



Village Manager's Report
Week ending August 24, 2018

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, Aug. 27:
 - Executive session, 6:30 p.m., room 130
 - Special meeting, 7 p.m., room 101
- Tuesday, Aug. 28:
 - Board of Health, 7 p.m., room 102
- Wednesday, Aug. 29:
 - No meetings scheduled
- Thursday, Aug. 30:
 - Historic Preservation Commission, 7:30 p.m., Council Chamber
- Friday, Aug. 31:
 - No meetings scheduled

Mosquito spraying – Desplaines Valley Mosquito Abatement trucks were back on Oak Park streets Thurs., Aug. 23, the third time this season crews have sprayed here for adult mosquitoes. With traps capturing what abatement officials characterize as extremely high levels of adult mosquitoes carrying the West Nile Virus, spraying is likely to become a regular occurrence in Oak Park until the threat diminishes. So far, four human cases have been confirmed, including one in Cook County, but more cases are expected before the season ends. More information is [posted on the Village website](#).

Police presence increased – With the start of the new school year this week, Police have stepped up their presence with additional enforcement efforts at key crossings and along walking routes to protect. Police are urging motorists to stay alert, avoid distractions like talking on cell phones, come to a complete stop at intersections and not block crosswalks. Police also are on the lookout for drivers who do not obey the signals of crossing guards and attempt to pass a stopped school bus with lights flashing.

OPRF documentary screenings – Oak Park and River Forest High School, will host a community viewing and discussion for every episode of [America to Me](#), a 10-week documentary series that chronicles the lives of a dozen OPRF students while examining the topics of race and equity and their impact on the quest for racial parity at the school. The series, created by Academy Award-nominated filmmaker Steve James, debuts at 7 p.m., Sun., Aug. 26 on the STARZ network. The viewings will be held in the auditorium. More information, including a guide to hosting a watch party and discussion, is [posted on OPRF's website](#).

Contractor registration added to *VillageView* – Contractor registration and payment options have been added to *VillageView*, the website portal for conducting a wide range of property related Village business online. Contractors now can upload the necessary insurance information and make payments any time without a visit to Village Hall. *VillageView* also allows residents to search for information about their properties such as its zoning classification, and search and track building permits by address. The system is accessed via www.oak-park.us/villageview.

Boulevards project – The intersection of South Boulevard and Clinton Avenue has been closed to traffic for approximately four weeks for excavation of a shaft for a new sewer connection. South Boulevard traffic has been re-routed at Kenilworth Avenue to Randolph Street, with local access to properties and parking available via temporary two-way traffic on either side of the Clinton Avenue intersection between Kenilworth and Home avenues. Meanwhile on North Boulevard, sewer service connections are being made and curb restoration has begun. North Boulevard remains closed during work hours at Clinton Avenue, but access to private driveways is being maintained. Project schedule changes and notifications are posted periodically online at www.oak-park.us/boulevards.

Street resurfacing and repairs – Concrete work began this week on the season's second and final round of resurfacing projects. Four blocks of streets are to be resurfaced, six blocks reconstructed and four parking lots rehabilitated. In the meantime, only striping and punch list items remain for the first round of street resurfacing projects. Pavement crack filling was underway this week and will be followed by microsurfacing to help extend surface life.

Miscellaneous construction updates – A new foundation had to be installed for the traffic signal at Washington Boulevard and Wisconsin Avenue due to a crack appearing in the original base. Traffic was not affected. A specialist has been retained to repair the heated sidewalk on the south side of Westgate Street just west of Marion Street. Repair is expected in September. Work on the Lake Street frontage of the District House development at Euclid Avenue was scheduled to resume this week after being delayed by efforts to coordinate various utility tasks. Construction continued at the Albion development at Lake Street and Forest Avenue after a construction worker fell this week in a difficult area to access, requiring the Fire Department to use a ladder truck to reach him. The injuries were not life threatening.

Public Works Activities – Crews picked up unusually large amounts of litter in the islands on Madison Street and along Harlem Avenue from Roosevelt Road to Lake Street. The Marion Street and Home Avenue viaducts were cleaned this week and all garbage can liners replaced on Lake Street from Marion Street to Forest Avenue. Water services were upgraded at 1215 N. Elmwood Ave., 1042 S. Ridgeland Ave. and 847 S. Ridgeland Ave. as part of the lead abatement program.

South Marion demolition request – The Historic Preservation Commission has scheduled a special meeting for Aug. 30 to hear a request for a Certificate of Appropriateness to demolish a commercially used residential structure within the Ridgeland/Oak Park Historic District at 224 S. Marion St. The Village Board will only hear the matter if the Commission votes to deny the certificate which would allow the applicant appeal that decision to the Village Board.

Affordable rental public hearing – The Plan Commission has scheduled a review of the Planned Development Application for a mixed-use building with affordable rental apartments, live/work units and commercial space at 801 S. Oak Park Ave. The review for the application from *The Community Builders* is scheduled for the commission’s regular meeting on Sept. 6. The application requests allowances for density, height, vehicle parking, bicycle parking and landscape buffers. This project has been presented to the public at two neighborhood meetings, which attracted about 90 attendees. The project also was reviewed by the staff Project Review Team and consultant Wight and Company prior to the PDA submittal. The application packet is [posted on the Plan Commission page of the Village website](#).

Police training update – Six Police sergeants and one commander recently participated in the FBI’s highly specialized [Child Abduction Rapid Deployment \(CARD\) training program](#). Sergeants David Jacobson, Samantha Deuchler, John Curtin, Daniel Silva, Shatonya Johnson and Angelo Episcopo, along with Commander Thomas Dransoff, were given a unique opportunity to learn about the latest approaches in investigative response, victimology, searches, roadblock canvass, media considerations, suspect interviews, neighborhood investigations and major case management. In other Police training news, Acting Chief LaDon Reynolds, Commander Roger Grivetti and Cmdr. Dransoff successfully completed professional development programs designed to enhance their management and leadership skills. AC Reynolds participated in an interactive program through the [FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Association’s Executive Leadership Institute](#) program that focused on emerging challenges, including bias and diversity, employee wellness and trends in law enforcement. Cmdr. Grivetti completed a demanding three-week course through the Police Executive Research Forum’s [Senior Management Institute for Police](#) designed to help prepare police executives who ultimately will lead police agencies throughout the United States and the world. Cmdr. Dransoff also successfully completed a 10-week program offered by [Northwestern University Center for Public Safety](#) School of Police Staff and Command, a program that combines academic principles with practical applications.

Employee news – Jason Ziegler has been promoted to supervisor of the Neighborhood Services Division of the Development Customer Services Department. Jason had been an inspector in the division since June 2017 after working for the Chicago Housing Authority. In his new role as division supervisor, Jason will serve as the Chief Property Maintenance Inspector and oversee Commercial Property Inspectors and Business Licensing Officers, as well as assist with the Housing Rehabilitation Programs.

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