



**Village Manager's Report
Week ending May 10, 2019**

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, May 13:
 - Village Board Executive Session, 6:30 p.m., Public Works Center
 - Village Board Special Meeting, 7p.m. Public Works Center
- Tuesday, May 14:
 - Aging in Place Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
- Wednesday, May 15:
 - Community Relations Commission, 6 p.m., room 101 (events discussion)
 - Community Relations Commission, 7 p.m., room 101 – Review of Diversity Statement
 - Housing Programs Advisory Committee, 7 p.m., room 215
- Thursday, May 16:
 - Building Codes Advisory Commission, 5 p.m., room 215
- Friday, May 17:
 - No meetings scheduled

Village Hall parking lot work continues – The Village Hall parking lot closed completely on Tuesday and will remain closed for approximately four weeks as the lot undergoes reconstruction. Despite wet weather this week, crews started replacing concrete curbs and began underground work for the new lighting system. Extensive signage is in place to help guide visitors to the nearby parking options.

Public Invited to Comment on Diversity Statement – The Village’s Community Relations Commission is holding a special meeting at 7 p.m. on Wednesday at to hear from residents about updates to the [Diversity Statement](#), which the CRC is recommending the Village Board adopt to add a racial equity framework to this important Village document. Oak Park was one of the first municipalities in the country to make diversity a matter of public policy. Following each two-year election cycle since a Diversity Statement was first adopted in 1973, the Village Board has reaffirmed the Diversity Statement via a formal resolution, with some modifications being made overtime. The CRC will meet at Village Hall in Room 101.

Fire hydrant testing set to begin – All 1,240 of Oak Park’s fire hydrants will be tested over the next few weeks to ensure these vital emergency response devices are in good working order should a fire occur. Residents have been alerted to the possibility

of cloudy water the first time they open a tap after a nearby hydrant has been tested. If they just let a faucet run for a couple of minutes, the water should clear up. Testing is set to begin next week and continue into early June. [Read more about the program on the Village website...](#)

Parking signage simplified – After a slight rain delay, the final signs have been installed for the Parking Pilot Program. The improved signage has simplified the parking restriction information conveyed on parking signs. [Click here to see an example of the improvement](#). The new regulations include a uniform three-hour parking time limit from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday in the pilot area. Residents who reside on the affected blocks are exempt from the time limit with their valid Oak Park vehicle license. [More information on the Parking Pilot program is available on the Village website.](#)

Registration open for youth skills workshop – Residents ages 15 to 18 are invited to learn skills and techniques that can help them find and keep a job at annual workshops presented by the Community Relations Department. This year's workshops are scheduled for 2 to 5 p.m., June 10 to 14 at the Oak Park Public Library. Registration is open through June 4. The number of participants is limited. More information about the workshops and a link to register online are posted on the Village website at www.oak-park.us/community.

I-290 bridge rehab – Rehabilitation of the bridge over I-290 at Oak Park Avenue continued this week with overnight work focused on the west side under the bridge. The east sidewalk is partially closed until the work is complete.

Water and sewer improvements – Crews began installing information and construction signs, pruning tree roots and installing tree protection on Clarence Avenue between Roosevelt Road and Harvard Street as part of an upcoming water and sewer improvement project. Next week crews will remove the existing pavement, which will result in the closure of Clarence Avenue.

Alley improvements – Alley work continued this week with the installation of storm sewers south of Greenfield Street east of Lombard Avenue and pavement removal in the alley south of LeMoyné Parkway and west of Marion Street. Pavement was also poured in the alley south of Washington Boulevard between Harvey and Lombard avenues. These locations are among the 15 alley segments scheduled to be reconstructed this season.

Traffic studies – Data collection has resumed across the Village to update traffic studies of residential streets last completed in the 1990s. The data will be used to help analyze future traffic issues that may come before the Transportation Commission for review. Data collection is expected to continue for one more week, but traffic flow will not be affected.

Scoville Avenue cul-de-sac – Fencing around the construction site for the new cul-de-sac on Scoville Avenue adjacent to Turano Bakery's construction site will be installed May 13. Village staff recently met with the contractor on-site to review the upcoming work.

New home for compost, woodchip storage - The Streets and Forestry divisions completed the new compost and woodchip storage bins in the Rehm Pool parking lot at the corner of Garfield Street and Gunderson Avenue. The compost, which is available to residents enrolled in the CompostAble Program, will be monitored and replenished as the pile is exhausted. Video surveillance is also available at the new location to discourage commercial landscapers from accessing the compost. Information about the new location was shared with residents enrolled in the CompostAble program via an email blast.

Madison Street update – Crews began removing the medians this week as the Madison Street improvement project moved ahead. In addition to targeted communications to the businesses along the corridor and neighborhood residents, construction updates are posted on the dedicated project website at www.madisonstreetconstruction.com. As part of the Rush Oak Park Hospital construction of a new emergency room, traffic on Madison Street will continue to be interrupted intermittently next week for utility work adjacent to the Hospital. Nearby businesses have been notified. As part of the residential construction at Home and Madison, frontage curb and sidewalk work began this week and is expected to continue into the middle of next week.

Public Works activities – Tree planting wrapped up this week, with a total of 254 trees planted by contractors at various locations in the Village. The Forestry Division continued attending to resident requests related to parkway trees. The Streets Division completed two temporary patches from water and sewer repair openings and worked on brick paver repair on Lake and Marion streets that will be finished as weather permits. Crews also continued filling potholes and picking up litter. Water Division crews completed sewer repair work at 520 S. Taylor Avenue and water service upgrades as part of the lead abatement program at 949 N. Taylor and 814 Fair Oaks avenues. Crews also continued clearing inlets on flooded streets as necessary.

Employee news – Senior mechanic Otto Hartl became the first member of the Fleet Services Division to attain triple Master status. Otto already held an ASE Heavy Truck Master certification, and he just completed the ASE (Automotive Society of Engineers) Automotive Tech certification as well as the EVT (Emergency Vehicle Technician) Fire Apparatus Tech Master certification. EVT Fire Apparatus Master status requires passing a combination of 7 ASE and 6 EVT exams.

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