



**Village Manager's Report
Week ending Aug. 30, 2019**

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, Sept. 2:
 - Labor Day holiday – no meetings
- Tuesday, Sept. 3:
 - Village Board Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Council Chamber
 - Environment and Energy Commission, 7 p.m., room 124
- Wednesday, Sept. 4:
 - Citizen Involvement Commission 7 p.m., room 101
 - Community Relations Commission Special Meeting, room 215
 - Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m., room 215
- Thursday, Sept. 5:
 - No meetings scheduled
- Friday, Sept. 6:
 - No meetings scheduled

Val mural ribbon cutting – The [Oak Park Area Arts Council](#) will host a ribbon cutting for the Val Camilletti mural from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., tomorrow, Sat., Aug. 31, on South Boulevard, just east of Oak Park Avenue. The mural was commissioned this year as part of the Arts Council's Mini-Mural program along the CTA Green Line corridor. Camilletti owned and operated the popular [Val's Halla Records](#) store in Oak Park for nearly 46 years before her death last year. The ribbon-cutting event will take place across from the original record store at 723 South Blvd. and will offer an opportunity to meet local artist Joe Aborro who painted the mural.

Parking restrictions eased – [Overnight on-street parking restrictions](#) will not be enforced on many Oak Park residential streets over the Labor Day weekend. Restrictions will be lifted at 2:30 a.m., Sat., Aug. 31 and resume at 2:30 a.m., Wed., Sept. 4. 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.

Village Hall closed Monday – [Village Hall](#) will be closed on Mon., Sept. 2 in [observance of Labor Day](#). Should an incident that doesn't quite rise to the level of a 911 emergency occur when Village Hall is closed, residents are urged to call the [Police Department](#) non-emergency number 708.386.3800 for assistance.

Refuse collections delayed – [Refuse, recycling and yard waste collection services](#) will be delayed by the Labor Day holiday. Monday's regular pick-up and all subsequent collections of the week will be delayed one day, with Friday's collection coming on Saturday.

Lake Theatre marquee review – The Community Design Commission this week approved a sign variance for Lake Theater that will allow the owner to replace the three manual marquee boards with electronic signs. Commission members stipulated that the electronic messages must remain static for a minimum of 20 seconds. In addition, the owner is required to follow all other Village Sign Code regulations, such as no animation, no movement, no audio and no off-site advertising. Both the sign owner and contractor indicated that the new electronic signs would not produce any greater illumination than the current signs, but expressed a willingness to make adjustments to the new sign based valid complaints. The new sign is expected to be installed before the end of the year.

FLW Trust request update – The Historic Preservation Commission this week denied requests by the Frank Lloyd Wright Trust for Certificates of Appropriateness to move or demolish 925 Chicago Ave. and alter 931 Chicago Ave. to make way for a visitors' center. Of the 27 citizens who spoke at the hearing, one individual voiced support of the proposal for 931 Chicago Ave. and one was in favor of both proposals. All other speakers opposed the requests. The Historic Preservation Ordinance gives the applicant 15 days to appeal the denials to the Village Board or request a Certificate of Economic Hardship.

Mosquito spraying status – Cooler weather brought a significant drop in mosquito activity, prompting Desplaines Valley Mosquito Abatement District officials to postpone any immediate plans to spray in Oak Park. While West Nile Virus continued to be found in Oak Park traps this week, the relatively low levels remained essentially unchanged from previous weeks. The possibility of spraying remains, however, with mosquito activity often continuing well into October. Should officials schedule spraying, the community will be alerted via the new [emergency notification system](#), social media and other standard communications channels.

Better Lake Street communications update – Since the information campaign related to next year's [Lake Street improvement project](#) was presented to Village Board last month, several aspects of the contractor's communications programs have been implemented. Team members have visited nearly every business and office between Austin Boulevard and Harlem Avenue, talking one-on-one with proprietors and dropping off project information cards and window stickers to help customers and employees prepare for the impacts – and benefits – the project will bring. In addition, team members have hosted a family-friendly tent at Thursday Night Out events downtown and installed *Open for Business* signs promoting the project and [website](#) in the windows of vacant storefronts in the areas where construction will have the biggest impact.

Madison Street update – With the first layer of pavement and temporary striping to guide motorists now installed on Madison Street, attention has shifted to surface and infrastructure adjustment tasks that must be completed prior to installation of the final surface. Paving is scheduled to start on Sept. 11. Village staff and members of the project team have continued to coordinate messaging with nearby schools to

ensure information is available for parents and students who must cross the busy roadway during construction hours. The project remains on track to be completed in early October. The latest construction updates are distributed weekly via email to subscribers and posted on the dedicated project website www.madisonstreetconstruction.com.

Utility projects – Clarence Avenue remained closed this week between Roosevelt Road and Harvard Street as water service installation resumed and crews move toward a late September project wrap up. With water main and sewer projects finished on Berkshire Street between Columbian and Grove avenues, curb replacement and surface paving has begun. All work on Berkshire Street is expected to be completed by mid-September.

Street resurfacing projects – Pavement removal began this week on Wisconsin Avenue. Pavement milling is scheduled to begin next week on Clarence Avenue, Randolph Street and Iowa Street with paving to follow. The reconstruction of Marion Street between Ontario Street and Chicago Avenue is scheduled to begin the week of September 9. Traffic on Marion Street will be detoured to Harlem Avenue via Ontario Street and Chicago Avenue. All paving projects should be completed by the end of September.

Miscellaneous construction updates – With all in-street infrastructure and utility-related tasks finished, pavement restoration by Lake Street and Forest Avenue should begin after Labor Day. Restoration of the alley adjacent to 1001 Lake Street just west of Forest Avenue will follow. Application of special surface treatments intended to extend life, improve ride quality and preserve deeper layers of the pavement structure continued this week on various streets across the Village. The Home Avenue pedestrian bridge is scheduled to close next week in preparation for [major improvements](#) that will take the bridge out of service for the month of September.

New HR director – Kira Tchang, an Oak Park resident who has been supporting and leading human resources teams since 2007, joined the Village this week as Assistant Village Manager/Director of Human Resources. She most recently served as the Chief People Officer for Civitas Education Partners, where she managed human resources and talent strategy for more than 300 employees and contractors. A news release about Kira's new role with the Village and her extensive experience is [posted on the Village website](#).

Employee news – Chief Building Official Steve Cutaia was [featured in a Wednesday Journal story](#) about the permitting services provided by the Permits Processing Division of the Development Customer Services Department. Steve did a nice job of explaining why permits and inspections are so important to ensuring public safety – [click here to read the story](#). In other employee news, Permit Processing Division team member Tineshia Patterson-Moss has attained her certification as a Permit Technician from the [International Code Council](#). To earn the nationally recognized designation, Tineshia had to pass a demanding exam that covered international building and zoning codes as well as enforcement and legal aspects of code administration.

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