



## Village Manager's Report Weeks ending June 2, 2017

### Meetings scheduled for the next week:

- Sunday, June 4:
  - Elected Officials Breakfast, 9 a.m., Oak Park Public Library
- Monday, June 5:
  - Village Regular Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m., room 201
- Tuesday, June 6:
  - Environmental and Energy Commission, 7 p.m., room 130
  - HPC Education Committee, 7:30 p.m., room 215
- Wednesday, June 7:
  - Citizen Involvement Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
  - Zoning Board of Appeals Commission, 7 p.m., room 201
- Thursday, June 8:
  - Civic Information Systems Commission, 7 p.m., room 215
  - Historic Preservation Commission, 7:30 p.m., room 201
- Friday, June 9:
  - No meetings scheduled

**A Day in Our Village is Sunday** – The 44th annual [A Day in Our Village festival](#) celebrating diversity and community involvement is Sunday in Scoville Park, rain or shine. The Village Board tent will be space #23, which is very near to last year at the top of the hill directly south of the memorial. A map will be available at the event, but the tent, table and chairs should be ready prior to the arrival of participating board members. In keeping with the recently adopted [monarch pledge](#), board giveaways this year will include packets of wildflowers that are ideal for attracting butterflies and other pollinators.

**Wine festival is Saturday** – Downtown Oak Park will host the sixth annual *Uncork Illinois* wine festival from 1 to 9 p.m., this Saturday (June 3) on Marion Street between Lake Street and North Boulevard. Marion Street will be closed to vehicles, but remain open to foot traffic and non-drinkers. Wines from 15 Illinois and Michigan wineries will be featured along with music, shopping and alfresco dining. Wines will be available by the glass and bottle. A portion of the event profits will go to [Wonder Works Children's Museum](#). More information on the event [is posted online](#).

**Grant to help ensure firefighter wellness** – The Oak Park Fire Department has earned a \$106,000 grant to help ensure that our first responders are resilient enough to withstand the demands of their hazardous roles. The grant comes from the Federal

Emergency Management Agency, a division of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The grant will help fund a range of programs, including annual medical exams, job-related immunizations and fitness training. These types of services are increasingly critical for firefighters whose jobs are considered second only to those in a military combat unit in terms of stress. [Click here to read the grant narrative...](#)

**Vehicle sticker sales update** – The Village sold 7,496 vehicle stickers through the first three weeks since [sales began on May 8](#), down slightly from the 7,813 stickers sold for the same period last year. More than 73 percent of this year’s sales have been online via the Village website, with another 17 percent of sales made at the counter in Village Hall. The share of mail-in sales could grow in the weeks ahead since renewal messages reached electronic mailboxes several days before those sent via U.S. Mail. With the cost of vehicle stickers the same regardless of the purchase method, the online option is promoted for its convenience, a factor that becomes more attractive as the deadline nears and lines grow at the Parking Services counter in Village Hall.

**District 97 maintenance move status** – Work has begun to clear out space in the Public Works Center to house the maintenance operations of School District 97. The district must vacate its current facility at Madison Street and Scoville Avenue by mid-July. Public Works crews are reconfiguring vehicle storage and declaring unneeded materials now in the space as surplus so it can be sold. Other materials in the space designated for school district maintenance operations will be moved off site, most likely to Maywood where the Village has a long-term agreement to store materials at the Forest Preserve District of Cook County yard. The space-sharing arrangement with District 97 was part of an intergovernmental agreement approved by the Village Board in 2015.

**Latest water quality report posted online** – The latest report on the quality of the public water supply is now posted online at [www.oak-park.us/waterqualityreport](http://www.oak-park.us/waterqualityreport). The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requires communities to prepare a *Consumer Confidence Report* each year. The report provides information on the quality of the local drinking water as well as detailed analyses of substances in the water and facts about the community's drinking water delivery system and source. An [archive of past water quality reports also is posted online](#). Residents are invited to contact the Public Works Department at 708.358.5700 or [publicworks@oak-park.us](mailto:publicworks@oak-park.us) if they would like a paper copy of the report.

**Oak Park in the news** – The Village was included in a story about Chicago’s new American Writers Museum published recently by *The Guardian*, a United-Kingdom-based news organization – [click here to read the story](#). Visit Oak Park hosted the reporter a few weeks ago and he indicated another piece is in the works on Frank Lloyd Wright and will feature our area as well. With nine million hits per day, The Guardian online reportedly has the second most web traffic in the world, trailing only *The New York Times*.

**Same-day permit program** – The Development Customer Services Department’s Permits Processing Division will offer same-day permits and plan reviews through Sept. 1 for a range of specific projects. The quick-turnaround service will be available from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, periods that set to ensure staff availability. In addition to being limited to specific types of projects,

submittals must be complete and contractors must be fully licensed or registered with the Village. Projects that involve zoning or historical preservation issues also may not qualify for same-day service. [Click here to view a program information sheet...](#)

**Memorial Day participation** – Members of the Oak Park Police Department color guard captured the solemn meaning of Memorial Day with a dramatic appearance in the ceremony held Mon., May 29 in [Scoville Park](#). Set in front of the majestic World War I *Peace Triumphant* monument statue, the event honored the men and women who have sacrificed their lives in service of our country. [Click here to see photos from the event](#). The Oak Park Fire Department also participated in the River Forest Memorial Day Parade. A crew drove one of the Village's fire engines along the 1.5-mile route in a procession that also included representation from several other area fire departments.

**Chicago Avenue construction update** – Installation of decorative sidewalks continued this week on the corners throughout the business district between Harlem and Belleforte avenues. As crews moved into the street to install the brick crosswalks across, east bound traffic is being detoured onto Division Street via Harlem and Oak Park avenues. Westbound traffic is being maintained, with two-way local traffic continuing at Belleforte. Normal traffic patterns are expected to resume by the last week of June. The work is the final phase of the project began last year to repave Chicago Avenue from Harlem Avenue to Austin Boulevard.

**Water/sewer main improvements** – Work related to replacing the water main continued this week on Taylor Avenue between Harrison and Flournoy streets continued. All underground work is finished, with concrete work to replace portions of curbs, sidewalks and pavement expected to be completed by next week. Paving will follow in the next few weeks. The contractor currently is completing remaining concrete work and adjusting water and sewer structures to final grades on Highland Avenue between Madison Street and Jackson Boulevard, with paving to follow in the next few weeks.

**Alley improvements** – Underground drainage improvements continued this week on alley segments under construction, while pavement was removed in the alley north of Washington Boulevard between Harvey and Lombard avenues. Forty 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.

**Downtown construction update** – Underground work continued this week for the new street lights at the Emerson project site downtown. The sidewalk and parking lane on the south side of Lake Street remains closed from the new Maple Avenue to the east side of the development site. However, two-way traffic flow has been maintained on Lake Street. Engineering Division staff has worked closely with Downtown Oak Park and development company representatives to ensure the weekend's wine festival is not affected by the construction.

**Lake Michigan pipeline project** – Work on the water line that will carry Lake Michigan water to the villages of Brookfield and North Riverside is expected to begin in earnest

within the next two weeks. Materials and equipment were delivered to the site this week, with some initial excavation work expected to begin next week on Fillmore at Maple Avenue. Maple will be closed at Fillmore for up to three days at the beginning of construction, and then reopened to traffic as work progresses to the east along Fillmore across the entire Village. Road closures should be limited to intersections and alley entrances when excavation is occurring in those areas. Fillmore Street and all road and alley crossings will be reopened at the end of each construction day. Notices have been distributed to residents along Fillmore and to businesses on Roosevelt Road. Village Forestry Division staff have worked with the contractor to determine what tree pruning needs to be completed prior to work beginning. Village crews will continue to trim as needed throughout the project and will monitor the area throughout construction to ensure the trees are sufficiently protected.

**Miscellaneous construction projects** – Paving and striping of crosswalks were completed this week on Lombard Avenue between Van Buren and Adams, and on Taylor between Adams and Madison streets. Parkway restoration also has begun. The project was done quickly and had only a brief, limited impact on parking at Village Hall.

**Public Works Activities** – Crews from the Streets and Engineering divisions removed wayfinding signs on Lake Street and set up barricades and fencing for the construction project underway on Chicago Avenue between Harlem and Belleforte avenues. Streets crews also poured concrete for curb repairs and streets that had been open to fix water leaks. Water & Sewer Division crews reset water shut-off boxes at 514 N Humphrey Ave., 830 Carpenter Ave. and 260 Chicago Ave., and completed a water service upgrade at 1173 Highland Ave. as part of the lead abatement program. Replacing older water meters also continued. The Forestry Division focused on regular landscaping and tree maintenance.

###