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