



## Village Manager's Report Week ending July 3, 2020

### Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, July 6:
  - Village Board Regular Meeting, 6:30 p.m., remote via GoToMeeting
- Tuesday, July 7:
  - No meetings scheduled
- Wednesday, July 8:
  - Community Relations Commission, 7 p.m., remote via GoToMeeting
- Thursday, July 9:
  - No meetings scheduled
- Friday, July 10:
  - No meetings scheduled

**Village offices closed for July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday** – Village offices will be closed on Friday, July 3 in observance of the July Fourth holiday. Should an incident that doesn't quite rise to the level of a 911 call occur when Village Hall is closed, residents are urged to call the Police non-emergency number 708.386.3800 for assistance.

**Farmers' Market update** – Since opening for its 45<sup>th</sup> season on May 30, attendance has grown steadily each week. More than 3,200 patrons attended on June 27, up from the 1,750 who turned out for opening day to experience the new market configuration with vendor stalls moved from the usual Pilgrim Church parking lot site on Lake Street to nearby streets to allow room for safe social distancing. The new preorder/pickup option has proven popular. Nearly 100 patrons preordered items online for pickup at last Saturday's market. The logistics of distribution and pickup does limit participation, but staff has worked to increase the number of patrons each week who can be accommodated. Vendors, volunteers and Village staff have proven flexible and responsive to the need for a different kind of market this year.

**Village Hall reopens to public** – Village Hall reopened to the public Monday with the focus on keeping visitors and municipal employees safe from the COVID-19 coronavirus. Visitors are welcomed Monday through Thursday, with the number of individuals allowed in the lobby limited to maintain proper social distances. The south door by the parking lot and the elevator access for persons with disabilities on Lombard Avenue opens at 9 a.m. for senior citizens and individuals at higher risk for contracting the virus and 10 a.m. for all others. We are continuing to remind residents to call 708.358.5700 from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays to seek assistance and to visit [www.oak-park.us/onlineservices](http://www.oak-park.us/onlineservices) for a wide range of services

available without a trip to Village Hall. [More details are posted on the Village website...](#)

**Parking restriction to resume** – On-street, overnight parking restrictions are scheduled to resume at 2:30 a.m., Mon., July 13. The restrictions had been eased as part of the emergency order to accommodate the growing number of residents working from home during the COVID-19 crisis. With the Village following the state guidelines that have allowed most businesses to reopen, the need for the special parking accommodations likely has decreased. Police continue to support limiting on-street parking as a safety measure and the Public Works Department is stressing a need for street sweeping.

**#VirtualDayInOurVillage a success** -- Approximately 65 local organizations participated in the [Virtual Day in Our Village](#) celebration on Sun., June 28. Organized by the Community Relations Department, Communications Department and A Day in Our Village Festival Committee volunteers, the event sought to capture the spirit of A Day in Our Village, which has for decades offered current and prospective residents an opportunity to discover the diversity and variety of cultural, social service, business, educational and religious organizational groups in our community. The Village alone contributed 64 posts about municipal services and ways to get involved in local government throughout the day across its Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn pages. The Village's posts combined to reach more than 88,000 social media users and generate more than 3,700 engagements across all platforms. When combined with more than 100 posts from other community organizations, the result was a robust collection of messages that captures what makes Oak Park special available to anyone who clicks on the #VirtualDayInOurVillage hashtag on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#). In addition to producing [lighthearted promo videos](#) prior to the event, the Village also ran footage from previous A Day in Our Village celebrations throughout Sunday on VOP-TV cable channel 6.

**Vehicle license renewals** – With the deadline for renewing Village vehicle licenses extended until Sept. 14 due to the COVID-19 coronavirus emergency, we are urging residents not to be in a rush especially if that means coming to Village Hall. Since the physical windshield decal was eliminated last year, renewing in person at Village Hall has no advantage. Anyone with an online account may purchase a 2020-21 vehicle license at [www.oak-park.us/vehiclelicense](http://www.oak-park.us/vehiclelicense) any time before the deadline. For those who don't have an online account, renewal notices will be sent by mail this month. More information about Oak Park's vehicle licenses is at [www.oak-park.us/vehiclelicenseinfo](http://www.oak-park.us/vehiclelicenseinfo).

**Lake Street update** – The concrete base course for the bluestone pavers has been installed on Lake Street between Harlem and Forest avenues and workers have begun installing the planters between Forest and Marion Street. Temporary ramps are in place to maintain access the businesses. New electrical conduits are set to go in on the north side of Lake Street between Kenilworth and Oak Park avenues. Crews are patching pavement and making sidewalk height adjustments in preparation for the leveling layer as part of the planned new pavement between Euclid Avenue and Austin Boulevard, which is expected to begin later this month.

**East Avenue bridge status** – Pavement patching and sidewalk repairs on the East Avenue bridge over the expressway have progressed steadily. Vehicle, pedestrian and

bicycle traffic has been maintained throughout the project. In addition to the repairs, the sidewalk crossing ramps on the southwest and southeast corners are being brought up to the standards required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

**Austin Boulevard construction update** – Chicago crews are adjusting manholes and patching deteriorated pavement in advance of repaving later this month on Austin Boulevard between Lake and Iowa streets. The Village water main improvement project on Austin from Lake Street to Chicago Avenue has been deferred until at least late July to minimize potential impacts on West Suburban Medical Center during the COVID-19 pandemic. This means the city's resurfacing project will not cross the centerline along this section of Austin and the Village will resurface the Oak Park side of the roadway as part of the water main project.

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