



**Village Manager's Report
Week ending July 5, 2019**

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, July 8:
 - Special Meeting, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
- Tuesday, July 9:
 - Aging in Place Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
- Wednesday, July 10:
 - Farmers' Market Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
- Thursday, July 11:
 - Civic Information Systems Commission, 7 p.m., room 102
 - Historic Preservation Commission, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
- Friday, July 12:
 - No meetings scheduled

Weather delaying completion of Village Hall parking lot – Continued wet weather is delaying the necessary waterproofing of the roof over the garage under the new plaza at the Village Hall parking lot. A few consecutive days of dry weather are needed for the garage roof to be waterproofed. Once this step is done, another three weeks will be required to finish the surface. The underground garage has been reopened, but the surface lot remains restricted to Police vehicles and municipal vehicles, with a dedicated row for visitors. Staff is continuing to park in designated areas on nearby streets.

Street resurfacing to begin – Resurfacing of various streets in the Village is scheduled to begin next week. Crews will begin with the underground utilities for the traffic calming work on Taylor and Lombard avenues between LeMoyne Parkway and North Avenue. Reconstruction of Wisconsin Avenue between Harrison and Adams streets and on Marion Street between Ontario Street and Chicago Avenue will follow. Resurfacing of portions of Clarence Avenue, Randolph Street and Iowa Street will be the final phase and should wrap by early September. Improvements to sidewalks and crossing ramps to meet the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) also will be completed as part of these projects.

Downtown construction update – ComEd, AT&T and Village contractors continued to work overnight this week by the Albion development site on Lake Street and Forest Avenue. The project includes installing underground electrical infrastructure, fiber optic cable and upgrades to the intersection's lighting and traffic signal system.

Pavement patching also will be part of after-hours activity. Complaints about noise have been few and crews are optimistic the overnight work will be completed by late July.

Madison Street update – Concrete work between East and Ridgeland avenues was scheduled to wrap up this week except for areas along the frontage road across from Village Hall. Crews also patched the sewer trench adjacent to Euclid Avenue this week, which required closing Euclid for two days just south of Madison Street. Sewer lining, which will include night work, remains on schedule to begin next week. Construction updates are being distributed via email and posted on the dedicated project website www.madisonstreetconstruction.com.

Water and sewer improvements – Clarence Avenue remained closed this week between Roosevelt Road and Harvard Street as sewer work continued. A new sewer main and associated building services are being installed beginning at the Roosevelt Road intersection and moving north along Clarence Avenue. Activities will soon shift to Berkshire Street where water valves and vaults will be installed near the Oak Park Avenue and Columbian Avenue intersections.

Miscellaneous construction updates – Rush Oak Park Hospital contractors continued work on Maple Avenue, but traffic lanes remained open in both directions. The new electric service meter was installed and permanent electrical service restored to the traffic signals at Harlem Avenue and South Boulevard. Crews also removed the temporary overhead cables and wooden poles at the intersection that had provided power during the streetscape and redevelopment construction projects. Remaining tasks include completing the sidewalk where the temporary poles had been and installing the bus shelter, which is expected to be substantially completed by July 15.

Historic Preservation activity update – Oak Park residents are actively investing in improvements to their homes within the Village's historic preservation districts, according to data compiled by the Development Customer Services Department. The Historic Preservation Commission reviewed 54 applications for Certificates of Appropriateness in 2018, up from 36 COA applications reviewed in 2017. The Commission's Architectural Review Committee also reviewed plans for renovations to 51 properties that would not require a COA, compared to the 36 reviewed in 2017.

Employee news – Angela Schell has joined the Communications Department as part-time Communications & Social Media Coordinator. This position was added to the budget this year to focus on the Police and Fire department social media accounts and other communications outreach related to public safety. Angela had worked for the past seven years in the Development Customer Services Department as executive secretary. Prior to taking time off to start a family, she had been an associate producer in the Midwest Bureau for NBC National News. She also managed social media accounts for local non-profit organizations on a volunteer basis. A long-time Oak Park resident, Angela earned a journalism degree from Northwestern University.

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