



Village Manager's Report Week ending July 22, 2022

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, July 25:
 - Village Board meeting, 7 p.m. via Zoom
- Tuesday, July 26:
 - Disability Access Commission, 6 p.m. via Zoom
- Wednesday, July 27:
 - No meetings scheduled
- Thursday, July 28:
 - Architectural Review Committee, 7 p.m. via Zoom
- Friday, July 29:
 - No meetings scheduled

**COVID-19 Weekly Reports are posted at www.oak-park.us/covid19
just click on the *Status report bulletin* heading**

Plan Commission to continue OPRF discussion – The Plan Commission voted 5-1 on Thursday night to continue its hearing for Oak Park and River Forest High School’s special use application for the installation of new light standards to August 4. Only six of nine commissioners were present at Thursday’s meeting. The Plan Commission asked the applicant to come back and clarify who will be using the south field within the proposed expansion time of 8 to 10 p.m. The applicant stated during Thursday’s meeting that they will only use the lights after 8 p.m. four months out of the year: March, April, May and June. Otherwise, the applicant stated the lights will either be turned off if not in use during all 12 months of the year or will be on only until 8 p.m. as currently allowed. The School District and Park District are proposing to collaborate on a shared field use plan. It was stated that only the Park District would be using the south field between the 8 to 10 p.m. time frame.

Community Relations hosts Youth Skills Workshop – The Community Relations Department has 17 teenagers registered for its annual Youth Skills Workshop, which is set to take place from July 25-29 at the Oak Park Library’s main branch. The workshop is open to residents ages 15 to 18. Participants learn skills and techniques that can help them find and keep a job such as resume writing, interviewing, career path development and building interpersonal relationships. The workshops are facilitated by third-party contractor Sansa Solutions.

Corn Roast moved to Aug. 13 – The Oak Park Farmers’ Market’s annual Corn Roast will be held Aug. 13, one week later than initially planned, as farmers grapple with a delay in this year’s corn crop due to a cool and wet spring. The event features fresh-picked corn sold by the ear hot off the roaster. More information about upcoming events at the Market can be found at www.oak-park.us/farmersmarket.

COVID-19 testing program - The Oak Park Health Department is offering COVID-19 PCR and rapid testing several days each week at various locations in the community. All testing provided by the Health Department is free and insurance is not required. One-time advance registration is required to receive a test – [click here to register](#). Individuals can walk-in anytime during testing hours provided they have completed the one-time registration form. Testing is typically administered from the Health Department’s Mobile Response Van most Tuesday evenings at Cheney Mansion, 220 N. Euclid Ave., most Wednesday mornings at the main Fire Station, 100 N. Euclid Ave., most Thursday evenings at Thursday Night Out near Marion and Lake streets, and most Saturday mornings at the Oak Park Farmers’ Market, 460 Lake St. More information about the initiative, including times and specific dates when testing is available, is posted at www.oak-park.us/testing.

Free compost available – A limited amount of free compost is available to Oak Park residents at the Rehm Pool parking lot at 515 Garfield St. The compost is provided by the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago and is derived from the water reclamation process. It can be blended with topsoil or used as a mulch around established plants. Residents can also obtain free compost from MWRD through the “B.Y.O. Bucket Program” at plant locations during specific times of availability. Visit www.mwr.org/eq-compost for more information.

Suicide Prevention Lifeline – The Village is joining the effort to amplify the message that the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline can now be reached by simply calling or texting 988 anywhere in the United States. The Lifeline provides 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones, and best practices for professionals in the United States. Individuals can visit www.988Lifeline.org to connect with compassionate care and support for mental health-related distress. The Village’s Communication Department is sharing information about the 988 Lifeline through its social media channels.

Township school supply drive - Oak Park Township is collecting new school supplies through Aug. 5 as part of its annual school supply drive. Anyone interested in donating can order items directly through an Amazon Wish List at <https://tinyurl.com/ptuvfxtm> or by scanning the QR code in the Township’s flyer – [click here to view](#). New supplies may also be placed in a donation box from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays at the Township Office, 105 S. Oak Park Ave. For more information on the back-to-school supply drive, call 708.445.2727 or email youth@oakparktownship.org.

Sewer improvement project – The upcoming sewer improvement project at multiple locations in the Village is tentatively set to begin the week of July 25. The International Union of Operating Engineers Local 50 is currently on strike against three material companies, and

staff is working with the contractor on alternatives for materials and timelines. Sewer upgrades are planned for Kenilworth Avenue between Lake and Ontario streets, Thomas Street between Grove and Linden avenues and the entire stretch of Lenox Street. Work will start along Kenilworth and progress to the other locations. The project includes installation of PVC sewer mains, drainage structures, roadway restoration, new curb and gutter and sidewalk replacement.

Pete's Fresh Market construction – ComEd expects to wrap up utility work at the site of the new Pete's Fresh Market on Madison Street by the end of July. AT&T is still working with the Village and Pete's on alternate designs and scope to reduce costs for its upcoming relocation work associated with the project.

LeMoyne sewer project – The contractor for the LeMoyne Parkway sewer relief project is waiting for more optimal weather conditions before sending landscapers to install sod in the parkways. The sod may be installed within the next week. Barricades and traffic control signage is set to be removed from the site this Friday.

Pleasant and Marion update - Concrete is being poured at the site of the new development at Pleasant and Marion and chlorination testing for the building's new water service is expected to wrap up soon. The chlorination testing project required access below the roadway on Marion Street, but the contractor is staging the work and using steel plates to cover the openings in the roadway to keep it open to traffic. The openings in the roadway are expected to be backfilled and patched when testing wraps up in the next week.

Miscellaneous construction updates – All roadway construction for the Harlem Avenue resurfacing project is complete, and Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) crews will be cleaning out storm structures for the next two weeks. Concrete work is finished at the Senior Living Center at 703 Madison St., and the installation of brick pavers at the site will continue through next week.

Employee news – The Development Customer Services Department welcomed Luwanda Johnson-Harper as the newest Customer Service Representative within the Parking and Mobility Services Division. Luwanda is a state-licensed instructional assistant and has a bachelor's degree in business administration.