



**Village Manager's Report
Week ending May 27, 2022**

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, May 30:
 - Memorial Day - Village Hall closed
- Tuesday, May 31:
 - No meetings scheduled
- Wednesday, June 1:
 - Citizen Involvement Commission, 7 p.m. via Zoom
 - Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m. via Zoom
- Thursday, June 2:
 - Plan Commission, 7:30 p.m. via Zoom
- Friday, June 3:
 - No meetings scheduled

**COVID-19 Weekly Activity Reports are posted at www.oak-park.us/covid19
just click on the *Village Manager Reports* heading**

Village Hall closed for Memorial Day – Village Hall will be closed on Monday, May 30 in observance of Memorial Day. Should an incident that doesn't quite rise to the level of a 911 emergency occur when Village Hall is closed, residents may call the Police Department non-emergency number 708.386.3800 for assistance. Refuse and recycling collection will also be delayed by one day next week as a result of the holiday. For more information about Village Hall hours, visit www.oak-park.us/villagehall.

Parking restrictions eased - Starting tonight, overnight parking restrictions will not be enforced on most Oak Park streets over Memorial Day weekend. Overnight on-street parking will be lifted at 2:30 a.m. Saturday, May 28 and resume at 2:30 a.m. Wednesday, June 1. All other parking regulations remain in effect, including restrictions in zones reserved for permit holders, daytime posted restrictions and regulations related to traffic and public safety. The holiday parking schedule for all of 2022 is posted at www.oak-park.us/holidayparking.

Police Department Basketball Camp – The Oak Park Police Department will start accepting registration for its 2022 Youth Basketball Camp this Saturday, May 28. The free camp will take place Aug. 1- 5 at Brooks Middle School and is open to Oak Park kids ages 8 to 14. Activities include group instruction, team play, one-on-one, full-court games, contests and awards. Registration is required and space is limited. More information and a link to the application is on the Village website at www.oak-park.us/police. Parents are asked to return

completed applications to the Oak Park Police Department in the lower level of Village Hall at 123 Madison St. or by email to syong@oak-park.us. The annual basketball camp was canceled in 2020 and 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Vehicle license sales update - More than 3,800 licenses have been sold through the third week of vehicle license sales, capturing about \$242,751 in revenue. Of the vehicle license sales to date, more than 85% were via the Village's online system, a trend that has been growing steadily in the past several years. This is the fourth year that Oak Park vehicle licenses have been virtual and a physical window decal has not been required. Every Oak Park resident who owns or leases a motor vehicle is required to purchase a local license before July 15 to get the lowest rate. The vehicle license rate increases after July 15. Parking enforcement officers continue to use license plate recognition technology to ensure compliance.

Hotel/motel tax updates - The Village collected \$65,647.11 in hotel/motel taxes through the first two months of 2022, nearly double the \$36,925.65 collected for the same period in 2021. The \$22,935 collected in April represents the third-highest total in the past 40 months. Development Customer Services Department staff says the increase is being driven by monthly tax receipts from Airbnb. The Village received more than \$13,000 in tax payment from Airbnb in April, the highest total since the company began making payments to the Village. DCS staff has also begun inspecting short-term rental operations in Oak Park as part of the Village's new business licensing program. [Click here for a multi-year summary](#) of the hotel/motel the collections.

Plan Commission to discuss vacant church properties - In response to several inquiries regarding the potential reuse of vacant churches located within single-family zoning districts, the Plan Commission will discuss the topic at its June 2 meeting. The Development Customer Services Department is investigating probable paths to achieve reuse of these vacant properties that are currently for sale. Staff is pursuing a discussion with Plan Commission members regarding their thoughts on this issue. After the Plan Commission has concluded its discussion, staff will provide the Plan Commission a draft Zoning Ordinance text amendment for public hearing prior to sending it to the Village Board for consideration.

Neighborhood Walk Program - Each year Village property inspectors check single-family homes and apartment buildings for visible code violations to ensure public safety and community aesthetics as part of the Neighborhood Walk Program. Residents who receive a violation letter are urged to please take care of the repairs within the period specified in the letter. More information about the Neighborhood Walk Program is available at www.oak-park.us/housing or by contacting 708.358.5410 or housing@oak-park.us.

Voter registration at OPRF - Village Clerk Christina Waters and Deputy Village Clerk Linda DeViller visited Oak Park and River Forest High School earlier this month and registered 30 OPRF seniors to vote. The voter registration event came at the request of OPRF's Youth Action and Civics Club and took place May 20, which marked the seniors' last day of school prior to graduation. The Village Clerk's Office registers residents to vote in local, state and federal elections at Village Hall by appointment. More information is available on the Village website at www.oak-park.us/clerk.

Climate Plan feedback – Residents are being encouraged to provide feedback on the [Oak Park Climate Plan draft goals](#) through May 31. Users can take a survey, share input on the comment map and play the budget game to share their priorities for each impact area. Community feedback has been key throughout the process of developing the Climate Plan, which aims to address affordability, equity and sustainability in response to climate change and its impacts on the community. Learn more at www.oak-park.us/climateplan.

IPLAN survey wrapping up – The Health Department is also asking residents to provide feedback to help shape public health programming in Oak Park by the end of the month. The Health Department will use data from the survey to inform its five-year strategic plan, known as the IPLAN, which guides services and programs for the community. Residents who fill out the core survey and any modules of interest can be entered into a raffle to win a \$50 gift card for Downtown Oak Park businesses. The survey is available at www.oak-park.us/IPLANSurvey. More information about the community health strategic plan is at www.oak-park.us/iplan22.

Building Safety Month - May is [Building Safety Month](#), offering an opportunity for the Village to remind the community that adopting and following building codes helps keep a community safe. The Village's Permit Processing Division is responsible for ensuring that the buildings, structures and properties within Oak Park are constructed, improved and preserved with regard to safety of life and property. The Oak Park Fire Department also reviews all building blueprints for fire alarm and sprinkler system installations prior to construction to ensure the systems meet or exceed current fire code regulations. More information about the Village's approach to building safety is at www.oak-park.us/buildingsafety.

Pool Safety Tips and Requirements - The Village's Chief Building Official encourages residents with pools to follow a few basic safety tips: 1.) Teach children basic water safety skills; 2.) Learn how to swim and ensure your children know to swim as well; 3.) Avoid entrapment by keeping children away from pool drains, pipes and other openings; 4. Have a phone close by at all times when utilizing a pool; 5.) If a child is missing, always look for them in the pool first; 6.) Have life-saving equipment such as life rings, floats, etc., available and easily accessible; 7.) Maintain pool covers in good working order; and 8.) Share safety instructions with family, friends, babysitters and neighbors. The most important thing is to never leave a child unattended around a pool. In addition, the Village reminds residents that a building permit is required for all pools 18 inches or deeper. All permitted pools must have at least a four-foot fence installed around the perimeter of the pool, including portable pools deeper than 18 inches. For additional permit information about pools, residents can contact permits@oak-park.us.

Thursday Night Out set to return - Downtown Oak Park's popular dine-around series Thursday Night Out is set to take place from 5 to 9 p.m. every Thursday from June 2 to August 25. The event features restaurants in the downtown business district along Lake and Marion streets offering a variety of drinks, appetizers, entrees and desserts on the Thursday Night Out menu, with the option of eating in or carrying out. Tables are also set up along

Marion Street for patrons to enjoy dining al fresco. More information is at www.thursdaynightout.com.

Pete's construction update – The west lot for the new Pete's Fresh Market was fenced off on Monday. Euclid Avenue will remain open for the time being. AT&T has awarded the contract for its utility work, which is expected to begin next week. The remaining ComEd work is still in progress and on track to be completed by mid-June.

Alley improvements – The contractor for the annual alley improvement project has paved 10 alleys so far. All concrete work is anticipated to be completed early next week. The north-south alley between Clinton and Kenilworth avenues and south of Garfield Street will be fully reopened this week. The entire project is on track to be completed by the middle of June.

LeMoyne Parkway Sewer Project – The contractor completed sewer installation between Fair Oaks and Elmwood avenues and the the installation of new catch basins on the block between East Avenue and Fair Oaks. Sewer installation on LeMoyne will continue for the next two weeks. The intersection of LeMoyne and Rossell Avenue will experience intermittent closures at the end of this week. The block of Rossell to north of LeMoyne will be accessible off North Avenue and the block to the south of LeMoyne will be accessible from Greenfield Street.

Harlem Avenue Resurfacing – Crews are currently working on surface removals between South Boulevard and Lexington Street, with paving in the area expected to begin soon. Once complete, work will move south toward Roosevelt Road.

Pleasant & Marion Development – Excavation for the new building foundation at Pleasant and Marion streets will continue the first few weeks of June. Underground mechanical and electrical work is ongoing, and ComEd will begin connecting power sources from Harlem Avenue to the site in the coming weeks.